

a voice  
for the natural  
landscaping  
movement



# Wild Ones®

NATIVE PLANTS, NATURAL LANDSCAPES

## JOURNAL

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VOL. 16, NO. 1

### inside

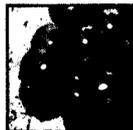
President's Notes, 2



Seeds for Education:  
School Grounds Replanted  
with Natives, 3

Board Modifies Name,  
Adopts Mission  
Statement, 4

Lawns Beat Crop Circles  
As Curious Phenomena, 5



Native Plants for Winter  
Bird Food, Shelter, 6



Restoring Shorelands:  
A Growing Solution, 8



Vegetation Changes as  
Temperatures Rise, 10

About the *Journal*, 11

Book Reviews:  
Great Winter Reading: The  
Sara Stein Trilogy, 12



Spicebush - A Native  
Jewel for the Home  
Landscape, 14

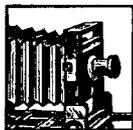
Oh, Deer. Readers  
Respond, 15



The Grapevine, 10

On the Horizon, 16

The Meeting Place, 17



Time to Start Snapping!  
Photo Contest, 20

*We Wild Ones members often focus on prairies, woodlands, or our own backyards when we think about landscaping with native plants, even though our mission is to encourage the use of natives in all types of landscapes. This is an example of a project, still in the planning stages, which incorporates native plants into an urban streetscape as part of a most interesting and creative way to manage storm water run-off. We'd love to hear more about projects such as this one.*

## Growing Vine Street

by Maryann Whitman

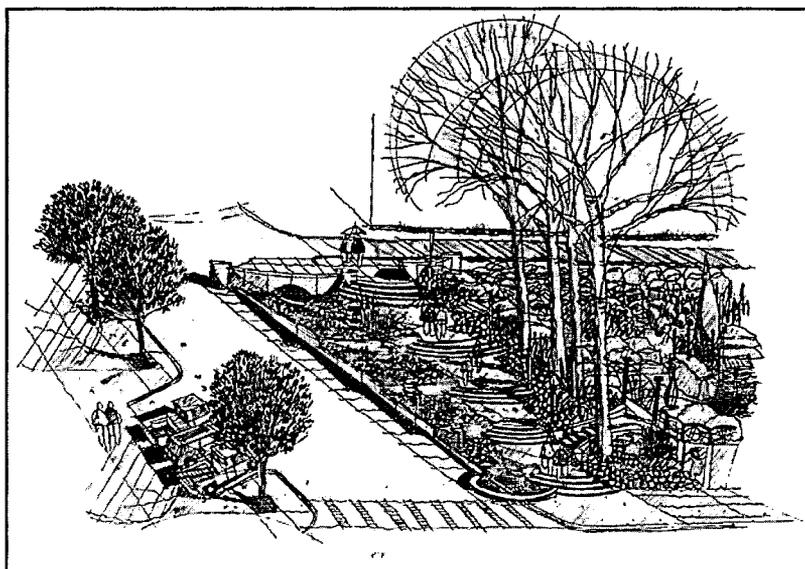
**W**ith creativity that would challenge the best Rube Goldberg inventions, eight blocks of Vine Street, in the old Belltown section of Seattle, at the core of the Pacific Northwest's most densely populated neighborhood, is taking seriously its designation by the City of Seattle as a "Green Street." When Carolyn Geise, an architect and developer of a 1914 factory building on Vine Street, could not ascertain what this designation meant, she and her neighbors invented their own answers.

With Geise as chair of the Growing Vine Street Project's steering committee, the group considered the problems plaguing any urban environment — polluted water, polluted air, polluted soil — and found their solutions in the basic principles of ecology and natural processes. The Belltown P-Patch (a Seattle term for "community garden"), with its greenery and fanciful artwork set the tone for the group. The steering committee embarked on a course of grant writing, designing, and brainstorming that drew on the talents of every member. The goal was not to come up with a fixed design but rather to develop a design concept; a kit of parts, to guide development over the years and one that would permit individual property owners to be creative in the stewarding of their communal environment.

Vine Street is to be a laboratory and a celebration of water, bringing the serenity of nature to the heart of the city. Carlson Architects was hired as the architectural firm of record, bringing into the picture Peggy Gaynor, landscape architect and native plants person; Buster Simpson, an environmental artist of some renown; and planner Greg Waddell, as project manager and shepherd.

*Continued, p. 3.*

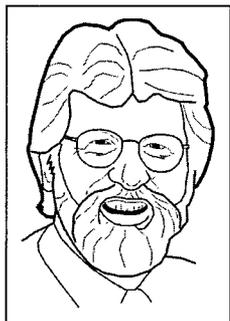
*An artist's rendering of what Vine Street could look like if Seattle, Washington's Vine Street project becomes reality. The project includes native plants and creative ways to manage storm water run-off.*



## President's Notes...

# Developing a Mission Statement; Creating Partnerships

It seems that my message in the last issue struck a note with several of our members. I have heard from many readers who shared their own first steps in using native plants in their particular circumstances. The bottom line is that they are using native plants in their landscaping efforts, and they are working their way toward harmony with nature, not that they have gone totally native. That is how we are going to change our landscapes, one small step at a time. Thank you to all who responded!



In this issue you will read about an exercise that the National Board of Directors has completed in reconsidering what we should call ourselves and redefining our mission statement. Some of you may not see much difference in the final product. What is important, however, is that the Board has reconfirmed our name as Wild Ones! I know the legal name is "Wild Ones: Native Plants, Natural Landscapes," but most of us will shorten that to Wild Ones in our conversations, as we have for the last 23

years. Many of us have found that calling ourselves Wild Ones has been a catalyst in our conversations with others about the use of native plants. Equally so, Wild Ones, as an organization, continues to be a catalyst in the native landscaping movement.

Recently I met with David DeKing (executive director) and Cheryl Lowe (horticulture director) at the New England Wildflower Society (NEWFS) to compare notes about our organizations. Both organizations are committed to the preservation of our native plant heritage, each in its individual way, and are committed to protecting the natural environment. Based on those discussions, I believe that we have very complementary missions. Wild Ones looks forward to identifying ways that we can work cooperatively with NEWFS and other regional wild flower societies in educating the public about our native plant species and advocating environmental responsibility.

It is essential to our children and their children that we address the environmental questions of our time. We cannot continue, as others have in the past, to ignore the consequences of our actions. As individuals, by taking our own steps, as an organization, by continuing to advocate a more natural approach to shaping our landscape, and by reaching out to like-minded organizations in sharing our belief for a better tomorrow, we will leave a better legacy for our descendants.

JOE POWELKA

Wild Ones Natural Landscapers, Ltd. promotes environmentally sound landscaping practices to preserve biodiversity through the preservation, restoration, and establishment of native plant communities. Wild Ones is a not-for-profit environmental, educational, and advocacy organization.

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### ADDITIONAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Seeds for Education artwork on p. 3 by Judy Catlin, Fox Valley Area (WI) Chapter

From p. 1

## Vine Street...

One of the design's principal features is the capture, detention, and biofiltration of rainwater, no easy feat in a setting of permeable and impermeable surfaces in all the wrong places. But the design did have one or two facts of nature working for it: storm water arrives on a roof of its own accord; and, water flows downhill. This eight-block

section of Vine Street has plenty of roofs, and some wonderful slopes in its street surface, all leading to Elliott Bay and Puget Sound.

On the roof of Geise's development, the 81 Vine Building, is a "demonstration lab," aspects of which other owners along Vine Street may choose to copy. The storm water that falls on the roof is channeled through an artificial wetland contained in large, artistically dissected, galvanized culvert pipes, a Buster Simpson design. In the

marshy medium that begins the filtration process grow blueberries, Oregon grape, and willows, all native to the Pacific Northwest.

The corrugated, galvanized downspout from the roof is designed to do more than simply carry the water to street level. It can best be described as being tied in bows, with protruding, upturned elbows here and there, out of which sprout more native plants. As the water obeys gravity, it is filtered further and oxygenated.

Another of Buster Simpson's creations is the "beckoning cistern" a complex of pipes designed to permit the controlled release of storm water into a runnel, which will be planted with native wetland species. The runnel or bio-swale will be arranged in a series of broad curves slowing the flow of water down the hill, through a series of planted basins, and drains. Each step will be another in the native plant bio-filtration process, and will represent another part of the natural habitat that will be created.

The master plan of "Growing Vine Street," as this project has been named, describes the process this way: "An ultimate goal of the runnel is to provide bio-treatment of storm water from the Vine Street 'watershed' to a degree that the storm water, under normal storm conditions, may be discharged directly into Elliott Bay rather than into the combined metro sewer system."

Geise, the main catalyst for community engagement in the project through its eight years of development, explains that the eventual lessening of the load on the metro sewage treatment plants will be one of the project's main benefits and won it some important bureaucratic support. When the plan was first presented to the city in 1998, the design was completely alien to the departments responsible for developing the street right-of-way. The permitting process has been a slow one, but Geise seems to take it cheerfully in stride. She sees herself as the project's "continuing thread over time" and is eager to share credit with all the talented people who worked on it.

Since its publication, the Growing Vine Street design has drawn significant critical acclaim, including the 1999 Awhahnee Award from a coalition of agencies and organizations that advocate sustainable design and smart growth. ♻️

*Maryann is a member of the Oakland (MI) Chapter and serves on the national Board of Directors.*

## Wild Ones Seeds for Education: School Grounds Replanted with Natives



After the Arbor School of Arts and Science, in Tualatin, Oregon, received a Seeds for Education grant, Students, staff, and parents at the private school lost no time in getting to work. Over the years, non-native plants had invaded the property and previous owners had planted ornamental shrubs in what is now the school's Saum Creek Woods.

In the fall of 2001, students began the difficult task of removing invasive species. Through the rest of the school year, students were joined by Ameri-corps volunteers, parents, and local environmentalists as they replaced the invasives with native plants.

Almost 400 hours were spent restoring the woods during the 2001-02 school year. Over 540 native shrubs and 220 trees were planted on the grounds — representing a giant step forward in reclaiming a natural area.

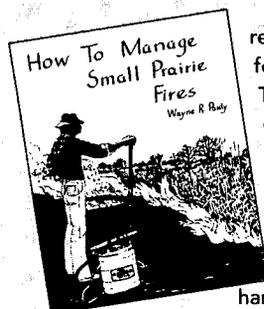
In the future, when today's students bring their own children back to Arbor School, they will be able to point with pride to the work they did "way back when we were kids."

*For more information about the Lorrie Otto Seeds for Education Program, please contact the national Wild Ones office or see the website, [www.for-wild.org](http://www.for-wild.org).*



*Arbor School students get ready to plant a native pine tree on the school grounds.*

## Before you burn your prairie...



*How to Manage Small Prairie Fires* was written in 1982 and revised in 1988 by Wayne R. Pauly, Dane County (WI) Naturalist, for the county's Environmental Council and highway department. The booklet is divided into six chapters: What, when, and how often to burn; Equipment (including proper clothing); Weather conditions and controlled fires (including contacting neighbors); Firebreaks; Conducting a simple burn; and Hazards. The appendix explains how fire stimulates prairie plants and how it controls some weeds. This excellent resource is available from the Wild Ones store for just \$7 — and that includes shipping and handling. See p. 2 for contact information.

## Strategic Planning Results:

# Board Modifies Name, Adopts Mission Statement

by Portia Brown, Mission/Name Committee Chairperson

After nearly nine months of hard work, the Mission/Name Committee recommended that the Wild Ones name be modified to "Wild Ones: Native Plants, Natural Landscapes;" that three standard slogans be approved for use interchangeably; and that a new mission statement be adopted. The Board of Directors accepted the recommendations and the new logo wording is now being used in the *Journal's* masthead. It will appear on other materials as they are replaced.

### New mission statement

*Wild Ones: Native Plants, Natural Landscapes promotes environmentally sound landscaping practices to preserve biodiversity through the preservation, restoration, and establishment of native plant communities. Wild Ones is a not-for-profit environmental, educational, and advocacy organization.*

While the basic thrust of the mission remains the same, the committee felt that this version will be at once clearer, more concise, and a better reflection of Wild Ones' true mission as the organization has evolved to what it is today. The new statement clarifies that our interest is in preserving, restoring, and establishing "native plant communities" — a somewhat broader scope than indicated by the old mission statement. The mission statement's last sentence further identifies Wild Ones as an organization which educates people about the value of native landscaping and advocates the use of native plants in all types of landscapes.

### Wild Ones: Native Plants, Natural Landscapes

We will now call our organization Wild Ones: Native Plants, Natural Landscapes in order to emphasize our interest in native plants. The legal name will continue to be Wild Ones Natural Landscapers, Ltd. but the new "public" name should help people to understand our overall mission more readily. The logo will be modified to reflect the change.

The Board has also formally decided that chapters may now use the following three slogans interchangeably,

following the name Wild Ones, to suit the focus of their materials and events:

- Promoting Native Plants for Natural Landscapes;
- Toward Harmony with Nature; or,
- A Voice for the Natural Landscaping Movement.

### Background

The Mission/Name Committee was formed in response to one of the top ten action items identified during the national strategic planning retreat held in February, 2002. The committee was charged with examining the organizational mission with an eye to clarifying and possibly expanding our actual mission. The committee was also asked to consider a related issue, the name: Wild Ones Natural Landscapers. Some thought the term "Wild Ones" was frivolous, offensive, or misleading, while others felt

### Serving on the Name/Mission Committee were:

Portia Brown\*, chairperson, Louisville (KY)  
Carol Andrews, Arrowhead (MN)  
Patricia Armstrong, Greater du Page (IL)  
Mark Charles, Ann Arbor (MI)  
Dan Dieterich, Central Wisconsin (WI)  
Lorraine Johnson\*, partner-at-large,  
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Steve Maassen, Fox Valley Area (WI)  
Mariette Nowak\*, Milwaukee-SW/Wehr  
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Mary Paquette, Menomonee river Area  
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Mandy Ploch, Milwaukee-North (WI)  
Joe Powelka\*, Madison (WI)  
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Bret Rappaport, Lake-to-Prairie (IL)  
Lynn Schoenecker, Milwaukee-SW/Wehr  
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Tom & Nancy Small, Kalamazoo (MI)  
Christine Taliga, partner-at-large (IA)  
Craig Tufts, partner-at-large (VA)  
Donna VanBuecken\*, Fox Valley Area (WI)  
Maryann Whitman\*, Oakland (MI).  
Karin & Klaus Wisiol, Lake-to-Prairie (IL)  
Marilyn Wyzga, partner-at-large (NH)

\*These writers compiled all the suggestions and developed a series of statements that could then be voted upon by the committee.

that the term "landscapers" sounded too much like a private business.

The committee received terrific input from numerous chapters and individual members, all of which was considered before the committee presented its report at the July national Annual Meeting in Columbus. The discussion following the presentation was excellent and included ideas expressed by not only Midwest and Mid-Atlantic chapter members but also by partner-at-large members from several northeastern states.

After allowing time for additional input, a mission/name writers group formed to consolidate ideas and finalize recommendations. The recommendations were adopted by the entire committee and presented to the board for action at the fourth quarterly board meeting.

Based on member input, the committee's major discussion points included:

- Keeping "Wild Ones" in the name and adding a clarifying phrase;
- Avoiding sounding like a business;
- A reluctance to embrace and define all aspects of sustainable living as part of our mission;
- Incorporating urban and rural, public and private, existing and newly designed landscapes into the overall mission;
- A realization that while we share interests with native plant societies, our organization has a different, somewhat more active and less academic, focus;
- Creating a short mission statement and catchy slogan to satisfy immediate strategic planning goals.

The committee thanks everyone who voiced ideas, suggestions, and opinions along the way. We received literally hundreds of e-mails, letters, and comments. Your input was our guide — we couldn't have done it without you. ☘

*Portia is president of the Louisville (KY) Chapter and secretary of the national Board of Directors.*

# Lawns Beat Crop Circles As Curious Phenomena

by Ellen Goodman

I've never been especially taken with extraterrestrial activity. There are quite enough terrestrials to feed my fantasies without going intergalactic.

You want aliens? Consider the northern snakehead fish from China that was walking around behind a Dunkin' Donuts in Maryland. You want scary? Consider the giant hogweed from the Caucasus that is now causing blisters in Massachusetts. You want aggressive? I give you the purple loosestrife coming soon to a neighborhood near you.

As for crop circles, I never even thought of them before they turned up on the Pennsylvania farm where the corn is growing as high as Mel Gibson's eyebrow.

"Signs" of the times? If I were doing a horror film, it wouldn't be about navigational graffiti on the back forty. I'd start with a benign aerial view of a suburb — manicured oddly and uniformly in rectangles. I'd close in ominously on a shot of a single blade of, gasp, grass.

To me the most verdant mystery on the national landscape isn't about little green men but about the little green spaces. It's the bizarre drama of the great American lawn.

Once upon a time the only lawns in the world were created by sheep. The father of the lawn as we know it was a mid-18th century British landscaper, Lancelot Brown, who got nicknamed "Capability" because he described every country estate as having "a great capability for improvement."

Our forefathers, nature's imperialists, wanted to make New England look like Olde England and then make the West look like the East. They went about wiping out the natives and replacing them.

So my lawn thriller would have something for every audience. Conspiracy theorists? Lawns were promoted by the combined efforts of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the U.S. Golf Association and The Garden Club of America, which held contests all over the country to make Americans turn their yards into putting greens.

Got a military-industrial complex? The horror story reaches its climax after World War II when the Cold War rhetoric was used to sell lawn care as a military operation. There were articles comparing crab grass to Fifth Columnists. There was "Weed-A-Bomb" and "Weed Gun," and one pesticide was advertised, I kid you not, as "the atomic bomb of the insect world."

Baby-boomer suburban dads "were sold on the whole idea of power tools and chemicals and poisons and weapons of mass destruction," says Virginia Scott Jenkins, author of "The Lawn: A History of an American Obsession." Men were told, "They had the power of protecting their lawn from alien invaders and beating Mother Nature to a standstill."

Finally, do you prefer battles of the sexes? Lawnkeeping was and is mostly a guy thing. "Maybe riding around on lawnmowers," muses Yale environmental professor Gordon Geballe, "is like leaving pheromones around, marking your territory. It says my life is in order, my lawn is green, I'm the squire of the village."



Cartoon reprinted with special permission of King Features syndicate.

On a more humble scale, mowing is to housekeeping what grilling is to cooking.

And you think our lives haven't already been taken over by an alien?

Last weekend, millions of Americans went to the movies to see a father and fallen away minister defend his family and recover his faith in a war of worlds. But every weekend, millions more rev up their lawnmowers, their weed-whackers and edgers, and spend hours defending their families from crab grass and the disapproval of the neighbors.

In one weekend, we spent \$60 million on "Signs." But in one year we spend \$25 billion on 20 million acres of a crop that we can't eat, wear, or sell. We use 32 million pounds of pesticides, 580 million gallons of gasoline, and more water than we shower on ourselves in order to color and keep the grass green.

Somehow I don't think this is what Walt Whitman meant when he wrote, "I believe a leaf of grass is no less than the journey-work of the stars."

"Beating Mother Nature to a standstill" doesn't seem like a great idea any more. The great divide these days is between industrial lawns and "freedom lawns." It's between the manufacturers trying to raise genetically altered grass that won't grow and the folks who just want to let it go. It's between the zoning covenants that demand green and a community that pays "cash for grass." It's between people who grimace at dandelions and people who applaud the sign declaring that a liberated lawn is a bird sanctuary.

My movie? It would be about the struggle with an alien species that forced humans into slavery while it took over 20 million acres of land. If it works, I even have a sequel in mind, a terrestrial thriller for autumn titled "The War of the Leaf-Rakers."

Mel, sweetheart, have your people call my people. ☘

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# Native Plants for Winter Bird Food, Shelter

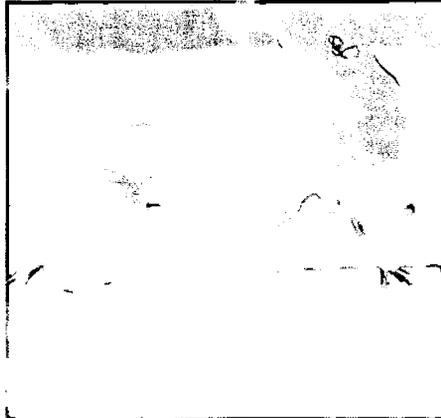
by Michael R. Hall

As do all living things, birds have three main requirements: food, shelter, and water. The more of these you are able to meet during the winter, the greater the number of birds (and species) you will be able to attract to your property during the months when such resources may be the most difficult for birds to obtain.

Birds eat snow for moisture. However, when there is no snow or open water, a small heater in a bird bath will act as a magnet, drawing winter birds to your yard.

Because shelter from winter winds is important to birds, especially near feeders, experts recommend that 8 to 12 percent of the plants in your yard should be evergreens. Fortunately, every region has native evergreens that grow well. To shelter a bird feeder (or your yard), plant your evergreens on the side of the feeder (or yard) that faces the prevailing winds in winter (usually the west and north). Evergreens also make great nesting sites and often provide food for many species as well.

A shrubby zone can also help provide shelter and may be created in several ways, depending on the location of your feeders and the size of your yard. A zone of shrubs alone should be at least six feet wide and may include a variety of species.



*A cedar wax-wing does not appear to be too eager to share a heated bird bath on snowy December day in Wisconsin.*

If you have enough room, you might build a protective mound of earth, planted with shrubs on the side away from the prevailing winds. (Make sure you don't create drainage problems for your neighbors.)

A third approach, often used around rural homes, is to plant a wind break with taller trees in back, moderately tall, shade-tolerant evergreens (such as white pine) next, and shrubs in front. If you don't have much land to work with, use narrower evergreens such as spruce or arborvitae, but these will need more sun. Most evergreens require good drainage and should be planted high if possible. Check the plants' individual requirements before making your selection.

A loose brush pile can also provide winter shelter as well as protection from predators for birds and other creatures. Start with logs at the base and build a pyramidal structure with small openings at each level. The wildlife openings should be too small for cats, foxes, or coyotes to enter.

The overwhelming majority of berries ripen in late summer or early autumn, just in time for birds to fatten up for migration or winter. Berries and seeds with high fat (lipid) content are especially

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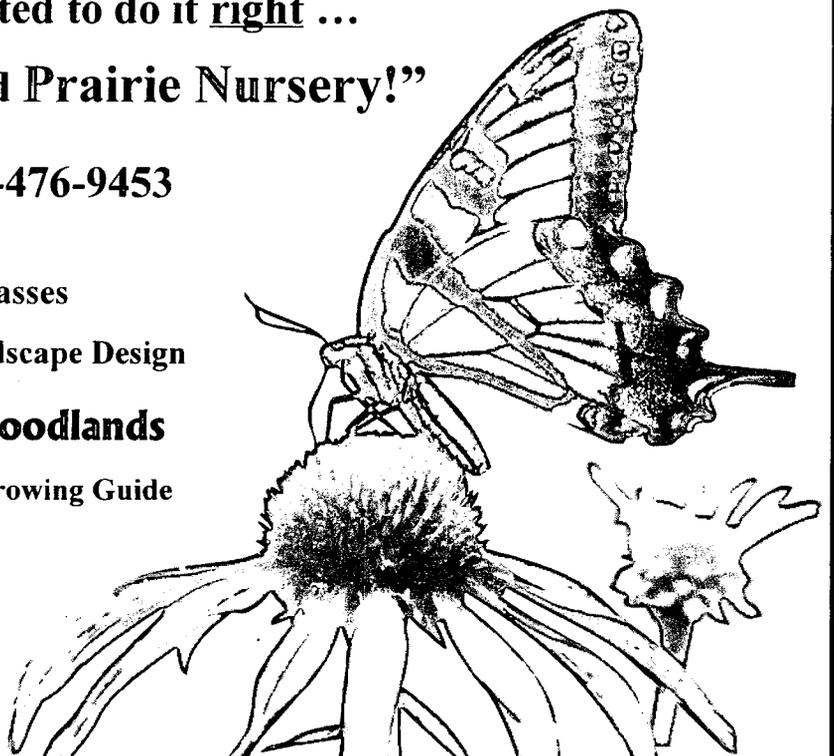
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American high-bush cranberry, *Viburnum trilobum*.

desirable sources of migratory fuel. Native plants high in lipids in later summer/early autumn include spice bush (*Lindera benzoin*), sassafras (*Sassafras albidum*), dogwoods (*Cornus* genus), and native magnolias, including the cucumber tree (*Magnolia acuminata*).

Another way to feed birds naturally in winter and early spring is to plant a lit-

tle prairie garden in your yard and leave the seed heads standing upright until early spring. This will also help protect beneficial insects such as butterflies that over winter in or on your plants. Mowing (or burning) in autumn will deprive birds of this important winter food source.

Of course, bird feeders will attract birds closer to view. Birds most need supplemental feeding in late winter or early spring or when heavy snow covers the ground. Screen mesh placed a short distance from your windows will help keep birds from flying into the glass.

Some of the plant foods mentioned in the list below will be consumed greed-

ily by birds while others, such as chokeberries, will only be eaten as emergency foods if all other resources are exhausted. Enjoy feeding your birds in winter. Your plantings will benefit many other small creatures as well. ❁

**Sources:** *The Bird Garden* by Stephen W. Kress, National Audubon Society, 1995; *Songbirds In Your Garden*, by John K. Terres, Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill, 1994.

*Michael is the president of the Columbus (OH) Chapter.*

A few of the many native plants which will provide winter food and shelter for birds. Additional natives attractive to birds may also be available in your area. Please choose species native to your particular ecoregion. For more information, see the Audubon Society's website, [www.audubon.org](http://www.audubon.org).

### Evergreens

Pines: white pine, *Pinus strobus*; red pine, *P. resinosa*; pitch pine, *P. rigida*; Virginia pine, *P. virginiana*

Spruce: white spruce, *Picea glauca*; red spruce, *P. rubens*; black spruce, *P. mariana*

Northern red cedar, *Juniperus virginiana*  
Eastern arborvitae, *Thuja occidentalis*  
(limestone soils)

Notes: Northern red cedar is an alternating host for the rust which affects hawthorns, apples, and amelanchiers, all of which are in the same family, and should be planted at least 20 feet away from these species (one mile from apple orchards). Your neighbor's plantings may thus limit your choices somewhat. Rust-resistant varieties of apple and hawthorn may be available for your ecoregion.

### Vines

Virginia Creeper, *Parthenocissus quinquefolia*

American bittersweet, *Celastrus scandens*  
Needs both male and female plants in order to set fruit.

### Ground covers

Bearberry, *Arctostaphylos uva-ursi* (acid soils)

Cowberry, *Vaccinium vitis-idaea* (acid soils)

Crowberry, *Empetrum nigrum*

Wintergreen checkerberry, *Gaultheria procumbens*

### Shrubs

Snowberry, *Symphoricarpos albus*

Coralberry, *Symphoricarpos orbiculatus*

Red chokeberry, *Aronia arbutifolia*

Black chokeberry, *Aronia melanocarpa*

Hollies: *Ilex glabra*; *I. laevigata*; *I. verticillata*

Sumacs: 3-leaved sumac, *Rhus trilobata*; staghorn sumac, *R. typhina*; smooth sumac, *R. glabra*

Viburnums: American high-bush cranberry, *Viburnum trilobum*; blackhaw, *V. prunifolium*; mapleleaf, *V. acerifolium*; withered, *V. cassinoides*

Northern bayberry, *Myrica pensylvanica*

Roses: pasture rose *Rosa carolina*; wild rose *R. virginiana*; other native roses

### Small trees

Dogwood: pagoda, *Cornus alternifolia*; gray, *C. racemosa*; red-osier, *C. stolonifera*; flowering, *C. florida* (prone to fungal disease, plant in windy, sunny open areas)

Ash: mountain, *Sorbus americana*; northern mountain, *S. decora*

Hawthorn: Washington, *Crataegus phaenopyrum*; cockspur, *C. crus-galli*; parsley, *C. marshallii*; fireberry, *C. chrysocarpa*; downy, *C. mollis*; single seed, *C. flabellata*. To help protect birds from predators, select hawthorns with plenty of thorns.

### Other trees

Birches: especially gray, *Betula populifolia*  
Elms: *Ulmus* species; many are subject to Dutch elm disease

Common hackberry, *Celtis occidentalis*  
Box elder, *Acer negundo* (need both male and female plants to set fruit)

Oaks: especially white, *Quercus alba*, bur, *Q. macrocarpa*, and pin, *Q. palustris*

Native crabapples: southern, *Malus angustifolia*; sweet, *M. coronaria*; prairie, *M. ioensis*

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# Restoring Shorelands: A Growing Solution

by Carmen Wagner

When natural shorelands are replaced with traditional suburban landscaping, a myriad of problems can arise. The good news is that from the Chesapeake Bay, to the Rock River in Wisconsin, to shores of the Pacific in Washington, people and communities are recognizing the benefits of natural shorelands and actively restoring them. So, how do natural shorelands benefit the natural world? (And yes, that includes humans.)

## Water quality

Native shoreland vegetation traps and filters sediment and debris from rainfall and snow melt. Depending on a variety of factors, 50% - 100% of the solid particles can settle out as plants slow sediment-laden run-off. In general, deeper shorelands (in terms of distance between plant-life and water), are more effective than shallow shorelands, and trees, shrubs, and grasses are more effective than grass alone. On slopes of less than 15%, most sediment settling occurs within the first 35 feet. Greater distances are needed on steeper slopes or where sediment loads are particularly high. To filter fine-grained sediments, such as silt or clay, more depth may also be needed.

## Aquatic habitat

Shorelands protect aquatic habitat by improving the quality of adjacent waters through shading, filtering, and moderating water flow. On cold-water fisheries (such as trout streams), trees and tall grasses shade the stream channel, maintaining cooler, more constant water temperatures, especially on small streams. Cooler water holds more oxygen and reduces stress on fish

and other aquatic creatures. A few degrees difference in temperature can have a major impact on their survival. Warm-water fisheries do not require as much shade, but the fish and aquatic insects still benefit from the cleaner water filtered through natural shorelands.

Leaves, twigs, and other organic matter from shoreland vegetation are both lunch and breeding grounds for aquatic insects. These insects in turn feed many others farther up the food chain. Besides providing insects with the food and cover they need, trees supply woody cover in lakes and streams. For example, fallen logs and branches provide places for fish to rest and hide from predators. Birds and turtles also use the woody cover along the shore as resting places and basking spots.

The rich diversity of emergent, floating, and submergent plants found just offshore provide important habitat for aquatic animals. Some fish, such as bluegills, graze directly on the leaves and stems of these aquatic plants, while ducks and other animals feed off the bugs and other delicacies found living on or beneath the plants. These shallow plant beds are also important spawning areas for a number of species of fish including bass, bluegills, and northern pike.

## Wildlife habitat

Shorelands have the unique ability to support species from both adjacent uplands and waterways. As roads and houses creep into shoreland areas, the behavior, reproduction, and survival of animals can be affected as human activities and structures degrade the surrounding wildlife habitat. Although researchers have estimated that animal habitat can be affected as far as up to 1,500 feet away from human activities and structures, it may not be realistic to expect to provide such a wide berth. But preserving and restoring shoreland vegetation can help limit the impact of these disturbances, which might include subtle changes in vegetation and animal travel patterns. In other words, how you manage your shoreline will determine how attractive it is to birds, frogs, turtles and other wildlife.

Wood ducks, for example, use trees with a minimum diameter of 14 inches (at breast height) for nesting, but prefer trees between 24 and 30 inches in diameter. Kingfishers use shrub cover along the water to conceal their broods and common loons rely on shoreland vegetation to build their mounded nests. If these vital shoreland habitats are not protected, many shoreland-dependent species including birds, frogs, mammals, and reptiles, will disappear and may eventually be lost from entire lake and river systems.



*Allowing native plants to grow along the shoreline provides privacy for humans, habitat for birds and animals, slows run-off, and stabilizes the shoreline.*

## Property values

Restored shorelands not only provide habitat, but may also increase property values. One study found that home values near stream restoration projects were worth 3% to 13% more than similar homes on unrestored streams. The perceived value of the restored streams included the enhanced shoreland buffer, wildlife habitat, and recreation opportunities resulting from the restoration. Another study found that good water quality, which natural shorelands help to protect, added as much as \$200 per frontage foot to the value of shoreland properties.

## A vision for the future

Lakes, rivers, and shorelands provide us with many benefits. Some are as simple as enjoying the view from the end of a pier, while others are more complex and less apparent, like protecting water quality and preventing shoreline erosion. Next time you take a trip to the water's edge, take a moment to appreciate the diversity and beauty found there. Whether we enjoy fishing, water-skiing, or the simple beauty of a white water lily, by protecting and restoring our shorelands, as individuals, we can help to ensure that

clean water, abundant fish and wildlife, and beautiful vistas are enjoyed for many years to come. ♻

## Additional resources

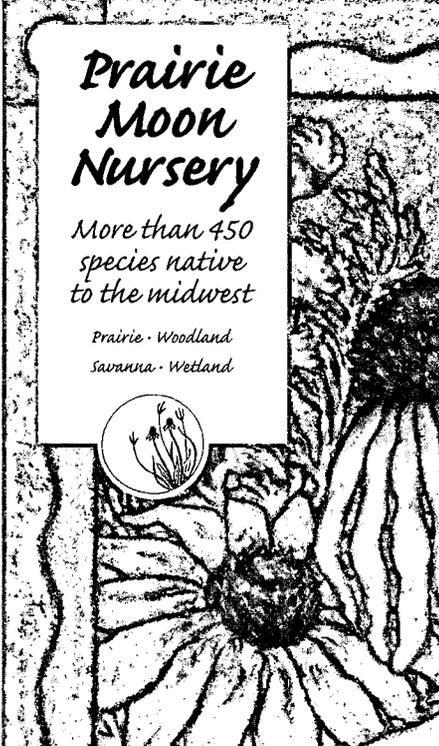
*Lakescaping for Wildlife and Water Quality*, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, 1-800-657-3757 or <http://www.comm.media.state.mn.us/bo/okstore/>

*Wetland and Stream Corridor Restoration Update*, U.S. EPA, <http://www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/restore/update/>

*Chesapeake Bay Riparian Handbook: A Guide for Establishing and Maintaining Riparian Forest Buffers*, USDA, <http://www.chesapeakebay.net/pubs/subcommittee/nsc/forest/handbook.htm>

*Carmen Wagner works for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Artwork, © Sheri Snowbank, Barronett, WI, 54813.*

For more information about native shoreline plants suitable for your ecoregion, contact the local office of your state's department of natural resources, your lake association, or, if there is one, your state's native plant society.



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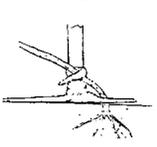
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# Vegetation Changes as Temperatures Rise

by Robert W. Freckmann

*Although the focus of this article is Wisconsin, the general issue of climate change and its potential effect on plants is one that should concern all of us, no matter where we live.*

Botanists have studied the distribution of wild plants in Wisconsin since the 1830s. The records of the original surveyors include names and measurements of the trees that served as markers near each section and quarter section corner. Their notes also described the vegetation along their surveyed lines. These surveyors' records have been used to map the distribution of vegetation before European settlement brought on major changes. Numerous papers about Wisconsin plants and plant communities have been published since then. Over a half million specimens of native and introduced plants have been collected and preserved at Wisconsin's major universities and museums. Every specimen has a label indicating when and where it was collected, thus providing a record of species movements.

Although it will take many years to enter the information from all of the specimens into a statewide database, enough information has been entered to document changes in plant distributions.

Wisconsin has about 2,600 species of flowering plants, conifers, ferns, and fern relatives in the wild. Nearly 1,900 of these species are native and were here before European settlement; about 700 species are alien. Many of the aliens are weedy species, and they spread between the mid-19th and mid-20th centuries, aided by agriculture, logging, road building, other activities accompanying settlement and development,

changing the botanical composition on farmland and in urban areas. Now we are seeing another wave of change, probably resulting from warming of the climate.

Temperatures affect plant distribution in several ways. One obvious effect of climactic warming is that many plants are moving northward. For example, narrow-leaved cattail is a species of southern U.S. marshes and first appeared in a marsh near Madison 80 years ago. It has now spread throughout the state and is often more abundant than the native broad-leaved cattail. Several other southern plants such as arrow-aram and prairie cup-grass have arrived recently and are spreading northward. Peruvian daisy, a Latin American plant that has spread northward steadily, arrived here about 30 years ago and is now one of the most abundant garden weeds.

Landscape and garden plants also seem to be responding to warmer conditions. In the last few years I have had many plants, including seven species of magnolia, bald cypress, and even bamboo, survive unprotected through the winter, even though horticultural books indicate that they are supposedly not hardy here. Crop plants such as soybeans, previously planted mostly in the southern part of the state, are now grown in central Wisconsin.

The warmth of recent years is often accompanied by drought, encouraging the spread of many plants native to the Great Plains, such as wild licorice, clammy-weed, wild begonia, velvety goldenrod, and western spiderwort, into central Wisconsin. Gumweed, native to the arid west, is becoming common, joining the very aggressive spotted knapweed from Europe in taking over dry fields.

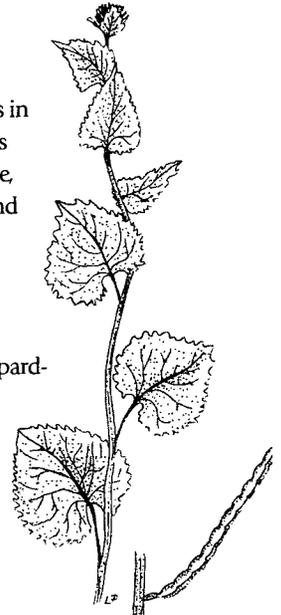
The losers in this shift to warmer and drier conditions are those cool-season plants that cannot tolerate heat. For example, turf is usually composed of cool-season grasses, which normally go dormant in hot weather (although many people try to keep them green in summer by heavy watering), while crabgrass and other warm-season grasses take over. Many of the rare or

endangered plants in Wisconsin, such as bird's-eye primrose, Lapland azalea, and lingonberry, are cold-loving relics of the post-glacial period whose survival is further jeopardized by global warming.

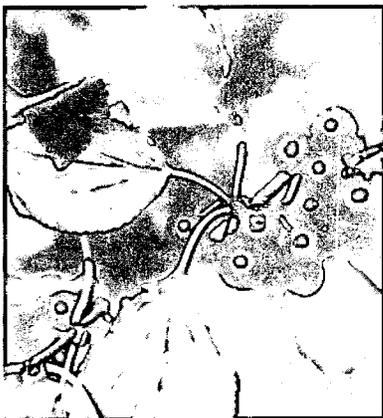
The change in recent years has not been confined to higher average summer and winter temperatures, favoring warm-season plants over the cool-season species, and allowing less hardy species to survive our winters — we now have a dramatic increase in length of the growing season, especially in the autumn.

According to our records, in the previous 30 years eight species of plants flowered in the wild in December in the Stevens Point area. But in December, 2001 we found 42 species in bloom, including henbit, cheeses, lamb's-quarters, hoary alyssum, ragwort, and speargrass. On January 27, 2002, speargrass and chickweed were back in bloom. It should also be noted that almost all of the plants taking advantage of our longer growing seasons are aliens, many of them aggressive weeds.

The lengthening of the growing season may be part of the reason for the dramatic changes in Wisconsin's broadleaf forests. The trees of these forests — sugar maple, basswood, white ash, red and white oaks, etc. — leaf out in May and drop their leaves in October. When undisturbed, these woods are carpeted in early spring with wildflowers such as bloodroot, trillium, spring beauty, Dutchman's breeches, and many others. The deep shade of summer keeps other plants in check, and the woods go dormant early in autumn. But when an extended growing season combines with logging and the introduction of



*Garlic mustard.*



*Buckthorn berries in the late fall.*

alien species adapted to longer growing seasons, the native wildflowers are replaced by garlic mustard, honeysuckle, buckthorn, and many other European species.

These extensive botanical records for Wisconsin leave little room for doubt that our vegetation is changing as our climate becomes warmer. Some people may welcome longer growing seasons, milder winters, and the chance to grow plants that were not considered hardy here. But the price of global warming will likely be the

loss of native species, especially the cool-season plants, and great increases in weedy aliens. ☘

*Robert W. Freckmann is a member of the Central WI Chapter and a professor emeritus of biology at the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point where he taught plant identification courses for 33 years. This article was published in the Stevens Point Journal (©2002) and is reprinted with permission. Drawing by Linda Pohlod, courtesy of Wisconsin DNR.*

## About the Journal . . .

Dear Wild Ones readers,

This is my last issue as the *Journal's* editor. I am retiring from the business of producing regularly-published newsletters, but will continue to take on "one-shot" projects.

I will have more time to wage the Battle of the Buckthorn in my yard and the adjoining city park. I will also be able to spend more time at our lake place in northern Minnesota where I hope to learn how to make jelly and jam from high-bush cranberries and chokecherries. And, of course, in good years, find enough Juneberries (service berries) to make pies! (This assumes we humans will be able to compete successfully with the birds.)



I have enjoyed my year as editor of the *Wild Ones Journal* and especially getting to know many of the board members and Donna VanBuecken, our executive director. What a wonderful, dedicated, knowledgeable group of people! All have devoted untold hours working to make Wild Ones Natural Landscapers a vital, nationally-known organization.

During this year, I have also come to realize that, on the environmental front, Wild Ones is a perfect example of the directive to "think globally and act locally." Every time someone helps restore a prairie or woodland, or plants a small native garden, or restores a bit of shoreland, that person is healing our environment by preventing runoff; providing habitat for birds, animals, and insects; maintaining the genetic diversity; and just plain showcasing Mother Nature's inherent beauty.

I am a member of the Fox Valley (WI) Chapter of Wild Ones and have, in a moment of great weakness, volunteered to help with future national publicity and marketing. The *Journal* Committee and new editor Fran Gustman are already hard at work, planning future issues, so the newsletter is in good hands!

From my perspective, this is not "good-bye," but rather "see you later"!

*Merry Mason Whipple*

## Other changes

Beginning with this issue, the *Journal* will no longer include chapter meeting details in "The Meeting Place." All chapters will continue to be listed, along with their regular meeting and contact information. After consulting with chapter presidents, the *Journal* Committee made this change in order to include more articles and news in each issue. Printing meeting details is no longer necessary because many chapters now publish their own newsletters and most have websites which include up-to-date information about programs and special events.

Readers will also note that advertisements are now displayed throughout more of the *Journal*, rather than being placed at the end of the publication. The *Journal* Committee felt that this would allow more flexibility in the overall layout and would also draw a little more attention to the ads themselves. Wild Ones does not, of course, endorse any of the products or services advertised in the *Journal*, but we do appreciate advertisers' support and encourage readers to contact them for more information.

These changes are just the most recent steps in the *Journal's* natural evolution as part of the Committee's and Board of Directors' on-going evaluation of Wild Ones' efforts to communicate with members and the general public. Remember, your suggestions are always welcome!

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## Book Reviews

# Great Winter Reading: The Sara Stein Trilogy

by Maryann Whitman

Although Sara Stein had written several excellent books prior to 1986 when *Weeds* was published, few of her fans know of them. Even *Weeds* is known by most fans in a retrospective sort of way; they look it up after they have read *Noah's Garden*. It was with the publication of *Noah's Garden* in 1993 that Stein became a heroine to many environmentally sensitive gardeners in the northeastern US and into the Midwest. In fact, if you are new to Wild Ones, look on the page in the Journal that lists our national officers and board members—you'll find Sara Stein listed just below Lorrie Otto in the list of honorary directors.

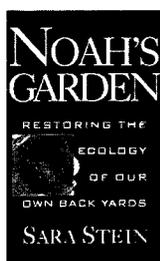
With the publication in 1997 of *Planting Noah's Garden*, Stein's accidental trilogy was complete; accidental because when she wrote each of the first two books she had no idea what a smashing success she was about to become.

*My Weeds: A Gardener's Botany*, (1988), New York, Harper & Row.

Written in 1988, this was the first of Stein's "garden" books, before she became Sara Stein, the icon. As lines on the inner flap say, "a beguiling gardening book that is a mixture of seduction and instruction; both a meditation and a manual." This book, classic Sara Stein in tone and research, is indeed "a gardener's Botany." She chose "weeds" as a convenient vehicle; everyone has some notion of weeds.

First, she defines what we mean by "weeds." (It seems this is largely a matter of aesthetics or economy.) Then she goes on to deal with weeds as if they were a poorly defined subclass of the plants, period. She guides the introductory reader through Latin binomials (botanical names); through the five kingdoms ("you are how you eat"); through reproductive strategies of plants and plant genetics; through photosynthesis and life spans; through ecological succession and human activity. For good measure she throws in tools and how to use them most effectively.

There are two very powerful paragraphs in this book for me. In my edition, the first lies in chapter 10, page 106: "I saw the creatures on the rock for what they are. They are lives within lives, interdependent." The second lies in chapter 17, titled "Weed Free," in my edition on page 211, in the paragraph that reads, essentially, "We needn't have done anything at all. ...Never weeded."



*Noah's Garden: Restoring the Ecology of Our Own Back Yards*, (1993), New York, Houghton Mifflin.

This is the book that most people cite as the one that started them thinking about natural gardening, and habitat gardening.

When, in the late '80s Stein and her husband, Marty, bought "almost six acres" of land, in up-state New York, they quickly proceeded to "clean up the place." Not long thereafter they started noticing unwelcome changes in their surroundings: the song of the bobolink became less frequent; the grouse disappeared; even the chipmunks were less plentiful. The Steins had

disposed of the very reasons they had found the acreage attractive in the first place.

With wit and clarity of thought, Stein takes the reader along on her journey of self-education and discovery. She shares her insights on such concepts as biodiversity, ecosystems, the water cycle, native plants, and why we need woodchucks. She tells the reader: "...cleverly ...the suburban landscape can be teased to control its own pests, maintain its own soil, conserve its own water, support its own animal associates, and altogether mind its business with minimal interference from us." She gives us an inkling of how this might be achieved.

The reader can take Stein at her word, accept her discoveries and go on from there—sadder, wiser, and more environmentally responsible. Or, the reader can use this book as a jumping-off place; a place from which one departs on one's own journey of self-education and discovery. With further reading, one may start to put together 2 and 2 and arrive at one's own personal sum, thereby taking ownership of concepts to which Stein introduces us.

You can read this book at one or two sittings, but I would suggest you keep it by your bedside and read a chapter or perhaps just a few paragraphs each night, and think about what you have read.



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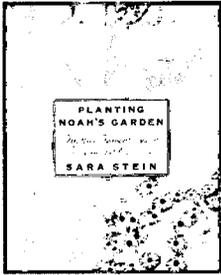
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*Planting Noah's Garden: Further adventures in backyard ecology*, (1997), New York, Houghton Mifflin

With the publication of this book Sara Stein's unintended trilogy was complete. What started out as a straightforward botany for gardeners (*My Weeds*, 1988), developed



into a three volume (*Noah's Garden* was number two) journal that spanned a decade and might fairly be called "The Education of Sara." In the course of that decade, one who was a gardener came to

appreciate ecology; learned what John Muir meant when he said, "When one tugs at a single thing in nature, he finds it attached to the rest of the world."

*Planting Noah's Garden* is actually divided into two parts. The first, subtitled "The further adventures of a Gardener-Ecologist," tells the stories of a number of people across the country who increased the biodiversity of their yards by changing their gardening practices. Chapter 4, titled "Ellen's Lot", recounts how Sara and her niece Ellen landscaped Ellen's fresh-from-construction yard in an upscale, no-fences subdivision. There are many lessons to be learned in this chapter and many new things to think about. In fact, to dive into this book feet first, start with Chapter 4 and then go back to the beginning of the book.

The second part of the book tells "How to plant Noah's Garden." A great deal of information and "how to" instructions are compiled in these 200+ pages. You might want to use this section as a reference, and skip around to the chapters that are particularly relevant to you. ☘

Maryann is a member of the Oakland (MI) Chapter and the Journal's feature editor.

Lorrie Otto, one of the founders of Wild Ones and the "grande dame" of natural landscaping, will be featured in January, 2003 issue of *House & Garden*. Look for the article "Gardeners Almanac." This is just another indication that native landscaping is, at long last, going mainstream.

Remember, we will celebrate Wild Ones' 25 anniversary in 2004. Do you have memories, photos, or stories to share? Send them to Donna VanBuecken, executive director, via phone, e-mail, or mail so we can include them in a commemorative booklet. (See p. 2 for contact information.)

## Spicebush - A Native Jewel for the Home Landscape

by Mark H. Charles

Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin* L. Blume) is an attractive native shrub that is easy to grow in the home landscape. Not only is it a handsome addition to a garden, it also supports a native butterfly, the spicebush swallowtail (*Papilio troilus* L.).

### In the natural habitat

Spicebush thrives in "cool, moist to wet, fertile, moderately shaded habitats, including beech-sugar maple forests and deciduous swamps. Best growth in muck soil of deciduous swamps on slight rises above the water table." (Barnes and Wagner, p. 319).

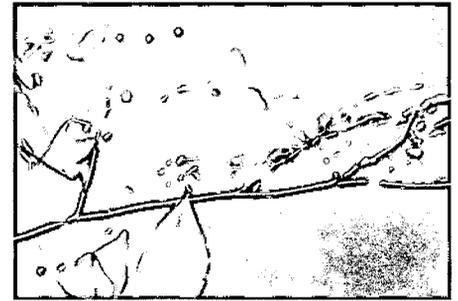
My most memorable encounter with spice bush came on a sunny day in early spring when I discovered a grove of the shrubs adorned with delicate yellow blossoms. The bushes had not yet leafed out, and the buds on the surrounding swamp white oaks (*Quercus bicolor* Willdenow) were just beginning to swell. I'd been helping to remove invasive exotic glossy buckthorn (*Rhamnus frangula* L.) from the wetland nearby, so it was exciting to find that native shrubs could re-colonize the site.

When I returned to the site in early summer, I searched amidst the fragrant, glossy leaves for butterfly larvae, but was not able to find any. Perhaps they were too well camouflaged.

### In the home landscape

Spicebush does well in the rich soil and partial shade found in many home landscapes. It fits well with woodland wildflowers and wet meadow plantings. Year-long interest is provided by early yellow blossoms, glossy, fragrant summer foliage, and small red fruit (on pistillate plants) contrasting with the bright yellow leaves of fall.

While the multi-stemmed shrubs can become tall, it seems much less prone to do so than the related sassafras. Native to the Eastern Deciduous Forest Region, from Maine to Kansas, and south to Florida and Texas, it is common in appropriate habitats in lower Michigan and southeast Ontario.



### Planting and growing tips

Spicebush plants may be obtained from nurseries that specialize in native trees and shrubs. Native genotypes are a wise choice, since they are well adapted to climate and soils in your area. Seedlings come in 1 gallon containers or 3 inch plant tubes.

Seeds may be sown directly in the fall, or may be stratified for 30 days at 77 degrees F., followed by 90 days in peat at 34 to 41 degrees or 105 days in sand at 41 degrees. Mature specimens are reportedly somewhat difficult to transplant from the wild due to the plant's coarsely fibrous root system.

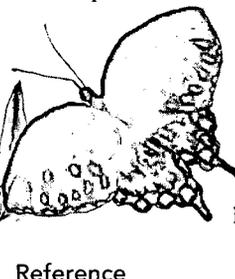
### Wildlife habitat

Spicebush and sassafras are the hosts of the spicebush swallowtail butterfly. The fruits are reportedly eaten by birds, including grouse, quail, and pheasants. ☘

### Reference

Barnes, Burton V., and Warren H. Wagner, Jr., *Michigan Trees - A Guide to the Trees of Michigan and the Great Lakes Region*, 1981

Mark is a member of Ann Arbor (MI) Chapter and is very active in the Wild Ones Seeds for Education Program. ©2002, Mark H. Charles.





# The Grapevine

by Maryann Whitman

The message and the method...

This fall the National Audubon Society reported in its annual WatchList that populations of more than 200 native species of birds show some disturbing trends. Since 1970, many songbird species have declined by 50 percent and some by as much as 70 percent.

According to the WatchList report, changes in bird populations, communities, reproductive rates, and behavior, alert scientists to alterations in habitat integrity, water quality, fishery stock health, and the presence of toxic pollutants.

Further, "The reasons for identifying species on the WatchList are not entirely altruistic," Frank Gill, Audubon's chief ornithologist, concluded. "Like the proverbial canary in the coal mine, birds are primary indicators of environmental health, and what hurts birds also hurts the people who share the same space. We should in no way take WatchList birds for granted; we should rather listen to what their declines are telling us about the ecosystems we both inhabit."

For more information, see the Audubon Society's WatchList website at <http://www.audubon.org/bird/watchlist>.

Another interesting statistic: the National Survey on Recreation and the Environment tallies 71 million Americans participating in bird watching in 2001, up 250 percent from 1982. (However you feel about it, this number also includes hunters who track game birds.)

When I read these two sets of numbers, the comic book "light-bulb" lit up over my head. We Wild Ones members have the message and the method to help these bird watching Americans, from Maine to Hawaii, become part of the solution for the declining populations of birds by providing them with habitat! And that's not counting Canadians and Mexicans!

Folks, we need to "make friends and influence people." We need to attend Audubon Society meetings and bring along Wild Ones' information about the benefits of native plants (always ask permission before you share, some might not perceive your intentions as innocent). Why stop with the Audubon Society? Let's include Sierra Club, Hardy Plant Society, Federated Garden Clubs, every naturalist's group...you get the idea. Every nature center should have a subscription to the Wild Ones *Journal* and a stack of information about Wild Ones.

Portia Brown of the Louisville Chapter tells us about her chapter's intention to attend Sierra Club's Alternative Gifts Fair and sell Wild Ones member-

ships. The Louisville Chapter takes care of the paperwork and the buyer gets a lovely woody patterned card to give to a deserving friend, announcing the gift membership. What an excellent idea!

The stack of information that I mentioned earlier should include the new Wild Ones brochure, "In Harmony With Nature—Landscaping with Native Plants." If you haven't seen it yet you're in for a treat! It says all the right things to help the reader realize that we're not discussing an academic exercise, nor a purely aesthetic one, but rather one of serious import and impact. And it does this so calmly and pleasantly that the reader can't help but hop on board. Congratulations to Lorraine Johnson (Toronto Chapter) and Babbette Kis (Milwaukee-North Chapter) and Camin Potts (Central Wisconsin Chapter) on a job well done.

See also the information on landscaping for birds on the What's New page of the Wild Ones website, [www.forwild.org](http://www.forwild.org). Those of you with web connections who haven't explored the Wild Ones website recently (like yours truly I'm embarrassed to admit), are going to be stunned by the changes. We have had some very dedicated volunteers mounting it, especially Peter Chen and David Nowak. You'll notice that the material has been written by volunteers as well, like our own Mariette Nowak.



...and now, for something completely different...(thank you Monty Python)

If you ever are in a position to handle turtle eggs, and want them to hatch, you need to know (at least) one absolutely critical thing: You must keep them in the identical orientation that you found them. No turning, no jostling, no oops-I-dropped-it-but-it-didn't-break. It seems that the turtle embryo, very early in its development, attaches to the eggshell; jostling, before another developmental stage is completed, breaks this attachment and the embryo dies.

Because of development along our ocean shorelines a number of rare ocean-faring turtles are becoming even more rare. Development affects the native dune vegetation, which subsequently affects the slope and the ability of dunes to withstand storms. Rare turtles come ashore on moonless nights and lay their rare eggs

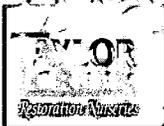
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without understanding the affects of development. Environmentalists, who do understand the affects of development, are trying to assist the turtles' survival by moving and marking the nests. To do this successfully they need to obey the no-turning commandment.

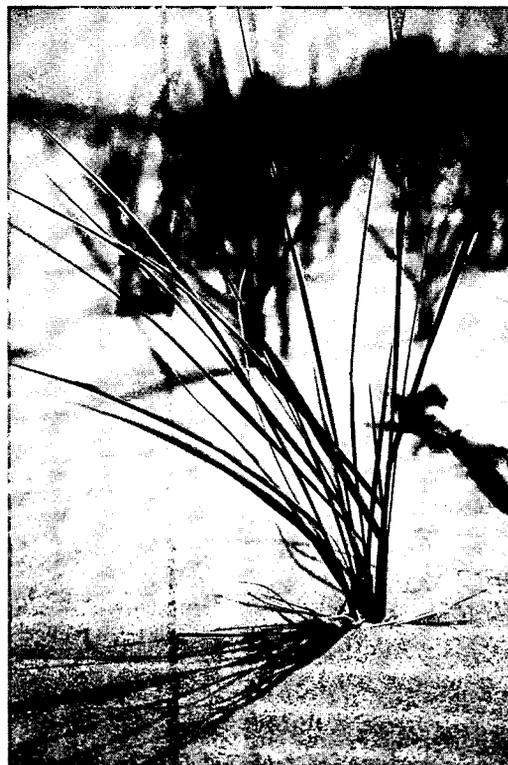
Other environmentalists are trying to stave off the degradation of the dune ecosystems by replanting hundreds upon hundreds of rootlets of dune grass, *Uniola paniculata*, which is native from Virginia southward into the West Indies. Its extensive, laterally growing rhizomes, which root readily in dry sand, permit it rapidly to colonize and establish itself; its penetrating deep roots permit it to hold fast and to find moisture where there is little; its dense surface roots trap the wind-blown sand that eventually mounds and begins dune formation.

Marram grass, *Ammophila breviligulata*, stabilizes dunes in a similar manner on the south and east shores of Lake Michigan, Saginaw Bay, Lake Huron and the eastern shore of Lake Ontario, where the prevailing winds from the north and west cause the sands on the shoreline constantly to be on the move.

Both grasses thrive in an environment in which they are constantly being buried, little by little. With the sand anchored by roots, other plants take hold and dunes grow, sometimes to heights of 30 or 40 feet. Thus, the dunes are held in place unless something destroys the plants. A particularly fierce storm can do it. People can do it by trampling the grasses or driving over them, breaking the surface rhizomes more quickly than they are regenerated. ☘

*Maryann is a member of the Oakland (MI) Chapter and the Journal's feature editor. To submit items, please contact Maryann at Wild Ones Journal, PO Box 231, Lake Orion, MI 48361 or featuresedit@for-wild.org.*

Lake Michigan dunes.



©Merry Mason Whipple

## Oh, Deer! Readers Respond. . .

Dear Editor:

As relatively new members of Wild Ones, we have enjoyed the *Wild Ones Journal* and the information it provides. Like other *Journal* articles, Sonia Uytterhoeven's "Are Deer Overeating in YOUR Garden" in the November/December 2002 issue, contained some interesting and useful facts. These included the widespread overpopulation of deer, the "Bambi factor" resistance to killing any deer, and methods that may help to minimize deer damage to one's garden.

However, a serious omission, in our opinion, was the failure to even mention the catastrophic ecological damage to woodlands and forests caused by too many deer. Overabundant deer can eliminate many shrubs and wild flowers and prevent regeneration of many native trees. This in turn decreases the ecological diversity of plants and jeopardizes the survival of small animals and low-nesting birds.

Her list of "Native Plants Seldom Damaged by Deer" suffers from the problem we have experienced with other such lists—namely, that the deer have not read the list. Of the 31 listed plants that we grow on our one-acre suburban lot, ten have been severely browsed by the deer, in spite of our deterrent efforts using nets, sprays, electric fencing, etc.

Because of the 70-90 deer per square mile in our area and the damage they do, most gardeners without the resources (physical, psychological, and monetary) to do battle with these critters have given up all efforts to continue with their previously rewarding hobby.

We all need to confront reality and the need to use lethal methods to decrease overabundant deer (and donate the meat to food pantries).

People need to be educated about the adverse effects of deer overpopulation, and humane methods for decreasing their numbers. We are attempting to do just that through a web site developed for Missouri communities and residents by People for Ecological Balance (PEBL). Please visit [www.pebl.info](http://www.pebl.info) to learn more about methods of deer management available in Missouri as well as in other states.

Sincerely,

Janet and Joe Williamson, St. Louis (KY) Chapter

*Ed. note: The problems which result from over-grazing by a too-large population of deer have been addressed in Audubon (March-April, 2002) and The New York Times (science section, Nov. 12, 2002).*



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### WILD ONES NATIONAL QUARTERLY BOARD MEETINGS

All members are invited and encouraged to attend the quarterly meetings of the national Board of Directors.

**Mar. 1:** Sponsored by Oakland (MI) Chapter; hosted by Michigan Wildflower Conference (see below).

**June 6:** Hosted by Green Bay (WI) Chapter.

**Sept. 13:** Wild Ones Annual Meeting, hosted by Shaw Nature Reserve, St. Louis, MO.

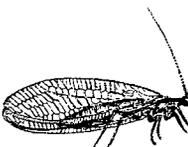
**Sept. 14:** Hosted by St. Louis (MO) Chapter.

**Oct. 25:** Hosted by Twin Cities (MN) Chapter.

Information about quarterly meetings is available from the executive director or the hosting chapter's contact person listed in "The Meeting Place."

### OTHER CONFERENCES & MEETINGS

**Jan. 18:** All day. "Toward Harmony with Nature," 7th annual conference seminar about native landscaping, Park Plaza Hotel and Convention Center, Oshkosh, WI. Sponsored by the Fox Valley (WI) Chapter; Contact Carol Niendorf, phone - (920) 233-4853; e-mail - HarmonyVII@for-wild.org.



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Keynote speaker, George Meyer, former secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Other speakers: Bob Ahrenhorster, Prairie Seed Source (a *Journal* advertiser), - prairies; Rochelle Whiteman, a Wild Ones member featured in the September/October, 2002 *Journal*, and Lorelei Allen — the natural backyard; Robert Freckman, retired University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point botanist - woodland flowers (author of article on p. 10 this issue); Tim Gutsch, owner of Great Lakes Nursery - woodland management; Andrew Hipp, graduate student at UW-Madison - sedges; Jeff Nania, head of the Wisconsin Waterfowl Association - wetlands; Rebecca Power from the Winnebago County (WI) UW-Extension - shoreline restoration; Ken Solis, Milwaukee anti-invasive species activist - community action against invasive species; and Corrine Daniels and John G. Gishnock, of Applied Ecological Services - rain gardens and low-impact yard care.

**Feb. 15:** Second Annual Thoughtful Gardener Symposium: Successful Gardening with Native Plants, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay Union, Green Bay, WI. Contact: Barbara Mc-



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Clure-Lukens, phone - (920) 465-222; fax - (920) 465-2552; e-mail - mcclureb@uwgb.edu; website - www.uwgb.edu/outreach/ProfEd. Keynote presenter: Neil Diboll, president of Prairie Nursery, Inc. (a *Journal* advertiser).

**Feb. 8:** Milwaukee Audubon Society's 23rd annual Natural Landscaping Conference, UW-Wisconsin-Milwaukee Union, 220 E. Kenwood Blvd., Milwaukee, WI. 12 sessions. Keynote speaker: Jim Uhrinak. Contact: phone - (262) 375-1565; e-mail - milwaudubon@core.com.

**Feb. 28 - March 1:** Ninth annual Ecological Landscaping Winter Conference, Boxborough, MA, west of Boston, hosted by New England Wildflower Society (NEWFS) and Ecological Landscaping Association; sponsored by NEWFS and University of Massachusetts Extension. Diverse sessions. Keynote speaker: Leslie Sauer of Andropogon Associates. Contact: phone - (617) 436-5838; e-mail - registrar@newfs.org; website - www.ela-ecolandscapingassn.org.

**March 1:** Natural Landscaping Seminar, McHenry County College, Woodstock, IL. Presented by the Wildflower Preservation and Propagation Committee of the McHenry County Defenders; co-sponsored by McHenry County College. Contact: Becki Clayborn, phone - (815) 338-0393; website - www.mcdef.org.

**March 2-3:** 16th Annual Michigan Wildflower Conference, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI. Contact: Marji Fuller, phone - (269) 948-2496; e-mail - marjif@iserv.net; website - http://www.wildflowersmich.org. The speakers include Joe Powelka, National Wild Ones president, and Marilyn Wyzga, National Wild Ones board member, as well as other Wild Ones members.

The conference will host the Wild Ones first quarterly meeting of the year at the University's Kellogg Conference and Hotel Center on March 1.

**May 15 - 17:** Southeast Exotic Pest Plant Council Annual Meeting, Campbell House, Lexington, KY. Contact: Deborah White, phone - (502) 573 2886, e-mail - deborah.white@mail.state.ky.us.

### Also of interest:

The New England Wild Flower Society is accepting applications for fellowships offered jointly by the National Science Foundation and NEWFS to advanced undergraduate and early graduate students "demonstrating potential for completing outstanding research in biology." Deadline: Feb. 5, 2003. Contact: http://www.newfs.org or Elizabeth Farnsworth, phone - (508) 877-7630, ext. 3207; e-mail - efarnsworth@newfs.org.

meet us on line at [www.for-wild.org](http://www.for-wild.org)

Chapters, please send your chapter contact information to:

Calendar Coordinator Mary Paquette  
N2026 Cedar Rd., Adell, WI 53001  
(920) 994-2505 • [meeting@for-wild.org](mailto:meeting@for-wild.org)

## The meeting place



Listed are the usual meeting times and places for Wild Ones chapters. Because special events are not included and because changes may occur, members should check their chapter's newsletter or website, or contact the person listed here for up-to-date information. Wild Ones members are invited to visit other chapters as they travel.

### ILLINOIS

#### GREATER DUPAGE CHAPTER

MESSAGE CENTER: (630) 415-IDIG  
PAT CLANCY: (630) 964-0448  
[clancypj2@aol.com](mailto:clancypj2@aol.com)

Third Thursday of month, 7 p.m., College of DuPage, Building K, Room 161.

#### LAKE-TO-PRAIRIE CHAPTER

KARIN WISIOL: (847) 548-1650

Second Monday of month, 7:15 p.m., Byron Colby Community Barn at Prairie Crossing, Grayslake (Rt. 45, about 1/2 mile south of Ill. 120).

#### NORTH PARK CHAPTER

BOB PORTER: (312) 744-5472

[bobporter@cityofchicago.org](mailto:bobporter@cityofchicago.org)

Second Thursday of month, 7 p.m., North Park Nature Center, 5801 N. Pulaski, Chicago.

#### ROCK RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER

TIM LEWIS: (815) 874-3468

Meetings at Burpee Museum of Natural History, 813 N. Main St., downtown Rockford; (815) 624-4225.

### IDAHO

#### PALOUSE (Seedling)

BILL FRENCH: (208) 883-3937

[prairiedoc@moscow.com](mailto:prairiedoc@moscow.com)

### INDIANA

#### GIBSON WOODS CHAPTER

JOY BOWER: (219) 989-9679 or

(219) 844-3188

[jbower1126@aol.com](mailto:jbower1126@aol.com)

First Saturday of month during winter months, 10 a.m., Gibson Woods Nature Center, 6201 Parrish Ave., Hammond, IN.

### KENTUCKY

#### FRANKFORT CHAPTER

KATIE CLARK: (502) 226-4766

[katieclark@vol.com](mailto:katieclark@vol.com)

Second Monday of month, 5:30 p.m., Salato Wildlife Education Center Greenhouse #1 Game Farm Rd, off US 60 W (Louisville Rd.), Frankfort.

### LEXINGTON CHAPTER

SUSAN HOFMANN: (859) 252-8148

[sillyserpent@wildmail.com](mailto:sillyserpent@wildmail.com)

### LOUISVILLE CHAPTER

PORTIA BROWN: (502) 454-4007

[wildones-lou@insightbb.com](mailto:wildones-lou@insightbb.com)

Fourth Tuesday of month. Location varies.

Contact for Wildflower Woods Saturday Work Day: Ward Wilson (502) 299-0331; [ward@wwilson.net](mailto:ward@wwilson.net)

### MICHIGAN

#### ANN ARBOR CHAPTER

JOHN LOWRY: (810) 231-8980

[john@kingbird.org](mailto:john@kingbird.org)

SHANNON GIBB-RANDALL: (734) 332-1341

[gibbrand@mich.com](mailto:gibbrand@mich.com)

Usually second Wednesday of month; see [www.for-wild.org/annarbor](http://www.for-wild.org/annarbor)

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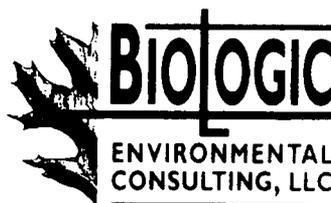
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### CADILLAC CHAPTER

PAT RUTA: (231) 745-4631

[pat\\_ruta@hotmail.com](mailto:pat_ruta@hotmail.com)

Fourth Thursday of month, 7-9 p.m., Lincoln School, 125 Ayer St., Cadillac.

### CALHOUN COUNTY CHAPTER

MARILYN CASE: (517) 630-8546

[mcase15300@aol.com](mailto:mcase15300@aol.com)

Fourth Tuesday of month, 7 p.m., Calhoun Intermediate School District building on G Drive N. at Old US27, Marshall MI.

### CENTRAL UPPER PENINSULA CHAPTER

JAMES LEMPKE: (906) 428-9580

[jlempke@chartermi.net](mailto:jlempke@chartermi.net)

### DETROIT METRO CHAPTER

ELIZABETH MCKENNEY: (248) 548-3088

[ebmck@hotmail.com](mailto:ebmck@hotmail.com)

Third Wednesday of month, 7-9 p.m., Royal Oak Library, Historical Room, 222 E. Eleven Mile Rd., Royal Oak, MI.

### FLINT CHAPTER

GINNY KNAG: (810) 694-4335

[mtknag@ameritech.net](mailto:mtknag@ameritech.net)

Second Thursday of month, 7 p.m., Woodside Church, 1509 E. Court St., Flint.

### KALAMAZOO CHAPTER

NANCY & TOM SMALL: (616) 381-4946

Fourth Wednesday of month, 7:30 p.m., Christian Church, 2208 Winchell.

*Continued next page.*

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MARK RITZENHEIN: (517) 336-0965  
mritz@acd.net  
Third Wednesday of month, 7-9 p.m., Hancock Turfgrass Research Center, MSU campus. See [www.for-wild.org/redcedar/](http://www.for-wild.org/redcedar/)

**OAKLAND CHAPTER**

MARYANN WHITMAN: (248) 652-4004  
maryannwhitman@comcast.net  
Third Thursday of month, 7 p.m., Old Oakland Township Parks/Police Building, 4392 Collins Rd., Oakland Township.

**MINNESOTA**

**ARROWHEAD CHAPTER**

CAROL ANDREWS: (218) 727-9340  
carol\_andrews@hotmail.com  
Fourth Thursday of month, 6:00 p.m. Location changes each month; see [www.d.umn.edu/~wildones](http://www.d.umn.edu/~wildones)

**OTTER TAIL CHAPTER**

KAREN TERRY: (218) 736-5520  
terry714@ptel.com  
Fourth Monday of month, 7 p.m., Prairie Wetlands Learning Center, Fergus Falls.

**ST. CLOUD CHAPTER**

GREG SHIRLEY: (320) 259-0825  
shirley198@charter.net  
Fourth Monday of month, 6:30 p.m., Heritage Nature Center.

**TWIN CITIES**

MARTY RICE: (952) 927-6531  
jcrmf@msn.com  
Third Tuesday of month except Dec., 7 p.m., Nokomis Community Center, 2401 E. Minnehaha Pkwy, Minneapolis, 6:30 p.m. social time; 7 p.m. meeting.

**MISSOURI**

**MID-MISSOURI CHAPTER**

LESA BEAMER: 882-6072  
wildonesmo@yahoo.com  
Second Saturday of month, 10 a.m. Location varies; see website at [wildones.missouri.org](http://wildones.missouri.org).

**ST. LOUIS CHAPTER**

SCOTT WOODBURY: (636) 451-3512  
scott.woodbury@mobot.org  
First Wednesday of month except Dec., 6 p.m.. Location varies.

**NEW YORK**

**NEW YORK CITY METRO/LONG ISLAND CHAPTER**

JENNIFER WILSON-PINES: (516) 767-3454  
jwpines@juno.com  
Members Room, Brooklyn Botanic Gardens, 1000 Washington Avenue, Brooklyn.

**OHIO**

**GREATER CINCINNATI CHAPTER**

KATHY MCDONALD: (513) 941-6497  
kmc@one.net

**COLUMBUS CHAPTER**

MICHAEL HALL: (614) 939-9273  
mrhallblacklick@hotmail.com  
Second Saturday of month, 10 a.m., Innis House, Inniswood Metropolitan Park, 940 Hempstead Rd., Westerville.

**SOUTH CAROLINA**

**FOOTHILLS CHAPTER, CLEMSON**

KAREN HALL: (864) 287-3294  
kcarlso@clemson.edu  
Third Saturday of month, Red Caboose, State Botanical Gardens, Clemson University.

**WISCONSIN**

**CENTRAL WISCONSIN CHAPTER**

PHYLLIS TUCHSCHER: (715) 384-8751  
toosch@tznet.com  
Fourth Thursday of month, 7 p.m., Rooms 1&2, Portage County Extension Building, 1462 Strongs Ave., Stevens Point.

**DOOR COUNTY CHAPTER**

JUDY RENINGER: (920) 854-5783  
jreninger@dcwis.com  
November - April, first Monday of month, 7-9 p.m. Location varies.

**ERIN CHAPTER**

BOB & BEV HULTS: (262) 670-0445  
Third Thursday of month, 7 p.m., Erin Town Hall, 1846 Hwy. 83, Hartford.

**FOX VALLEY AREA CHAPTER**

CAROL NIENDORF: (920) 233-4853  
niendorf@northnet.net  
DONNA VANBUECKEN: (920) 730-3986  
dvanbuecken@new.rr.com  
Indoor meetings, 7 p.m. at either Memorial Park Arboretum, 1313 E. Witzke Blvd., Appleton, or Evergreen Retirement Community, 1130 N. Westfield St., Oshkosh.

**GREEN BAY CHAPTER**

HAL SUNKEN (920) 469-0540  
hdsunken@cs.com  
Third Wednesday of month, 7 p.m., Feb. - Nov. Most meetings at Green Bay Botanical Garden, 2600 Larsen Rd., except in summer.

**MADISON CHAPTER**

SUE ELLINGSON  
ozzie@chorus.net  
Last Wednesday of month, 7 p.m. Location may vary.

**MENOMONEE RIVER AREA CHAPTER**

JAN KOEL: (262) 251-7175  
DIANE HOLMES: (262) 628-2825  
Indoor meetings second Tuesday of month, 6:30 p.m., Valley View, W152 N8130 Town Hall Rd., Menomonee Falls.

**MILWAUKEE NORTH CHAPTER**

MESSAGE CENTER: (414) 299-9888  
Second Saturday of month, 9:30 a.m., Schlitz Audubon Center, 1111 E. Brown Deer Rd., Bayside.

**MILWAUKEE SOUTHWEST-WEHR CHAPTER**

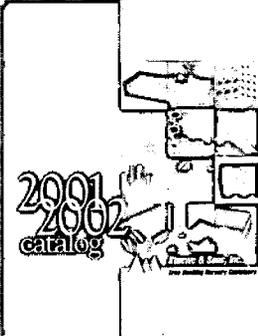
MESSAGE CENTER: (414) 299-9888  
Second Saturday of month, 1:30 p.m., Wehr Nature Center, 9701 W. College Ave., Franklin.

**NICOLET TEC (Seedling)**

DIANE WILLETTE: (715) 362-6870  
diane@bfm.org

**ROOT RIVER AREA CHAPTER**

NAN CALVERT: (262) 681-4899  
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Spirit of the Land...October 12-18  
Off the Beaten Path...October 12-18

For more information, or to request a class schedule, please contact:  
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## Wild Ones gift membership

My name \_\_\_\_\_

Occasion for gift \_\_\_\_\_

Please send a gift membership to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Please check:  new  renewal  new address

Paying for:  1 year  2 years  \_\_\_\_\_ years

*Basically Wild Annual Family Membership—\$30; Wilder Donation—\$50;*

*Wildest Donation—\$75+; Full-Time Student, Senior 65+, Disabled—\$20*

Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter preference (chapters listed in "The Meeting Place")

ENTIRE MEMBERSHIP FEE IS TAX DEDUCTIBLE

## Wild Ones membership form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

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Paying for:  1 year  2 years  \_\_\_\_\_ years

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Household \$ 30 \$ 50 \$ 75+

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*(Full-time student, senior citizen 65 and older, disabled individual — household membership: \$20 per year.)*



Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

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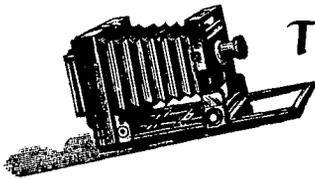


DATED MATERIAL

**Don't get stung!**

If the imprint above is dated **3/1/03** or **4/1/03** or **before**, your membership's about to expire.

YOUR TIMELY RENEWAL SAVES PAPER AND THE COST OF MAILING RENEWAL NOTICES.  
 USE FORM ON PREVIOUS PAGE TO RENEW. NOTIFY US IF YOU MOVE AS BULK MAIL IS NOT FORWARDED.



**Time to start snapping!**

No, not turtles, or rubber bands, or fingers. Get out your camera and start snapping pictures!

(And go through your file of photos taken since January 1, 2002.)

Wild Ones Natural Landscapers is holding a photo contest to give members a chance to "strut their stuff" when it comes to photos and native landscaping. The photos will be displayed and judged at the Annual Meeting on September 13 at the Shaw Nature Reserve in Gray Summit, MO (near St. Louis). Only current Wild Ones members may enter.

Deadline for receipt of submission(s) is September 12, 2003; no exceptions. Mail them to 2003 Wild Ones Photo Contest, Shaw Nature Reserve, PO Box 38, Gray Summit, MO 63039.

**Contest rules**

1. One entry per category; two entries per member.
2. Photos must have been taken on or after January 1, 2002.
3. All photos must be 5"x7" (no exceptions).
4. Photos may be in color or black and white.

5. Each print must be mounted on a matte board and then displayed through (or framed within) a beveled "window cut" in another piece of matte board.
6. A completed entry form must be affixed to the back of each entry. Entry forms may be photocopied.
7. Photographs will be judged according to the following criteria:
  - A. Technical merit: composition, sharpness of focus, depth of field, color balance;
  - B. Presentation: matte choice, neatness of mounting and matting, photo solidly mounted; and
  - C. Appropriateness to category.

**Categories**

**Flora:** Native plant specimens

**Scenery:** wood (woodland, wooded trails); prairie (dry, wet mesic, clay); water (wetlands, ponds rain gardens)

**Native insects or bugs**

**Child/Children** exploring prairies, woodlands, or wet areas

**Landscaping:** with residences as part of the subject; with businesses as part of the subject

**Wild Ones activities:** educational programs (monthly meetings, conferences, seed exchanges, seed gatherings, garden tours, etc.); public relations activities (home & garden shows, festivals, etc.); plant rescues.

**Notes**

Winners may not be selected if the judges deem the photos submitted in a specific category are not worthy of an award. Judges will be those attending the Annual Meeting who have not entered the contest.

Entries will be returned in person only to the photographer or his/her representative. Entries to be returned by mail must be accompanied by self-addressed, postage-paid packaging.

By entering the contest, each photographer will be giving Wild Ones Natural Landscapers, Ltd. permission to publish his/her photograph. With the photographers' permission, photos desired for publication will be held for future use.

For a contest form or for more information, contact Donna VanBuecken, executive director (toll-free) at 1-877-394-9453, e-mail her at photo2003@for-wild.org; or see the Wild Ones website www.for-wild.org. ☻

**Welcome, New Business Members**

Two businesses have recently joined Wild Ones. Welcome to:

- Agrecol Corp., Madison (WI) Chapter
- Hiawatha National Forest, Marquette, MI, Central Upper Peninsula (MI) Chapter.

We appreciate the support of all our business members. In the coming months, we will be introducing our business members to *Journal* readers.