

# The Outside Story

newsletter for natural landscapers

vol. 2 no. 1

September-October 1989

Bayside, Wisconsin

**Plant Sources:** It's not too late to order any of the catalogs listed in the last newsletter. We're giving the name of one more:

A Growing Concern  
4990 West Donna Drive  
Brown Deer, WI 53223

This address is the home of Yvonne Jensen who gets her field grown perennials from Sunny Slope in Glendale. They are beautiful, but you should know you need to call her ahead of time to arrange to get her plants. Or you can write for her catalog which costs \$1. Interestingly, Yvonne not only has this wonderful business, but she also answers questions at the County Extension Office (257-5358).

For many new members who missed the listing of Wisconsin growers who also provide catalogs, here it is again:

Ahrenhoester's Prairie Seed Source (414) 673-5878  
Box 83, North Lake, WI 53064 (Send \$1)

Country Wetlands Nursery (414) 679-1268  
P.O. Box 126, Muskego, WI 53150 (Send \$1)

Boehlke's Woodland Gardens  
W140 N10829 Country Aire Road, Germantown, WI 53022  
(Send two first-class stamps)

Kopitzke's Little Valley Farm (608) 538-3180  
RR 1, Box 287, Richland Center, WI 53581 (call M-F a.m.)

Milaegers  
4838 Douglas Avenue, Racine, WI 53402 (Send \$1)

Powers' Prairie Ridge Nursery (608) 437-5245  
RR 2, 9738 Overland Road, Mt. Horeb, WI 53572

Prairie Nursery (608) 296-3679  
P.O. Box 365, Westfield, WI 53964 (Send \$2)

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Our thanks to David Kopitzke of Little Valley Farm for the  
plant drawings in this and the last newsletter.  
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BITTERSWEET *Celastrus scandens*

VINE

While its summertime flowers are often overlooked, this vine's fall fruits are spectacularly beautiful — the bright red and orange berries retain their color when cut and dried. Due to overpicking in the wild, bittersweet is now a protected plant in several states. It is wise to plant at least three vines to assure good pollination.



give them a gift of a year's membership in The Wild Ones. Hopefully, some of these new home owners will "get hooked" as many of us have and become enthusiastic naturalists."

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DOT Prairie Plantings: The August issue of Wisconsin Natural Resources Magazine describes how the Department of Transportation is restoring prairie plantings along roadsides. Note the following locations when you drive around the state:

- Rest area #81 on Hwy 51 in Marquette County
- Rest area #31 on I-90 in La Crosse County
- Hwy 157 interchange with I-90 in La Crosse County
- Endeavor exit from Hwy 51 one mile north to County D
- Hale interchange, east end on I-894 in Milwaukee County
- South Beltline wetlands & prairie plantings on Hwy 12 in Dane County
- County Zoo interchange of I-94 and I-894 in Milwaukee County
- Hwy 51 in Marquette and Waushara counties
- Hwy 29 in Brown County
- Hwy 42 in Door County
- Hwy 50 in Kenosha County
- Hwy 33 in Sauk County
- Hwy 21 in Waushara County
- Dunn County rest areas #61 & 62 on I-94
- Hwy 35 & I-94 interchange in St. Croix County
- Rest areas #63 & #64 on Hwy 41 in Dodge County
- Hwy 11 & I-90 interchange in Rock County
- Hwy 12 rest area in Walworth County

Prairie plantings in conjunction with Operation Wildflower, a cooperative program of state highway officials and local garden clubs:

- Hwy 41 west of Menasha at the County PP interchange in Winnebago County
- Hwy 41 & 141 at the Suamico County B interchange
- Hwy 43 at the County V interchange in Sheboygan County
- Hale interchange of I-894 in Milwaukee County
- Swan Blvd 0.1 miles north of Hwy 45 & Watertown Plank Road
- Hwy 12 one mile east of I-90 near Yahara Hills Golf Course

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BUSH HONEYSUCKLE *Diervilla lonicera* SHRUB

An ideal shrub for shady spots. Forms leafy mounds. Grows well in sandy or dry soil. In the spring it produces small yellow flowers and in the fall the leaves turn red. An excellent landscaping shrub under deciduous trees



**VIRGINIA CREEPER *Parthenocissus quinquefolia* VINE**  
 A rapidly growing native vine, useful for covering fences, arbors, trellises and on masonry. Leaves turn a rich burgundy red in autumn. Grows well in sun or shade and in ordinary soil.

**Calendar Updates:** All meetings are held on the second Saturday of each month at 9:30 a.m. at the Schlitz Audubon Center. (362-2885)

September 9 - Tour of local yards. We check on the progress of Julie's berms, Lorrie's sand prairie, and Betty's yard.

October 14 - Time for collecting prairie seeds and aster plants. Members only. (If you know of an available spot that would welcome our group--please call any of the officers. We need your help!)

November 11 - Daniel Boehlke of Woodland Gardens will be our guest speaker.

December 9 - Annual holiday meeting. This year we will meet at the Audubon Center. As in past years we ask you to bring cookies or other treats to share. The other treat we would like to share is any extra seeds we may have gathered in the fall in our yards or at our October meeting. We will have small paper bags and labels available. We hope this will become an annual seed exchange event.

An upcoming date to plan for is FEBRUARY 17, 1990 for our Natural Landscaping Workshop to be held again at UWM. The beginning time is 8:30 a.m. and seminars will be held in the Wisconsin Room & Cinema. Speakers will be announced in our next letter. We are planning a bigger and better event than ever! Mark your calendars!

Come early to meetings and share any good gardening or environmental magazines with others.

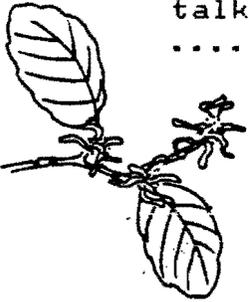
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**In Memorium:** We keenly feel the loss of Julie Marks, an active early member and treasurer of The Wild Ones. Julie was an enthusiastic natural landscaper, who willingly shared her knowledge with others. She started a woodlands area and expanded into building earthen berms at her home on Brown Deer Road in Bayside. During Julie's illness, many friends planted and cared for the prairie plants which now bloom on the berms. Her vivacious personality will be greatly missed.  
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**NEW ENGLAND ASTER *Aster Novae-angliae* PRAIRIE**  
 This is our most spectacular aster with its deep purple to pink flowers and yellow-orange centers. Grows on a vigorous leafy stem. This fall-blooming perennial grows 3 or more feet tall and thrives in medium to moist meadows and streambanks in the full sun.

SOLOMON'S PLUME *Smilacina racemosa* WOODLAND  
Crisply creased leaves on tall sturdy stalks. Feathery clusters of tiny white flowers appear in spring. Decorative red-striped berries follow in summer and fall. Sometimes called False Solomon's Seal, Solomon's Plume is a perennial that thrives in good soil in open shade.



Think Globally, Act Locally: SET UP YOUR OWN COMPOST PROJECT to recycle clippings, kitchen scraps, and leaves. Now is an ideal time to start, and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (562-9696) has a informational sheets on building bins and backyard composting to make it easy. JOIN A SOCIETY that is actively engaged in conserving Wisconsin's wildlife and environment: The Nature Conservancy, Audubon Society, Bureau of Endangered Resources, Izaak Walton League, and Wisconsin Wetlands Association are some. THINK TWICE ABOUT SPRAYING YOUR YARD AND GARDEN WEEDS AND PESTS. The health and environmental dangers of pesticides are becoming more and more evident. Find alternatives. PLANT A TREE. Trees provide shade, improve air quality, shelter birds, and enhance a home's value. SPEAK UP ON ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS. One person can make a difference; keep lists of concerns; talk to others about problems and possible solutions.



WITCH HAZEL *Hamamelis virginiana* WOODLAND  
Fragrant yellow flowers with ribbon-like petals appear on this shrub in the fall. It likes to grow in shady sites in woods or under shade trees, but will also grow well in sun. Fall foliage is golden yellow.

