



Quarterly Newsletter

January, 2022



Winter wonder! Common winterberry holly (*Ilex verticillata*)

Greetings, “Wild Ones!”

Hello, 2022! Let’s get something started! With the overarching caveat of staying healthy and safe, we say, let’s move forward boldly into 2022.

Like the entire rest of the world, we will continue to navigate live vs. virtual vs. hybrid programming. Whether we gather, Zoom, or some combination of both until our last program of the season in May, monthly Educational Programming will be “fluid.”

Mark Your Calendar

FEBRUARY

We are Excited to Announce a Special Multi-Chapter Joint Wild Ones Event!

Wednesday, February 16th - 7 pm

Hosted by Wild Ones Prairie Edge, Big River Big Woods, and Wild Ones Twin Cities Chapters!

Brooklyn Bridge Park Lessons (so far!) in Constructed Ecology. Brooklyn Bridge Park, an 85-acre, organic park in the middle of New York City, was created with ecology in mind. The Park hosts award winning top-notch recreation, from opera to outdoor films, all of it beautifully designed. But the park also contains native woodlands, freshwater wetlands, salt marshes, and numerous meadows. These areas closely mimic native ecosystems and are managed with an emphasis on wildlife habitat.

This stunning presentation by Rebecca McMackin, director of horticulture at Brooklyn Bridge Park, will detail many of the strategies employed to design an ecological park, as well as the management techniques used to cultivate biodiverse parkland. If we can do it, so can you!



© Rebecca McMackin

MARCH

March 15 Monthly Meeting.

Zoom Social 6:45 pm | Program 7:00 pm

[Register on Eventbrite](#) (free and open to the public).

Building Habitat, Building Community.

Three inspiring stories of local habitat projects (and the leaders who launched them).

How can you expand native plant habitat beyond your own back yard? What are some ways you can help your community get excited about hosting their own native plantings? Join us for an uplifting conversation with three Wild Ones members who took action to launch habitat projects in their communities.



APRIL

April 19 Monthly Meeting

Zoom Social 6:45 pm | Program 7:00 pm

Spring Into Planting with Our 16th Annual Native Plant Sale. Get an inside look at the native plants selected for the year's plant sale and learn how we chose this mix of species for different habitats.

Note: Our January meeting has been cancelled due to Omicron.

[Registration for our multi-chapter February program](#) coming soon! Check our website for registration information.

What's New?

Check out the latest e-zine [Wild Ones Reflections](#), published periodically with content contributions from members of all our Minnesota Wild Ones chapters. Thank you to Doug Benson for the layout of this issue. Beautiful!



What's Next?

Planning for summer native plant garden tours. Planning for the annual native plant sale (learn more from Holley W. at holleywlod@comcast.net). A fresh season of volunteer gardening at the Nokomis Naturescape (learn more from Vicki Bonk at ybonk@usiwireless.com). [Wild Ones educational meetings](#) February through May. Wild Ones National [educational presentations](#). And, most hopefully, a multi-chapter outdoor educational nature gathering later this winter, a chapter volunteer/pizza event, and a spring members only outing. Stay tuned.

Meet The Wild Ones Twin Cities Co-Presidents

Side-hugs and hand-sanitized high-fives to outgoing co-presidents Roz Johnson and Holley Wlodarczyk.

Meet the Chapter's new co-presidents for 2022. As incoming co-presidents, we would love to have you join us in this upcoming year that we are calling **THE YEAR OF LENDING A HAND** (see more on this at the end of this newsletter!). Or, all hands on deck. Or, many hands make light work. We'd like to use "Jazz Hands" in the theme, too. More on that later.

Eren Sutherland (pronouns: they/them). "My love of prairies goes back to growing up in Iowa, where the landscape has been so altered by agriculture, but remnants of the beauty of oak savannas can be seen if you look closely enough. When I moved to



Minneapolis in 2015, I quickly joined Wild Ones Twin Cities and started volunteering at our stunning [Nokomis Naturescape](#) demonstration garden. I have learned so much from the other committed volunteers and hope to carry that forward. Since 2019, I have been involved in the WOTC Development Committee and have loved being involved in planning our spring plant sale. There is such joy in the spring when folks pick up their plants and think of the possibilities of a new gardening year!

As a practicing lawyer, I find all time I spend gardening is crucial to my health and happiness. Our gardens give us so much in return for our efforts including rambunctious birds, buzzing bees, the shine of our beetle friends, and the magic of butterflies and moths."

Leslie Pilgrim (pronouns: she/her)

"I am a passionate supporter of Wild Ones and am grateful for all the authentically amazing people I have had the privilege of getting to know since joining Wild Ones several years ago. I am a recovering CPA/MBA. I'm also a former healthcare management consultant and market researcher/writer. I have a certificate in Ecological Restoration and Watershed Technician certification, both from the University of Minnesota. I founded the non-profit, Neighborhood Greening in 2017 and am a writer on Substack's "Life in the Anthropocene." Looking forward to working in partnership with all of you to make Wild Ones TC as resilient and sustainable as the landscapes we are all so dedicated to creating and stewarding."



Our Wild Ones Twin Cities Team

We know that you know who you are. We just think everyone should know who you are, too...

A BIG THANK YOU TO NEW AND CONTINUING COMMITTEE MEMBERS!

Doug Benson, Vicki Bonk, Anne Deuring, Dottie Dolezal, Ren Graham, Robert Hatlevig, Ava McKnight, Anna McLafferty, Moira Olson, Sandra Nusbaum, Carmine Profant, Daniel Schultz.

AND THANK YOU TO COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS!

Committee Co-Chairs:

Communications | Andy Scott & Open

Education | Julia Vanatta & Open

Development: Jeremy Mayberg & Open

Membership: Open & Open

See * at end of newsletter to learn more about open chairships

Executive Committee:

Board Secretary | Susan Tertell

Membership | Megan Tenenbaum

Treasurer | Holley Wlodarczyk

Co-Presidents: Eren Sutherland | Leslie Pilgrim



Winter layers. Shelter for birds.

Winter Event

PLANT YOUR MILKWEED NOW! *A Home-Grown Winter Sowing Project*

Saturday, February 5th*, 1-3pm

at the **Nokomis Naturescape**
50th Street & Nokomis Parkway
Minneapolis MN 55417

Get ready to invite monarchs to your yard this spring! FREE native milkweed and nectar plant seeds plus easy-to-follow winter sowing instructions to get you started to complete the project at home. A terrific activity for kids of all ages!

Come enjoy the winter landscape at Lake Nokomis for this Covid-19 socially-distanced outdoor event.

Yard-by-Yard, We Can Make a Difference!

*Harsh weather reschedule on Feb. 12th, 1-3pm
More info at www.wildonestwincities.org

Brought to you by Wild Ones Twin Cities and Nokomis Naturescape Gardeners



The Year of Lending a Hand

Like we said, we are naming 2022 the “Year of Lending a Hand!”

And, yup. The list of Current Volunteer Opportunities looks pretty long. But, consider this a menu to be perused. We hope you see yourself in one of the below *opportunities*. Because we need many hands to make our work light at Wild Ones.

If you find an item of interest that you would like to explore further, learn more! Email

info@wildonestwincities.org. Or, phone/text Leslie Pilgrim at 651.307.9785. Jazz hands!

Current Volunteer Opportunities at Wild Ones Twin Cities!

“Front desk” meeting greeter(s) when we are back meeting in person. Can you say “hello” and smile? Sign people in? Untangle nametags with lanyards? If yes, this is for you!

Technology coordinator(s). Do you have an interest in sharing your technological expertise? We sure could use your (or your teenager’s!) help on “technological issues” as they arise. Yes indeed.

Garden tour host(s). Do you have an 75% native plant garden that you would like to share with those who would like to learn more about nativescaping? Yes? Your yard should be on the summer native garden tour! We’re scouting for locations now!

Volunteer coordinator(s). Can you pick up the phone and say (in a friendly voice), “Hi. We need help at an event. Can you help?” More often than not, people say “yes.” They just need to be asked. We need somebody(s) to do that. As well as somebody(s) to use other tools to inspire others to join in on the gratification of volunteering at the events we host throughout the year.

Event volunteer(s): When the friendly Volunteer Coordinator calls, will you be one of the people who says “yes” to help, on occasion, table at outreach events or set up at monthly meetings? Yes? Let’s get you on the list!

“Office work.” This may sound dull. But it’s really key to keeping the wings on the airplane. We’ve got mailing lists. They need to be maintained. Introverts: this one’s for you. Can you help?

Wild Ones Plant Sale. It’s our biggest fund raiser. And although it takes place in June, planning starts *now* for this important event. Be on the team that makes this event an annual success. Yay!

Promotion. If you think Wild One’s mission should be known far and wide, this one’s for you. Help us augment our media exposure. Little media and big media. We’re not fussy. We just want everyone everywhere to know where to find us when they want to find a “Wild One.”

Co-Chairs needed for Communications, Development, Education, and Membership Committees. Before you run for the hills know this: you will have a colleague. Our committees all currently have chairs (or an executive committee member, re: Membership) who sure would love to have a buddy. This is where you step up, lean in, use your jazz hands to show enthusiasm. Learn more! Our Chairs are the folks who help keep our chapter spinning on its axis. [Interested in Co-Chairing? Learn more! See below*]

Committees! Team members are needed for our Communications, Development, Education, and Membership Committees. Your participation (big or small) in any of these Committees will be cheerfully accepted. It’ll be fun. Learn more!

Graphic designer(s). Yes, designer, you are wine and dine because *everyone everywhere* wants you to volunteer. But, we at Wild Ones are different. No free meals from us! From time to time we have educational materials, and tabling events, and other miscellanea that need to look polished. Would be great to have you as a resource for our committees.

Instagram. If you are well versed at Instagram, let’s talk. It’s a great tool we need to use more often.

Meet-Up. Another tool we need to use more to spread the word about meetings, events, and more. Let us know if you’d like to be our Meet-Up point person.

In conclusion, do you use Wikipedia? If yes, you've caught us copying how they ask for money. Except we're substituting "volunteers" for "money." volunteers are more valuable than money.

Shamelessly stealing from Wikipedia:

To all our readers in the U.S., Please don't scroll past this. Today we humbly ask you to defend Wild Ones Twin Cities' future. If you are a Wild Ones enthusiast who has already volunteered, we sincerely thank you. If you learn more about volunteering, Wild Ones Twin Cities could keep thriving in the long term. We ask you, humbly: please don't scroll away. If WOTC has given you \$2.75 worth of knowledge, take a minute to learn more about donating your time and talent. Show the world that access to reliable information about native plants, natural landscapes matters to you. Thank you.

On a final note. If you are passionate about our mission and want to contribute to *promoting environmentally sound landscaping practices that preserve biodiversity through the preservation, restoration, and establishment of native plant communities*, we could use your time, talent, and expertise. We are a community of environmentally concerned individuals. Join us. We look forward to joyfully volunteering with you!

*Interested in Learning about Becoming a Co-Chair? Contact a current chair to learn more. They would be happy to make a connection with you.

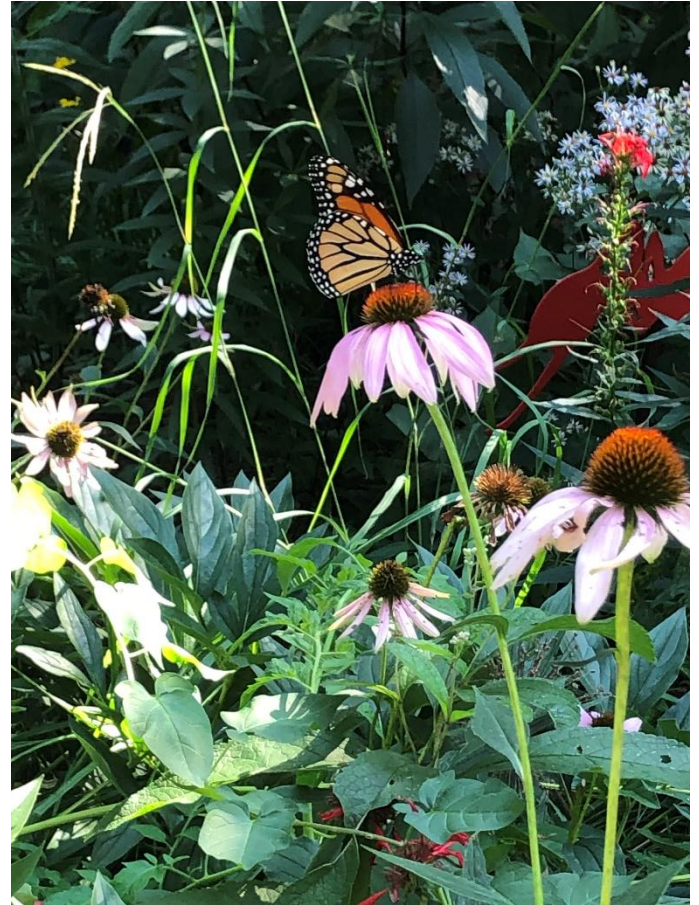
Communications: Andy Scott
AScot83@gmail.com

Education: Julia Vanatta
juliakay@winternet.com

Membership: Meghan Tenenbaum
littlelongfellowfarm@gmail.com

Development: Jeremy Mayberg
jpaamayberg7@gmail.com

Not a current member? Consider [renewing your membership](#)! Your membership helps our chapter continue its educational programming and outreach activities.



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

**With Gratitude,
Eren & Leslie**