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for the natural
landscaping
movement



JOURNAL

MARCH/APRIL 2008
VOL. 21, NO. 2

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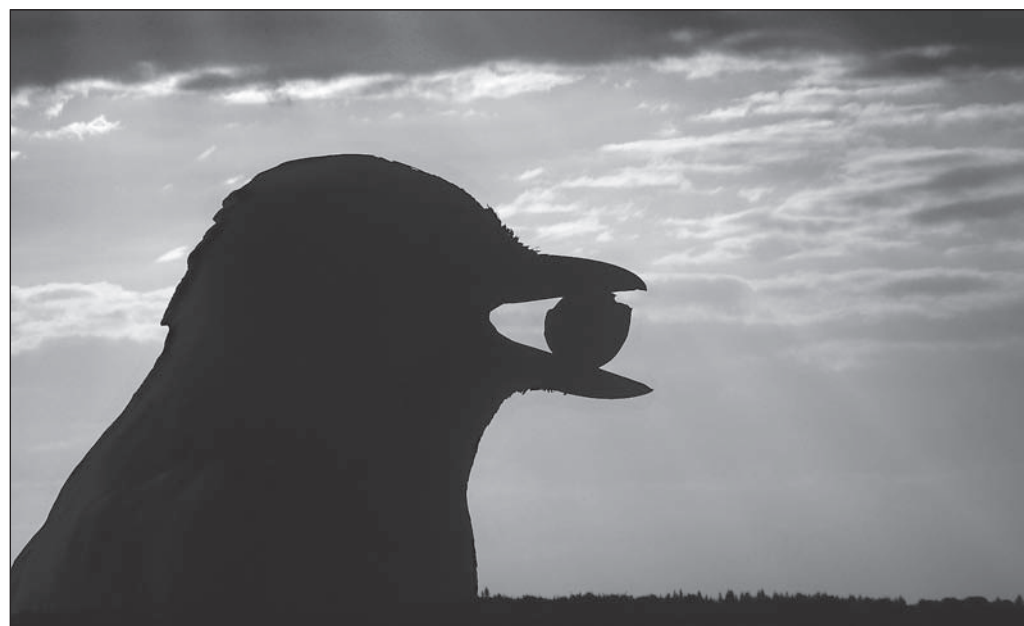
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Thank you. Back cover.

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



Bringing Nature Home

How Native Plants Sustain Wildlife in Our Gardens

Book by Douglas Tallamy. Reviewed by Janet Allen.

Our Wild Ones mission is to "promote environmentally sound landscaping practices to preserve biodiversity through the preservation, restoration and establishment of native plant communities." This statement could easily be mistaken as a summary of the main ideas in *Bringing Nature Home: How Native Plants Sustain Wildlife in Our Gardens* by Douglas Tallamy. The book validates our Wild Ones principles with sound scientific support. In fact, after reading it, you'll see that our mission is even more important than we ourselves may have realized – and for reasons that may surprise you.

Native plants and biodiversity

Plants are the foundation of the food web because they capture the sun's energy and turn it into food. We're all familiar with the "who eats whom" of this web, but we don't fully appreciate insects' indispensable role in it. Tallamy, an entomologist, explains that they're essential to healthy ecosystems because so many animals depend partially or entirely on them for food. Even nectar-loving hummingbirds feed insects to their young. A land without insects, he says, is a land without higher forms of life.

Of course, all plants – native or not – capture the sun's energy. Especially interesting for us Wild Ones, though, is that native insects thrive on native plants, but not on most alien plants. (Although many of us are accustomed to using the term "non-native" plants, Tallamy uses the term "alien.") One study, for example, showed that **native plants supported 35 times more caterpillar biomass (amount by weight) than did alien plants**. The leaf chemistry of alien plants is the chief reason native insects can't and don't eat the leaves of most alien plants.

Now you may be thinking that supporting caterpillars and insects is not exactly what you have in mind when you select plants for your landscape. Even people who



CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

Your National Board Members and National Committees Have Been Busy



Having just completed our National Board first quarter conference call, I can report one thing for sure: Things are hopping at the national level. First there were decisions to be made regarding making an offer to buy 12 acres along the Fox River that adjoins our new headquarters property. Board members' opinions on this were unanimous: We would love to find a way to buy it with the grants and donations that we have, but we will not go into debt. There was also direction to be provided to the EcoCenter Steering Committee, headed up by Donna VanBuecken, which is overseeing the transformation of the house that will serve as our new headquarters into an ADA-compatible building, and development of the grounds with trails, boardwalks, and demonstration gardens.

When it came to naming the new Wild Ones headquarters (unofficially called the Ecocenter thus far) we had a plethora of ideas and opinions. We came to no agreement other than this: The headquarters belongs to you, the Wild Ones members, so you should get to help name it. As described on page 3, we are having a naming contest with prizes and all, so go sip a cup of tea or a beer, ponder a plant, stand on your head – whatever gets your creative system going – and be sure to send in your suggestions.

Things are also busy at the national committee level. The Yard Certification Committee hopes to finalize and present their recommendations to the National Board in May. The Membership Committee will begin holding conference calls soon to address a

number of issues including: Maximizing use of partnerships with other organizations, preparing a marketing plan, and looking for ways to help maintain happy, healthy chapters.

We could really use more non-board members on the Membership Committee, even on just a temporary basis, so please contact me if you would be willing to help. I am also looking for Wild Ones members with any experience in marketing who may be willing to help prepare our new marketing plan.

Enjoy the season of plant catalogs and garden planning, knowing that soon it will be time to dig. Pat Armstrong's article on native ground covers, and Ilse Gebhard's on a school planting may well give you some new plants to learn about, or remind you of an old standby. ♣

Carol Andrews, Wild Ones National President
president@for-wild.org



Wild Ones on YouTube

Next time you're on the Wild Ones web site, be sure to click the YouTube video player to see some of our Photo Contest presentations online at YouTube. Or just go to YouTube.com and search for "Wild Ones Photos." And don't forget to "comment."

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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ECOSPACE

Want to get more native plants into your yard? Want to really get into natural landscaping?

Unlike other yard certification programs, the Wild Ones EcoSpace Certification Program looks at the big picture, to get you, your family, your friends, and your neighbors thinking about making environmentally sound changes in your yards.

EcoSpace is a great way to let the world see what you are doing for biodiversity, to offset climate change, and a lot more.

Watch the next issue of the *Journal* for news about this exciting new program.



Big News at National Headquarters

We have begun moving into the Wild Ones headquarters! Our next step will be to make the facility handicapped-accessible which would include either a boardwalk or permeable path around the EcoCenter, and some interior remodeling to the building. Until we have the facility accessible to the handicapped, we will not be able to open to the public.

In anticipation of having all that done by this summer, however, we are planning to hold the annual meeting at 2285 West Butte des Morts Beach Road in Town of Menasha, Wisconsin. The date is scheduled for August 22-24, 2008. Watch for more details. 2008 is going to be a really exciting year!

If you have an in-kind donation or a skill to offer the EcoCenter, please don't hesitate to do so. We've already received several offers of carpentry service and materials. Special thanks to **RR Donnelley**, which has donated office furniture and equipment – and to **Rich Winter**, Fox Valley Area (WI) Chapter, who has been so helpful in getting the furniture transferred to us and reassembled.

A couple of new challenges for you.

In search of a new name. Now that closing papers have been signed, we need a name for our new National Headquarters. A possible new name suggested by the EcoCenter Steering Committee is the WILD Center (Wild Ones Institute of Learning and Discovery Center). But what do you think? Remember that the site includes a building (currently residential in appearance), roughly 3/4 of an acre of open land to be developed into demonstration gardens, and 3 acres of riparian hardwood and floodplain forest. Please submit your suggestions to execdirector@for-wild.org by May 16th.

In search of a landscaping design. Now is also the time for us to begin planning the design for the demonstration gardens which will surround the new National Headquarters. Landscape architect Curt Solberg, Fox Valley Area (WI) Chapter, and Ecologist James Havel, Green Bay (WI) Chapter, have given us a basic sketch and a restoration plan (www.for-wild.org/eco/center/), but now we need to get down to the nitty-gritty of theme, plant choice, location, and signage. Invitations are being extended to landscape designers known to Wild Ones, but we would like you to spread the word as well. We don't know every designer. And, we don't want to miss any good ideas that you, our Wild Ones members might have. So, if you, although you might not be a designated landscape designer, have some ideas about how the demonstration gardens should look, please don't hesitate to show us. You can create a design for one or all the gardens. Just make sure to get your ideas to us by May 16th either via surface mail or e-mail at execdirector@for-wild.org.

Both of these challenges come with the reward of not only knowing you've contributed to the overall concept of the Wild Ones EcoCenter and its mission, but also recognition of your efforts prominently displayed at the EcoCenter. ♦

What I Did for Earth Day

By Ilse Gebhard

A second-grade teacher at Gilkey Elementary School in Plainwell, Michigan, and I hatched the plan in 2005 after I had done a monarch butterfly presentation to the school's three third-grade classrooms, celebrating their annual "Earth Week." Wouldn't a butterfly garden be a wonderful addition to the school's extensive natural area?

Gilkey Elementary School was built on land donated to the school system in 1950 by Rudolph Gilkey. The natural area behind the school was established in 1972 and is named the Mory Ismond Environmental Laboratory, after a longtime fifth-grade teacher at Gilkey, who was a passionate environmentalist.

During the winter I designed a butterfly garden using native plants, keeping in mind blooming times, height, and color. We chose a grassy area just across the driveway from the school's science lab and right next to the Kalamazoo River. The school rented a sod stripper, and provided the edging and mulch. I provided the seeds of 20 or so native plant species.

In early April of 2006 the second-grade teacher, the school's science aide, two volunteers, and my husband Russ and I met to prepare the area. This task turned out to be much harder and more time consuming than expected. Stripping the sod, we quickly discovered that the area had at one time been filled in with construction waste, and we had to remove some of it before proceeding. Another work day was scheduled after some topsoil was brought in to fill the holes that remained.

The seeding of the garden was to be the Earth Day project of the three second-grade classrooms at the school. I envisioned each of the 75 students (calmly, merrily proceeding) with a cup of seeds they would plant. Seventy-five small plots were left clear of mulch. This was accomplished by mulching around 5-gallon buckets set on end.

Luck was with us on planting day – it was cool but sunny. I first gave a short presentation to each class on the importance of host and nectar plants for butterflies, and showed them pictures of some of the flowers that would grow from the seeds we were about to plant. I explained that the first-year prairie plants would spend most of their energy on growing roots, and that the garden would take time to grow. I talked a little about seeds and their methods of dispersal, and showed them samples.

We went outside, and Russ distributed to each 7-year-old a numbered cup with seeds. Each child had to find the plot labeled with his/her number and plant the seeds according to my instructions. I quickly learned that organizing second graders was a little like herding chickens. Twenty-five of them at a time, milling around, trying to find their own numbered plot, was momentarily chaotic and some seeds were spilled – but none were wasted. And I had prepared extra cups, against just such an eventuality.

Throughout the summer I stopped by the garden to check on its progress and do some weeding. Some plants came up very well and even bloomed while others did not germinate. I had added a few zinnia seeds (an exotic annual) to each cup in hopes that something would be flowering when school started in the fall. Common milkweed thrived, and to my great satisfaction, in its first season, already hosted a number of monarch caterpillars. During the late summer and throughout the fall, the bare spots were filled in with plants from our own and several Audubon Society of Kalamazoo (ASK) members' yards.

In October, Russ and I did one last weeding and added another layer of mulch around the plants. During the winter, Audubon registered the garden as an official MonarchWatch Waystation. The certificate was presented to the school at their 2007 Earth Day assembly, and a sign was installed next to the garden that same day.

In the 2007 growing season we decided to keep working with the original second graders, now in third grade. So for their 2007 Earth Day project they created stepping stones, and placed them around the edge of the garden. Pretty snappy.

More plants were added in May, bringing the total number of species to 40, including three milkweed species. The garden was registered as a Monarch

Larva Monitoring Project (MLMP), site and an Audubon volunteer, along with her two children, monitored the milkweeds in the garden all summer long for monarch eggs and caterpillars.

After the *Kalamazoo Gazette* published an article I

had written about the garden project, a Master Gardener group and a local garden club showed interest in learning about landscaping with native plants. We had garden tours for them in the summer, and despite its recent establishment and the drought, the garden looked quite respectable. As expected, the early successional flush of "yellow" of the biennial and/or short-lived perennial black- and brown-eyed Susans and evening primrose predominated in 2007, but here and there were small patches of white, pink, purple, lavender, and blue of species like boneset, swamp milkweed, purple coneflower, wild bergamot and spider-wort, as signs of future diversity in color.

As the garden lies hidden under a blanket of snow at the moment, I am working on a book about it, as an educational resource for the school's science lab. A historical section describes the development of the garden, including pictures taken at various stages. In the species section there is a separate page for each plant with its picture, and a description of its needs and characteristics like color, height, blooming time, and moisture and sun requirements.

For their 2008 Earth Day project, the children, now fourth graders, will be writing the descriptions. A grant from Audubon is paying for the materials. We also hope to locate some discarded window blinds from which the students can make plant labels, teaching them about recycling at the same time.

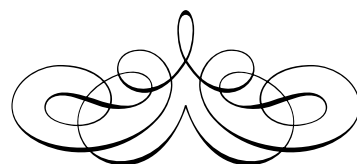
Maybe by the time they are fifth graders, the students can help in the garden by collecting seeds and weeding in the fall, cleaning out the dead vegetation, and doing more weeding in the spring. Unfortunately they will not be in school to see the garden in summer. I can only hope that some of them will visit their garden on their own during that time. ♣



Garden stepping stones created by the third graders (who have very small feet).

earth day plant list

Nodding Wild Onion <i>Allium cernuum</i>	Grass-leaved Goldenrod <i>Euthamia graminifolia</i>
Leadplant <i>Amorpha canescens</i>	Queen of the Prairie <i>Filipendula rubra</i>
Wild Columbine <i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	Blanket Flower <i>Gaillardia pulchella</i>
Swamp Milkweed <i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	Downy Sunflower <i>Helianthus mollis</i>
Common Milkweed <i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	Rough Blazing Star <i>Liatris aspera</i>
Butterflyweed <i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	Wild Bergamot <i>Monarda fistulosa</i>
Smooth Aster <i>Aster laevis</i>	Common Evening Primrose <i>Oenothera biennis</i>
New England Aster <i>Aster novae-angliae</i>	Large-flowered Beardtongue <i>Penstemon grandiflorus</i>
Pale Indian Plantain <i>Cacalia atriplicifolia</i>	Hairy Beardtongue <i>Penstemon hirsutus</i>
Wild Senna <i>Cassia hebecarpa</i>	Obedient Plant <i>Physostegia virginiana</i>
Lance-leaf Coreopsis <i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>	Common Mountain Mint <i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i>
Tall Coreopsis <i>Coreopsis tripteris</i>	Yellow Coneflower <i>Ratibida pinnata</i>
Illinois Bundle Flower <i>Desmanthus illinoensis</i>	Black-eyed Susan <i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>
Purple Coneflower <i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	Brown-eyed Susan <i>Rudbeckia triloba</i>
Rattlesnake Master <i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i>	Common Rue <i>Ruta graveolens</i>
Joe Pye Weed <i>Eupatorium maculatum</i>	Little Bluestem (grass) <i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>
Boneset <i>Eupatorium perfoliatum</i>	Rosin Weed <i>Silphium integrifolium</i>



O! how this spring of love resembleth
The uncertain glory of an April day!
William Shakespeare



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Vibeke Vendena Receives Ecoscaper Level I Certificate

When asked to share some thoughts with other Wild Ones members about the Ecoscaper Program, Vibeke replied, "I think the main reasons I engaged in the Ecoscaper program was to test my existing knowledge, and to create a framework for doing more research into native landscaping. And it worked, at least for me. This is why I intend to continue to levels 2 and 3.

"I think the program at level one had some good projects and themes to address. My greatest challenge, though it wasn't a requirement, was to answer briefly, very 'big' questions (for example on global warming). It made one think, in order to extract just the essence." ❖

Vibeke Vendena (left) receives certificate from Connie Manley.

'Barbies' in the Woods

By Barbara Bray

Sometimes fancy castles and handsome princes become so boring that Barbies need to escape their everyday lives and go on a real adventure. Without concern for their long blonde hair and their fashionable clothes, two Barbie dolls recently rushed out the door aided by my daughter and her friend. After a short ride in the car, the Barbies delightedly ran to a park trail and giggled as they passed by a pond deepened with snowmelt from a week ago. Although it was the middle of January, warm weather had melted all the snow and ice that had been here earlier. The water was dark, and tiny green duckweed plants floated in tatters across the surface. The trail curved around a small wooded area and opened onto a meadow of dried grasses and goldenrod stems.

The Barbies left the main trail to follow a short foot path. Soon they were at the top of the hill overlooking an old field. The question now was which way to go. The Barbies walked from one large rock to the next, encircling the overlook, until exiting back on to the trail. The trail led them on a search for magical trees to keep their flying skills empowered by lightly touching their hands to the bark. Not just any tree would do – it had to be a pine tree or a different kind of tree with rough bark. The Barbies had to not only find the right kind of tree, but also had to keep an eye out for poison ivy. "If you see a vine on the tree, don't touch it," was their motto. Some trees had very small vines creeping up the tree trunk, while others had thick hairy vines.

Trailblazing is hard work, and the Barbie dolls stopped to rest a couple of times with their companions. They found a bench to sit on near a marsh filled with cattails, and wondered what lived here. What happened to the muskrats that had built lodges out of cattails and mud in this marsh a couple of years ago? Maybe the water was too shallow for their lodges now. Where were the frogs and turtles? Perhaps they had found shelter for the winter in old muskrat lodges. After the brief rest, on they went – over the wooded hills and down toward the stand of cottonwood trees and silky dogwoods. A new sensation overcame them – a smell. What was that disagreeable odor? Was a skunk nearby? They combed the area with their eyes and saw something off the side of the trail. "What's that? It looks dead!" The Barbie dolls didn't want to look closely at the dead animal, but they couldn't help themselves. It was a young red fox with a bite taken out of its side just behind its left front leg. Surprisingly, the animal that had attacked the fox hadn't eaten it. What had happened here?

A couple of weeks ago, a friend mentioned that she and her husband had seen weasels and coyotes in this park. High quality oak-hickory forests and various types of wetlands and small ponds in the park provide good habitat for wildlife, big and small. Weasels could prey upon small animals like chipmunks, rabbits, and voles that might be living in the meadow nearby. Coyotes similarly hunt small animals but are also known to kill red foxes. In fact, when coyotes and red foxes share the same territory, they are competitive species, meaning that they eat the same prey – rabbits, mice, voles, insects, etc. Although sometimes the two animals share territories, foxes usually try to avoid coyotes. The dead fox along the trail appeared to be a juvenile. Perhaps it was caught unaware by a resident coyote.

"Why did the pretty fox (that looked like a cuddly stuffed animal) have to die?" was one of the questions that came up. The answer is that it was nature's way. All wildlife needs habitat to survive. When there are native berries and seeds to fill the bellies of small mammals, predators like weasels, foxes, and coyotes complete the ecosystem. They help keep things under control. Although the fox is dead, life goes on. The Barbies (and their companions) thought about it, and somehow it seemed to make a lot of sense. They walked the rest of the way back to the car talking about the great adventure they had had. ♣



There is much to see during a walk in the woods on a wintry day in January. Ponds, trees, weasels, coyotes, and even a red fox.

Wild Ones Sweatshirts and Long-Sleeve T-Shirts Look Great, Keep You Warm, Are Fun to Wear, and Make Great Gifts



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To place an order, and for full details, check out the Wild Ones Store at www.for-wild.org/store.

Wild Ones Photo Contest 2008

It's Not Too Early to Get Out Your Camera and Start Snapping

Don't wait until it's too late. Natural landscapes, people, interesting plants – whatever catches your eye – your photos could be winners. Enter your best photos in the **2008 Wild Ones Photo Contest**. You might just see them displayed at the new Wild Ones headquarters in Appleton, Wisconsin. There are the six usual categories plus the children's category, and all Wild Ones members can submit up to four entries. Mail-in deadline is August 18, 2008. See guidelines for more options and full details: www.for-wild.org/conference/2008/photo/ or call the National Office at 877-394-9453.

FRAN LOWMAN WILD ONES STEWARD



Fran Lowman, long-time member of Wild Ones, and dedicated member of her chapter's board, was recently honored by fellow Wild Ones members. The following excerpts were taken from the Rock River Valley (IL) Chapter newsletter.

July Evening Social at Fran Lowman's

by Constance McCarthy

I am disappointed that my first visit to Fran's magnificent prairie and woodland will likely be my last. Very shortly, Fran will be selling her home and relocating to another property in our area.

The first stop was a most breathtaking prairie in front of the house. Fran started to restore this area a few years after moving there. Most of the plants are at least chest- or shoulder-height (some were even much higher than an elephant's eye!), and there are several paths that wind through this prairie.

When Fran moved here, there was such a thicket of honeysuckles out back that she could hardly get through to the woods behind them. After removing the honeysuckles (we can only imagine what an arduous task that must have been), she set out to remove non-native growth in the woods. One step forward, two steps back – next came the garlic mustard. After many years of fighting that ugly monster, the problem is relatively under control.

Over time, Fran also planted over 100 native shrubs in the woods. Letting nature take its course, many survived, some didn't. Fran has a well, and installed two bird-

baths, each with a trickling hose to provide moving water. One of these is at the rear of the back yard and the other is farther down a path in the woods.

I truly felt like I was in a magical place, and can only imagine the beauty in winter. Because of the abundance of native flowers, trees, and shrubs, Fran is blessed with many different types of birds, insects, and wildlife.

Fran Lowman Appreciation Day

by Tim Lewis

Fran Lowman, a charter member of our chapter, was honored at her new home in South Beloit, Illinois. A group of Wild Ones members showed up, much to her surprise, to help her start a new native habitat at her home. She was presented with a certificate of appreciation for her generosity and willingness to share with fellow Wild Ones members.

For many years Fran has helped so many of us get started in natural landscaping in various ways. She has opened her yard for many tours, held plant sale pick up days, mentored countless people, and allowed members to dig natives from her property.

Fran had purchased 30-plus shrubs and trees from the chapter shrub and tree sale,

and unknown to Fran, the board decided to bring native plants from their yards or previous purchases and plant them for her.

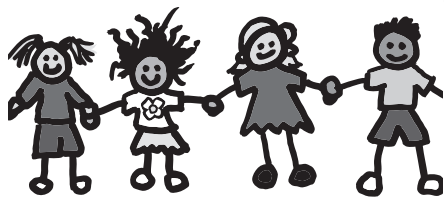
All the shrubs and trees were planted within one hour, and the other planting was completed in another two hours. Many thanks to those who helped make this a special day for Fran.

Fran's comment

After 15 years living in the country, watching my entire lawn become an established, low-maintenance, prairie garden and my woods return to resembling a presettlement savanna, in 2006 I moved into a chemically addicted neighborhood with a vista of turf grass with very little landscaping, none of which is native. My bird check list was getting close to 100; now I am grateful for house sparrows! Previously 15 different species of butterflies were counted in one afternoon in my native landscape; I saw three species this summer. In the year I have lived in my new place, 50 native shrubs, vines and trees have been planted as well as three beds of native forbs and grasses. I am back to the beginning of another work in progress. ♣

Grapevine

By Maryann Whitman



No Child Left Inside Act

We've all heard about the No Child Left Behind law. Before the end of this year Congress will be re-ratifying this law. In its implementation, schools have been cutting back on math, science, and environmental education. A strong bipartisan coalition has formed in both the House and the Senate to add an amendment to the law, called the No Child Left Inside Act.

The No Child Left Inside Act addresses critical environmental challenges by strengthening and expanding environmental education in America's classrooms in the following ways:

- Provides federal funding to states to train teachers in environmental education and to operate model environmental education programs, which include outdoor learning.
- Provides funding to states that create environmental literacy plans to ensure that high school graduates are environmentally literate.
- Provides funding through an environmental education grant program to build state and national capacity.

To find out more about No Child Left Inside go to www.eeNCLB.org. By following the "Action links" you will find out what you can do to support this amendment on its way through Congress by contacting your own legislators.

As an act of advocacy this is entirely in line with our own Seeds For Education. It's all about educating the next generations, preparing young people for a future that presents increasingly complex environmental issues such as global climate change, air and water pollution, and the loss of ecologically sensitive habitat. To be environmentally literate, students must have a solid background in math, reading, science, and environmental education.

Wild Ones has signed on as a supporter of this measure. For more information, see www.for-wild.org/download/NoChildLeftInside.html. ♣

A Wild Thing You Can Do In Your Own Yard

Fight global warming with a carbon garden. By Diane and Joe Powelka

Global warming and climate change are favorite topics in the media and even in our everyday conversations with our peers. Diverse suggestions are being offered on how you can do your part to slow the growth of carbon dioxide in our atmosphere. It occurred to us that Wild Ones members have already been doing something very significant all along.

The native plants we grow, whether meadow, prairie, wetland, or woodland species, provide each of us with a natural tool to return carbon back to the soil. Roughly two-thirds of most native plant mass is below ground. Some mature, prairie grass roots can extend 10 to 15 feet or more into the ground.

Removing carbon dioxide from the air is a natural part of the growth activity of plants. The carbon is used to form plant cells as well as to supply energy for growth, (if you recall your biology, plants take in carbon dioxide, use the carbon for their life processes, and exhale oxygen as a part of their respiratory process). Roughly one-third of native plant root structures die off every year. When a majority of the plant stays below ground, this logically equates to a large proportion of the carbon absorbed by a plant in a growing season being locked up below ground.

Compare this to the Kentucky bluegrass found in our yards. Typical yard grasses have root structures that are only a few inches deep. Even if the bluegrass removes carbon dioxide from the air, and it does this in the same way that any plant does, and some of the roots die off each year, which they do, there is a huge difference in the *quantity* of carbon sequestered by similar acreages of bluegrass and native grasses.

The Idea: Carbon gardens

During World War I and World War II, to reduce the pressure on the public food supply brought on by the war effort, "Victory Gardens" were promoted. Also called "war gardens" or "food gardens for defense," they were vegetable, fruit, and herb gardens planted at private residences in the United States, Canada, and United Kingdom. In addition to indirectly aiding the war effort these gardens were also considered a civil "morale booster" – in that gardeners could feel empowered by their contribution of labor and rewarded by the produce grown. (Quote from Wikipedia.Com.)

We need to challenge people to create "carbon gardens" to support a sustainable future.

Carbon sequestration is only one benefit of a Carbon Garden. For every square foot of native-plant area that you create, you remove 1 square foot of lawn to be mowed, watered, and fertilized. Lawn-care equipment, from the lawn mower to the leaf blower, are notoriously inefficient machines that dump carbon into the atmosphere at a faster rate than the automobile on the highway. If you mow once a week (some people do it more often), and stop doing this by switching to the no-mow alternative of native plantings, then you will be removing the carbon dioxide emitted by multiple machines.

Recently there has been much in the news about water shortages in the west and south, with projections that the problems will spread to the rest of the country. An added benefit of native plants is that they do not require the watering or irrigation so often necessary for the perfect lawn – thus your Carbon Garden reduces your use of water.

As was mentioned earlier, native plants lose roughly one-third of their root structure every year – roots that extend deep into the ground. The result is natural openings or drainage channels into the ground that facilitate water absorption. This is why native plants are recommended for rain gardens, to improve the water infiltration into the ground.

Besides rain garden applications, native plants are used to purify runoff. Prairie Crossing, a suburban development north of Chicago, utilizes successive drifts of prairie and wetland plants to clean the runoff from the development into a central lake. The water is so clean that the Illinois DNR uses the lake to raise endangered fish species.

So – the carbon garden that you create in your yard can reduce water use, direct more of the rain falling on your site into the ground, and purify the water in the process. What is not to like here?

As Wild Ones members, let's each of us challenge our friends, neighbors, and relatives to create their own Carbon Garden. This should be a natural for all of us, as that is what Wild Ones is all about, to expand our native plant populations, one yard at a time. ♣

Get Involved, Stay Involved, With Wild Ones

There are many ways to help Wild Ones promote environmentally sound landscaping practices to preserve biodiversity through the preservation, restoration and establishment of native plant communities.

Annual Support: Wild Ones Champions provide dependable income for Wild Ones programs by making their annual gifts through convenient monthly deductions via credit card or direct debit from a designated financial account.

Burr Oak Circle: Donors who make annual gifts of \$1,000 or more.

Oak Savanna Circle: Members who have loyally supported Wild Ones for at least 15 years or more.

Employee Matching Gift Program: Many companies and organizations will match employee contributions.

Special Gifts and Heritage: The Wild Ones Legacy Program provides the opportunity to gift appreciated stock, real property, in-kind gifts, IRA-rollover gifts (option through December 2007 per the Pension Protection Act of 2006) and multi-year commitments. Bequests, charitable gift annuities, trusts and other planned giving vehicles provide significant support to Wild Ones while also benefiting the donors and their families.

Volunteer: More than 4,000 people annually volunteer their time and energy for land conservation, and community garden plantings and for the Wild Ones EcoCenter.

Lifetime Members: Long term commitment to Wild Ones mission and its goals.

For more information on supporting Wild Ones through the *Get Wild Stay Wild Program*, please contact Donna VanBuecken, Executive Director, Wild Ones, P.O. Box 1274, Appleton, Wisconsin 54912-1274, 877-394-9453 (toll free), execdirector@for-wild.org, or visit our web site at www.for-wild.org/legacy/.



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Prairie Nursery specializes in hardy native flowers and grasses for prairies, woodlands and wetlands.

We have a large selection of plant gardens and seed mixes for virtually any soil, moisture or light conditions.

Prairie Nursery offers professional consulting and installation services

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If you can't visit our nursery, please visit us online at:
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Guided Tours are the 3rd Saturday of June & August at 10 AM and 1 PM
Saturday, June 21, 2008
Saturday, August 16, 2008

Self-guided tours any time!
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Visit our retail store for select plants, seeds and books.

Retail Store Hours:
9 AM - 5 PM Mon - Fri
(April 7th - Oct. 17th)

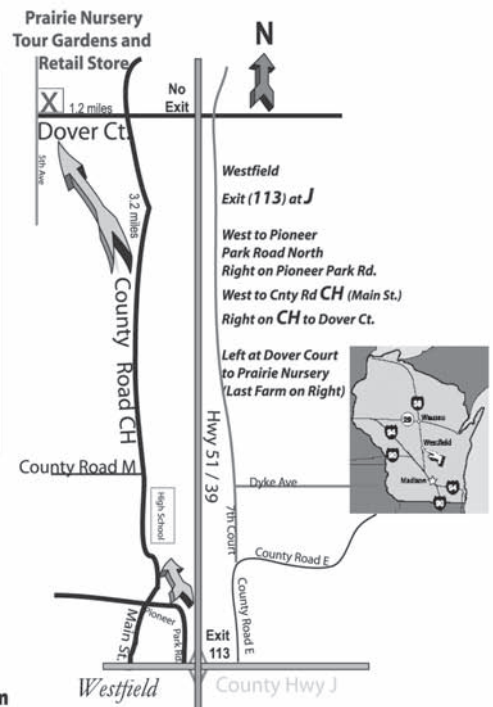
9 AM - 3 PM Saturdays
(April 26th - Aug 30th)



P.O. Box 306 Westfield, WI 53964

Email us at: cs@prairienursery.com

Explore Our Extensive New Demonstration Gardens!



Native Ground Covers for Wild Ones Gardens

Favorite ground cover plants for the Upper Midwest

By Pat Armstrong



Ground cover photos, clockwise from far left: Pennsylvania sedge. Stonecrop. Blue bead lily. Bunchberry. See a list of definitions along with more photos, (full size and in color) at www.for-wild.org/download/groundcover/. Photos by Pat Armstrong.

The most popular, well-known and widespread ground cover in North America is Kentucky blue grass. Lawns now cover approximately 30 million acres of the United States, which is about equal to the acreage of Virginia or Pennsylvania. Of course, we Wild Ones already are cutting down on the amount of mowed lawn in our yards, using hundreds of different prairie/ meadow and woodland wildflowers, grasses, sedges, and ferns. Most of these native plants are several feet tall, and many of them can be as tall as or taller than a person.

Originally, ground covers were used in shady areas where traditional lawns would not prosper, but today we also have ground covers for sunny areas that are used to replace the drug-dependent, water-dependent, and energy-wasting Kentucky bluegrass lawns. Please remember that plants listed for shade can often endure some direct sun, and that plants listed for sun can often endure some occasional shade. The type of soil (moisture-holding capacity), amount of mulch, and local climate (rainfall, wind, exposure, etc.) will also influence the hardiness of the plants. Plant them where you think they will do best, and observe. They will often tell you their needs by thriving, dying, or moving into a preferred habitat.

Here is a selection of 10 native plants for shade, and 10 for sun. These are some of my favorites for the upper Midwest. They all grow less than 1 foot in height, and tend to spread by

rhizomes, stolons, layering, or prolific seed distribution. There are, of course, many more that can be used. Consider some which grow taller than 1 foot or do not spread as well as the ones I have picked. Each species can fill a special niche.

For Sunny Locations

Antennaria plantaginifolia, plantain-leaved pussy toes. *Antennaria neglecta*, common pussy toes. *Antennaria dioica* (rosea), pink pussy toes. – These small plants have silvery foliage and short, white fuzzy flowers in early spring. The leaves are wintergreen. The pink pussy toes are a species from the western mountains and they have smaller leaves and 4-inch tall flowers. Common pussy toes have narrow leaves while plantain-leaved has wide, leaves with three prominent veins. Their flowers are 6 to 12 inches tall. Pussy toes grow in open woods, prairies, and dry sandy, well-drained soil. They reproduce by stolons.

Arctostaphylos uva-ursi, common bear berry. *Arctostaphylos alpina*, alpine bear berry. – These 6 to 10-inch high plants are circumpolar. Common bear berry has leathery, evergreen leaves with entire margins and red berries. The alpine bear berry has serrulate leaves and black berries. Its leaves turn a bright scarlet in the fall. The bearberries prefer sandy, rocky soil, moderately acid to acid, well-drained soil. They spread by layering and are especially good under high evergreen trees.

Wild Ones Business Members Yellow Pages 2008

The Wild Ones Yellow Pages listings give you a chance to get to know our Wild Ones business members. We want them to know we appreciate their support. When looking for products and services you need, remember that our Wild Ones business members, along with most of our *Journal* advertisers, share the goals and ideals of Wild Ones everywhere.

ILLINOIS

Art & Linda's Wildflowers

3730 S 59th Ave, Cicero IL 60804
(708) 785-2943

art@artandlindaswildflowers.com

www.artandlindaswildflowers.com

North Park Village Nature Center Chapter

In creating our gardens, we take our cues from the beautiful things and places we have seen in the natural world. The location

**Art and Linda's
Wildflowers**

— the earth — tells us what goes where. The conditions, such as the amount of sun or shade, the type of soil, the amount of moisture an area will get and retain all dictate what types of plants will be happy, will thrive and will coexist there. The native plants we use will all belong together there, as they have since ancient times to create a sense of harmony.

EarthWild Gardens

1479 Potawatomi Rd, Grayslake IL 60030-3531
(842) 287-7477

info@earthwildgardens.com

www.earthwildgardens.com

Lake-To-Prairie Chapter

EarthWild Gardens grew out of a love for gardening and a commitment to preserving local biodiversity. We sell over 150 species of hard-to-find native flowers, grasses, sedges, vines, shrubs and trees. We help our clients incorporate native plants into their residential settings — in naturalized prairie landscapes, rain gardens, woodland settings, or formal cottage gardens. We are in north suburban Grayslake, now at Station Square of Prairie Crossing, right off of Ill. Rt. 137, north of where Harris and Casey Roads intersect.



Horticultural Associates Inc

PO Box 301, Gurnee IL 60031-0301

(847) 662-7475

hortassoc@pgmail.com

Lake-To-Prairie Chapter

**Horticultural
Associates**

Kickapoo Mud Creek Nature Conservancy

1919 Limekiln Rd, PO Box 38

Oregon IL 61061-0038

(815) 973-0756

kentkathy@sbcglobal.net

www.kickapoomudcreek.org

Rock River Valley Chapter

This is the web site of the Kickapoo/Mud Creek Nature Conservancy which 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 enter this site if the Conservancy or its projects interest you. It 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.

Pizzo & Associates Ltd

10729 Pine Rd, Leland IL 60531-9802

(815) 495-2300

jack@pizzo.info

www.pizzo.info

Rock River Valley Chapter

Pizzo & Associates Ltd of Leland, Illinois, is dedicated to the use of ecologically sound principals in planning and development for both public and private sectors. They bring together the disciplines of planning, consulting, contracting, stewardship and nursery in one company for their public and private land owners who are committed to the restoration of natural processes on their land to create stable, cost effective and beautiful solutions to today's problems.



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steve.phillips@tallgrassrestoration.com

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Greater DuPage Chapter



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Greater DuPage Chapter

Trillium works throughout northeast Illinois and southeast Wisconsin, offering elegant design and exacting installation to help you create a landscape you can live in. Your Trillium landscape will mimic the natural beauty around you while resolving challenges such as runoff, invasive plants, and high maintenance. You'll conserve water and attract butterflies, songbirds, and beneficial insects to your yard. And you'll experience all this from a customized design that puts you in the landscape, with walking trails, benches, patios, rain gardens, water features, and formal garden beds tailored to increase your personal enjoyment. We can help you with all phases of your landscape project, including ecological evaluation, written conservation plans, and permits. Call us today for a free site visit.



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Greater DuPage Chapter

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OAKS**

INDIANA

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Walkerton IN 46574

(574) 586-3400

smiller@jfnew.com

www.jfnew.com

Gibson Woods Chapter

JFNew is an experienced full-service ecological services firm, providing sound solutions to clients for over 19 years. Our team of over 130 professionals provides a broad range of ecological consulting, restoration services and native plant materials. JFNew is headquartered in northern Indiana. Our 100+ acre Native Plant Nursery is located in Walkerton, Indiana and is one of the largest native plant nurseries in the United States. Visit www.jfnew.com to shop online or to learn how we can assist you with your project. Regional Offices: Chicago, Illinois; central Indiana; eastern and western Michigan; Cincinnati, Ohio; and Madison, Wisconsin.



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MARYLAND

Windstar Wildlife Institute

10072 Vista Ct, Myersville MD 21777
(301) 293-3351

Wildlife@windstar.org
www.windstar.org/wildlife



Partners at Large
WindStar Wildlife Institute is national 501(c)(3) non-profit, conservation organization whose mission and solution to the loss of native plants and wildlife habitat focuses on effectively teaching wildlife habitat improvement practices through proven methods such as "neighbor helping neighbor" and "education through demonstration." The Institute issues "WindStar's Wildlife Garden Weekly", a free e-magazine and the "American Wildlife Blog." The Institute offers two Internet home study courses to certify individuals as "Wildlife Habitat Naturalists" and "National Master Naturalists." Also, the Institute certifies residential, commercial and rural wildlife habitats in its American Wildlife Habitat Registry™ program. It maintains a 4-acre demonstration wildlife habitat and headquarters is located in an award-winning earth-sheltered, passive solar building."

MICHIGAN

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hmast@genesishnphc.org
www.genesishnphc.org
River City Chapter



Kalamazoo Nature Center

7000 N Westnedge Ave, Kalamazoo MI 49009-6309
(269) 381-1574

sreding@naturecenter.org
www.naturecenter.org
Kalamazoo Area Chapter



The Kalamazoo Nature Center is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to inspire people to care for the environment by providing experiences that lead them to understand their connection to the natural world. Our Community Wildlife Program works with businesses, golf courses, schools and private landowners to enhance wildlife habitat through native landscaping. We can assist with site evaluation, plant selection, design and installation. Kalamazoo Nature Center holds a Native Plant Sale every spring and fall.

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
Flint River Chapter



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 (501(c)(3) and mailed to the address above. We perform residential landscape clean ups at minimal fees.

Native Connections

17080 Hoshel Rd, Three Rivers MI 49093-9638

(269) 580-4765 Susie
jerry@nativeconnections.net
www.nativeconnections.net

Kalamazoo Area Chapter
Native Connections offers consultation services on restoration of native ecosystems, specializing in native landscape design and installation of prairie, wetland, and woodland ecosystems. We can help provide seed mixes of local and regional genotype. We can also provide native seedlings, small or large scale quantities. Wild Ones goals are very much in line with our own personal and business goals. Large scale producers of Michigan genotype native grasses. "Working to restore our natural world."

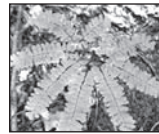


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Ann Arbor Chapter

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MINNESOTA

Barr Engineering

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candrews@barr.com
http://www.barr.com/

Arrowhead Chapter
Barr Engineering's nearly 400 engineers, scientists, and technical support staff headquartered in Duluth, Minnesota provides engineering, environmental, and information technology services to clients in numerous industries and all levels of government. One of Barr's specialties combines the talents of our landscape architects, who specialize in use of native plants, with the skills of our water resources engineers to design landscapes that manage storm water in an ecologically sound yet aesthetically pleasing manner. The landscape architects and ecologists at Barr know how to maintain ecological integrity while providing the amenities that we've come to expect. In addition to many other services, we also assist clients with storm water planning and permitting. Offices in Ann Arbor, MI; Jefferson City, MO; and Hibbing, MN.



EnergyScapes Inc

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(612) 821-9797
douglas@energyscapes.com
www.energyscapes.com

Twin Cities Chapter
Designing, installing, and maintaining landscapes using locally native plant species since 1989. Our goal is to create places of sanctuary and oasis for people that also benefit our environment. Working with the site we capitalize on the natural energy available from the earth, sun and water to create landscapes that emulate natural habitats, save resources, and solve drainage issues, all while meeting our clients' desire for beauty.



EnergyScapes creates serene energy-saving designs featuring elements such as Green Awnings™ and rain gardens. Sharing the mission of expanding awareness, saving biodiversity, and healing the planet, we are glad to be working with Wild Ones. Giving its first presentation, Douglas helped kick off the Twin Cities Chapter.

Out Back Nursery

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

tom@outbacknursery.com
www.outbacknursery.com
Twin Cities Chapter

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.



Prairie Moon Nursery

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Prairie Restorations Inc

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

(763) 389-4342
info@prairieresto.com
www.prairieresto.com

St. Croix Oak Savanna Chapter
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Top Notch Treecare Urban Ecosystems

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(763) 253-873

tamaram@topnotchtree.com

www.topnotchtree.com

Twin Cities Chapter

Top Notch Treecare has provided quality arboriculture for the Twin Cities Metro area for over 25 years. To continue our dedication to the environment, we are proudly offering natural landscape services. Our mission is to improve the environmental health of the Twin Cities urban landscape by installing, restoring, and maintaining native Minnesota plant communities specific to our client's needs. We offer consultation and design services along with installation of lakeshore buffers, raingardens, prairie plantings, woodland restorations, butterfly gardens, and wetland management. We implement the latest technology and use native Minnesota plants purchased from reputable growers to create sustainable landscapes for your urban environment.



MISSOURI

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Mid-Missouri Chapter

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mel@songbirdstation.com

www.songbirdstation.com

Mid-Missouri Chapter

Songbird Station is Central Missouri's original, largest and best wild bird and nature store. In addition to offering over 7,000 different wild bird and backyard nature feeders, baths, houses, books, gifts and more we are now in our new location offering a selection of the best Missouri natives for attracting hummingbirds, songbirds and butterflies. We offer suggested planting plans for central Missouri as well as pre-planted baskets containing a combination of annuals and perennials that can be enjoyed for a season and then planted in the fall.



NEBRASKA

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wayne@toddvalleyfarms.com

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Partners at Large

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OHIO

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bobkehres@ohioprairienursery.com

www.ohioprairienursery.com

Western Reserve Chapter

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.



PENNSYLVANIA

Edge of the Woods

Native Plant Nursery LLC

8718 Clausville Rd, Fogelsville PA 18051-2119

(610) 395-2570

stantsits@edgeofthewoodsnursery.com

www.edgeofthewoodsnursery.com

Partners at Large

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.



TEXAS

Ecovirons

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(936) 362-2215

cyrilla@inv.net

www.ecovirons.com

Partners at Large

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.



WISCONSIN

Agrecol Corp

2918 Agriculture Dr, Madison WI 53718-6770

(608) 226-2544

mary.delarosa@agrecol.com

www.agrecol.com

Madison Chapter

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 in-



stallation 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.

Crystal River Inn B&B

E 1369 Rural Rd, Waupaca WI 54981

800-268-5789

crystalriverinn@charterinternet.com

Central Wisconsin Chapter

Our 1853 farmstead on the Crystal River in the historic village of Rural exudes country charm on "Rustic Road 23" four miles south of Waupaca in Central Wisconsin. As Wild Ones members, we are committed to making as gentle impact on the Earth as possible and to restore native plant communities and wildlife habitat on our eleven acres. We are "Travel Green Wisconsin" certified and have just begun our work of prairie restoration and invasives removal on this former farm. The inn features seven guest rooms with antique furnishings, a view of the river or woods, and a nook for reading or visiting, and two cabins for families. Guest rooms have private baths and fireplaces. All include a full breakfast with a southern touch featuring our home-made local wild grape and wild plum jelly. Our non-smoking environment has free high-speed wireless Internet, meeting space for small groups and we're open year 'round. Our land has paths through fields and woods and an outdoor, seven circuit classical labyrinth and seven monitored bluebird houses. The wide variety of habitat on our land and the area from tamarack swamps to hardwood uplands invites local wildlife like river otter, bald eagle and Karner blue butterfly. The area offers many restaurants and recreation opportunities: biking, birding, boating, canoeing, walking, fishing, nearby state parks and charming small towns. A rural Wisconsin treasure.



Photo by Jenny Brazzle, Twin Cities (MN).

Wild Ones Business Members Yellow Pages 2008

Door Landscape

6329 State Highway 42, Egg Harbor WI 54209-9138
(920) 495-3138

cliff@doorlandscape.com

www.doorlandscape.com

Door County Chapter

A household member since 1999, we have decided to join as a business member to increase support of Wild Ones and to inform others about Door Landscape. Door Landscape uses many native plants of local genotype in the landscapes we create for our clients. The majority of plants we propagate are from the various woodland plant communities here in the Door Peninsula. The list of what we propagate continues to grow. It is our goal to restore the native plant communities and ecology as much as possible on each property using sustainable landscaping practices. Fundamental to our mission is educating potential clients and the general public about the benefits of restoring local plant communities and local ecology. We offer consulting, design, installation, invasive species control and maintenance services. Our emphasis is on natural design and sustainability that integrates our clients' homes and businesses with their surroundings. We also incorporate into our landscapes the many forms of locally available limestone, including quarries flagstone and dimensional stone and weathered fieldstone. From pre-construction plant surveys and site analysis through the design and installation processes, we strive to include our clients' functional needs and personal and aesthetic values. The result is a useful and beautiful biologically diverse and sustainable landscape.



Formecology LLC

210 Cemetery Rd, Evansville WI 53536

(608) 882-6656

john.g@formecology.com

http://www.formecology.com/

Madison Chapter

Formecology, LLC is a full service landscape architectural design, installation and care firm focusing on environmentally beneficial and regionally inspired landscapes for residential and commercial settings. "Formecology" is born from the idea of combining art with nature; bringing natural elements together with cultural art forms. Our artful combinations of native vegetation, local stone, recycled materials, drought tolerant or no-mow turfgrass, and rainwater conscious features create unique landscapes. Formecology's timeless creations have a distinct visual identity that is very Middle-West. Outdoor living spaces designed, installed and maintained by Formecology, LLC are beautiful, economical, and environmentally beneficial. We'd love to visit with you and offer an approach on how to create your "sustainable outdoor living" environment.



Hickory Road Gardens

2041 Hickory Rd, Mosinee WI 54455

(715) 693-6446

brayherbs@mtc.net

Central Wisconsin Chapter

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.

Johnson's Nursery

W180 N6275 Marcy Rd

Menomonee Falls WI 53051-5599

(262) 252-4988

bill@johnsonsnursery.com

www.johnsonsnursery.com

Menomonee River Area Chapter

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. Our landscape architects and designers offer site-specific, creative ideas for your landscape. We also offer brick and stone patios, retaining walls and other hardscape elements.



Lacewing Gardening & Consulting Services

6087 N Denmark St,

Milwaukee WI 53225-1673

(414) 358-2562

phidijsn@excecpc.com

Menomonee River Area Chapter

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.



Lake Shore Cleaners -

Native Solutions

Environmental Consulting

4623 N Richmond St, Appleton WI 54913-9627

(920) 716-0013

lakeshorecleaners@newbc.rr.com

www.nativesolutions.net

Fox Valley Area Chapter

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. We take the guesswork out of ecological projects for prairies, savannas, wetlands and ponds, trees and shrubs. Helping to restore Wisconsin's native habitats.

Lake Shore Cleaners

Landmark Landscape Inc.

W3923 County Highway O

Sheboygan Falls WI 53085

(920) 467-6442

joe@landmarklandscapesinc.com

www.landmarklandscapesinc.com

Sheboygan Area Tension Zone Chapter

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



artisans 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.

Marshland Transplant Aquatic Nursery

PO Box 1, Berlin WI 54923-0001

(800) 208-2842

marshland@centurytel.net

Fox Valley Area Chapter

The largest wholesale aquatic nursery in the Midwest, Marshland Transplant Aquatic Nursery produces quality native plant materials for large scale wetland mitigation and native restorations. We also provide installation services for a variety of projects including habitat restoration, waste water treatment, erosion control, bioengineering and mine reclamation. Specialty services include moving/maintenance, prescribed burning, no till drilling and delineation, mitigation and monitoring. Join us in rebuilding our environment. We sell only to wholesale firms, contractors, ecologists, professional organization and nurseries.



NES Ecological Services

4664 Golden Pond Park Ct, Oneida WI 54155-9292

(920) 499-5789

jhavel@releeinc.com

www.releeinc.com/NES

Green Bay Chapter

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 & associations, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and individual landowners. These services include planning & design, material installation, monitoring and maintenance.



Photo by John Arthur, Twin Cities (MN).

Wild Ones Business Members Yellow Pages 2008



Photo by Erik Vastag, Partner at Large.



Photo by Donna Van Buecken, Fox Valley Area (WI).



Photo by Kim Lowman Vollmer, Rock River Valley (IL).

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.

Northern Native Landscapes

25350 S Garden Ave, Cable WI 54821

(715) 794-2548

florabee@hotmail.com

Partners at Large

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.



ONE Plus Inc

113 West Main Street, Sun Prairie WI 53590-2905

(608) 837-8022

oneplus@chorus.net

www.oneplusarchitecture.com

Madison Chapter

ONE Plus Architecture 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.



Outagamie County Housing Authority

3020 E Winslow Ave, Appleton WI 54911-8994

(920) 731-9781x201

jlincoln@outagamiehousing.us

www.outagamiehousing.us

Fox Valley Area Chapter



Prairie Nursery

PO Box 306, Dept WO, Westfield WI 53964-0306

(800) 476-9453

ndiboll@prairienursery.com

www.prairienursery.com

Central Wisconsin Chapter

For 36 years, Prairie Nursery has been helping people restore the natural environment through the creation of low maintenance, ecologically sound, sustainable landscapes. Focusing on growing the native plants and seeds of prairies, wetlands, and woodlands, Prairie Nursery serves homeowners and wholesale customers through its mail order catalog, web sites, and retail store.



Rolling Acres

Native Landscape Nursery LLC

2513 N Humpty Dumpty Rd, Reedsville WI 54230

(920) 860-4688

wild.ones@earthlink.net

www.home.earthlink.net/~ranlnjmsnative/

Lake Woods Chapter

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.



Stone Silo Prairie Gardens LLP

4500 Oak Ridge Cir, De Pere WI 54267

(920) 336-1662

info@stonesiloprairiegardens.com

www.stonesiloprairiegardens.com

Green Bay Chapter

STONE SILO PRAIRIE GARDENS

Specializing in Native Prairie Plants

Our business is committed to the preservation of native species and their use in a homeowner's landscape design. We carry a wide selection of native prairie plants like those once found on the vast plains of North America. All our plants are started at our greenhouse from seed collected in the Upper Midwest. See our plant list and order online or visit us at our greenhouse in the Green Bay, Wisconsin area.

Taylor Creek Nurseries - Applied Ecological Services

17921 Smith Rd, PO Box 256

Brodhead WI 53520-0256

(608) 897-8641

corrine@appliedeco.com

www.appliedeco.com

Rock River Valley Chapter

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 and construction, ecological review, restoration design, and bioengineering for stream bank, shoreline and slope restoration.



Northern Sunset Perennials

info@northernsunset.com

www.northernsunset.com

Menomonee River Area Chapter

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Photo by Kelly Daniels, Oakland (MI).

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

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- Annual listing in the *Wild Ones Journal*.
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And to share with your employees and clients:

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- 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

Buchloe dactyloides, buffalo grass. – This is the shortest and most drought-tolerant of all the prairie grasses. It only grows about 6 to 8 inches high, and spreads by stolons and seeds. It is dioecious (has separate male and female plants), and the seeds are bur-like so most plants sold by nurseries are the male form only. It grows naturally, from the dry mountains eastward across the plains to Minnesota, Iowa, and Illinois. It does best in well-drained dry sites and poorly on our heavy clay soils. It is a warm-season grass so it will frost-kill in fall, and not green up until soil temperatures reach 50 degrees in late spring, but it will stay a lovely, soft-grey-green all summer without a drop of water. Minute hairs on the leaves and stem form dew and help to nourish the plant. It can be mowed once or twice a year to give an even lawn look, but in the Midwest it is not as hardy as Kentucky bluegrass for foot traffic, so will not replace a lawn for active playing children.

Comandra umbellata, false toadflax. – False toadflax is about 8 inches tall, and grows in dry prairies, sandy areas, and open oak savannas. It has shallow, long rhizomes and is partially parasitic on several different herbs and shrubs. The leaves are small and clustered up the stem. The flowers are small and white and clustered at the end of the upright stems. The fruits are edible.

Fragaria virginiana, wild strawberry. *Fragaria vesca*, woodland strawberry. – These small plants are about 6 inches tall, and spread by stolons (runners) and layering. They have white flowers in April, and *virginiana* produces delicious berries in June. They make a light ground cover in dry to moist fertile soil.

Geum triflorum, prairie smoke. – This delightful prairie flower loves sandy prairies. It is about 4 to 8 inches high when in bloom, and up to 1 foot or more in height when in seed. It is named for its beautiful pink, plummy seeds which look like smoke across the prairie by the end of May or early June. Prairie smoke flowers in April with three closed rose-pink bells. The foliage is deeply pinnately-divided and wintergreen (often with a shades of red and yellow fall color). Prairie smoke spreads slowly by a heavy creeping rootstock, and will usually form a horseshoe-shaped clump. Goldfinches love to eat the seeds.

Pedicularis canadensis, prairie lousewort. – Prairie lousewort is partially parasitic on other grasses and plants, so its early spring foliage is bright purple. The leaves are pinnately scalloped and fern-like. The flowers are yellow and arranged in a spiral clump at the top of the stem (about 6 to 8 inches high when in bloom in April). Prairie lousewort grows in dry-mesic prairies, open woods, and sandy savannas. It spreads vegetatively, branching from the root and crown. It is also a prolific seeder, and can grow under tall prairie grasses.

Phlox bifida, cleft phlox. – Cleft phlox blooms in April, with pale bluish-white, star-like flowers. The five petals are deeply cleft so it looks almost like 10 petals. The plant is about 8 inches high and forms nice clumps. It spreads by stolons and layering. It grows in dry, sandy soil, oak savannas, and on rock ledges including limestone. Its natural range is from Michigan to Iowa, and south to Tennessee and Arkansas.

Potentilla simplex, common cinquefoil. *Potentilla anserine*, silverweed. *Potentilla canadensis*, northern cinquefoil. – All three cinquefoils spread by red stem stolons and layering. They have



Common blue violet.

small yellow, five-petaled flowers and palmately- or pinnately-compound leaves. Silverweed has pinnate leaves which are silver on the undersides and it grows flat (about 4 to 6 inches tall) on sand in neutral or slightly acid soil. The other two have palmate leaves and grow above the ground (about 12 inches) over and through other vegetation.

Ruellia humilis, wild petunia. – Wild petunia grows about 10 to 12 inches high, and has pale lavender-pink petunia-like flowers. It prefers dry upland woods, sandy prairies, and fertile, slightly-acid soil. The clumps spread slowly on fibrous roots and by seed. It surprises me by coming up across the sidewalk in the parkway lawn. I've also seen it just beyond the gravel along old roadsides.

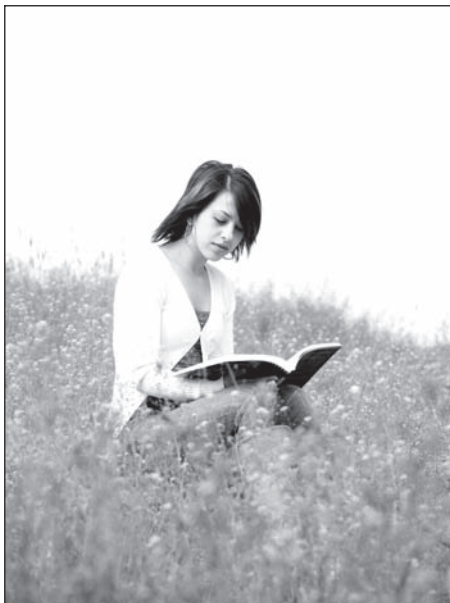
For Shady Locations

Asarum canadense, wild ginger. – One of the absolute best ground covers for dense shade, wild ginger has large rounded, heart-shaped leaves about 6 inches high. The flowers are three-petaled, deep red, and right at ground level. They are pollinated by slugs, ants, and small flies. The seeds are carried away by ants and chipmunks, and may produce plants far away from the mother colony. A creeping rootstock which roots at the nodes is the way it spreads, and it prefers dense rich woods, rich humusy soil, and moist floodplains.

Carex pensylvanica, penn sedge. – Penn sedge can grow in sunny to partly shady oak woods. It is a 6-inch-tall grass-like plant that spreads by stolons. Like buffalo grass, it can produce a lawn look, but it is somewhat fragile, and cannot take heavy foot traffic. There are hundreds of species of sedges that can be used in sun, shade, or wet areas as ground covers. Like grasses, they have narrow leaves and non-showy flowers, but some of their fruiting bodies are quite attractive.

Clintonia borealis, blue bead lily. – This is one of my favorites (along with bunchberry) for cool, damp, acid woods, swamps, and bogs. It can grow under deciduous and evergreen trees. It can't take hot summer sun on its leaves. It needs humus-rich soil and plentiful mulch. The leaves are shiny

CONTINUED ON PAGE 18



Time to Get Outside and Read a Good Book

Here in the *Wild Ones Journal* we mention lots of good books for anyone interested in native plants, natural landscaping, climate change, and many other topics. If you share our desire to learn more about the natural world, we think there's no better place to start looking than the **Wild Ones Amazon-Associate Bookstore**.

All the important books on these topics are available through Amazon at significant discounts – so next time you're looking for a good book, a DVD, a computer, some software, or just about anything fun or interesting, check out our Wild Ones Amazon-Associate Bookstore. And remember that Amazon pays Wild Ones a nice commission for almost every purchase. www.for-wild.org/store/bookstore.

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.

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garden for wildlife don't particularly want them to eat the plants, with the possible exception of our beloved butterflies' larval host plants. In fact, one reason for the popularity of many commonly sold aliens is that most insects do not eat them, and so it's easy to maintain the conventional gardening ideal of perfect, non-chewed leaves.

Those of us whose native landscapes have matured a bit, though, may not quite recognize the picture being painted. After all, our landscapes include mostly or exclusively native plants, but we don't see an ugly mess of chewed leaves. That's the good news. As Tallamy points out, a natural landscape is in balance. If you look closely at healthy woodlands or grasslands, you can spot occasional nibbles that signal their support of insect populations, but the overall landscape is beautiful. And so are the native-plant communities of our home landscapes.

Dr. Tallamy states three simple truths about biodiversity. First, the creatures we enjoy won't be here if we take away their food and places to live. Second, in many parts of the country, the only place left for wildlife is in our own yards. Finally, our home landscapes are increasingly planted with alien plants insects are unable to eat, thus impoverishing the food web. The inevitable conclusion is that gardening with native plants must become mainstream if we are to preserve the plants and animals that delight us and create the ecosystems we depend on.

Mysteries explained

In addition to explaining why native plants are important to biodiversity, Tallamy provides real answers to awkward questions people frequently ask Wild Ones. One of the most common is, "Why can't we declare 'alien plant X' to be native? After all, it's been growing in North America for hundreds of years."

Tallamy explains the essential problem with this complaint: It doesn't consider the role plants play in the ecosystem. Alien plants occupy space and use resources that would otherwise be available for native plants, but the sun's energy they harness isn't passed to the rest of the food web since insects don't eat them. Plants that cannot function as part of the ecosystem cannot be considered to have "become native." For me, this is a compelling argument.

The alien plant, phragmites, perfectly illustrates this concept. **Research shows that phragmites supports 34 times more insect species in its native European homeland than it does in North America – even after living on this continent for hundreds of years.**

Other information

A chapter on "The Costs of Using Alien Ornamentals" discusses additional problems with alien plants. One risk is that insects or disease can be brought to this continent by importing alien plants. Chestnut blight, imported on alien plants, has had particularly devastating consequences for biodiversity in North America. And it's not easy to predict which alien will become invasive – sometimes, they "behave" for decades before exploding into our natural areas.

This isn't a run-of-the-mill gardening or landscaping book, but it does provide practical advice in the chapters "Creating Balanced Communities," "Blending In with the Neighbors," and "Making It Happen." Unlike most other garden books you've read, one chapter explores "Gardening for Insect Diversity."

Tallamy helps us develop an appreciation for insects by sharing his knowledge and enthusiasm in "What Does Bird Food Look Like?" He also describes some good plant choices in "What Should I Plant?" since not all native plants provide equally well for wildlife.

One of the handiest chapters is "Answers to Tough Questions." He provides convincing, science-based answers to questions your non-Wild Ones friends may have asked you, or that you may have wondered about yourself.

Useful appendices include "Native Plants with Wildlife Value and Desirable Landscaping Attributes," which lists plants for each region of the country, and another which lists "Host Plants of Butterflies and Showy Moths."

Conclusions

This book is enjoyable to read since Tallamy's enthusiasm for gardening, for plants, and for wildlife – yes, especially insects – comes through. One tip for readers, though, is to take in stride the occasional science jargon you'll encounter. Get out the dictionary if you're particular about such things, or simply read beyond the technical terms (as I did). I found the re-



The monarch caterpillar, shown here feeding on a milkweed leaf, depends on native plant species for its food.

search citations in the body of the text to be distracting in a book whose intended audience is the gardening public, not scientists. This wasn't a barrier to understanding, however, just an annoyance. The main ideas are clear and easy to understand.

I rank this as the most important environmental gardening book I've read. It's about ecology and about gardening, but it's more than that. It's inspiring and sobering. As Tallamy says, "For the first time in its history, gardening has taken on a role that transcends the needs of the gardener." His central message is that restoring native plants to our yards is the key to the future of biodiversity in the United States, and it's urgent that we accelerate our efforts.

He issues a call to action in the afterword titled "The Last Refuge": *For the past century we have created our gardens with one thing in mind: aesthetics. We have selected plants for landscaping based only on their beauty and their fit within our artistic designs. Yet if we designed our buildings the way we design our gardens, with only aesthetics in mind, they would fall down.*

Our success is up to each one of us individually. We can each make a measurable difference almost immediately by planting a native nearby. As gardeners and stewards of our land, we have never been so empowered – and the ecological stakes have never been so high.

We Wild Ones can make a difference even beyond our own yards. With the knowledge we gain from *Bringing Nature Home*, we can help Americans shift away from alien ornamentals to native plants – a shift that will preserve the plants and wildlife so important to a healthy, joyful world. ♣

Chapter Notes

The year-end "State of the Chapter" reports have been coming in, and here are a few highlights.

Calhoun County (MI) Chapter participated in the Annual Crane Festival at Albion College

Central Wisconsin (WI) Chapter again staffed a booth at the Midwest Renewable Energy Association's (MREA) annual Renewable Energy and Sustainable Living Fair in Custer.

Door County (WI) Chapter gave their annual business award for excellence in landscaping to the Clearing Folk School in Ellison Bay where natural landscaping dates back to the founder, Jens Jensen.

Greater DuPage (IL) Chapter celebrated their annual potluck dinner by playing Nature Pictionary, had a plant ID contest, and displayed photos of members' yards.

Green Bay (WI) Chapter co-hosted the "Thoughtful Gardener Symposium."

Habitat Gardening in Central New York (NY) Chapter held their annual Jeopardy Game in January, featuring native plants and habitat gardening questions.

Habitat Resource Network of Southeast Pennsylvania (PA) Chapter held a two-day training course for homeowners on creating wildlife habitat.

Menomonee River Area (WI) Chapter celebrated their 10th anniversary by inviting every environmental and educational organization they could think of to the meeting.

North Park (IL) Chapter held several educational meetings led by local nurserymen on restoration, preservation, and design of natural landscapes.

Otter Tail (MN) Chapter was mentioned in the DNR Volunteer magazine for members helping with the DNR's lakescaping project in Otter Tail County (there was even a picture).

River City (MI) Chapter's November meeting included an appetizer and dessert table, and a silent auction of plant and garden items.

St. Croix Oak Savanna (MN) Chapter partnered with **Twin Cities Chapter** for an at-capacity seminar, the Living Green Expo, aimed at state-wide outreach.

St. Louis (MO) Chapter co-sponsored the Grow Wild Garden Tour with Shaw Nature Reserve, Grow Native!, and the Green Center.

Twin Cities (MN) Chapter sponsored a summer outdoor exhibit at the Twin Cities Arboretum's "Art to Amaze," featuring the impact of buckthorn on our native woodlands.

Western Reserve (OH) Chapter again hosted a table at North Coast Nature Festival, and the Ohio Prairie Nursery Open House.

Wolf River (WI) Chapter providing consulting and planting at Kindred Hearts, an assisted living home.

Pat Rosenwinkel, President of **Gibson Woods (IN) Chapter**, said it all when she wrote: "After seven years, I feel the word has finally gotten out about Natives, and Wild Ones. We have gained respect from the county officials and more Master Gardeners know about us and are helping. It also helps for members to be on the Lake County Purdue Extension Board."

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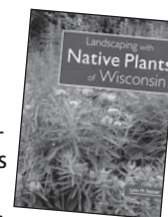
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Written for the Dane County Environmental Council, this book gives full details on what you need to know and what you need to do when burning your prairie. **\$8**



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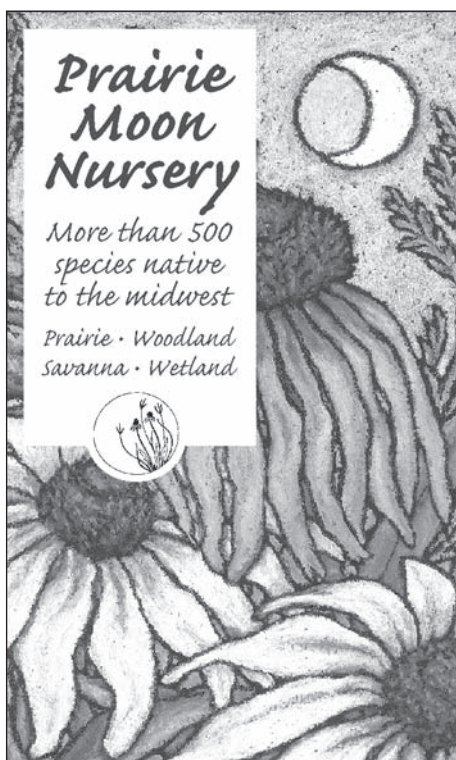
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Chapter ID numbers are listed after names.

Meet us online at 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.

Dragonfly Calendar 2008

Wild Ones members John Arthur and Pamela Deerwood, Twin Cities (MN) Chapter, avid dragonfly and damselfly enthusiasts, have created a 2008 calendar filled with great colored photos of these wondrous insects. Available through the Wild Ones Store (www.for-wild.org/store) for just \$20.



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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 2008. Duluth, Minnesota.
May 24. Hosted by the Arrowhead (MN)
Chapter.

3rd Quarter 2008. Appleton, Wisconsin.
August 22-24, at the new Wild Ones EcoCenter.

Wild Ones 2008 Annual Meeting and Conference. Appleton, Wisconsin. August 22-24, at the new Wild Ones EcoCenter. This year's Annual Meeting will be held at the new Wild Ones headquarters building. There will be a silent auction, leadership workshops, educational seminars, a book sale, and vendors and exhibitors. The annual Photo Contest entries will also be highlighted, along with a tour of the facility and other special environmental places nearby.

4th Quarter 2008. Midland, Michigan.
Tentatively October 4. Hosted by the Mid-Mitten (MI) Chapter.

OTHER CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

March 14. Bird Monitoring Conference
hosted by the Wisconsin Bird Conservation Initiative (WBCI) at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay – highlighting new opportunities for birders and wildlife enthusiasts in helping to monitor and conserve Wisconsin's birds..

March 14. 2008 North Coast Urban Forestry Conference at the Performing Arts Center Auditorium, Lakeland Community College, 770 Clock Tower Drive, Kirtland, OH 44094.

March 19. Ohio Botanical Symposium sponsored by the Ohio Division of Natural Areas Preserves, along with The Nature Conservancy and the Ohio State University Herbarium.

April 17. The Trillium Symposium sponsored by the Mt. Cuba Center, will be held in Brandywine Valley in northern Delaware. Focus will be on the biology of trilliums, their ecology, conservation challenges, and issues impacting their propagation and production.

April 19. Earthwise Celebration. Small Discoveries, Big Connections will be held at Cox Arboretum MetroPark, 6733 Springboro Pk, Dayton, Ohio.

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GROUND COVERS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

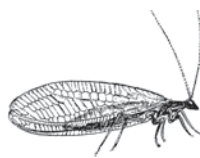
and lily-like, and the flowers are yellow, and at the top of a 9- to 10-inch stalk. The fruits are blue berries in fall. It spreads by slender, creeping rhizomes, and may take 12 years or more to bloom from seed. Plants must produce three leaves before they can flower. *Cornus canadensis*, bunchberry. – Another of my favorites and

a great companion plant for blue bead lily. The leaves are in a whorl at the top of the 4- to 6-inch plant, with one large dogwood flower above them. In the fall there is an umbel of red berries to contrast with the blue bead berries. Bunchberry prefers deep, cool woods, and damp, slightly acid soil. It needs moisture, but good drainage, and grows well under deciduous and evergreen trees. It spreads by rhizomes.

Euonymus obovatus, running strawberry bush. – This is a trailing shrub of rich, moist woods and hillsides. Although the books say it may reach 18 to 36 inches tall, it rarely gets much over a foot because it is procumbent and trailing, rooting and layering as it grows. The twigs are often bright green, the leaves obovate and deciduous. The flowers are small, brownish, and inconspicuous lying against the leaves, but the fruit is large and rose-pink and warty (looking somewhat like a strawberry), and they break open like bittersweet to reveal the orange-red berry inside. Running strawberry bush grows wild around the lower Great Lakes in New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, and especially Michigan, with a few outliers in the mountains of Missouri, Arkansas, Kentucky, Tennessee, and North Carolina.

Maianthemum canadense, Canada May flower. – This is another wonderful plant for the acid-soil boreal forest woodland. It grows well in sand, humus rich, slightly acidic deciduous or evergreen woods. Plenty of pine-needle mulch will help it spread by rhizomes. Canada May flower is about 6 inches tall, with a small plume of white, lily flowers in May. The leaf resembles lily-of-the-valley and it is often called wild lily-of-the-valley because of that.

Sedum ternatum, three-leaved stonecrop. – This wonderful native sedum has a beautiful three small within three larger leaves pattern that is every bit as entrancing as the small white flowers that appear in spring. It grows in rich, moist, shady woods, and over rocks, and on cliffs. I have seen it on both sandstone and limestone, and making a dense groundcover under the deep shade of



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maples. When in bloom it is about 5 to 6 inches tall. The leaves sometimes persist through winter under mulch.

Tiarella cordifolia, foam flower. – This is another delightful ground cover of rich, cool woods with humus-rich soil. It is not good under evergreens, but does well under deciduous trees. The wintergreen leaves are heart-shaped and toothy, and the flowers are a spike of frilly white stars. The crown sends out runners to help it spread. It grows naturally from eastern Canada to Michigan, and then south to Georgia and Alabama, preferring cool mountains in the south.

Viola papilionacea, common blue violet.

Viola priceana, confederate violet. *Viola*

sororia, blue violet. *Viola blanda*, sweet white violet. *Viola canadensis*, Canada violet. –

There are many species of violets, and these five are perhaps the most spreading. Some authors consider the first three all the same species, with common blue being the weediest one common in your lawn, *confederate* being the white with purple veins variety of the common blue, and *V. sororia* being the more well-behaved blue violet of the woods. The sweet white is very small, only about 4 inches tall, with small white flowers. The Canada violet is by far the best for a



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ground cover. It grows about 10 to 12 inches tall with flat-faced white flowers, often with purple backs or some purple tinges. It makes a thick stand in deep shade. Violets grow best in rich soil with humus. It can be slightly acidic or neutral. Leaf mold mulch helps them spread. Violets use rhizomes, stolons, and seeds to spread. *Waldsteinia fragarioides*, barren strawberry. *Waldsteinia parviflora*, small flowered barren strawberry. – The barren strawberries are similar to wild strawberries except that they have yellow flowers, are smaller, and are closer to the ground, and do not have edible berries. They grow in moist to dry woods in usually slightly acid, humus-rich aspen and oak woods. They need some moisture and also good drainage. They can grow in the sun if they have constant moisture. They spread by stolons just like regular strawberries, but more slowly. ♣

See a list of definitions along with more photos, (full size and in color) at www.for-wild.org/download/groundcover/. Photos by Pat Armstrong.



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THANK YOU

Thanks to Kathy Greenholdt, North Park Nature Center (IL) Chapter, for the photo "Girl With Oak Seedling," for use in Wild Ones promotional materials.

Seeds for Education Fund

Gretchen Neering Kalamazoo Area (MI) Chapter
Meghan Schrammel Lake-To-Prairie (IL) Chapter
Sarah Weltzien Menomonee River Area (WI) Chapter
Mark & Terri Chelmowski Milwaukee-North (WI) Chapter
Cathy Reglin and Jill Faber, King Elementary School.
Rock River Valley (IL) Chapter
Gardening Group of St. Claire Shores, Michigan
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John Arthur 1:1 match from **Ameriprise** for HQ & EcoCen ADA.
Twin Cities (MN) Chapter

Pennyellen Oszak 1:1 from **Freddie Mac Foundation.**
North Park Village Nature Center (IL) Chapter

Donations to the General Operating Fund

Catherine M. Davis Red Cedar (MI) Chapter
Commissions from the **Wild Ones Amazon-Associate Bookstore** for the past two months were \$78.06. Thank you all for shopping Amazon.Com through the Wild Ones web site.

HQ & EcoCenter Fund

Member \$20,000 1:2 Challenge

Because we've had a really good response to our capital campaign, it is not possible to list all the names in this small space. We have received numerous donations, large and small – including our first stock transfer which netted \$21,100. These, along with several sizable donations from other Wild Ones members, have brought us to nearly \$36,000 toward the challenge from our anonymous Illinois member. Thank you so much everyone. We'll recognize everyone formally at some future date.

Fox Valley Area Chapter \$20,000 1:2 Challenge

We apologize to **Calhoun Chapter** for the misprint in the January/February 2008 *Journal*, for listing \$0 for their donation. We're sorry we didn't notice the error until after the *Journal* was printed and mailed.

Thank you so very much to the chapters who have responded, **but so far, only 23 of the 44 currently chartered Wild Ones chapters have responded to Fox Valley Area Chapter's (FVAC) Challenge.** That also means that so far FVAC will be donating only \$6,179 toward the EcoCenter, so we've got a long way to go to get the whole \$20,000!

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Calhoun County (MI) Chapter250
Central Upper Peninsula (MI) Chapter100
Central Wisconsin (WI) Chapter1000
Door County (WI) Chapter	.....200
Gibson Woods (IN) Chapter	.....100
Greater Cincinnati (OH) Chapter	.....1000
Greater DuPage (IL) Chapter	.....300
Habitat Resource Network of SE Pennsylvania (PA) Chapter	..200
Kalamazoo Area (MI) Chapter	.....250
Lake-To-Prairie (IL) Chapter	.....250
Lake Woods (WI) Chapter	.....200
Milwaukee Southwest/Wehr (WI) Chapter	.....400
North Park (IL) Chapter	.....250
Oakland (MI) Chapter	.....2000
Otter Tail (MN) Chapter	.....200
Red Cedar (MI) Chapter	.....100
Rock River Valley (IL) Chapter	.....1770
Root River Area (WI) Chapter	.....1500
St Louis (MO) Chapter	.....888
Twin Cities (MN) Chapter	.....1000
Western Reserve (OH) Chapter	.....200
Wolf River (WI) Chapter	.....100
Total	.....\$12,358
Fox Valley Area (WI) Chapter	.....\$6,179
Grand Total to Date	.....\$18,537

Heartfelt thanks to the boards and the rest of the members of all these Wild Ones chapters.

Fox Valley Area (WI) Chapter and Wild Ones National appreciate your donations toward the chapter's challenge, but we want to remind you that we still need the rest of the chapters to come forward with their donations.