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Announcement(s)

Next month we feature member Kris Martinka's story about her visit to a butterfly sanctuary in Mexico—don't miss it! Maybe you also have a story, adventure, or experience you'd like to share with us? Call or send email to Newsletter Editor Rebecca Chesin, 763-694-9989, spiralenso@yahoo.com.

Have you read a good gardening book lately? Write a brief review and share your impressions with your fellow Wild Ones.

We are still looking for a membership chair. If interested, please contact Marty Rice at 952-927-6531.



Upcoming Events

Hands-On Native Plant Care Nokomis Community Center Tuesday, May 4, from 6:30 pm

Meet at the Hillside garden east of Nokomis Community Ctr on 50th St & E. Nokomis Pkwy, anytime on/after 6:30 pm, on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays from May – Sept. Great opportunity to learn about native plants, non-native weeds, share info with other 'native' gardeners, and contribute to the beauty of the park! Good idea to bring gloves, bug spray, a weeding tool or trowel, and if it's hot, water and a hat. Come learn what's worth saving and what isn't.

Members Only Woodland Tour

Minnehaha Park
Sunday, May 16, 1:00 - 3:00 pm
Erik Olsen, MLA, Native Landscape Designer with Out Back Nursery/Tennant Landscaping, Inc. will lead a members only woodland tour of Minnehaha Park. Erik will share his insights about observing how various native plants have adapted to the existing light, moisture, and soil conditions and applying these observations to help us design our own garden spaces.

The tour will start by the pergolas and wildflower gardens, between the Stevens house and the falls. We will then proceed down the stairs, and follow the creek for a short distance to the historic Bladdernut stand, where several varieties of woodland wildflowers are located. We will then cross the creek and follow the path to view large patches of trillium, bloodroot, woodland sedges, and ferns. Metered parking (50 cents/hour) is available in this area of Minnehaha Park.

Favorite Native Plants for Sun and Shade

Nokomis Community Center
Tuesday, May 18, from 6:30
(social setup)*

Chuck Levine, garden lecturer and author of several books, will give a talk on favorite native plants for sun & shade. **We'll also hold a native plant sale/exchange. Bring your native plant "thinnings" and trade with others.**

Garden Tour

Edina & Kenwood Neighborhoods
Sunday, May 23, 1:00 – 5:00 pm

Join us for a wonderful afternoon as four native plant enthusiasts share their gardens with us! Free to members. Non-members, start at 5501 Hunter St. or 1512 W. 26th St. to get your ticket -- \$10, and it can be applied towards membership!

- **5501 Hunter St., Edina** -- Arden Aaenstad, who is a WO member, has a savanna garden with many trees and shrubs that attract birds, as well as a number of Spring ephemerals.
- **7013 Commanche Ct., Edina** -- Dianne Plunkett Latham, who is on the board of the Minnesota Native Plant Society, specializes in native orchids, and her lovely lady's slippers will be in peak bloom the weekend of the tour.
- **2324 Oliver Ave. S., Mpls** -- Mary Miller has a front yard woodland garden designed by Douglas Owens-Pike of EnergyScapes. Mary's daughter, a potter, has created attractive labels for the plants.
- **1512 W. 26th St., Mpls** -- Monica Angle has been gardening with native plants for 12 years. Her garden now encompasses her entire lot, and contains a wide variety of native plants, including shrubs, Spring ephemerals and native grasses.

Upcoming Events, cont.

Hands-On Native Plant Care
Nokomis Community Center
Tuesday, June 1, from 6:30 pm
(See description above.)

Weed Identification
Nokomis Hillside Garden
50th St. & E. Nokomis Pkwy
Tuesday, June 15, from 6:30 pm
Presented by Vicki Bonk, longtime native plant gardener and inspirator of the Nokomis Naturescape. Stay afterward if you'd like to help with care and weeding of the Nokomis gardens.



Hands-On Native Plant Care
Nokomis Community Center
Tuesday, July 6, from 6:30 pm
(See description above.)

**Prairie Restoration's Prairie
Day**
Off County Rd 45 in Princeton
Saturday, July 17, from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm
Visit PRI headquarters in Princeton, MN where over 380 acres are dedicated to growing native forbs, grasses and woody plant materials. There will be lots of fun activities for the whole family. For details and directions, visit www.prairieresto.com.



Hands-On Native Plant Care
Nokomis Community Center
Tuesday, July 20, from 6:30 pm
(See description above.)

* Meetings are usually held at 7:00 pm (6:30 – time for socializing and room setup) on the third Tuesday of the month, at the **Nokomis Community Center, 2401 E. Minnehaha Pkwy, Minneapolis**. Exceptions are in March, when we sponsor the Native Plant Expo, and in December (no meeting).

Unless otherwise noted, programs are free and open to the public. Check www.far-wild.org/chapters/twincities for updates.



To-Do List for Gardeners

May

- Weed by hand for 15 minutes per day. Remove dandelions, quack grass, clover etc. Remove unwanted small seedling trees before they become too established.
- Water newly planted seedling grasses and wildflowers during drier periods.
- Cut off dried flower stems of spring blooming wildflowers (Examples: wild columbine, wild geranium, prairie smoke, pussytoes, alumroot etc.) (optional)
- Add shredded wood mulch to garden areas if needed (3-4" depth). (optional)
- Hummingbird feeder(s) can be put back in use.

June

- Cut off dried flower stems of spring blooming wildflowers (Examples: wild columbine, wild geranium, prairie smoke, pussytoes, alumroot etc.) (optional)
- Water newly planted seedling grasses and wildflowers during drier periods.
- Weed by hand for 15 minutes per day. Remove dandelions, quack grass, crabgrass clover etc. Usually by mid-June, most of the weeds in the garden have greatly diminished.

July

- Cut asters back to 1/2 their height. This promotes the plants to grow more densely and with more blooms. (Examples: new england aster, smooth aster, sky blue aster, silky aster, white upland aster) (optional)
- Water newly planted seedling grasses and wildflowers during drier periods.
- Weed by hand for 15 minutes per day. Remove crabgrass, dandelions, quack grass, clover etc. Usually by mid-June, most of the weeds in the garden have greatly diminished.

This list was compiled by Robert Olsen, who has a prairie garden (installed 1997) at his St. Paul residence. He receives gardening assistance from his son Erik, a Landscape Designer specializing in native plants.

Native Plantings

Here is our first installment of native plant gardens in the Twin Cities area. Wild Ones secretary Kris Martinka is compiling this information. If you have a public garden or location you would like to nominate for inclusion, please contact her directly at kmartinka@uswest.net.

Eco-Yard Demonstration Site

8100 Jefferson Hwy, Brooklyn Park
612-348-9266

T,Th,F 10am-6pm; W 10am-8pm; S
8am-5pm

www.hennepin.us (search for: eco-yard)

- Prairie and wildflowers, rainwater garden. Free seminars on earth-friendly landscaping topics. Self-guided tours

Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden

Theodore Wirth Pkwy & Glenwood Ave,
Minneapolis

(from Wirth Pkwy turn east into Eloise
Butler Dr)

www.minneapolis-parks.org

Open daily April 1 – October 15 from
7:30 am until one half hour before sunset.

No entry fee, but pay parking

- April & May: bloodroot, wild ginger, trilliums, marsh marigolds and other spring ephemerals in the woodland.
- June & July: ladyslippers, irises, and turtleheads in the wetland. Mid-late summer: asters, black-eyed susans, blazing stars and goldenrods, big bluestem and other prairie grasses in the prairie. Many staff led programs.

Lost Valley Prairie SNA (Scientific and Natural Area)

www.dnr.state.mn.us/snas

From the Twin Cities, go south on US Hwy 61, north on MN 95, east on Co Rd 78 to Nyberg Avenue, then 1/2 mile north on Nyberg; park is at the end of the road.

- On 200 acres there are native grasses little bluestem, prairie drop-seed, side-oats grama, hairy grama, Indian grass, and big bluestem. One of the few state locations to find rock sandwort. Summer prairie wildflowers, including prairie smoke, puccoon, bird's foot violets, yellow

star grass, blue-eyed grass, and beard-tongue.

Bennett/Johnson Prairie

MN Landscape Arboretum
Off of Highway 5 in Chanhassen
952-443-1400

www.arboretum.umn.edu

Entry fee \$7

- Wide variety of natives on areas of tallgrass prairie, oak savanna, and a prairie pothole or wet prairie. Reconstructed prairie; self-guided tours, staff and volunteer-led tours

Wolsfeld Woods SNA (Scientific and Natural Area)

From Long Lake 0.5 mi N on Brown Rd to Co Hwy 6. Park in the Trinity Lutheran church parking lot.

www.dnr.state.mn.us/snas

- Spring: trilliums, hepatica, bloodroot, and dutchman's breeches. Fall: outstanding color in large, mature stand of hardwoods, including red oak, ironwood, butternut, maple, elm, and basswood. Over 220 acres; visitors required to stay on marked trails. No dogs allowed.

To celebrate The Wild Ones 25th anniversary we are offering a membership premium. If you join or renew at the "wilder" or "wildest" level, you will receive a free copy of the video *Wild About Wildflowers: How to Choose, Plant, Grow and Enjoy Native American Wildflowers and Grasses in your Own Yard*.

PLEASE SEND THE FOLLOWING FORM, COMPLETED, WITH YOUR CHECK TO:

Wild Ones, PO Box 1274, Appleton, WI 54912-1274

1-877-394-9453, www.for-wild.org

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

Household
Business
Limited Income or Full-time Student Household

WILD!	WILDER!!	WILDEST!!!
\$30	\$50	\$75+
\$200	\$500	\$1000
\$20		

Wild Ones Membership

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State/ZIP _____

Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Send me ☐ Wild About Wildflowers Video Premium

I am ☐ joining or ☐ renewing for:

☐ 1 year ☐ 2 years ☐ ___ years

Membership total: _____

Other contribution: _____

Total Enclosed: _____

ALL MEMBERSHIP FEES AND CONTRIBUTIONS ARE FULLY TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Membership

Benefits To You

- Monthly meetings featuring excellent presentation on a wide array of native landscaping topics.
- Receive the new member packet, including the New Member Handbook full of information and activities on natural landscaping.
- Receive the Wild Ones journal from the National Office. It contains articles and information that will inspire and educate you about natural landscaping.
- Free admission to Wild Ones' events, such as our Native Plant Expo, garden tours, and native plant walks and swaps. Reciprocity with other chapters' meetings.
- Gather and exchange information and expertise with like-minded persons.
- Your very valuable support for the Wild One's Mission.

Join or Renew

- Sign up at a meetings, or
- Call Marty Rice at 952-927-6531, or
- Access the national website at www.for-wild.org

Our Mission

Wild Ones: Native Plants, Natural Landscapes 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.



Twin Cities Chapter

c/o Marty Rice

4501 Lakeview Dr

Edina, MN 55424

www.for-wild.org/chapters.html

Upcoming In Our Next Issue:

- More native gardeners' To-Dos as we move into autumn.
- Kris Martinka shares her trip to a butterfly sanctuary in Mexico with us.
- Additional native gardens to visit.