

Toward Harmony with Nature

Saturday, Jan. 19, 2019, 9 am–4:15 pm Oshkosh Convention Center, 2 N. Main St., Oshkosh, WI

CONCURRENT SESSION I (10:30–11:45 am) Choose one of the three speakers below:

“Native Trees and Shrubs that Work Together”

BEN FRENCH, propagator, Johnson's Nursery Inc.

Ben will share how to select winning combinations from the native woody plants of Wisconsin. Join him in a discussion of how to prioritize your planting goals for your site.

Ben earned his B.S. degree in Forestry from the University of Wisconsin (UW) - Stevens Point. He started working at Johnson's Nursery as an Intern in 2010 where he weeded, watered, potted plants, and propagated. He is now part of the senior leadership team. He also does recruiting and presentations for Johnson's, specializing in propagation, plant insects and diseases, Wisconsin native plants, and nursery production.



“Natural Shoreline Restoration for Water Quality Protection”

PAUL SKAWINSKI, Citizen Lake Monitoring Network Educator, UW-Extension Lakes Program

Shorelines vegetated with native plants protect the property against erosion, absorb pollutants, slow runoff, provide wildlife habitat, and more. Paul will discuss the importance of natural shorelines and provide tips for making your shoreline the best it can be.

Paul teaches Aquatic Botany at UW - Stevens Point and is the author/photographer of the popular field guide *Aquatic Plants of the Upper Midwest: a photographic field guide to our underwater forests*. He enjoys gardening with native plants and established nearly 3,000 square feet of native landscaping in his yard in 2018 using over 2,000 plugs raised from seed. He has helped several local schools create butterfly gardens and restore native plant communities where invasive species once dominated.



“The Importance of Prairies to Threatened and Endangered Species”

SARAH WARNER, United States (US) Fish and Wildlife Service Biologist

Sarah will highlight species the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working to conserve that are specific to prairie ecosystems. She will discuss the conservation and risks to these species, as well as how to reduce potential threats.

Sarah works in the Madison, Wisconsin Ecological Services Field Office and is involved with multiple projects across the Midwest that focus on endangered species recovery, habitat conservation and best management practices, and environmental contaminant projects. She works on projects focused on the poweshiek skipperling, monarch butterfly, rusty-patched bumblebee, whooping crane, and Kirtland's warbler.



CONCURRENT SESSION II (1:15–2:30 pm) Choose one of the three speakers below:

“Integrating Natural Systems into Urban Landscapes”

STEVE APFELBAUM, Chairman and Senior Ecologist, Applied Ecological Services

Steve, who is one of the leading ecological consultants in the US, will share the restoration advice and the win-win solutions that he employs in situations where ecological and land development conflicts arise.

Steve has conducted ecological research, designed award-winning projects and contributed his creative scientific expertise to over 9,000 projects throughout North America and beyond. His work on conservation communities established Low Impact Development as a maintenance and regulatory precedent. His work on alternative stormwater management has contributed to changing the stormwater management industry nationwide. His book, *Nature's Second Chance*, was one of the Top 10 Environmental Books of 2009. His recent book, *Restoring Ecological Health to Your Land*, co-authored with Dr. Alan Haney of UW - Stevens Point, has won praise as the first comprehensive “how-to” restoration book for landowners.



“Measure Twice and Cut Once: The Importance of Planning and Adaptive Management/When Restoring Oak Ecosystems”

AARON FEGGESTAD, Senior Associate Ecologist, Stantec Consulting Services, Inc.

Aaron will discuss the factors leading to the degradation of our vulnerable oak ecosystems before and during restoration and how to identify and respond to these factors in your landscape. He will discuss methods for assessing your property, setting and adjusting attainable goals, and evaluating outcomes to maximize your available resources. These factors and methods also apply to deciduous wooded ecosystems in general.

Aaron has overseen the restoration of thousands of acres of oak ecosystems and oak-prairie landscapes throughout the upper Midwest. He is involved with all phases of ecosystem restoration projects from baseline evaluations to planning, management, stewardship, and monitoring. His experience developing practical, economical, and implementation-ready plans is based on years of lessons learned.



“Amazed by Invasives – 15 Years on 15 Acres”

KATHARINE GRANT, Natural Ecosystems Management

Katharine will present her insights from 15 years of working to transform 15 acres of former cropland into restored prairie and savanna. She will introduce her favorite tools used to clear invasive plants, visit mechanical and chemical methods for managing weeds, and share tips for the long haul.

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In her work with native plant communities, Katharine has mapped tundra in the Arctic, studied understory regeneration in old-growth forests of the Pacific Northwest, and mapped riparian grasslands in Oregon. She received her M.S. degree in Forest Resources from the University of Washington, School of Forestry, researching native plant communities. Moving to the Midwest in 2003, she worked at a grower's greenhouse while finding her joy restoring the prairie she shares with her husband.



CONCURRENT SESSION III (3:00–4:15 pm) Choose one of the three speakers below:

“Urban Lot, Native Plants, Big Change”

LORIS DAMEROW, Past President Wild Ones Fox Valley Area Chapter

When a road project impacted her residential landscape, this homeowner seized the opportunity to use native plants to create a new environment on her challengingly sloped urban site. Three years later, the buckthorn and honeysuckle have given way to Joe Pye weed (*Eutrochium purpureum*) and asters (*Symphotrichum spp.*), giving the landscape a whole new look.

Loris is an avid gardener, native plant enthusiast, and active Wild Ones Fox Valley Area Chapter Board member.



“Restoring Your Woodland to Health”

FRANK HASSLER, President and Ecologist, Good Oak Ecological Services

Would you like to restore your woodland so it can be home to birds, butterflies, bees and wildflowers instead of buckthorn, garlic mustard, and mosquitoes? Frank will sequence the steps necessary to restore sites ranging from wooded gardens to multi-acre tracts, into a stable, healthy natural community.

Frank has more than twenty years of volunteer and professional experience in the fields of ecological land management and botany. His educational background includes a B.S. degree in Ecology and a M.S. degree in Forestry. He started Good Oak Ecological Services in 2008 with the goal of not only restoring our Midwestern prairies, wetlands, and oak woodlands, but also to reintegrate native plants and ecosystem services into our human environment.



“The Present and Future of Goose Pond Sanctuary’s Prairies”

MARK MARTIN AND SUSAN FOOTE-MARTIN, Resident Managers, Goose Pond Sanctuary

This presentation will feature the Madison Audubon Society’s Goose Pond Sanctuary located near Arlington, Wisconsin and the past, current and future efforts of their prairie restoration work. Its 400-acre restored tall grass prairie benefits rare plants, prairie wildlife including birds, mammals and invertebrates, and other prairie visitors.

Mark and Sue have been involved with habitat protection and restoration for 40 years. They have been the resident managers at Madison Audubon Society’s Goose Pond since 1979. They have coordinated the acquisition, restoration and management of 800 acres owned by Madison Audubon in Columbia County. Both have worked for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) where Mark worked with the State Natural Areas Program and where Sue developed the Great Wisconsin Birding and Nature Trail and worked on the Endangered Resources license plate program. They have also worked with many public and private partners on habitat restoration projects.



**23rd Annual Conference - Toward Harmony With Nature
Silent Auction Items Needed**

Please donate Silent Auction items for the Toward Harmony with Nature Conference at the Oshkosh Convention Center, Saturday, January 19, 2019. Past donations have included birdhouses and feeders, quilt hangings, nature art, handmade soaps and cards, photos, native plant seeds, gift certificates, garden tools and gloves — any items related to nature, native plants or natural landscaping. Gift baskets filled with items native plant gardeners might need or enjoy also make excellent auction items.

Bring Silent Auction items to the conference center the morning of the conference. Contact Kathleen Hallett, Silent Auction Chair, at kmahallett@gmail.com or (920) 809-7692 if other arrangements are needed. *Proceeds from the Silent Auction support Chapter educational programs.* We appreciate all donations.

TowardHarmonyWithNature.org

Visit our conference website for conference registration, a special offer for educators, detailed conference information, and additional details on speakers.

Contact us: wildonesfoxvalley@gmail.com



Phone
920-572-9540
Email
wildonesfoxvalley@gmail.com
Website
foxvalleyarea.wildones.org
Mailing Address
PO Box 385, Appleton, WI 54912
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.

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