

2020 Meeting Details

Saturday, January 4, 2020 - Oak Ridge Prairie Greenhouse Orientation/Workday

Wild Ones Members Only. Are you interested in escaping to a tropical climate in the middle of winter? Then become a Wild Ones member (see membership page for more info.) and attend our "How to Workshop" at our greenhouse. Excellent way to learn about native plants from the ground up. Be sure to bring your own snack, drink and cleanup equipment.

Saturday, January 25, 2020 - Visit Our Wild Ones Booth, Porter County Master Gardeners 16th Annual Gardening Show

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. CST (Chicago Time) Admission \$10 Cash or Check. Children under 12 Free
Free Door Prizes, Free Parking. Porter County Expo Center, 215 East Division Road, Valparaiso, IN
For more info: <https://www.pcgarden.info/gardening-show-2/>

Saturday, February 1, 2020 - Aaron Stump, Indiana Wildlife Federation, "Wild-life Friendly Habitat Workshop"

Program participants will learn about native plants and animals, explore the links between their communities and larger ecosystems, and discover how to create a wildlife-friendly habitat. The Indiana Wildlife Federation, state affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation, developed this course to connect homeowners as well as property owners and managers to nature in a fun and educational way.

Aaron joined the Indiana Wildlife Federation in 2016 and now works as the Habitat Programs Manager. In this position, he oversees the certified Sustainable Trails and Campus programs as well as the Wildlife Friendly Habitat program. He delivers educational workshops across the state. Born and raised in Indiana, he received a degree in Environmental Science from IUPUI.

Saturday, March 7, 2020 - Susan MiHalo, Conservation Coordinator for The Nature Conservancy, Managing Invasive Species in Your Neighborhood: Where Do You Start?

Susan MiHalo has been a Conservation Coordinator for The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Southern Lake Michigan Rim Project Office, Merrillville, IN since August 2012. She is responsible for outreach efforts and programming in Northwest Indiana to help achieve TNC's mission to conserve the lands and waters on which all life depends. Susan also assists with day-to-day management of the Merrillville office, helps coordinate the Indiana Coastal Cooperative Weed Management area on behalf of its Steering Committee, and recently completed a project funded by the Lake Michigan Coastal Program to improve early detection of invasive species in the area. She has spoken to more than 1,000 people about invasive species and how people can help overcome them.

Susan is a past president and board member of Save the Dunes and has served on the Board of Directors of the Alliance for the Great Lakes. She has more than 30 years of nonprofit management and communications experience.

Saturday April 4, 2020 - Plant Sale Preparation

We will be fine tuning details for the plant sale, and the days leading up to the sale. All volunteers should plan on attending this meeting.

Saturday, April 18, 2020 - Visit Our Wild Ones Booth, Porter County Expo Center Earth Day Celebration, 215 E. Division Road, Valparaiso, IN

Join us for a celebration of our prairie featuring exhibitors, vendors, and environmentally-themed entertainment from across Northwest Indiana. Visit our booth and learn about the importance of native plants in the environment. 9 AM – 2 PM. Admission is Free.

Saturday, May 2, 2020

20th Annual Native Plant Sale 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Over 100 species of flowers, grasses, sedges and shrubs; including prairie, wetland, shade and woodland. For a complete list of plants visit the Plant Sale Section of this website or visit www.lakecountyparks.com. Arrive early for best selection. Be sure to also visit our White Elephant Sale (proceeds help feed the birds at Gibson Woods). This year we will have a food truck available for purchase of coffee and donuts.

Saturday, June 6, 2020 Speaker to be announced – check back.

Saturday, June 13, 2020

Visit our Wild Ones Booth, Conservation and Arbor Day Celebration, Oak Lawn, IL

September 5, 2020 Speaker to be announced – Check back.

September 26, 2020 8th Biennial Native Plant Symposium

St. John Township Community Center – Details to come. Check Back

October 3, 2020 Speaker to be announced – Check back.

November 7, 2020 Speaker to be announced

December 5, 2020 Tree Decorating Naturally – Pot Luck Luncheon

Our December meeting will be the annual Tree Decorating & Potluck party. Supplies will be provided by the fine folks at Gibson Woods, but bring something cool from nature to use or share, to be transformed into unique ornaments for the Gibson Woods Christmas tree. Also bring your favorite cold dish. We will 'Eat, Drink & be Merry – and Crafty' together!!