Nectar

The type of food eaten by adult butterflies is nectar. Nectar is nothing more than sugar water with a sugar content between 8 and 76 percent. Most butterfly flowers have nectar with between 25 and 40 percent sugar, along with other compounds including amino acids, proteins, vitamins, enzymes, and flavonoids. The flavonoids are what give nectar its smell. To provide nectar, you need to plant flowers. Although caterpillars have specific host plant requirements, adults are usually less particular about the type of plant they will get nectar from.

The amount and quality of nectar are important qualities in flowers because plants that produce high-quality nectar (low to medium sugar content and high amino acid content) are going to be more attractive than plants with less nectar, all other factors being equal. Environmental factors, including temperature, humidity, wind, day length, sunlight, soil fertility, and plant health, affect the quantity and quality of nectar produced by a flower. It is important to plant several different species because nectar production will vary according to environmental factors.

In the same vein, make sure you have wildflowers in bloom all season, from early spring until late fall, to provide nectar for butterflies. Finally, because nectar is the primary attractant for adult butterflies, do not water plants with overhead watering or a sprinkler during the day, as it dilutes nectar. Use a drip irrigation sprinkler or water in the early morning.

Maximum nectar is produced by flowers on a clear, hot day preceded by a cool night. Strong, cold winds usually mean less nectar production. The amount of sunlight received by plants is one of the most important factors affecting nectar production. Why do butterflies seem to be most active in gathering nectar in open, sunny places? Because more sun means more energy available to the (continued on next page)
nectar
(continued from front page)
plant, which means more nectar can be produced. Butterflies may use plants growing in the shade, but they definitely prefer sun-loving plants (those plants that need at least 6 hours of full sun every day to flower). Common sense dictates that plants growing in fertile soils and healthy plants will produce more nectar.

All insects, including butterflies, have a head, thorax, abdomen, six legs, and one pair of antennae. Butterflies use the tips of their legs, called tarsi, to 'taste' a food source before drinking. Butterfly mouthparts are modified to a long tube that is coiled at rest. Butterflies get all their nutrients through this tube, which limits them to nectar; standing butterflies visit; for example, small plant, which means more nectar can be produced. Butterflies may use flowers on milkweeds, provide a place for larger butterflies to land. The insects can then travel easily to individual flowers to get nectar.

Butterflies have large, round compound eyes that allow them to see in almost every direction at once. Like most insects, butterflies are very nearsighted and are more attracted to large stands of a particular type of flower than those planted singly. They do not see red as well as we do, but they can see polarized light, which tells them the time of day by the angle of the sun, as well as ultraviolet light, which is reflected by many flowers and guides the butterflies to nectar sources.

This information suggests that flower color is important when designing a butterfly garden. Butterflies in general favor warm-colored flowers; reds, yellows, and oranges with purple, white, yellow, and pink being the most preferred. Most butterflies are not attracted to flowers in the greenish-blue to blue-green range. From a design standpoint, based on butterfly feeding preferences, plant groups of warm-colored flowers like Purple Coneflowers, and accent the planting with smaller groups of contrasting color. This will create a unified visual effect. Warm-colored flowers also give a stronger visual effect when observed against a green backdrop. Be sure to provide foundation plantings of preferred host plants. In addition, because of a butterfly's near-sightedness you will want to design the garden with splashes of color or clusters of individual flowers of the same species that will flower at a particular time.

Butterflies also have a very well-developed sense of smell with their clubbed antennae. Although sight is important in locating food plants, butterflies rely even more on the sense of smell. Some studies have found that scent marks on flowers are more common than visual marks. Have you ever noticed how you can smell a flower one day and the next day it has little or no smell and looks slightly different. This indicates that the flower has been pollinated and doesn't want to be bothered by more insects seeking to pollinate it. The flower is now busy making fruit. You can keep high-quality nectar available for the butterflies by getting into the habit of deadheading or pinching back flowers. Pinching back means clipping or pinching back the stems or the flower has been pollinated and doesn't want to be bothered by more insects seeking to pollinate it. The flower is now busy making fruit. You can keep high-quality nectar available for the butterflies by getting into the habit of deadheading or pinching back flowers. Pinching back means clipping or pinching back the stems of flowers before the plant sets its flower buds. Deadheading is removal of fading flower blooms. These practices prolong blooming time and increase the number of blooms per plant. Finally, cutting back is the process of cutting stems after they have bloomed to keep them from looking unkempt. Make sure to leave plants and dead flower heads of those species that provide food for wildlife or have a visual appeal during the winter.

Thomas G. Barnes is an extension wildlife specialist and associate professor of forestry at the University of Kentucky and current chairman of the National 4-H Wildlife Habitat Evaluation program. His new book gives information on the habitat requirements for the birds and butterflies of the Upper South.
"TO EDUCATE AND SHARE ... TO PROMOTE BIODIVERSITY"

WILD ONES MEMBERSHIPS are now held by over 2,300 households across the nation. In an effort to assist everyone—regardless of their location or level of landscaping experience—Wild Ones is going to expand its selection of "paper tools."

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• Site preparation
• Woodland landscaping
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• Water gardening
• Landscaping for wildlife
• Organic lawn care and reel mower maintenance
• Weed ordinances
... and lists covering such subjects as:
• Native plant communities
  for specific regions of North America
• Invasive plants of specific regions of North America
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—Joy Buslaff
In the fall of 1955 I was a patient at Illinois Research Hospital in Chicago. I was four years old and a victim of Congenital Muscular Dystrophy. The hospital was trying to solve my mobility problems. Home is where I really wanted to be in the little town of Adeline, Ill.

The next January two freedoms were granted. The hospital let me go home, plus I was walking for the first time in my life. Thanks to a pair of shiny new leg braces my bipedal life had begun. Now, when scouting the yard, I could peer into the low spruce-hidden nests of the sparrows with the red skid marks on their heads. I could catch butterflies, pick the tops off taller weeds, and look into low tree cavities Being upright also meant I could get knocked down, get spanked and get stung on the rear!

We lived next to the town cemetery which became my playground. The cemetery was excellent habitat for plastic flowers, dead people, and for many living bird, mammal, insect, tree and spring wildflower species. The Adeline Cemetery possessed two of my favorite things, the Pussytoe flower and the eastern Screech Owl.

Ironically, two years later our family moved to Rockford, Ill., renting an upstairs apartment not 50 yards from a huge cemetery. My bedroom windows faced a craggy, old Silver Maple full of hollows. One small hollow straight out from my window housed a red-phased Screech Owl. I watched this bird every day for at least an hour until he disappeared two months later.

The huge cemetery became my outdoor classroom and playground. While exploring the cemetery I began to notice the relationship between vegetation and wildlife.

Most of my childhood was magical and happy, thanks to a loving family and the enchantment nature gives.

It was late summer in 1987, and as I looked out my federally subsidized, city apartment patio door, I wondered if the crewcut lawn was as dead as it looked. I wondered if I looked as dead as my spirit felt. The years had taken a toll on my body and life. One key element was missing from my life—nature. Being separated from nature can happen quickly for those of us with physical and transportation problems. Paradoxically, the disabled who would greatly benefit from gardens and wild areas have access to them the least. Most of this country’s disabled are urban bound and below the poverty line. Most are dependent upon public transportation which does not travel to forest preserves beyond the city limits.

As for me, I was lucky enough to have joined up with a local prairie group. The prairie group even hauled me to the Wade Prairie near Byron and Stillman Valley, Ill. The prairie hoppers went as far as to carry me in the wheelchair to a hill in the Wade Prairie. There I sat, stunned by the beauty of the forbs and grasses flagging in the wind, mimicking my long, unrestrained hair. Over my shoulder behind a fence was a house and backyard. The backyard looked just like the prairie! The residents let the prairie take over the yard. “That’s the way I want my yard to look,” I thought out loud. “It can look that way,” said a jack-booted prairie person with the legs of Thor.

After getting permission from the landlord, two of my friends and I put a 15x15-foot prairie restoration in my yard. Being aggressive prairie restorers, we expanded the prairie every year. My natural area is now 10 times larger.

We know that wolves have keen senses; however, if a wolf becomes physically disabled, his functioning remaining senses become more acute, aiding his chances of survival. This is true if, and only if, the wolf retains his sanity. My native garden heightens my senses and keeps me sane.”—Rod Myers
than the original plot. In 1995 a prairie pothole and sedge meadow were added to the yard. The next year we added an 8-foot Bur Oak, and underneath it we started a savanna section. In 1997 native shrubs were planted, and a woodland wildflower section was started under the ornamental shrubs that I could not extirpate.

My yard is my love; it is my child. It has pulled me out of depression more times than I can count. I watch over the yard and I guard it like a badger. Human and domestic animals know not to go in there. Every year a new yard crew comes to mow the rest of the yard once a week. When I watch the crew, they are being watched! The badger in a wheelchair will chase them if they even think about cutting the native plants. More than once I've heard the phrase “can't we just get along” yelled at me in Spanish. Nothing brings terror and anger to my heart quicker than the sound of a weedwhacker.

My yard has been on the Rock River Valley’s Native Landscape Tour the past two years and will be again this summer. This gives me a chance to brag about the 65 species of birds that have visited my yard, like the Clay-colored Sparrow, one of 11 sparrow species that visit in springtime. Raptors include Cooper's Hawk, Kestrel, Merlin and winter Goshawk. On a balmy mid-February day in 1995, I bolted out onto the patio flushing two Morning Doves hiding near the bird feeder. All of a sudden behind and above a repetitive screeching startled me. I wheeled around and there on the roof was a Peregrine Falcon. Immediately the bird rose and flew to the north. I sat there stunned! Apparently I spoiled the prospects of the Falcon having a dove dinner.

Over 100 native plant species live in my yard. The list includes Pale Purple Coneflower, Rattlesnake Master, Indian Plantain, Rough Blazingstar, Sawtooth Sunflower, Blue-eyed Grass, Shooting Stars, Big and Little Bluestem and Prairie Dropseed. Some of the wetland plants are Bulrush (River and Softstemmed), Marsh Marigold, Swamp Milkweed and Narrow-leaved Cattail.

The pothole area has Green Frogs, toads, and Chorus Frog tadpoles rescued from an evaporating depression in someone’s back yard. A married couple in the Wild Ones put five Tree Frogs in the pothole. The Tree Frogs proceeded to traverse half the neighborhood giving away their individual location every night at dusk.

I guess the big excitement last year was the insect survey. A friend and I observed 361 insect species. I can confidently say that at least 200 species eluded us, especially in the wetland area. We caught most of the moth and beetle species at night by using a rope, a white sheet, and a black light. Warm damp nights brought out the most bugs. Many species were observed during the warmest part of the day—flying or hopping from plant to plant. I drew a picture of every bug that gave me a prolonged look. I learned a lot about shape and aerodynamics drawing these truly magnificent creatures. The species list included the Golden Digger Wasp, Wolf Spiders, Cicada Killer, Marsh Fly, 12 species of dragonflies, 23 species of butterflies, 25 species of leaf hoppers, 28 spider species, 63 moth species and 80 beetle species. I’m not sure where the rest fit in. Oh, and I forgot the bees!

*Once again let me say that I love my yard.*

**It probably saved my soul.**

I will continue to advocate for disabled access to natural areas. I am an environmentalist and I applaud other environmentalist who fight to save natural areas from the sprawl. However, those who oppose disabled access trails in qualified public lands must look at the damage that the able-bodied do to natural areas. Disabled people stay on paths because they have to. A good number of the able-bodied stray from the paths and trample plants to observe, to gain solitude, to photograph, to video, to bird, and to collect. People are loving natural areas to death.

Public lands aren't just for the healthy elite. You shouldn't have to pass a physical exam to experience a natural area. The disabled are not the enemies of nature—and by the way, stay on those paths! 🐦

*A sincere thank you to Rod Myers and Fran Louman for bringing this story to us.—Ed.*

“September Sunrise” © Green Meadow Elementary School
An interesting thing happened on the farm the other day. We received two inches of rain in about 25 minutes. Water poured off the pig yard. With the water went who knows how much of the compost the pigs help us work.

Water also rushed off the neighboring half square mile, carrying with it its load of silt and who knows what else.

All that runoff flows through the lower five acres on our farm, where someone in the past built a swale to channel the waters quickly and efficiently to the river. This is where we chose to put a prairie restoration 10 years ago. Now the grasses (as tall as a man on horseback can reach) and the forbs (which have been blooming since May) have topped out at 14 feet (notably our farm's namesake, the Prairie Dock).

Our southern Wisconsin farm is a lush, wild place, teaming with life and adventure. Yesterday as I walked through it, unable to see more that a few feet ahead, I was reminded of what it must have been like in the old days when pioneer mothers warned their children to "stay out of the prairie, you'll get lost and never find your way back!" Then a car whirred past at 60 mph, and I was shaken from a daydream of a time long past.

But that lush, looming growth of the prairie still has its place on our farm. Knowing that downpours like the one last week occur in nature (and they seem more and more frequent and severe), we decided to put the prairie where we thought it would do the most good. Now it acts like a giant living sponge, intercepting our occasional runoff problems, as well as runoff from a couple of neighboring farms. I saw water GUSH into the prairie, but I didn't see it come out. It got absorbed. The soils in the prairie are loose and friable, loaded with worms and other biota, and the hardpan (that causes much of today's flooding problem) is now broken up. The luxurious perennial growth of these indigenous plants acts as a natural living filter, much like the newly touted artificial wetlands being used in the sewage disposal industry.

Our prairie has other uses, too. It is our major insectary, a place to foster the growth of beneficial (as well as non-beneficial) insects. It teams with various types of wasps and other critters. They are all part of the living dynamics occurring within the area of pest management on our farm. The fall flowers provide a vital food source for pollinating insects at a time of the year when there is little else for them to eat.

We graze our chickens in the prairie, or on the edge of it. And, when we finally get a few herbivores, it will be part of the rotational grazing scheme. The warm-season prairie grasses produce their best pasture opportunities during different times than most cultivated pasture grasses. Maybe if the chickens had a few cows to follow, they wouldn't feel so intimidated about going deeper into the prairie.

We pick flowers and seed from the prairie. The flowers are used in bouquets for the CSA (community-supported agriculture), and we allow interested parties to pick seed to start their own restoration. The seed is also a marketable product and is a cottage industry of the farm.

We harvest ethnobotanical medicinals out of the prairie, too. Purple Coneflower, Mountain Mint, Bergamot, St. John's Wort (non-native) and Tall Boneset all find their way into our home pharmacology.

It is a haven and a habitat for songbirds, game birds, waterfowl, mammals, reptiles and amphibians, and in general much of the life displaced by conventional agriculture and urban sprawl. Its teeming life is what both hunters and naturalists desire.

It is a source of biomass. Remember Switchgrass and ethanol production? Switchgrass, a prairie native, was recommended because it is perennial and could be harvested easily. I wonder if the rest of the rich prairie community isn't applicable for the same use. And what about using it as a fiber source for paper?

It is a source of building material. Our straw-
bale house will be built using prairie grass in its walls and chopped prairie grass in the cob-construction part. It makes great thatched roofs... no finer material available, at least around here. Too bad building codes and public sentiment make it almost impossible to use.

We put our ski trails through it. In winter it acts like a magnet for snow. I've seen the snow five feet deep in the prairie, when the plowed fields around our farm haven't enough snow to cover the tops of the plow furrows. It filters the icy crystals from the winter winds and deposits them where we can groom them into a winter playground. This accumulating effect saves the local highway department the expense of setting up snowfences and plowing the snow off the road. Later in spring the accumulated snows recharge the watertables around the farm.

Similarly, the rest of the year the tall grasses act to mitigate the effects of high winds on the more delicate vegetable crops. I'd suppose it filters loess and other soil components from the winds, too. The nice thing about these wind-breaks is if they get in the way, they can be mowed down or simply driven through.

Last year we harvested the seed in October with a silage wagon and greenchopper. That worked swell, though in October we got a limited variety of seed. This year we are going to try chopping it for animal bedding and bailing it for use in the strawbale house, if we can find pure stands of grass stalks. I'll bet the chickens will get plenty of pleasure scratching through it looking for seed, and maybe it will help disperse the seed around the farm.

It is a place to go and relax. There is no better place to meditate than among the myriad of life that only a grassland can support. It is the place I go to recharge and reconnect, and know there is a better way, and that it is important to keep trying.

And finally, the coolest thing about the prairie is it comes back every year, whether you work on it or no. It's always there, with its bright spring faces, waiting to be enjoyed and spreading its life out into the farm. You can count on it, rain or shine, through pestilence and drought, it's always there. Like an old friend.

This is why we chose to take some of our best soils out of 'production,' and instead, let it lay 'fallow.' It may not be producing corn or soybeans, but it does serve a purpose.

—Greg David, Watertown, Wis.

Our oasis lies in the flat, green-lawn desert of suburban Green Bay, Wis. The transformation of our small (90 x 150-foot) yard, begun in 1989 and continuing today, is based on a Donald Vorpahl design ... and lots of hard work.

In early 1990, our first step was to discuss the plan with our immediate neighbors. This piqued their interest and assured them that we were not going to "just let our grass grow." A number of them were happy to take non-native plant materials removed during the process.

We used a sod-cutter to create large beds and mulched these heavily with hardwood bark mulch to control weed growth. A proposed backyard woodland area was covered with a foot of mulch and allowed to sit for a year before planting. Large structural changes occurred first. A short flagstone walk was professionally installed in the front yard, and trees and shrubs were planted.

In this small yard, we chose to use transplants and all native species. Wild Ones plant rescues became a major source of plant materials. We also obtained some native plants from a few local and in-state nurseries.

Through these 10 years, we have learned to be flexible. A neighbor cut a tree and a small woodland became a prairie. Yard shade patterns changed and a small prairie bed became a woodland. A few plants lost the battle with our heavy clay soil, others liked it too much. A basement wall repair project meant relocating plantings several times. We have also learned that native materials are tough and adaptable.

Our bird feeders and baths are in continual use, bees and butterflies are everywhere, and here in the heart of suburbia, we delight in our occasional duck and Cooper's Hawk visitors. Bunnies, chipmunks, and a toad or two patrol the ground, and the overall impression is that of constant motion. All these wild ones are drawn to our Wild Ones oasis, enlightening and enriching us.

—Kit and Bob Woessner, Green Bay, Wis.
PEARLY EVERLASTING
(Anaphalis margaritacea)

Family: Compositae (Composite)
Other Names: Poverty Weed, Live-Long, Silver Button, Ladies' Tobacco, Life-Everlasting, Silver-Leaf, Moonshine, None-So-Pretty, Indian-Posy, Lady-Never-Fade, Immortelle (Quebec).
Habitat: In gravelly or sandy soils and along streams.
Description: A flat cluster of white, globe-shaped flower heads borne on an erect plant with a white-woolly stem. The small, all-disk flowers with petal-like bracts are about ¼ inch wide. The male and female flowers grow on separate plants. The alternate, narrow leaves are greenish-white above with dense white wool below.
Flowering: July to September. Height: 1 to 3 ft.
Comments: The flowers of this native plant can be picked and dried (and dyed) to be used for winter bouquets. In 1748, Peter Kalm said, "It grows in astonishing quantities upon all uncultivated fields, glades, hills, and the like. Its height varies with the soil and location. It has a strong but agreeable smell." Peter went on to relate how the English ladies gathered great quantities of the flowers, along with their stalks putting them into pots (with or without water), amongst other fine flowers which they gathered from their gardens and fields. English ladies were inclined to keep flowers all summer long—on a table, before a window, about or upon their chimneys, either on account of their sweet scent or their beauty. They especially liked Pearly Everlasting because the flowers lasted all winter, never changing from what they were when they grew in the ground.
Medicinal Use: In 1633, Gerarde said, "Boyled in strong tee cleanseth the hair from nits and lice; also the herbe being laid in ward-robes and presses keepeth the apparel from moths. The same boyled in wine and drunken, kil lest worms and bringeth them forth and prevaleth against the bitings and stinging of venomous beasts."

Before going to battle, each Cheyenne Indian man chewed a little of the plant and rubbed it over his body, arms and legs because of its supposed property of imparting strength, energy and dash, hence, protection from danger.

Over the years, the plant has also been used in various ways to treat asthma, stroke, paralysis, colds, bronchial coughs, throat infections, burns, sores, bruises, swellings, mouth ulcers, dysentery, and rheumatism.

Name Origin: The genus name, Anaphalis (ana-NAFF-a-lis), is from the Greek word, gnaphalium, meaning "wool," in allusion to the woolly foliage. Species name, margaritacea (mar-gar-i-TAY-see-a) means "pearly in color or texture." The family name, Compositae, is pronounced, kom-POZ-i-tee.

Author's Note: Pearly Everlasting is one of the favorite host plants for the caterpillars of the American Painted Lady Butterfly (Vanessa virginiensis). Sometimes hundreds of caterpillars can be seen defoliating a plant. Even though it appears that they are going to kill the plant, don't panic, because it will come back even more lush than before. If we want to have a garden which accommodates butterflies, as well as our eye for beauty, we must be willing to let our foliage be eaten. The butterflies require more than blossoms for nectaring, they also need plants which feed their young.

When I was presenting my butterfly/moth program to a district garden club in a fairly large Wisconsin city, I related this information to the people in the audience. Suddenly there was a distinct, dead silence. I sensed that I must have said something wrong. After the program was completed, one of the ladies told me that their whole city had been hit with these caterpillars; no one knew what they were, so they sprayed or squashed as many as they could. After all, they were eating their Pearly Everlasting plants! When the people in the audience realized what they had done, they were feeling very guilty. Unfortunately, over the years, lack of knowledge has caused me to make similar mistakes.

© 1999 Janice Stiefel, Plymouth, Wis.
PROPAGATING PEARLY EVERLASTING

Pearly Everlasting can be propagated by seed or division. Sown in summer, it will flower the following year. Thriving in full sun, it will also succeed in light shade.

If you wish to use Pearly Everlasting for dried arrangements, pick at peak bloom and hang to dry. In this way, the pods will stay brighter than if you let them dry in the field. 

"Despite [schoolyard native plantings] wide acclaim for providing such rewarding and positive experiences, the whole process is unfortunately diminished the moment the child leaves the schoolground to walk home through an urban landscape marked by conventional horticulture standards and aesthetics that can neither provide the same educational experiences nor the same environmental value."

—John Ingram

GREEN MEADOW SCHOOL

Green Meadow received a $400 1999 Lorrie Otto Seeds For Education grant plus seeds/plants/discounts from a Seeds For Education native nursery partner.

Our school is on 13 acres of rolling meadow south-west of Oshkosh, Wis. Last year the front yard had a few trees and looked very boring. In May 1998, Mrs. Tina Rennebohm and Mrs. Joan Mosling helped all 127 students spread two truckloads of manure and dirt so we could put in over 50 different kinds of prairie and woodland plants and grasses. We measured our gardens—they are 22,315 square feet.

Most of the plants were donated by Wild Ones members Elaine Swanson and Ginna Nelson, but we bought a few on sale. It was hard, hot, dirty work but worth it. So far, 97 other people have helped us and we call them 'Gardening Angels' and send them the native flower thank-you notes that Mrs. Bartelt's fifth grade art class drew in the garden this fall. We made our own logo showing Sideoats Grama grass, a prairie coneflower, and a woodland fern. Mr. Scheer will be putting the garden plans and pictures on the school web site (http://www.vbe.com/~gmeadow). Lots of other pictures go up on the native garden bulletin board and in the photo journal.

Now the garden has boulders, snags, two bird feeders, a rock chair, amphibian houses, a bench, a Redtwig Dogwood fence, a neat bird bath and a rock wall. A group of fifth graders pulled vines from the hedgerow and made a 6-foot grapevine wreath for the Wild Ones Conference (Fox Valley). Our hedgerow has birdhouses made by a Cub Scout pack, a senior center carpenter, and a retired neighbor friend. They are all filled!

We were very happy when we got the Lorrie Otto Seeds For Education grant. Prairie Nursery (Westfield, Wis.) and Little Valley Farm (Spring Green, Wis.) helped us with our wish list of plants. Thank you very much!!

This spring our teachers were so busy that our parents and some Gardening Angel friends helped us plant the rest of the native plants, trees and bushes. Our principal, Mr. Baas, is learning all about birds so he can teach us. Mrs. Nugent, our speech specialist, said, "I love coming to Green Meadow School and watching the marvelous transformation and seeing and hearing the birds." We do too! 

"Native Bouquet" © Green Meadow Elementary School
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-roots’ 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.

**ILLINOIS**

**GREATER DuPAGE CHAPTER**

Chapter meets the third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at the College of DuPage, unless otherwise noted. Call (630) 415-IDIG for info.

**JULY 10**—Members’ open house yard tours.

**LAKE-TO-PRAIRIE CHAPTER**

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month in the Byron Colby Community Barn at Prairie Crossing, Grayslake (Rt. 45 just south of Ill. 120). Visitors welcome. Call Karin Wisiol for info, (847) 548-1650.

**JULY 17**—Chicago Botanic Garden tour led by Dave Sollenberger. Carpool from Byron Colby Barn, Prairie Crossing at 8:30 a.m.

**AUG. 14**—Carpool from Byron Colby Barn to Wild Ones National Conference. Details on page 15.

**NORTH PARK CHAPTER**

Meetings are held the second Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at the North Park Nature Center, 5801 N. Pulaski, Chicago, unless otherwise indicated. Call Bob Porter for more info, (312) 744-5472.

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**ROCK RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER**

Meetings held at 7 p.m. at Jarrett Prairie Center, Byron Forest Preserve, 7993 N. River Rd., Byron, unless otherwise noted. Call (815) 234-8535 for info.

**JULY 31**—Native landscape bus tour in Rockford area. Contact Fran Lowman for details, (815) 874-4855. No regular monthly meeting.

**AUG. 19**—Dennis Lubbs, Genesis Nursery, presents “Native Grasses, Sedges, and Grass-like Plants.”

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**KANSAS**  
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**KENTUCKY**  
**FRANKFORT**  
Meetings are held on the second Monday of the month at 5:30 at Franklin County Extension office unless otherwise noted. Call Katie Clark at (502) 226-4766 or email herbs@kih.net for info.

**LOUISVILLE CHAPTER**  
Meetings are held the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Louisville Nature Center, 3745 Illinois Avenue, unless otherwise noted. Call Portia Brown at (502) 454-4007 or e-mail Light@entreky.net for info.

**JULY 27**—Phyllis Croce, landscape restoration specialist for MSD, will present “Native Plant Salvage and Restoration in Urban Areas.” We’ll look at landscaping in a corporate setting, plant salvage and restoration efforts in public and residential areas.

**AUG 24**—Gene Bush, Munchkin Nursery, noted horticultural writer, artist, photographer will present “Wildflowers and The Fall Planting Season.” He has great slides for shade gardeners.

**MICHIGAN**  
**ANN ARBOR CHAPTER**  
Meetings are held the second Wednesday of the month. For info contact Dave Mindell, (734) 665-7168 or plantucia@aol.com; or Bob Grese, (734) 763-0645 or bgrese@umich.edu.

**JULY 14 & AUG. 11**—Tour members’ yards. Details to be announced.

**FLINT CHAPTER**  
Meetings are held the third Thursday of the month. For info contact Deb Farrell, (810) 233-6655 or dahirkfarrell@hotmail.com.

**JULY 15**—6:30 p.m. Meet at Virginia Clatfield’s, 3319 Eloc Dr, Swartz Creek (655-6580). See our VP’s six acres of prairie and much more!

**AUG. 19**—6:30 p.m. Tour three areas in Flushing: Vicki Gagne’s, 7195 Johnson, Flushing (659-7656); Brian Pratt’s, 5185 McKinley, Flushing (659-7102); Flushing Township Nature Park, McKinley Rd.

**OAKLAND COUNTY CHAPTER**  
Meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month at Old Oakland Township Hall, Rochester, 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted. For info contact Maryann Whitman, (248) 652-4004 or maryannwhitman@hotmail.com.

**JULY 6**—Loosestrife ‘Rodeo’ Hands-on clearing of Lythrum salicaria along Paint Creek Trail led by Mindy Mio, parks manager/landscape architect.

**MINNESOTA**  
**OTTER TAIL CHAPTER**  
Meetings are held at the Prairie Wetlands Learning Center, 7 p.m., unless otherwise noted. Call Tim Bodeen for info, (320) 739-9334.

**ST. CLOUD**  
Meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month at the Heritage Nature Center, St. Cloud, 6:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted.

**MISSOURI**  
**ST. LOUIS CHAPTER**  
Meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month. New chapter is developing program schedule. Contact Scott Woodbury for info, (314) 451-0850.

**JULY 7**—Tour Monsanto headquarters with Simon Davies and Gary Schimmelpfenig.

**AUG. 14**—Terry Sebben’s home prairie garden.

**ST. CLOUD**  
Meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. at Inniswood Metro Gardens, Inniswood House, 940 Hempstead Rd., Westerville, unless otherwise noted. Call Martha Preston for info, (614) 263-9468.

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OKLAHOMA
COYLE CHAPTER
Meetings are held on the last Saturday of the month at 10 a.m. at the Stillwater Public Library, Rm 138, unless otherwise noted.
JULY 16—Plant identification meeting and social.
AUGUST 21—Seed gathering.

WISCONSIN
FOX VALLEY AREA CHAPTER
Meetings are held at UW-Extension office, 625 E. Cnty Rd. Y, Oshkosh, 7 p.m., unless otherwise noted.
JULY 22—Tour of members' yards. Several area naturally landscaped yards will be featured in our tour.
AUG. 21—Car Caravan to three Green Bay locations: Baird Creek Woodland, Christa Maculiffe School, and UW-Green Bay Arboretum. Meet at Oshkosh K-Mart at 8:30 and Appleton K-Mart at 9 a.m. Bring a sack lunch.

GREEN BAY CHAPTER
Meetings are held at the Green Bay Botanical Garden, 2600 Larson Rd., 7 p.m., unless otherwise noted. Call Bonnie Vastag for info, (920) 494-5635.
JULY 14 & AUG. 11—Yard tours, beginning at 7 p.m. Tour members' prairie projects and learn what has been successful and what they would change. Contact Bonnie Vastag for addresses and details, (920) 494-5635.

MADISON CHAPTER
Meetings are held the last Thursday of the month at Arboretum McKay Center, 7 p.m., unless otherwise noted. Public is welcome. Call Joe Powelka for more info, (608) 299-9888.
JULY 29—Help-Me-Show-Me Day or yard tour. Meet at the Arboretum. The yards we'll be visiting are: Ellen Satter, 4226 Mandan Crescent, and Jane Balcer, 5714 Hammerly Rd., Madison.
AUG. 14—Annual national meeting. See details at right.

MENOMONEE RIVER AREA CHAPTER
Meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. at The Ranch, W187 N8661 Maple Rd., Menomonee Falls unless otherwise noted. Call Jan Koel for info, (414) 251-7175.
JULY 20—Tour Lorrie Otto's native yard. Carpool from Piggly Wiggly western lot off Pilgrim Rd. Leave at 6:30 p.m.
AUG. 17—Tour Randy Powers' yard. Carpool from Wild Bird Center lot. Leave at 6:30 p.m.

MILWAUKEE–NORTH CHAPTER
Meetings are held at the Schmitz Audubon Center, 1111 E. Brown Deer Rd., Bayside, second Saturday of the month, 9:30 a.m., unless otherwise noted. Call voice mail message center at (414) 299-9888.

MILWAUKEE–WEHR CHAPTER
Meetings are held at the Wehr Nature Center, second Saturday of the month, 1:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted. Call voice mail message center at (414) 299-9888.
JULY 10—Tour Wehr Nature Center.

Wild Ones' Annual National Meeting
Madison, Wisconsin
August 14
McKay Center at the UW-Madison Arboretum
8 a.m.—Check in, coffee & rolls, mixer
9 a.m.—Noon—Meeting
Noon-1 p.m.—Lunch and social hour with keynote speaker Darrel Morrison, nationally known landscape architect. Box lunches will be provided for those who pre-order them.
1 p.m.—Tours have been arranged for all to view Curtis Prairie (the oldest prairie restoration in the world), Greene Prairie, and other areas of the Arboretum. Come see what Aldo Leopold and John Curtis started in the development of the native restoration projects at this world-class institution.
Additional information will be posted on the Wild Ones web site, relayed to chapter contacts, and will be available directly from Joe Powelka, 5361 Bethlach Rd., Sun Prairie, WI 53590; powelka@iitis.com.

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WHEN broadcasters in your area announce that ozone levels will be high, and citizens are asked to refrain from such activities as mowing, do you spy violators? I have to believe they just don’t comprehend the effects air quality can have on some individuals. As the Environmental Protection Agency explains:

There is an association between ozone levels in the outdoor air and increased hospital admissions for respiratory causes, such as asthma. Ozone air pollution has been associated with as much as 10 to 20 percent of all summertime respiratory hospital visits and admissions.

Further news stories sadden me: “One in seven children suffers from asthma,” “Asthma cases were the single largest cause of child hospital admissions in the U.S. last year (6 million).” We may not be able to refrain from all ozone-causing activities, but reducing mowing is so easy to do, and means so much in the way of air quality. Again, details from the EPA:

In terms of atmospheric pollution, the two-stroke engines that typically power both industrial and residential maintenance equipment are notoriously inefficient and not subject to the same emissions standards as vehicles. They do not have catalytic converters and they burn a mixture of oil and gas. Carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, nitrous oxides, sulphur dioxide, volatile organic compounds, particulates and toxins such as benzene are all emitted in considerable quantities.

You're welcome to copy this column and share the knowledge with those who haven't learned about this vital issue. —Joy Buslaff
additional events

**JULY 9 CONFERENCE**
The College of DuPage, Glen Ellyn, Ill., is sponsoring the “Chicagoland Native Landscaping Conference,” which will feature more than 25 experts (who will address building and maintaining native plant communities), plus vendors and displays. Stephen Packard, director of the Chicago Region Conservation Center of the National Audubon Society will be the keynote speaker. Fee after June 25 is $55. Cost includes continental breakfast and lunch. Call (630) 942-2010 for further information.

**JULY 10 OPEN HOUSE**
Prairie Ridge Nursery, CRM Ecosystems of Mt. Horeb, Wis., will be celebrating its 25th anniversary with an open house. Come for the speakers, tours, plants, books, and other items for sale, along with refreshments. Call (608) 437-5245 for directions.

**JULY 24 BUS TOUR**
Wehr Nature Center, Hales Corners, Wis., annual “Tour of Naturally Landscaped Yards.” Bus tour of yards will demonstrate how you can grow native vegetation. Bring a bag lunch. Fee: $15 ($13 for volunteers or Friends of Wehr). Call Karen Kerans for more info, (414) 425-8550.

**AUGUST 7 BUS TOUR**
Schlitz Audubon 23rd annual “Lorrie Otto Bus Tour” through the front yards of native plant enthusiasts in Milwaukee’s north-shore suburbs. Eighteen homes and two schools will be viewed. Rain or shine, meet at Schlitz Audubon Nature Center at 9 a.m. and bring a bag lunch. Fee: $20 ($17 for Wild Ones or FOSAC members). For more information or to pre-register (be prepared to be put on a waiting list), call (414) 352-2880.

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Fox Valley Area Chapter member Carol Niendorf explains that husband Bob drilled one-inch holes into this native granite rock with a carbide-tip concrete drill bit. He drove lead anchors into the holes and inserted brass screws into the anchors to hold the sign in place. Their farmer neighbor let Carol and Bob select boulders from his property. After the season's hay was cut, the farmer drove across the field with his front-end loader "and dropped them where I pointed," relates Carol. Two flank the paths into the Niendorf's prairie garden and savanna, the one pictured here rests near their campfire area.

Aluminum yard signs proclaiming "this land is in harmony with nature" may be available from your local chapter or send $21 to: Wild Ones Yard Sign, P.O. Box 1274, Appleton, WI 54913-1274. Send a picture of your yard sign to the Big Bend address on the back cover.

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