

Educating the public about the benefits of preserving and restoring biodiversity of our native plant communities, beginning in our own yards and gardens.

Welcome 2021!

January 2021



"Anyone who thinks that gardening begins in the spring and ends in the fall is missing the best part of the whole year. For gardening begins in January with the dream."

-Josephine Nuese







Native grasses and seed heads in Minnesota snow and winter sunshine...

Photos by Holley Wlodarczyk

HELLO WOTC MEMBERS,

Happy New Year to All! I suspect most of you are relieved that 2020 is over and hope that 2021 brings a much better year. However, for the next few months we still need to stay safe so will continue to hold our monthly WOTC education programs and meetings online.

Now is the time to fully embrace our beautiful winter season and look for new ways to enjoy the outdoors. In Norway, they have a term for "open air living"- "friluftsliv". It is the joy Norwegians experience being outdoors no matter what time of the year. A positive winter mindset leads to overall wellness. In what ways do you plan to enjoy nature and winter activities this winter?

I love snowshoeing! Snowshoes allow you to go places you can't get to in any other season. I like bushwhacking into marshes and seeing wetland plants and shrubs up close, as long as it is permitted or on private land. You can also snowshoe in your backyard, at a nearby park, or explore one of the Three Rivers Parks where there are snowshoe trails and snowshoe rentals available. Hope your winter is full of *friluftsliv!*

Interested to going Snowshoeing with other Wild Ones Members?

This fall, we polled our Board to see if they would be interested in getting together for a small group activity outdoors this winter. The #1 choice was snowshoeing, so we would like to organize one or more snowshoe outings. We will snowshoe at either Richardson Nature Center, Bloomington or Wood Lake Nature Center, Richfield. Snow shoe rentals are available online. Cost is \$5-10/1.5-2 hours.

If interested in a snowshoe outing, please let me know at rjohnson2122@comcast.net by January 13, 2021.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Despite the challenges we all faced in 2020, Wild Ones did have a productive year. We're working on the Spring Program schedule, so check our website for information on upcoming presentations. In the meantime, here are a few ways we are trying to stay connected and further our mission...

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Please contact Roz Johnson if you would like to volunteer on one of our committees or at an event once we resume in-person activities.

Our next board meeting will be on Zoom Thursday, January 14th.

WOTC ONLINE PRESENTATIONS

REGISTER NOW

for our January 19th program:

Restoring Ecosystem Functionality and Biodiversity by Heather Holm

How can humans benefit from green infrastructure and ecological landscape restorations? Heather will



discuss ways we can achieve a sustainable coexistence with the rest of life on earth. Models of restorative landscaping including residential and community opportunities will be highlighted as well as thoughtful plant selection, ecosystem functionality, and how biodiversity can be maximized. A focus on pollinator habitat and outcomes, troubleshooting and monitoring of restorations, and funding opportunities will also be included in the presentation.

Since this free program *will not be recorded* and we are *limited to 100 online participants*, registration is first come first serve. CLICK HERE TO REGISTER on EVENTBRITE.

You can also watch Wild Ones National's September 2020 program by Heather Holm here:

The Bombus Among Us - Bumble Bee Basics

Please take the time to share the link to this webinar featuring Wild Ones Honorary Director, biologist and author Heather Holm, and inspire others to help our bumble bees thrive!



WOTC PAST PROGRAMS ON OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL

Most programs* will be viewable on YouTube afterward. Please check our website for more details.

May 2020 Liz Stanley — "Giving Nature a Home"

September 2020 Ron Bowen of Prairie Restorations — "Lessons Learned"

October 2020 Karl Kloos of Northern Natural Gardens — "The Natural Gardening Method"
November 2020 Art & Nature—Naturally, a sampling of garden art made by Wild Ones members

- Richard Bonk of MandalArt
- Marilyn Jones of WOTC Native Plant Signs
- Holley Wlodarczyk of Garden Variety Art



We are sorry to announce that the **2021 Design With Nature Conference** has been cancelled due to COVID-19, but we are planning to resume again in 2022. Please check http://www.designwithnatureconference.org for updates, and email Holley if you are interested in volunteering on the planning committee. Thank you!

WILD ONES TWIN CITIES 2021 BOARD

President: Roz Johnson | Co-President: Holley Wlodarczyk | Secretary: Susan Tertell | Treasurer: Marilyn Jones Membership: Maureen Fries | Past-President: Julia Vanatta | President Emeritus: Marty Rice Communications Co-Chairs: Leslie Pilgrim & Andy Scott | Development Co-Chairs: Jeremy Mayberg & Eren Sutherland Education Co-Chairs: Karen Graham & Jessica Miller | Membership Co-Chairs: Barb Gibson & Maureen Fries Contact Us: 612-293-3833 | info@WildOnesTwinCities.org | http://www.wildonestwincities.org | Follow Us on facebook