

New Members

Happy New Year 2017 and a big welcome to our newest Chapter members:

Leonard Erickson, Neenah

We're so glad you joined Wild Ones!

Don't Become Extinct!

See your membership expiration date on your newsletter label and follow directions for renewing.

Thanks, and we'll look forward to seeing you at the meetings!

— Bob Niendorf &
Carol Niendorf,
Membership Co-chairs

Annual WOFVA Membership Meeting

Thursday | February 23, 2017 | Wild Center | POT LUCK | 6 pm

This year's annual membership meeting will focus on the many successes of the WOFVA Chapter in 2016 and discussing priorities for 2017. *Did you know that our display board made an appearance at 14 different events around the community, reaching over 800 people?* The 1:1 mentoring program assisted eight homeowners and advised seven community landscapes. Eight different member speakers delivered 12 presentations to area audiences, thereby sharing the mission of WOFVA with more people than ever before. *What was your favorite program of 2016? What new native species did you introduce into your yard or garden?*

We will have a change over in a number of leadership positions, including the chapter presidency, to be assumed by vice president, Tim McKeag.

Bring a dish to pass for the potluck and your own place setting. Beverages will be provided. In the lower level there will be native seeds to swap.

Bring seeds you have collected from your landscape to share with other members. Come prepared with your offerings and some extra envelopes or small paper bags for taking different seeds home. You can

look forward to Connie Ramthun's seed collection workshop for WOFVA to be held next October. See the 2017 program brochure for details.

The membership meeting will also feature a discussion on Buckthorn removal. Bruce Niendorf and his wife Aimee have recently been battling buckthorn in the wooded section of their 17-acre mixed-habitat property near Winneconne. Bruce will be bringing his buckthorn wrench as well as several items that he has made from the buckthorn plant itself. Come and share your own stories and experience with battling this scourge.



Events of Wild Ones Fox Valley Area

Annual Meeting, Potluck Dinner, and Seed Exchange

February 23 | Thr | Potluck Dinner 6pm |
Wild Center | 2285 Butte des Morts Beach Rd, Neenah, WI
Annual reports and program on buckthorn removal.

Caring for Your Garden Tools

March 23 | Thr | Social 6:30pm | Program 7pm
Wild Center | 2285 Butte des Morts Beach Rd, Neenah, WI
John Hengel, Outagamie County Master Gardener, will provide an overview of different hand tools, general care, and storage.

Tool Sharpening Workshop

March 23 | Thr | 9-11am
Wild Center | 2285 Butte des Morts Beach Rd, Neenah, WI
John Hengel, Outagamie County Master Gardener, will return to conduct a hands-on workshop. Bring your own tools to sharpen them for the upcoming season.

WILD Center

Wild Ones National Headquarters
2285 Butte des Morts Beach Rd
Located in Town of Menasha

Directions: From Hwy 41, take Exit 136, drive east on BB (Prospect Ave) to right on Northern Rd, then left onto Stroebe Rd. From Stroebe, turn right onto Butte des Morts Beach Rd.

Hours:

10 AM–3 PM Monday–Friday
Grounds Accessible & Always Open

wildones.org



President's Message

A wise person once said, "You only fight well for causes you yourself have shaped." Over the past three years, I have had the pleasure of serving as the president of the Wild Ones Fox Valley Area Chapter. It has been a satisfying place to serve; to be working for the environment, learning about native plants, and being with people who are passionate about a greener world.

The Chapter is in a strong position for shaping our community for good, 'one yard at a time'. This has grown out of decades of advocacy and interest in the natural world by people who are curious and interested in working and learning together. Three people are retiring from their positions within the board after years of service.

Joan Rudolph has been the editor of the WOFVA newsletter we have all enjoyed since June, 2012. When asked what she has gained from it, she replied, "Attending the Board meetings, listening to discussions of chapter business, and helping make decisions, I found exciting. It has been fun!"

Angela Dodge has been keeping our finances running smoothly and accurately since February 2003. That is a lot of line items! We are grateful for her dedication.

Lisa Sturgis, with her flying typing fingers, has been documenting the minutes of the monthly board meetings in her role as secretary, since February 2011. She commented, "The Board is a very dedicated and effective group of volunteers always looking for ways to improve our Chapter and spread the word of the Wild Ones mission. I am glad I have been a part of it."

Board members revolve and change, yet if we follow the example of other Wild Ones leaders, we do not go away. Stepping down from one role will give me a chance to do more of another; write articles, volunteer at the Wild Center, learn about media messaging, explore a strategic plan for our Chapter, etc.

Tim McKeag, our incoming president, is sure to encourage us all to apply our curiosity towards new methods of outreach.

Thank you for giving me a chance to serve.



Loris Damerow
President, Wild Ones
Fox Valley Area

Early Deadline for Plant Orders

Wild Ones Fox Valley Area Chapter's (WOFVA) spring plant sale has some slightly different structure this year.

- **Orders:** Plant sale orders must be in by **March 20th**, that's earlier than past years.
- **Pick up:** Plant sale order pick up is **May 20th** at the WILD Center, 2285 Butte des Morts Beach Rd, Neenah, WI 54956, one week later than past years.
- **Plant Trail Sale:** We are coordinating our plant sale with the Outagamie Master Gardeners' and the Paper Valley Garden Club's plant sales in what we are calling the Plant Trail Sale. All three organizations are holding their plant sales on the same day, so you can visit their sales all in one day.

Outagamie Master Gardeners' sale will feature vegetables. More information ocmga.net.

Paper Valley Garden Club's sale features typically non-native perennials. More information papervalleygardenclub.com.

WOFVA native plants will continue to be in 4-inch pots and sell for \$5.00 each unless you buy a tray of 12 or more of the same species, then they're \$4.50 each.

As in the past, plants can be further discounted for a not-for-profit organization. Contact Sharon Raimann, at (920) 410-6932 or e-mail raimann158@gmail.com with questions. And, if you can help with the plant sale, Sharon definitely wants to hear from you. You'll find helping with the plant sale can be quite rewarding.

The 2017 Plant Sale form can be found at foxvalleyarea.wildones.org. Feel free to download and share with friends and family.

Learning at Eagle Days

January soars with Eagle Days Along the Fox. January 14th marked the mid-winter survey and reception at Atlas Waterfront Cafe. Nearly fifty monitors were dispersed over twenty designated sites to count eagles. The WILD Center was one of those monitoring sites. Donna VanBuecken, who was at the WILD Center, reported seeing two adults and at least one immature flying from the nest area to the south of the property. Dave Peck, who has monitored the WILD Center for the past eight seasons, opening it for post-monitoring socialization, was covering Kimberly Point Park. He saw four eagles. While these numbers might not seem impressive, many monitors reported seeing over ten of these majestic birds during the ninety minute period with a high of twenty sightings at Expera. Based on the data, the DNR estimated there were just over two hundred eagles vacationing along the Fox on that day.

The excitement continued on the 21st with a bird hike at 8AM and indoor presentations at two locations: Paper Discovery Center and Neenah Library. Approximately five hundred people took part in these family oriented events. Young and old alike were able to see live birds compliments of Bemis, Corporation from Raptor Education Groups in Antigo and Aves Wildlife in Neenah. Participants not only got to see raptors up close but also learn about the dangers they face due to lead poisoning and pesticide use.

In addition to the raptor education programs, DNR Wildlife Biologist, Steve Easterly, spoke about his work in monitoring eagle nests in Northeast Wisconsin via flight, and Christine Williams took us back in time to learn about the history of the locks system and the families that ran them. Both locations also provided opportunities for participants and families to learn about eagles through interactive activities.



Eagles reside along the river throughout the year, but the heaviest concentration is in the winter. Visit eagledaysalongthefox.org for detailed map of key viewing sites. Also, there are two opportunities to monitor yet this season - Saturday, February 11th and March 11th. For more information or to participate contact coordinator Cheryl Root at croot@newalliance.org.

2017 Programs & Tours

Feb 23 | Thr | 6pm Potluck Dinner | WILD Center | 2285 Butte des Morts Beach Rd, Neenah, WI 54956

Annual Meeting, Potluck Dinner, and Seed Exchange

March 23 | Thr | 6:30pm Social | 7pm Program | WILD Center | 2285 Butte des Morts Beach Rd, Neenah, WI 54956

Caring for Your Garden Tools

John Hengel, Outagamie County Master Gardener, will provide an overview of different hand tools, general care, and storage.

March 25 | Sat | 9–11am | WILD Center | 2285 Butte des Morts Beach Rd, Neenah, WI 54956

Tool Sharpening Workshop

John Hengel, will return to conduct a hands-on workshop. Bring your own tools to sharpen them for the upcoming season.

April 27 | Thr | 6:30pm Program | UW Oshkosh | 755 Dempsey Trail (next to UW Oshkosh Campus Services building at 650 Witzel)

Tour of Campus Compost Facility

Tour the campus biogas system where the composting process starts with dry anaerobic digestion. "Titan Gold" bagged compost will be available for purchase.

May 20 | Sat | 9–11am | WILD Center | 2285 Butte des Morts Beach Rd, Neenah, WI 54956

Native Plant Sale & Order Pick-Up

Order form in December/January newsletter or go to foxvalleyarea.wildones.org. Contact: Sharon Raimann (920) 410-6932.

May 25 | Thr | 6:30pm Social | 7pm Program | WILD Center | 2285 Butte des Morts Beach Rd, Neenah, WI 54956

The Joy of Cooking with Native Plants:

Wisconsin's native plant communities overflow with food. Join WOFVA member and cooking enthusiast, **Joy Perry**, to try a few wild edibles. Steamed fiddlehead ferns? Cattail hearts? Roasted wild leeks? Yes, please! Samples will be available.

June 22 | Thr | 6:30pm Social | 7pm Program | WILD Center | 2285 Butte des Morts Beach Rd, Neenah, WI 54956

Invasive Plants

Niels Jorgensen, PhD student in Environmental studies at UW-Madison, will discuss how invasive plant species can impact the native communities and industries of Wisconsin. Get involved with reporting invasive plant occurrences using a mobile app for smartphones and tablets.

July 22 | Sat | 9am–12pm | UW Oshkosh Alumni Welcome & Conference Center | 625 Pearl Ave, Oshkosh, WI 54901

Tour, Native Shrub and Plant Identification

Ben French, propagator at Johnson's Nursery, will present on the identification and use of native trees and shrubs in your landscape. This includes outdoor identification of specimens on the UW-Oshkosh campus. Pre-registration required. Box lunch options available. Details in the June/July newsletter or at foxvalleyarea.wildones.org

August 24 | Thr | 6:30pm Tour and Treats | Appleton | 507 W. Prospect Ave, Appleton, WI 54911

Show Me, Tell Me - Damerow Property

Loris Damerow, Past President of WOFVA, will "show" us the transformation of their unusual .33 acre city lot after a city/state construction project. This steep, challenging site above the Fox River now offers a native display. Refreshments will follow on the patio.

Sept 28 | Thr | 6:30pm Social | 7pm Program | WILD Center | 2285 Butte des Morts Beach Rd, Neenah, WI 54956

Design Using Drifts of Natives

Rosemary Eiden, WOFVA member and landscape designer, conveys the planning concept of using native plants grouped in drifts, for creating a more contemporary landscape.

Sept 30 & Oct 7 | Thr | 9am–1pm | WILD Center | 2285 Butte des Morts Beach Rd, Neenah, WI 54956

Native landscape design workshop

WOFVA member **Rosemary Eiden** and others, will mentor members through the design process on graph paper to create a custom layout for your home. Pre-registration required. See newsletter and foxvalleyarea.wildones.org.

Oct 21 | Sat | 9am–12pm | WILD Center | 2285 Butte des Morts Beach Rd, Neenah, WI 54956

Seed Collecting Workshop

Connie Ramthun, native plant expert, for the Kettle Moraine region, will teach the collecting, storing, and planting of native wildflower and grass seed. After seed collection and cleaning, participants will take some seed home. Pre-registration required. See newsletter and foxvalleyarea.wildones.org.

Nov 17 | Thr | 6:30pm Social | 7pm Program | Evergreen RC | 1130 N Westfield St, Oshkosh, WI 54902

Audubon Partner Meeting

Chuck Hagner, editor of *Bird Watching* magazine, will share easy ways to help prevent bird collisions with glass windows that occur when birds mistake reflections of trees and sky for habitat.

Dec | No Meeting

Happy Holidays!

Jan 27 | Sat | 8am–4:15pm | 22nd Annual Conference

2018 Toward Harmony with Nature Conference

Watch for information in chapter newsletter and on conference web site TowardHarmonywithNature.org.



2285 Butte des Morts Beach Rd.
Neenah, WI 54956

wildonesfoxvalley@gmail.com

November 1, 1994:
Fox Valley Area became chartered as a Wild Ones chapter

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

Board of Directors

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Loris Damerow

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Past President

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Kristin Kauth

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County Digs

Outagamie
Donna VanBuecken

Winnebago
Dave Peck

Native Plant Sale

Sharon Raimann

Newsletter Contributors

Bob and Carol Niendorf
Loris Damerow
Donna VanBuecken
Kris Kauth
Cheryl Root



2285 Butte des Morts Beach Rd.
Neenah, WI 54956

Your mailing label is date coded with your membership **renewal**. Please pay your dues by that date. Send your check, **\$37.00** per household, made out to Wild Ones Fox Valley to: **Wild Ones 2285 Butte des Morts Beach Rd., Neenah, WI 54956**. Thank you.

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Help with Picking Native Plants

If you're looking for some help in creating a garden design or simply picking plants, here are some suggestions for you.

1. To begin, survey your site or look at photos, consider bloom times and colors, put your design down on paper and then prepare your order. There is a good section on design in the Wild Ones Landscaping with Native Plants book, both editions. You can find printed copies at the WILD Center Store or at **archive.epa.gov/greenacres/web/pdf/wo_2004b.pdf** and **archive.epa.gov/greenacres/web/html/index-8.html**
2. WOFVA continues to work toward saving America's favorite butterfly through the Wild for Monarchs campaign, and we also promote efforts to save our pollinators through gardening with native plants. Plan to attend the monthly chapter programs to learn more about native plants, natural landscaping and biodiversity or check out some of the Wild for Monarchs campaign materials. See **wildones.org/learn/wild-for-monarchs** Plan to attend 2018's Toward Harmony with Nature Conference on January 27th.
3. There are a number of organizations that provide awesome information on monarchs and pollinators. Check out **monarchjointventure.org** and **monarchwatch.org/bring-back-the-monarchs** and **pollinator.org** to learn more about what plants pollinators and monarchs look for and at what time of the year.



Newsletter Online?

Would you like to receive only the online (color) version of the newsletter? Reducing the number of issues to be mailed helps to lower printing and mailing costs. If you are interested in doing this, please contact newsletter Editor Joan Rudolph at wildonesfoxvalley@gmail.com.

Become A Wild Ones Member

A Wild Ones household membership is \$37 per year. Entire membership fee is tax-deductible. Join Wild Ones by sending your name, address and phone number to:

Wild Ones
2285 Butte des Morts Beach Rd.
Neenah, WI 54956

Business memberships and student memberships are also available. Call Wild Ones National at (877) 394-9453 for an application form or check out our website:

wildones.org