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movement



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Thank You! Back Cover

Working toward our next
25 years restoring native plants
and natural landscapes.

CONTEMPORARY IDEAS

We Can Have Our Land and Share It, Too

By Michael L. Rosenzweig

There is still time. There is good reason to believe that civilization need not destroy most of the Earth's nonhuman species. The trick is to learn how to share our spaces with other species.

One thing is for sure: The constant battling and bickering between environmentalists and business interests won't work. The adversarial model makes sense for some things in our society. But when it comes to ecology and enterprise, the adversarial model surely will keep letting us down. Why?

When it comes to ecology and enterprise, the adversarial model surely will keep letting us down.

First, because we find ourselves on both sides of the argument. On the one hand, we would all like to live in a healthy, stimulating environment. But on the other hand, we all need to make a living, too! We all must live in real bodies – a corporeal existence that makes real demands on nature. We need to use the Earth's resources. We need to grow our food, mine our minerals, harvest our wood, and occupy nature's vastness. Conclusion? We cannot be unbiased champions of either side. Any competent judge would disqualify us for conflict of interest.

In addition, science now rejects the adversarial model. Recent research shows that we cannot do much ecological good simply by confining our efforts to the world's parks and wildernesses. We already knew that about air and water pollution. But scientific advances, made mostly here at the University of Arizona in the 1990s, teach us that the same thing is true when it comes to conserving wild species. If we write off the land that we use for ourselves, if we treat it as despoiled and worthless and impure, the Earth will lose almost all its species. In fact, it appears that for each 10 percent of the land we write off, life eventually will lose about 10 percent of its diversity. And "eventually" threatens to come all too soon.

But we need not write off that land. We can have our land and share it, too. I call this "reconciliation ecology." Reconciliation ecology means remodeling our habitats so that they continue to serve us but also support wild species. I believe reconciliation ecology is the best environmental news you have heard in a very long time.

Sound like a fantasy? It isn't. People often design habitats for themselves or for their enterprises and then find out that wild things also use these habitats successfully. Sometimes the sharing is accidental, sometimes quite purposeful. But sharing works. And it is very cheap.

Consider Eglin Air Force Base in Florida's panhandle. Just before the Iraq War, the United States demonstrated MOAB, the 21,000-pound Mother-Of-All-Bombs, by dropping one on a range at the base. The blast was enormous! To protect the news media from its violence, they had to witness it from 20 miles away. Eglin Air Force Base is no nature reserve. But Eglin is a crucial site for reconciliation ecology.

In the early 1990s, the Department of Defense and the Nature Conservancy teamed up to learn how Eglin could safeguard its many rare species of plants and animals. You see, Eglin was built on a massive tract of longleaf pine forest. By 1990, only 5,000 acres of old-growth longleaf pine remained in the whole USA – only 5,000 acres out of an original 90 million acres. And there are none anywhere else. Longleaf pine forest is one of the great loser habitats of the Earth, and dozens of species depend on it.



Longleaf Pine
Pinus palustris

Notes from the President...

Don't Let That New Member Sit There All Alone.

Smile and be friendly, and that new member will keep coming back.



In the last issue, and in my annual appeal letter, I asked each Wild Ones member to bring a new member into the organization. Today the need to increase our membership num-

bers and to retain current members continues. More vitally, I want to stress the importance of making those new members feel welcome at our meetings and in the organization.

Recently, a new member wrote me to indicate he would not be renewing his membership because he did not feel welcome at the chapter meetings he had attended. Education, hospitality, and encouragement are the basis of Wild Ones' success. Anything else is counterproductive to chapter health and membership growth. Every chapter member, officers especially, should make it a point to make everyone feel welcome, wanted, and appreciated at meetings.

Each member, and potential member, is important to helping Wild Ones foster a sustainable future by changing our landscaping practices one yard at a time. We

Remember your feelings as a new member. A smile and encouragement kept you coming back.

cannot grow membership and strengthen our voice if we are ignoring the very membership, both old and new, that makes who we are.

National will soon have two programs aimed at enhancing participation for new and long-time members. First is a natural landscape certification program aimed at providing a higher level of education and involvement for members who want more than the normal chapter educational programming. The initial phase of this program will extend the learning process and expand into advocacy through volunteerism and community service. The second program, already implemented in

some chapters, provides opportunities for experienced members to mentor and assist newer members. Watch for program details in future issues of the *Wild Ones Journal*.

In the meantime, remember your feelings as a new member. You were venturing into new territory. Plants and practices sounded baffling. A smile and encouragement kept you coming back. No one should feel alone or ignored at a meeting. Each person attending a meeting is important to Wild Ones as a movement. So communicate with each other. Preserve the members that we have, and encourage others to join us! ★

Joe Powelka, Wild Ones National President
president@for-wild.org

Wild Ones: Native Plants, Natural Landscapes promotes environmentally sound landscaping practices to encourage 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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Michael L. Rosenzweig is a professor of ecology and evolutionary biology at the University of Arizona, and a fellow of the Morris K. Udall Center for Public Policy. His book *Win-Win Ecology* (Oxford University Press, 2003), describes many examples of reconciliation ecology, and explains the science behind them.

The longleaf pine illustration on page 1, and the spring beauty illustration on the back cover, are from *Plants and Flowers*. (Dover Publications, Inc.)

Maryann Whitman is a member of the Oakland (MI) Chapter, and is *Journal* editor-in-chief.

The oak leaf and acorn illustrations on page 4 are from *Plants*. (Dover Publications, Inc.).

Mandy Ploch is a member of the Milwaukee North (WI) Chapter and former vice-president and *Journal* editor-in-chief.

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The photo of the fungus-covered log on page 12 was taken by **Donna VanBuecken**, Wild Ones Executive Director.

A resident of Santa Fe, New Mexico, University of New Mexico professor and consultant **Kim Sorvig** won the 2002 Bradford Williams Medal for landscape writing.

The carrion flower seeds illustration directly below this column is by **Lucy Schumann**, of the Milwaukee North (WI) Chapter.



Wild Ones 6th Annual Meeting/Conference

September 9 - September 11, 2005
St. Paul, Minnesota

Mark your calendars for Friday, September 9 through Sunday, September 11. The location is Bunker Hills Regional Park – 1,600 acres, some of which is native woodland, wetland, and savanna. RV and rustic camp site are available. Six miles of bicycle, and five miles of walking trails. Horse-drawn wagon will provide tours of the park, weather permitting. Saturday night banquet in restaurant adjoining the park. Tours scheduled for Sunday. Conference hosted by the Twin Cities (MN) chapter in Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota. E-mail Marty Rice jcrmfr@msn.com for info.

Do the Earth a Favor

Give a Wild Ones gift membership to friends, family, or anyone else who could benefit from a healthier home planet. Helping save the Earth, and your favorite Wild organization has never been so easy. For full details see the Wild Ones web site, www.for-wild.org/joining.html.



It's All One Piece: The Unraveling of an Ecosystem

Sudden Oak Death Affects More Than the Oaks

By Maryann Whitman

Big Sur, an area of California along the Pacific coast, home to dramatically rugged terrain, crashing waves, and towering redwoods, is home to a unique collection of plants and animals. It is also considered ground zero in the fight against sudden oak death.

Phytophthora ramorum is the fungus that causes the disease that is threatening California's oak trees. Like the native redwoods, the fungus thrives in the cool, moist climate of the fog belt, the ecosystem that is synonymous with Big Sur.

Sudden oak death is coupled with an invasion of exotic plants. Three plants top the list of destructive weeds in the Big Sur: Andean pampas grass (*Cordateria jubata*), cape ivy, a plant indigenous to South Africa, (*Delairea odorata*), and French broom, (*Genista monspessulana*). Other invasive plants of concern include ice plant (*Mesembryanthemum crystallinum*), poison hemlock (*Conium maculatum*),

In the July/August, 2004 issue of the *Wild Ones Journal* we reported that sudden oak death may have spread to the East, traveling on horticultural stock from nurseries in California and Oregon. Infected oaks had been reported in Pennsylvania. APHIS (Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service; a department of USDA, United States Department of Agriculture) reports that on January 10, 2005, an Emergency Federal Order took effect, establishing restrictions on the interstate movement of nursery stock out of California, Oregon, and Washington.

eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus globulus*), kikuyu grass (*Pennisetum clandestinum*), sticky eupatorium (*Eupatorium adenophorum*), yellow star thistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*), and fennel (*Foeniculum vulgare*).

Dead oaks that are not hazardous are allowed to fall naturally. Such snags provide some wildlife habitat but also increase the danger of fire. Many trees with sudden oak death break off halfway up the stump, an typical feature of the disease.

The animals of the region use the oaks for a variety of purposes, but their key benefit is the acorns they produce. Acorns are an important source of food for deer,

squirrels, wild turkeys, bears and a variety of birds, most notably the acorn woodpecker. The California spotted owl, cousin of the northern spotted owl of the Pacific Northwest, and itself a species of concern, relies heavily on the dusty-footed wood rat as food. The rat, in turn, relies on acorns in its diet.

Biologists worry that the owl species may need to be placed on the endangered-species list.

The loss of oaks creates openings in the forest canopy, allowing brush and invasive plants to take over. Using Highway 1 along the coast as an access corridor, a dozen exotic plant species have invaded the Big Sur coastline and are crowding out native plants. The millions who drive the scenic highway, and the thousands who hike the backcountry trails of the Big Sur, often unwittingly spread the seeds of the weeds in their car tires and hiking boots.

Spraying the invaders with herbicides or pulling them out by hand are the only ways to remove exotics. This is impractical or impossible in many areas of Big Sur because of the ruggedness of the terrain, so eradication efforts focus on the highway and trailheads in an effort to stem the spread.

The U.S. Forest Service is responsible for most of this affected area but is seriously hampered in its control efforts by limited budgets. This is a scenario that is repeated across the nation – too little money and not enough hands. Consider joining your local invasive plants organization and helping out on workdays.

For more information on invasives (both plant and animal) go to the Plant Conservation Alliance's web site, www.nps.gov/plants/alien/index.htm, or to www.invasive.org. ★



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A "Political Conservative" Responds to the Professors and the Once-ler

The fact is that many political conservatives are just as interested in the future of our planet as are liberals or anyone else who's paying attention.

Dear Editor,

In Janice Cook's "Conversations" article, (January/February, 2005, *Journal*), she mentions that Dr. E. O. Wilson, of Harvard, "feels that even political conservatives are interested in conservation so long as there is concrete recognition of the problems, understanding of the steps for a solution, education of the public, and a finite cost estimate."

Don't you think it would be a good idea for *everyone* – regardless of political persuasion – to really understand the problems, the steps toward a solution, and to have an idea of the costs involved?

Typical of so many "end of the wild/end of the world" conservation articles, the tone of this article continues along the usual path of wanting everyone to think that the world is coming to an end, and that political conservatives are mostly benighted skinflints who will have to be dragged into the conservation movement by enlightened liberals.

This smug attitude serves to keep political conservatives away from most conservation organizations, but the fact is that many political conservatives are just as interested in the future of our planet as are liberals or anyone else who's paying attention. And conservatives do pay attention.

In addition to being a Wild Ones member, I'm what you would describe as a "political conservative" – and I'm also somewhat of a conservationist – even though I don't live "off the grid," don't

ride a recumbent bicycle to work, and don't have a prairie growing in my living room. But I appreciate nature, I worry about "the environment," I don't rape and pillage the Earth, and I do my small part as a conservationist. My politically conservative leanings don't contradict that at all.

Publishing statements that make political conservatives sound ignorant, uncaring, and unaware doesn't do much more than keep people from joining our cause.

The reality is that we all have to work on the problems together. If we're going to turn this thing around we need to get everyone working with us – and this kind of outmoded, condescending, exclusionary, "sixties" way of thinking doesn't help. *Christian Nelson, Coulee Region (WI) Chapter*

Dear Christian

You are entirely correct. The reference to political leanings should have been removed from the "Conversations" piece. It was an oversight on the part of the editorial team, and we will be more careful in the future. Please be assured that we agree that "the reality is that we all have to work on the problems together" regardless of political persuasion.

By way of giving "equal time" – some of our readers might be interested in viewing this site: www.repamerica.org/. It deals with political conservatives' ideas on environmental conservation. *Maryann Whitman, Journal Editor-in-Chief*



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The Grapevine

By Maryann Whitman

Water You Gonna Do About It?

In 1917, during World War I, the Washington State Legislature passed a bill which reads, in part, "... all waters within the state belong to the public, and any right thereto, or to the use thereof, shall be hereafter acquired only by appropriation for a beneficial use and in the manner provided and not otherwise. ...". The practical upshot of this law is that all water in Washington, whether in rivers, lakes, the ocean, or the atmosphere is the property of the people and subject to regulation by state government. To be within the letter of the law, residents need to apply for special permits to restrict the flow of rainwater. One would suppose that this rule also applies to rain gardens.

For many years, people have collected rainwater for use on their property. This practice may be illegal. Senate Bill 5113, presented to the Washington State Senate in January 2005, is designed to allow the Department of Ecology (yes, they have a Department of Ecology in Washington State), to draft rules to permit the legal use of rain barrels and cisterns to collect water for beneficial use on one's own property. Landowners would not need to seek permits on an individual basis. The Washington State Department of Ecology has no interest or intent to require a water right for rain barrels.

Looking to Identify an Insect You Found?

If you would like help to identify an insect, spider, or one of their kin, visit the guide at www.bugguide.net/. If you don't find it there, and you have an image of it, you may wish to register and request an identification by posting your image in the "ID Request" section.

Disclaimer of the web site: Dedicated naturalists volunteer their time and resources to provide this service. We strive to provide accurate information, but we are mostly just amateurs attempting to make sense of a diverse natural world. If you need expert professional advice, contact your local extension office.

I like their attitude; sounds a lot like that of Wild Ones. ★



*And the spring comes
slowly up this way.*

Samuel Taylor Coleridge, Kubla Khan

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Chapter Notes some good ideas



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The President's Message from the Menomonee River Area (WI) Chapter Newsletter, January, 2005, seemed so appropriate, we decided to include it in its entirety below:

You must understand that, in saving the Boundary Waters Canoe Area, in saving any wilderness area, you are saving more than rocks and trees and mountains and lakes and rivers. What you are really saving is the human soul.

Sigurd Olson, 1977

My Dear Fellow Wild Ones,

Aldo Leopold once said, "One of the penalties of an ecological education is that one lives alone in a world of wounds." Most of the damage inflicted on the environment, the species threatened or lost forever, the waste of clean water on the greening of lawns, and the aftereffects of pesticide usage go unnoticed by the general public.

I was glancing through Andy Wasowski's book, *The Landscaping Revolution*, in which he writes of the growing grassroots movement of natural landscaping. In it he speaks of the reasons the conventional landscape is still so much a part of our lives. He believes it comes down to the fact that we're out of touch with the natural world and how it functions. The thing about ignorance is that it breeds misunderstandings, discomfort, and even fear. Environmentalists are labeled "eco-freaks" and "tree-huggers." And children, who are so savvy about all things computer, are no more "nature savvy" than their parents. The majority feels that nature is to be experienced in zoos and on television. The very institutions we depend upon to teach our children – the schools – typically exhibit the worst landscapes. However, as Wild Ones has personally experienced, this is changing in many schools throughout the country. If you are lucky enough to have, or know children in schools that have or are considering natural landscaping, please do your best to support them. As Andy Wasowski says, "The biggest lesson they need to know is that we do not live apart from nature . . . we are a part of nature."

So, if you feel discouraged after driving around and seeing miles and miles of mowed lawns and conventional landscaping, and you feel that the "landscape revolution" is not moving as fast as we all thought it might, remember the words of the former president of the Wilderness Society, Sigurd Olson, when he said, "You are not alone. There are many who feel as you do and the hope of the world is in the frustration you feel, the wanting to do something about it."

I invite all of you to come to our meetings, whether you have natural landscapes or conventional ones; whether you currently use 90%, 50%, or 0% native plants; whether you are interested in a truly "wild" lawn or more controlled perennial beds. Come and explore the natural world with us. And remember to bring a friend!

Diane Holmes

UPDATE ON MEMBER CERTIFICATION

The Member Certification Committee is working on Level 1 of the certification process, which they will be recommending to the Board at the Q01 meeting. Currently being referred to as Ecoscapers, the committee is developing:

- Questions.
- Volunteer / fieldwork activities
- Project descriptions

for participants to use in fulfilling requirements for Ecoscaper Level 1. We anticipate having Level 1 available to the Wild Ones membership by the spring of 2005. Watch for further announcements on the web site and in the *Wild Ones Journal*.

For more information, contact Kathy McDonald, Member Certification Committee Chair, at 513-941-6497 or Kmc@one.net. She is a member of the Greater Cincinnati (OH) Chapter and a member of the National Board.

One Landscape Designer Speaks

By Mandy Ploch

As a landscape designer for the past 13 years, I have yet to have a client ask me to design a native plant community in order to preserve biodiversity, two of the basic parts of the Wild Ones mission. More likely, a typical residential client wants a low-maintenance, deer-proof garden that looks good all year long. Even many long-time gardeners are not thinking in terms of ecosystems and healing the earth. Some are reducing their use of chemicals and water in their gardens because of increased press coverage regarding problems. Others still relish their large swaths of mown turf grass and lollipop shrubs because that is what they are accustomed to seeing around them.

Because you are reading the *Wild Ones Journal*, I can assume you are interested in some or all of the following: native plants, a healthy planet, natural resource conservation, and attracting and attending to the needs of birds and insects. As a designer and longtime Wild Ones member, I try to build those aspects into my designs regardless of whether the client asks for them. To my mind it is my responsibility as a professional, when I am hired to design a landscape, to tell my client about current best thinking in the field. I would expect my plumber or physician to do no less.

My usual approach is to first ascertain what result the client wants, and their priorities. Reduced maintenance is often paramount. After I understand what the client is looking for, I broaden the discussion with my ideas and general suggestions to determine an outline for garden areas. Among the things I point out to the client is that reducing lawn area results in less mowing, less water used, fewer chemicals applied, reduced costs, and less maintenance in the long run. On the other hand, larger garden areas require a greater initial outlay of money than does lawn, but allows a greater opportunity for an interesting mix of trees, shrubs, ground layer plants, and best of all, healthy soil to support it all. I add that, in the latter scenario, not everything needs to happen at the

outset; changes and additions can keep happening through the entire time of the client's tenure on the property.

Then I get to work, always seeking ways to use native plants and to use the natural site to its advantage. That annoying wet spot or rerouted downspout could be a rain garden. That hot slope is perfect for dry prairie species. Instead of solid surface for patios and driveways, perhaps turf stone, unmortared flagstone, or planned openings in concrete might be

What about using cultivars of native plants? E-mail your comments to the editor at journal@for-wild.org and we'll address the question in a future issue.

used to allow for water percolation. If we are tearing up concrete, can it be reused on site, upside down, for a rough wall?

When presenting my completed plan to the client, I talk about each plant that I have specified. Some may be familiar to the client, others not. However, I do emphasize the reason for the use of each plant. Deer (and rabbit) browse is a big concern in the Milwaukee area, so my plant palette favors unpalatable selections, many of which are native. Most of my plant lists are not comprised of all native plants. But I am sure to point out which ones are and their attributes. It's easy to expound on their beauty and benefits.

I have had clients who have moved here from the East Coast and want their familiar azaleas, rhododendrons, and flowering dogwoods. While the dogwood definitely

To my mind it is my responsibility as a professional, when I am hired to design a landscape, to tell my client about current best thinking in the field. I would expect my plumber or physician to do no less.

will not grow here, the other two might, but only with much care and attention, soil amendments, and the luck of mild winters. It's at this point that I introduce them to reliable native substitutes suited to our soils and climate: viburnums, chokeberries (*Aronia spp.*), and serviceberries (*Amelanchier spp.*).

There has been much favorable press about natural landscaping pioneers, Lorrie Otto, Rochelle Whiteman, and Pat Armstrong, to name a few – all Wild Ones members I might add. Usually the accompanying photos show them standing in head-high fields of prairie flowers. A lovely sight to be sure, but not something suited to all properties. When a client expresses concerns about plant size, messy looks, and “what would the neighbors say?” I assure them that I can produce a traditional, non-threatening design using native trees, shrubs, forbs, and grasses that they will find pleasing and that their neighbors might covet. Prairie smoke (*Geum triflorum*) is a wonderful perennial edging plant. Little bluestem (*Schizachrium scoparium*) and prairie dropseed (*Sporobolus heterolepis*) grasses make beautiful accents, and bluestars (*Amsonia spp.*) can serve as a hedging plant.

Resistance to my ideas has been negligible. I think my enthusiasm for the projects, and my verbal descriptions of the plants have often carried the day, though I did refuse one project. The prospective



client was building a house adjacent to her present home. As she showed me her overly pruned and constricted shrubs, she explained that that is what she wanted in her new landscape. Pressing her to explain, I surmised that she just did not know how to prune. I soon concluded that she desired much more control over her environment than I could possibly provide her. Nor was she at all interested in the health of her landscape – only that it “looks good.” I explained that my style was not amenable to her ideas and suggested that she look for a designer with more compatible sensibilities.

Once a design plan is implemented, a designer has no control over its development. I encourage my clients to let me know of problems. Plants can be substituted or relocated. Trees can be pruned to allow more light to the ground story. Return visits are opportunities to fine-tune the plan. Some ideas need gestation and germination time.

Last fall I moved to a former cornfield subdivision home that is surrounded by neat and tidy, mowed and trimmed properties. I have worked up my traditional design using 95 percent native plants and rain gardens. I can't wait to implement the plan this spring. I hope to see the Wild Ones spirit grow outside my property lines.

Landscapes evolve with time. Your attitudes probably will also. Your property is just that: yours. Surround yourself with and keep the things you love, be it grandma's bleeding hearts, a favorite rhubarb plant for spring pies, or the welcome shade of an existing, mature tree that happens to be a non-native.

As members of Wild Ones, I hope that we will project a welcoming face that is not judgmental, but rather one that wishes only to educate and to let homeowners in on the “current best thinking” in ideas of landscaping. ★



Special Dragonfly Calendar

Wild Ones members John Arthur and Pamela Deerwood, Twin Cities (MN) Chapter, have made us an offer we couldn't refuse. Avid dragonfly and damselfly enthusiasts, they have created a 2005 calendar filled with great photos of these wondrous insects. Each page is filled with facts about the dragonfly or damselfly featured. John and Pamela had only a limited supply of these calendars printed, but they are offering them to other Wild Ones members for the price of \$20 plus \$2 postage. Further, John pledges to return \$5 of each calendar fee as a donation to Wild Ones. Please send check for \$22 to Wild Ones, P.O. Box 1274, Appleton, Wisconsin. or go to the Wild Store and order online at www.for-wild.org/store/.

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Auxins, Cytokinins, and Things That Go Bump in the Night

By Maryann Whitman

The Ice Storm

It was a violent night, like no other in my memory of life in our little cove. Thunder clapping through the oaks on the hillsides, lightning searing the way for the clatter and rumble of branches and trees on the roof, a constant whipping rain, and periodically a loud CRACK, followed an instant later by a sound as of shattering crystal. The rain froze, and coated the bursting buds of the elms and maples, and the sloping shoulders of the spruces, pines and firs that usually sheltered the house from the north and the west.

We heard a foot-thick branch of the century-old maple by the pond collapse under the weight, and swore we could feel the ground shake. Our old friend, in whose hollow trunk my daughters had played hide-and-go-seek and the great horned owl had roosted, was having a bad night.

The next day a wet snow fell. Whatever hadn't bowed and given under the icy weight the preceding night, did this day.

The morning of the third day, the sun rose through shards of ice, softened by packed snow.

It looked like a battlefield when we went out that morning. At least 30 of our pines and firs and spruces had lost 8 to 10 feet of top growth. These Christmas-tree-sized remnants were scattered about the yard at the feet of the mother trees, and too late for Christmas.

April had arrived riding on the wings of demons.



Five years later my spruces and pines and firs are all recovering on their own from that night. Because of the 60- and 70-foot height of the trees, there was no way that I could "clean up the break," "seal the wound," and redirect the growth of a new "leader." They have managed this on their own.

All the evergreens I mentioned have a special conical shape. Their own growth hormones are responsible for this, and for their recovery from the storm.

The bud at the very top of one of these evergreens is called the apical bud. While all buds produce the hormone auxin, the apical bud – the growing point, the tippy-top of the plant – produces the most and thereby inhibits the growth of lateral and auxiliary buds that are growing immediately "downstream" of the apical bud. Auxins are basipetal – they always travel downward toward the roots through the phloem, inducing the roots to produce another set of growth hormones, the cytokinins.

Cytokinins are produced in the roots, in volumes to match the auxin levels. They travel up the xylem to the top of the plant inducing it to grow.

When the top grows, more auxins are produced, which spurs the production of cytokinins. The plant ensures that top growth is supported by complementary root growth, and the plant maintains a balance.

At the tips of auxiliary branches are auxiliary buds. They have the genetic potential to become "leader buds" – only if the former leader bud is out of the way. When the leader bud is gone (for whatever reason – storm breakage or intentional pruning), the auxiliary buds are activated and "apical dominance" (responsible for the prototypic conical growth), is reestablished.

I have noticed exactly this: one of the lower, side, or auxiliary branches has taken over the role of the "leader" on every one of my storm-damaged evergreens. While still arching like the side branches that they are, they have also adopted the taller, straighter habit of a leader. The trees will survive. They will continue their growth pattern. They are genetically programmed to do this. We just have to be patient and give them time. The telltale kink of the leaders will forever remind me of the ice storm of 2000. ★

What Do 55 High School Students and 800 Native Plants Have in Common?

By Linda Lucchesi Cody



When Dave Seis, biology teacher at Barron Area Senior High School, in Barron, Wisconsin, was assigned the students in Advanced Biology he knew exactly how to get them excited. Four years previously, Dave had taken a three-week program with Earth Partnership for Schools, in which he learned from start to finish how to conduct a prairie restoration. Now he planned to involve his 55 students in every aspect of the same kind of restoration project on their school grounds.

Dave thought of everything: careful planning, study of the land-use history, site characteristics, site mapping, soil quality, and plant and animal inventories. And that was just the beginning. His students were busy learning about prairie ecosystems and all that goes into a restoration project. Dave, inspired and well-prepared by his summer class, did what every good teacher knows to do. He gave his students the vision, the inspiration, and the resources to make it happen. The 55 junior and senior biology students did the rest.

Students visited two prairie sites – one a native prairie and the other a prairie restoration. Using numerous native plant references, and cross-referencing plant choices with their specific site characteristics, the students chose all of the grasses and forbs to be planted.

Dave sought help when it was needed. He worked with Dragonfly Gardens, a nursery in Amery, Wisconsin, which provided valuable suggestions for site preparation. He contacted the school's grounds manager regarding future site plans. He involved the agriculture teacher at Barron High, who provided equipment and now plans to partner with Dave in the future. And he asked the



ball team, who volunteered to plant a few hundred plants during their free time.



And how is the project today?

Dave is full of new ideas and hope for the future. Has it been easy? Not by a long shot, but with Dave's vision the project continues to grow and flourish. What's next? Dave has plans: plans for a prairie newsletter and articles in the local newspaper to involve the community, high school students teaching the elementary students about the prairie, expanding the planting site, and working out the kinks of monitoring the original prairie.



How to get high school students excited about nature? Ask Dave Seis. Is there a community out there working to restore the land? You've just read about one great example. Have the Wild Ones planted a seed for the future of the Earth? You betcha! ★

**Dave and his students received a 2004 Lorrie Otto Seeds for Education grant in the amount of \$400.*



Get more information on the Earth Partnership for Schools Program at http://wiscinfo.doit.wisc.edu/arboetum/earth_partnership_index.htm, or contact Project Manager Libby McCann at epmccann@wisc.edu.

Fun Under a Log

By Barbara Bray

What's more fun than a "barrel of monkeys"? How about a log filled with squiggly bugs and slimy slugs?

Fallen trees and dead branches in your garden make great places for kids to explore a new world filled with many-legged mini-beasts and occasional larger ones. Turn over a log and what do you see? Can you hear the mini-beasts at work? What does the log feel like to the touch? Open your eyes and ears and get ready to explore the living world in a dead tree.

Some of the first bugs to move into fallen trees are wood-boring insects. Female beetles bore little tunnels into the wood and lay their eggs. Later, the larvae burrow outward with their strong jaws. Although the beetles are chewing through the wood, it is actually the bacteria and fungi on the tunnel walls that provide nutritious food for the beetles.

How do the fungi and bacteria get there? The beetles "plant" it in their tunnels in the form of their droppings. The combination of wood-boring beetles,



To the untrained eye this is just a dead tree in the woods. But this fungus-covered log provides a banquet and a safe home for countless woodland creatures

fungi, and bacteria helps the wood to decay. Do you see any tunnels or openings from wood-boring beetles? Other tunneling dynamos are carpenter ants and termites. They carve extensive mazes of tunnels far into the wood. Knock on the wood and listen with your ear up close. Do you hear a rustling sound? Carpenter ants make this sound with their mandibles (jaws). If you hear a "ticking" sound, then you may have discovered termites.

The vast tunnels of beetles and ants become "highways" into the log for moisture, fungus, bacteria, and other small creatures. With such enticing pickings, is it any wonder that a fallen tree becomes a banquet table for other animals? Hungry centipedes prowl the dark recesses of the log, looking for worms, slugs, spiders, and even other centipedes to dine on.

The many-legged millipede, which is related to the centipede, isn't a predator, but rather feeds on rotting wood and decaying leaves. The millipede, if it is not careful, can easily become dinner for a shrew – a furry, four-legged creature that is our smallest mammal.

From above, small female wasps, called ichneumons, land on the log. Using very long ovipositors, (egg-laying organs), they can lay their eggs into beetle larvae far below. The eggs hatch into wasp larvae that eat their hosts, the beetle larvae. Woodpeckers also visit fallen logs where the wood-boring larvae provide a year-round source of food. After drilling into the wood with his strong beak, the woodpecker slurps up the juicy larvae with his long tongue. What a yummy meal!

A dead log is more than just "litter" on the forest floor. Approximately one-fifth of woodland creatures depend upon dead

trees for their homes. Dead trees also provide moist places for ferns, mosses, fungi, and tree seedlings to grow. They harbor insects, spiders, and other little animals that either eat the log or are eaten by other animals. The health of the forest itself is dependent upon the life in decaying logs.

Through decomposition, nutrients in the log are slowly returned to the soil for new plants to grow. Thus, a dead log is part of the cycle of life. You have probably seen a nurse log on your woodland walks and thought it was just a long mound of soil. A nurse log is a fallen tree that in time becomes completely enveloped with new vegetation – mosses, ferns, fungi, and sprouting seedlings. Keep an eye out for these shapes now that you know how they formed. ★

Life-Giving Dead Wood Dying Out?

According to the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), many forest species are threatened because of the removal of the dead and dying trees they depend on. The WWF says that many plants, insects, birds, and mammals are having trouble because of the increasing tendency to remove decaying timber from woods and forests. Animals such as woodpeckers, bats, and squirrels, which nest in hollow trees, are losing their natural habitats, and many other creatures that rely on dead wood (and the creatures attracted to dead wood) for food and shelter are affected. Daniel Vallauri of the WWF said, "We need to debunk the myths that dead wood and veteran trees mean a sick forest. In most cases they mean a healthy forest with a long life cycle and a very high diversity of habits for species."

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Thinking About Starting a Wild Ones Chapter?

If you've been thinking about starting a Wild Ones chapter in your area, we now have the basic chapter start-up guidelines on the web site. Start at www.for-wild.org/web/chap_intro.html and go from there. Once you're ready to start promoting your seedling chapter, contact the National Office and we'll send you the promotional materials that will help you get your chapter off the ground. Right now is the best time of year to organize a new chapter, while people are yearning to be outside, and before they actually get out there to start working in their yards.



Links You Should Know About

If you're getting bored with the same old web sites, why not check out some new ones? The "Links" page on our web site makes it easy for you to discover lots of new web sites, all related to native plants, invasive species, and biodiversity. Just go to www.for-wild.org/hotlinks.html and start clicking and learning.

Wild Ones People Online

If you're a relatively new member of Wild Ones, maybe you've missed some of the great *Journal* articles about some very important Wild Ones members. If you'd like to know more about Lorrie Otto and some of the other members we've referred to as "Shooting Stars," check our "Wild People" page at www.for-wild.org/people.html.

Access Your Membership Information Online

Did you know you can access your personal membership information from the Wild Ones web site? Checking your membership expiration date and your mailing address is easy. Go to the Wild Ones home page (www.for-wild.org) and click the "Member Log-In" button (upper right-hand corner of the page). Once you register, you (and only you) will have access to all your membership information and will be able to view a listing of your chapter officers.

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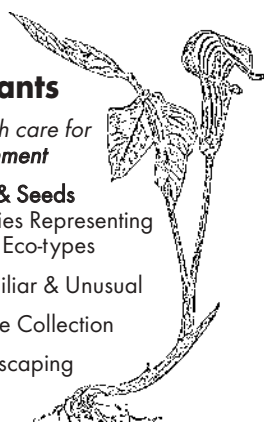
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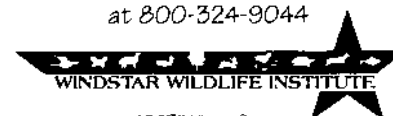


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Ecoregion-Based Design for Sustainability

by Robert G. Bailey; New York: Springer-Verlag, 2002; 240 pages, \$49.95.

Reviewed by Kim Sorvig

Robert G. Bailey is a rarity – a scientist who takes landscape design seriously. *Ecoregion-Based Design for Sustainability* reminds us of our roots as landscape architects as well as our strengths and professional blind spots.

As head of the U.S. Forest Service's Ecosystem Management Analysis Center for 35 years, Bailey studied and mapped regional ecology around the globe. His "Ecoregion Map of the United States," first published in 1976, is both a classic study and an up-to-date working tool for anyone concerned with landscape dynamics across bioregions.

Ecoregions are large areas (hundreds of thousands of square miles; the continental United States has about 25 areas), in which a similar climate unifies smaller ecosystems into a coherent pattern. In the first two works of his ecoregion trilogy, *Ecosystem Geography* (1996) and *Ecoregions* (1998), Bailey condensed years of scholarship about these regions. This third volume, *Ecoregion-Based Design for Sustainability*, focuses on applying the concept to design and planning.

In the first half of the book, Bailey summarizes the ecoregion idea and its intellectual foundations. He contrasts ecoregions with systems such as "physiographic regions" (based on geological features) and "bioregions" (based on current flora and fauna), and he argues convincingly that environmental mapping must be organized around the underlying processes that create landscape features. "We can only understand a landscape ecosystem," he writes, "if we know how it originated or evolved."

Bailey draws on the works of many landscape architects, notably Ian McHarg, Robert Thayer, John Lyle, and Joan Woodward. In a sense, his ecoregions prioritize the layers of McHarg's famous "layer cake." Climate and elevation are the layers that create the broadest patterns and zones of similar conditions – the ecoregions. Within these, topography and geology differentiate smaller units (for example, "landscape mosaics" and "sites"), recognizable as parts of the ecoregion's overall pattern. At varied scales, these ecosystems nest like Russian dolls, maintaining "a lively exchange of materials and energy." Bailey also covers cultural influences, which many ecologists still ignore.

Offered here are three very useful principles for design and management of land (and architecture). First, Bailey says, "Spatial pattern matters." He writes, "It is no longer appropriate to plan based on totals and averages of resource output. Rather, the arrangement of land use and buildings is crucial to sustainable design." Second, "Context is more important than content." That is, no site can be properly designed without considering its relationships with its immediate and regional neighbors. Third, sustainable design is development that matches the limits of the region. "Throughout history," Bailey notes, "overstepping the limits of regional resources has led to conflict, even war."

Bailey's scientific language and logical style, though occasionally ponderous, are assets to the book. Even those designers who generally prefer subjective aspects of design will find a careful reading richly repaid. Excellent color diagrams (by a former U.S. Geological Survey scientist turned graphic artist), clarify many concepts. Maps and climate diagrams show graphically that the globe's great variety is also orderly.

Although he faults many designers for trying to solve everything at the site scale, Bailey sees landscape architecture as a tradition in which people "spend their entire professional careers trying to see and understand 'the whole pattern.'" His trilogy provides resources for the constant struggle to educate those who can't see the pattern for the specifics, or the forest for the trees. ★

The USDA Forest Service has published the "North America Ecoregions Map," by Robert G. Bailey, in cooperation with The Nature Conservancy and the U.S. Geological Survey. This 29-inch x 32-inch full-color map shows, at a scale of 1:15,000,000, the division of the continent into a hierarchy of ecosystem regions. To view the map online and to find out how to get a printed copy, check go to www.fs.fed.us/institute/ecoregions/na_map.html. Shown on next page is the United States map. Both maps are also available at the Wild Ones Library.

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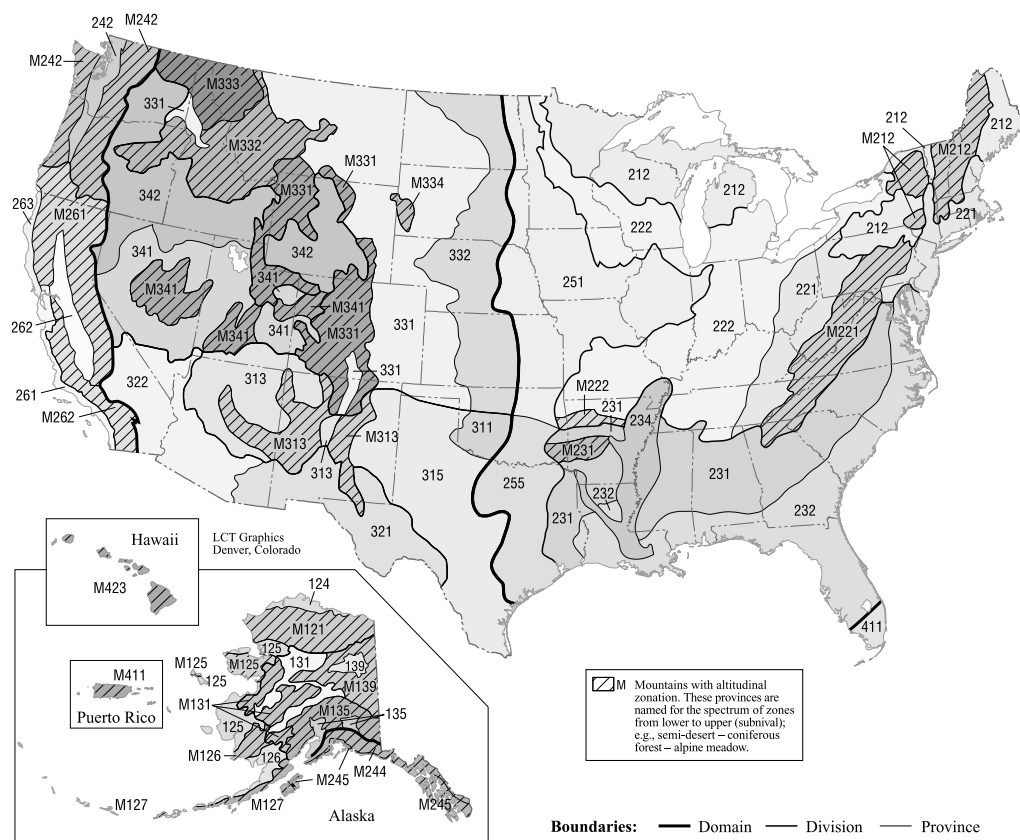
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United States Ecoregions Map

USDA Forest Service
Ecoregions of the United States Map. The May/June 2002 *Wild Ones Journal* featured "Guidelines for Selecting Native Plants: The Importance of Local Ecotype" www.for-wild.org/land/ecotype.html, along with The Nature Conservancy's (TNC) ecoregion map, as the most helpful in choosing native plants from a specific geographic region. Wild Ones recommends using the TNC ecoregion map because, although based on Bailey's work, its boundaries have been modified since 1995 to more specifically define the ecoregions.

The Meeting Place

Chapters, please send your chapter contact information to:
Calendar Coordinator Mary Paquette
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Chapter ID numbers are listed after names.

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Lake-To-Prairie Chapter #11

Karen Wisol 847-548-1650
Meetings at Prairie Crossing, Grayslake, west side
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Macomb Chapter #42 (Seedling)

Margaret Ovitt 309-836-6231
card@macomb.com
Macomb, Springfield, Decatur area.

North Park Chapter #27

Bob Porter 312-744-5472
bobporter@chicagoparkdistrict.com
Second Thursday, 7 p.m.,
North Park Nature Center
5801 N. Pulaski, Chicago.

Rock River Valley Chapter #21

Tim Lewis 815-874-3468
natives.tim@insightbb.com
Third Thursday, 7 p.m., usually at Burpee Museum
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INDIANA

Gibson Woods Chapter #38

Joy Bower 219-844-3188 jbower1126@aol.com
First Saturday during winter, 10 a.m.,
Gibson Woods Nature Center,
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KENTUCKY

Frankfort Chapter #24

Katie Clark 502-226-4766 katieclark@vol.com
Second Monday, 5:30 p.m.,
Salato Wildlife Education Center
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off US 60 W (Louisville Road).

Lexington Chapter #64

Russ Turpin 859-797-8174
isotope909@aol.com
First Wednesday of month, 7:30 p.m.,
McConnell Spring.

Louisville Metrowild Chapter #26

Portia Brown 502-454-4007
wildones-lou@insightbb.com
Wildflower Woods, Cherokee
See web site for meeting schedule.
Woods Saturday Work Day:
Ward Wilson: 502-299-0331,
ward@wwilson.net
Allan Nations: 502-456-3275,
alan.nations@loukymetro.org

MAINE

The Maine Chapter #75 (Seedling)

Barbara Murphy 207-743-6329
bmurphy@umext.maine.edu
Oxford County.

MICHIGAN

Ann Arbor Chapter #3

Susan Bryan 734-622-9997
susanbryanhsieh@yahoo.com
Second Wednesday of month (except April), 7 p.m.,
Matthaei Botanical Garden, Room 125.

Calhoun County Chapter #39

Carol Spanninga 517-857-3766
spanninga8@hotmail.com
Fourth Tuesday, 7 p.m.
Calhoun Intermediate School District building
on G Drive N. at Old US27, Marshall.

Central Upper Peninsula Chapter #61

Pat Landry 906-428-4053
aries1@chartermi.net
Fourth Wednesday, Bay De Noc College
unless otherwise noted.

Detroit Metro Chapter #47

Connie Manley 248-538-0654
cmanfarm@mich.distance.net
Meeting dates and times vary. Please call for details.

Flint Chapter #32

Ginny Knag 810-694-4335
mtknag@ameritech.net
Second Thursday, 7 p.m.,
Woodside Church, 1509 E. Court St., Flint.

Kalamazoo Area Chapter #37

Nancy & Tom Small 269-381-4946
Fourth Wednesday of month, 7:30 p.m.
Christian Church, 2208 Winchell, Kalamazoo.

Red Cedar Chapter #41

Mark Ritzenhein 517-336-0965 mrirtz@acd.net
Third Wednesday, 7-9 p.m.
Room 139, Radiology, MSU campus.
For details: www.for-wild.org/redcedar

Oakland Chapter #34

Barbara Bray 248-601-6405
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MINNESOTA

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Otter Tail Chapter #25

Karen Terry 218-736-5520 terry714@prtcl.com
Fourth Monday, 7 p.m.,
Prairie Wetlands Learning Center, Fergus Falls.

St. Cloud Chapter #29

Greg Shirley 320-259-0825 shirley198@charter.net
Fourth Monday, 6:30 p.m., Heritage Nature Center.

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Mary-Clare Holst 651-351-7351
mcholst_7351@msn.com
Third Thursday, 7 p.m., Stillwater Town Hall.

Twin Cities Chapter #56

Marty Rice 952-927-6531 jcrmrfr@msn.com
Meetings third Tuesday of the month, Social/set-up,
6:30 p.m., meeting 7 p.m.,
Nokomis Community Center,
2401 E. Minnehaha Pkwy, Mpls.
March 15, Hennepin Technical College,
9000 Brooklyn Blvd., Brooklyn Park, MN.

MISSOURI

Mid-Missouri Chapter #49

Scott Hamilton 573-882-9909 x3257
scott.hamilton@mdc.mo.gov
Second Saturday, 10 a.m.
Location varies. See: wildones.missouri.org

St. Louis Chapter #31

Scott Woodbury 636-451-3512
scott.woodbury@mobot.org
First Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.
Location varies. See web site.

NEW YORK

Habitat Gardening Club of Central New York #76

Janet Allen 315-487-5742
jkallen@twcny.rr.com
Meeting March 20 and April 24, 2 p.m.,
Liverpool Library, 310 Tulip St., Liverpool 13088.

OHIO

Greater Cincinnati Chapter #62

Roberta Trombly 513-751-6183,
btrombly@fuse.net
Chris McCullough: 513-860-4959,
gordchris@fuse.net
Monthly meetings or field trips; see web site.

Columbus Chapter #4

Marilyn Logue 614-237-2534,
mlogue@sprintmail.com
Second Saturday, 10 a.m.,
Innis House, Inniswood Metropolitan Park,
940 Hempstead Rd., Westerville
Field trips: See web site or contact above.

Maumee Valley Chapter #66 (Seedling)

Jan Hunter 419-878-7273
naturallynative@buckeye-express.com

Toledo Chapter #77 (Seedling)

Todd Crail 419-833-2020
nnn@naturallynative.net
Meeting dates and times vary. Call for details.

Continued next page.

\$30 Wildflower Video ALMOST FREE!

Due to the outstanding response to this premium video offer, we've decided to extend the offer beyond our 25th Anniversary Year. Join or renew now!



Are you wild about wildflowers? When you join or renew your Wild Ones membership at the \$50 level or higher, you will receive, at no extra charge, the highly acclaimed video, *Wild About Wildflowers: How to Choose, Plant, Grow, and Enjoy Native American Wildflowers and Grasses in Your Own Yard*. This item sells in the Wild Ones Store for \$30, but here's your chance to get it almost for "free." Join or renew your membership today, and let us know if you want the video!

Wild Ones National Quarterly Board Meetings

All members are invited and encouraged to attend the quarterly meetings of the National Board of Directors. If you'd like to participate in the meeting by conference call, please contact the national office (toll-free) at 877-394-9453 for instructions.

February 26 Calhoun Chapter (Q01) at the Albion College Whitehouse Nature Center in Albion, Michigan. Following the board meeting, we will be touring the nature center at the college so please bring hiking boots and dress for the weather.

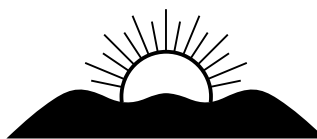
May 7 Menomonee River Valley Chapter (Q02) at Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin.

September 9 & 10 Twin Cities Chapter (Q03 and annual meeting) at Minneapolis, Minnesota.

October 8 Greater Cincinnati Chapter (Q04) at Cincinnati, Ohio.

Other Conferences and Meetings

February 26, Crystal Lake, Illinois
The Wildflower Preservation and Propagation



On the Horizon

Committee of the McHenry County Defenders (Illinois) presents the 2005 Natural Landscaping Seminar, "From

Vast Spaces to Cozy Places, Natural Landscapes in Your Own Backyard."

McHenry County College, 8900 U.S. Route 14, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. E-mail forsix@aol.com for information.

March 6-7, East Lansing, Michigan

Wildflower Association of Michigan 17th Annual Conference. Kellogg Center on Michigan State University campus. Keynote speaker: C. Colston Burrell, garden designer, photographer, naturalist, and award-winning author, *Native Plants and Ecological Design: Myths and Realities*. For further information and registration form (PDF), go to www.wildflowersmich.org or contact Marilyn Case, Registrar, 15232 24 Mile Road, Albion, Michigan 49224; phone 517-630-8547 or e-mail MCase15300@aol.com.

For information on other relative native landscaping conferences, please see Wild Ones web site at www.for-wild.org/chapters/Conf.

Next year's Annual Meeting/Conference will be held in Minneapolis-St. Paul.

HAVEN'T SEEN YOUR VIDEO YET?

If you've joined Wild Ones, or renewed your membership at the \$50 or higher level, but haven't received your video, *Wild About Wildflowers*, please let us know. Perhaps it was because you didn't indicate on your application form that you wanted the video. Or maybe it's circling around in the postal system somewhere. Call us toll-free at 877-394-9453 or send e-mail to execdirector@for-wild.org.

The Meeting Place (continued from previous page)

Western Reserve Chapter #73

Barb Holtz 440-473-3370
bph@clevelandmetroparks.com
Meetings every third Thursday, 7 p.m., North Chagrin Nature Center (North Chagrin Reservation, Cleveland Metroparks, off Rte. 91 in Willoughby Hills).

PENNSYLVANIA

Susquehanna Valley Chapter #68

Angela Eichelberger 717-793-8440
wild_ones@earthlink.net
Third Saturday, 5 p.m.
Spoutwood Farm, 4255 Pierceville Rd., Glen Rock, PA.

WISCONSIN

Central Wisconsin Chapter #50

Dan Dieterich 715-346-2849
dan.dieterich@uwsp.edu
Fourth Thursday, 7 p.m., Rooms 1&2, Portage County Extension Building, 1462 Strongs Ave., Stevens Point.
Times, places vary in summer. Check web site.

Coulee Region Chapter #67

Chuck Lee 608-785-2205, speakbobo@aol.com
Second Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
LaCrosse Main Branch Public Library.

Door County Chapter #59

Judy Reninger 920-839-1182
jreninger@dcwis.com
Time & location vary; check web site.

Erin Chapter #57

Bob & Bev Hults 262-670-0445
twowildones@juno.com
Third Thursday, 7 p.m., Erin Town Hall, 1846 Hwy. 83, Hartford.

Fox Valley Area Chapter #8

Karen Syverson 920-987-5587 ksyve@core.com
March 24, 7 p.m., Evergreen Retirement Center, Oshkosh.
April 28, 7 p.m., Sheigg Learning Center, Memorial Park Arboretum and Gardens, Appleton.

Green Bay Chapter #10

Debi Nitka 920-465-8512, debnitka@new.rr.com
Cindy Hermesen, 920-434-6866, scentedgardens@athenet.com
Usually third Wednesday. Most meetings at Green Bay Botanical Garden, 2600 Larsen Rd., except in summer.

Lake Woods Chapter #72

Jeanne Munz 920-793-4452
flower_power@wildmail.com
Woodland Dunes Nature Center, Hwy 310 just west of Two Rivers.

Madison Chapter #13

Laurie Yahr 608-274-6539, yahrkahl@sbcglobal.net
Winter meetings, last Wednesday of the month.
March meeting: Atwood Community Center Annex, 2717 Atwood Avenue.
April meeting: Pinney Public Library.
See web site for details.

Menomonee River Area Chapter #16

Jan Koel 262-251-7175
Diane Holmes 262-628-2825
Indoor meetings: third Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., teachers' lounge, Valley View School, W180 N8130 Town Hall Rd., Menomonee Falls.

Milwaukee North Chapter #18

Message Center: 414-299-9888
Second Saturday of month, 9:30 a.m., March: Schlitz Audubon Center, 1111 E. Brown Deer Rd., Bayside.
April: Urban Ecology Center, Riverside Park, 1500 E. Park Place, Milwaukee.

Milwaukee Southwest-Wehr Chapter #23

Message Center: 414-299-9888
Second Saturday, 1:30 p.m., Wehr Nature Center, 9701 W. College Ave., Franklin.

Root River Area Chapter #43

Nan Calvert 262-681-4899
prairiedog@wi.rr.com
Sept.-May, first Saturday, 1:30-3 p.m., Riverbend Nature Center, Racine.

Wolf River Chapter #74

Marge Guyette 715-787-3482
jkgmeg@athenet.net
Menominee, Oconto & Waupaca counties.

Wisconsin Northwoods Chapter #63

Diane Willette 715-362-6870 diane@bfm.org
Fourth Monday of month, Fireside Room, Univ. Transfer Center at Lake Julia Campus of Nicolet Area Tech. College, Rhinelander area.

Today Eglin has more than 200,000 acres of longleaf pine. Eglin's managers burn the pine forest regularly – tens of thousands of acres a year. Burning does not harm the pines, but it does kill the pines' chief enemies, scrub oaks whose dense foliage starves pine seedlings of the sunlight they need.

And Eglin's managers help other species, too – notably red-cockaded woodpeckers. This Southeastern species was a charter member of the U.S. rare-and-endangered species list in 1973. To survive, it needs nest holes in live longleaf pines. Despite its listing, it had declined steadily, along with the pines. Armed with large, industrial, gas-powered augers, Eglin drill teams climb the pines and supply the nest holes. They've reversed the woodpecker's decline.

Meanwhile, Eglin continues to serve as a site for military tests. And thousands of people live on it. Even more thousands of people camp in its forest, fish its waters, and hunt its game. And its pines are timbered commercially – at a profit!

Eglin's is a big story. Many others are much less grand, but no less important:

- Individuals who put bluebird nest boxes in their gardens have joined with thousands of others to shore up the future of this delicate and beautiful thrush.
- Prairie Dunes Country Club's golf course in Hutchinson, Kansas, hosts some 35,000 rounds of golf a year, but it also deliberately encourages an abundance of diverse wild species in its roughs. Prairie Dunes is showing that golf courses can do even better than no harm to nature – they can actually help her.

- Mayor Richard Daley's Chicago is bringing wild creatures to the inner city. Chicago took 19 abandoned gas stations and made them into pocket parks – little areas for birds, flowers, and trees.

Many examples of reconciliation ecology come from the world's poorer economies. You don't have to be rich to love nature. Researchers studying Third-World economies have developed a new kind of conservation ecology. They call it "countryside biogeography." These scientists are learning how traditional agricultural practices may offer people more: more species, more happiness, and more sustainable profits. No doubt the most famous case is shade-grown coffee.

All coffee plantations are human-designed, human-dominated landscapes. For centuries they all depended on

tropical trees to provide shade for coffee growing. Then geneticists came up with a type of coffee that could grow well in sunshine. Such coffee can be grown with big agribusiness tools and techniques. It is techno-coffee. The rub? The trees must be cut down – and all the animals that depend on them lose their habitat. In addition, growing techno-coffee results in overproduction, falling prices, and a nasty soil loss that demands expensive, continual application of mineral nutrients.

Yet, though it generates less profit, the practice of growing techno-coffee continues. Why? The price of coffee is about the same for both sorts, but shade-grown coffee has higher labor costs. So coffee growers are stuck with this Frankenstein's monster. But reconciliation activists who consume coffee can help to free them by telling this story and buying shade-grown coffee whenever they can.

If you care about the world's species and nature's diversity, here are more things you can do: Learn as much about reconciliation success stories as you can. Spread the word that we can keep the sky from falling simply by doing sensible things with our world. If you are a business leader or are in

a decision-making situation for a company, take the time to learn how maximizing profits and supporting natural diversity not only can be, but also must be, compatible and complementary goals.

No matter what your job, consider that we know all too little about the needs of most of the species in trouble. Yet we must have this sort of information to design our reconciled habitats. So be an advocate for such research – it is going to take some tax dollars and that can happen only with citizen support.

You also can support organizations that buy into the goals of reconciliation. Those include The Nature Conservancy, Defenders of Wildlife, the National Wildlife Federation, Bat Conservation International, and the North American Bluebird Society. [And, most assuredly, *Wild Ones*. – Ed.] Another, more active (and fun) activity, is to join neighbors in an effort to change what grows in your own backyards. But, perhaps most difficult, ignore the divisive zealots on both sides. Their wish for vituperative conflict will die down only if it finds no ears and no echo.

If enough of us care and act, there is still time. ★



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Chapters listed in "The Meeting Place."

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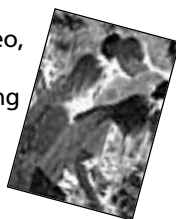
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At The Wild Ones Store

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For more information, contact the national office at 877-394-9453 or e-mail to merchandise@for-wild.org. Checks payable to Wild Ones at: Wild Ones Merchandise, P.O. Box 1274, Appleton, Wisconsin 54912. Prices include shipping and handling.

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If you are moving, either temporarily or permanently, please let the national office know as soon as your new address is official. Returned and forwarded mail costs Wild Ones anywhere from \$.70 to \$2.36 per piece.

You can mail your address information to Wild Ones, P.O. Box 1274, Appleton, Wisconsin 54912, call toll-free at 877-394-9453, or go to the Wild Ones members-only pages at www.for-wild.org.

Click on item 2 (Update Personal Membership Info) and enter the appropriate changes.

To Wild Ones chapters and our individual members:

Thank You!

A sincere thank you goes out to our chapters and individual members for their support of two very important Wild Ones funds. Because we are again trying to keep our budget as conservative as possible, the Board has recommended that we budget for only five issues of the *Wild Ones Journal* in anticipation of donations coming forth from chapters and environmentally minded businesses and individuals to help us fund the sixth issue.

6th Issue 2005 *Wild Ones Journal*

Leading off the 6th Issue 2005 Journal Fund is the **Madison (WI) Chapter**, with a donation of \$500 – along with **Christian Nelson**, Coulee Region (WI) Chapter, and **Sharon Pedersen**, St. Louis (MO) Chapter with \$100 each.

Lorrie Otto Seeds for Education

Keeping in mind our desire to give larger donations to worthy grant applicants, the **Rock River Valley (IL) Chapter** has donated \$156 to the Lorrie Otto Seeds for Education Grant Program.

2005 Appeal Challenge

As part of our program to add new members, Wild Ones has received a pledge from business member, One Plus, Inc. to reward chapters for their efforts.

Largest Percentage Increase. The chapter with the largest percentage increase in individual new memberships in 2005 will receive \$200. To date, that chapter is the **St. Cloud (MN) Chapter**, along with **Partners-at-Large**.

Most New Business Members. The chapter with the largest number of new business members in 2005 will receive \$300. To date, there is a nine-way tie between **Milwaukee-North (WI)**, **Rock River Valley (IL)**, **Louisville Metrowild (KY)**, **Kalamazoo Area (MI)**, **Arrowhead (MN)**, **Twin Cities (MN)**, **Lexington (KY)**, **St. Croix Oak Savanna (MN)**, and **Partners-at-Large**.



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