



**A VOICE FOR THE NATURAL LANDSCAPING MOVEMENT**

# Wild Ones®



**M**any of our common native trees would be the cream of any ornamental crop. They are beautiful and they belong. They reinforce our sense of place, evoking childhood memories and reassuring us that this, indeed, is home. When their basic needs are respected, they give us a landscape that makes few demands yet bestows the aesthetic benefits and seasonal nuances that only the most well-adapted plants—the natives—can provide.

Throughout our history, we in North America have sought the unusual and exotic: Old World crystal for our tables, tropical birds for pets and the most rare or flamboyant of foreign plants for our gardens. However, there is a movement afoot to reassess our horticultural preferences. We are beginning to

appreciate our native trees and other plants and to recognize some faults among the exotics. There is a decided trend to use more native plants in residential and commercial landscapes.

## LANDSCAPING WITH NATIVE TREES

For the purpose of discussion, a native tree is considered to be a species that existed in North America prior to the arrival of European settlers (as opposed to a naturalized tree, which has escaped into a new habitat because of human influence). More precisely, a native tree, for you, is one that has proven its adaptability to your climate and soil conditions over the past several thousand years!

Our native species have evolved with our climate, soils and pathogens and with each other over thousands of years. Not so with exotic imports. Many of them have been grown here for only a few decades or less (sometimes much less). They have not been tested by the

same climatological uncertainties as our native plants. The next weather extreme—next month or next year—could eliminate some of them from the landscape.

Considering the threats to our environment—ozone holes, global warming, air pollution, soil disruption, habitat destruction and the introduction of exotic pests to new habitats—nothing is certain. We live in an evolving system, and our actions—demographic and environmental—are accelerating the spiral of change. Thus, it makes

*Paper Birch*



*(continued on next page)*

(continued from page 1)

increasing sense to rely on our native plants, the survivors that have adapted to these changes in our regional environment and that continue to grace our wild lands, unaided by (or in spite of) human intervention.

Some (native trees) are readily available at local nurseries. Others can be found in mail order catalogs or easily propagated from seeds or cuttings. Some may be difficult to find or to start, but they are suggested for selective preservation if they are already growing on your land or sprout as volunteers in some appropriate place. Some are recommended simply for you to protect and admire in a park or forest. Like wild animals, they are best untamed. Their value to wildlife, and to the entire ecological web in which they have evolved and persevered, commends them to you as much as their visual quality.

If you are considering

digging native plants from wild populations, please think again. Such collecting involves ethical, legal and scientific consideration. Authorized plant rescues, conducted one step ahead of a bulldozer, might be commendable (although not always successful), and minor collecting of common species from disturbed sites may be harmless. But your first choice should always be to preserve existing trees or to purchase well-grown, nursery-propagated native species. Such plants have been cultivated and managed to assure successful transplanting. They are worth a fair price in the long run. In addition, purchasing natives from a nursery will encourage the production and sale of more native plants. You could be the first gardener, landscape architect or conservationist in your area to reach beyond the selection of exotic plants that most nurseries stock in such great numbers. You might have to insist that your nursery special-order native trees, but do persist. You may start a trend toward

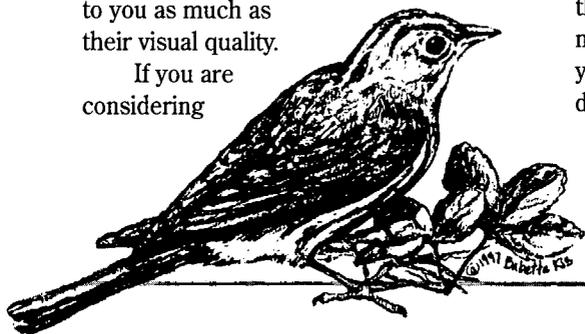
greater availability and appreciation of native plants in your areas.

Join the growing vanguard of modern, responsible landscape design and management—learn from nature, plant and preserve native trees, and then take pride in a job well done. Your accomplishments will benefit garden design, our environment and your spirit. 🌿

—Excerpted from *Landscaping With Native Trees: The Northeast, Midwest, Midsouth and Southeast Edition* by Guy Sternberg and Jim Wilson

### FALL WILD PLANT SALE AND NATIVE PLANT DOCTOR

Prairie, old-field, wetland and woodland transplants will be available at about 15% off regular prices on Saturday, September 6, 1997, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM at Retzer Nature Center, W284 S1530 Road DT, Waukesha, WI 53188. (414) 896-8007.



Ovenbird at hedgerow

## The Front Forty...

**R**ecently, Curt and I went on a tour of backyards that were landscaped for birds. The first yard, that of Wild One Jan Koel, with its native herbaceous plants, shrubs, trees and a nice-sized pond, was a delight to view. The second yard, the owner told us as we waited for the tour to start, had been landscaped with native plants at her insistence.

Several other Wild Ones and I couldn't wait to see these wonderful natives.

Well, when we got to this backyard, needless to say, we were disappointed. There wasn't a native to be found in the entire landscaped area. While we were looking around at the

plants that were there, fellow Wild One Lynn Schoenecker remarked to me that she had never been on grass like this before. I looked down and realized that we were standing on the ultimate suburban lawn—a thick, dark mat with nary an insect, worm or weed in sight. My only thought was that a Robin could starve to death in a habitat like this.

Our third stop was a backyard which consisted of three yards together, connected by a common woodland that all property owners had agreed to protect and keep in its natural state. This woodland gave a sense of privacy and interconnection to these neighbors that I wouldn't have minded sharing myself. Last stop on the tour was a 12-acre site that had been a corn field when the owners purchased it in 1950. There was a lot of Japanese Honeysuckle and tall Common Lilac. Among these non-natives

### Food for thought:

*If we landscape for the immediate bird and butterfly populations using only fast-growing, sweet-flowering aliens, will we be destroying the present and future natural habitats of these and other animals?*

—j.c.

I could see a lot of native understory that had made its way in on its own. I thought it would be great if someone could get in there someday and remove all those aliens and just let the native plant succession continue. 🌿

—Judy Crane



Lucy Schumann's page number art is of Columbine pods (*Aquilegia canadensis*).



# From the President

Wild  
Onion  
seed-  
head

Once upon a time (last fall to be exact) my nine-year-old son Jeremy, a budding naturalist, gathered several buckets of acorns from beneath a stand of towering Red Oaks. Most of them he spread out in the forest for squirrels and chipmunks, but he also placed a couple in moist paper towels, which he put in a drinking glass. Soon a crack appeared in one acorn, and a green root peeked out. Within a few days, another acorn sprouted. One grew up against the inside of the glass, the other grew down. Jeremy placed the sprouting seedlings in some soil.

Last month, I had the good fortune of being one of a dozen presenters at the first Building With Trees Conference sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation. Nestled in the rolling hills along the Missouri River, the Foundation's Lied Conference Center served as a venue for an exchange of ideas, policies and practices between arborists, lawyers, land planners, developers and engineers. We discussed how, in the construction process, to make it not only possible but commonplace for residential and commercial developers to save existing trees and their ecosystems.

Speakers included Mark Boyce of CP Morgan Company, a real estate developer whose Carmel, Indiana project is the subject of a documentary called "Building with Nature." Mark spoke of the growing awareness of the priceless value of the remaining natural areas in our communities and the concern about their destruction due to typical development practices. Spence Rosenfeld, President of Arborguard in Avondale Estates, Georgia, spoke about the successful preservation of the ecosystem in the construction of the UPS Headquarters in Atlanta.

The Lied Center is itself a horizon-hugging testimonial to building

with Nature. Low-voltage lights, comprehensive recycling and a high-efficiency heat plant powered by scrap wood from a pallet manufacturer are just a few of its environmentally friendly features. The carpeting is made from recycled plastic soda bottles. Miles of trails wind through the thousand-acre complex. Towering oaks and Shagbark Hickory line the East Table Creek Trail. The Foundation is using bioengineering to stabilize the stream bank.

The Foundation's work in general, and the Building with Trees Conference in particular, are manifestations of Aldo Leopold's Land Ethic that "a thing is right when it tends to preserve the stability and integrity of a biotic community; it is wrong when it tends otherwise". The Conference is a recognition of the importance of working with Nature in the construction process, and that requires planning and participation from all of the professions that contribute their services to real estate development. For that matter, Jeremy's seedling, or "oaklet", as he calls it, is also an important part of the Land Ethic.

Next year we will plant Jeremy's "oaklet" in the woodland area of our yard, where it will grow with and

among the other plants of the forest. In the coming years, it will become a part of the forest. Those attending the Building with Trees Conference have taken the first step in realizing that that we must recognize the value of trees, soil, flora and fauna in all our real estate projects.

From seeds planted at the Conference, the ethic of building with Nature will continue to take root and grow, proving, like Jeremy's acorn, that from little acorns...mighty oaks do grow. 🌱

—Bret Rappaport

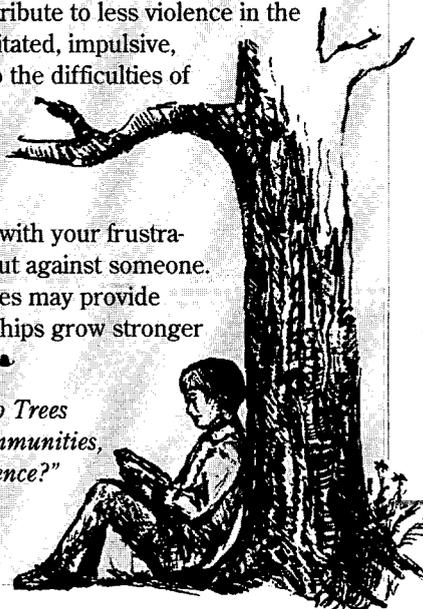
The cooling effect of one tree with a one-foot diameter trunk (planted on the south or west side of a residence) is equal to that of five room air conditioners running 20 hours a day.

## Do Trees Reduce Violence?

We are finding less violence in urban public housing where there are trees. Residents from buildings with trees around them report using more constructive, less violent ways of dealing with conflict in their homes. They report using reasoning more often in conflicts with children, and they report significantly less use of severe violence. And, in conflicts with their partners, they report less use of physical violence than do residents living in nearby buildings without trees.

Why might trees contribute to less violence in the home? Imagine feeling irritated, impulsive, about ready to snap due to the difficulties of living in severe poverty. Having neighbors whom you can call on for support means you have an alternative way of dealing with your frustrations other than striking out against someone. Places with nature and trees may provide settings in which relationships grow stronger and violence is reduced. 🌳

—Excerpted from "Do Trees Strengthen Urban Communities, Reduce Domestic Violence?" by W. E. Sullivan and F. E. Kuo



Tree Art by Babette Kis



Each autumn, flocks of immature, hungry migratory birds flutter about in my sheltered yard. Each year I must try to protect them from the neighbors' cats. Some time ago, as I was picking wildflower seeds, a declawed, belled Burmese cat jumped out from under the baneberries and snatched a large Fox Sparrow. It was one of only three of these sparrows that had been in my wild garden. I was furious! I hurled my pruning shears at the cat, but missed. Later, I realized that I should have tamed the cat, coaxed him onto the screened porch and called the police. In our community there is an \$86 fine for an "animal at large". Long ago, cat feces in childrens' sand boxes prompted such an ordinance. At that time, one

could not have made an indisputable case for the birds.

During the last ten years, researchers

have accumulated masses of records which cite our pet cats as the principal mammalian predator of birds. Stanley Temple, UW-Madison, concludes from his four-year study that cats kill between 8 and 36 million birds a year in Wisconsin. Bob Bancroft in Canada has statistics which allow him to claim that 70 million birds are killed by his country's 5 million cats. In Australia, Richard Evans, a member of Parliament, is suggesting that a fatal feline disease be introduced into his country. Cats are being held responsible for the depletion and extinction of 39 species of animals in Australia. Researchers Churcher and Lawton in England concluded that cats kill 20 million birds annually, but that number could be doubled because cats only bring back about one-half of their kills. The study was done for four years on well-fed, neutered house cats in an English village.

Last year, as I was looking out of my kitchen window, I saw a buff-colored tiger cat tossing the body of a tiny brown Winter Wren into the air. Earlier in the day I had marveled at the glorious song which had echoed over the frozen ground as this rare, early migrant was foraging in

the brush pile. Heart-sick, I put the cat under my arm and the warm bit of fluff in the palm of my hand and walked to my neighbor's front door. The mother and her 12-year-old daughter, Rebecca, greeted me. Rebecca is a talented young artist. Remembering Wisconsin's Carl Priebe, I handed the wren to her for a close-up sketch because she could hardly ever have such an opportunity again. Then I tried to tell them about the wren's famous song that people in nature articles attempt to describe. It can be wild, loud and full, then at close range it becomes a whisper. Note tumbles over note and the song seems to come from everywhere. It is intrinsically one of the most beautiful of bird calls. In 1884, Langille refers to it: "Copious, rapid, prolonged and penetrating, having a variety of the sweetest tones and uttered in a rising and falling or finely undulating melody which echoes through the woodland. It seems that the very atmosphere has become resonant. I stand entranced and amazed, my very soul vibrating to this gushing melody, which seems at once expressive of the wildest joy and the tenderest sadness".

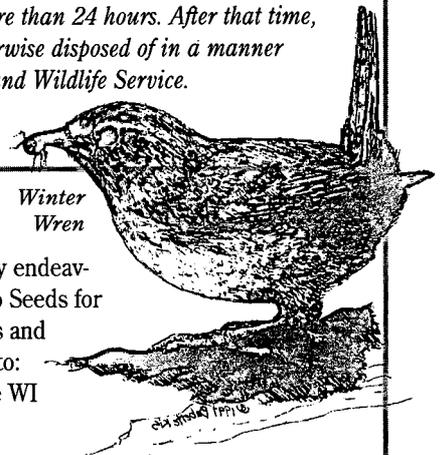
As we were finishing our conversation, the mother said, "OH, we will try to keep our cat in the house to please you, Lorrie."

"Please ME!" I exclaimed. "It is YOU who should care. You'll live another fifty years. Rebecca maybe another 100. What kind of a soul-withering world will it be without bird songs for you and your family?"

Two months later, an early morning runner reported that he saw a large shadow on the road. He looked up just in time to see a Great Horned Owl carrying a yellow and white tiger cat. Cruel solution. We should be able to do better than that. ☪

—Lorrie Otto

*Editor's note: Pictures of the Winter Wren and Ovenbird that appear in this issue were drawn from birds killed by my neighbor's cat. Migratory songbirds are protected from disturbance or hunting by people through the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. Dead, non-endangered migratory birds may be retained for not more than 24 hours. After that time, they must be buried or otherwise disposed of in a manner approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.*



Winter Wren

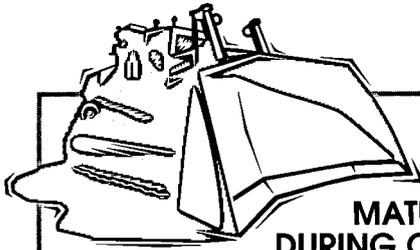
## SEEDS FOR EDUCATION

In order to continue Lorrie's life work with students of all ages, Wild Ones established the Seeds for Education Fund in 1996. Annual grants are given to deserving institutions of learning that plant outdoor classrooms of native plants. All contributions to the endowment fund are targeted for such work and are tax deductible. Please consider a

contribution for this worthy endeavor. Make checks payable to Seeds for Education Fund. Donations and inquires should be mailed to: P.O. Box 23576, Milwaukee WI 53233-0576. ☪

## LEASH LAW FOR CATS? OF COURSE!





## PROTECTING MATURE TREES DURING CONSTRUCTION & LANDSCAPING

Mature trees with a trunk of 12 inches in diameter or greater can be easily damaged during building construction and landscaping. Reduce potential injury to large trees by following the following steps.

**Design Considerations:** Before the building is designed, a survey should be taken of the site, showing the location, species and size of all trees to be saved. Locate buildings and roads on the site so that soil will not have to be cut or filled inside the dripline of the trees. Drainage should be designed so that the same amount of water will reach the trees after construction as did before construction. Plan should show fencing or other physical barrier located at least ten feet outside of the dripline. Roads, driveways and walks should be pitched so that melting snow, which may contain salt, is directed away from trees.

**Construction Considerations:** Fence trees prior to construction. Erect signage stating "No construction materials or equipment allowed inside fenced area" or words to similar effect. Do not allow bricks, trusses, or other construction material to be staged or placed inside the fenced-in area. Do not allow construction vehicles to park under trees. Replace all fences that become damaged during the construction process.

**Landscape Considerations:** Green Ash, Sugar Maple and other trees with diffuse root systems are more tolerant of root disturbance than are nut trees, such as oak, hickory and Black Walnut. Remove weedy plants growing under the trees carefully with a sod cutter, herbicide, or by solarizing not more than one quarter of the area under each nut tree, or one-half the area under a diffuse-root tree, at one time. Do not rototill, dig up, or add topsoil to the ground under the dripline. Seed or dig individual holes for each transplant. Wait at least one growing season before removing the next section of weedy plants under the tree. Water and fertilize trees for several years after construction and landscape are completed.

**Case Studies:** Construction and landscaping damage to trees is often not immediately evident. Over 40 healthy, mature White and Bur Oak trees on land

developed to a subdivision in Milwaukee County did not begin to exhibit dead branches until 10 to 15 years after construction was completed. The design considerations listed above were followed during construction. However, after the buildings and roads were completed, the landscape contractor scraped all plants from the soil under the dripline of the trees and planted grass, shrubs and perennials within a several week period. A similar subdivision in Racine County in which Shagbark Hickory, Bur and White Oak grow, was developed using Construction and Landscape Considerations listed above. Land under much of the trees was left "natural", and planted with woodland plants. The trees in this subdivision showed few or no dead branches 10 to 15 years after construction was completed.

**Maintenance:** Do not hit tree trunks with lawn mowers or string trimmers. This may damage the bark, weakening or killing the tree. Do not allow vehicles to park under trees. This compacts the soil, reducing the amount of air and water that are available to the tree. Root damage from parking and bark damage from mowing can cause branch die-off and death of the tree years after the damage has occurred. 🌳

—Excerpted from Great Lakes Wildflowers handbook, *Restoring Native Vegetation Under Urban Trees*, 1986.

## KEEPING DEER AT BAY

To keep White-tailed Deer from eating their favorite trees and shrubs, try one or more of the following methods. Apply Hinder, an ammonium and higher fatty acid repellent, to susceptible trees and shrubs every two to four weeks. Miller's Hot Sauce Animal Repellent is a taste repellent for use on trees. Apply with a trigger sprayer to all susceptible growth. Place human hair in discarded nylon stockings and hang at three foot intervals on trees and shrubs. Replace bags monthly. Drill holes in bar soap and suspend from trees, shrubs or stakes at one yard intervals. 🌿

—Excerpted from University of Wisconsin Extension Bulletin G3083, "Controlling Deer Damage in Wisconsin", by Scott Craven and Scott Hygnstrom, available from Cooperative Extension Publications, Rm. 245, 30 N. Murray Street, Madison, WI 53715.

*During the process of photosynthesis, trees produce oxygen. They also filter pollutants from the air.*



## WHITE SNAKEROOT

(*Eupatorium rugosum*)

**Family:** Compositae (Composite)

**Other Names:** Indian Sanicle, Richweed.

**Habitat:** White Snakeroot is a native perennial, found in woods and thickets, along streams.

**Description:** Firm stems bear flat-topped clusters of small, fuzzy, white flowerheads. The leaves are slightly heart-shaped, opposite, stalked, and coarsely toothed.

**Height:** 1 to 3 ft

**Flowering:** July to October.

**Comments:** A common condition in Colonial times called "milk sickness," became one of the most important causes of human death, reaching its peak during the early 1800's. This illness was caused by cows eating White Snakeroot. The cows ate the plant to such an extent that the poisonous chemical, tremetol, was highly concentrated in the milk. With processed milk, the condition is now rare, the only danger occurring when raw milk is used from only one family cow. It is not too likely that a whole herd of cows could get into White Snakeroot at one time and the poison from one or two cows would be diluted with the rest of the herd's milk.

Animals usually do not eat this plant, unless there is inadequate vegetation available. For this reason, poisoning commonly occurs in late summer and early fall when pastures are short. Ordinarily, cows themselves do not show any effect of the toxin. However, cows and horses have died from it after eating ten pounds or more.

The incidence of milk sickness reached a peak during the first half of the 19th Century. It was so devastating in some areas that the human population was reduced by more than half in only one or two years.

On some occasions entire villages were abandoned.

The great number of recorded cases were in Ohio, Indiana, North Carolina, and Illinois.

This disease was reputedly responsible for the death of Nancy Hanks, Abraham Lincoln's mother.



White  
Snakeroot

**Medicinal Use:** Unknown.

**Name Origin:** The Genus Name, *Eupatorium* (you-pa-TOE-ri-um), is for Eupator, King Mithridates VI of Pontus, who is supposed to have used some related species for healing. The Species Name, *rugosum* (roo-GO-sum), is from the Latin word, *rugosus*, meaning "having wrinkles; having a rough and ridged surface."

**Author's Note:** In our little corner of the world, along the valley of the Mullet River north of Plymouth, we have several stands of White Snakeroot growing along the river in the wooded areas. However, this is not our only poisonous plant.

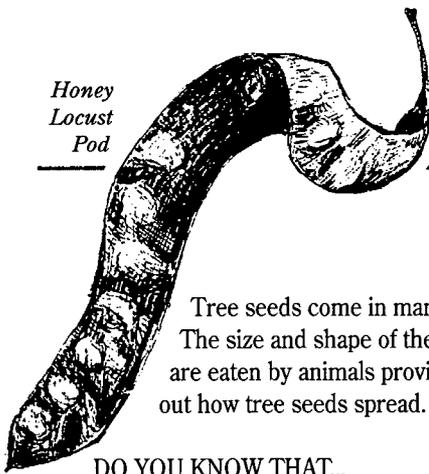
There is Cowbane (*Oxypolis rigidior*), Water Hemlock (*Cicuta maculata*), and Trailing Wolfsbane (*Aconitum reclinatum*). The deer eat these plants with impunity. The fresh root of Elderberry (*Sambucus canadensis*) is also deadly, while the rest of the plant has medicinal properties.

It is very important to know a plant completely before touching or consuming it. My main reasons for studying plants are to uncover their fascinating uses through the centuries and to be aware of what is growing around me. Knowing the identity of wild plants also helps tremendously when researching the host plants of various butterfly and moth larvae. If you can't recognize the plant being eaten, it's difficult to go any farther in your quest. I'm glad I spent 15 years learning the plants; it makes identifying insects of the Lepidoptera order "a little" easier. Moths are a real challenge but so exhilarating when you discover the identity of the caterpillar eating your White Snakeroot, Joe-Pye Weed and Boneset. After it has gone through it's pupa stage and emerges as an adult, then it's identity is revealed. In my research, that would be the Eupatorium Plum Moth (*Emmelina monodactyla*), which looks like a tiny, white (or mottled brown), paper airplane.

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Plymouth, WI

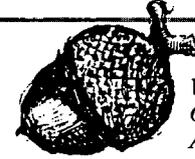


Honey  
Locust  
Pod



# Learning from the Land

## HOW TREE SEEDS SPREAD



White  
Oak  
Acorn

Tree seeds come in many different sizes and shapes. The size and shape of the seeds and whether or not they are eaten by animals provide clues that you can use to find out how tree seeds spread.

### DO YOU KNOW THAT...

Jack Pine cones may remain on the tree, unopened, for 10-20 years. If a hot fire burns the tree, the cones may open. The seeds will germinate and grow in the ashes.

Pine tree seeds are eaten by squirrels and other rodents.

Honey Locust trees have thick, brown, foot-long pods. Their seeds are inside the pods.

Maple seeds, or samaras (Sum-ARE-ahs) have wing-shaped parts connected to their seeds. These seeds are sometimes called helicopters.

Oak trees produce acorns, which were an important food for some Native Americans.

Wild Black Cherry trees have sour fruits that are ripe in summer. Their seeds are inside the fruits.

Cottonwood tree seeds are attached to a light, fluffy material, like dandelion seeds are.



Sugar Maple Samaras

### THINGS TO DO

1. On a late spring or early summer day, look for cottony fluff floating from Cottonwood trees. Why do you think children called this fluff 'summer snow'?
2. In summer, look for Robins, Grackles and other birds eating Wild Black Cherries. Do you think the birds help spread these seeds? How?
3. In fall, have an adult help you identify trees in your yard, a park or woodland. You may want to use a field guide such as Golden Guide to Trees, Usborne Trees of North America or Peterson First Guide to Trees. Take a notebook and pencil to record what you find. In your notebook, write the name of the tree and draw a picture of its seeds. Are any animals eating the seeds? Are seeds light enough to be moved by the wind? Can they roll? If they are near water, do they float? Write down how you think each kind of seed is spread.
4. Collect some maple seeds when they are dry. On a calm day, hold the seeds out and drop them. Measure how far they go from where you are standing. Do this same experiment on a windy day. Do you think wind can carry maple seeds far from their parent tree?

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Red Pine Cone & Seeds

### I HAVE A QUESTION

**Q.** How if I can determine if an area in my yard has any native plants in it?

**A.** Bring the plant(s), including flowers, if possible, to a chapter meeting. You may also want to try your hand at identifying the plant(s) using a book such as *A Field Guide to Wildflowers*, by Roger Tory Peterson or *Newcomb's Wildflower Guide*.

**Q.** How do I plant all the wonderful seeds I got at the seed exchange?

**A.** Many chapters have a seed propagation sheet that is distributed at seed collections and exchanges. If your chapter does not have this information, urge them to put together such an information sheet (also see pages 18 and 19 of *Wild Ones Handbook*.) A good rule of thumb is to plant seeds of natives in the fall or spring on a prepared, weed-free seed bed. If the seeds are mainly those of the daisy family (asters, goldenrod, Purple Coneflower, Blazing Star, Cupplant, etc.), Wild Bergamot, Bush and Prairie Clover,

you can plant them directly on weed-free soil in the area you wish to have them grow. Mix seeds together, or plant seeds of individual species in small patches. Sow seeds by scattering or placing them on the soil. Pat or rake seeds lightly into soil. Cover with straw, and place stakes in a grid approximately two to three feet apart over the entire planted area. Wrap twine around all stakes, close to the ground, to hold the straw in place. Do not use hay, as it contains weed seeds. Open weave mesh, held down with U-pins or rocks, may be used in lieu of straw. Water seedlings after they germinate, as needed, to prevent them from drying out and dying.

Growing Plants from seed is an excellent way of learning plant identification. Once you Grow it, the plant (knowledge) is yours forever.

Please send us your questions for replies in future issues of *Wild Ones Journal*.



# VIBURNUMS

**A** garden without a viburnum is akin to life without music and art", says Michael Dirr in his Manual of Woody Landscape Plants. Although all viburnums have opposite leaves, small, five-petaled, white flowers arranged in umbel clusters and fruits with high wildlife appeal, there is much variation in the height, spread, leaf shape and fruit color of these shrubs. Of about 120 species found worldwide, 12 to 15 are native to eastern North America. Numerous cultivars of these versatile shrubs are also available. Most viburnums grow well in a woodland setting or in half sun.

Identifying viburnums can be difficult, as there are so many species. Leaf shape, buds, and colors of fruits are the easiest ways for beginners to become acquainted with these shrubs. The shrubs described below are all native American species.

## Part 1: Viburnums with fine-toothed or wavy edged leaves (not lobed).

### Group A: Wayfaring Tree Group has buds without scales, broad, almost heart-shaped leaves and triangular leaf scars.

*Viburnum alnifolium* (*lantanoides*) Hobblebush, Witch-Hobble, is from cool mesic woods and rocky slopes of the north and east. Leaves and young twigs have rusty hairs. Large, sterile flowers surround the inner fertile flowers, which develop into pink- to purple-black fruits. Hobblebush grows 9-12 feet tall.

### Group B: Black Haw Group has buds with two scales, oval or egg-shaped leaves and narrow leaf scars.

*Viburnum cassinoides*, Witherod, Northern Wild Raisin, grows in cool moist rocky forests of the north and east. Leaves have wavy-toothed or entire margins. Fruits turn from green to pink to red to blue-black. Witherod attains a height of 5-6 feet or more, with a similar spread.

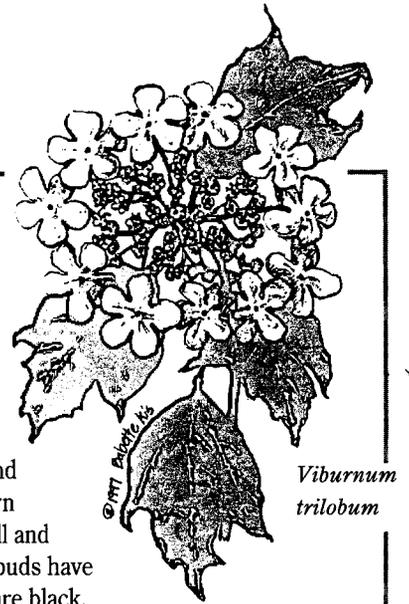
*Viburnum lentago*, Nannyberry, grows in moist thickets and swamp borders from northeastern to north central North America. Characteristics of these shrubs include long, pointed leaves, large spear-shaped flower buds, and edible fruits which range in color from white to black. This shrub often makes thickets. Fall leaf color is orange-red. Height is 15-18 feet; spread is 6-10 feet or more.

*Viburnum nudum*, Southern Wild Raisin, Southern Witherod, is found in wet woods and swamps in the southeast, to Oklahoma and Texas. Leaves are wavy-toothed or entire. The fruits change from green to pink, red and finally blue black.

*Viburnum prunifolium*, Black Haw, is found in upland woods and thickets of central and southern United States. Small leaves with fine teeth, which are copper colored when they emerge in spring, and pinkish to black fruits are characteristics of these shrubs. This shrub

grows 12-15 feet high and 8-12 feet wide.

*Viburnum rufidulum*, Rusty Black Haw, Southern Black Haw, Rusty Nannyberry, is from dry pine or oak woods and thickets of central and southern United States. Leaves are small and fine toothed. Both leaves and buds have rusty-brown hairs. The fruits are black.



*Viburnum trilobum*

## Part 2: Viburnums with coarsely-toothed, sometimes lobed leaves and narrow leaf scars.

### Group C: Arrowwood Group has un-lobed leaves with one main vein and large teeth, and several bud scales.

*Viburnum dentatum*, Southern Arrowwood, is found in wet woods along streams and lake shores of eastern Canada down through the United States to Texas. Characteristics include velvet hairy twigs and blue or bluish-black fruits. Height is 6-15 feet with a similar spread.

*Viburnum rafinesquianum*, Downy Arrowwood, Shortstalk Arrowwood, is found in dry oak woods of central Canada to Kentucky and Missouri. These shrubs have very short petioled leaves near their flowers and only four to ten pairs of teeth on the leaves. Leaves are velvety hairy underneath. Fruits are purple to blue-black.

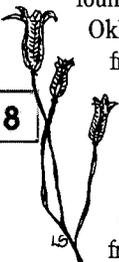
### Group D: Maple Leaf Group has three main veins and a three-lobed maple-like leaf with two to several bud scales.

*Viburnum acerifolium*, Maple Leaf Viburnum, is found in dry to mesic rocky oak woods of northeastern, central and southeastern North America. This shrub has fuzzy under-leaves and blue-purple to black fruits. The leaves turn pink to purple in fall. Maple Leaf Viburnum grows 4-6 feet tall and 3-4 feet wide.

*Viburnum edule*, Squashberry, is from cool moist woods and ravines of the northern continental United States, Alaska, and southern Canada. It has hairless buds, lobed leaves and yellow to red edible fruits.

*Viburnum trilobum*, American Highbush Cranberry, which grows in cool moist woods of the northern United States and southern Canada, has hairless buds, long pointed leaf lobes and dome-shaped glands on the leaf petioles. The white flower clusters are bordered by large sterile flowers and the edible red berries are somewhat acid-tasting. American Highbush Cranberry grows 8-12 feet tall and wide. This shrub is not as available as the European Highbush Cranberry, *Viburnum opulus*, which has similar leaves, concave glands and terrible-tasting red berries, or the hybrid of *V. trilobum* and *V. opulus*. ☞

—Copyright 1997 Patricia K. Armstrong



# MOUNTAIN MAPLE & BLADDERWORT

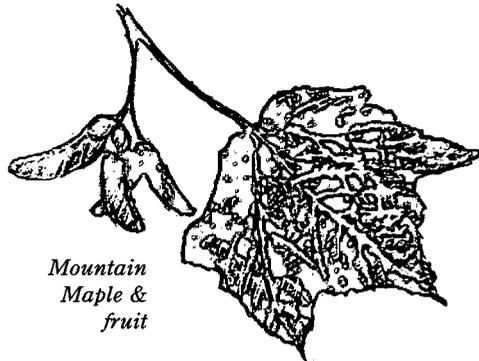
(*Acer spicatum* and *Staphylea trifolia*)

**R**enowned horticulturist, Donald Wyman, defined a tree as “a woody plant with one main stem at least 12-15 feet tall” and a shrub as “a woody plant branched from the base, which is typically less than 15 feet tall”. This distinction between trees and shrubs has been blurred by nurserymen with the production of multi-stem trees. Two native woody plants, American Bladdernut and Mountain Maple, can actually fall into both categories.

While it can be employed as a small tree (through artful pruning), American Bladdernut is probably most easily used as a large shrub. More upright than spreading in habit, it normally reaches 10 to 15 feet in height with a 10 foot spread. Its species name, *Staphylea*, from the Greek Staphyle, “a bunch of grapes”, aptly describes its two-inch clusters of bell-shaped greenish-white flowers, which hang down from the tips of branches. The greenish flowers contrast nicely with the medium green foliage and can be quite striking at close range. The genus name, *trifolia*, accurately describes the leaves which are comprised of three ovate leaflets. In fall, leaves turn a dull yellow, and pale green bladder-like fruits ripen. Up to two inches long, the three-lobed inflated capsules later mature to a light brown color. These fruits persist through early winter.

Bladdernut is native through most of Wisconsin as well as most of the eastern United States. It is found both on wooded slopes along with Sugar Maple, Red Oak and American Basswood as well as wooded floodplains, along with American Elm and Common Hackberry. It is one of the few plants

which will tolerate damp shade, although it does equally well in full sun. It is tolerant of a wide range of soil pH.



Mountain Maple & fruit

Mountain maple, *Acer spicatum*, likewise can be used as either a looser, multi-stemmed shrub, or can be easily trained into a small scale tree. It also typically reaches to 10 to 14 feet in height, although in the wild it can occasionally attain a height of up to 30 feet.

In late May, Mountain Maple produces yellowish-green, spike-like flower

panicles, from which it gets the species name, *spicatum*. Interestingly, temperature controls development of the female flowers. In warm springs, they fail to develop, resulting in only male flowers being produced. However, cool springs will lead to the development of female flowers and wonderful fall crops of dangling, small red samaras.

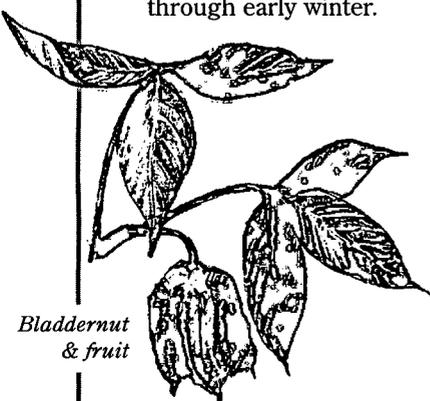
Mountain Maple leaves also add interest to the landscape. Dark yellowish green in color, they are typically three-lobed or weakly five-lobed, with prominent venation. In fall, Mountain Maple leaves develop a wide range of colors from clear yellow to orange and sometimes crimson.

The key to successfully growing Mountain Maple seems to be in the siting of this plant. Native from northern Wisconsin to Iowa, eastward to Newfoundland and south to the mountains of northern Georgia, it is typically found growing on rocky, moist sites on forest borders. It definitely prefers cool, shady and slightly to moderately acid soil conditions. However, Michael Yanny, our propagator, has found it to be much more resistant to leaf scorch in full sun conditions when kept moist than nearby Sugar Maples.

Until recently, neither of these woody plants was locally available from the nursery trade. Now, the addition of the American Bladdernut and Mountain Maple gives us two excellent choices for landscaping where only common Witch Hazel and a few other short native woody plants were available previously.

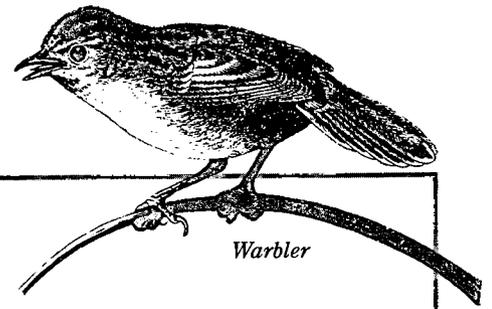
—David E. Guthery  
Landscape Designer/Horticulturist  
Johnson's Nursery, Inc. Menomonee Falls, WI

Most of a tree's root system is within the top twelve inches of soil.



Bladdernut & fruit





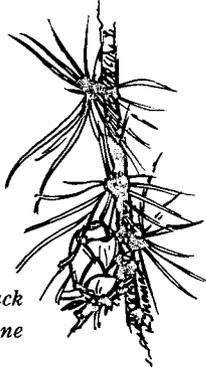
Warbler

## TAMARACK

(*Larix laricina*)

This column focuses on a plant species that is valued by birds found in the upper Midwest. Each submission presents a plant that is in its prime during the time you are likely to be enjoying this publication

A nature lover is a person who, when treed by a bear, enjoys the view.



Tamarack needles & cone

September and October are brightened by the autumn color of the Tamarack, *Larix laricina*

Few conifers brighten moist areas of the land the way that tamaracks do. From leafless branches, light green needles, soft to the touch, emerge in spring. By summer, the needles turn a rich, dark

green; in autumn, they change to smoky gold. I didn't grow up with this phenomenal deciduous conifer, but it is one tree I plan on growing old with.

**Characteristics:** Tamaracks vary in size, depending upon their growing conditions. A typical mature tree may attain a height of 60 feet and a spread of 40 feet, but one in northern Maine has reached a height of 92 feet and boasts a trunk diameter of nearly 4 feet. In spring, Tamarack's bright, lime-green foliage contracts nicely with spruce and pine. On a cool, crisp September morning, American Larch's gold hues provide a spectacular contrast to the skyline.

**This Plant Needs:** Tamaracks grow from Zone 1 southward in moist, acid, sandy to clayey soil and full sun. Because tamaracks

lose their leaves in fall, they are an excellent choice for planting near roadways where salt may be used. Because of their shallow root system, this tree is somewhat susceptible to overturning in heavy winds. This same characteristic also enables these trees to be fairly easily transplanted. Tamaracks respond well to pruning.

**Who Benefits:** In Midwestern backyards, Robins, Cardinals and Catbirds regularly nest among this tree's branches. In the north woods, Grosbeaks and Pine Siskins raise their families under the soft leaves. In years when food supplies in the northern United States are low, you may see Crossbills and Pine Siskins opening up the small, seed-rich cones. During fall migration, warblers and kinglets dance across the branches. And in winter, Boreal and Saw-whet Owls congregate near the trunks of these trees. In spring, sunlight filtering through the bare branches of these trees warms the soil, enabling a number of woodland and bog wildflowers to thrive beneath them. ☪

This column is written by Steve Mahler, owner of The Wild Bird Center, Menomonee Falls, WI. Steve welcomes your comments and at 414-255-9955.

### For Further Reading on Trees & Shrubs...

*Landscaping with Native Trees: The Northeast, Midwest, Midsouth and Southeast Edition, Eastern North America*  
Guy Sternberg and Jim Wilson 1995.

Useful getting-started section. Alphabetical listing by scientific name. Information for species listed includes description, range, problems, related species, and more. Beautiful color photos.

*A Field Guide to Ecology of Eastern Forests North America*  
John C. Kricher 1988.

Overview of diversity and symbiotic relationships in forest communities east of the Rockies. Learn of ecological patterns in forest and field through the seasons. Part of the Peterson Field Guide series.

*The Book of Forest & Thicket—Trees, Shrubs, and Wildflowers of Eastern North America*  
John Eastman 1992.

Steps beyond information typically found in a field guide to show how lives in a forest community are interconnected. Alphabetical listing by common name. Finely-detailed black and white illustrations.

*Eastern Old-growth Forests: Prospects for Rediscovery and Recovery*  
Edited by Mary Byrd Davis 1996.

In-depth overview of importance of eastern forest vegetation. Includes essays on ecology, history and preservation.

### For Children...

*Crinkleroot's Guide to Knowing the Trees*  
Jim Arnosky 1992.

Walk in the woods with Crinkleroot to learn why the trees are his friends. Delightful full-page illustrations.

*Once Upon a Tree: Life from Treetop to Root Tips*  
James B. Nardi 1993.

Arouses curiosity about rich life in tree community. Includes activity ideas and glossary plus black and white illustrations.

*Discovery Box Trees*  
Scholastic 1995

Fact-filled book and activity kit.

—MaryAnn Maki



### COLUMBUS CHAPTER DEVELOPS WILDFLOWER GARDENS

The Columbus Chapter of Wild Ones, an affiliate member of Ohio State University's Chadwick Arboretum, is developing demonstration plots in the Arboretum's Katherine N. van Fossen Wildflower Area to show city dwellers the advantages of planting native plants in their gardens. The plots, marked by signs, include a Prairie Circle (planted with local genotype seeds), Bird Garden, Butterfly Garden and Ground Cover Garden. Bluebird boxes have also been placed in the area. Handouts describing the benefits of natural landscaping, plant species incorporated in each demonstration plot and information on Wild Ones will be available to the public at the site. ☛

—Clyde H. Dilley Columbus, OH Chapter

### DUPAGE CHAPTER HONORS FLOYD SWINK

In April 1997, the Greater DuPage Chapter held its first potluck dinner to celebrate spring and the beginning of the gardening cycle. At this dinner, our chapter honored Dr. Floyd Swink of the Morton Arboretum for his positive impact on the natural landscaping movement.

Floyd Swink has been a student of our native flora since he was a small boy growing up in Villa Park, IL. From 1946 to 1958, he studied plants under Julian Steyermark, a world-renowned taxonomic botanist. Mentored by Steyermark, Swink researched the Field Museum's two million specimen herbarium, becoming one of the best taxonomists in the nation. During the late 1940's and early 1950's, Floyd was an active participant in several scientific and conservation organizations, leading numerous field trips, working with leading botanists, and teaching others about plants and animals, especially birds. In 1956, Floyd was hired by the Cook County Forest Preserve as naturalist at the Little Red School House, where he taught about plants and birds. From there, he went to the Morton Arboretum in 1960. His first position was in the education department. Shortly thereafter, he became the Arboretum's taxonomist. In this position, he was responsible for correctly identifying the tens of thousands of plants that were growing on the Arboretum's grounds. Additionally, he continued to teach classes and study local flora. Floyd has continued to study and teach others about the complexities of our local plant communities. In 1969, the first edition of his magnum opus, *Plants of the Chicago Region*, was published. It is

now in its fourth edition, co-authored by Gerould Wilhelm.

It is for this book and for his work in understanding, identifying and teaching others the interrelationships of our local ecosystems that we honored Dr. Floyd Swink. Floyd has told us what plants are native to our region, about the most conservative plants which are found in the most pristine habitats, about the more aggressive plants with weedy tendencies, and what plants we usually find growing together, thus defining ecosystem. By giving us this information, he has helped us do a better job of natural landscaping. For this reason, we recognize Floyd Swink as AN ORIGINAL WILD ONE, and have presented him with a plaque and a check. ☛

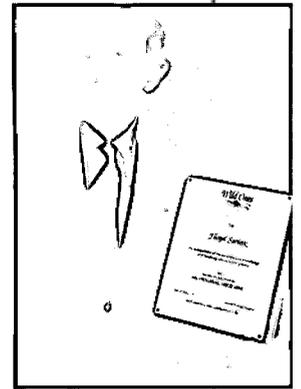
—Patricia K. Armstrong  
Greater DuPage, IL Chapter

### DAMN IT, NATIVE PLANTS ARE MORE THAN PRETTY FLOWERS

Ornamental landscaping confronts each of us daily at every turn. Native and exotic plants are thrown together to beautify, enhance, hide or distract us from the effects of land clearing and building that so preoccupies our society and that pushes relentlessly into hitherto left-aside parts of our cities and suburbs. The native plant movement tries to respond to this uglification of our native ground by urging landscaping with natives. Up to now, I believe our response has been too timid. We are failing to make whatever positive and constructive impact we can as to how and why native systems are attractive, interesting and vital.

It seems to me that we can choose either one of two models—value, save and heal that which we have not yet bulldozed or look to consumables (material goods) as the basis of our lives and allow or encourage the destruction (of remaining native lands). I challenge and call on my friends and associates to develop numerous examples of home-site landscapes in keeping with the idea of healing disturbance and fitting into local habitat rather than supplanting them. ☛

—Lou Aronica, Native News, Vol. 5, No 1.  
Maryland Native Plant Society, P.O. Box 4877,  
Silver Spring, MD 20914.



*To enjoy scenery you should ramble amidst it; let the feelings to which it gives rise mingle with other thoughts; look round upon it in intervals of reading; and not go to it as one goes to see the lions fed at a fair. The beautiful is not to be stared at, but to be lived with.*  
—Thomas Babington Macauley



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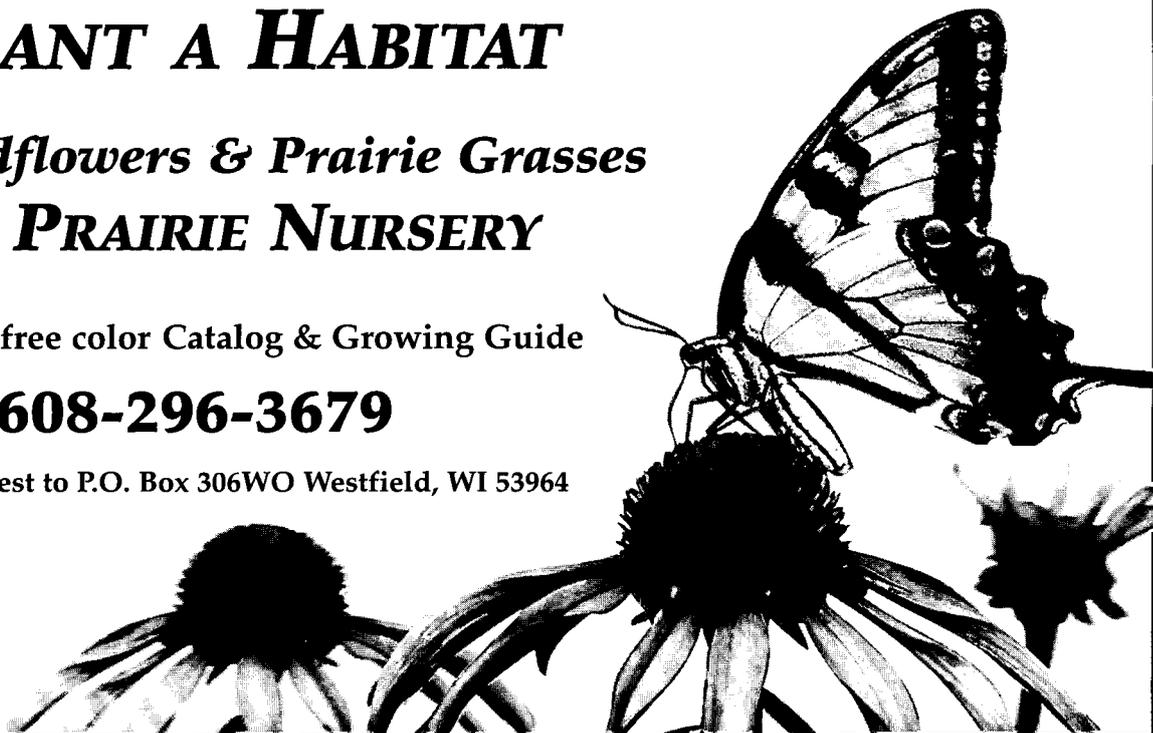
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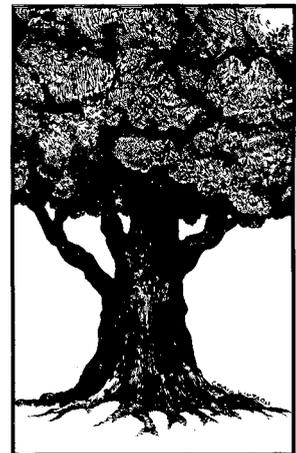
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**Wild Ones—Natural Landscapers, Ltd.** is a non-profit organization with a mission to educate and share information with members and community at the 'plants-root' level and to promote biodiversity and environmentally sound practices. We are a diverse membership interested in natural landscaping using native species in developing plant communities.

Wild Ones—Natural Landscapers, Ltd. was incorporated in 1990 in the State of Wisconsin, under the Wisconsin Non-Stock Corporation Act for educational and scientific purposes. Wild Ones is a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and is publicly supported as defined in Sections 170(b)(1)(iv) and 509(a). Donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.

## BIRDING & BIRDING PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP

Interested in bird watching? Mark your calendar for the Second Annual Nikon School of Birding and Birding Photography workshop at beautiful Horicon Marsh National Wildlife Refuge, Horicon, WI, during the week-end of September 26-28, 1997. For more information, call 1-800-BIRDING or write Nikon School, 1300 Walt Whitman Road, Melville, NY 11747-3064.

## VIRTUAL FOLIAGE

The Department of Botany at the University of Wisconsin-Madison has created a Virtual Foliage Home Page at <http://www.wisc.edu/botany/virtual.html> which, besides providing plant images 20 from various botany courses, has images of the vascular flora of Wisconsin on-line. To find a plant, the key-down method must be used, in which the user narrows his choices from answering a series of questions. For example, to find Wild Columbine, go to flowering plants, dicots, family (*Ranunculaceae*), genus (*Aquilegia*), species (*canadensis*).



## The meeting place

**NOTE:** *The January-February issue of this newsletter was replaced with the Wild Ones Handbook. Additional copies are available for \$7 each. Send check payable to Wild Ones to our P.O. Box. Mark 'Handbook' on envelope.*

### ILLINOIS

#### LAKE-TO-PRAIRIE CHAPTER

Programs are Tuesdays at 7:15pm in the Byron Colby Community Barn at Prairie Crossing, Grayslake, IL. (Rt. 45 just south of IL 120). Visitors welcome. For information call Karin Wisiol (847) 548-1650.

**September 9**—Streambank Restoration in Your Back Yard and Beyond. Lisa Gunther, Resource Conservationist for the Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District, will teach us how to minimize soil erosion through bioengineering and native plant enhancement.

**October 14**—Wildlife in Your Backyard presented by Pat Armstrong, Wild Ones National Board member and President of Prairie Sun Consultants. The Land Conservancy of Lake County will also give a presentation.

#### GREATER DUPAGE CHAPTER

Chapter meets the third Thursday of the month at the College of DuPage, unless otherwise noted. Call Pat Armstrong for info, (630) 983-8404.

#### ROCK RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER

Meet at various locations. Call Jarrett Prairie Center, Byron Forest Preserve at (815) 234-8535, 7993 N. River Rd., Byron, IL for information.

**September 18**—Plant sale and tour at Ender's Greenhouse, 104 Enders Dr., Cherry Valley 6:30pm-8:30pm.

**October 16**—Todd Tucker, Jarrett Center Naturalist, presents seed collecting and care. Jarrett Nature Center. 6:30pm-8:30pm.

### KANSAS

Chapter meets monthly. Working on weed ordinance, developing tours. Call Michael S. Almon for info, (913) 832-1300.

### OHIO

#### COLUMBUS CHAPTER

Meetings held in Rm. 116, Howlett Hall on Agriculture Campus/Ohio State University, unless otherwise noted. Call Joyce Stephens (614) 771-9273 for information.

**September 13**—Bob Harter will give a tour of his nursery and discuss propagation techniques. Bring your questions! Meet in the parking lot of Bob Evans, 23 North and 270 in the Crosswoods Center, 7550 N. High St. Meet at 9:30am for 9:45 departure or meet us at Bob Harter's Nursery at 10:15am, 1961 Buttermilk Hill Rd. Call 369-5625 for more info.

**October 11**—Seed collecting at Battelle Darby Park Prairie. Meet at Cedar Ridge Picnic Area (by the trading post) at Battelle Darby Park. From 270 go west on Rt 40, 7mi. to Darby Creek Dr., follow the entry road to the Cedar Ridge Picnic Area. Bring leather gloves and wear long pants. If it rains on Friday night or Saturday morning, the morning activity will be cancelled. 9:30am-noon.

### OKLAHOMA

Meetings are held on the last Saturday of the month at 10am, Oklahoma State University, Colvin Center, Room 118, unless otherwise noted.

**September 27**—Field trip to elementary school butterfly garden. Butterfly identification and Monarch tagging presented by Virginia Kincaid. Meet at McNally's Store, Coyle, OK, by 8:30am to travel to school. Arrive at 10am. Call (405) 722-3837 or (405) 466-3930 for more info.

### MICHIGAN

Call Dave Borneman for more info (313) 994-4834.

### WISCONSIN

#### FOX VALLEY AREA CHAPTER

Meetings are held at the Fox Valley Technical College Regional Fire Training Center, 1470 Tullar Road, Neenah at 7pm, unless otherwise noted.

**September 20**—Carpool to Kaytee Avian Education Ctr & Ledgeview Nature Ctr, Chilton. 8:45 Osh. 9:15 Appltn. K-Marts.

**October 18**—Seed collecting at Bubolz Nature Center, Appleton. Members only. 9am.

#### GREEN BAY CHAPTER

Meetings held at Green Bay Botanical Garden, 7pm, unless otherwise noted.

**September 10**—Members' slide show. Bring 10-15 slides and tell us your story. Have your name on each slide.

**October 18**—Fall prairie seed collection will be at Swelstad's prairie, 1249 Plateau Heights. Take Mason west to Cty FF (Hillcrest), right (north) on FF. Plateau heights is the first left after the bridge, second house on the left. 10am.

#### MADISON CHAPTER

Meetings held at McKay Center in UW Arboretum, 6:30pm, unless otherwise noted.

**September 25**—National officers will discuss the goals, objectives and growth of Wild Ones. This is your chance to voice your opinions. Join us in welcoming Brett and crew to Madison. 7pm.

**October 30**—Rochelle Whitman, an original Wild One, will share her yard and native philosophy and total yard approach to native plant use. Her daughter, Loreli Allen is an active member in our Madison Chapter. 7pm.

#### MILWAUKEE—NORTH CHAPTER

Meetings held at Schlitz Audubon Center, second Saturday of the month, 9:30am, unless otherwise noted.

**September 13**—Visit Ruth Stein's beautiful lake-front property. Carpool leaves at 9:30am from the Brown Deer Road Park & Ride off I-43.

**October 11**—Seed collection. Meet at Schlitz Audubon Center. Car pool leaves at 9:45am

#### MILWAUKEE—WEHR CHAPTER

Meetings held at Wehr Nature Center, second Saturday of the month, 1:30pm, unless otherwise noted.

**September 13**—Visit Ruth Stein's beautiful lake-front property and visit the Krueger's natural 5 acres. Carpool from Wehr.

**October 11**—Seed gathering at Wehr. Get your once-a-year chance to gather seed from Wehr's prairie to take home and grow!

# NATURE CALENDAR

September through October



Monarchs on Goldenrod

When and Where	Event
After a few warm weeks	Wild Columbine seeds germinate
Bobolinks migrate South	Bottle Gentians bloom
Late goldenrods bloom	Monarchs migrate to Mexico
Little Bluestem turns bronze	Flocks of Goldfinches pick out Blazing Star seeds
Cool days of early autumn	Toads dig into the ground to hibernate
Cool early mornings	Argiope spider webs glisten with dew

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## Attention Wild Ones

Have you discovered something interesting about your natural landscape? Do you have a time-saving tip for growing or planting? Do you know of an interesting seasonal event that takes place in coming months? If so, please write. Deadlines for sending typed articles or illustrations are as follows:

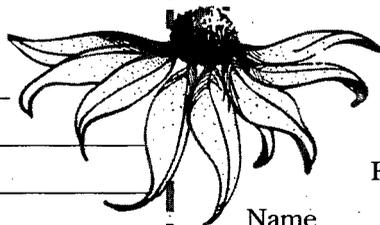
Jan./Feb. issue	copy due Nov. 7	July/Aug. issue	copy due May 7
Mar./April issue	copy due Jan. 7	Sept./Oct. issue	copy due July 7
May/June issue	copy due March 7	Nov./Dec. issue	copy due Sept. 7

All articles should be sent to: **Babette Kis, 6048 N. 114th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53225.**  
If material is to be returned, please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

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