

# ROCKY MOUNTAIN FIELD SEMINARS

## LEARN ♦ EXPLORE ♦ ADVENTURE

ALPINE WILDFLOWERS  
JULY 1, 2008

COURSE LEVEL: II  
FEE: \$85

COURSE #: 08-022



PAGE 1 OF 2

INSTRUCTOR: LEANNE BENTON

LOCATION: Rocky Mountain Field Seminar & Conference Center  
1895 Fall River Road, Estes Park, Colorado

TIME: 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** What may look like an unkempt lawn to the casual observer is actually an ecosystem of surprising diversity. Small changes in alpine topography and climate factors allow for a variety of plant communities and species. The alpine climate, with its cold temperatures, fierce winds, heavy snows, and rugged terrain is the most severe climate on earth. The Park has many species of alpine flowers with special adaptations that enable them to survive and flourish in what researchers describe as the earth's harshest climate. This course will study alpine flowers from tree line and higher and discuss their survival adaptations.

### COURSE LEVEL: II

The seminar will include short-distance walks throughout the day on primarily level terrain.  
This course includes time spent at elevations exceeding 11,000 feet.

### BRIEF INSTRUCTOR BIOGRAPHY (additional information available at [www.rmna.org](http://www.rmna.org)):

Leanne is a ranger-naturalist at Rocky Mountain National Park. She has led wildflower walks in the Park for 12 years and has studied and photographed the Park's wildflowers for more than 20 years. She currently manages the Alpine Visitor Center at 11,796' elevation in the Park's alpine tundra ecosystem.

**EXPECTATIONS:** Professional conduct will be expected from participants at all times. Individual ideas will be respected. Except during course breaks, cellular phones, pagers, and personal entertainment devices are strictly prohibited in the classroom and during field sessions.

**CAR-POOLING:** Rocky Mountain Field seminars utilize car-pooling to limit vehicles traveling into the Park. Car-pooling makes it easier to keep the group together, reduces transit time, and allows courses greater access because fewer parking spaces are required at destinations. In addition, it provides an opportunity for participants to discuss course material in small groups during transit. Typically, a few participants from each course volunteer the use of their vehicles for car-pooling to course locations.

