

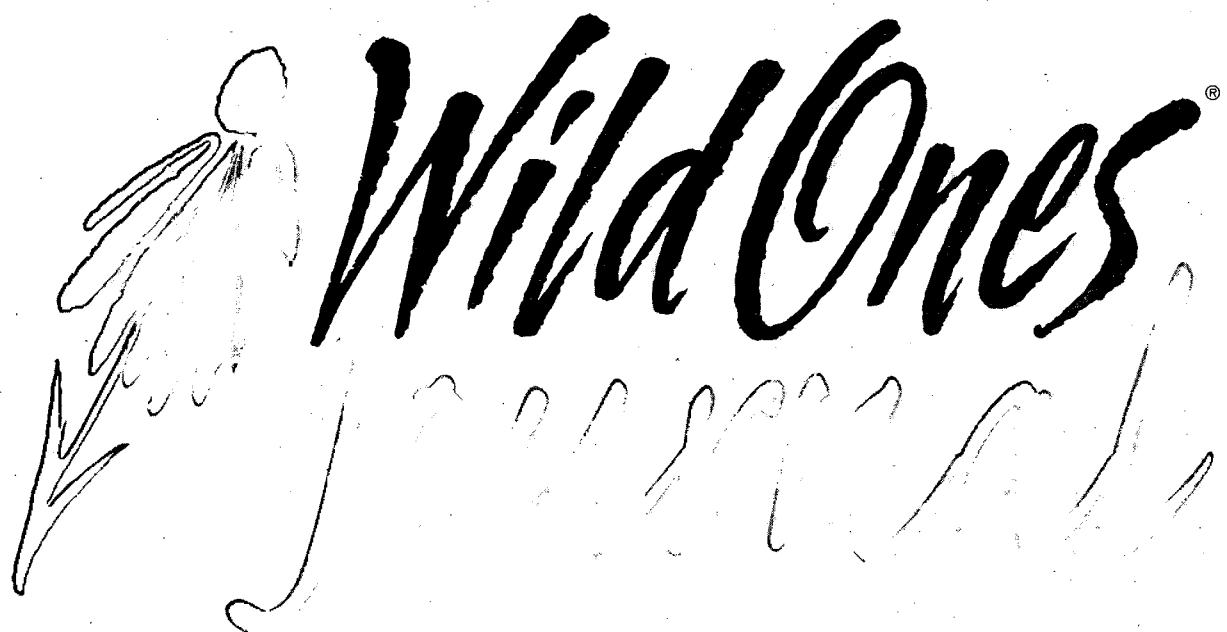


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A VOICE FOR THE NATURAL LANDSCAPING MOVEMENT

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## A LEPIDOPTERA LANDSCAPE

How would you like to gaze out your kitchen window at colorful Painted Ladies as they sip nectar from Joe-pye Weed? Or watch dragonflies hover by your garden pond, while iridescent blues flutter on its sandy edge? Maybe you'd like to observe a Black Swallowtail as it grows from a tiny egg to a fat caterpillar and see its magical transformation into a chrysalis and then a butterfly with shimmering black wings.

By creating a haven for butterflies in your yard, you can greatly enhance your chances of attracting many colorful visitors like Tiger Swallowtails and admirals. This can be as simple as adding asters and coneflowers to a sunny flowerbed or as extensive as replacing the lawn with a wildflower meadow and establishing a wildlife

sanctuary with food and shelter provided from a variety of trees and shrubs.

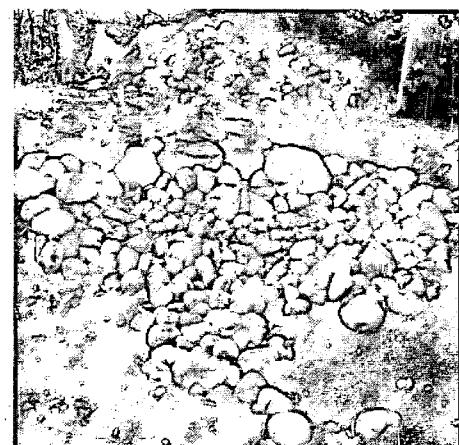
Many butterflies, such as swallowtails, are well adapted to urban and suburban life, finding habitat in nearby parks and undeveloped areas. You can pull them into your garden by implementing a few basic rules.

### LOCATION

Find a sunny, sheltered spot where they can perch to feed and warm themselves. Large rocks or a stone wall make great basking spots for these cold-blooded insects. Late afternoon sun will not only bring in lots of butterflies, but will provide glorious light for viewing and photographing them. It's a plus if you can watch from your kitchen or living room window.

(continued on next page)

BY CLAIRE HAGEN DOLE



Sun-warmed rocks are inviting to butterflies. In Joy Buslaff's yard, scraps of pond liner were laid down (to discourage weeds) and covered with rocks, creating a spillway that hints of a natural avalanche.

## WATER

Male butterflies appreciate a patch of wet sand or dirt. They sip salts and other minerals from the sand, a behavior known as *puddling*. The minerals are passed on in a sperm packet during mating to enrich the eggs.

Do not use aerial sprinklers (overhead watering) in your landscape. Water applied in this way dilutes the flowers' nectar.

## LARVAL FOOD (HOST) PLANTS

While adult butterflies will sip nectar from a number of flowers, females are particular about which plants they will lay their eggs on. If you can find a spot where visitors won't brush against them, plant nettle and thistle\*. Try milkweed for Monarchs; lupine for blues; and grasses for satyrs and skippers. (See plant list, page 4.) If

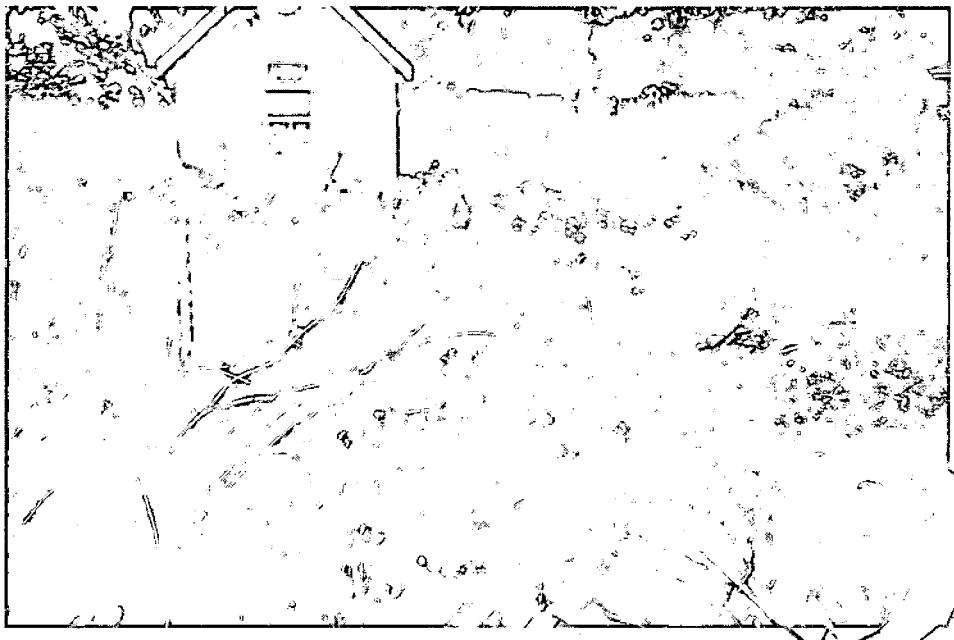
you live near a wooded area, it may provide habitat for Mourning Cloaks, admirals and Tiger Swallowtails who will foray into your yard for nectar. Caterpillars are voracious eaters; if you're concerned they're consuming all the foliage on a plant, move some of them to another plant of the same species.

## NECTAR PLANTS

Fragrance and color will draw a passing butterfly; plant in masses for best effect. Good access to the nectar is important—showy double blooms and hybrids don't provide a good perching or feeding source. (See cover story, "Nectar," July/August 1999 *Wild Ones Journal*. Reprints can be ordered from our national office.)

If you can, allow dandelions and clover to bloom; these humble plants

\*Look for Field, Hill's or Swamp thistle (*Cirsium discolor*, *C. hillii*, *C. muticum*) whose seed can be found in native plant nursery catalogs, rather than picking wild seed that will probably come from alien invasive Canada (*C. arvense*), Nodding (*C. nutans*) or Bull thistle (*C. vulgare*). Dune Thistle (*C. pitcheri*) is a protected species.



Drifts of floral color, brushy hiding places and woodpiles attract butterflies. If you find chewed leaves, as on this Wafer Ash (aka Hop Tree or *Ptelea trifoliata*), rejoice! The caterpillar who dined here got the food it needed to turn into a beautiful Tiger Swallowtail butterfly. Do not panic at the sight of a webby nest of hungry Tent Caterpillars. The *Malacosoma* species are not likely to defoliate a tree or shrub severely enough to be lethal, unless the plant was already diseased or stressed. If you choose to remove Tent Caterpillars and want to try something more edifying than just squashing them underfoot, cut off the branch they occupy and suspend it in a fish-filled pond or lay out the nest on pavement where birds can see it, then watch their gustatory delight. Keep reading *Wild Ones Journal* to continue learning which insects are our landscaping allies and which are pests of legitimate concern. Photo of Joy Buslaff's yard.

are attractive early nectar sources for a number of insects. A few rotting apples left under your tree (or other fruit lying in your compost bin) might entice a Red Admiral to stop and eat. This striking butterfly supplements its diet with amino acids from decaying fruit, even animal scat.

## NO PESTICIDES OR ZAPPERS

Butterflies are extremely susceptible to pesticides, including Bt (*Bacillus thuringiensis*), which kills developing larvae. Try to hand pick pests. The more habitat you provide for birds and beneficial insects, the less you will be troubled by infestations.

Bug zappers do not attract mosquitoes. These electronic devices do, however, needlessly kill countless moths that would otherwise feed the birds we want to attract.

## SHELTER

Where do butterflies go when it rains? (You won't see many butterflies on cloudy days; they seem to sense when life-threatening rain is imminent.) Look in the foliage of trees and shrubs, under eaves, in a brush pile or woodpile. Don't tidy up too much in the fall; whether a butterfly overwinters as egg, caterpillar, chrysalis or adult, it needs a place to hibernate during the cold months. Meadow grasses harbor the tiny caterpillars of ringlets and satyrs. The newly hatched larva makes itself a shelter (hibernaculum) by bending a grass blade together and fastening it with silk. Wait until spring to mow, or at least leave a patch untouched. An undisturbed woodpile will shelter a diverse group of insects and small animals, including adult butterflies like anglewings.

When you begin watching the amazing, daily dramas in a wildlife garden, you'll wonder at the appeal of resource-intensive, manicured lawns. Skippers, bumblebees and hummingbirds know which garden they prefer: They'll flock to a yard full of colorful, nectar-rich flowers. Put your lawn chair in a quiet spot and grab your camera! ☺

In the classification of insects, the Lepidoptera Order is comprised by the butterflies and moths. Because of the availability of many books, magazine articles, TV specials and seminar speakers, most of us are quite knowledgeable about the butterflies that float through our landscapes. The misunderstood and relatively unknown members of this order are the moths. Of the nearly 94,000 known species of insects in America (north of Mexico), 11,230 species belong to the Lepidoptera Order. Only about 760 of these are butterflies; the rest are moths. Some species of moths are yet to be identified and may become extinct even before being discovered.

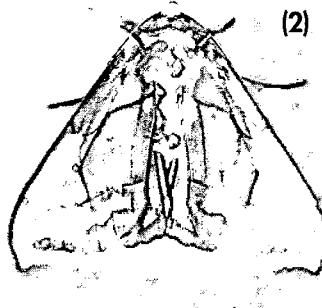
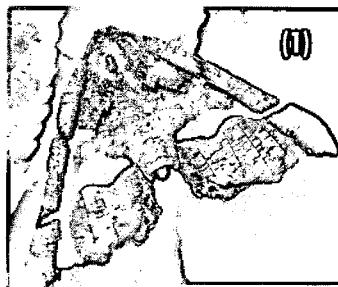
Up until a few years ago, I was guilty of this ignorance like everyone else. That was until one morning when I observed 10 beautiful, fragile, delicately light green moths clinging to the outside wall of our house, just beneath a small light that was inadvertently left on all night. When I took the time to really look at them, I discovered they had exquisite, rather obscure line marking on their wings. They were absolutely beautiful! It was at that moment I decided I was going to learn the names of all future visitors to our night light, and the light was going to be left on every night to encourage them. That decision opened up another world of awe and mystery for me. I have often wondered why God created these beauties of the evening, when most of them would go unnoticed. Then, I discovered that many of them are visible during the day, if you make an effort to discern what is around you.

Taking a closer look at the trees and shrubs growing close to your house, the leaves on the vegetation growing along your woodland and prairie pathways will often reveal a night-flying moth resting on the upper or underside of the leaves. Sometimes they are camouflaged against the bark of a tree. Left undisturbed, they frequently remain in these locations during the daylight hours, flying away only at dusk.

Since I have been identifying and

studying wild plants for over 20 years, I have often wondered how I missed the moths during that time. It wasn't until my eyes actually made a concerted effort, that I was able to find, identify and photograph over 385 live moth species, including many in their larval stage (because I actually reared them).

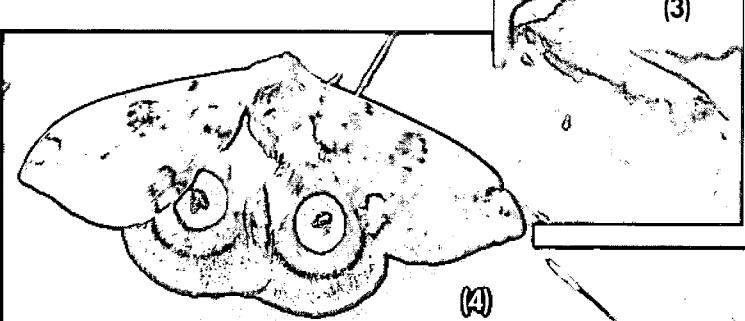
*Peterson's Field Guide to Eastern Moths* by Charles V. Covell Jr. is the only good book on identifying moths.



- (1) Family: Geometridae; Honest Pero (*Pero honestaria*). (2) Family: Noctuidae; Hologram Moth\* (*Diachrysia balluca*). (3) Family: Notodontidae; Angus' Datana (*Datana angusii*). (4) Family: Saturniidae; Io Moth (*Automeris io*). (5) Family: Sphingidae; Snowberry Clearwing Moth (*Hemaris diffinis*).

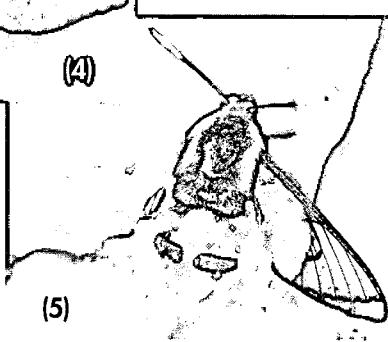
## BEAUTIES OF THE EVENING THE MYSTERIOUS, MISUNDERSTOOD MOTHS

BY JANICE STIEFEL



Unfortunately, that is now out of print. There are two elementary books on caterpillars, *A Golden Guide to Butterflies and Moths* by Robert T. Mitchell and Herbert S. Zim and *Peterson's First Guide to Caterpillars* by Amy Bartlett Wright. A good, more in-depth, easy-to-understand caterpillar book is desperately needed.

Some moths are day-fliers, but the majority are night-fliers. Their food plant requirements are quite specific and lean toward trees and shrubs, whereas the butterflies generally pre-



fer the forbs. If you have oaks, willows, maples, elms, cherry, dogwoods, viburnums and any of the native trees and shrubs in your yard, you should have moth visitors. In the larval stage, they will eat the leaves of these plants, and they themselves provide food for many birds and animals.

Each moth family reveals unique identifying characteristics, i.e., the

way they fold their wings over their hindwings, their resting pose, similarity in the shape of their outline, their demeanor (docile or skittish), etc.

I am sharing with you photos of my five favorites, each from a different family. The selection process has been a

difficult one because I admire every one of the 385 moths I have photographed. Perhaps some day one of you, who is much younger than I, will publish that long-awaited comprehensive book on the mysterious and misunderstood moths and their larvae before some of them become extinct. \*

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\**Diachrysia balluca* was not known by a common name—until Janice gave it one. Its scientific name means "covered or sprinkled with gold" and "emits light." Janice thought "hologram" a fine designation for this moth's variable coloration and ability to reflect light.

# NECTAR AND HOST PLANTS FOR A LEPIDOPTERA LANDSCAPE

Although this list is lengthy, it does not represent all the plants that American butterflies and moths need to survive. For instance, it does not address the range of grass, sedge and wetland plant species important to the Lepidoptera Order. Check your local field guides to see which of these species are native to your area, and always attempt to procure plants of local genotype. Thanks to Claire Hagen Dole, Janice Stiefel and Pat Armstrong for helping hone this list.—Ed.

Botanical name	Common name
FLOWERS	
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Yarrow
<i>Agastache foeniculum</i>	Lavender Hyssop
<i>Allium cernuum</i>	Nodding Onion
<i>Amorpha canescens</i>	Leadplant
<i>Anaphalis margaritacea</i>	Pearly Everlasting
<i>Angelica atropurpurea</i>	Angelica
<i>Antennaria spp.</i>	Pussytoes
<i>Apocynum androsaemifolium</i>	Dogbane
<i>Aquilegia formosa</i>	Columbine
<i>Armeria maritima</i>	Thrift
<i>Aristolochia serpentaria</i>	Virginia Snakeroot
<i>Asclepias spp.</i>	Milkweed
<i>Aster spp.</i>	Aster
<i>Astragalus canadensis</i>	Milkvetch
<i>Boltonia asteroides</i>	Boltonia
<i>Callirhoe triangulata</i>	Poppy Mallow
<i>Campanula americana</i>	Tall Bellflower
<i>Cassia spp.</i>	Partridge Pea
<i>Chelone glabra</i>	Turtlehead
<i>Cirsium spp.</i>	Thistle
<i>Coreopsis spp.</i>	Tickseed
<i>Desmodium spp.</i>	Tick-trefoil
<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	Purple Coneflower
<i>Epilobium angustifolium</i>	Fireweed
<i>Erigeron annuus</i>	Fleabane
<i>Eupatorium purpureum</i>	Joe-pye Weed
<i>Filipendula rubra</i>	Queen-of-the-Prairie
<i>Fragaria virginiana</i>	Strawberry
<i>Gaillardia pulchella</i>	Blanketflower
<i>Helenium autumnale</i>	Sneezeweed
<i>Helianthus spp.</i>	Sunflower
<i>Heuchera richardsonii</i>	Alumroot
<i>Impatiens spp.</i>	Jewelweed
<i>Lathyrus spp.</i>	Wild Pea
<i>Lespedeza spp.</i>	Bushclover
<i>Liatris spp.</i>	Blazingstar
<i>Lilium michiganense</i>	Turk's Cap Lily
<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>	Cardinal Flower
<i>Lupinus spp.</i>	Lupine
<i>Mimulus cardinalis</i>	Monkeyflower
<i>Monarda spp.</i>	Beebalm, Bergamot, Dotted Mint
<i>Napaea dioica</i>	Glade Mallow
<i>Oenothera biennis</i>	Evening Primrose
<i>Penstemon spp.</i>	Penstemon
<i>Petalostemum spp.</i>	Prairie Clover
<i>Phlox spp.</i>	Prairie, Marsh Phlox
<i>Physostegia virginiana</i>	False Dragonhead
<i>Polygonum spp.</i>	Smartweed
<i>Pontederia cordata</i>	Pickerelweed
<i>Pycnanthemum spp.</i>	Mountain Mint
<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>	Yellow Coneflower

<i>Rosa spp.</i>	Rose
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	Black-eyed Susan
<i>Ruellia humilis</i>	Wild Petunia
<i>Silphium spp.</i>	Rosinweed, Compassplant, Cupplant, Prairie Dock
<i>Solidago spp.</i>	Goldenrod
<i>Taenidia integriflora</i>	Yellow Pimpernel
<i>Tradescantia spp.</i>	Spiderwort
<i>Urtica spp.</i>	Nettle
<i>Verbena hastata</i>	Blue Vervain
<i>Vernonia noveboracensis</i>	Ironweed
<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>	Culver's Root
<i>Vicia spp.</i>	Vetches
<i>Viola spp.</i>	Violet
<i>Zizia spp.</i>	Golden Alexanders

## SHRUBS AND VINES

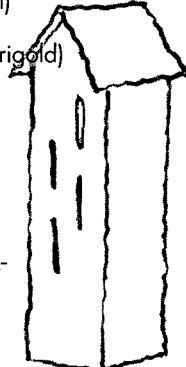
<i>Aesculus spp.</i>	Buckeye
<i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i>	Serviceberry
<i>Aralia spinosa</i>	Hercules' Club
<i>Aristolochia durior</i>	Dutchman's Pipe
<i>Aronia spp.</i>	Chokeberry
<i>Baccharis pilularis</i>	Coyote Brush
<i>Ceanothus spp.</i>	New Jersey Tea, Wild Lilac
<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	Buttonbush
<i>Chiopsis linearis</i>	Desert Willow
<i>Chrysothamnus nauseosus</i>	Rabbitbrush
<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>	Sweet Pepperbush
<i>Cistus spp.</i>	Rockrose
<i>Hamelia patens</i>	Firebush
<i>Holodiscus discolor</i>	Ocean Spray
<i>Illex spp.</i>	Hollies
<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	Spicebush
<i>Lotus scoparius</i>	Deerweed
<i>Philadelphus spp.</i>	Mock orange
<i>Potentilla spp.</i>	Cinquefoil
<i>Rhus spp.</i>	Sumac
<i>Rhododendron spp.</i>	Rhododendron, Azalea
<i>Ribes spp.</i>	Currant, Gooseberry
<i>Spiraea spp.</i>	Spiraea
<i>Vaccinium spp.</i>	Blueberry, Huckleberry
<i>Viburnum spp.</i>	Viburnum

## TREES

<i>Abies spp.</i>	Fir
<i>Acer spp.</i>	Boxelder, Maple
<i>Alnus</i>	Alder
<i>Asimina triloba</i>	Pawpaw
<i>Betula spp.</i>	Birch
<i>Carpinus spp.</i>	Hornbeam
<i>Carya spp.</i>	Hickory, Pecan
<i>Castanea dentata</i>	Chestnut
<i>Celtis spp.</i>	Hackberry, Sugarberry
<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	Redbud
<i>Cornus spp.</i>	Dogwoods
<i>Crataegus spp.</i>	Hawthorn
<i>Fraxinus spp.</i>	Ash
<i>Juglans</i>	Walnut
<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	Red Cedar
<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Tulip Poplar
<i>Malus spp.</i>	Crabapple
<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	Hop-hornbeam
<i>Pinus spp.</i>	Pine
<i>Plantanus occidentalis</i>	Sycamore
<i>Populus spp.</i>	Aspen, Cottonwood, Poplar
<i>Prunus spp.</i>	Cherry, Plum
<i>Ptelea trifoliata</i>	Wafer Ash, aka Hop Tree
<i>Quercus</i>	Oak
<i>Robinia spp.</i>	Locust
<i>Salix spp.</i>	Willow
<i>Sassafras albidum</i>	Sassafras
<i>Tilia americana</i>	Basswood, aka Linden
<i>Ulmus</i>	Elm
<i>Xanthoxylum americanum</i>	Prickly Ash

## IRRESISTIBLE EXOTICS

Here are a few non-native species worthy of note. Only the Fennel needs to be monitored as it readily reseeds and can spread. *Foeniculum vulgare* (Fennel) *Lavandula spp.* (Lavender) *Tagetes patula* (French Marigold) *Zinnia elegans* (Zinnia)



## DO BUTTERFLY HIBERNATION BOXES WORK?

A hibernation box study took place at Shaver's Creek Environmental Center, Penn State University. Eagle Scout David Wisniewski constructed 40 boxes for PSU's Department of Entomology. The boxes were attached to trees along woodland trails frequented by Mourning Cloaks and other overwintering butterflies.

On a sunny day in March 1996, boxes were inspected. Spider silk was found in eight boxes. The following March a second inspection turned up greater evidence of use by various creatures: 26 of the boxes contained spider webs and silk; seven contained abandoned nests of umbrella wasps; three had overwintering cluster flies; two had been used by pupating Gypsy Moths; one had a colony of ants; two had dead stink bugs; and one contained a nest of Black Locust leaves left by one tiny White-footed Mouse. Eight boxes were empty.

Says Robert Snetsinger of PSU, "I have yet to see evidence to support the notion that butterflies actually need or use butterfly houses. My suggestion is, if you want to do something useful for butterflies, build them a mud puddle." (Reported in *Butterfly Times*, Dept. of Entomology, 501 ASI Building, PSU, University Park, PA 16802.)

—Claire Hagen Dole

BY THOMAS LEO OGREN

Many of our most allergenic plants commonly used in landscaping in the United States and Canada are indeed natives. However, it is the manipulation of these plants by commercial horticulture that has, and is, causing most of the huge increases we are now experiencing with allergy problems.

Thirty years ago fewer than 12 percent of Americans had allergies. The official figure today is that a whopping 38 percent of us now suffer from allergies. (December '99, American College of Asthma, Allergy, and Immunology)

Not too many years ago death from asthma was fairly rare. Today it is all too common and is considered epidemic. Asthma has now become the number one chronic childhood disease in America.

Furthermore, there is new data coming in recently that shows a strong connection between over-exposure to pollen and or mold spores and increases in other diseases such as heart disease, autism, pneumonia and reflux disease.

#### AMERICAN ELMS

The landscape tree in most of America for many years was the tall, stately American Elm. The American Elm used to grace the streets of thousands of towns and cities, and when DED (Dutch Elm Disease) started to spread and kill off these native elms, the insect-pollinated, perfect-flowered elms were most often replaced with wind-pollinated, unisexual-flowered, street trees.

Many things happened because of the big switch from the elms to these other tree species. First, the elm flowers had a rich nectar source and, since these trees bloomed very early in the season, at a time when insect food sources were severely limited, urban honeybees and butterflies depended on this food source. Since the majority of the street trees used to replace the elms were wind-pollinated, they often lacked these nectaries and supplied no early-season food source. Soon we started to see a rapid decline in the



## AVOIDING ALLERGIES USE THE RIGHT NATIVE PLANTS IN YOUR LANDSCAPE

total numbers of urban honeybees and butterflies. There were other factors as well behind this decline—pollution, insecticides and disease—but the loss of the crucial early-season food sources should not be underestimated.

DED spread mostly from east to west across the U.S., and so has the rise in allergy rates. You can actually track the spread of allergy from the decline of the elms.

The American Elms (*Ulmus americana*) did cause a certain amount of low-level, early spring allergy, simply because they were so very common. The over-planting of elms resulted in a lack of biodiversity and set the stage for the massive kill from the DED. We now know that it is always a mistake to use a monoculture, to plant too many of just one species. Diversity is always a good idea in horticulture.

#### DIVERSITY

Biodiversity is the way to go when we are creating landscapes that will limit allergenic exposure. Almost any species of plants can eventually cause allergies if it is over-planted enough. All too often in our urban landscapes of today we see that landscapers have used the same plants over and over again. This overly simplistic approach to landscaping results in landscapes that lack originality and produce a numbing "sameness" in far too much of our urbanscape. When residential houses are professionally landscaped

with the exact same plant materials used to landscape banks, real estate offices and dentist shops, we all lose.

Allergy rates today are far worse in urban areas than they are out in the country. *Pollen allergies* are worse in cities than in the country, despite the fact that there is much more total green matter in the countryside than in the city. Plant selection has been the main problem.

#### NATIVES AND URBAN LANDSCAPES

There are many native trees and shrubs used in our landscapes. Maples, oaks, locust, poplars, willows, catalpa, birch, junipers, and many other native species are extensively used. Unfortunately the plant breeders and propagators discovered how to "sex-out" the trees and shrubs. They learned to use only male plants, ironically, as "mother plants," as the source for their scion wood for asexual propagation. First they just used male plants from the dioecious (separate-sexed) species, but later they learned how to produce all-male clones from species that in nature were never unisexual (the monoecious species).

For example, Honey Locust trees, (*Gleditsia triacanthos*) are native to our southeastern U.S. Look at these trees in the wild and you will see that all of them are almost always covered with long seedpods. But go to a nursery now and look at the Honey Locust

trees for sale. The ones available now are called "seedless" and they are, in effect, all-male clones.

What exactly is the effect of using all-male cloned trees and shrubs in our landscapes? Very simply, this translates to an excess of allergenic pollen. *Only male flowers produce this airborne pollen.* Unisexual female flowers produce no pollen.

## WHY THE EMPHASIS ON MALE PLANTS?

Horticulturists knew that female plants produced seeds, seedpods and fruit. This "litter" fell on the sidewalks and created a "mess." By using only asexually (no sex involved) propagated cultivars (cultivated varieties), they were able to create "litter-free" land-

scapes. These required less maintenance and were (and still are) very popular with city arborists and the public. In the U.S. today, four of five of the top-selling street tree cultivars are male clones.

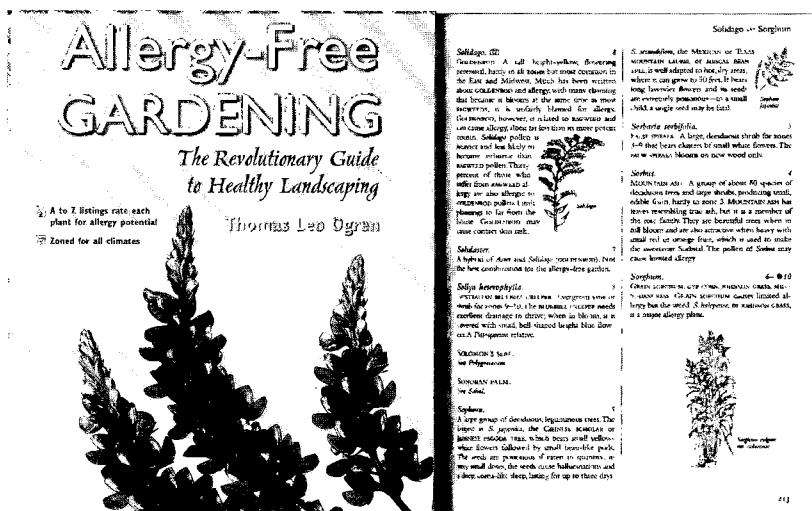
Female flowers (pistillate) on female trees or shrubs produce a positive electrical current. Their stigmas are broad and sticky. Airborne pollen from male plants has a negative electrical impulse, and this pollen is light and dry. Because of the + and - electrical charges, the pollen and the stigmas are drawn to each other. They are mutually attractive. Mother Nature saw to it that pollen would land—and stick—exactly where it was needed. Female plants are nature's pollen traps, our natural air-cleaners.

Today, though, most of the female plants are long gone from our landscapes. The pollen from the males floats about, seeking a moist, sticky, positive-charged target. We humans emit a positive electrical charge, and our mucus membranes, our eyes, skin and especially the linings of our nose and throat, now trap this wayward pollen. We have become the target.

## UNHEALTHY TREES CREATE MOLD SPORES

One of the bigger allergy problems comes from production by molds of tiny airborne reproductive spores. These spores are usually much smaller even than pollen grains, and like pollen they cause allergies.

Plants (trees especially) that are



I'm finding it difficult to know how to begin describing Ogren's new book because it has excited so many thoughts—improving my understanding of the workings of the natural world and the effects of the landscaping industry's manipulations.

A large part of *Allergy-Free Gardening*'s content is encyclopedic in nature. Over 3,000 entries rate the allergen-producing potential of common landscaping plants on a scale of one to 10. However, Ogren does not limit himself to our conventional perception of plants. For instance, he reminds us that tires are made from the sap of rubber trees (*Hevea brasiliensis*), and that our millions of spinning tires create tiny airborne particles, impacting air quality and exposure to latex in ways I had never considered.

What inspired Ogren, a former landscape gardening instructor, nursery owner, Minnesota Public Radio

gardening show host and author with an M.S. in agricultural science, to spend 11 years studying allergies was a loving concern for his wife and sisters who suffered from hay fever and asthma.

Ogren's allergy rating system has already been incorporated into the USDA Urban Forestry Effects Model to rank the allergy potential of entire cities, and he is crusading to get the landscaping industry to reexamine its ways as well. Part of that change should come in the form of truth in labeling. Plant tags should reveal much more than they do—allergy potential, alien/native/hybrid status, genotype range and potential for invasiveness. Often, plant tags are the only landscape advice some people will ever read. If the information can affect one's health, isn't it as important to the consumer as are the labels required on Apple Jacks cereal or Winston cigarettes?

—Joy Buslaff

not healthy will almost always be attacked by any number of pests, especially by insects such as aphids, scale, mealy bugs and white fly. These insects suck the vital plant juices, weakening the tree further. Feces secreted by these insects is commonly called "honeydew," and this honeydew is very nutrient rich. Almost immediately mold will grow on this fertile substance, and quickly the mold will start to reproduce itself with its billions of tiny spores.

If you look up at a tree and the leaves look dirty, this is almost always because they are indeed filthy, and they're covered with insects and mold. Often a tree like this will be producing incredible amounts of mold spores for many months on end. In a mild southern climate this mold formation can go on year round. Essentially, having a tree like this on your property is much like having a giant mushroom there that continually showers everyone nearby with allergenic spores.

### WHY ARE THESE TREES SICKLY?

There are many reasons why a tree fails to thrive. The insects on the tree are not really the cause, they're just a reflection of a more fundamental problem. Usually a tree is unhealthy because it is not the best tree for that particular spot. This is where natives play such an important role. A tree that is native to an area will be much more likely to thrive there.

In the July/August 2000 issue of *Wild Ones Journal* there was an excellent article by Andy Wasowski on "provenance," where the concept was explored that *truly being native means being endemic to one particular area*. For example, just because Black Ash (*Fraxinus nigra*) is native to the U.S. does not mean that it would thrive in southern California. Black Ash is endemic to areas of the U.S. where the winters are cold and long, the soil is acidic, and the water table is high. Black Ash might well thrive in a cold, damp landscape in northern Minnesota, but it would not do well in hot, dry, alkaline Los Angeles.

The problem, though, is that a Black Ash, because it is inherently a tough, sturdy tree, might grow if planted in a place like LA. It might even grow to become a fairly large

tree, but it would never be a very healthy one. And thus, this tree, out of place, not in an area very similar to where it originated, will almost certainly become a mold spore factory, an allergy tree.

We who love horticulture often want to grow plants that are not well-suited to our areas. We are forever planting trees that we like, in areas where they will not thrive. Rarely do we think it all out, years into the future, and consider the unhealthy ramifications of this process.

### CORRUPTION OF THE NATIVES

This whole business of tidy landscapes has gotten out of control. Our desire to manipulate nature is starting to backfire on us. The all-too-common blending of natives and asexual manipulation of their sexes for the purpose of low-litter plantings is becoming a very unhealthy situation.

Not long ago I was out in a neighborhood near mine, here in San Luis Obispo, Calif. I had my camera in hand and needed some close-up photos of male Groundsel Bush, Coyote Bush (*Baccharis pilularis*). I was standing on the public sidewalk taking shots with my macro lens when an older fellow walked out of the house and asked me, "What in the world could be worth photographing in my front yard?"

I explained that I was an allergy researcher and needed photos of male Coyote Bush in bloom.

"Something wrong with them?" he asked me.

"They're all male," I said, "and they are close relatives to ragweed. Your whole front yard is covered with this stuff."

"Humm," he said, frowning.

"Actually, sir," I said, "all your groundcover is male. That entire row of junipers there on the side of the house, they're all males too. Notice that none of them have any juniper berries?"

"Uh huh," he said.

"This ash tree in your yard, too, there's no seeds on it either. Ash always makes seeds if it's a female tree, but this one too is a male. They're an olive relative, and the pollen of the males is quite allergenic."

I looked over his entire landscape. "Actually," I said, "everything in your yard is highly allergenic, everything except for that climbing rose bush on your porch."

"Figures," he said.

"So," I asked, "does anyone here have allergies?"

"Sure," he told me, "my wife does. She's got terrible allergies."

"I'd be willing to bet she's having them right now," I said.

"Yep," he said, "she's been sick for several weeks now."

Now, when I think of that particular landscape, the use of manipulated natives is quite interesting. The Groundsel Bush groundcover is native to California, and endemic to this same coastal region. The juniper growing alongside the house was also a thriving native species, and even the large ash tree in the yard was a California native. But the groundcover had all been grown from cuttings from dioecious male plants. The ash tree, originally a seedling, had been grafted or budded with scion wood from a "seedless" male tree, and the junipers too, had been originally propagated by cuttings using only wood from male plants. *In this above case the landscape was high in natives, but it was not in the least bit natural.*

### NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Recently I have started to think of my work as closely involving NRM, natural resource management. I am trying to get us back to landscapes that are natural, that are diverse, that use plants that will thrive, that use a blend of plants that are sexually balanced. In nature we never find landscapes composed of just one sex; there is a sexual equilibrium.

The resource we are managing is the very air we breathe. Excessive pollen or mold spores are pollutants, bio-pollutants perhaps, but toxic, allergenic, asthma-causing, respiratory-clogging pollutants nonetheless. Clean, fresh air is a resource well worth our consideration.

And lastly, management. For too long now our urban landscapes have been managed with little or no regard

to their effect on the health of those people living in these landscapes. It is time now to start actively managing our landscapes. Now is the time to take control and to get back to a more natural state.

### YOUR OWN YARD

For many years no one paid much attention to the idea of allergy-free gardening because as they said, "pollen blows." It was often claimed that you could go a hundred miles out to sea in a ship and there you could set up a pollen trap and you would catch pollen. Obviously there are no trees growing out there.

This old idea about pollen dispersal was partly right, but mostly wrong. Dead wrong. Yes, you could trap some pollen way out there in the ocean, but, the pollen of most species would never reach anywhere close to your ship.

In 1972 a clever meteorologist from New York, Gilbert Raynor, set up an experiment. He put pollen traps at close intervals starting right next to a large, pure stand of Timothy Grass being grown for hay. Timothy (*Phleum spp.*) pollen is known to be especially light and buoyant. The very sort of pollen you might expect to trap far out there at sea.

At a mile from the field, Raynor was able to trap some Timothy pollen, however, at a half mile from the field he found that more than 99 percent of all the pollen had already fallen out and stuck. Closest to the field he found the greatest concentration of pollen.

What exactly does this mean? Quite simply it means that there is such a thing as the law of gravity, even with pollen. In my own pollen dispersal testing I have consistently found that with most trees the largest majority of the pollen falls out and lands within 30 feet of the drip-line of the pollen-producing tree. The closer you

are to the allergy tree, the more pollen you get.

Allergy develops from repeated over-exposure to the same allergens. If your own yard is full of pollen-pumping trees and shrubs, you and your family are the ones who will be exposed the most. If the schoolyard where your small children play is surrounded by shade trees that are all male-cloned cultivars, your children will be the ones most affected.

Not long ago I saw some pollen counts, taken four feet off the ground (at face-level) from a playground at an elementary school. Counts of single-species tree pollen there were exceeding 60,000 grains per cubic yard of air-space. Every single child on that playground would have to have been inhaling an average of two to three thousand grains of pollen with every single breath of air he or she took in.

Not in the least surprisingly, the entire playground was ringed with shade trees, and every one of them was a male cultivar.

I'd like to wrap up this article for *Wild Ones Journal* with an appeal to you, the reader. Change here is both important and long overdue. Pressure needs to be brought to bear on retail nurseries to start allergy-ranking the plants they sell to the public. Pressure needs to be applied to wholesale nurseries to get them to start growing for us more pollen-free female plants and fewer allergenic male ones. City tree committees need to get themselves informed about this, and smart choices must begin to take place. County and state landscape, transportation and parks departments need to start doing their part. Teachers ought to start teaching this material to their students, and medical doctors certainly ought to be leading the way instead of just ducking the whole issue.

I ask all of you to help me get the ball rolling here. Time is a wasting. ☺

To learn more about Allergy-Free Gardening, The Revolutionary Guide to Healthy Landscaping and sources of all-female plants, visit Ogren's websites: [www.allergyfree-gardening.com](http://www.allergyfree-gardening.com) and [www.allergyfreegarden.com](http://www.allergyfreegarden.com).

If your chapter is looking for fresh blood for a conference, Ogren is an entertaining speaker: "As a teacher I was always considered a bit wacky, unorthodox, by the administration. I was always the favorite teacher of most all of my students."

## SEEDS FOR

This year applicants came from across the U.S., as did the 23 judges who rated them. All 44 of this year's applications are deserving of praise and support.

We are pleased to announce the 10 top-ranked projects of the 2001 Seeds for Education Grant Program and their cash awards:

- \$500 to the **Lincoln Elementary School of Cadillac, Mich.**, for its Outdoor Teaching Center/Clam River Greenway project which will create an outdoor, interactive instructional area that will be used to provide a holistic learning environment for the children of the City of Cadillac and Wexford County about native wildflowers, grasses, wildlife and the corresponding environment.

- \$500 to **Miami-Dade Community College, Kendall Campus of Miami, Fla.**, for its Joy of Natives Demonstration Landscape project. This living laboratory aims to change the way they, as a community, landscape their homes, by teaching youth, homeowners and college students about the beauty and wildlife value of native plants and how natives can be used in small scale (town home-sized) landscapes.

- \$400 to **St. Cunegunda School of Detroit, Mich.**, for its Chopin-Wagner Garden project which began in 1998. Their goal is to introduce a patch of native landscape to an urban neighborhood that hasn't seen one in nearly 100 years. This is the second SFE grant St. Cunegunda has qualified to receive.

- \$400 to the **Montessori School of Lake Forest, Ill.**, for their Wetland and Prairie Restoration project. This project will revitalize one-third acre of wetland and prairie on the school grounds and create an outdoor classroom. It will incorporate these habitats into the curriculum and foster an awareness, appreciation and stewardship of nature.

- \$400 to the **Chance School in**

*The Lorrie Otto Seeds for Education Fund, established in 1995, supports schools, nature centers and other places of learning for student-involved projects such as creating natural landscapes and outdoor classrooms using native plants. Through the generous donations from Wild Ones members and income from the growing SFE Fund of the Milwaukee Foundation, this year's grants total \$3,200.*

## EDUCATION GRANT RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

**Louisville, Ky.** The purpose of their Goose Creek Meadow project is to establish an area of natural meadowland on school property which will provide outdoor classroom experiences for their students, consistent with the school's philosophy of "learning by doing."

- \$400 to the **Harriet Beecher Stowe Elementary School of Duluth, Minn.**, for their "Bird, Butterfly and Kids Oh My!" project, which is a habitat restoration project designed to increase the amount of native wildlife in an area of the campus. Students at the school will work with graduate students from the University of Minnesota Duluth Center for Environmental Education to research, plan and implement the garden.

- \$200 to **Farley Hill Elementary School in Pinckney, Mich.**, for their on-going Schoolyard Habitat—Project Native Plants.

- \$200 to **UW-Whitewater in White-water, Wis.**, toward the establishment of their nature preserve.

- \$100 to **Heckrodt Wetland Reserve of Menasha, Wis.**, for the creation of a "Teaching Prairie."

- \$100 to the **Amery Middle School in Amery, Wis.**, for their Prairie and Woodland Gardens project.

**THE NURSERY PARTNERS** for this year's grant program has expanded to accommodate the locations of our grant recipients. Please see the listing that follows. Winning projects are encouraged to contact the partner(s) closest to their project site for plant and seed needs, since it is important for the success of their project to use native plants and seed with a place of origin as close to their site as possible. *Nurseries that participate in this program show a special commitment to natural landscaping which we should remember when we make personal natural landscaping purchases*

Besides the seeds, plants and discounts donated from nursery part-

ners, each grant recipient also received a copy of our video "A Tapestry of Learning: Creating School Natural Areas" for their use in future development efforts.

As a member of Wild Ones, we also encourage you to stay in contact with these projects to offer your services and provide support to their efforts.

Upon completion of the requirements of the grant award, each recipient will receive a Wild Ones yard sign for their project to show that they are truly in harmony with nature.

This year's nursery partners and their specialties are:

**CRM/Prairie Ridge Nursery**, Mt. Horeb, Wis.; (608) 437-5245; prairie, wetland plants, seed.

**Reeseville Ridge Nursery**, Reeseville, Wis.; (920) 927-3291; trees, shrubs and plants.

**Midwest Prairies**, Ft. Atkinson, Wis.; (920) 563-3165; prairie plants, seed.

**Kettle Moraine Natural Landscaping**, Campbellsport, Wis.; (920) 533-8939; prairie seed.

**Little Valley Farm**, Spring Green, Wis.; (608) 935-3324; prairie, wood, wetland, trees, shrubs, plants.

**Prairie Future Seed Co.**, Menomonee Falls, Wis.; (262) 246-4019; prairie seed.

**Prairie Nursery**, Westfield, Wis.; (608) 296-3679; Prairie plants, seed.

**Dragonfly Gardens**, Amery, Wis.; (715) 268-4666; Prairie plants, seed.

**Hild & Associates**, River falls, WI; (715) 426-5131; prairie, wetland plants, seed.

**Taylor Creek Nurseries**, Brodhead, Wis.; (608) 897-8641; prairie, shade, wetland plants, seed.

**Princeton Restorations, Inc.**, Princeton, Minn; (763) 389-4342; prairie, grasses, plants, seed.

**Booming Native Plants**, Barnum, Minn.; (218) 389-3220; prairie plants.

**Nesta Prairie Perennials**, Kalamazoo, Mich; (800) 233-5025; prairie, grasses, plants, seed.

**The Michigan Wildflower Farm**, Portland, Mich.; (517) 647-6010; prairie seed.

**Wildtype Native Plant Nursery**, Mason, Mich.; (517) 244-1140; prairie plants.

**Design By Nature**, Mason, Mich.; (517) 251-8585; prairie plants, seed.

**Wetlands Nursery**, Saginaw, Mich.; (517) 752-3492; wetland plants, seed.

**The Native Plant Nursery**, Ann Arbor, Mich.; (734) 994-9592; prairie plants.

**Shooting Star Wildflower Nursery**, Franksford, Ky.; (502) 223-2044; prairie plants.

**Rider Mill Farm**, Upton, Ky.; (270) 531-2353; prairie, grasses, plants, seed.

**Munchkin Nursery**, Depauw, Ind.; (812) 633-4858; woodland, seed.

**Enders Greenhouse**, Cherry Valley, Ill.; (815) 332-5255; prairie plants.

**Aquatic Ecosystems Mgt., Inc.**, Golf, Ill.; (847) 724-0646; wetland plants.

**Veber's Jungle Garden**, Homestead, Fla.; (305) 242-9500; prairie, trees, shrubs, plants, seed.

**Plant Creations**, Homestead, Fla.; (305) 248-8147; prairie plants.

In closing I would like to recognize the donors, judges, nursery partners and, especially, Wild Ones Executive Director Donna Van Buecken, who did all the real work involved in administering this grant program. Thank you for helping make this year's program such a success. ☺

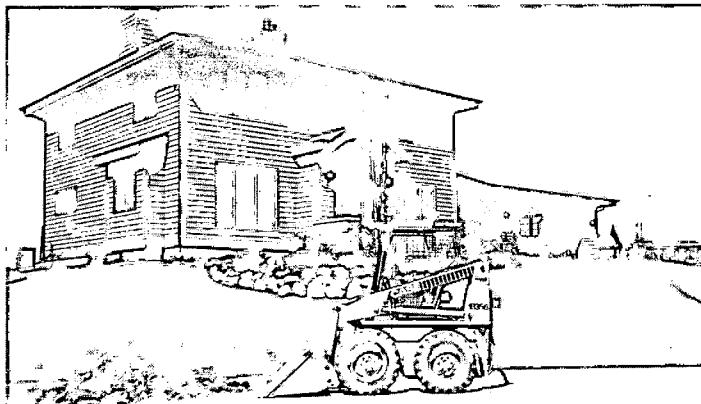
—Steve Maassen, SFE Director

Donald Worster, University of Kansas, on his Yale education:

*"There was no nature in their history, no soil, no countryside, no smell of fungus, no Spring Peepers trilling from the marsh at dusk. Historians seemed to have forgotten completely that, until very recently, almost all people lived as intimately with other species and with the wind and weather as with their own kind. To ignore that intimacy was to distort history."*

*By removing the sod and installing 2,000 plant plugs, this family became the proud owners of a scenic property in a relatively short time*

## A DECADE OF CHANGE



We moved to Verona, Wis., in June 1990, following several years of drought, and inherited a very unhealthy lawn situation. This prompted us to attend a native landscaping open house at the UW-Madison Arboretum in an attempt to find an ecologically sensible solution. Specialists at the open house suggested installing native prairie plants on our hot and dry south slope. Use of this habitat for our front lawn would decrease chemical and water use, as well as the air pollution and lost time associated with mower use. Maintenance would be negligible. This plan would also support biodiversity by harboring those plants, insects and birds adapted to prairie life and would aesthetically offer an alternative to the monotony of a typical turfed neighborhood.

Our yard happened to be in close proximity to a school prairie and woodland, as well as segments of the Ice Age and Military Ridge trails, so there seemed to be an opportunity to link with these environmental corridors. That winter was spent reading about prairie and savanna history and ecology and imagining the possibilities.

We pulled on the gardening gloves in May of 1991. Over 2,000 square feet of turf grass was lifted and removed. Plant plugs were installed at the rate

of one per square foot (2,000 at \$1/plant) and mulched with bark, whose decomposition causes a nitrogen deficiency in the soil, a condition that discourages nitrogen-loving weeds. We installed a drip irrigation system to run at night if necessary. (It wasn't needed after the first two growing seasons and materials cost less than \$100.) Additional species were introduced by seed in the years that followed, but the initial emphasis was on establishing the plugs and bareroot transplants. Turf-grass borders were incorporated to give this shortgrass prairie planting a garden appearance, while easing the transition from the street. Limestone steppers formed pathways among the grasses and flowers. Boulders were used for sitting areas, for visual interest and to reflect the fact that our lot sits along a glacial terminal moraine.

My husband and I each took off a week of work to do the planting, while simultaneously caring for our 19-month-old and five-year-old daughters. (Some of our most productive planting took place after their bedtime and by lantern light, causing some neighbors to be even more curious about this unfolding project.) We were amazed by the number of these tiny plants which bloomed that first growing season, and we've continued to be delighted each year as these fascinat-

ing and intricate plants return according to their own innate rhythm in the annual dance of the prairie.

We do "take down" the prairie plantings in March or April by breaking off and composting the largest plants, thus allowing the sun to heat up the soil earlier. We have occasionally burned the accumulated ground litter in the spring, taking care to protect any early spring flowers. Our work, after the first two "attentive" years of weeding and watering, now consists primarily of gathering flowers, plants and seeds to share. We have also taken the time to relish the fruits of our labors by watching the birds, butterflies, bumblebees, dragonflies, spiders, the interrelationships of the beetles, ants and aphids, and noting the other critters calling our yard home from year to year. All children become pint-sized naturalists with such intrigue just outside their doors. The Compassplants have provided endless interest and conversation among our children and their friends with their "Jack in the Beanstalk" rapid growth and impressive height (our record-breaking plant was 10 feet tall). Watching how the plants move themselves around the yard from year to year has entertained us as we guess what conditions they like best (our plants have proved some book advice wrong!).

An autumn sunset reflecting off the bronzed grasses is a sight not soon to be forgotten. Hoarfrost turns the prairie into a fairyland. Spotting the first Pasqueflower of the season, often pushing up through snow, heralds spring for our family. And the 4th of July brings an explosion of color to the yard. It's hard to encapsulate years of living in a home surrounded by these culturally under-appreciated flora and fauna, but there are certain words that come to mind: *captivating, enchanting, poetic, nurturing, cyclic and seasonal, communal, joyful, passionate, magical, symphonic, inspirational, peaceful, respectful, interrelated, restorative, spiritual and evolving.*

This project has, in fact, transformed how our family thinks about both yards and general land use. We are now involved in numerous prairie, wetland and woodland preservation and restoration initiatives to promote regular contact for all residents with such relaxing, thoroughly enjoyable and ecologically important natural areas. *A word of warning: Native landscaping is highly addictive and can result in law-abiding citizens desperately seeking new soil to heal and enrich when their yard is full.* Fortunately, groups from schools, churches, Scouts, neighborhoods and elsewhere are eager to snap up native seeds, grass and forb plants, shrubs and trees for restoration work.

#### **TIPS WE LEARNED ALONG THE WAY**

Although many good books are now available for information and resources on native landscaping, consult a specialist to develop a plan if you are feeling uncertain about how to proceed. This can save you time and mistakes, particularly if you're working with a highly visible area. It can also save you money on a large order of plants when done through a professional at wholesale prices. The labor is fun and informative, however, so we'd advise doing your own labor whenever possible as this provides a chance for you to "bond" with these often unfamiliar species. We knew the appearance of each species very well after handling so many of them, which made all the early weeding much easier.

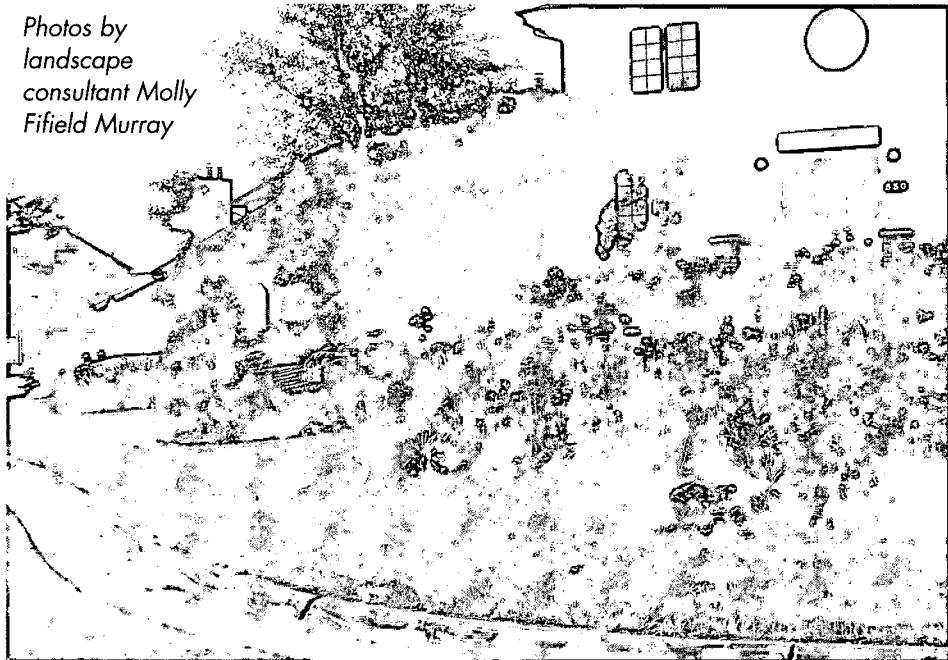
**Use scientific names when purchasing your plants.** The common names are less standardized and you may end up with something entirely different than what you wanted; including a supplier giving you something which is non-native—or has been genetically altered.

**Mulch to promote water retention and to suppress weed growth.** An inch or two of bark mulch worked well in our yard.

**Water regularly in the beginning, knowing that this will no longer be an issue as the plants mature.** Drip irrigation systems that run at night make sense for the plants and for your water bill.

We used a tulip bulb planter to dig holes for our plants, which was very labor intensive and can cause carpal tunnel syndrome (a wrist disorder).

Photos by  
landscape  
consultant Molly  
Fifield Murray



**A summer of drought may leave the lawn edge looking sad and brown (as are other the neighborhood lawns), but the native plants look lively and colorful.**

We learned doing later park restoration projects that it is much easier to use a sharp, flat tool to create a slit planting hole by wriggling the tool back and forth, then set in the plug and push the soil back in place. It makes for quick work, and it's better for maintaining soil integrity, which will help prevent erosion. Tilling action should also be avoided when planting because it can churn up weed seeds.

**Talk to neighbors about your**

**plans before starting so that there are no surprises.** If you have a blueprint to show them, all the better. It is an uphill battle fighting misinformation and prejudice, so give yourself every advantage in urban settings. Check on local ordinances regarding native landscaping and burn policies before you start so you know if there are any restrictions (our city didn't have anything on the books at all).

Seeds are vastly less expensive than plants, so use seeds as much as possible when there isn't a need for quick results. Because we were stripping sod from our front yard on a busy corner (high visibility) and in a neighborhood wedged to turf grass and chemical use, we used plants to avoid provoking some legal action or causing diminished relations with our neighbors.

**When unsure of what you want to do, but you want to try something, just start small and experiment.** The plants you do establish will always serve as a seed source for further expansion. We would advise avoidance of tall grasses in controversial areas, although they're great for backyards and in park and school restorations. Tall grasses also can outcompete many forbs, whereas short grasses won't diminish forb numbers in the same way. —Laurie Hartjes

# *The afterlife*

Mariette Nowak (former director of Wehr Nature Center, Milwaukee County, Wis.) and her husband Dave, had a traditional home landscape in 1982, with an overgrown, non-native Russian Olive tree in the center of the lawn. Today a prairie graces their front lawn and is well accepted by neighbors, who often have commented on the beauty of the landscaping as they stroll past.

The vertical photo shows a corner of their backyard, a favorite spot for hummingbirds. The backyard landscaping was begun in the '70s and gradually expanded through the years. The Nowak's Greendale (Milwaukee suburb) yard harbors over 142 native species. To their delight, they have attracted 81 species of birds to their yard.

With many regrets, the Nowaks will be moving this spring and hope to find someone who will treasure their naturally landscaped yard. If you can help find that special someone, give them a call at (414) 421-5345.



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## *seedlings*

Do you want to start a Wild Ones chapter? Let us post a notice for others to join you. The folks listed here are looking for others to form a nucleus around which a chapter can grow. If you are interested in starting a chapter, request a "Chapter Start-up Kit" from Executive Director Donna VanBuecken. To add your name to our list, send your contact information to Editor Joy Buslaff. See page 14 for their addresses.

### **CHAPTER WANNA-BE'S LOOKING FOR MEMBERS:**

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**INDIANA:** Mary H. Kraft, 5360 E. 161st St.; Noblesville, IN 46060; (317) 773-5361; mkraft@ind.coe.com. Dane Ryan, RR#1 Box 76C, Cannelburg, IN 47519; (812) 644-7545; pelryan@dmrtc.net.

**KANSAS:** Michael Almon, Lawrence, Kan., (785) 832-1300.

**NEW HAMPSHIRE:** Marilyn C. Wyzga, 267 Center Rd., Hillsborough,

NH 03244; (603) 464-3530; merlin@conknet.com.

**NEW YORK:** Bridget Watts, Nature Study Guild Publishers, P.O. Box 10489, Rochester, NY 14610; (716) 482-6090; naturebooks@worldnet.att.net.

**NORTH CAROLINA:** Jane Cornelius, 5429 Millrace Trail, Raleigh, NC 27606-9226; (919) 851-4644; janecornelius@prodigy.net. Judith West, 339 Gregg St., Archdale, NC 27263-3303; (336) 431-9322; westskau@juno.com.

**OHIO:** Kris Johnson, P.O. Box 355, (near Toledo) Williston, OH 43468; (419) 836-7637; KRIS\_JOHNSON@ecunet.org.

**SOUTH DAKOTA:** Peggy Lappe, Box 91, Harrold, SD 57536; (605) 875-3214.

**WISCONSIN:** Sarah Boles, HC73 Box 631, Cable, WI 54821; (715) 794-2548; florabee@hotmail.com. Nancy Miller, 422 W. Elm, Lancaster, WI 53813; (608) 723-6487. Rolf Utegaard, P.O. Box 1092, Eau Claire, WI 54702; (715) 834-0065; bigute-hort@prodigy.net. Sara Larsen (for Door County), Nov.-April address is W314 N7198 Hy. 83, Hartland, WI 53029; (262) 966-2021; May-Oct. address is 2179 Scandia Rd., Sister Bay, WI 54234; solveigso@aol.com.

### **THESE CHAPTERS NEED MEMBERS FOR MOMENTUM:**

**ILLINOIS:** Naturally Wild of LaGrange—Judi Ann Dore, 41 S. LaGrange Rd, LaGrange, IL 60525; (708) 387-1398.

**IOWA:** Wild Rose Chapter—Christine Taliga, (319) 339-9121.

**MICHIGAN:** Calhoun County Chapter—Marilyn Case, Calhoun County, (616) 781-8470; mcase15300@aol.com. Southwest Michigan Chapter—Sue Stowell, (616) 468-7031.

**MINNESOTA:** Arrowhead Chapter—Carol A. Andrews, (218) 730-9954; carol\_andrews@hotmail.com.

**MISSOURI:** Mid-Missouri Chapter—Lesa Beamer, Dept. of Biochemistry, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO 65211; (573) 499-3749; beamerl@misisouri.edu.

**NEW YORK:** Chenango Valley Chapter—Holly Stegner, (315) 824-1178; Jlittle@mail.colgate.edu.

**OKLAHOMA:** Central Oklahoma Chapter—Michelle Raggé, (405) 466-3930.

**WISCONSIN:** Root River Chapter—Carla Freeman, (414) 382-6415; carlfreeman@alverno.edu.

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**Wild Ones**—Natural Landscapers 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.

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Chapters, please send your chapter newsletters or events notices to:

Calendar Coordinator Mary Paquette  
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# The meeting place

**NATIONAL BOARD QUARTERLY MEETINGS**

All members are encouraged to attend the quarterly meetings of the Wild Ones National Board. More details will be printed as they become available or can be obtained from your chapter officers.

May 19, 2001, will be hosted by the St. Cloud, Minnesota chapter at St. John's University ■ Aug. 11, 2001, Kentucky chapters will be hosting the Annual Membership Meeting ■ Oct. 13, 2001, will be hosted by the Gibson Woods Chapter, Hammond, Ind. ■ July 13, 2002, Columbus Ohio Chapter will host the 2002 Annual Meeting and Chapter Conference.

You are encouraged to participate in all Wild Ones activities—even when you travel. To learn the details of upcoming events, consult your local chapter

newsletter or call the respective contacts listed for each chapter. Customary meeting information is given here, but you should always confirm dates and locations with chapter contacts.

**ILLINOIS**

**GREAT DUPAGE CHAPTER**

MESSAGE CENTER . . . . . (630) 415-IDIG  
PAT CLANCY . . . . . (630) 964-0448  
Clancypj2@aol.com

Chapter usually meets the third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at the College of DuPage, Building K, unless otherwise noted.

May 19—Field trip to Midewin National Prairie for a private tour and to pick up plant orders; check hotline for details. Check web page for details on upcoming spring and summer garden visits.

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**LAKE-TO-PRAIRIE CHAPTER**

KARIN WISIOL ..... (847) 548-1650

Meetings are usually held on the second Monday of the month at 7:15 p.m. in the Byron Colby Community Barn at Prairie Crossing, Grayslake (Rt. 45, about 1/2 mile south of Ill. 120). No summer programs. May 14—"Season in the Woods" presented by Perle Olsson of the Wildflower Preservation and Propagation Committee of the McHenry County Defenders. Perle will show how to keep year round color in your woodland and discuss maintenance issues.

**NATURALLY WILD of LA GRANGE CHAPTER**

JUDI ANN DORE ..... (708) 387-1398

Meetings are held the first Thursday of the month, at The Natural Habitat Wildlife and Organic Garden Supply Store, 41 S. LaGrange Rd., LaGrange, at 7:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted.

May—members will be able to participate in a permitted plant dig on private property on a Saturday in May. Call for details.

May 3—Annual plant exchange.

June 2 (Sat.)—9:10 a.m. Members will meet at Natural Habitat and travel to a nursery for a tour and to make plant purchases.

**NORTH PARK CHAPTER**

BOB PORTER ..... (312) 744-5472

Meetings are usually 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 information.

May 5—10 a.m. Wildflower Tour at Ryerson Woods, Lake County. (No meeting on May 10)

June 9—9:45 a.m. Cowles Bog Tour, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. (No meeting on June 14) For directions and details, check chapter newsletter or contact above.

**ROCK RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER**

SHEILA STENGER ..... (815) 624-6076

Meetings usually held the third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m., Garrett Prairie Center, Byron Forest Preserve, 7993 N. River Road, Byron, unless otherwise noted. Call (815) 234-8535 for info. Public welcome. May—No regularly scheduled meeting. Show-Me-Help-Me Days to be announced.

June 21—Tour of Enders Greenhouse in Cherry Valley. Special discounts for members purchasing plants.

**INDIANA****GIBSON WOODS CHAPTER**

JOY BOWER ..... (219) 989-9679

bower1126@aol.com

Meetings are usually held the second Monday of the month, 7 p.m., at Gibson Woods, 6201 Parrish Ave., Hammond, Ind., unless otherwise noted.

May—Tour of Greenhouse at Oak Ridge Prairie.

June—Members, garden visits and project for Farmers' Market.

**IOWA****WILD ROSE CHAPTER**

CHRISTINE ALIGA ..... (319) 339-9121

Meetings held second Monday of every month, First Presbyterian Church, Iowa City.

**KENTUCKY****FRANKFORT CHAPTER**

KATIE CLARK ..... (502) 226-4766

herbs@kih.net

Meetings are usually held on the second Monday of the month at 5:30 p.m. at the Salato Wildlife Education Center Greenhouse (#1 Game Farm Rd, off US 60 W (Louisville Rd.), Frankfort, unless otherwise noted.

May 14—5:30 p.m. Meet at Lakeview Park to plant and weed our three-year-old native plant garden; located off of Steadman's Town Rd. Please bring gardening equipment. Call above for details.

**LOUISVILLE CHAPTER**

PORTIA BROWN ..... (502) 454-4007

[oneskylight@earthlink.net](mailto:oneskylight@earthlink.net)  
Meetings are usually held the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Louisville Nature Center, 3745 Illinois Avenue, unless otherwise noted.

May 22—6:30-8:30 p.m. at the site of the future park on Shelbyville Rd. The gate will be open, park in the gravel lot 1/10 mile inside. This is an opportunity to see the site before it is developed.

June 26—6:30-8:30 p.m. "Wildflowers on Iroquois, Summit Field." Join Jane Harrod of Jane's Native Seeds for an exploration of early summer wildflowers and grasses. Meet at Jacob's Lodge.

4th Saturday Work Days—9a.m.-noon, weather permitting. Wildflower Woods, Cherokee Park. Location is wooded triangle behind Daniel Boone statue. Wear old clothes, sturdy shoes. Gloves, tools, water provided.

**MICHIGAN****ANN ARBOR CHAPTER**

TRISH BECKJORD ..... (734) 669-2713

DAVE MINDELL ..... (734) 665-7168

plantwise@aol.com

BOB GRESE ..... (734) 763-0645

bgres@umich.edu

Meetings are usually held the second Wednesday of the month. For meeting information see [www.for-wild.org/ann Arbor/index.html#meetings](http://www.for-wild.org/ann Arbor/index.html#meetings) or contact above.

**CADILLAC CHAPTER**

Meetings are usually held the fourth Thursday of the month from 7-9 p.m. at Lincoln School, 125 Ayer St., Cadillac, unless otherwise noted.

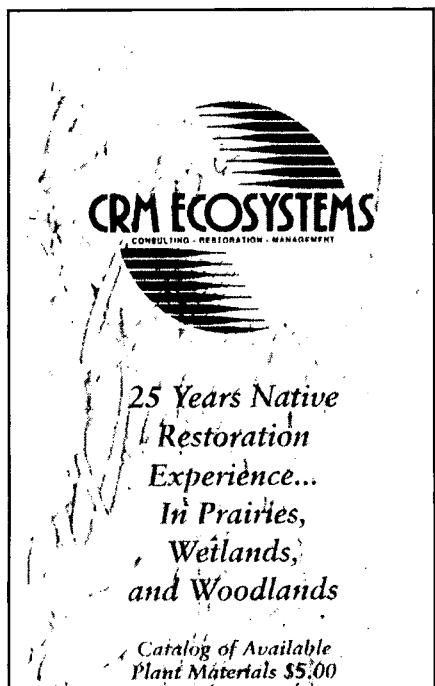
May 24—"Preparing Your Seedbed," presented by Roger Luft of Luft's Nursery.

June 28—Developing Lincoln School Outdoor Teaching Center landscaping project; outdoor work time, introductory discussion on planting plugs, mulching.

**CALHOUN COUNTY CHAPTER**

MARILYN CASE ..... (616) 781-8470

mcase1530@aol.com



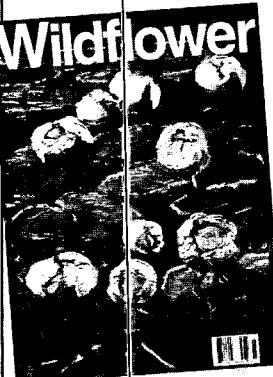
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### DETROIT METRO CHAPTER

**CAROL WHEELER** ..... (248) 547-7898  
[wheecarol@aol.com](mailto:wheecarol@aol.com)

Meetings are usually held the fourth Monday of each month at Madison Heights Nature Center, Friendship Woods, 7 p.m., unless otherwise noted. Public is welcome; \$5 fee for non-members.

### FLINT CHAPTER

**VIRGINIA CHATFIELD** ..... (810) 655-6580  
[ginger9960@aol.com](mailto:ginger9960@aol.com)

Meeting are usually held on the second Thursday of each month at Woodside Church, 1509 E. Court St., Flint, 7 p.m.

### KALAMAZOO CHAPTER

**THOMAS SMALL** ..... (616) 381-4946

Meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of the month, 7:30 p.m. at Christian Church, 2208 Winchell. May 16—5:30 p.m. Emma Bickham Pitcher; joint field trip with Michigan Botanical Club, SW Chapter, at Fischer's Woods.

June 27—5:30 p.m. Randy Grey, Kalamazoo Nature Center, leads tour of Harris Prairie, Kal-Haven Trailhead. He'll speak on prairie history, management, restoration. Meet at Kal-Haven Trailhead lot, N. 10th St.

### OAKLAND COUNTY CHAPTER

**MARYANN WHITMAN** ..... (248) 652-4004  
[maryannwhitman@home.com](mailto:maryannwhitman@home.com)

Meetings usually held the first Thursday of the month at Old Oakland Township Hall, Rochester, at 7 p.m.

### SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN CHAPTER

**SUE STOWELL** ..... (616) 468-7031  
**ERIN JONES & NATE FULLER** ..... (616) 926-4691  
[sarett@sarett.com](mailto:sarett@sarett.com)

Meetings held third Wednesday of the month, 7:30

p.m., Sarett Nature Center, unless otherwise noted. Check updates at: [www.for-wild.org/swmich/index.html](http://www.for-wild.org/swmich/index.html).

May 16—6:30 p.m. Tour of a diverse property in Hartford which contains a pond, prairie restoration, and many wildflowers. Meeting place TBA.

May 20 (Sun.)—1 p.m. Tour yard with wooded ravine in Royalton Township and a dune-like yard in Stevensville. Contact above for details and meeting place.

June 16—(7 a.m.) Photography Workshop for beginners: tips and techniques for wildlife and insect photography. Bring camera, close-up lens, slide film (preferably Fuji Velvia 50 ASA), tripod, cable release. Also learn how to develop film.

June 21—6:30 p.m. Summer Solstice Walk, Brown School Cemetery, St. Joseph. This is a pioneer cemetery that is no longer in use. Because it's never been plowed, it's home to rare and unique native plants.

### MINNESOTA

#### ARROWHEAD CHAPTER

**CAROL ANDREWS** ..... (218) 727-9340  
[carol\\_andrews@hotmail.com](mailto:carol_andrews@hotmail.com)

Meetings are usually held the third Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Location will change each month. Check website for details: [www.d.umn.edu/~wildones](http://www.d.umn.edu/~wildones) Open to the public.

May 19—Tour nursery and natural area near Duluth.  
June 9—Tour of Spangle Creek Lab (orchid growers) in Bovey.

### OTTER TAIL CHAPTER

**KAREN TERRY** ..... (218) 736-5520  
[terry714@prtel.com](mailto:terry714@prtel.com)

Meetings are held the fourth Monday of the month, 7 p.m., at the Prairie Wetlands Learning Center, Fergus Falls. Visitors are always welcome.

### ST. CLOUD CHAPTER

**GREG SHIRLEY** ..... (320) 259-0825  
[wildonesmn@home.com](mailto:wildonesmn@home.com)

Meetings are usually held the third Tuesday of the

  
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month at the Heritage Nature Center, 6:30 p.m.  
 May 15—Regular chapter meeting. A plant rescue will be scheduled sometime in May, weather permitting.  
 May 19—Second annual native plant sale, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Whitney Senior Center on Northway Dr.  
 May 19—Chapter is hosting the National Board Quarterly Meeting at St. John's University. Tour of St. John's prairie restoration after the meeting.  
 June 9 or 10—(to be confirmed) We'll plant 5000 seedlings, Whitney Prairie Restoration, St. Cloud.  
 June 19—Regular chapter meeting. Some plant rescue work might be scheduled for early June; contact above for information.

#### **MISSOURI**

##### **MID-MISSOURI CHAPTER**

**LESA BEAMER** ..... [beameral@missouri.edu](mailto:beameral@missouri.edu)  
 Meetings usually held second Saturday of the month, 1:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Location varies.  
 June 9—Workday. We'll visit one or both of our adopted planting sites to weed and other maintenance. Come see how the plants and sites are progressing.

#### **ST. LOUIS CHAPTER**

**SCOTT WOODBURY** ..... (636) 451-0850  
[swoodbury@ridgway.mobot.org](mailto:swoodbury@ridgway.mobot.org)  
 Meetings usually held first Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted; call Shaw Nature Reserve for directions and info. Public welcome.  
 May 2—Meeting and garden tour at Kathy Sandknop's.  
 June 6—Meeting and home garden and native plant nursery tour at Gary Schimmelpfenig's.

#### **NEW YORK**

**CHENANGO VALLEY CHAPTER**  
**HOLLY STEGNER** ..... (315) 824-1178  
[Holly.Stegner@hotmail.com](mailto:Holly.Stegner@hotmail.com)

For meeting location, date, times contact above. Projects expanded to include development of nature trail for Hamilton Central School, identifying/ labeling wildflowers on three trails, landscaping with wildflowers and development of grounds of Habitat for Humanity, Hamilton. Members involved in planning, design, plant selection process for Wildflower and Native Species Garden on Hamilton Village Green and library addition.

**NEW YORK CITY METRO/LONG ISLAND CHAPTER**  
**ROBERT SAFFER** ..... (718) 768-5488  
 Meetings will be held in the Members Room, Brooklyn Botanic Gardens, 1000 Washington Ave., Brooklyn.

#### **OHIO**

##### **COLUMBUS CHAPTER**

**MICHAEL HALL** ..... (614) 939-9273  
 Meetings usually held second Saturday of the month (unless otherwise noted) at 10 a.m. at Innis House, Inniswood Metropolitan Park, 940 Hempstead Rd., Westerville. Meetings are free and open to the public. May 12—Tour Shawnee State Forest, see spring flowers; led by Jim Stahl, retired resource manager, Metropolitan Park District. Leave 10 a.m. from Inniswood Metropolitan Park parking lot; lunch in West Union. June 9—Member yard tours. Meet 10 a.m. at Clyde Dilley's yard, 2600 Mt. Holyoke Rd., Upper Arlington.

#### **OKLAHOMA**

##### **CENTRAL OKLAHOMA CHAPTER**

**MICHELLE RAGGÉ** ..... (405)466-3930  
 Meetings usually held second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m., in the 2nd floor conference room, Hanner Hall, Oklahoma State University. Public welcome. 3rd Saturday of the month—Monthly work day at the environmental center located at Hwy 33 and Coyle Rd., Payne County. For more info call above number.

#### **WISCONSIN**

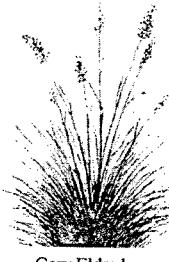
##### **CENTRAL WISCONSIN CHAPTER**

**PHYLLIS TUCHSCHER** ..... (715) 384-8751  
[toosch@tznet.com](mailto:toosch@tznet.com)  
 Meetings usually held fourth Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m., Rooms 1&2, Portage County Ext. Building, 1462 Strong Ave., Stevens Point, unless otherwise noted. May 5—A tour of Powers Bluff to see spring flora in rich sugar maple woods, with Robert Freckmann. Meet

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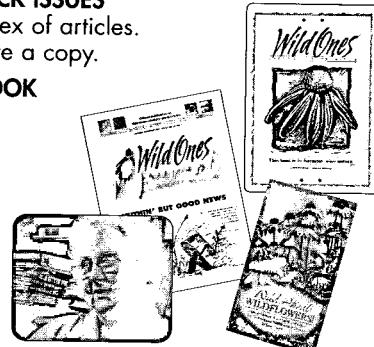
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at west side of CNR building for carpooling at 9 a.m. or at Powers Bluff at 10 a.m. Bring a lunch.

June 28—Rebecca Christoffel will present "Animals of the Prairie," 7 p.m., Lettie Jensen Center in Amherst.

## FOX VALLEY AREA CHAPTER

CAROL NIENDORF ..... (920) 233-4853

niendorf@northnet.net

DONNA VANBUECKEN ..... (920) 730-3986

dvanbuecke@aol.com

Indoor meetings, 7 p.m., either Memorial Park Arboretum, 1313 E. Witzke Blvd., Appleton, or Evergreen Retirement Community, 1130 N. Westfield St., Oshkosh. May 24 (Thurs.)—Yard tour of woodland and/or wetland spring ephemerals, 7 p.m. Watch chapter newsletter for details.

June 16 (Sat.)—Yard tour of early short grass prairies, 9 a.m. Watch chapter newsletter for details.

## GREEN BAY CHAPTER

KATHIE TILOT ..... (920) 336-4992

Meetings are usually held at the Green Bay Botanical Garden, 2600 Larsen Rd.

May 16—6:30 p.m. Woodland Plant Identification Clinic and Walk, UW-Green Bay Arboretum. Bring field guides; Pete Bradshaw will explain use of guides. UWGB's Gary Fewless leads tour.

Pending—Woodland plant rescues; dates TBA.

June 1-3—Members can participate in the Botanical Garden Fair Native Plant sale, GBBG.

June 20—7 p.m. Yard tour; watch chapter newsletter.

## MADISON CHAPTER

LAURIE YAHR ..... (608) 274-6539

yahrkahl@aol.com

Meet at Olbrich Botanical Garden, 3330 Atwood Ave., 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Public is welcome.

May 24—Shade plants and plant exchange. Speaker to be announced.

June 30—Rain Garden Construction. Location and time to be announced

## MENOMONEE RIVER AREA CHAPTER

JAN KOEL ..... (262) 251-7175

JUDY CRANE ..... (262) 251-2185

Indoor meetings held 6:30 p.m., The Ranch Communities Services, N84 W19100 Menomonee Ave. Contact Judy Crane for meeting information.

May 15—Fellow member Glen Grieger will share his knowledge of pond ecosystems.

June 16 (Sat.)—Field trip to Bob Ahrenhoerster's land, Monches Farms Nursery, with lunch stop. \$5 deposit and reservations required. Meet at the bus parking lot west of Shady Lane on Main St., 9:15 a.m.

## MILWAUKEE NORTH CHAPTER

MESSAGE CENTER ..... (414) 299-9888

Meetings are usually held the second Saturday of the month at the Schlitz Audubon Center, 1111 E. Brown Deer Rd., Bayside, at 9:30 a.m.

May 12—Possible plant rescue. Call message center. June 9—"Buckthorn and How to Deal with It." Wendy Walcott teaches how to identify/remove invasive trees and replace with suitable plants. Free, open to public.

## MILWAUKEE SOUTHWEST-WEHR CHAPTER

MESSAGE CENTER ..... (414) 299-9888

Meetings are usually held the second Saturday of the month at the Wehr Nature Center, 1:30 p.m.

May 12—Carpool from Wehr to tour a woodland yard and a wooded natural area.

June 9—"Show-Me Day" Visits to a number of members' yards to showcase specific features or projects.

## ROOT RIVER AREA CHAPTER

CARLA FREEMAN ..... (414) 382-6415

carla.freeman@alverno.edu

Meet Sept-May, first Saturday of month, 1:30-3 p.m., Riverbend Nature Center, Racine, unless otherwise noted.

May 5—Rochester garlic mustard pull with Racine-Kenosha Land Trust. Contact Nan: [nj@execpc.com](mailto:nj@execpc.com).

June 2—Native plant sale at Riverbend Nature Center; time to be announced.

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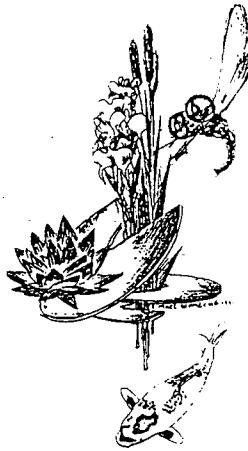
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**Be Sure to Join Us for  
WILD ONES' ANNUAL MEETING  
AND CONFERENCE  
AUGUST 11 • LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY**

If you haven't already registered for this year's annual meeting, refer to the March/April 2001 *Wild Ones Journal* (pp. 12-13) for details and a registration form or contact Portia Brown, (502) 454-4007, [wildones-conference@ic.net](mailto:wildones-conference@ic.net).

Plans continue to develop and a notable speaker, Randy Seymour, author of *Wildflowers of Mammoth Cave* and owner of Riders Mill Farm, is going to team up with The Nature Conservancy in making a keynote presentation on native warm-season grasses (NWSG). Riders Mill Farm has over 1,600 acres managed for wildlife with over 300 acres devoted to NWSG seed production.

More news ... the Holiday Inn is offering Wild Ones members suites that sleep five+, have kitchenettes and have a living-room like area, all for just \$70 a night. Savings like that plus Louisville's Amtrak connection make travel practical and affordable. But you must register soon to guarantee lodging.

This year's tours and conference sessions will give you access to a broad selection of educational offerings. The annual meeting itself provides you the opportunity to observe and participate in the policy-making that directs Wild Ones' course. And, not the least of the fun will come from socializing and networking with good-natured people who share your enthusiasm and interest in the environment. New members are especially encouraged to participate in Wild Ones' biggest annual event.

## **CONFERENCE**

**JUNE 7-9—NATIVE PLANTS IN THE LANDSCAPE**—Millersville, Pa.  
Tours, workshops, plant sale, displays, speakers including Colston Burrell, Richard Birr, Darrel Morrison. Contact Roma Sayre, Millersville University, P.O. Box 1002, Millersville, PA 17551-0302; (717) 872-3030.