Wild Ones
NATIVE PLANTS, NATURAL LANDSCAPES
FOX VALLEY AREA

Chapter Newsletter

Volume 25 • No. 4 Fall 2017

New Members

A warm Wild Ones welcome to these new members:

Sue & James Boshers, Waupaca
Megan Kane, Neenah
Andrea & Greg Lemke-Rochon, Chilton
Marcia Macdonald, Neenah
Jackie Nider, Appleton
Kate & Chris Pfaendtner, Oshkosh
Cindy Schaefer Kemps, Menasha
Tom Shambeau, Appleton
Paul Wolters, 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

TOWARD HARMONY WITH NATURE

Saturday, Jan. 27, 2018, 8 am–4:15 pm

Oshkosh Convention Center, 2 N. Main St., Oshkosh, WI

by Carol Niendorf

Join us for an all-day program of expert speakers, exhibitors and vendors, our popular book table, a buffet lunch, the opportunity to bid on silent auction items, and network with your fellow native plant aficionados!

KEYNOTE PRESENTATION **(9–10 a.m.)**

"The American Garden: A Life or Death Situation"

NEIL DIBOLL, President, Prairie Nursery

"Our gardens and landscapes are becoming increasingly important refuge for pollinators, birds, butterflies and other creatures as their habitats disappear due to wholesale conversion into chemically soaked farm crops, industrial parks, commercial centers, and housing for humans. Native landscapes that require few, if any, chemicals and toxins are the 'future landscapes' of necessity serving as joint ventures with nature, in our cities and suburbs. Our very survival will depend upon it."

Neil has over 35 years of experience in prairie establishment and restoration. He designs natural landscapes for golf courses, corporate campuses, public parks, and residential settings. He devotes his efforts to championing the use of prairie plants, as well as native trees, shrubs and wetland plants, in contemporary American landscapes. His step-by-step approach will provide you with "tried and true" methods to convert a small area to a prairie garden or a large acreage to a beautiful prairie meadow.

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Events – Summer 2017
of Wild Ones Fox Valley Area

Seed Collecting Workshop - Pre-Registration Required
Oct 21 | Sat | 9 am–12 pm | WILD Center, 2285 Butte des Morts Beach Rd., Neenah, WI
Call or email Lucy Lavitchka at: **920-733-0568** or **lmvalitchka@new.rr.com**

Buckthorn Bust - Workday at the Wild Center
Nov 4 | Sat | 8 am–12 pm | WILD Center, 2285 Butte des Morts Beach Rd., Neenah, WI
Contact information: call **920-572-9540** or email: **wildonesfoxvalley@gmail.com**.
See page 3 and 4 for more information.

Audubon Partner Meeting
Nov 16 | Thurs | 6:30 pm Social | 7 pm Program | Evergreen Retirement Center, 1130 N. Westfield, Oshkosh, WI
See page 7 for more information.

Happy Holidays!
Dec | No Meeting

2018 Toward Harmony with Nature Conference – 22nd Annual Conference
Jan 27 | Sat | 8 am–4:15 pm | Oshkosh Convention Center, 2 N. Main St., Oshkosh, WI
For more information or to register visit **towardharmonywithnature.org**

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

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

"Small-Scale Native Trees and Shrubs for Urban Gardens"

LISA JOHNSON, Dane County University of Wisconsin Horticulture Extension Educator

Lisa will share information on small-scale native trees and shrubs; their optimal growing conditions, and best uses in the landscape. She runs the Dane County Master Gardener Volunteer training and green industry programs, co-manages the Dane County University of Wisconsin Extension Teaching Garden, and acts as staff for the Dane County Tree Board. She has a regular magazine and newspaper column and is a frequent guest on Wisconsin Public Radio's Garden Talk program.

"Two Years of Preparation for One Day of Seeding: Rebooting the 30-Year Restoration Prairies of Riveredge Nature Center"

MATT SMITH, Land Manager, Riveredge Nature Center, Saukville, Wisconsin

Join Matt as he reviews two years of land management of dry-mesic prairie and oak woodland edge. He will highlight the methods used to remove invasive woody and herbaceous plants, design seed mixes, and prepare the ground for change.

"Wetlands on our Landscape - Protection and Restoration"

ALICE THOMPSON, Wetland Ecologist, Thompson and Associates Wetland Services

Wisconsin's landscape has a rich treasure of wetlands, with the majority on private lands. Wetland protection, enhancement, management and restoration in the face of the evolving impacts of climate change will be the focus of this presentation. Alice is the principal author of the award-winning *Wetland Restoration Handbook for Wisconsin Landowners*, in its third printing for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

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

"From Weeds to Wildflowers on Gobbler Ridge"

TIM EISELE, Outdoor Writer and Photographer

Tim's presentation traces the transformation of "Gobbler Ridge" in southwestern Wisconsin from when he and his wife Linda purchased it in 1990 to the restored prairie that is now a haven for native insects, birds, and wildlife. A founding member and past president of the Wisconsin Outdoor Communicator's Association, Tim received the Madison Audubon Society's James Zimmerman Award for excellence in environmental communications.

"Invasive Species Management at the University of Wisconsin-Madison Arboretum"

MICHAEL HANSEN, University of Wisconsin Arboretum Land Care Manager

The 1240-acre UW Arboretum is a unique collection of remnant and restored prairies, oak savannas, woodlands, and wetlands in the heart of the city. Michael will provide an overview of the Arboretum's invasive species management program, including common invasive species, how strategies are developed for management, and the challenges of working within an urban landscape.

"Building and Planting a Rain Garden"

MARY VOELKER, University of Wisconsin Extension Southeast Wisconsin Master Gardener Volunteer

What is the value of a rain garden to the environment? How do you build a rain garden? What plants are used? Mary will address these questions and others you have about rain gardens.

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

"Savannas – A Species of Land Unlike any Other"

ED COLLINS, McHenry County Illinois Director of Land Preservation and Natural Resources

Shaped by ice, sculpted by climate and existing in a dynamic balance with topography and fire, savannas remain an enigmatic touchstone of the Midwestern landscape. Using firsthand accounts of settlers, land speculators and early scientists, this session will ask whether our management goals are based on an accurate understanding of original savanna communities.

"Fire as a Natural Disturbance in Prairie Plantings: When and How to Apply It"

NATHAN HOLOUBEK, Research Scientist, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resourses (DNR)

Fire was an integral component of prairies, and many plants depend on it to flourish. This talk will discuss when and how to use fire to benefit both the flora and fauna of prairie, savanna, and woodland habitats. Nathan manages wildlife areas and grassland bird conservation properties for the DNR in southern Wisconsin.

"Birds of Wisconsin's Prairies"

STEVE PETZNICK, Naturalist, Mosquito Hill Nature Center, New London, Wisconsin

Steve's talk addresses the many types of prairies in Wisconsin along with the variety of bird life that call the prairie ecosystem home. As Naturalist at Mosquito Hill Nature Center, Steve manages a richly diverse 13-acre prairie planting. He is the founder and Past President of the Northeast Wisconsin Birding Club and is a regular contributor to Wisconsin Society for Ornithology's monthly publication, *The Badger Birder.*

TowardHarmonyWithNature.org

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

Opportunities to Serve

Wild Ones Fox Valley Area

Silent Auction Chairman – The Silent Auction Chairman coordinates the silent auction donations and volunteers for the annual Toward Harmony with Nature Conference. Contact Conference Chair, Kristin Kauth at **wildonesfoxvalley@gmail.com**

Half Day Buckthorn Bust Volunteer – *(includes complimentary lunch)* – On Saturday, November 4 from 8 am to noon chapter volunteers will work in small teams cutting buckthorn, painting stumps with glyphosate and hauling brush in an effort to improve the WILD Center grounds (2285 Butte des Morts Beach Rd, Neenah, WI). Wear gloves and boots. If you can, bring loppers, clippers, and a bucket or pail. Come for all or some of the morning, then join us for lunch. Contact information **920-572-9540** or email: **wildonesfoxvalley@gmail.com**

Vice President – The Vice President is a two year term.Responsibilities include: coordinating the implementation of chapter goals as determined by periodic goal setting meetings; be familiar with all aspects of chapter functions and prepare to take responsibilities as President. Contact Tim McKeag at **wildonesfoxvalley@gmail.com**

Treasurer – The Treasurer, principal financial chapter officer, is a two year term whose responsibilities include drafting budgets, creating/providing reports, and general accounting. Tim McKeag at **wildonesfoxvalley@gmail. com**

Write a newsletter article – Share your knowledge of native plants or an environmental issue - write an article for the Chapter newsletter and submit to Rebecca Eyer, newsletter editor at **reyer520@msn.com**.

Wild Ones
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FOX VALLEY AREA

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.

Board of Directors

President
Tim McKeag
Vice President
To Be Announced
Past President
Loris Damerow
Secretary
Peggy McGaffey
Treasurer
Joby McKeag
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Loris Damerow
Natural Landscapes for Tomorrow
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County Digs
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Hailey Bomar
Barbara Cattani
Loris Damerow
Shannon Davis-Foust
Israel Del Toro
Rebecca Eyer
Kristin Kauth
Carol Niendorf
Merrie Schamberger
Lucy Valitcha
Donna VanBeucken

Buckthorn Bust

Saturday, November 4 from **8 am** to **noon**
Wild Ones Fox Valley Area Chapter members will take loppers in-hand and support the WILD Center with an all-out, autumn effort to tackle the invasive buckthorn in the wooded area on the property. Come for all or some of the morning, then join us for lunch. Wear gloves and boots. If you can, bring loppers, clippers, and a bucket or pail. Working in small teams, we will be cutting, painting stumps with glyphosate and hauling brush in an effort to improve the WILD Center grounds. Contact information: call **920-572-9540** or email: **wildonesfoxvalley@gmail.com**.

Native Shrub and Plant Identification Workshop

by Barbara Cattani

It seems that many gardeners are more comfortable identifying forbs than trees and shrubs. Enter Ben French, Propagator at Johnson's Nursery, to lead a program on native shrub and tree identification at the University of Wisconsin (UW)-Oshkosh. On July 22, 2017, he discussed the attributes of various woody plant species with the kind of care most people use for their pets or other family members. It is clear that Mr. French really enjoys his job.


Ben French

Ben focused primarily on the familiar tree and shrub species with information about where each species was found originally in Wisconsin and where they can still be found. This historical data was helpful to understand how a tree would be best used in the home landscape. There was plenty of opportunity to get advice about individual landscaping challenges.

After the slide show presentation and discussion, it was time to tour the grounds of UW-Oshkosh and test our new found expertise in tree identification. There are several lovely native plantings on the campus that provided real life examples of the trees and shrubs we had studied earlier. Ben shared his observations about the sites and species selection. It is always interesting to hear an expert's interpretation of a landscape and see the plants through his eyes. Everyone agreed it was a very successful learning experience.

What's Blooming at the WILD Center

by Donna VanBuecken

NATIVE PLANTS IN FALL

This is the time of year when the blooms of the flowering native plants start to fade and the earthy colors of the native grasses begin to show. The reds and bronzes of the fall-colored native grasses make quite the show.

Some late flowering native plants blooming in the WILD Center gardens right now include the tall coreopsis (*Coreopsis tripteris*), branched coneflower (*Rudbeckia triloba*), wild quinine (*Parthenium intnegrifolium*), false boneset (*Kuhnia eupatorioides*), stiff goldenrod (*Solidago rigida*), rattlesnake master (*Eryngium yuccifolium*), rosinweed (*Silphium integrifolium*), sweet black eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia subtomentosa*) and New England aster (*Symphyotrichum novae-angliae*).

Grasses include indiangrass (*Songhastrum nutans*), big bluestem (*Andropogon gerardii*), switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*), little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*) and prairie dropseed (*Sporobolus heterolepis*).


Rattlesnake master (*Eryngium yuccifolium*), sweet blackeyed Susan (*Rudbeckia subtomentosa*), and false boneset (*Brickellia eupatorioides*)


New England aster (*Symphyotrichum novae-angliae*)

NON-NATIVE PLANTS IN FALL

Unfortunately, there are also some weedy species at the WILD Center including phragmites (*Phragmites australis*) and horseweed, sometimes called marestail, (*Coonyza canadensis*). Although phragmites is a perennial and horseweed is an annual, both are terribly aggressive and should be eradicated expeditiously.

And there is buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*), of course. Although it's no longer blossoming and most of the mature plants have been removed, there are still a few five to six footers along the perimeter of the upland that have produced berries (and lots of tiny plants that are hoping to grow bigger....) The Wild Ones Fox Valley Area Chapter, however, will be holding a Buckthorn Bust work project on Saturday, November 4, 2017 to bring an end to more of these dreadful plants along with some non-native honeysuckle (*Lonicera spp*). Watch for on-line messages from President Tim McKeag and plan to help tackle this huge problem. It's a great way to get rid of a lot of frustration!


Stiff goldenrod (*Solidago rigida*)


Indian grass (*Songhastrum nutans*)

Photos courtesy of Donna VanBuecken

CHANGING LANDSCAPE

As I strolled through the prairie, I noticed how the species make-up has changed since my retirement during the fall of 2015. Where there once was a myriad of swamp milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*) and sideoats grama (*Bouteloua curtipendula*), now I see very few of these plants. The long, wet 2016-2017 winter with its fluctuating freezing and thawing seem to have taken a toll. Future years with different winters will tell whether these lovely plants will once again bloom in the prairie.

Soil – Part 1

by Rebecca Eyer

According to the University of Missouri Extension website, "Soil as a medium for plant growth can be described as a complex natural material derived from weathering of rocks and decomposition of organic materials, which provide nutrients, moisture, and anchorage for plants.

Soil is a mixture of minerals, organic matter (humus), air and water. An ideal soil for plant growth is about 50 percent solids consisting of minerals and organic material. The organic portion consists of residues from plants, animals and other living organisms. Under optimum conditions for plant growth, about half of the space between soil particles – pore space – is filled with water and the remainder with air. Soil compaction reduces pore space and the amount of air and water the soil can hold, thereby restricting root growth and the ability of plants to take up nutrients from the soil."

(http://extension.missouri.edu/publications/DisplayPrinterFriendlyPub.aspx?P=MG4)

My interest in soil began when I wanted to choose the best native plants for our Lake Winnebago property located between Oshkosh and Neenah. Connie Ramthun, native plant expert for the Kettle Moraine area, had toured our landscape in August 2016 and made plant suggestions. Keeping Connie's suggestions in mind, I searched the Prairie Nursery catalog before the Wild Ones Fox Valley Area Chapter plant sale in May 2017. Pages 62-69 of the 2017 catalog feature a Selection Guide. The guide provides choices for soil moisture conditions: dry, medium, moist, and wet; sun conditions: full, partial, and shade; soil types: sand, loam, clay, and gravel; space in inches and feet, and root type: fibrous, bulb, rhizome, corm, and taproot. In addition, the guide shows specifics for individual plants: height, bloom color, and bloom time. Each plant is identified if it is known for attracting butterflies, hummingbirds, birds, and for deer resistance in the plant descriptions shown by plant.

Prairie Nursery's website goes even further with descriptions of soil moisture, soil types, and light or sun conditions (**http://www.prairienursery.com/resources-and-guides/getting-started/growing-conditions-defined.php**) and a Plant Finder (**http://www.prairienursery.com/store/advanced-search**), so customers may choose plant parameters to create a list of plants suited to conditions and desires.

I hesitated when I considered my soil type. It is not gravel or sand, but I wasn't sure if it is loam or clay. I have amended the soil with top soil, manure, peat, and compost. I turned to the Winnebago County Water and Soil Conservation Department and was directed to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service website to check my soil type. That website offers a Web Soil Survey. Because the Lake Winnebago shoreline has been developed, the original soil has been removed and/or covered with a loamy fill material, and has a slope of 0 to 3 percent; it is classified as Udorthents, with a "Typical Profile" listed on the Survey for our specific property as: silty, clay, loam soil. See Textural Soil Triangle to understand where this is identified.

Soil types may be identified by their particle size as:

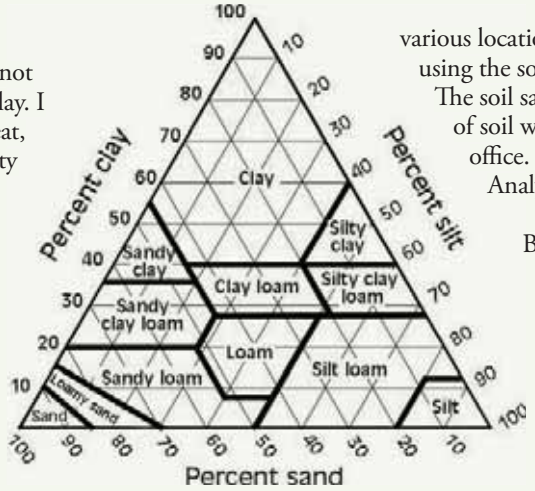
- **Gravel** has large particles with diameters greater than 2 millimeters.
- **Sand** particles are .05 to 2 millimeters and are gritty and coarse; they are well aerated, but do not hold water or nutrients.
- **Silt** particles have diameters of .002 to .05 millimeters. Silt soil is finer than sand, but still feels gritty.
- **Clay** has the smallest particles measuring less than .002 millimeters, with the largest surface area to hold nutrients and water. Clay soils are typically very fertile. They absorb water slowly and then retain it for a long time. When dry, clay soil becomes very hard and solid. The root systems of plants that thrive in clay are strong enough to break through heavy soils and handle the compaction that can occur. Plants that thrive in clay are extremely hardy and versatile. They do well in other soil types as well.
- **Loam** is a combination of sand, silt, and clay. Loam soils are also very fertile but instead of high clay content, they have roughly equal proportions of sand, silt, and clay. Loamy soil is ideal, because it holds plenty of moisture but also drains well so that sufficient air can reach the roots. Most plants will grow in loam.

When checking soil type, I talked with Dick Wolkowski, Extension Soil Scientist (Emeritus), who works through the Soil & Forage Analysis Lab in Marshfield, Wisconsin. As emphasized in Wisconsin Master Gardener Volunteer classes, he highly recommended that I complete a soil test. The soil test checks your soil for nutrients and pH, but not soil texture, and suggests nutrients needed to remedy any deficits. I could have had the soil texture analyzed for an additional $23, but the technician at the soil lab examined my soil sample and thought that I would get the same results as the Survey - silty, clay loam soil, so I did not pursue that test.

Photo courtesy of Rebecca Eyer

A soil probe may be rented from a local county extension office for $20 which is applied to the $20 cost of a soil test report. Some counties charge $15 for the soil test. The probe collects a plug of soil about .75 inches in diameter. I dug 12 soil samples in various locations of the garden area, about six inches deep using the soil probe and placing the plugs in a bucket. The soil samples were mixed in the bucket, and two cups of soil were placed in a bag supplied by the extension office. The bag of soil was sent to the Soil & Forage Analysis Lab in Marshfield, Wisconsin.

Based on these soil types, the Survey description and the lab technician's examination and comments, I would choose plants for clay soil and possibly loam. I am glad I had the soil test completed as I was surprised by the results which I will share in the next issue.



Textural Soil Triangle Chart *Courtesy of Dick Wolkowski*

Appleton Pollinator Project Supports Native Bees

by Israel Del Toro, PhD and Hailey Bomar, Lawrence University

Based out of Lawrence University in Appleton, WI, the Appleton Pollinator Project was launched in the spring of 2017 by Israel Del Toro, PhD, (Assistant Professor of Biology) and the students in his undergraduate lab. "Our planet is continuously changed by our disturbance of natural habitat. Our goal with the Appleton Pollinator Project is to reverse some of the loss of pollinator habitat in our most disturbed landscapes and subsequently restore the pollination of our flowers, veggie gardens and key crops," says Del Toro.

Del Toro and his team have seventeen sampling sites in the Fox Cities, nine of which include the hive structures that provide habitat space for native bees. Wisconsin is home to nearly 400 species of native bees, which provide many of the same pollination ecosystem services as the well-known honeybee (*Apis mellifera*), which many don't realize is a non-native species. And unlike the honeybee, most native bee species are not aggressive and will only sting if extremely disturbed. Of note among these native species is the mason bee (*Osmia bicornis*), a helpful pollinator for fruit and nut orchards and spring blossoms. Mason bees and most other native bee species are solitary species and tend not to nest in communal hives. These bees efficiently gather pollen and nectar simultaneously, allowing them to visit more flowers and cross-pollinate more effectively than the honey bee.


Mason bee houses

Photo courtesy of Hailey Bomar


Mason bee houses

Photo courtesy of Hailey Bomar

Mason bees prefer to nest in small circular cavities, which they pack with mud to protect their eggs. Hollow reeds and small cardboard tubes are some favorite habitat spaces for mason bees, but they will also nest in small cavities in logs.

Other native bees prefer to nest in sandy soil patches or in rock-wall crevices. Increasing habitat for native species in your backyard is an easy way to help increase the diversity of species we see in our community – and it also benefits your garden or orchard! When the biological diversity of bees increases, there are more pollinators available to accomplish similar ecosystem services, such as crop pollination, which results in higher crop yields. More than one-third of our food supply depends on the pollination services provided by bees, and recent bee population declines across several species signal that the bees need our help.

The March 2018 program will feature Israel Del Toro, PhD with an opportunity to build a mason bee structure for your own pollinator habitat.

Mapping Our Membership: Seeing Native Plant Corridors

by Loris Damerow and Shannon Davis-Foust

As a Wild Ones member you know the added environmental value that native plants can bring, and you, most likely, have native plants in your yard or landscape. Belonging to Wild Ones supports the educational work that we do together to foster the restoration of native plant communities here in Northeastern Wisconsin. The Wild Ones Fox Valley Area Chapter (WOFVA) began a project three years ago to visually demonstrate the collective impact that we are making on our planet by establishing native plant corridors. These mapped natural landscapes will allow us to see how we are connected and help us to realize the larger impact we are having as we work together. This project is called "Get on the Map." It lives on our Wild Ones Fox Valley Area website at: **foxvalleyarea.wildones.org.**

We invite you to add your data about your landscape to this project and contribute information about your yard. Participating in this program is as simple as filling out an on-line form. Click on the "Get On the Map" tab on our website and answer the questions that follow. You will be asked questions like, Is your property urban suburban or rural? Do you have habitat amenities such as a pond, birdhouses, or bee hives, etc.? There will be multiple-choice options listing the species of plants you may grow and options for providing more content. There is also an option to upload a photo of your garden. This must be under one-megabyte in size. If you don't know some of the answers to the questions about your property, leave that question blank. The goal is to share what you can and to find our Wild Ones neighbors. The mapping of native landscapes may be viewed by anyone looking on our website; however, your name, address and contact information will not be published online.

When you register your yard or garden, you will be recording your piece of the restoration puzzle. By documenting our individual efforts to plant natives in your yard, we will be able to visualize the natural landscapes that we are making together to improve habitat for wildlife of all types. It will help show us who we are as an organization and how we are interconnected. It also helps us share information and our knowledge with the public. When zoomed out, this easy-to-use map allows you to see the arrangement of wildlife corridors we have collectively created, including community composition, size of planting, and habitat type. Ultimately, this map and the information it provides will boost the cohesiveness of Wild Ones members and provide a more visible conduit for sharing our successes with the public.

We invite the WOFVA membership to the "Get on the Map" project. Your native planting, large or small is a wildlife habitat, which increases regional biodiversity. Please help us see our interconnectedness by adding your information to our Chapter map of the whole. As each little patch of wildlife habitat holds the key to survival for a population of critters, you are nothing short of a hero by simply maintaining your native planting. Every small patch of habitat is invaluable as it helps increase regional biodiversity. By sharing information about your native land management practices, you can influence others' perceptions – and perhaps even convince them to go native.

Editor's Note

On Thursday, June 22, 2017, members had the opportunity to learn how to "map" invasive plants electronically and to add them to a state and federal data base. Neils Jorgensen, PhD student in Environmental Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, shared the impact of invasive species on our lives, environment, and economy, as well as showing attendees how to use an app on a phone or tablet to register invasive species you see at: **eddmaps.org**.

Mostly Native Wildlife Garden

by Merrie Schamberger

We have always appreciated flowering plants more than grass. In 2013 we replaced the turf in our front lawn with edible plants coupled with native plants in raised beds. We have a border of Nanking cherry (*Prunus tomentosa*) shrubs, which produce abundant fruit for birds and small mammals, and people too if they leave us any. Pear (*Pyrus spp.*), cherry (*Prunus spp.*) and shagbark hickory trees (*Carya ovata*) complement the spiderwort (*Tradescantia spp.*), butterfly weed (*Asclepies tuberosa*), columbine (*Aquilegia spp.*), prairie drop-seed (*Sporobolus heterolepis*), coreopsis (*Coreopsis spp.*), wild geranium (*Geranium maculatum*) and hoary vervain (*Verbena stricta*). I've watched in wonder the countless varieties of bees and butterflies that visit the flowers and in fall, goldfinch, picking seeds from spent flowers.


Pale purple coneflower (*Rudbeckia pallida Nutt.*)


Swamp milkweed (*Asclepias incarnate*)


Anise hyssop (*Agastache spp.*)

Photos courtesy of Merrie Schamberger

Our backyard prairie was once a vegetable garden that fizzled out. Now there are New England asters (*Aster novave-angliae*), cup plant (*Silphium perfoliatum*), compass plant (Silphium laciniatum), false indigo (*Baptisia australis*), common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*), marsh milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*), bee balm (*Monarda spp.*), anise hyssop (*Agastache foeniculum*), coreopsis (*Coreopsis spp.*), and blackeyed Susans (*Rudbeckia hirta*).

We have also planted grapes (*Vitis spp.*), scarlet trumpet vine (*Distictis buccinatoria*) and native climbing roses (*Rosa spp.*), on a pergola, which attract hummingbirds and other critters. These plants provide food and beauty all year long.


Bloodroot (*Sanguinaria L.*)

Photos courtesy of Merrie Schamberger

We leave the plants for winter landscape to provide wildlife food and an interesting view.

Photo courtesy of Merrie Schamberger

Audubon Partner Meeting

Thursday, November 16 at **6:30 pm** at the **Evergreen Retirement Center**, 1130 N. Westfield St., Oshkosh, Wisconsin. 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.

Charter Member Dave White Passes

by Donna VanBuecken

David (Dave) W. White, 67, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, August 22, 2017 after a valiant two year battle against cancer. Dave kept a positive attitude throughout his illness and in June and July of this year, he still felt well enough that he and his wife, Lynn, fulfilled a dream to travel in the United States and Canada in an RV motorhome.

Dave and Lynn met on an Ice Age Trail Sierra Club workday in Hartman Creek State Park, and throughout their lives together enjoyed all that nature had to offer.

Dave and Lynn became members of the Wild Ones Fox Valley Area Chapter on November 1, 1994 when we chartered our Chapter with Wild Ones. They lived in Neenah at the time and often were a tour site because of their beautiful shaded natural landscaping. Dave was quieter than Lynn, but both actively participated in our chapter activities until their move to one of the lakes near Clintonville, Wisconsin. Here they had plenty of room to enjoy and enhance their natural landscape.

A dedicated scientist and an avid advocate for the natural landscape, Dave will be missed by all who knew him.

A complete obituary can be found at: ***eberhardtstevenson.com/notices/David-White***

Wild Ones
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FOX VALLEY AREA

PO Box 385
Appleton, WI 54912

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Your mailing label is date coded with your membership **renewal**. Please pay your dues by that date. Send your check, **$40** per household, made out to Wild Ones Fox Valley, to the national office: **Wild Ones 2285 Butte des Morts Beach Rd., Neenah, WI 54956.** Thank you.

Show Me, Tell Me – Damerow Property

by Rebecca Eyer

It truly was a summer garden party when Chapter members met at the home of Loris and Arno Damerow for a tour of their transformed Appleton city gardens. In 2015, the city of Appleton added a new bridge abutting their .33 acre property.

This demolition and construction impacted more than 50% of their existing landscape and after the removal of 1,500 square feet of mature buckthorn, a prairie planting was installed on their steep western slope along Jackman Street. Loris shared the story of this landscape's transformation, while participants wandered the unique terrain of the hillside; discovering unique plants, paths, and artwork. It was a perfect evening for members to meet and share.

Photos courtesy of Sue Mings

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