

Wild Ones awards 10 Seeds for Education grants

Since 1997, the Wild Ones Lorrie Otto Seeds for Education grant program for native gardens and habitats has been connecting thousands of children with nature. Through 2018, 253 grants have funded native plants and seeds for hands-on outdoor learning sites for preschool-12th graders. We greatly appreciate our members and chapters who have generously given to this worthwhile Wild Ones program!

This year, Wild Ones awarded 10 Seeds for Education grants out of 46 applications received from 18 states.

Applications were individually scored by three judges. Those recommended for funding were determined by how well the educational projects were planned, student involvement, judge's comments, and the potential for sustainability.

Congratulations to the 2019 winning SFE projects:

California

Native Plant Arboretum Restoration, Pacific Union Elementary and Middle School students, Arcata, CA

Connecticut

Meadow Restoration for Pollinators, Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center with area students, Mystic, CT (Mountain Laurel Chapter)

Illinois

Ephemeral Pond and Prairie Restoration, Douglas-Hart Nature Center with Charleston Middle School students and volunteers, Mattoon, IL (PAL)

Louisiana

SE Louisiana Native Garden, Homer Plessy Community School PreK-7th graders, New Orleans, LA

Michigan

Native Teaching Wetland Garden, Mattawan Elementary students, Mattawan, MI (Kalamazoo Area Chapter)

Native Pollinator Habitat for Experiential Learning, Kazoo School preK-8th graders, Kalamazoo, MI (Kalamazoo Area Chapter)

New Mexico

Water Harvesting Native Garden, Inez Elementary Students and Science & Garden Club, Albuquerque, NM

Pennsylvania

Native Plant & Pollinator Meadow Restoration, Audubon Beechwood Farms Preserve with Fox Chapel HS students and youth groups, Pittsburgh, PA

Tennessee

Native Plant Rain Garden and Preschool Garden, Girl Scout Gold Award Project, Franklin, TN (Tennessee Valley Chapter)

Texas

Habitat Garden for Science and Nature Observation, Winn School preK-5th graders and school garden club, Austin, TX

We also wish to thank the 31 Wild Ones judges who volunteered significant time and expertise to evaluate the 2019 SFE applications:

Marti Agler, Tennessee

Mike Brondino, Wisconsin

Pat Brust, Wisconsin

Cindy Carnicom, Ohio

Melanie Coulter, Ohio

Ann Curry, Ohio

Wanda DeWaard, Tennessee

Diane DeYonker, Ohio

Cathy Downs, Texas

Ellen Folts, New York

Jamie Forbush, Ohio

Denise Gehring, Chair, Ohio

Julia Gehring, Michigan

Susan Hall, West Virginia

Janice Hand, Montana

Jan Hunter, Indiana

Laura Klemm, Wisconsin

Rob Krain, Ohio

Laura Kubiak, Ohio

Lisa Lemza, Tennessee

Michael LeValley, Michigan

Kate Mason-Wolf, Ohio

Lydia Pan, Connecticut

Dan Parratt, Ohio

Matt Ross, Pennsylvania

Janis Solomon, Connecticut

Karen Syverson, Wisconsin

Rita Ulrich, Minnesota

Donna VanBuecken, Wisconsin

Kim Lowman Vollmer, Illinois

Rick Webb, Pennsylvania