



Missouri Native Plant Society Hawthorn Chapter Newsletter

Volume 35, Number 2
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The Hawthorn Chapter of the Missouri Native Plant Society Newsletter is published monthly. Send submissions by the 26th of every month to:

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We would like to read about announcements, impressions, species accounts, photos, poems, links to scientific articles or other creative nature writing **from you, too**. Please submit during the second half of every month.

This is the 35th year Hawthorn has supplied a newsletter to chapter members.

Thanks to Doug Miller for keeping the chapter website up to date.

February 2020

Future Activities Calendar

1 Feb Sat, 1pm: Moss presentation by Louise at Laura's House, 7900 Cave Creek Rd. Columbia Phone: 573-442-3703, Cell: 573-397-1010. See article p2.

9 Feb Blue Note, 9th Street Downtown Columbia Wild and Scenic Film Festival
<https://www.wildandscenicfilmfestival.org/events/missouri-river-relief-4/>

10 Feb Mon 6:30pm, Membership Meeting at Unitarian Universalist Church, 2615 Shepard Blvd, Columbia. Malissa Briggler, the MDC state botanist will be our program speaker. Meeting follows.

20 Feb Thurs 11:30 to 1pm: Lunch at RagTag/Uprise. Just south of Broadway at 10 Hitt Street.

9 Mar Mon 6:30pm: Membership Meeting at Unitarian Universalist Church, 2615 Shepard Blvd, Columbia. Conserving Columbia's Natural Heritage and Preparing for the Future. Danielle Fox, danielle.fox@como.gov, Community Conservationist of the City of Columbia will give an update/overview of the different programs she has been working on to incorporate conservation into the City. She will also talk about the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan, and how native plants play a role in creating a more resilient Columbia. Meeting follows.

19 Mar Thurs 11:30 to 1pm: Lunch at RagTag/Uprise. Just south of Broadway at 10 Hitt Street.

11 Apr Sat MU Bradford Farm 10 to 2. Plant Sale. This is our biggest plant sale of the year. Please put it on your calendar to at least come to buy from our booth. If you can work in a hubbub and explain to the uninitiated which plants go in which place, we can use your help. Come to other activities and ask about it or read more next month.

13 Apr Mon 6:30pm: [possible] Membership Meeting at Unitarian Universalist Church, 2615 Shepard Blvd. Watch for future announcement.

16 Apr Thurs 11:30 to 1pm: Lunch at RagTag/Uprise. Just south of Broadway at 10 Hitt Street.

26 Apr Sun 10 to 7 Earth Day Fair in Columbia. We need volunteer help for this, too – mostly for setting up and packing up. Come to other activities and ask or read more next month.



Announcements

Lunch at RagTag Thurs 20 Feb

Meet our group for lunch 11:30 at RagTag/Uprise, 10 Hitt St [Just south of Broadway]. We had a group of 14 members converge for good food and good conversation in Jan.



Meetings are the second Monday:

10 Feb meeting will open with a program by MDC Botanist Malissa Briggler.
9 Mar meeting will open with a program by City Conservationist Danielle Fox.



The editor wants to thank Sarah, Nadia, Michelle, Lea, and Louise for their submissions this month. We all enjoy reading personal articles about your experiences and new knowledge about nature.



[Reprinted by permission:]

Mid Missouri Wild Ones wants to invite any interested persons to get together for an afternoon of socializing, information about Wild Ones, and a free presentation on moss and moss gardens.

Date: Saturday, February 1, 2020. Time: 1:00 p.m.

Place: Laura Hillman's House, 7900 Cave Creek Rd. Columbia.

Phone: 573-442-3703, Cell: 573-397-1010 HillmanL@health.missouri.edu

Mid Missouri Wild Ones is the local chapter of the National Wild Ones organization. The local chapter was started in response to the increased interest in native plants and to help people transition from traditional gardening to native plant gardens. At this time, Mid Missouri chapter maintains three urban demonstration gardens and part of an urban prairie restoration. In addition we have staffed booths at the Bradford Farm Native Plant Sale and Earth Day in Columbia, and offered some garden tours. For the past several years we have had a special focus on monarch butterflies. We don't collect dues, nor do we fund raise. Membership is through the national organization at wildones.org. Our chapter website is midmissouri.wildones.org. Most of our activities are currently in the Columbia area.

We are interested in attracting new members and nurturing current members. To this end we would like to have you and any interested persons you know to come to a meeting to **discuss possible activities for the upcoming year.**



[BE photo]

The meeting will also include a **presentation on mosses and moss gardening.** This is an excellent time of year to appreciate the beauty of moss. Several years ago the Wild Ones Journal ran an article on Moss Gardening featuring the book, *The Magical World of Moss Gardening* by Annie Martin. The article inspired Louise Flenner to pursue a moss garden in her own yard and initiated a passion for learning more about moss and appreciating its beauty in the native landscape. She will present on the highlights of what she has learned and introduce participants to the life cycle of mosses, use of loupes and microscopes for identification, how to start your own herbarium and an introduction to creating a moss garden.

The **presentation will take about an hour** and will be followed by **socialization, information exchange regarding Wild Ones,** and, of course, **snacks.** You don't need to register, but a reply to this email will give us an idea of how many to expect. HillmanL@health.missouri.edu Please feel free to come even if you don't respond.

Louise, Laura, and Lea hope you can join us.

Nuggets of Gold Links

[Ed note: I will remove most of these for the March newsletter to make room for new. I suggest you save this newsletter or in some way preserve this information for future reference.]

The Missouri Invasive Plant Task Force (MoIP) is a resource of Grow Native!—a 19-year-old native plant marketing and education program serving the lower Midwest. For more information about MoIP, visit www.moinvasives.org

Does education influence wildlife friendly landscaping preferences?

Your reading the abstract and discussion gives you the full picture. From abstract: Our findings suggest that residential support for native plant landscaping is higher than is reflected by typical residential landscaping practices, and that dissemination of information regarding the benefits of native plant landscaping to birds could alter public preferences for native plant landscaping. **Talk to your neighbors!**

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B9x5Ahn-zXr7SC1JeXkzUDctYzJ6SGdmUjhYbWluNUZUU29r/view?s=5d11801d>

Native Plant Conservation Campaign:

<https://plantsocieties.cnps.org/index.php> feature native plant societies all over USA.

The Nature Conservancy [TNC] has announced podcasts available on line, "Destination Nature".

https://www.nature.org/en-us/what-we-do/our-priorities/protect-water-and-land/land-and-water-stories/destination-nature/?src=e.gp.eg.x.pod.LC.loc_b&lu=4439630&autologin=true

Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel Micro prairies: No yard is too small to go with earth-friendly native plants

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/life/home-garden/garden/2018/05/25/turn-your-yard-into-micro-prairie-native-plants/607727002/?fbclid=IwAR1LHvKmDDGYfbxuD0LCuP2hl0JftDydAtGEe70FLiWlhgK3Y-IBKcGQHK0>

Wading Right In: Discovering the Nature of Wetlands, Koning, Ashworth - press.uchicago.edu

“Wading Right In explores the wondrous nature of wetlands through the rich and personal stories of scores of wetland scientists. Written for a lay reader, Koning and Ashworth’s engaging prose is packed with information regarding the incredible diversity and amazing adaptations of wetland species.”

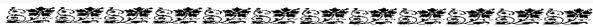
Center for Plant Conservation:

<https://saveplants.org/> features best practices for saving endangered plants.



Michelle recently ran across this site that looks like a **great way to participate in citizen science**, especially for kids. <https://journeynorth.org/>

About Journey North: In its 25th year, Journey North is one of North America's premiere citizen science programs for people of all ages. The project has broad participation, with over 60,000 registered sites in the US, Canada, and Mexico—including families, teachers, schools, nature centers, professional scientists and novices. Journey North provides an easy entry point to citizen science, with simple protocols, strong online support, and immediate results. Reported sightings are mapped in real-time as waves of migrations move across the continent. People report sightings from the field, view maps, take pictures, and leave comments.



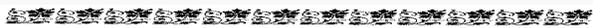
We Miss a Dear Friend

https://www.columbiamissourian.com/obituaries/family_obituary/gail-jean-plemmons-feb-dec/article_f7814eda-33e8-11ea-944b-eb0f44d566d7.html



Gail Jean Plemmons took her last breath at her home Dec. 30, 2019, in Columbia. She was born Feb. 14, 1950, in Springfield, Missouri.

Gail cared a great deal for environmental issues and the welfare of her fellow humans. She held the Hawthorn Vice President position for a term before illness caused her to retire. Please read more about her accomplishments. Our community truly has an empty spot now that Gail's empathetic energy is not among us.



Seeds for 100 Acre Woods

I really want to thank those who turned in large quantities of wildflower seed for seeding 100 Acre Woods this winter.

John had some frustration with finding a day dry enough to burn the meadow he wants to seed. He managed to burn spots two days in Dec and Jan. John called the seeding day for 12 Jan when he brought two 30-gallon trash cans and a few other bags of seed that had been beaten in a hammer mill. Members who volunteered to help were Bob, Karen, Becky, Lea, Angela, and John. We donned rubber boots, and with buckets full of seed, wandered throughout the snowy 10-acre meadow to find areas of low vegetation where new seed would find a good chance to germinate. The two inch snow cover was helpful to see where seed had been broadcast by others. In two years we should see more blooming forbs for pollinators and birds.



Lea found this information and wants to share:

Root Docking sounds like a good way to deal with

bush honeysuckle that I didn't know about. There will be a workshop about it in the St. Louis area on March 13, so I signed up, and I thought I would also spread the word. Lea and Gail have signed up to go learn; contact one of them to organize carpools. langtree@gmail.com Here is a link to more info and to sign up: https://www.deercreekalliance.org/root_docking

Restoring the American elm:

https://blog.nature.org/science/2019/09/11/recovery-restoring-the-floodplain-forest/?src=e.cgs.eg.x.loc_b&lu=4439630&autologin=true

Smithsonian study backs all of Tallamy's work on birds: <https://nationalzoo.si.edu/news/new-smithsonian-study-links-declines-suburban-backyard-birds-presence-nonnative-plants>

[Greta Thunberg Rips World Leaders at the U.N. Over Climate Change:](#)

National Science Foundation – Native plants needed to support bee populations essential for our food supply: https://nsf.gov/discoveries/disc_summ.jsp?cntn_id=295868

TNC on native bees. Fabulous large photos: https://blog.nature.org/science/2019/08/19/focus-on-native-bees-not-honey-bees/?src=e.cgs.eg.x.loc_b&lu=4439630&autologin=true

German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research Plant diversity increases insect diversity: https://www.idiv.de/en/news/news_single_view/1496.html

Newsweek: **Monarchs101**: <https://www.newsweek.com/monarch-butterflies-extinct-1302838>

For those who admired Rick Darke's Pennsylvania garden in the book *Living Landscape* by Darke and Doug Tallamy, *Garden Design* magazine has a feature on his garden this month: https://www.gardendesign.com/pennsylvania/sustainable-strolling.html?utm_source=article-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Sustainable-Strolling-Garden-9-26-19

Refer to past editions of our newsletter for other important resource links.

Hawthorn website www.columbianativeplants.org
MONPS website www.monativeplantsociety.org



Sun thru smoke at fire workshop

Fire Workshop 8 January

Text by Becky; photos by Sarah

Becky had a fire workshop at her house for people who had expressed interest in more experience on a fire line and learning how to do the preliminary work for a fire in the woods.

Three weather reports agreed on the wind direction. But Murphy's Law was true to form that as soon as the first match was struck, the wind changed. That small patch of fire had to be extinguished and the start of the first blackline had to be moved. From then on – all went smoothly. Sarah, Lea, Paula, Karen and Bob were all very helpful and patient in watching the slow advance of the fire thru the damp woodland leaves.

After the perimeter was secured with a blackline, Paula had a good time with the drip torch crisscrossing large areas that were slow to go. Sarah and Becky used a hatchet and jug of water to put out the base of two snags that were smoldering. The successful exercise took about 3.5 hours.



Helpers watching the blackline.

Understanding Neonicotinoids

From Webster: "Definition of *neonicotinoid* is any of a class of [systemic](#) water-soluble insecticides (such as [imidacloprid](#)) chemically related to nicotine that are used especially in agriculture to control destructive pests (such as aphids and mites) and that selectively bind to the postsynaptic [nicotinic](#) receptors of insects to produce paralysis and death. The class of chemicals, called neonicotinoids, is used in agricultural fields worldwide to reduce crop-eating pests."

Neonicotinoid insecticides are now the most widely used class of insecticides in the world. While they were initially introduced as less harmful than older insecticides, **research has now shown their devastating ecological impacts.** Neonicotinoids are VERY toxic to pollinators, beneficial insects, birds who eat insects and aquatic invertebrates. Their widespread use, combined with their water solubility, means that they are now often found in water and soil samples throughout the country. The Xerces Society is working to reduce the use of neonicotinoids in both agricultural and urban areas.

PLEASE read more from Xerces:

<https://www.xerces.org/pesticides/understanding-neonicotinoids>

These insecticides are also toxic to pollinators, hummingbirds, birds that eat sick bugs, and probably seed-eaters. Neonics remain in the ground for several years to be absorbed by surrounding plants and erode into water systems. Please do NOT treat your plants for aphids, leafhoppers, stinkbugs and the like with systemic insecticides containing neonicotinoids. A Lye soap solution applied in the evening after pollinators cease activity and manual removal are helpful for aphid infestations.

Our Stand on Cultivars

Seeds and Plants of Authentic North American Wildflowers for Restoration and Gardening. Prairie Moon® Nursery [Ed note: in agreement with WO, all NPS's and all PCA members]

The qualities of native plants that we love—their durability, beauty, biological value to other species—all are products of thousands of years of natural selection. The survivors define the species through their ability to adapt to conditions of their native habitat, co-evolving along with native wildlife.

Given the burgeoning popularity of native plants in recent years, it was inevitable that some plant breeders would begin to tweak aspects of their forms and functions. The large horticultural marketing gurus demand product uniformity as they prepare their "industrialized-native" plants for the mega-chain garden centers.

Propagating plants to select for specific characteristics, such as flower size, leaf color or compactness of growth, yields cultivated varieties, or cultivars, which can reliably reproduce the targeted variation but reduce the ecological value and genetic diversity of the original. These "nativars," which usually sport descriptive and colorful names after their botanical name, are now widely available. Buyers who are attracted by their splashy features may fail to consider the unintended consequences of the variations. Changes in blossom size and color can confuse or deprive nectaring and pollinating insects. Many cultivars are sterile, depriving wildlife of winter seed sources. Vegetative propagation produces identical clones, depriving the plant community of the genetic diversity and flexibility that should be its strength. We encourage growers to stay away from these cultivars in favor of true native species.

In restoration work and native landscaping, we believe that alien species, naturalized species and cultivars should be avoided, particularly when they might contaminate native gene pools.

With the ever-widening array of true native plants available, why degrade the environment by displacing them with lower-value species? For more information on gardening without cultivars visit wildones.org or reference their PDF on avoiding "Nativars" at:

wildones.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/Nativars-Statement-with-reference/pdf

WHERE DO I FIND GOOD NATIVE PLANTS?

With these facts in mind, a large majority of NPS members feel the best policy for native plant and seed purchase is from local vendors who grow perennials only from wild local seed sources. If the vendor doesn't know where the source is or if it is treated with insecticide, I suggest you find a vendor who does so your plants are environmentally compatible. There are several open plant sales in the area and several vendors happy to accommodate you. [See the Grow Native resource guide.](#) <http://grownative.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/2018-Grow-Native-Resource-Guide-Low-Res.pdf> Please keep this in mind when you add to your pollinator garden.



Hope you enjoy the photos I took late at night during the last wet snow.

I would post your photos and essays in this empty column if you send them to me.
Becky, Editor



Please Step Forward For Service

Please contact one of the officers ready to volunteer a little time to a very good environmental and educational service. We need people to serve as officers, to grow plants for fundraising, and we need people to man our information booth at events such as Earth Day and Bradford Plant Sale. There are opportunities to volunteer caring for native gardens in public places. We don't deliver printed copies by mail unless you insist. Please consider requesting email delivery; it saves us money for the Grant Program.

___ Regular (\$16.00)*

___ Student (\$11.00)

___ Contributing (\$26.00)* designate chapter or state

___ Paper postal service (\$10)

___ State Lifetime (\$200) Might be raised for 2020

___ Chapter Lifetime (\$120 – you must also be a member of the state organization to utilize this option)

___ Chapter only (\$6.00 – this is for members who already belong to State and another chapter).

*Includes both Chapter (\$6) and State (\$10) dues.

Make check payable to:

Native Plant Society. Send check and this form to: Paula Peters, 2216 Grace Ellen Dr., Columbia, MO 65202

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Missouri Native Plant Society- *Hawthorn Chapter*

July 1 through June 30. Dues are Due NOW!

Name _____

Address _____

Phone: Evening _____

Day or Cell _____

Email: _____

Method of receiving chapter newsletter:

(circle preference)

Email

Regular mail

As of July 2018, Petal Pusher printed on paper in grayscale, sent by post, will cost an additional \$10 more than standard membership. Email delivery brings you color photos, and instant delivery. It saves natural resources, pollution, and MONPS and your money.
