

Official publication of  
Wild Ones—Natural Landscapers

A VOICE FOR THE NATURAL LANDSCAPING MOVEMENT



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# Wild Ones®



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## BECOMING STEWARDS OF GOD'S CREATION

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*"We may differ about whether the universe was made by fiat or by the laws of nature, but on this point we are in profound accord:*

*The Earth—with its gorgeous diversity of habitats and beings—belongs, if it belongs to any of us, to our children and their children and on into the distant future.*

*It is not ours to squander."*

—Carl Sagan (1934-96),  
astronomer, atheist and co-chair  
of the Joint Appeal by Religion  
and Science for the Environment

Over the past couple years, I have changed my perspective. I had been just a gardener, interested in exotic flowers to beautify my property; now I'm a steward of my little piece of the Earth. My yard has become full of life and a daily reminder of God's abundance.

I delight in the antics of the songbirds, chipmunks and squirrels more than I ever would enjoy the quadrupled petals of the latest hybrid flower. I now more appreciate the simple elegance of a Purple Coneflower, especially when it's decorated with a beautiful butterfly feeding on its nectar. Before, I carefully deadheaded spent flowers so they wouldn't be an eyesore. Now, I delight in watching the birds feasting on the black seedheads that follow the flowers.

As I care for my yard and observe

the creatures who live there or who are just visiting, I feel a strong sense of stewardship and nurturing. The more I give to my habitat, the more it gives back to me. Stewards are paid handsomely for their work!

BY JANET ALLEN

To me, religious faith and care of the natural world are closely intertwined. I believe that we have a responsibility to be stewards of God's creation. But we've lost a sense of connection to the natural world, God's creation. Sadly, people today are much more comfortable walking in a shopping mall than they are walking in the woods. Few people are able to identify native plant and animal species or understand the requirements of a healthy, natural yard.

On my daily walk around the

streets of my neighborhood last autumn, I saw something that crystallized for me the difference between God's view and our modern view of the natural world. We had just had our first frost, and many people had discarded the plants that had been killed. As I walked down the street, I noticed a garbage can full of discarded plants, topped by dead flowerheads—along with six or seven birds busily eating the seeds. How typical of our modern attitudes! To us, when the flowers we enjoyed are gone, we consider the remainder garbage and off to the landfill it goes. To God, these plants provide nectar and beautiful flowers in the summer,

but they also have a second life as food for other creatures in the fall, and yet more in-



pate in a variety of natural landscaping projects. The most obvious one is to create a natural landscape on your congregation's own property, as others have done. Besides demonstrating care of the land, it can also serve as a meditation garden, thereby becoming an important spiritual asset as well. Some churches even grow grapes for making their own communion juice or wine in these areas! Such a project might incorporate an outdoor compost pile supplemented by indoor worm composting, dramatic demonstrations of God's plan to turn waste into something that helps create even more life.

scape at a residential facility, such as the ones at The Homestead at Maplewood assisted-living facility and the Ronald McDonald House in Cleveland, or you could plant a home landscape for a Habitat for Humanity house, as the Wild Ones' Columbus Chapter has done. The residents can enjoy the beauty and therapeutic benefits of nature in such projects, while you create healthy, natural habitats. Imagine how life affirming a yard full of living things could be for people who may be in the midst of difficult times!

Learning to love and appreciate all of God's creations on your congrega-

*The top three photos from Sylvia Graham are of The Homestead at Maplewood assisted-living center in St. Paul, Minn. Mary Gerken provided the path scene from Abiding Peace Lutheran Church, Kansas City, Mo.*



carnations as they are fed upon by composting organisms to become soil to help next year's plants grow.

Creating a healthy, natural yard is a wonderful way to care for God's creation. Not only are you caring for the native plants and for the resident and migrating creatures, but you're also passing along a healthy piece of the Earth to the next generation.

In addition to being a steward of your own land, you can also encourage your faith community to become a steward of God's creation. After all, if faith communities don't care for God's own creations, who will? Who better would know that God in His wisdom created the right plants for each location—the plants native to that area?

Your congregation could partici-



Faith communities are often most interested in helping people and may be less enthusiastic about spending their efforts on what seems to be *just gardening*. You can use this traditional emphasis on helping people as a bridge to caring for the land and the environment. For example, your congregation could create a natural land-

tion's own land could lead to participation in other projects to help heal and defend the Earth. After all, people who love something are motivated to care for it. Just a few examples of projects suitable for faith-based groups are the National Council of Churches' Energy Stewardship Congregation program, the Global Action Plan's Eco-Team program, or Earth Ministry's Simpler Living, Compassionate Life study materials.

One organization that promotes such stewardship is the National Religious Partnership for the Environment, a federation of the major American faith communities: the U.S. Catholic Conference, the Coalition on

the Environment and Jewish Life, the National Council of Churches of Christ, and the Evangelical Environmental Network.

Responding to a challenge from prominent scientists to become involved in the environmental crisis, these religious leaders affirmed the legitimacy and importance of religious institutions caring for God's creation, stating:

*"We believe the environmental crisis is intrinsically religious. All faith traditions and teachings firmly instruct us to revere and care for the natural world. Yet sacred Creation is being violated and is in ultimate jeopardy as a result of long-standing human behavior. A religious response is essential to reverse such long-standing patterns of neglect and exploitation."*

Finally, in a "Joint Appeal by Religion and Science for the Environment," the religious leaders and scientists reminded us to consider our legacy:

*"How will our children and grandchildren judge our stewardship of the Earth? What will they think of us? Do we not have a solemn obligation to leave them a better world and to ensure the integrity of nature itself?"*

What better way to help ensure the integrity of nature than to first become stewards of our own land and our congregations' land!

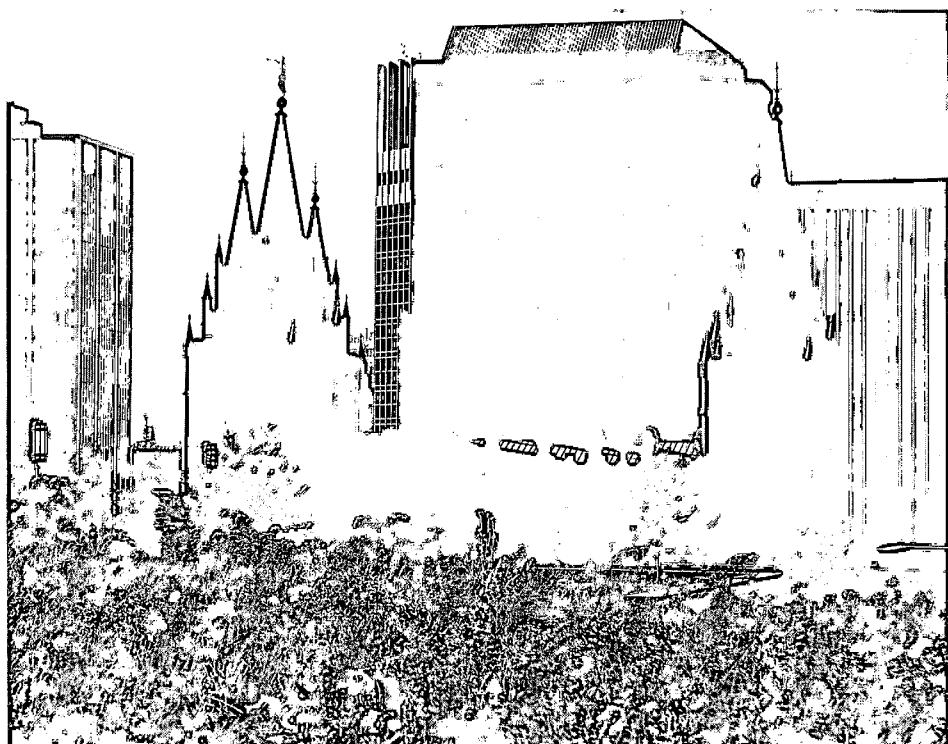
Here's where you can find more information about the National Religious Partnership for the Environment and its constituent organizations:

**National Religious Partnership  
for the Environment**  
1047 Amsterdam Avenue  
New York, New York 10025  
(212) 316-7441  
(212) 316-7547 (fax)  
[www.nrpe.org](http://www.nrpe.org)

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Syracuse, N.Y., Wild Ones member Janet Allen has two personal websites you might enjoy. One is based on her own backyard, the other themed around creation stewardship:

<http://home.twcny.rr.com/allenz>  
<http://home.twcny.rr.com/cscny>  
Info about the Abiding Peace Lutheran Church landscape can be found at:  
[abidingpeacekc.org/creation.html](http://abidingpeacekc.org/creation.html)



## **WILD UTAH LANDSCAPE CROWNS CONFERENCE CENTER**

Visitors to Salt Lake City can enjoy a rooftop recreation of the wild landscape of a Utah mountain, including four acres of trees and an Alpine meadow of wildflowers and 21 types of native mountain grasses. Plus, a rooftop fountain now cascades 67 feet down the front of an unusual conference center built by the Mormons (the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints).

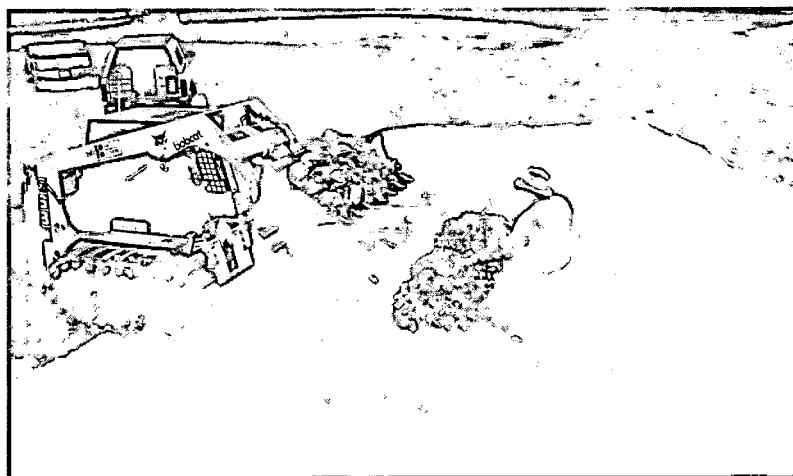
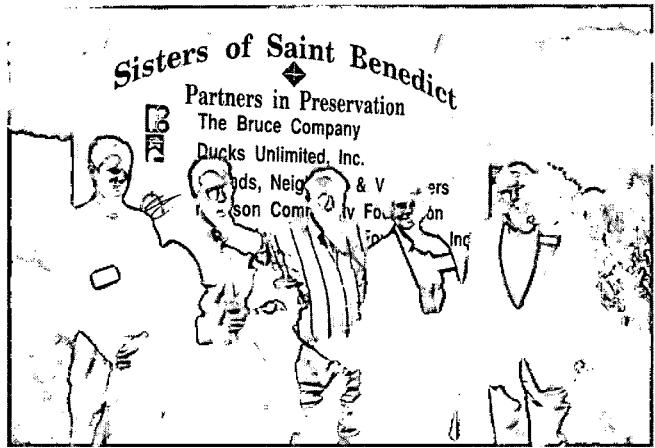
"When we discovered in the design process that we were going to have nearly four acres of roof, we decided that we needed to do something special," says H. David Burton, presiding bishop of the church. "We hope that the rooftop can be a place where people can come and sit and enjoy the solitude and the marvelous view that presents itself there."

The landscape was designed after that of a Utah mountain. Plans called for Hudsonian Zone\* planting, the technique of mirroring the plant life of progressive elevations. Following this pattern (but not using native trees exclusively), Bristlecone Pine trees were planted at the lowest point, followed by native foothill meadow grasses and wildflowers, followed by Swedish Aspen trees, then Serbian Spruce trees at the highest point. The meadow portion contains a combination of 21 native grasses collected as seeds from different mountain meadows along the Wasatch Front and 300 varieties of native Utah wildflowers. A total of 1,400 trees have been planted on the conference center roof and grounds, and the meadow is expected to be fully developed by 2002.

The project was begun in November 1999 as workers planted the seeds in deep containers and nurtured the plants in greenhouses until June 2000 when Latter-day Saint volunteers, donating 6,000 hours, planted the grasses on the conference center roof. In April and May volunteers formed bucket brigades to transport wildflowers to the roof.

The rooftop landscape will use one-half the amount of water used by a traditional European-style garden. Instead of garden soil, a manufactured mix was used to prevent the introduction of soilborne weeds, diseases and pests, thereby lowering long-term maintenance costs. ☺

\*In 1889 C. Hart Merriam studied the distribution patterns of flora and fauna in Arizona and described six life zones in relation to altitude and latitude: Lower Sonoran, Upper Sonoran, Transition Life, Canadian Life, Hudsonian Life, and Arctic-Alpine Life. The Hudsonian Life Zone varies from 8,000 or 9,000 feet to 11,500 feet above sea level and receives 30 to 35 inches of yearly precipitation.

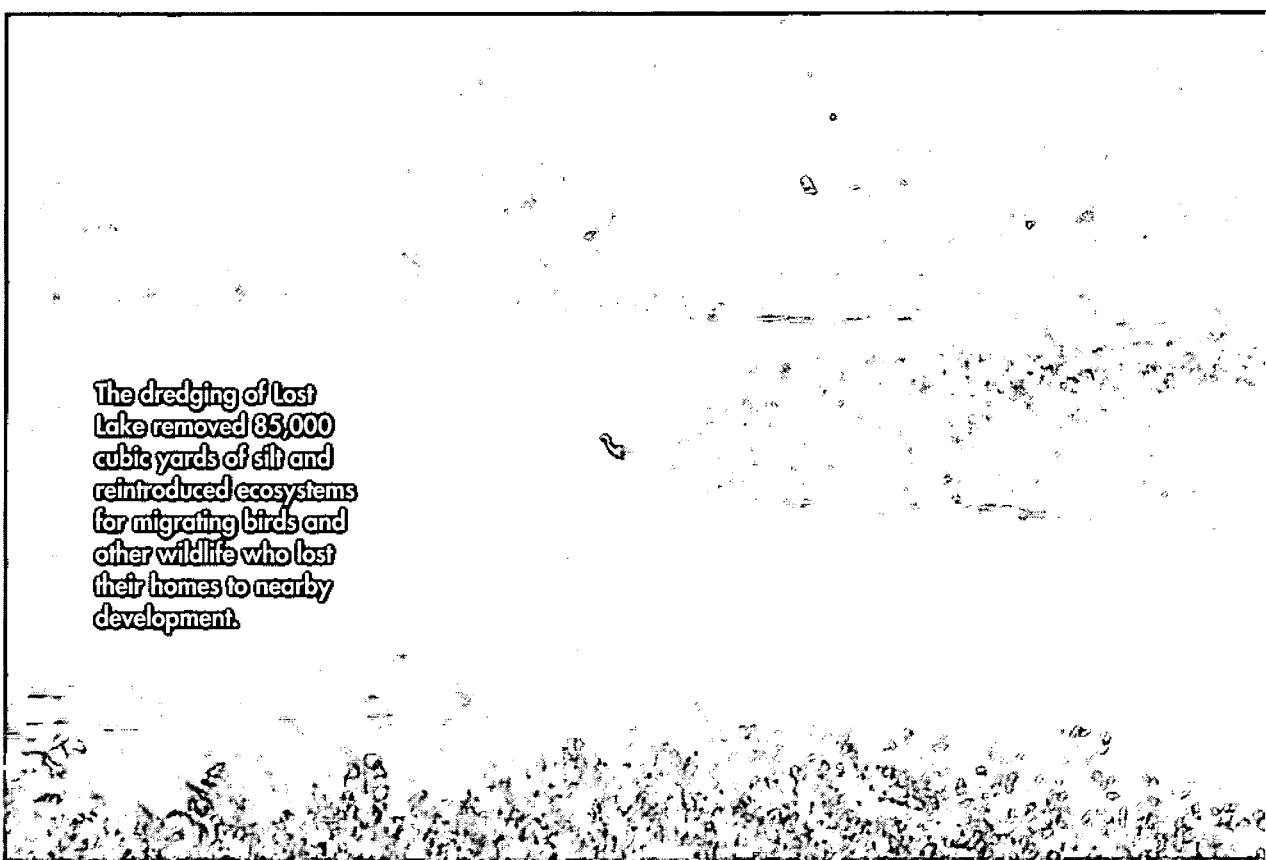


**ABOVE:** As part of a five-year master plan, the Sisters of Saint Benedict partnered with local environmental organizations and the Lake Mendota Priority Watershed staff to create a new detention basin. The project has virtually eliminated downstream erosion and siltation.

**ABOVE RIGHT:** New technology, including Gabion filters and polymers, trap sediment from area runoff and prevent soil erosion. The dredging of Lost Lake at Saint Benedict Center improves water quality for the Lake Mendota Priority Watershed.

**BELLOW:** Girl Scouts help seed a new section of prairie. A Wisconsin Conservation Corps crew member demonstrates the correct arm motion. Restoration efforts are accomplished in part with the help of volunteers who attend workdays and prairie seeding events. **FAR RIGHT:** A group of Executive MBA students from the University of Wisconsin-Madison seed an area where non-native trees have been removed.

The dredging of Lost Lake removed 85,000 cubic yards of silt and reintroduced ecosystems for migrating birds and other wildlife who lost their homes to nearby development.



# CENTURIES-OLD BENEDICTINE TRADITION GUIDES ENVIRONMENTAL VISION AND WORK

BY NEAL SMITH

**O**n a hilltop that overlooks the northern shore of Wisconsin's scenic Lake Mendota is the home of the Sisters of Saint Benedict of Madison. Formerly known as the Monastery of Saint Benedict Center, this place is deeply rooted in a 1,500-year-old tradition of stewardship of the land. Like anyone else's home, the monastery must be cared for and preserved for future generations. It must also remain true to the Benedictine tradition and values of those who preceded today's members.

Benedict of Nursia, a simple Italian monk, wrote a rule (a guide) for living a balanced life. The *Rule* emphasizes that all we have is a gift

from God and we are to care for and use these good things for the benefit of current and future generations.

The Monastery of Saint Benedict Center has been blessed with a special piece of creation.

This parcel of land is a critical part of the Lake Mendota Priority Watershed. Over 400 acres of land drain into and through it. The parcel is contiguous to Governor Nelson State Park and forms a significant part of

tion of a 10,000-year-old lake on the property and the creation of a critically needed detention basin to control runoff headed for Lake Mendota.

In 1996 prairie restoration work began with the creation of a new



Sister Mary David Walgenbach, prioress, (left) and Sister Joanne Kollasch, director of monastic formation, stand in prairie grass that's as tall as an adult. Seventy of the 130 acres at Saint Benedict Center have been restored to native mesic prairie.

the greenbelt north of the state's capital city. The pressures of development are on our doorstep.

In 1995 the sisters developed a master plan for the 130 acres that comprise Saint Benedict Center. An underlying premise of the plan is the sisters' desire to provide a place where people of all ages and backgrounds can come and experience God in creation. They decided to restore the land to its pre-settlement condition so they, their neighbors and thousands of annual guests can enjoy this sacred space.

The master plan called for restoring 50 acres of farmland to mesic prairie. It also called for the restora-

detention basin. The project was completed with the help of many partners and the Lake Mendota Priority Watershed staff. At capacity, the basin can hold 10.5 acre-feet of water. The project has virtually eliminated downstream erosion and siltation.

Each year, beginning in 1996, 12 to 20 acres of prairie have been restored. The majority of the seeds have been hand collected by hundreds of volunteers of all ages. Nearly 60 different native forbs and grasses are seeded annually. To date, 70 acres have been restored with 10 more slated for seeding this fall. Nature trails have been developed

A newly created wetland controls runoff headed for Lake Mendota, one of Madison's two major lakes. Prairie forbs and grasses offer a green oasis where guests can discover and recover a sense of the divine.



throughout the prairie. One can truly experience the gift of creation in this colorful landscape where plants bloom from early spring until late fall and where the grasses sway gracefully and are taller than an adult.

The restoration of Lost Lake, the 10,000-year-old glacial lake, took three years and was completed in 2000. Non-native trees were removed from the shoreline. The lake, not much more than a silted-in, two-foot-deep mudhole, was restored to near its original nine-acre surface, with a depth of 15 feet in the center. Eighty-five thousand cubic yards of silt were removed (one big dump truck load holds about 10 cubic yards).

The summer and fall of 2000 were truly marked by marvels of creation! Bullheads returned to Lost Lake after an absence of many years. A pair of Great Blue Heron chose the lake as their new home. Hundreds of geese and ducks visited again as they migrated south. The Great Horned Owl, fox, deer and other wildlife seemed to show their appreciation, as well.

It's hard to believe that all this work has been completed in the past six years. Saint Benedict Center is now a place where all can come and experience the gift of God's magnificent creation as it existed before the advent of migrating settlers. Thousands share this gift every year. Hundreds lend a hand in caring for it. Each person has the opportunity to experience his or her sense of the divine at Saint Benedict Center.

Creation is life giving—and we don't mean just for the plants and animals. Saint Benedict Center exudes a new vitality, and the restoration activities have added many new "family" friends. This place has become a model and learning tool for many.

For the past two years, the Wisconsin Conservation Corps (WCC) has had a crew at Saint Benedict Center. This program teaches life and employment skills to otherwise unemployed youth and helps them resume or further their education—with creation as a critical teacher. We formed an environmental coalition with other restoration partners, and together we provide summer intern opportunities for Wisconsin and international students exploring ecology and restoration. Students from preschool through graduate school are making Saint Benedict Center a resource for study. Boy and Girl scouts visit to learn and work.

#### WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

That's the question we're trying to figure out. A group of people is working on a new master plan that looks out 10 years into the future. Some of the issues being researched include:

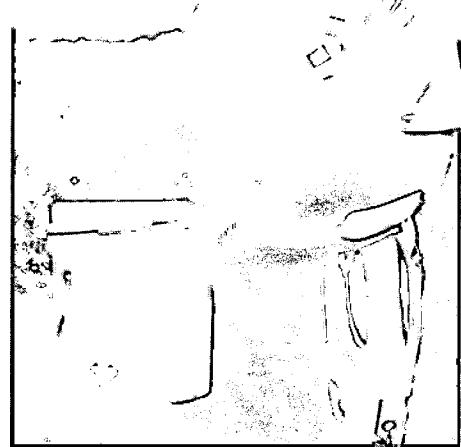
- *finding new ways to invite people to experience the gift of creation*
- *making the experience accessible to anyone*
- *modeling the restoration work as an educational resource to our neighbors and the broader community*
- *restoring areas of oak savanna and additional prairie*
- *serving as a catalyst and seed source for others doing restoration work—whether as part of their yard at home or a major restoration effort*

The monastery is home to the sisters. A little larger than the average

home, it has the same things going on as your home. Each day is made up of eating and sleeping, working and playing, praying and studying. Guests are invited to visit and experience the blessings of this home. One special gift is the beauty and serenity of creation as it once was. At the monastery, we invite *you* to see, feel and touch with all your senses this sacred space.

Saint Benedict Center is located at 4200 County Highway M on the north side of Lake Mendota. To learn more about our environmental stewardship activities and programs, call (608) 836-1631, ext. 115, or visit [www.sbccenter.org](http://www.sbccenter.org) where a site map is included. ☺

**Help the sisters preserve nature's beauty.  
Register to attend...**  
**Community workday  
fall 2001**  
**Saturday, Sept. 29, or**  
**Prairie seeding day**  
**Saturday, Nov. 10, 2001**  
**Contact Elisabeth Plat at  
(608) 836-1631, ext. 118  
or [Eplatt@sbccenter.org](mailto:Eplatt@sbccenter.org).**



Neal Smith, CPA, has been employed by the Sisters of Saint Benedict for the past 15 years. He currently serves as executive director of administration. Prior to joining the sisters, Smith was executive vice president of the Munz Corporation. His current volunteer activities include: president of the Wisconsin Treasurers of Religious Institutes, president of the Benedictine Life Foundation, board member and chair of the finance committee for the Dane Fund and consultant to the finance committee of the Federation of St. Gertrude. Past volunteer activities include board memberships with the Madison Repertory Theater, Edgewood Campus School and Orchid Heights Townhomes, Inc.

# HAPPY ARE THE "MEEC" FOR THEY SHALL INHERIT THE EARTH

(MATTHEW 5:5)

BY LEANNE M. JABLONSKI

## "RESTORE THE LAND, RESTORE YOUR SOUL"

Volunteers are welcomed by this message to our native plant ministry at the Marianist Environmental Education Center (MEEC). MEEC cares for 100 acres of natural area of the 130-acre Mount Saint John that includes the Bergamo conference and retreat center and various artistic and spiritual ministries of the Marianist Family. Located in Greene County, Ohio, just five miles from both the University of Dayton (a Catholic, Marianist University) and downtown Dayton, we help learners of all ages and walks of life "connect" their spiritual tradition with Earth processes.

Our restoration and educational work is mainly accomplished through volunteer service learning, with the majority of participants from faith-based groups. Activities are designed to "increase awareness and appreciation of the workings of Earth, to develop skills and to promote the preservation, restoration and enhancement of our landscapes and their life-sustaining systems. We help all and especially those with limited access to natural areas to experience the beauty and healing power of Earth such that the gifts of Earth can be shared with the disadvantaged and future generations" (MEEC Mission Statement).

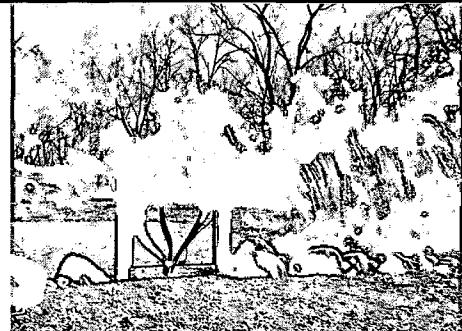
In the year 2000, 512 volunteers ranging from ages five to 75 donated 4,400 hours of service to the tasks of land stewardship, ecological research and administration as well as programming in science, spirituality, religious education, environmental education and justice. We design our programming with reflections that are suitable for all, and we include prayer for those from faith traditions.

The land now called Mount Saint John has long been sacred. As a high, wooded area, the land was hunting ground for the Miami, Shawnee, Adena, Hopewell and Fort Ancient Indians. The Watervliet Shaker community occupied the land during the 19th century. Since 1910, Mount Saint John has been a home to the Marianist Brothers of the Society of Mary and has served as a working farm and in the ministries of education and retreats. Today, its beauty continues to stir the souls of those who encounter the nature trails and places of meditation amid the restored prairie, woodlands, savanna and wetlands.

*"The world in which we live  
needs beauty in order not to sink  
into despair. The artist has  
a special relationship to beauty.  
May the beauty that you pass on  
to generations still to come, be such  
that it will stir them to wonder."*  
—Pope John Paul II

## "SACRED EMBRACE" —EARTH ART INVITING YOU TO A MEDITATIVE JOURNEY

At MEEC, we search for integrative ways to bridge native plant education, spirituality, the arts and religious tradition. We constructed a contemporary earthwork to provide an aesthetic place for meditation and a living experience of native plant beauty. Located at the trailhead of our nature reserve and transforming a former dump, "Sacred Embrace" depicts the call to embrace as well as be embraced and nurtured by the Earth. Artist Carrie Pate conceived Sacred Embrace as her response to a call to live in connection with the processes of art and the Earth. Over 200 cubic yards of soil were moved from former construction sites, walls were sculpted and 38 native



Ohio prairie perennial species (numbering over 2,500 transplants) were planted. Seedlings were grown from seeds that were collected on Mount Saint John and then cultivated in our greenhouse and herb nursery over the winter. Native plants represent our desire to experience and learn about the land as it is, and thus to curb our human tendencies to dominate, plow up and change the natural community around us without understanding.

At the entrance to Sacred Embrace, is a gate with a blossom-like design (**above**) that repeats the earthwork's shape. The gate is a symbol of the visitor's conscious choice to enter a journey of discovery. Once through the gate, the path unfolds, leading to a place where inner and outer worlds unite. On this path, the traveler is invited to ascend the meditation mound and pause for reflection. The outer rim of Sacred Embrace creates a shape that embraces those within. The walls are akin to the skin of a fruit; providing protection for the nourishment of the seeds within. As the journeyer emerges to the main trail, fruits from the reflection time become grace to be shared.

Sacred Embrace is a living art form that will change. We invite you to visit this landscape through the changing seasons of the years to come and become a part of its evolution.

## "OH HAPPY FAULT, OH NECESSARY 'SIN'..."

Our work with native plants in environmental education, spirituality and justice was "seeded" when urban sprawl impacted us through the construction of Interstate 675 on the property edge of the once-serene Mount Saint John. A 15-acre sand and gravel pit remained after the glacial till was excavated to construct the highway.

*"Hold in your mind the memory of the land as it is when you take it.  
And with all your strength, with all your minds, with all your heart,  
preserve it for your children, and love it ... as God loves us all."*  
—Attributed to Chief Seathl in a letter to President Pierce (1854)

For reasons of practicality, cost-effectiveness, historical and ecological significance as well as a glimmering vision, Marianist Brother Donald Geiger promoted the re-vegetation of the pit with native tall-grass prairie species. Survey maps from 1802 revealed prairie had been nearby, and it was thought that native grasses could survive on the mineral-poor soil of the steep grade. In 1985, a grass mix was seeded with a nurse crop of oats, and forb species were hand-transplanted. After 15 years, the prairie serves as an active restoration research site and now contains 142 native plant species characteristic of prairies and wetlands.

MEEC has also been restoring woodland, wetland and grasslands to native ecosystems, and over 40 bird species and 25 mammal species are found here. Honeysuckle and other invasive shrubs are removed from the oak-hickory deciduous woodlands and old fields, while Bur Oaks and prairie herbs have been planted to recreate a savanna on acreage previously farmed. We maintain herb, shrub and tree nurseries and a seed collection of 130 species that are hand propagated.

Programming with native plants was initiated when MEEC was founded in 1994. Work is coordinated by a team of three: Marianist Brother Donald Geiger is founding director, plant biology professor at the University of Dayton and restorationist; Marianist Sister Leanne Jablonski, with a PhD in plant ecology/global climate change and MA in religious studies, coordinates interns, restoration research, and the science education and spirituality programming; and Michele Bunker, MS in ecology, manages land resources and coordinates volunteers. We are building partnerships with public, governmental, private and religious-based organizations.

MEEC is part of several networks of faith-based organizations that are educating their members about care for the Earth as a moral responsibility. The National Religious Partnership

for the Environment ([www.nrpe.org](http://www.nrpe.org)) combines the networks of several major collaboratives: Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life ([www.coejl.org](http://www.coejl.org)) Evangelical Environmental Network ([www.creationcare.org](http://www.creationcare.org)), National Council of Churches of Christ ([www.webofcreation.org](http://www.webofcreation.org)) and United States Catholic Conference ([www.nccbuscc.org/sdwp/ejp](http://www.nccbuscc.org/sdwp/ejp)). Responding to the calls of The Earth Charter ([www.earthcharter.org](http://www.earthcharter.org)), and movements in justice organizations and within our religious traditions, we educate about environmental justice and the connections between our lifestyle choices and impacts on the Earth. Our efforts include ecology education, recalling Earth-connections in stories and images of our scriptures, and hearing the cry of the poor in the land and people. MEEC has developed an Environmental Justice website to link efforts of ecologists, governmental, faith and cultural traditions ([www.udayton.edu/~meech/ESAEJ2.html](http://www.udayton.edu/~meech/ESAEJ2.html)) and leads the Environment/Ecology issue team of our Marianist Social Justice Collaborative of Marianists laity, sisters and brothers ([www.msjc.net](http://www.msjc.net)). We network with many other Catholic congregations of brothers and sisters who own land once used as farms and for solitude that are now being reclaimed in justice and Earth stewardship ministries such as native plants and sustainable agriculture.

#### Labyrinth

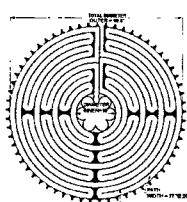
**Labyrinth—a sacred and stable space to focus attention and listen to the longing of the soul.**

Amid the flat savanna, we have designed a native plant labyrinth that attracts many to walk the path and volunteer in its maintenance. A labyrinth is an ancient sacred symbol found in religious traditions in various forms around the world over the past 4,000 years. Our labyrinth is a replica of one laid in the ground floor, in 1220, in France's Chartres Cathedral. It was

established at a time when pilgrimages to holy places were dangerous, so people preserved the tradition in their own home place.

Walking the labyrinth is a ritual that can be used as a path of prayer and meditation and can serve as a medium of change or body prayer. The labyrinth is rich in symbols and meaning. The shape and uni-cursal path symbolize unity, wholeness, and universality of the journey. The central rosette has six petals, symbolic of days of creation or states of being: *mineral world* (being), *vegetable world* (growing), *animal world* (feeling), *human world* (thinking), *angelic world* (knowing) and *Divine Mystery* (unknowing). The rose is a universal symbol of love, the Spirit and the Virgin Mary, who Mothered God, so can be a symbol of our letting go and rebirth. Other symbols include 12 concentric circles reflecting 12 months of the year and the creation of a cross by the vertical and horizontal axes.

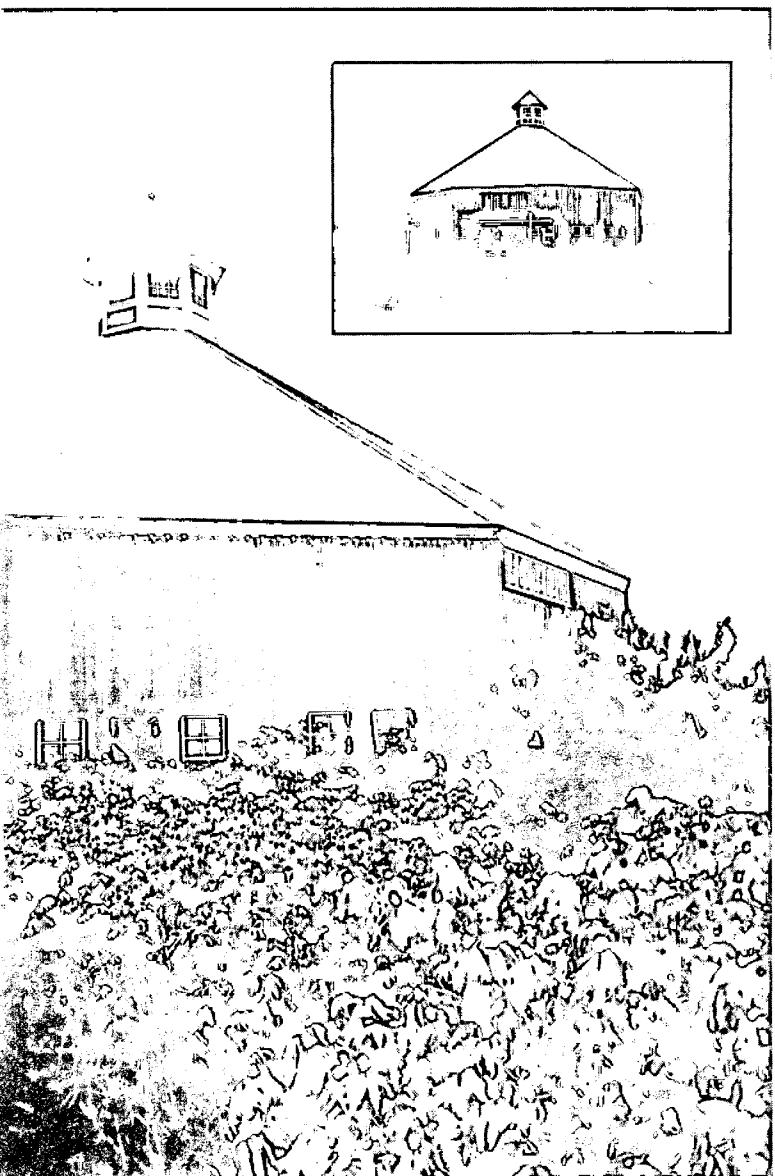
Our "living labyrinth" is composed of native prairie perennials and is planted, weeded, mulched and maintained by volunteers. In its center, we have placed a peace pole with "May there be peace on earth" in four languages. Here we offer our hopes and prayers for all in need of peace. The book *Walking A Spiritual Path*, by Lauren Artress of Grace Cathedral in San Francisco, describes the spirituality of the labyrinth and her Veriditas network provides workshops and construction options information ([www.gracecom.org/labyrinth](http://www.gracecom.org/labyrinth)). ☽



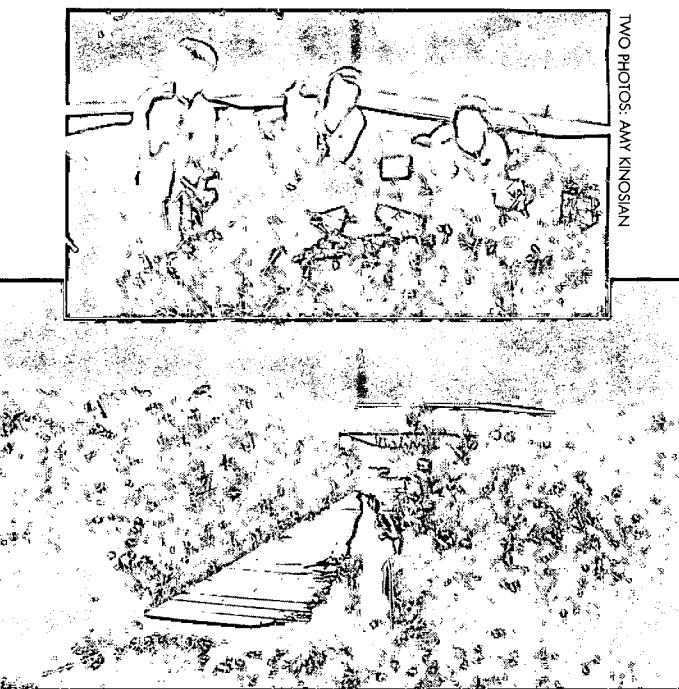
For further information, contact Leanne M. Jablonski, Marianist Environmental Education Center, 4435 E. Patterson Rd., Dayton, OH 45430-1095; (937) 429-3582; [www.udayton.edu/~meech](http://www.udayton.edu/~meech); [meech@udayton.edu](mailto:meech@udayton.edu).

\* \* \*

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** The staff at MEEC has provided us with a description of how they created their native plant labyrinth. Due to space constraints, I cannot present it here, but plan to publish it in a future issue.



LARGE PHOTO: DONNA & TOM KRISCHAN INSET AND PHOTO BELOW: ROCHELLE WHITEMAN

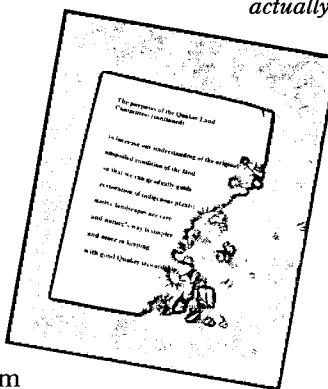


TWO PHOTOS: AMY KINGSLAN

**Above:** This Unitarian Church in Mequon, Wis., was designed after local octagonal barns. A poll among the church-goers as to "lawn or prairie?" resulted in all but one vote for prairie. Restorationist Richard Barloga was called in to spearhead the planting of 50 species in 1988, and maintenance (read "fire") has now become a social event as members of the congregation congregate for a prescribed burn.

**Above right:** The kids at St. Leonard School (1999 Seeds For Education grant recipient, Muskego, Wis.) love their pond and wet prairie; here seventh graders smile while they work! The class of 2000 made a gift of a statue of St. Francis to their school's natural landscape.

**Right:** Our Friends, the Quakers, who meet in Milwaukee, have developed a mission statement that sets as a goal "to prevent overuse and erosion of the land and injury to plants and animals while allowing visitors to benefit from nature's serenity and beauty."



"I encourage Catholic believers to examine the ethical dimension of the ecological problem. Through local parish study groups you can reflect, analyze and begin to advocate for a better ecological environment."

—Most Reverend James W. Malone

"The adoption of statements on the environment by church councils and assemblies is important. But unless every local congregation actually carries out sound environmental practices in its buildings and in the homes of the members, these statements are worthless. Care of the Earth—our mandate from the Creator—is the responsibility of us all."

—The Reverend Dr. Herbert W. Chilstrom, Bishop, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

"Relegating conservation to government is like relegating virtue to the Sabbath. Turns over to professionals what should be daily work of amateurs."

—Aldo Leopold, Ethicist

"If you are thinking one year ahead, you plant rice. If you are thinking 20 years ahead, you plant trees. If you are thinking 100 years ahead, you educate people."

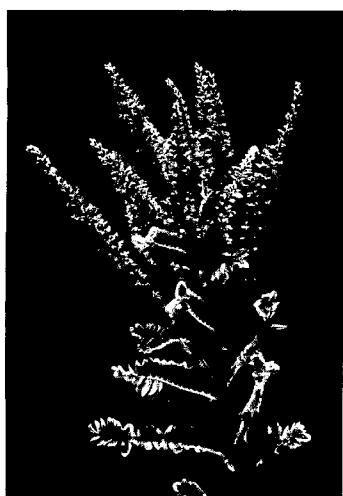
—Chinese proverb

# The inside story

**Family:** Leguminosae (Pea)

**Other Names:** False Indigo, Prairie Shoestring, Wild Tea, Buffalo Bellow Plant, Bird's Wood, Bird's Tree.

**Habitat:** On dry sandy prairies and hills.



**Description:** There are many small, blue flowers in spike-like clusters on a gray-colored shrub with white hairy stems. The flowers are 1/6 inch long, with one petal (the standard) and 10 bright orange stamens. The pinnately compound leaves are 2 to 4 inches long and covered with dense, short hairs, giving a grayish appearance. They are divided into 15 to 45 leaflets, each about 1/2 inch long.

**Height:** 1 to 3 feet.

**Flowering:** May to August.

**Comments:** Our native Leadplant has very deep roots (4 feet or more). Therefore, it avoids competition from surrounding grasses.

Superstitions held that the Leadplant was an indication of the presence of lead ore. In reality, it indicates a well-managed, native pasture or prairie remnant.

The leaves can be used to make a pleasant-tasting, yellow-brown tea. The Lakota Indians drank this leaf tea and used the dried crushed leaves, mixed with a little buffalo fat, as a smoking material.

Joseph N. Nicollet, a French explorer, wrote in his

1838 journal that Leadplant was used by the Sioux to attract buffalo. This "concoction" was prepared by pounding up the roots, moistening them and mixing them together. Whoever rubbed the mixture on his clothing had the power to attract buffalo and to kill as many of them as he wanted

## LEADPLANT (*Amorpha canescens*)

and blew them into cuts and open wounds. The astringent property of the leaves encouraged scab formation. The Potawatomi Indians made a leaf tea to kill pinworms, various intestinal worms, and the liquid tea was used to cure eczema.

**Name Origins:** The genus name, *Amorpha* (a-MORE-fa), is from the Greek word, *amorphos*, meaning "deformed," from the absence of four of the petals (usually found in the pea family). The species name, *canescens* (kan-NESS-senz), means "graying-pubescent." The common name is from its leaden-hue, not an indication of lead.

Because of the laced-shoestring look of the leaves and roots, it was also called Prairie Shoestring. The Omahas and Poncas called this plant Buffalo Bellow Plant because it was the dominant prairie plant in flower during the rutting season of the buffalo. The Lakotas called it Bird's Wood or Bird's Tree because birds perched on it for lack of trees on the prairie.

**Author's Note:** For several years we had a beautiful specimen of the Leadplant growing on our Plymouth, Wis., property. Unfortunately, every year it got an attack from hundreds of beetles. They totally devoured the blossoms; rarely eating the leaves. I would capture the beetles in a jar but more kept coming until the blossoms were totally consumed. Then the insects mysteriously disappeared. The plant would return each year, seemingly more robust than ever. Could it be that those beetles were good for the plant?

I've also seen the same insect eating the leaves of Queen-of-the-Prairie (*Filipendula rubra*) on our property north of Bailey's Harbor, Wis. In that case they only wanted the leaves, not the blossoms. Here again I captured as many as I could in a jar, froze them and dumped them on the compost pile.

After describing this beetle to Andrew Williams, fellow in the Entomological Department at UW-Madison, he told me the insect was *Anomoea laticlavia* (Forster). It did not appear to have a common name, so I named it Leadplant Beetle (appropriately). If anyone knows of another name for this insect, please let me know. ☺

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## PROPAGATING LEADPLANT

As with other members of the pea family, the use of an inoculant is advised. Seeds can be slow to start; scarification helps. Suckers or layering in summer may be an easier method of propagation. Green wood cuttings grow readily under glass early in season. Hard wood cuttings planted in an open protected place and given a year to grow can also be successful.

# Each One Reach One Wild One

It is such a gas introducing someone to the concept of natural landscaping. Their eyes grow big, their hands begin to gesture and flail, and questions fly like popping corn.

Wild Ones' board is in the process of strategizing how best to excite more people about our mission and programs. One of the ideas offered comes from Central Wisconsin Chapter member Dan Dieterich. Dan simply suggests: "Each One Reach One Wild One." If each of us could affect one more person, we'd see human pleasure and Wild Ones' yards increase twofold.

\* \* \*

**VISUAL AIDS** help you tell your story while you go about guiding yard tours, giving school presentations or working display booths. Professional display boards are costly and bulky, but plastic poster frames come in a wide range of shapes and portable sizes and cost in the \$10-to-\$20 price range.

For a display I pulled together the night before a home and garden show, I composed a simple headline: **"In 1995 I joined Wild Ones. This is what happened to my lawn..."**

Then I illustrated my story with before, during and after scenes. To those who walked by our booth and cast a lingering eye I boasted, "This is my yard," and they almost always stepped closer and began talking with me.

If you don't have illustrations of your own, you could use pages from *Wild Ones Journal* or other publications. In the poster frame

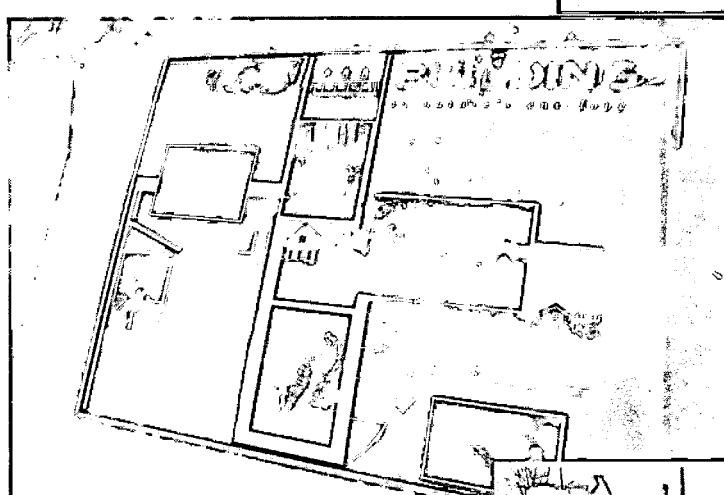
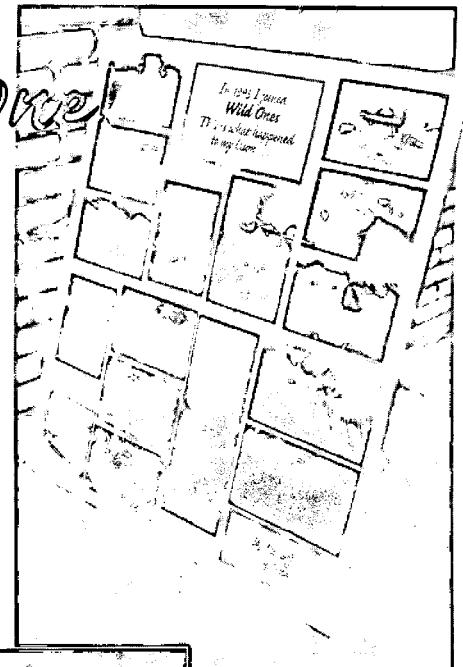
shown above I used photos from the sorely missed *Wild Garden* magazine, Prairie Nursery's catalog, and the summer 2001 Better Homes and Gardens *Perennials* issue which features Wild Ones Karin and Klaus Wisiol's yard. (*Wild Garden*'s publisher, Joanne Wolfe, is the editor of this BH&G special issue which also presents a beautiful spread on moss gardening.) For posters of natural areas or wildlife, check with other organizations or government agencies. (I like to leave photo and publishing credits visible when using other parties' print materials. Please do the same and give credit where it is due.)

Oftentimes the corners of poster frames will pull apart. Join them with packaging tape on the back side for extra security. When not in use, keep your displays out of sunlight so the images don't fade or yellow.

Pictured at right is a simple stick tripod bound with bailing twine. Supporting the poster frame are two small, vee-shaped crotch branches tied to the tripod legs. To keep the tripod stable, one can push the sticks into the ground. For indoor display, brightly colored warning tape securing the legs to the floor will help prevent anyone from tripping over them.

Given the right public venue, I could imagine connecting two of these poster frames with short suspenders and wearing them front and back as a sandwich board. The most obvious theme for each panel? "Front Yard" and "Back Yard," of course. ☺

—Joy Buslaff



Have you had success getting others to join the natural landscaping movement? We'd like to hear how you did it. Write to *Wild Ones Journal* (address on page 13).



## *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 13 for their addresses.

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

**ILLINOIS:** Margaret Ovitt, 107 W. Kelly St., Macomb, IL 61455-2925; (309) 836-6231. **Linda Stelle**, 269 Stonegate Rd., Cary, IL 60013; (847) 639-4940; sirocco@prodigy.net.

**INDIANA:** Mary H. Kraft, 5360 E. 161st St.; Noblesville, IN 46060; (317) 773-5361; mkraft@ind.cioe.com.

**Dane Ryan**, RR#1 Box 76C, Cannelburg, IN 47519; (812) 644-7545; pelryan@dmrtc.net.

**MICHIGAN:** East Lansing Chapter—Mark S. Ritzenhein, (517) 336-0320; mritz@acd.net.

**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. **Rolf Uttegaard**, 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.

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

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

Calendar Coordinator Mary Paquette  
N2026 Cedar Rd., Adell, WI 53001  
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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.

■ 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

##### GREATER 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.

July 8—10 a.m.-5 p.m. Members will be participating in the Elmhurst Garden Walk & Faire at Wilder Park, in the "Ask the Experts" resource center; volunteers needed. The walk includes a tour of one public and seven private gardens. Order tickets from Marilyn Arado (630) 630-7884 or at [www.elmnet.org/Gardens](http://www.elmnet.org/Gardens). Aug. 18 (Sat.)—9 a.m. Tour of Belmont Prairie and Judy Davenport's yard. Meet at the prairie (two blocks west of the entrance to the Downer's Grove Golf

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Course on Cross Street); afterwards we'll proceed to Judy's yard at 4617 Cross St.

#### **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). There will be no summer programs.

#### **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, 7:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted.

July 14 (Sat.)—Members' garden tours. Call for information.

Aug. 4 (Sat.)—Wolf Road Prairie tour. Call for directions and time.

#### **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.

July 12—No regular meeting.

July 21 (Sat.)—Garden tour; view what fellow members have accomplished in their yards. Map and instructions in next chapter mailing.

August—To be determined.

#### **ROCK RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER**

**SHEILA STENGER: (815) 624-6076**

Meetings are usually held the third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m., Jarrett Prairie Center, Byron Forest

Preserve, 7993 N. River Road, Byron, unless otherwise noted. Call (815) 234-8535 for information. Public is welcome.

July 28—Native landscape tour in the Rockford area; contact Fran Lowman at (815) 874-4895 for details. No regular monthly meeting.

Aug. 11–10 a.m. Tour of Taylor Creek Restoration Nurseries in Brodhead, Wis. No regular meeting.

#### **INDIANA**

##### **GIBSON WOODS CHAPTER**

**JOY BOWER: (219) 989-9679**

**jbower126@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.

July—Visit members' gardens.

August—Woodland walk at Gibson Woods.

#### **IOWA**

##### **WILD ROSE CHAPTER**

**CHRISTINE TALIGA: (319) 339-9121**

Meetings are held the second Monday of every month, First Presbyterian Church, Iowa City, unless otherwise noted.

#### **KENTUCKY**

##### **FRANKFORT CHAPTER**

**KATIE CLARK: (502) 226-4766**

**herbs@kiih.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.

#### **LOUISVILLE CHAPTER**

**PORTIA BROWN: (502) 454-4007**

**oneskylight@earthlink.net**

Meetings are usually held the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Louisville Nature Center, 3745 Illinois Ave., unless otherwise noted.

July 24—6:30-8:30 p.m. Show Me, Help Me visit to Rosetta Fackler's, where members will look at some design options. Carpool from Joe Creason parking lot off Trevilian Way at 6:30.

Aug. 10-12—2001 Annual meeting. No separate chapter meeting this month.

4th Saturday Workdays—Workdays suspended May through August.

#### **MICHIGAN**

##### **ANN ARBOR CHAPTER**

**TRISH BECKJORD: (734) 669-2713**

**DAVE MINDELL: (734) 665-7168**

**plantwise@aol.com**

**BOB GRESE: (734) 763-0645**

**bgrese@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**

**PAT RUTA: (231) 876-0378**

**enviropat@aol.com**

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.

July 26—Work event: Lincoln School Outdoor Teaching Center 6-8:30 p.m. We will work on the native plant beds with weeding, transplanting, etc. Business meeting 8 p.m.

Aug. 25—Field trip to Dave and Betsy Randall's Wildlife Paradise, a NWF-certified Backyard Habitat and a Centennial Farm. Bring your own lunch for an 11 a.m. picnic or arrive for the noon tour. 10462 East 64th St., Reed City.

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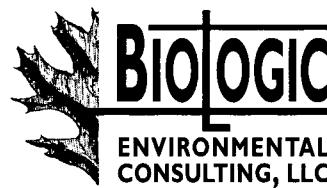
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**CALHOUN COUNTY CHAPTER****MARILYN CASE: (616) 781-8470****mcase15300@aol.com**

Meetings are usually held on the fourth Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m., at Calhoun Intermediate School District building on G Drive N. and Old US27, unless otherwise noted.

July 14—15 Wild Ones Native Plant Sale, held in conjunction with the Marshall Garden Club's Garden Tour, at the Garden Market at Ketchum Park in Marshall. 10-4 daily or 'til plants are gone.

Aug. 25 (Sat.)—2 p.m. Field trip with Kalamazoo Chapter to Denso Corporation headquarters. See description below under Kalamazoo Chapter.

**DETROIT METRO CHAPTER****CAROL WHEELER: (248) 547-7898****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**

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

**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.

July 28 (Sat.)—2 p.m. A program on backyard habitat restoration, with tours of Russ Schipper and Ilse Gebhard's home, followed by Becky and Kalman Csia's home. Program will include information about

the Audubon Society of Kalamazoo and SW Michigan Land Conservancy Programs.

Aug. 25 (Sat.)—2 p.m. Steve Allen of KNC Community Wildlife Program and Bob Pleznac of the SW Michigan Land Conservancy will lead tours of Denso Corp.'s prairie plantings at their corporate headquarters and of the SWMLC's Consumers' Energy Prairie Preserve. This is a joint field trip with Calhoun County Wild Ones.

**OAKLAND COUNTY CHAPTER****MARYANN WHITMAN: (248) 652-4004****maryannwhitman@home.com**

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

**SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN CHAPTER****SUE STOWELL: (616) 468-7031****ERIN JONES & NATE FULLER: (616) 926-4691****sarett@sarett.com**

Meetings are held the third Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m., Sarett Nature Center, unless otherwise noted. Check chapter web page for updates: [www.forward.org/swmich/index.html](http://www.forward.org/swmich/index.html).

July 18—6:30 p.m. Potluck party at Limberlost Nursery, 5625 Riverside Rd., Coloma. An opportunity to get together and share ideas on native landscaping. Bring dish to pass and a full place setting.

August—Field trip to Indiana; join us for a day exploring natural areas such as Hoosier Prairie and the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. Date and time to be announced; see website or call/email above.

**MINNESOTA****ARROWHEAD CHAPTER****CAROL ANDREWS: (218) 727-9340****carol\_andrews@hotmail.com**

Meetings are usually held the third Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Location will

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July 21—Tour of Sugar Loaf Cove, a restoration near Lutsen on the North Shore of Lake Superior. The project director, Terri Port-Wright, can be contacted at (218) 879-7282 by anyone interested in learning more about Sugar Loaf Cove.

August—Seed collecting and presentation on starting plants from seed. See website for details.

**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.

July—Date and time to be determined. Tour of a lakeshore property that has been landscaped for wildlife and the overall benefit of the lake.

August—Date and time to be determined. Tour of an area lake via pontoon boat to look at some lakeshore properties and discuss the various landscaping techniques seen.

**ST. CLOUD CHAPTER**

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

Meetings are usually held the third Tuesday of the month at the Heritage Nature Center, 6:30 p.m.

July—Yard tour. Meet at the Center, 6:30 p.m.; will depart from there.

August—Tour of the St. Johns Prairie. Meet at the Center, 6:30 p.m.; depart from there.

**TWIN CITIES**

MARTY RICE: (952) 927-6531  
[jcrmfr@qwest.net](mailto:jcrmfr@qwest.net)

Meetings are usually held the third Tuesday of the

month, 7 p.m., at the Nokomis Community Center, 2401 E. Minnehaha Pkwy, Minneapolis, unless otherwise noted.

July 17—Topic to be determined

Aug. 21—Planning for fall planting.

**MISSOURI**

**MID-MISSOURI CHAPTER**

LESA BEAMER: [beameral@missouri.edu](mailto:beameral@missouri.edu)

Meetings held the second Saturday of the month, 1:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Location varies.

July 7—Visits to members' home gardens to view spectacular summer blooms. Times and locations TBA.

Aug. 11—Visit potential planting sites for the fall or next year. Location(s) TBA.

**ST. LOUIS CHAPTER**

SCOTT WOODBURY: (636) 451-0850  
[swoodbury@ridgeway.mobot.org](mailto:swoodbury@ridgeway.mobot.org)

Meetings are usually held the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted; call Shaw Nature Reserve for directions and info. Public is welcome.

July 4—Laurie Nadler's home garden tour.

Aug. 1—Gateway School tour with Steve Cavin.

**NEW YORK**

**CHENANGO VALLEY CHAPTER**

HOLLY STEGNER: (315) 824-1178  
[hollystegner@hotmail.com](mailto:hollystegner@hotmail.com)

For location, date and times of meetings please contact above.

**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 Avenue, Brooklyn.

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**OHIO****COLUMBUS CHAPTER**

MICHAEL HALL: (614) 939-9273

Meetings usually held the second Saturday of the month unless otherwise noted, 10 a.m., at Innis House, Inniswood Metropolitan Park, 940 Hempstead Rd., Westerville. Meetings are free and open to the public. July 14—(Rain date July 21) Field trip to Aullwood Audubon Center & Farm, 1000 Aullwood Rd., Dayton. Admission \$4; free to Nat'l Audubon Society members. Leave 9 a.m. from Inniswood Metropolitan Park parking lot.

Aug. 11—Field trip to tour the Wildlife Gardens in Mansfield, a city lot (certified by the Nat'l Wildlife Federation) wildscaped with native Ohio flora and over 100 Eastern Box Turtles. Leave 9 a.m. from Inniswood Metropolitan Park parking lot.

**SOUTH CAROLINA****FOOTHILLS CHAPTER, CLEMSON**

KATHY KEGLEY: (864) 985-0505

July 21—Highlands Botanical Station with Karen Hall. For details contact above.

Aug. 18—State Botanical Gardens Trail, plant rescue and relocation. Contact above.

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

PHYLLIS TUCHSCHER: (715) 384-8751

toosch@tzenet.com

Meetings are usually held the fourth Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m., in Rooms 1&2, Portage County Extension Building, 1462 Strong Ave., Stevens Point, unless otherwise noted.

July 21 (Sat.)—Special tour for members at Prairie Nursery, beginning at 10 a.m., to be followed by potluck picnic on the grounds. Carpooling to be arranged from various communities.

Aug. 18 (Sat.)—Trip to Buena Vista Prairie to view flowering plants. 1 p.m. at the information kiosk on County W.

**FOX VALLEY AREA CHAPTER**

CAROL NIENDORF: (920) 233-4853

niendorf@northnet.net

DONNA VANBUECKEN: (920) 730-3986

dvanbuecke@aol.com

Indoor meetings are held at 7 p.m. at either Memorial Park Arboretum, 1313 E. Witzke Blvd., Appleton, or the Evergreen Retirement Community, 1130 N. Westfield St., Oshkosh.

July 28 (Sat.)—Caravan tour. A guided walk with Dr. Neil Harriman on the boardwalk at the Spruce Lake Bog State Scientific Area in eastern Fond du Lac County. Meet at the Kmart parking lot on Hwy 41 in Oshkosh, 9 a.m.

Aug. 23 (Thurs.)—Outdoor workshop on "Designing a Natural Landscape." Members will help Rick Buser design and lay out a prairie restoration area near his home; 7 p.m. See 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., except in summer.

July 18—Yard tour. See local chapter newsletter for directions.

Aug. 15—Prairie plant ID program and walk. Sunnyside School, Sobieski. See chapter newsletter for directions.

**MADISON CHAPTER**

LAURIE YAHR: (608) 274-6539

yahrkahl@aol.com

Meetings will be held at Olbrich Botanical Garden, 3330 Atwood Ave., Madison, at 7 p.m. unless other-

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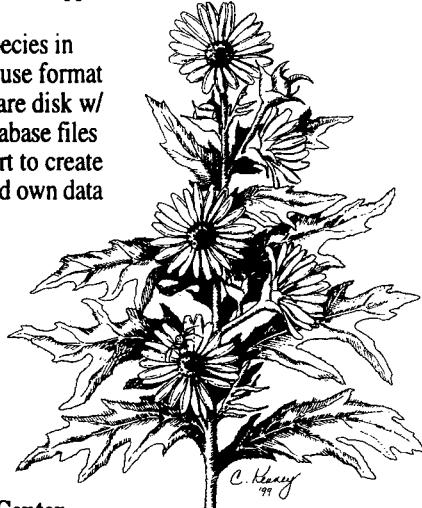
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wise noted. The public is welcome.

July 26—Tour of Joe & Linda Jackson's prairie. Leave Fitchburg Community Center parking lot, 5510 E. Lacy Rd., at 6:30 p.m.

Aug. 12—Joint tour with the Audubon Society, highlighting native trees and shrubs; place and time TBA.

Aug. 23—Regular meeting (tentatively scheduled). Topic: Worms and soil invertebrates. For details contact above.

## MENOMONEE RIVER AREA CHAPTER

JAN KOEL: (262) 251-7175

JUDY CRANE: (262) 251-2185

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

July 17—Mini-golf Social at The Ranch's course. Fun and prizes!

Aug. 21—Yard tour at Amy Welch's home, W260 N5500 Glen Ridge, Sussex (west on Richmond at 164). 7 p.m. or carpool from The Ranch at 6:30; to be announced.

## 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.

July 14—Meet at the Center at 9:30 a.m. to carpool to visit Shirley Gay's natural yard in Sussex.

## 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.

July 14—12:30 p.m. Meet at Wehr Nature Center to carpool to a natural yard in Sussex.

Aug. 22 (Wed)—6:30 p.m. Annual "Night Out at Wehr" tour of the prairie, with an emphasis on asters.

## ROOT RIVER AREA CHAPTER

CARLA FREEMAN: (414) 382-6415  
carla.freeman@alverno.edu

All meetings are held from September through May, the first Saturday of the month, 1:30-3 p.m. at Riverbend Nature Center in Racine, unless otherwise noted.

July & August—Activities to be announced, or contact Carla (above) or Nan at nj@execpc.com.

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—Oliver Wendell Holmes

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Please see page 15 of the original *Wild Ones Handbook* and page 13 of the *Wild Ones New Member Handbook* for a brief refresher on the rest of guidelines by which Wild Ones abide.

It is sad we have to rescue a vital part of our environment from certain destruction, but, as Wild Ones, it is our privilege to be able to do so. Have a safe, but lawful plant-rescue season.

—Donna VanBuecken  
Executive Director

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