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landscaping  
movement

# Wild Ones

NATIVE PLANTS, NATURAL LANDSCAPES

## JOURNAL

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Thank you. Back cover.

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

## Humblebee Bumblebee

*For all that bumblebees are as familiar to us as are ladybugs, astonishingly little is known about them and their lives. Some of our best sources of information have been the keen observations of amateurs. One of the more recent books published by such an amateur observer is Humblebee Bumblebee, by Brian L. Griffin.*

By Maryann Whitman

As our northern hemisphere tilts back toward the sun in the spring, the Earth warms, and life begins to stir. In her tiny chamber, inches below the surface of the ground, the queen bumblebee recovers from her winter torpor. The earth in the tunnel she dug last fall is still soft, and she digs like a dog, passing the dirt between her two sets of rear legs.

After a six-month fast she emerges, ravenous, into the light. Blooming plants where she might find nectar at that time of year (mid to late April) may be scarce. In my garden in southeast Michigan she would find the native spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*), American plum (*Prunus americana*), Serviceberry (*Amelanchier laevis*), native crabapple (*Malus coronaria*), marsh marigold (*Caltha palustris*), cranesbill geranium (*Geranium maculatum*), golden Alexander (*Zizia aptera*), and violets. When she finds them, she drinks her fill, using her long, curled tongue as a straw.

### Did You Know?

A rarity, the bumblebee is a warm-blooded insect.

She is one of the huge early bumblebees, alone in the world, the rest of her colony of the previous year having perished. She had mated the previous fall, and carries within her a future bumblebee colony. Her first task is to find the perfect spot to build a proper home in which to start laying her eggs. She might spend as long as three weeks on this chore, feeding on nectar, and spending the still frigid nights clinging to a leaf. This is a dangerous time of year for her, for many other hungry creatures – birds and spiders – relish a high-protein bumblebee snack.

Well situated, abandoned mouse nests are favored by bumblebees. They are sheltered from the weather, and in them are bits of twigs, strands of grass, thistle-down, and hairs from the mother mouse for added warmth and insulation. The queen crawls in, pulls the material around her, and proceeds to dry it with the warmth of her body. A bumblebee, though an insect, is in fact warm-blooded. By “shivering” her massive flight muscles, she can create heat in her thorax. Then, by contracting her muscles, she circulates the warmth into her abdomen. Bumblebee body temperatures can vary between 40 and 104 F, regardless of the ambient temperature.

Fixing the location of her new home in her memory is her next task. Until she is certain she can find it again, she takes slow, orienting flights, rising into the air in gradually widening circles, and then back again to the entrance of her nest. Her navigation, eventually, is flawless.

With her body, she creates a cavity in the center of the nest, continuing to dry the material with her warmth. Thin sheets of wax are extruded from glands between the segments of her abdomen. She collects these shingles with her feet, and brings them up to her mandibles to chew and shape them for her first construction project – a honey pot. This tiny cup is positioned just inside the entrance to her nest and provisioned with nectar and pollen to sustain her while she broods her young.

At the center of the nest, on the floor, she builds a second, smaller cup of wax. Holding the cup in position with her third pair of legs, she inserts her abdomen into the cup and lays her first eight eggs, destined to become workers in the new colony. The cup is sealed

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



Are You  
Up For The  
**EcoCenter  
Challenge?**  
Fox Valley Area (WI) Chapter  
sets the pace for EcoCenter funding.

## Challenge Multiplies Your Chapter's Financial Contributions to Wild Ones EcoCenter and Headquarters

Now is the time to act! We have a rare and exciting opportunity to step up our promotion of environmentally sound landscaping practices. A permanent National Wild Ones Headquarters, along with a working ecology center, will help immensely in this effort. Having it in Wisconsin's Fox Valley, home of one of the largest PCB contamination cleanup projects in the world, will help make the EcoCenter a showplace of what can be done to restore the health of an ecosystem.

Members of the **Fox Valley Area (WI) Chapter** of Wild Ones (FVAC) wish to show our support for purchase of the Wild Ones EcoCenter with a 1:2 pledge of an amount up to \$20,000, and a challenge to Wild Ones chapters across the country. FVAC will match \$1 for every \$2 raised by Wild Ones chapters across the country, with the hope that our \$20,000 will raise an additional \$40,000 by March 1, 2008.

Our chapter has been fortunate in the past 12 years to have raised substantial funds through our annual conference and plant sales in order to be able to support worthwhile efforts like this. Please encourage your chapters to step up to the challenge.

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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## Update on Wild Ones National Headquarters

**Wild Ones members and other organizations come through with major financial commitments.**

As you already know, the National Board has given us permission to seek ownership of a valuable 13-acre property on the west shore of Little Lake des Morts, in an area which has been designated as the West Shore Preserves, in the Town of Menasha (Fox Valley), Wisconsin. This property consists of an 8-year-old, 2,700 square-foot house, 4 acres of upland, and 9 acres of marsh. The overall goal of the Ecology Center is to involve citizens in the protection and restoration of habitats associated with the Fox River ecosystem, which is part of the Great Lakes Watershed, while at the same time providing a permanent National Headquarters for Wild Ones.

Wild Ones has received funding commitments from the Fox River/Green Bay Natural Resource Trustee Council, and from the Wisconsin Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Fund in the amount of approximately \$400,000. We also have received a pledge of a \$100,000 cash award from Wild Ones members in Illinois, and have been receiving generous donations from members, ranging from \$25 to \$1,000.

## NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

### What Can We Do About Climate Change?



Many of you may recall the financial difficulties that our National administrative budget was in just a few short years ago. I am proud to inform our members that we have turned that issue around. Through the budgeting process, careful management of our financial resources, and your help, National was able to end the year with a strong positive balance. Thank you all for your help, your patience, and faith.

This winter has been a strange one. Last week I was at a job site and noticed a maple tree that was in full bud. Throughout December and most of January it seemed like April. The weatherman suggested the warming was due to El Nino and global warming. He suggested that while global warming may not be directly responsible, the increase in global temperatures increased the possibility of warmer-than-normal temperatures. More and more we read in our papers, and hear in the news, scientists and lay people acknowledging the possibility of global warming.

At the Q1 meeting of the National Board, we unanimously agreed to participate in a national forum on global warming over the next 12 months, culminating in a national day of dialogue, on January 31, 2008, between citizens and our political leaders about global warming solutions (see [www.focusthenation.org](http://www.focusthenation.org) for more information). No longer can we be patient with our leaders in the faith that they will finally see the light. Too long we have delayed in demanding that our government, locally, regionally, and nationally, recognize the importance of fully addressing this issue. Yes, global terrorism is a real threat that demands our attention. But global terrorism pales in its impact when compared to climate change and its potential impact on our future. Global warming affects everyone and everything, from our children's children to the very air they breathe, the water they drink and the environment that surrounds them.

So why is this important to Wild Ones? What do we have to contribute to possible solutions to slowing global warming and reducing its impact on our environment? Besides the basic individual responsibilities to conserve resources and reduce our consumption, we have as our primary focus, as an organization, the use of native plants in our landscapes. Native landscapes offer the following three global warming solutions, among others:

- **Carbon sequestration – taking carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere.** The root structures of many of our native prairie plants extend deep into the ground, unlike most non-natives. Carbon is one of the major constituents of global warming, and removing it from the weather cycle slows the warming process. The main carbon “sinks” are grasslands, forests, and organisms in the oceans and soil.
- **Reductions in fossil fuel and chemical use.** Native landscapes, in general, require less maintenance in the form of mowing, fertilization, and chemical disbursement. In fact, native landscapes can survive without any of these man-made solutions for control. But for those needing some order in their landscape, a native landscape will significantly reduce the emissions associated with lawn and garden care combustion equipment, the use of water-polluting fertilizers, and life-destroying chemicals. When we stop using fossil fuels and chemicals in our yards, we also reduce the need to transport and produce these items, further reducing their impact on our environment.
- **With global warming comes an increased need for potable water.** Native plants require less water to survive with changing environments. Native plants, with their deep root systems, will return more water to the ground instead of the water becoming runoff. Native plants are what make rain gardens work. Wetland native species offer natural filtration systems to improve water quality.

The National Board has formed a committee to help develop programs regarding climate change to assist chapters with dialogue in their communities. If you are interested in participating on this important committee, please contact Donna VanBuecken, our Executive Director. Over the next year you will be hearing more about this important issue, both in the *Journal*, on our web site, and hopefully in your meetings. ♣

Joe Powelka, Wild Ones National President  
[president@for-wild.org](mailto:president@for-wild.org)

with a blanket of wax. If all goes well, the young bees will emerge in 21 days.

Bumblebees (like butterflies) undergo complete metamorphosis – from egg, to larva, to cocoon, to adult – continuously tended by the foundress queen. When not foraging, she spends her time brooding her eggs and larvae like a setting hen. She lies “upon the egg cluster with her abdomen greatly distended and her legs grasping the sides of the waxen envelope.” Under the warmth of her body, the eggs become larvae within the capsule. Within seven days of hatching, the larvae spin cocoons to form pupae.

All the while the queen tends her developing brood, keeping them warm, and periodically opening the capsule to deposit pollen and nectar on which the larvae feed. When the weather is cold or rainy the queen does not leave the nest, but sips from the honey pot that she provided for herself. She can reach it without leaving the egg capsule, and it is positioned so that she is facing the entrance, ready to deal with intruders.

The first young workers are helped out of their cocoons by their mother. They are much smaller than she. As the season progresses and the growing colony of sisters assists their mother in foraging and feeding the young, the later generations receive the food necessary to grow quite large. This first brood needs about three days for their wings to become straight and hard, and for their coats to go from a wet, silvery, white pile to rich velvet in their ancestral colors. During this time they sip from the communal honey pot.

When the larvae of her first brood have spun their cocoons, the queen builds another egg cup, attaching it to the side of the original egg cup. In a few days she repeats the process. By the time the first young workers are ready to leave the nest, the queen has three more broods in varying stages of development – and she has eight new helpers.

They also assist their mother by brooding the young, freeing the queen to lay ever more eggs – the

colony has started. The four-week life of the worker bee is a busy one. Her work day starts as soon as she has warmed her flight muscles to at least 50 F, and doesn't end until long after sunset.

The workers may rightly be called “sisters,” for they hatch from fertilized eggs of the same mother. Late in the season, the foundress queen will lay some unfertilized eggs that will hatch into drones. The drone's sole function in life is reproductive. She will also lay some fertilized eggs that will develop into queens.

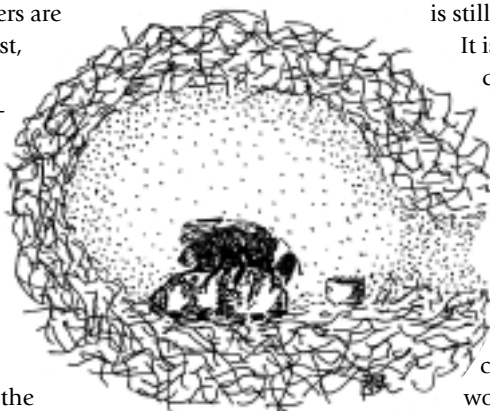
As soon as the drones are strong enough to fly they leave the nest, never to return. Instead they go a short distance away from the nest, and set up overlapping, pheromonal “trap-lines” on blooming flowers. Their goal is to entice the newly hatched young queens to linger a moment on these scent-marked flowers, and to mate. To an onlooker the drones don't look much different from the worker bees – they just don't seem to be working – but rather “sleeping in the noon-day sun,” waiting for something.

The young queens stay in the nest for a few days after emerging from the cocoon, feeding at the communal honey pot and doing some housekeeping chores. After their wings have hardened and their tribal colors have come in, the new queens emerge in their resplendent glory. Soon they are enticed into the pheromone traps, and they mate.

Shortly thereafter each queen finds a vole or squirrel tunnel to enter into and create a hibernation chamber for herself for the winter. These new queens are the only survivors of the old colony, but each carries within her the genetic material to establish a new colony the following spring.

How the social and functional aspects of the colony are maintained is still largely a mystery.

It is surmised that the queen controls all aspects of the colony's structure and function through pheromones. It is likely that her pheromones even determine which fertilized eggs will become queens rather than workers. ♣



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# Why Humblebee?

By Maryann Whitman

**Y**ou may be wondering why we have chosen to feature the life cycle of a bumblebee in the *Wild Ones Journal*. Just as it is good to know one's enemy, it is also good to know one's friends. It's been calculated that every third spoonful of our food comes courtesy of pollinators like bumblebees. Further, the importance of native pollinators is being reconsidered as the European honeybee population is plummeting as a result of diseases and parasites that have become immune to traditional treatment methods.

Bumblebees are among the most important pollinators of temperate-zone plants – in the wild, in the garden, in the field – and now in the greenhouse. In rough terms, it can be said that there are 54 species of the genus *Bombus* native to North America – with *Bombus impatiens* predominating in the east, and *B. occidentalis* predominating in the west. These native pollinators present a diversity of body and proboscis sizes (which determine which flowers each species can pollinate), methods of pollinating plants, density of pile, and adaptation to temperature and climate types (one species lives in Alaska). The length of their season of activity varies, but for our purposes a *Bombus* likely pollinates our earliest and our latest blooming native plants.

Several of our native *Bombus* species use “sonication” to pollinate flowers. The bee grasps the flower in question, wraps its body under the anthers (pollen-bearing structures), and vibrates its strong flight muscles – not for purposes of flight, but only to vibrate the flower, causing it to spill its pollen. With this method our bumblebee can do something that the honeybee cannot – they can pollinate tomato blossoms in greenhouses. They are 400 times more efficient than honeybees at any pollination chore, capable of visiting 30 to 50 flowers per minute.

Before bumblebees' special talent with tomato blossoms was discovered, pollinating in the greenhouse was done by hand or with “table shakers.” It is this unique capability that is quickly becoming the undoing of our native bumblebees. In the mid-1980s three firms in Europe started breeding, for commercial greenhouse pur-

poses, *B. terrestris*, (native to Europe), and *B. impatiens* (imported from North America). *B. impatiens* is also being bred in North America. Commercial breeding practices concentrate massive numbers of bees, and any diseases spread rapidly. Further, our bumblebee scientists hypothesize that a European strain of *Nosema bombi* (and perhaps other diseases) entered North America during a three-year period (1992-1994), when USDA/APHIS allowed queens of our western *B. occidentalis* and our eastern *B. impatiens* to be shipped to Belgium (where *B. terrestris* was being reared), and colonies reared from them were returned to the U.S. for distribution throughout North America. Since *B. occidentalis* is very closely related to the European *B. terrestris* (they are members of the same subgenus), it and other species of this subgenus of *Bombus* in North America, were the most susceptible to the European bumblebee diseases.

Though *B. impatiens* seemed to show no ill effects, it is likely to be a carrier (like “Typhoid Mary”). Thus, the European disease(s) entered into and caused population declines in both western (*B. occidentalis* and *B. franklini*) and eastern (*B. affinis* and *B. terricola*) populations of the subgenus of *Bombus*. We do not yet know if parallel declines in some other subgenera of North American bumblebees may also be related to this invasion. So, although *B. terrestris* itself was not imported into North America, the route by which its disease(s) could have entered the continent in the early 1990s is well documented.

Because it is very difficult to detect infections early in the life of a colony, the infected bees are sent out to greenhouses across the country and around the globe. Greenhouses are not airtight structures – bees escape and come in contact with wild colonies. It's been observed that the diseased wild bees are found primarily around greenhouses. Another aspect of this contact is genetic mixing between commercial bumblebees and native wild species.

Both the spread of diseases and genetic interbreeding have serious potential to threaten co-evolved plant-pollinator relationships and habitats. This is inferred from evidence collected in Japan, Australia,



and Tasmania, where large numbers of foreign bumblebees have been introduced. Importation of *Bombus terrestris* into North America (Mexico, Canada, and United States), has been prohibited.

The numbers of several subspecies of *Bombus* in the Pacific Northwest have been seen to plummet in recent years. One, at least, is feared extinct.

What can we do? We can continue doing exactly what we have been doing – natural landscaping with native plants, while advocating this practice to anyone who will listen.

A great proportion of our native pollinators are solitary bees that are ground-dwelling. They prosper in turfless “scruffy” areas and in minimally disturbed soils. We can continue to provide them with both. If you find a colony of ground bees, mow around them – fence in the area to keep animals and children out. The bees won't be there for long.

Others of our solitary bees build nests of mud and dig tunnels in rotting snags. Don't panic and haul out insecticide if you find them under the eaves of your garage or tool shed. Prize them. Recall that, unlike honeybees, our solitary bees don't have a store of honey to protect, so they are much more docile and much less likely to sting.

Plant such a variety of natives that something is blooming in every season, from snow-melt to snow-fall. The nectar and pollen in these blossoms may be saving someone's life. ♣

## More information

[www.nappc.org](http://www.nappc.org)

[www.xerces.org/Pollinator\\_Insect\\_Conservation/nativebeeneests.htm](http://www.xerces.org/Pollinator_Insect_Conservation/nativebeeneests.htm)

[www.pollinator.org/resources.htm](http://www.pollinator.org/resources.htm)

## A list of what blooms when

[www.arboretum.harvard.edu/plants/bloom.html](http://www.arboretum.harvard.edu/plants/bloom.html)  
#bottom

# What Happened to My Pictures???



What are those ants doing out in that field? Oh, those are kids? Hmmmm...too far away to see that. And what a nice shot this would have been if only the girl's face would have been in focus. Too bad. Also too bad about this cool moth shot. Its low-resolution origins have doomed it to a pixellated mess.

Maybe you've been there. You worked really hard to get the shot just right. Captured all the plant-rescue participants in interesting "action" poses. Got that great close-up of *Echinacea purpurea* with your new macro lens. And everyone showed up on time for the group shot at the conference. Finally, you have some great shots for the *Wild Ones Journal*! But then – disaster. Disappointment. Heartbreak. The *Journal* editor, or the art director contacts you and says those photos that look so great are unusable for the *Journal*. Accckkk!

## Your Pictures Look Great on Your Computer, so What's the Problem?

There's a big (and sometimes surprising) difference between photos that look good in your hand or on your computer screen, and photos that are good enough to deliver a message on a printed page. Editors and art directors need good photos to use in their publications, but unless you're a professional photographer, the quality standards for print publication are often a big mystery.

Art directors will throw around terms like resolution, DPI and/or PPI, pixels, color space, RGB, and JPEG when they're trying to explain the problem to you, but who has time to understand all that stuff? You don't want to become a professional photographer – you just want to get some of your best shots into publication.

## Help Has Arrived – Notes, Tips, and Hints From the *Journal* Staff

Here are some simple pointers that will help get your photos into better condition:

**Composition:** When your photo appears in the *Journal*, it will probably be a lot smaller than your original. Small details will be even smaller. Consider getting up close so your subject will be visible when the photo is re-sized to fit into the *Journal*. Rather than stepping back "to get everyone and everything" into the scene, move right in for a nice close-up.

**Color:** Remember that photos in the *Journal* are not printed in color. This means that those colorful flowers in your photo may look dull and lifeless when printed in black and white. There's no way to tell ahead of time if the colors in your photo will exhibit good contrast when converted to shades of gray, so it's best to rely on more than just the "pretty colors" alone. Sometimes going for interesting shapes that contrast with the background will give you great results.

**Exposure:** Try your best for even exposure. If your photo has lots of very light areas and/or very dark areas, much of the detail you see in your photo may disappear once the photo appears in the *Journal*. If your photo is over-exposed or under-exposed (too light or too dark) we'll do what we can with it, but poorly exposed photos will always print with loss of detail.

**Focus:** Holding the camera steady will go a long way toward getting great photos. We can use professional photo-editing software to "fix" other flaws, but no software can turn a fuzzy photo into a sharp rendition. A tripod is almost essential for extreme close-ups.

**Resolution:** The easiest (and possibly most important) thing you can do is to set your digital camera to a "higher quality" setting, or preferably "highest quality" (depending on the megapixel rating of your camera). Because every camera is different, we can't give you exact settings to use, but a quick look through your camera's user guide will explain the resolution settings.

## Get the Full Details on Our Web Site

Get all the answers at [www.for-wild.org/download/guidepho/guidepho.html](http://www.for-wild.org/download/guidepho/guidepho.html). ♣



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# Gardening with Children

By Barbara Bray

Last summer I discovered that I was “too serious” about native plants. When I plan gardens, I establish mini-plant communities like my oak barren garden, my prairie garden, and my mesic woodland garden. My children sometimes don’t recognize my gardens, but they enjoy walking on the narrow trails through them and telling me about something “weird” they saw. Last summer, our Wild Ones chapter held a container-gardening class. Surprisingly, this class opened my eyes to something I had forgotten – having fun with native plants. We chose plants with interesting foliage for our containers, and did not worry about whether they should be planted together. We laughed, we dug, and we had fun.

The container-gardening class made me think about children and gardening. There are books galore on the subject with great ideas that we can use to captivate our kids’ interest in native plants. Children already like digging in sandboxes, so they probably won’t turn down a chance to dig in dirt.

Start out by including your children in the planning stages. Let children help pick out a garden site, and they will learn about sun exposure and soils. Let them pick out favorite plants, and they will be interested in what’s growing there. Make the garden accessible with stepping stones or pathways, and they will visit the garden. Give your children smaller-sized garden tools that they can easily handle, and they will learn how to care for the plants.

If I told my son and daughter we were going to plant an oak savanna garden, they would just smile and walk away. But if I asked for help building a “teepee garden,” they would come running. For this planting you fasten four to six 6-foot poles together at the top, and spread the poles apart to create a 4-foot circular area on the ground. You then plant a seedling or seed at the base of each pole. Scarlet runner beans could be used, but a native vine like river-bank grape (*Vitis riparia*) could be planted.

If you have older children who won’t eat the plant, you might try our native clematis virgin’s bower (*Clematis virginiana*). The leaves are considered poisonous, but the feathery white blooms are beautiful. Native plants can also be used in other theme gardens. What about “wild animal gardens” with trout lilies, skunk cabbage, false dragonhead, rattlesnake master, and birds

foot Violets? Tallgrass prairie plants would work well in building flower mazes. Prairie plants could also be used to construct a “giant’s garden.” Imagine tall coreopsis (*Coreopsis tripteris*) towering 6 to 7-feet high and cupplant (*Silphium perfoliatum*) just as tall. Some children might enjoy learning their alphabet in an “ABC garden.” A is for alumroot. B is for bergamot. C is for coreopsis, and so on. The possibilities are endless.

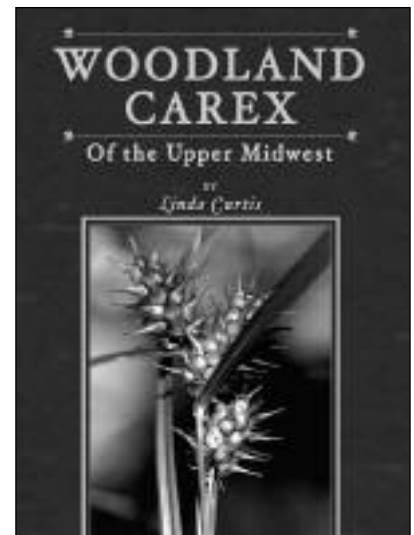
The secret to successful gardening with children is to have fun. Look closely at your gardens. Do you see the dancing ballerinas on the stems of yellow coneflowers? Have you discovered “Princess Dicentra” inside bleeding hearts? Have you ever sewn leaves of sassafras together, using the end of the stem? Garden with your children and enjoy your plants in a new way. The memories you create will be priceless. ♣

## References

Lovejoy, Sharon. 1999. *Roots, Shoots, Buckets and Boots: Gardening Together with Children*. Workman Publishing: New York.

Richardson, Beth. 1998. *Gardening with Children*. The Taunton Press: Newtown, CT.

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# Grapevine

By Maryann Whitman

## This Spaceship Earth

On February 2, 2007, the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change), removed all doubt as to whether climate change is in fact occurring. In their report they concluded that not only is the average temperature of the planet rising at an unprecedented rate, but the chemistry of our air, our water, and our soils is changing in a manner that is not sustainable.

Composed of 2,500 scientists from 192 countries, the IPCC was established in 1988 by the World Meteorological Association and the UN Environment Program. In 2007 it is publishing its fourth, three-part report on climate change. Part I assesses the relevant science. Part II considers the potential positive and negative consequences of climate change on the natural world and the economy, and ways the world can adapt to them. And Part III works on options for slowing or halting climate change.

The IPCC doesn't conduct research or run experiments. Instead, it gathers, sifts, and summarizes the best information available. IPCC reports are intended to be "comprehensive, objective, open, and transparent"



assessments of the state of scientific knowledge on climate change. The bulk of the info comes from scientific and technical data published in peer-reviewed literature.

IPCC is the gold standard. It is as close as humanity is ever likely to get to the "Final Word" on climate change. So how does this affect the Wild Ones mission?

### Plant Migration and Climate Change

Plants are the bottom of the global food chain. They fix the energy of the sun, converting it into a form that the rest of the biosphere can use as sustenance. As go plants so goes the rest of the biosphere –

and plants in turn are reliant on insects for pollination – and birds and other animals for seed dispersal.

Terrestrial plants are thought of as sedentary in their habits – but they are mobile on a seasonal basis – one growing season at a time. As their habitat changes will they be able to migrate into distant locations at a pace that keeps up with the rate of change? Some recently published research suggests that some rapidly reproducing, weedy species will be able to keep up with a rapid rate of change (that we are likely to experience over a coming period of time), while other species, that are slow to mature, with long life spans, with special requirements for survival, will be in danger of regional extirpation. If these are rare and endangered species, they will become extinct. If it is a keystone species, one that plays a greater role in maintaining ecosystem function than would be predicted based on its abundance, all will be disrupted. (*Keystone: the wedge-shaped stone that holds together the parts of an arch. If removed, the arch collapses.*)

We have evidence from fossil records and from records of the behavior of contemporary invasive species, that species are capable of moving great distances, to new habitats. Consider the obstacle presented by the Great Lakes as the most recent glaciers were retreating. Consider the rate of spread of cheatgrass, (*Bromus tectorum*). Introduced into the West in the 1880s as a contaminant in agricultural seed, over the next 20 years it spread slowly – and then exploded in the following 10 years. Within 40 years it had occupied hundreds of thousand of square miles. (The lag-time of modern invasions, the time it takes for an introduced species to unquestionably establish reproducing populations, ranges from decades to a century.)

Another thing we have learned from invasive species is that in the absence of disturbances, many plant communities are resistant to invasion. So dispersal and travel distances are not the only problems that migrating species might face.

### Landscape Patterning

We have done much to fragment and destroy habitat connections through which migrating plants might move. If climate change renders the remaining habitats inhospitable, many plants may be stranded. This same fragmenting and destruction of habitat also has a deleterious impact on

the insects that pollinate plants, and the birds and animals that aid in the dispersal of seed.

The microorganisms in the soils that are a life support to our native plants are also to be considered. A recent "metagenomics" experiment showed a couple of important things – there are still large numbers of these species to be isolated and identified, and, more importantly to this discussion, most microbial lineages stay in one environment for very long periods of time. This contradicts the common belief that every microbe can potentially live everywhere. Moreover their modes of migration to friendlier habitats are severely limited, if not nonexistent.

### Pollinators and dispersers of seeds

The availability of pollinators and dispersers is affected by their overall population numbers. It is also affected by their phenology, the seasonal timing of life cycles of plants, animals, and insects.

A changing climate will be reflected in the changing seasonal cycles of plants, animals, and insects. Plants and their pollinators have both adapted to highly choreographed relationships. Plants produce pollen and nectar at specific times in order to attract pollinators who also are accustomed to appear at specific times. The pollinators come not to pollinate but rather to collect food stuffs for their own survival.

Consider the mayhem that will result when all the calendars are thrown awry by climate change. We already see migrating birds arriving and leaving at different times. There is much we don't know about pollinators, their migratory or over-wintering habits. We don't know what prompts a wild bumblebee's emergence from her winter hibernaculum – time or temperature. We just know that they appear in the spring when flowers have started to bloom.

### Wild Ones Mission

Our mission is to foster biodiversity by aiding the survival of native plants, through promoting their use in our landscapes. It seems that to be true to our mission we need to find out what we can about the climate change that experts tell us is upon us, and participate in any way that we can to slow its development – all in the hope of gaining time for the species we wish to preserve – time for them to be able to adapt themselves. ♣



# To the Rescue: Saving Native Plants From Destruction. Tips for a Successful Plant Dig.

By Mariette Nowak

My husband was the first in my family to rescue and replant native plants. He had begun a new job in a developing industrial park where native woodlands and meadows were being converted into office buildings. (Industrial *park* – what a misnomer!) Walking the grounds on his lunch hour, he witnessed the continual loss of beautiful native vegetation, and soon began bringing wildflowers home, where we planted them in place of our lawn.

Our own Wild Ones Executive Director, Donna VanBuecken, and her husband, John, started landscaping with natives in much the same way. They worked in construction, and became alarmed at the wanton destruction of native plants. They too began to rescue them and bring them home.

Plant rescues are a rewarding way to limit the loss of our native flora, and beautify our gardens and/or natural areas at the same time. Early spring is one of the best times to organize plant rescues. In most of the country, plants are dormant, the soil is usually damp, rain is frequent, and there's a long growing season ahead – all of which help to insure the success of transplants.

As the director of Wehr Nature Center in Milwaukee County, I organized a weekly "Bulldozer Alert" for many years, at which volunteers and I would harvest plants from development sites and replant them at the center. I'd like to share with you dozen tips for organizing a successful plant dig, based on the experience I gleaned over the years.

**Finding Sites** Network with real-estate agents, contractors, and developers, and ask them to notify your chapter about likely sites.

**Permission** Always, always obtain permission from the owners of the property. Nothing can damage your personal reputation and that of Wild Ones, as much as trespassing on another's property.

**Waivers** All participants should also be asked to sign a waiver of liability for the owner and for Wild Ones. You can find a sample of the waiver in the *Chapter Guidebook*.

**Telephone Trees** A site may become available at a moment's notice, so organize a phone tree. Phone trees can be arranged in branches according to telephone exchange or geographic area. Each branch head can call three to four others, who in turn will call another three or four. Small sites may be able to accommodate only a few people – one branch.

**Prepare Planting Site** Plan your planting site in advance – one that will match the dig site as much as possible. Consider soil type, moisture, sun, exposure, etc. If possible, prepare the planting site ahead of time by removing other vegetation, weeding, etc., so that transplanting can be done as quickly as possible. All these things will, of course, help insure the survival of the plants.

**Clothing** Wear long sleeves, pants, gardening gloves, and sturdy shoes. I know people who have gotten poison ivy from the roots of invisible plants, and could likely have prevented this with protective clothing.

**Equipment** Sharp spades are essential. Plant containers can be cardboard boxes lined with plastic, plastic ice cream pails, or regular 3-gallon pails. Although plastic bags are used by some, I think rigid containers are more protective. Plastic sleds or laundry plastic baskets with rope handles are handy for pulling heavy boxes over

rough terrain. Think it through – if part of your route is through shin-deep mud you need to be able to carry, not drag your load.

**Digging** Dig a circle around the plant, disturbing roots as little as possible, and keep the soil around the roots intact as you lift the plant to your container. This will preserve the fine root hairs and the mycorrhizal fungi associated with the roots which are so important for many plants. If the plant has buds, flowers or fruits, cut them off so the plants can use all their energy for growing new roots, not on forming seeds and flowers. If the plant is in leaf, remove up to 50 percent of the leaves, especially those at the tip, matching the amount of foliage to the root system which remains after digging.

**Don't be Greedy** This is especially important when there is only a limited number of prized species available. I especially encourage chapters to consider planting at restoration sites or nature centers, where the plants are likely to have a more secure future. At the nature center where I worked, volunteers transplanted most plants to our grounds, but could take home one box for their own yards. This is a reasonable reward for their hard work.

**Planting** Replant immediately whenever possible at the same depth that the plant was originally growing. Water well. In dry soils or during dry season, water the hole for the plant before putting in the plant, and then again after planting. Mulch the transplant well, matching the mulch to that in the plant's original habitat when possible.

**Post-Dig Care** For the first two or three weeks, water twice a week. For the rest of the first growing season, a weekly watering is usually sufficient.

**Thank You** Don't forget to send a thank you note to the owners of the site.

Also, don't forget to be personally thankful for your good fortune. In the Milwaukee area, dig sites are very rare these days, since few undeveloped sites remain, and the Wehr Nature Center has not sponsored plant digs for many years. Most native landscapers will have to purchase plants, just as others purchase cultivars.

As Wendy Woolcot, land manager at the Schlitz Audubon Nature Center in Milwaukee says, "It still surprises me when people who should know better assume that landscaping with native plants should be cheap. The cost of a lawn is accepted, like death and taxes, but actually paying for a wild landscape seems wrong because those plants should 'be there anyway.' Well, the days are gone when we could dig up a few plants from Grampa's woods and start our own little nostalgic garden.

Why should the endangered wild-lings, plants that can't be raised on an assembly line and won't grow in every soil, come back for free?" I couldn't agree more.



# A Native Landscape Challenge Contest

## Grow Native!

By Betty Struckhoff

As natural landscapers, Wild Ones members love to dig in the dirt and create a new habitat. Most of us, however, have limited space to do this on the property we own, and some of us live in apartments. What do you do when you run out of space? Why, find a yard owned by like-minded people, and make it over. The St. Louis (MO) Chapter of Wild Ones recently sponsored a *Grow Native! Landscape Challenge* contest to promote native landscaping to our broader community and to have tons of fun. Here is the step-by-step process of what we did:

**Partnerships.** Our landscape-makeover contest was inspired by a pilot project in 2005, designed by the Missouri Department of Conservation's Grow Native! program and the Mid-Missouri (MO) Chapter of Wild Ones Natural Landscapers. They laid the organizational groundwork and coached us through the 2006 St. Louis contest. Our partnership consisted of the state's Grow Native! program, St. Louis (MO) Chapter of Wild Ones, and Shaw Nature Reserve. Other chapters might consider partnering with a wildflower nursery, the local Sierra Club, nature study groups, or similar organizations.

**Define objectives and a geographic area.** Our objective was to educate the general public about the beauty, practicality, and eco-friendliness of native landscaping. We accomplished this by selecting a home with great visibility and homeowners who had potential for being ambassadors of our objective. We also gave free passes to each applicant for Native Plant School classes at Shaw Nature Reserve. Other possible freebies might include discount coupons for a native-plant nursery. Defining a geographic area put a limit on how much driving was involved in choosing the winner.

**Develop a promotion plan.** Our geographic area included a population of over 1 million, with both inner city and suburban neighborhoods. We delivered fliers and small posters to nurseries in the area, and we distributed a press release to newspapers and to organizations interested in native plants. We received 73 applications and a feature article in the St. Louis paper.

**Get professionals involved.** A professional design can mean the difference between a landscape that elicits "WOWS," and one that looks like a weedy patch. This is where experience counts. Simon Barker, a local landscape designer, stepped forward and helped design

the garden. He received help from Scott Woodbury, Past-President of the St. Louis (MO) Chapter, and Matt Broderick, both horticulturists from Shaw Nature Reserve who are native-landscaping experts. The team led 15 volunteers the day of the planting event.

**Narrowing down the Applicants.** The first step was to narrow the playing field. We selected 13 finalists before doing a "drive-by" evaluation. We sought homeowners with some experience in gardening and an appreciation of the biodiversity a native landscape creates. We excluded back yards because front yards were more visible. Also, we considered children in the household to be a plus – how wonderful for a child to grow up with an interesting yard. When it came time for the "drive-by," we looked for houses with good public visibility, evidence of caretaking, and a property that was within our ability and budget to successfully complete. Our winner was a relatively small, south-facing front yard directly across the street from a city park. The family was new to the area, had two children, and both parents turned out to be nature enthusiasts already.

**Make the installation a fun and educational experience.** The September Saturday of our installation was overcast and cool – perfect planting weather. In addition, the spirit of the Wild Ones volunteers and homeowners was infectious. Even the public stopped to ask what we were doing. Here is a synopsis of the conversion:

- Weeks before the planting, the homeowners prepared the yard by removing non-native boxwood and monkey grass. They also killed turf grass with herbicide, and broke apart a short concrete sidewalk to the front door.
- Just before the planting date, the planning team and homeowners, removed the old concrete, laid a new flagstone entry walk, dug the rain garden basin, and delivered the potted plants.
- The day of the volunteer planting, 11 volunteers and the two homeowners worked to the sound of bluegrass music. Here is what they did: Dug the channel from the roof gutter to the rain garden and installed plastic pipe; installed a split rail fence to frame a small front yard island planting; planted hundreds of native flowers, grasses, trees, and shrubs; spread a layer of leaf compost over the new plantings; and sowed new grass seed and straw on the remaining grass walkways.



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www.kickapoomudcreek.org  
Kickapoo/Mud Creek Nature Conservancy is physically located on approximately 59 acres of land encompassing part of the valley straddling Mud Creek just northwest of Oregon, Illinois. The Conservancy surrounds, and is associated with, a privately owned demonstration residence (Kickapoo Dwelling). Kickapoo Dwelling incorporates green construction and the use of three alternative energy sources (passive solar trombe wall, photovoltaic and wind turbine electrical generation). You are welcomed, and encouraged, to visit. Our web site is also a source of information about local and regional organizations, locations, and activities involving land conservation, renaturalization, and reparationization and green, energy efficient, and alternative energy residential construction.  
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Greater DuPage Chapter

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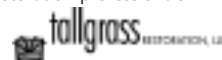
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*Declined Trillium by Tim Lewis.  
Rock River Valley (IL) Chapter.*

### MICHIGAN

#### Hiawatha National Forest

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(906) 228-4484

tmiller@fs.fed.us

www.fs.fed.us/rd/hiawatha

Named a national forest in the 1930s, Hiawatha National Forest is part of the U.S. Forest Service (Department of Agriculture). The forest encompasses 1 million acres and is located in the Upper Peninsula of Eastern Michigan. Our mission includes restoration, weed control, preservation of rare plants, and research of natural areas within the forest. Seed for restoration activities comes from the 14-year-old Native Seed Program and also from local growers. Seed mixes are developed specifically for each site we restore. Like Wild Ones, we are very much aware of the need to define local zones so as not to take plants or soil from unlike ecological areas. Visitors are more than welcome. We would like everyone to know about our work! We have created many partnerships with like-minded organizations, such as Wild Ones. Central Upper Peninsula Chapter



#### MCC Gardening Association

Mott Community College  
1401 E Count St Flint MI 48529-6208  
(810) 762-0455

rebecca.gale@mcc.edu  
www.gardening.mcc.edu

The purpose of the Mott Community College Gardening Association (MCCGA) is to educate students and the community on basic horticultural practices and their benefits through lectures, volunteer projects and gardening related activities in and around the MCC campuses, as well as in our community. We began installation of a native plant garden in Spring 2005, which will demonstrate and help us to share the benefits of rebuilding native plant habitats. We've established the Campus Beautification Endowment fund to support MCC campus gardens and the educational benefits they afford our students. Tax deductible donations may be made payable to the Foundation for Mott Community College (5013c) and mailed to the address above. We perform residential landscape clean ups at minimal fees. Flint River Chapter



#### Native Connections

17080 Hoshel Rd. Three Rivers, MI 49093

(269) 580-4765

jerry@nativeconnections.net

www.nativeconnections.net

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douglas@energyscapes.com

www.energyscapes.com

Established in 1989, EnergyScapes staff does landscape design, installation, and maintenance of sustainable landscapes using locally native plant species. We share the mission of expanding awareness, of saving biodiversity, and healing the planet. We are glad to be working together with Wild Ones. Douglas helped kick off the Twin Cities Chapter by giving its first presentation. Twin Cities Chapter



#### Inspiration - A Natural Neighborhood

3030 Centre Pointe Dr Suite #800  
Roseville MN 55113

(952) 679-4278

jbroughton@cpdctnd.com

www.inspirationbayport.com

Inspiration, a 245-acre conservation neighborhood in Bayport, Minnesota features 70 percent open space which is being restored to eight different ecological communities and held in perpetuity by conservation easement. 170 acres of open space are buildable, however, the developer, Contractor Property Developers Company has chosen to reserve the open space and restore the acreage with native plant communities for the



## Wild Ones Business Members Yellow Pages 2007

enjoyment of neighborhood residents and the public. A nature education center and two miles of trails are being constructed for use by residents and the public. The land plan was created by the ecological consultants of Applied Ecological Services. Home construction commenced August, 2005. Homeowners are encouraged to construct rain gardens and native plant landscapes that contribute to the ecologically-focused stormwater management system.  
St. Croix Oak Savanna Chapter

### Out Back Nursery

15280 - 110th St S Hastings MN 55033-9135  
(800) 651-3626

tom@outbacknursery.com  
www.outbacknursery.com

Out Back Nursery, a grower of Minnesota native plants for 25 years, also provides landscape design and contractor services.

Known for their mottoes, "Where ecology and horticulture unite," and "May we be your guides?" their goal is to serve the residents of the region with the largest selection of native plants in the region.  
Twin Cities Chapter



### Prairie Moon Nursery

31837 Bur Oak Lane Winona MN 55987  
(866) 417-8156

info@prairiemoon.com

www.prairiemoonnursery.com

Now celebrating 25 years of growing experience,

Prairie Moon offers a large selection of native prairie and meadow wildflower and grass seed. Our forb (wildflower) and grass seed and plants are of the highest quality.

With over 500 species listed, we are your source for the more uncommon native forbs, cacti, trees, shrubs, vines, ferns, grasses, sedges, and rushes. We specialize in custom and pre-designed wetland, savanna, prairie, and woodland seed mixes. Other products include books on restoration landscaping, plant identification, and medicinal plants. Prairie Moon also can guide you to the best ecological lawn alternatives, such as Buffalo Grass and our no-mow "Eco Grass."

Partner-at-Large

### Prairie Restorations Inc.

31922 128th Street PO Box 327  
Princeton MN 55371-0327

(763) 389-4342

info@prairieresto.com

www.prairieresto.com

For nearly thirty years Prairie Restorations, Inc. has designed, restored and managed prairies and other natural landscapes. Contracted installations are at the heart of our business. We complete successful projects by making use of high quality native seeds and plants that we produce in our own fields and greenhouses and by relying on time-tested techniques and state-of-the-art equipment. Want to do the work yourself? Our retail store provides seed and plant materials and our knowledgeable staff can answer questions and make recommendations to ensure the success of your project. Offices in Cloquet, Hawley, Northfield, Princeton, and Watertown.

St. Croix Oak Savanna Chapter



## MISSOURI

### Missouri Wildflowers Nursery

9814 Pleasant Hill Rd Jefferson City MO 65109  
(573) 496-3492

Mowldflrs@socket.net

www.missouriwildflowers.net

We sell native Missouri perennials, both seeds and plants. Our plants are nursery propagated. Missouri is the genetic origin of the plants, so they are best adapted to states east of the Rockies. View our plants online or visit the nursery near Jefferson City.

Mid-Missouri Chapter



## NEBRASKA

### Todd Valley Farms Inc.

East Highway 92, PO Box 202 Mead NE 68041  
(402) 624-6385

info@todddvalleyfarms.com

www.todddvalleyfarms.com

Todd Valley Farms is a leading producer of low water use turfgrass. The farm owns exclusive rights to several turfgrass varieties including three turf-type buffalograss. Buffalograss is the only turfgrass native to the United States and uses up to 75% less water than other types of turfgrass. Todd Valley Farms buffalograss was developed as turfgrass, not a modified pasture grass. They are seedless vegetative reproduced all-female plants so they require less mowing, have very low pollen ratings and form a dense green turf. Establishment is by sod or accelerated growth plugs. Plugs are shipped via UPS to all states and are quick and easy to install with minimal ground preparation. Buffalograss creates a low maintenance landscape and is the grass of choice for Green Buildings and Green Roofs.  
Partner-at-Large



to provide the highest standard of design and professional service. From initial consultation to detailed construction and installation, we treat each project as a one of a kind expression of our client's taste and life-style. We specialize in ecologically sound landscapes, wetland restoration and naturalistic design. Our clients' designs are created with rare and contagious enthusiasm, awe of nature, a comprehensive knowledge of plant and earth sciences and 15 years of experience.

Partner-at-Large

### Nature Study Guild Publishers

PO Box 10489 Rochester NY 14610-0489

(800) 954-2984

naturebooks@worldnet.att.net

www.naturestudy.com

We publish books to help people understand and enjoy the natural world, including the Finders series of pocket guides, and *Reading the Landscape of America*, by May Theilgaard Watts, our founder and my grandmother. May Watts devoted her life to opening people's eyes to see that land neither paved nor mowed was not a wasteland. I share her passion for protecting natural and vernacular landscapes and native plants and am pleased to support an organization that shares my values.

Partner-at-Large



## OHIO

### Barnes Nursery

3511 West Cleveland Rd Huron OH 44839

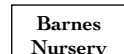
(800) 421-8722

allowery@barnesnursery.com

www.barnesnursery.com

Our professional team of designers has decades of combined experience in design and installation of trees and shrubs. This imaginative, creative group has provided our customers with distinctive, yet functional landscapes that address their needs and wishes. Coupled with the skills of our talented artisans in carpentry and masonry, we have the ability to enhance your landscape with unique accents like custom designed paths, walls, patios, decks, lighting, and water elements.

Columbus Chapter



### Ohio Prairie Nursery

PO Box 174 Hiram OH 44234

(330) 569-3380

info@ohioprairienursery.com

www.ohioprairienursery.com

Ohio Prairie Nursery is an Ohio grower and supplier of native seed and plants. Our products include our True Colors, Authentic Regional, Stormwater and Erosion Control, Alternative Lawn, Habitat Creation and Custom seed mixes, as well as our "Let It Rain Garden"™ and Native Wildlife Habitat Garden plant packages. Our services include, consulting, seed installation, and educational presentations. Our philosophy revolves around providing individuals and organizations with the tools and products necessary to be responsible land stewards. We believe that the best way to renew the ecosystems, on which we all depend, is through educating and raising the awareness of individuals who can make immediate decisions that positively impact our planet.

Western Reserve Chapter



## NEW JERSEY

### Trillium Outdoor Designs, LLC

161 North Franklin Tpk, Suite 2A

Ramsey, NJ 07446

(201) 456-5702

whitney@trilliumoutdoordesigns.com

www.trilliumoutdoordesigns.com

Our mission at Trillium Outdoor Designs is to engage with a client to create an outdoor space that reflects their own individuality with an emphasis on elegant, coherent design. Services offered range from complete custom designs to design coaching for the "do-it-yourselfer." One area of focus is the use of unique materials that reflect the individual as well as an environmental sensibility appropriate to the particular application. We aim to show clients how, regardless of their style preferences, they can have a garden that will encourage wildlife and help foster a balanced ecosystem. Our goal is to provide, above all, exceptional quality of design that will promote bio-diversity while improving our own sensory experience in the garden.

Partner-at-Large



## NEW YORK

### John Jay Landscape Development

282 Katonah Ave #268 Katonah NY 10536

(914) 232-0399

johnjay@landdesign.net

www.landdesign.net

John Jay Landscape Development is a full service landscape design and management firm. Our aim is



## Wild Ones Business Members Yellow Pages 2007

### PENNSYLVANIA

#### Edge of the Woods Native Plant Nursery LLC

8718 Claussville Rd Fogelsville PA 18051  
(610) 442-2495 cell  
stantsits@edgeofthewoodsnursery.com  
www.edgeofthewoodsnursery.com  
Our goal at Edge of the Woods Native Plant Nursery is to offer a wide selection of high quality, nursery propagated native plants to homeowners and other land managers. Native plants play an important role in our ecosystem and we want to help you discover their beauty as well as their other benefits. Some of those benefits include attracting birds, butterflies and wildlife, slowing water run-off and reducing pesticide and fertilizer usage.  
Partner-at-Large



#### Redbud Native Plant Nursery

1214 N Middletown Rd Glen Mills PA 19342  
(610) 358-4300  
catheris@mindspring.com  
www.redbudnativeplantnursery.com  
Redbud Native Plant Nursery, LLC offers gardeners, land managers and restorationists a diverse selection of native plants to transform and naturalize their landscapes. Trees, shrubs, vines, grasses, ferns, and wild flowers are available. Additionally, the nursery assists clients with special orders for projects including woodland restoration and streambank stabilization. Design consultation, landscape management, planning, and ecological services are provided. The nursery specializes in habitat design to encourage wildlife. We are located half an hour from Philadelphia, minutes from the 476 Springfield/Lima exit.  
Partner-at-Large



### TEXAS

#### Ecovirons

P O Box 520 Chireno TX 75937-0520  
(936) 362-2215  
info@ecovirons.com  
www.ecovirons.com  
Ecovirons specializes in propagation, consultation, landscaping, ecological evaluation, and wetland mitigation promoting ecologically and environmentally sound gardening. Ecovirons specializes in hard to find native plants for pick-up or delivery for large orders.  
Partner-at-Large



### WISCONSIN

#### Agrecol Corp.

2918 Agriculture Dr Madison WI 53718-6770  
(608) 226-2544  
ecosolutions@agrecol.com  
www.agrecol.com  
Agrecol Corporation combines the best principles of production agriculture with the science of ecology, producing high quality native seed and plants. Agrecol is the largest grower of native plants and seed in the Midwest; growing more than 200 species of native wildflowers and grasses. New products include specialty erosion control, water management products available to national and international markets. Agrecol offers seed and live plants and installation for prairie, woodlands, wetlands and savanna plant communities, sales and installation of Envirolok vegetated retaining walls, environmental consulting and resource management services,



restoration design, detention, retention and rain-water basins, stormwater management, polyacrylamide, native certified weed-free mulch/straw, silt fence equipment, installation and site monitoring and maintenance.  
Madison Chapter

#### American Family Insurance

6000 American Pkwy Madison WI 53783  
(608) 242-4100  
rgarczyn@amfam.com  
www.amfam.com  
The corporate national headquarters for American Family Insurance is located on 410 acres in the northeast edge of Madison. The company has transformed former agricultural land into diverse habitat including grasslands, a native prairie butterfly garden, oak savannas and ponds. Employees have the opportunity to participate in volunteer activities such as bluebird nest box monitoring or learn about ecological practices through guest speakers, tours and habitat enhancement projects. The company has developed a corporate commitment to responsible resource management as a long term investment in the community and its natural resources. American Family is the proud recipient of the 2005 John Nolen Award for Excellence in Ecological Restoration presented by the Friends of the University of Wisconsin Arboretum.  
Madison Chapter



#### Goodland Tree Works

4404 Goodland Park Rd Madison WI 53711-5972  
(608) 221-9565  
bethkw@sbcglobal.net  
www.goodlandtreeworks.com  
The plants growing in your yard or on your grounds endure very different conditions than the natural ecosystem in which they evolved. The stresses of poor soil, injury, and misguided "care" all cause problems for trees and shrubs, problems that are expensive to address. Our goal is to emulate, in simple ways, the natural conditions that lead to plant health, and prevent problems before they become serious. "Smart solutions" take care of both human needs, and the needs of the plants, a win-win approach.  
Madison Chapter



#### Hickory Road Gardens

2041 Hickory Rd  
Mosinee WI 54455  
(715) 693-6446  
brayherbs@msn.com  
Shade-loving woodland wildflowers are our specialty. We have over 25 years experience growing them under artificial shade. Starting with ginseng in the early '70s, we branched out into goldenseal, and ultimately into woodland wildflowers native to the forests of the upper Midwest. Our flowers are grown almost entirely from our own stock or from seeds gathered in the woods around our farm. We have been able to amass a nice collection of plants without dislodging the parent sources from their native habitat. We think you will find these nursery-grown plants to be vigorous and well-suited as potted plants for nursery sales, for private landscaping or for commercial restoration projects. We ship bare-root, for overnight or next day delivery primarily in spring or fall, but at other times by request.  
Central Wisconsin Chapter



#### Johnson's Nursery

W180 N6275 Marcy Rd  
Menomonee Falls WI 53051-5599  
(262) 252-4988  
bill@johnsonsnursery.com  
www.johnsonsnursery.com  
Johnson's Nursery, Inc. is one of the largest growers of landscape plants in southeast Wisconsin. Our locally grown inventory includes an extensive list of native trees, shrubs, evergreens along with herbaceous forbs, ferns, and grasses. We strive to provide our customers with the widest possible selection of balled and burlapped and container grown plant material in the area. Johnson's also offers residential and commercial landscape design, installation, and maintenance services, including buckthorn and honeysuckle eradication. We also offer brick and stone patios, retaining walls and other hardscape elements.  
Menomonee River Area Chapter



#### Lacewing Gardening & Consulting Services

6087 N Denmark St Milwaukee WI 53225  
(414) 358-2562  
phidijsn@execpc.com  
Lacewing Gardening Services provides gardening consultation, instruction, design and restoration services, as well as maintenance. We work at creating habitats that enhance local/regional ecosystems, including woodland and shade gardens, prairies, meadows, lakeside and stream restorations. We also do organic pest and disease control when needed. We are a conservation-minded business, and believe in natural landscaping using native plant species (also non-invasive non-natives), and in a lifestyle that supports sustainable living.  
Menomonee River Area Chapter



#### Lake Shore Cleaners – Native Solutions Environmental

4615 N Richmond St Appleton WI 54913  
(920) 716-0013  
lakeshorecleaners@newbc.rr.com  
At Lake Shore Cleaners, we work closely with our clients to restore and create native and self-sustaining plant and animal habitats. A full-service company with the latest technology and equipment, we work with residential, commercial and private land applications, handling all aspects to ensure the productivity and success of the site. At Lake Shore Cleaners we take the guesswork out of ecological projects for prairies, savannas, wetlands and ponds, trees and shrubs. Helping to restore Wisconsin's native habitats, Ron Wolff brings years of experience to every project.  
Fox Valley Area Chapter



Digging at Harley Nature Center by Carol Andrews.  
Arrowhead (MN) Chapter.



## Wild Ones Business Members Yellow Pages 2007

### Landmark Landscape Inc.

W3923 County Highway O  
Sheboygan Falls WI 53085  
(920) 467-6442

joe@landmarklandscapesinc.com  
www.landmarklandscapesinc.com  
Landmark Landscape is an ecological landscape firm that promotes sustainable landscape applications and native plant communities. We host an expert staff of designers, horticulturists, arborists, and artists who specialize in native landscape design, ecologically sensitive installation and low impact maintenance practices. Our innovative approach toward landscaping ensures that each project meets our client's needs and benefits the environment. We have enthusiastically accepted a position of land stewardship and will continue to help protect and restore the delicate ecosystems and biodiversity of the Upper Midwest. Call us for a consultation. Sheboygan Area Tension Zone Chapter



### Marshland Transplant Aquatic Nursery

P.O. Box 1 Berlin, WI 54923  
(800) 208-2842 or (920) 361-4200 phone or fax  
marshland@voyager.net

Marshland Transplant Aquatic Nursery (MTAN) has been in business for nearly 20 years with 10-plus more years in the field of restoration. MTAN is the largest wholesale aquatic nursery in the Midwest. We are producers of plant material for large-scale wetland mitigation and native restoration sites. With the quality and quantity of our plant material, our nursery can speak for itself to serve any size job. Not only do we grow all our own plant material, we also specialize in installation services for habitat restoration, waste-water treatment, erosion control, bioengineering, and mine reclamation. We also provide several specialty services, allowing us to provide a turn-key project for your company. Whether you are a contractor, excavator, engineer, builder, or developer, MTAN is your answer. Fox Valley Area Chapter



### NES Ecological Services

4664 Golden Pond Park Oneida WI 54155  
(920) 499-5789 jhavel@releeinc.com

www.releeinc.com  
NES Ecological Services is a committed group of scientists whose diverse backgrounds include restoration ecology, wildlife management, and wetland ecology. Located in Green Bay, Wisconsin, NES is fully equipped to serve clients throughout Wisconsin and the Midwest. Since 1996, we have provided native habitat restoration services to municipalities, lake management districts and associations, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and individual landowners. These services include planning and design, material installation, monitoring and maintenance. NES ecologists use their knowledge and experience with Wisconsin's native community types to design and implement aesthetically pleasing, natural landscapes utilizing only plant species native to the site's region. The use of locally native species is a very important factor that is often overlooked, but is important in not only assuring a project's success, but also in meeting all the objectives of a restoration. Each restoration project is catered to the individual or group based upon their need, experience, and willingness to be involved with the "hands-on" portion of the project. Visit our web site to review a few of our most recent projects along with a complete list of all the services we offer. Green Bay Chapter



### Northern Native Landscapes

25350 S Garden Ave Cable WI 54821  
(715) 794-2548

florabee@hotmail.com  
Northern Native Landscapes specializes in shoreland and woodland restoration, stormwater management or raingardens, new home construction landscaping and perennial beds using native plants. Northern Native Landscapes offers consultation, design, installation and maintenance services. Turning a lake owner's shoreland from pure green lawn to a buffer of native plants not only helps wildlife, but also benefits the owner by providing a privacy and noise buffer. Our goal is to create an ecologically healthy landscape while meeting the needs of the home owners. Partner-at-Large



### Northern Sunset Perennials

www.northernsunset.com

The Northern Sunset brand consists of over 1200 varieties of perennials, including about 125 Wisconsin and Midwest native species of perennial forbs, ferns and grasses. Look for the "NATIVE, Naturally!" logo on the tag. Northern Sunset Perennials are available at many fine retailers in Southeast Wisconsin and Northern Illinois. Find a retailer near you at NorthernSunset.com. At Northern Sunset Perennials, we believe in the power of native species for diversity, reliability, and beauty. Menomonee River Area Chapter



### ONE Plus Inc.

113 West Main Street Sun Prairie WI 53590-2905  
(608) 837-8022

oneplus@chorus.net  
ONE Plus provides sustainable architectural design services for commercial, residential, and institutional clients. As our logo suggests, there is "No Excuse" for not taking care of the Earth – together we can and will make a difference in that effort! Our commitment to the Wild Ones, both personally and professionally, is only part of our devotion to that endeavor. ONE Plus design services include renovation, rehabilitation and adaptation of existing buildings, daylighting, passive solar and energy-efficient new building design. Madison Chapter



### Rolling Acres

#### Native Landscape Nursery, LLC

2513 Humpty Dumpty Rd PO Box 247  
Reedsville WI 54983-0247  
(877) 205-9817

rolling.acres.native.nursery@earthlink.net  
www.home.earthlink.net/~ranljmsnative/  
Rolling Acres Native Landscape Nursery can design, install, and landscape your entire yard, or we can supply all of the necessary supplies including pond kits, stone, and landscaping plants, along with instruction and design help for the do-it-yourself homeowner. Give us a call to discuss your landscaping project. There are a number of reasons people unaccustomed to native plants might object to their proposed use in a landscape planting. The most frequent objection stems from the perception that prairie flowers and grasses are unruly. Truly, beauty is in the eye of the beholder, but there are several basic design tools you can use in urban and suburban settings to get excellent results with native plants. Lake Woods Chapter



### Stone Silo Prairie Gardens LLP

4500 Oak Ridge Cir De Pere WI 54115-9267  
(920) 336-1662

info@stonesiloprairiegardens.com  
www.stonesiloprairiegardens.com  
Stone Silo Prairie Gardens carries nursery-propagated grasses and flowers native to Wisconsin, using seed sources from the Upper Midwest.



We have a large selection of prairie, woodland and rain garden plants. See our plant list and order online or visit us at the greenhouse in the Green Bay Wisconsin area. Green Bay Chapter

### Taylor Creek Nurseries Division of Applied Ecological Services

17921 Smith Rd, PO Box 256  
Brodhead WI 53520-0256  
(608) 897-8641

info@appliedeco.com  
www.appliedeco.com  
Taylor Creek Restoration Nurseries (TCRN) has over 25 years of experience growing local genotype native plants and seed for use on many high-profile restoration projects throughout the Midwest. We now offer native trees and shrubs in addition to over 400 species of native plants and grasses for native landscape and restoration projects. Our new RPM trees and shrubs are available in 3-gallon containers and have excellent root mass for high survival rates and rapid growth. We also offer a new, speedy drop-ship service for small plant orders during spring and fall. TCRN is a division of Applied Ecological Services, Inc. an ecological restoration firm offering consulting and construction services: Native Landscape Design & Construction, Ecological Review, Restoration Design, and Bioengineering for Streambank, Shoreline and Slope Restoration. Rock River Valley Chapter



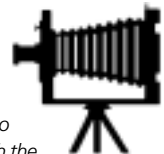
### The Plantscapers

E2051 Luxemburg Road, Luxemburg, WI 54217  
(920) 845-5196

mary@theplantscapers.com  
www.theplantscapers.com  
The Plantscapers has been growing native plants and consulting, planning, and planting native plantings since 1988. We have a wide variety of both prairie and woodland plants and native trees and shrubs at our nursery. We also offer planning, consulting, and installation services. Plant sizes range from 4-inch pots to 3 gallon, depending on variety. Visit our web site for a complete list of native plants, and for nursery hours and a map with our location. Green Bay Chapter



## Wild Ones Photo Contest Winners on These Pages



Wild Ones has held a photo contest in conjunction with the annual meeting for the past several years. This year's photo contest is sure to bring even more delightful entries for conference participants to view. For more information about the contest go to [www.for-wild.org/conference/2007/photo](http://www.for-wild.org/conference/2007/photo).

# Are You Ready for a Wild Idea?

## Join Wild Ones as a Business Member

### Grow Your Business Along With Wild Ones.



#### Find Out What Other Wild Ones Business Members Already Know.

Wild Ones: Native Plants, Natural Landscapes promotes environmentally sound landscaping practices to preserve biodiversity through the preservation, restoration, and establishment of native plant communities.

Join this growing movement today! As a Business Member of Wild Ones: Native Plants, Natural Landscapes, your company is entitled to these great benefits:

- Acknowledgement in the *Wild Ones Journal*.
- Annual listing in the *Wild Ones Journal*.
- Listing on Wild Ones web site ([www.for-wild.org](http://www.for-wild.org)).

And to share with your employees and clients:

- Extra copies of the *Wild Ones New Member Handbook*.
- Extra copies of the bi-monthly *Wild Ones Journal*.
- Copy of video or CD-ROM titled *Wild About Wildflowers*.
- Copies of Wild Ones educational brochures to share with clients and the community.
- Wild Ones Recognition Decal for your office or shop window.

Wild Ones, a voice for the natural landscaping movement, was established in 1979, and now has more than 40 chapters in North America.

Your Business Membership entitles you and your company to participate in all Wild Ones national and chapter activities, either locally or across the United States – a great networking opportunity!

Wild Ones events include seed gathering, seed exchanges, plant rescues, plant sales, speaker presentations, garden tours, conferences, and bus tours.

New chapters are forming all the time. For a current listing of chapter locations, visit our web site or contact us directly.

Wild Ones: Native Plants, Natural Landscapes is a not-for-profit educational organization. Your Business Membership donation is entirely tax-deductible.

**Wild Ones: Native Plants, Natural Landscapes**  
**P.O. Box 1274 • Appleton, Wisconsin 54912-1274**  
**Toll-Free 877-394-9453 • [www.for-wild.org](http://www.for-wild.org)**

Throughout the morning, neighbors dropped by to watch the progress. The homeowners' two small children served us lemonade and then helped dig. Scott paused several times to explain elements of the design to the whole group. Our newspaper writer and photographer spent over two hours with us and never ran out of questions. The children's grandmother served up water, coffee, sweet rolls, and – after we finished – a hearty lunch. A neighbor brought dessert for all.

**Continue the relationship.** The St. Louis (MO) Chapter will hold one of its regular monthly meetings at the makeover site this year, approximately one year after the installation. We will also include the yard in our third annual "Grow Wild Garden Tour," which showcases native landscapes. To show our appreciation to the family for its "above and beyond" support of the cause (see below), our chapter has given them a gift membership to Wild Ones.

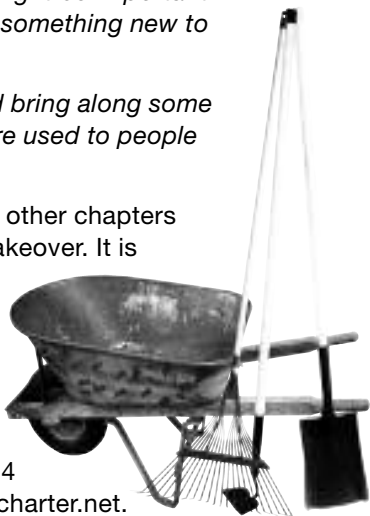
**Get lucky.** We could not have imagined a better winning family for our contest. Their enthusiasm and support for native landscaping is summed up in the following e-mail from the homeowner a few days after the makeover:

*I want to thank everyone once again for your help with this fabulous transformation of our front yard. We had so much fun working with you – what a lovely group of people! And the yard is just gorgeous. Give me a few weeks and I'll know all the plants. The kids are working on it too – their favorite is the rattlesnake master.*

*Every single time that we're out in the yard, a neighbor stops to talk to us about it. People are amazed when we tell them that all of the plants are native. Most of them have never considered why that might be important. It's fun to give people something new to think about.*

*Please come visit, and bring along some friends for a tour. We're used to people staring by now.*

We hope our story inspires other chapters to sponsor a landscape makeover. It is one of the most rewarding projects our group has ever done. I am happy to share more details about our experience with anyone who is interested. Call 314-966-8404 or e-mail [bettystruckhoff@charter.net](mailto:bettystruckhoff@charter.net).



## Wild Ones Stewards

Thank you letters have been received through the National Office from organizations which have received Seeds for Education type grants from Wild Ones chapters: from **Cherry Valley Library**, Cherry Valley, Illinois for the contribution of a "Wild About Wildflowers" CD, by the **Rock River Valley (IL) Chapter**; from **Heckrodt Wetland Reserve**, Menasha, Wisconsin for a \$500 Landscaping for Tomorrow grant, by **Fox Valley Area (WI) Chapter**, to support an Ethnobotany Garden project near the Nature Center.

Thank you to the **Susquehanna Valley (PA) Chapter** for their donations to the **Stewards of the Lower Susquehanna, Inc.**, who are working to preserve an area of rare and endangered plants along the Susquehanna River at the Accomac Inn, in Hellam Township, just outside of York, in southern Pennsylvania. Thanks also for their donation to the **Willis Run Urban Stream Restoration Project**, which is creating a natural buffer that will help prevent erosion, slow and decrease volume of flood waters, and provide habitat for aquatic wildlife in an urban setting, while producing a "Living Classroom" to facilitate a meaningful outdoor educational experience by connecting urban students of York City with their Codorus Watershed and the Chesapeake Bay.

Thank you from the **Robert W. Monk Botanical Garden board** to the volunteer gardeners and members of the **Central Wisconsin (WI) Chapter** who helped transplant native wildflowers into their site in Wausau. The plants were all donated by the Central Wisconsin (WI) Chapter members.

## Ecoscaper Program

Interest in the Ecoscaper program has been lively, and we're pleased to see applications now coming in on a regular basis. **Oakland (MI) Chapter** has recently promoted the program by inviting members of the public and the **Detroit Metro (MI) Chapter** to a presentation on the Ecoscaper program given by National Board member **Maryann Whitman**.

**Marty Rice**, who recently completed Level I of the Ecoscaper program, is planning a plant sale for her chapter as her field project for Level II.

Flyers on the Ecoscaper program are now available to be used for handouts. Call the National Office if you'd like a supply or a master copy.



# A Resolution: Take Better Care of Your Tools

By Celia Larsen

Many of us are drawn to native-plant landscaping because it requires less maintenance than most other forms of gardening. We don't deadhead our flowers because they provide seeds for birds to eat. We don't clean up all the plant stalks in the fall because we *want* the native insects and other animals to have a place to overwinter. We let leaves rot and nourish our woodland soils. And many of us don't even have to maintain a lawnmower. But our low- to no-maintenance attitude shouldn't apply to the care of our tools. If you treat your tools with respect, they will make your work a lot easier and a lot safer. Some of the following tips you've undoubtedly heard before, so why don't you actually *try* them this year? In addition to flossing and making your bed every day, resolve to take better care of your tools.

**Tip 1:** Buy good quality tools. Chuck Engler, an 84-year-old retired machinist who now sharpens tools for members of the Milwaukee North (WI) Wild Ones Chapter, says that you get what you pay for. I believe him. The blades stay sharper longer, and the handles won't easily break or come loose. If you're worried about investing in good tools because you may lose them, follow Tip 2.

**Tip 2:** Paint your handles fluorescent orange. How many of us have been working on a plant rescue and lost a shovel in the leaf litter? Or handed out 12 loppers to a student work crew, only to have eight of them returned? Some loss is inevitable, but a spot of paint can really help. Be creative and give yourself a logo, so when you BYOT to a dig, you'll go

the garage, with a pegboard for hand tools, so you can quickly see what you might have left out. Hang up your shovels, rakes, and pitchforks so the dampness from the concrete floor won't rust them. Keep an old towel hanging next to your tool-storage area so you can wipe your tools clean. Or you could try the-old-bucket-filled-with-sand-and-motor-oil – everyone seems to know about this, but no one I know has ever done it. You just fill a bucket with coarse sand, add a quart of motor oil (used is OK), and mix well. Stick your shovel or trowel up and down in the oily sand a few times to clean and prevent rust. The mixture lasts forever.

**Tip 4:** Purchase a flat bastard mill file and a whetstone. It's not that I don't like mill files. "Bastard" refers to intermediate coarseness of the teeth on a mill file. The choices are: rough, coarse, bastard, second cut, smooth, and dead smooth. Bastard to smooth will work well on shovels and hoes. Only sharpen the beveled edge. Starting at the top edge, push the file away from you using long, even strokes at the same angle as the original bevel. Don't draw the file back toward you – you will only dull the file. You need both hands free to do this, so clamp the tool to your workbench before you begin, otherwise you can sit on the handle. You may create a few burrs on the back side of the shovel. You can remove them with a bit of leather or steel wool, or as Mr. Engler points out, the sand and grit in the soil will remove them the next time you use the shovel.

Use the whetstone to sharpen hand pruners and loppers. Again, only sharpen beveled edges, and maintain the original angle of the bevel. A couple drops of 3-in-1 oil provide the "wet" for the whetstone. You can use small, circular motions with the whetstone. To ensure you're getting the right angle, color the bevel with black permanent marker. If you only remove the marker from the blade edge, you need to steepen your angle. You've got the right angle when all of the marker is removed.

Mill files cost between \$5 and \$15. Some come with handles, or you can purchase a wooden handle to cover the pointy "tang." Pocket whetstones can cost as little as \$3. Don't forget safety glasses when filing metal. If you don't want to try sharpening your own tools then...

**Tip 5:** Find a knowledgeable, professional tool sharpener. We may not all be lucky enough to find someone like Chuck Engler. He's been sharpening tools for over 50 years. He not only does work for Milwaukee-North (WI) Wild Ones, he also takes care of the local Milwaukee Audubon Society's tools. He's not listed in the Yellow Pages – folks find him by word-of-mouth, and he has plenty of work to stay busy. Prices vary of course, but an average sharpening of most hand tools (pruners, shovels, hoes, etc.), can cost from \$5 to \$8, depending on how battered the tools is – and it only takes a day under most circumstances. To find someone like Chuck, attend your local Wild Ones meeting and ask around for a recommendations.

Dorothy Boyer, President of the Milwaukee-North (WI) Chapter, had this to say about using sharp tools: "Dull tools can be dangerous. A shovel can glance off something, causing loss of control. Dull tools require a lot of repetition and more pressure to get the job done. This tires the worker. (We all know what that's like.)"

**A few more tips:** Lubricate all moving parts of metal tools with WD-40.

Never twist or torque your loppers. If you keep them nice and sharp you'll be less inclined to do this. Torquing them usually ruins them. Have designated loppers/pruners to use on roots. The grit in soil will quickly dull your blades, but how else are you going to yank that big buckthorn out? And just in case you don't follow tip 3... Wooden handles that have been damaged by moisture can be sanded and wiped down with boiled linseed oil (un-boiled will be too sticky). You can remove rust with steel wool or try "Bull Frog Rust Remover" which is an organic, non-toxic gel that can also protect against future rust formation. And remember: Sharp tools require less effort to use and are safer for both you and your plants. ♣

## Sources:

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[www.hgtv.com/hgtv/gl\\_plants\\_other/article/0,1785,HGTV\\_3609\\_1379364,00.html](http://www.hgtv.com/hgtv/gl_plants_other/article/0,1785,HGTV_3609_1379364,00.html)  
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Chuck Engler

home with the right shovel.

**Tip 3:** Leave yourself 15 minutes for clean up. And don't trust the weather report. Seriously. Put your tools away, under cover, clean and dry. You've gardened all day, the stars are already out, and that locally brewed beverage is calling from the fridge. Keep an organized tool shed or corner of

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## Seeds for Education Grant Program

The judges have reviewed the 24 qualified SFE grant applications, and winners were announced in mid-February. See the May/June 2007 issue of the Wild Ones Journal for the results, or go to the Wild Ones web site at [www.for-wild.org/seedpast.html](http://www.for-wild.org/seedpast.html).



### *Anemone virginiana.*

It charmed us in spring with its tall spikes leading to a pale green flower, amused us in summer with its fuzzy green thimble and the promise of seed, and blossomed into white fuzz in the fall. Now it stands withered and exhausted in a foot of snow. December has come to the ridge, and all that's left is a shadow of a season past – and a promise to return in the spring. Photo and words by Geoff Mehl.

## Chapter Notes

Year-end State-of-the-Chapter reports and many of the chapter e-mail communications, reveal some innovative program ideas being implemented by our chapters.

**Rich Whitney**, Co-President of the **Greater DuPage (IL) Chapter** writes:

Because our membership is spread out and draws from five counties, we are experimenting with forming groups that are located closer to those members that find it difficult to make our monthly meetings. If it takes a member longer than 25 minutes to get to the chapter normal meeting location, they are encouraged to join one of the “satellite groups.” Each group will still belong to the Greater DuPage (IL) Chapter, but will have activities that are close to their homes. It will not entail the work of forming an entirely new Wild Ones chapter, since funding and support will come from the Greater DuPage (IL) Chapter as a whole. Activities like the seed exchange, spring dinners, and field trips will be combined events.

**Peter Sigmann**, President of the *Door County (WI) Chapter* wrote: We've met with the county highway commissioner concerning routine mowing of the sides of the highway. We found him moderately receptive to the idea that there are stretches of highway that deserve protection from indiscriminate mowing. He offered to observe limited summer mowing (“one wheel on the road”) on stretches of county roads that we would identify. To take advantage of this offer, chapter members developed a list favorite county highway segments.

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## Lifetime Memberships

The Wild Ones National Board is pleased to announce that we are now able to offer lifetime memberships in Wild Ones.

\$1,200 per household, payable over three years. Not inheritable.

Applies to household, which includes children under 18 years of age.

Local chapters will still receive their annual dues reimbursement for lifetime members. One address per membership.

Contact the National Office, toll-free at 877-3944-9453 for details.



# Wild Ones Annual Meeting and Conference

**August 17-19th • Dayton, Ohio**

Mark your calendars for August 17th-19th, and plan to attend the 2007 Wild Ones Annual Meeting and Conference hosted by the Greater Cincinnati (OH) Chapter. This year's meeting will be held in Dayton, Ohio, at the Bergamo Center at Mount St. John Preserve. Bergamo Center is located amid the 150 acres of land resources and Marianist projects at Mount St. John. The Marianist Environmental Education Center (MEEC) stewards the Preserve, which features 100 acres of prairie, woodland, and wetland ecosystems. 1.2 miles of hiking trails allows visitors to interact with Ohio's native plants in restored and created habitats, as well as in landscaped installations, including a native plant labyrinth and the Sacred Embrace earthwork. Restoration efforts focus on establishing Eastern tallgrass prairie in a 14-acre sand and gravel borrow pit, and implementing the best honeysuckle-control methods. The Preserve is named an Ohio Natural Landmark for its "exceptional value in illustrating and interpreting the natural heritage of Ohio."

Jim McCormac, who is with the Ohio Division of Wildlife, and specializes in ornithology, will make the keynote presentation at Saturday night's picnic: "Backyards and Beyond: Plant Locally, Save Globally." Jim has botanized, birded, and otherwise explored nature throughout Ohio, North America, Central America, and beyond, and is intensely interested in relationships between flora and fauna. He has published numerous articles, papers, and books on botany and ornithology.

Along with the conference, plan to attend the Wild Ones Annual Meeting, where we hope to announce that we have moved into our new headquarters. Also plan to participate in the Leadership Workshop, and don't forget to send in your photos for the Photo Contest. Last year's winners can be seen at [www.for-wild.org/conference/2007/photo/](http://www.for-wild.org/conference/2007/photo/).

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Chapter ID numbers are listed after names.

Meet us online at [www.for-wild.org/calendar.html](http://www.for-wild.org/calendar.html)



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For meeting and activity information, call the chapter contact person or check the chapter web site.

## New Chapter

Welcome to our newest New York chapter, Niagara Frontier Wildlife Habitat Council (NY) Chapter of Wild Ones, which will take its membership from Niagara, Erie, Genesee, Wyoming, Orleans, Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, and Allegheny counties.

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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. 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.*

2nd Quarter 2007 National Board Meeting will be hosted by Ann Arbor (MI) Chapter on **May 5th at Sharon Mills County Park in Ann Arbor**, and will include presentations from local SFE Grant recipients. Following the meeting, participants will explore the Nature Conservancy's Nan Weston Nature Preserve at Sharon Hollow, about 20 miles southwest of Ann Arbor. This is a spectacular site for spring ephemerals, and blooms will be at their peak. It's a botanical hot spot with an incredible abundance of wildflowers and native shrubs. A combination of dry and floodplain habitats (on the Raisin River) make for diversity and excitement. New boardwalks provide drier footing than has been had in previous years.

3rd quarter 2007 and annual meeting will be held the weekend of **August 17-19th** hosted by the Greater Cincinnati (OH) Chapter at **Bergamo Center at Mt. Saint John Preserve in Dayton, Ohio**. This is a great place, with much to do there

and the surrounding areas. They have classrooms available, and they can handle a banquet. There will be plenty to do outside, and people can tour the grounds as they like – it is a very peaceful setting. We are hoping we can allow "downtime" for networking and getting to know each other as well. For more information: [www.cincinnatiwildones.com/wildones/programs.htm#Conference](http://www.cincinnatiwildones.com/wildones/programs.htm#Conference). We will have programs, speakers, vendors, hikes, and the opportunity to meet Wild Ones members from all over the country.

4th Quarter 2007 National Board Meeting will be hosted by Rock River Valley (IL) Chapter on **September 28th at the Winnebago County Forest Preserve District Headquarters**. Following the meeting, we will tour Nygren Wetland.

**April 28, 2007 at MSU Conference Center in Troy MI:** Invasives 101: The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly. Full day of activities, sponsored by The Gardener's Guild in cooperation with Wild Ones and the Nature Conservancy. Learn to identify 15 of southern Michigan's most important invasive plants, learn why they are important, and how to bring them under control. Go to [www.for-wild.org/gardenersguild](http://www.for-wild.org/gardenersguild) to find more information and to register online. For more information call Sylvia Paddy at 248-646-7675.

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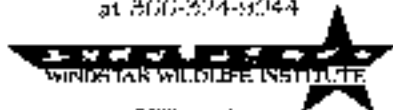


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## Thank You!

### Seeds for Education

**Veronica Wallace-Kraemer**, Milwaukee-Southwest/Wehr (WI) Chapter

**Elaine Hutchcroft**, Rock River Valley (IL) Chapter

**Tereasa A Corcoran**, Oakland (MI) Chapter

**David & Karen Edwards**, Fox Valley Area (WI) Chapter

**Woman's National Farm & Garden Assoc. - Michigan Division**, Partner-at-Large

**Oakland (MI) Chapter**

**Ann Arbor (MI) Chapter**

With the recent donations from **Oakland (MI) Chapter**, \$250, and **Ann Arbor (MI) Chapter**, \$200, the total donations in remembrance of Lorrie Otto's 87th birthday comes to \$1,778.

### Matching Donations

Donation from **BD Associates** on behalf of **Don & Sandy Hake**

### General Operating Fund

**Lynn Hepler** and **Joseph Gilmartin & Margo Hickman**, Lake-To-Prairie (IL) Chapter

**Joyce Michelstetter**, Milwaukee-North (WI) Chapter

**Kimberly A. Barnes**, Partner at Large (MD)

**Peter Huntington**, Habitat Gardening of Central New York (NY) Chapter

### Headquarters Fund

**Delores Mattson**, Central Upper Peninsula (MI) Chapter

**Addison & Deborah Igleheart**, through the **Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund**, Oakland (MI) Chapter

**Kay McClelland**, Root River Area (WI) Chapter

**Marcia McLaughlin**, Greater Cincinnati (OH) Chapter

**Greg Shirley**, St. Cloud (MN) Chapter

**Elaine Hutchcroft**, Rock River Valley (IL) Chapter

**John & Donna VanBuecken** and **David & Karen Edwards**, Fox Valley Area (WI) Chapter

**Stephen R. Johnson**, Partner-at-Large (IA)

### Fast Forward Communications Campaign 2006

Our thanks go out to **all our wonderful members** who have already contributed so generously to our annual fund-raising campaign. Through your thoughtfulness and dedication to the Wild Ones mission, **we have collected \$2,435** to date for updating and expanding our communication efforts on our web site, through the *Journal*, and our other promotional materials. We assure you these funds will be put to good use.

### Special Thanks

Thanks to **Kevin Kawula**, **Madison (WI) Chapter**, for the miscellaneous resource materials for the Wild Ones Library. And thanks to **Dave & Sue Peck**, **Fox Valley Area (WI) Chapter**, for the special historical materials related to the Stroebe-Sturm marsh, which will be the site of the new Wild Ones HQ.

Also to **Hans Morsbach**, Greater DuPage (IL) Chapter, author of *Common Sense Forestry*, who has donated several copies of his book to the Wild Ones Bookstore. If you'd like to purchase a copy, now's your chance. Go to [www.for-wild.org/store/bookstore/](http://www.for-wild.org/store/bookstore/).

### New Business Member Challenge

**Rock River Valley (IL) Chapter** was the recipient of an award for the **Most New Wild Ones Business Members Challenge** last year, and they have returned the cash to Wild Ones National. So the National Board has decided to extend a new challenge to the chapters. The chapter with the most new business members between March 1 and August 1, 2007, will receive the \$150 award. So get busy. Bring in those new business members, and see your chapter receive the \$150 award during the 2007 Wild Ones Annual Meeting.

