

# NATIVE NEWS

## Gibson Woods Wild Ones

6201 Parrish Ave. Hammond, IN \* 219-844-3188

May 2020

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Wild Ones promotes environmentally sound landscaping practices to encourage biodiversity through the preservation, restoration, and establishment of native plant communities. Wild Ones is a not-for-profit, environmental, educational, and advocacy organization.

### FINAL NATIVE PLANT SALE PLAN

I am happy to announce that we officially have a final plan for our 20th Annual Native Plant Sale! There are some major alterations to our plan, due to ongoing Lake County Indiana restrictions.

- This year's sale WILL take place on Saturday, May 16th from 9 - 3. It WILL NOT take place at Gibson Woods, but will be at Oak Ridge Prairie's parking lot, located at 301 Colfax Street, Griffith IN.
- We WILL NOT hold our traditional sale, but will be taking online & phone orders, and will give appointments for curbside pick-up and pay.
- Order forms will be emailed (and in some cases, mailed) to everyone on our mailing list. Look for that email from: gw.wildones@gmail.com. Details will be explained in that correspondence. Instructions will also be available on our website: [gw-wildones.org](http://gw-wildones.org) and on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/gw.wildones).

While you're waiting for the form, take some time to research the plants and decide which ones you want. A plant list is included with this Newsletter for that purpose.

**This is short notice, so please help us pass the word by sharing our Plant Sale order form & instructions after you receive it!**

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions!

Be Well, and we hope to see you May 16th!  
Kim Moor

P.S. - after the sale is over - we will figure out how to best proceed with our June 6 meeting. We're scheduled to meet at the Tri-Town Safety Village Butterfly Garden to enjoy the beauty.



In our Greenhouse—  
from left to right  
Birdsfoot Violet,  
White Violet  
Celandine Poppy  
Large-Flowered  
Trillium

Visit us online at:

<http://gw-wildones.org/>

#### New Membership & Renewals:

\$40 household - or - \$25 student, ltd income

#### Send check to:

Wild Ones, 2285 Butte des Morts Beach  
Rd., Neenah, WI 54956  
Mark your check 'Chapter 38'

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monthly Meetings are held the first Saturday of the month at 10:00 a.m. at Gibson Woods unless otherwise noted.

**May 16, 2020 9am - 3pm**

**\*\* PLANT SALE \*\***

**Oak Ridge Prairie**  
301 South Colfax Street  
**Pre-order, Curbside Pick-up  
Only!**

**June 6, 2020**

**Tentative - to be determined**

Garden Walk at Tri-Town Safety  
Village Butterfly Garden

*Details to be determined*  
Non-Members Welcome!

**July - August, 2020**

Enjoy your Summer  
*See you in September*

**September, 12 2020 (2nd Saturday)**

*To be Determined*

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Join us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Wild-Ones-Native-Plants-Natural-Landscapes-Gibson-Woods-Chapter-38/528949993858676>

### 2019 Officers

#### President:

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for the Newsletter by the 20th*

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### PLANT SALE VOLUNTEERS

We will need some volunteers to help during our curb-side plant sale, and during the days leading up to - and after the sale.

- Orders will need to be pulled & packed Wed, Thurs, and Fri (May 13-15).
- A handful of people will be needed on sale day (May 16).
- Those willing to transport left-over plants can do so one car at a time during a few days after the sale.

Social distancing will be practiced, so no more than a few people will be in the Greenhouse at one time. Please contact Peggy Foster if you would like to help pack orders before the sale, or transport plants after the sale. Contact Kim Moor if you would like to help on the day of the sale.

Masks will be required in the Greenhouse, and at the Plant Sale.

### WHITE ELEPHANT & FOOD VENDOR

Due to current circumstances, sadly we must cancel our White Elephant sale. There also will not be a food & beverage vendor this year. Hopefully we can try this new addition next year.

### BOXES FOR PLANTS

We will still need boxes for packing up plant orders. If you have some to share, please contact Kim Moor to make arrangements for drop off. We don't need as many as usual, since some of the orders will be packed in trays.

**DO NOT TAKE THEM TO GIBSON WOODS**

### SUMMER PLANT WATERERS NEEDED

After our sale is over, and our remaining plants are transported back to Gibson Woods, we will need some volunteers to keep them watered over the Summer. If you'd like to volunteer, please contact Mickey Taylor at micktec24@yahoo.com or call her at (219)742-2775. Ideally, we will need someone for each day of the week - especially during the hottest part of the Summer.

### EDIE'S CORNER - RECYCLE!

**Edie Bukwa:** is still in need of newspaper for her elderly dog. If you've been saving them for her, please call her at 773-646-2444 . She will arrange a pick-up with you. If you have some to share, maybe you can drop them off when picking up your plants on May 16th!

**Gibson Woods:** is happy to take donations of craft & program supplies. Please call 219-844-3188 to make sure they can use what you have. Please save what you have until after the Gibson Woods building reopens.

## Plant Study—New Shrubs for 2020

### Persimmon - *Diospyros virginiana*

Family: Ebony family (*Ebenaceae*)

Persimmon is a slow growing fruit tree that can get between 30-70 feet tall with an ovoid shaped crown. Leaves are elliptic and alternate. They can extend up to six inches long. Mature trees have either all male or all female flowers, so two are necessary for fruit. Both flowers are white and yellow, and are tiny as males are 1/3-inch long, while females are double the length. Fruits form in place of the female flowers, each being about two inches wide. When ripe they change from light green to yellow or orange, when they become sweet and taste similar to dates. Fruiting begins on trees that are between 10-15 years old. Persimmon are dioecious, which means that you need a male and separate female tree in close proximity to bear fruit.

Preferred habitats are woodlands, savannas and glades. Persimmon can also be found in pastures and fence rows.

<b>Bloom Time:</b>	Late Spring – Early Summer
<b>Flower:</b>	White and Yellow, Dioecious
<b>Height</b>	Up to 70 Feet Tall
<b>Light:</b>	Full Sun - Light Shade
<b>Soil:</b>	Moist - Dry, Wide ranging soil types, prefers Loams
<b>Attracts:</b>	Many Types of Bees, Moths, Beetles and Flies. Rac-
coons,	Opossums, Foxes and Deer eat the fruit along with
many	types of birds.



Source: [www.illinoiswildflowers.info/prairie/plantx](http://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/prairie/plantx), Photo Credits: John Hilty ([www.illinoiswildflowers.info](http://www.illinoiswildflowers.info))

### Pawpaw - *Asimina triloba*

Family: Custard Apple family (*Annonaceae*)

Pawpaw is a small, fruit tree that can grow to around 30 feet tall. In shaded areas it takes on a shrub like appearance and has widely separated branches. Leaves are alternate, obovate and quite large, each growing up to a foot long. Flowers form on second year branches, which are maroon/purple and are 1.5 inches wide. They have a foul odor. Blooming begins in spring and lasts about a month. Pawpaws require pollen from another (genetically different) tree to achieve pollination and fruiting – much like humans require different DNA. Furthermore, pawpaws are not pollinated by bees. Instead, beetles and flies are attracted to their flowers and spread the pollen. A flower produces several edible fruits (up to 6 inches long) that become ripe in fall. When ripe they turn from green to yellow containing flesh that tastes like a combination of banana, papaya and custard. Two rows of seed line the center. The roots consist of a taproot and runners, which sometimes forms a colony.

Preferred habitats are moist woodlands and forest openings, especially where Maple and Beech or Basswood are dominant.

<b>Points of Interest:</b>	Unique Maroon Flowers, Tasty Fruit, Large Leaves, Deer don't eat Leaves
<b>Flower:</b>	Maroon, foul odor, trioecious (subdioecious)
<b>Bloom Time:</b>	Mid - Late Spring
<b>Height and Spread:</b>	Up to 30 Feet Tall
<b>Light:</b>	Light Shade – Partial Sun
<b>Soil Moisture:</b>	Moist – Mesic
<b>Soil:</b>	Loam with Plenty of Organic Matter
<b>Attracts:</b>	Many Types of Flies, Leaves are only food source for caterpillars of the Zebra swallowtail and the Pawpaw sphinx. Foxes, Squirrels, Raccoons, Opossums, Skunk and Box turtles feed on the fruits.



Sources: [www.illinoiswildflowers.info/prairie/plantx](http://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/prairie/plantx), <https://www.nps.gov/articles/pawpaw.htm>  
Photo Credits: John Hilty ([www.illinoiswildflowers.info](http://www.illinoiswildflowers.info))

## Plant Study—New Shrubs for 2020

### Chokecherry - *Prunus virginiana*

Rosaceae (Rose Family)

A large, deciduous shrub or small understory tree, choke cherry grows 20-30 ft. tall and often forms thickets. Dense clusters of white flowers are followed by red fruit ripening to dark purple from August to September (north). Shrub or small tree, often forming dense thickets, with dark red or blackish chokecherries. Chokecherry is remarkably shade tolerant and has impressive resilience under variable growing conditions. Branches break off easily in ice storms.



Large mammals use chokecherry as browse. Chokecherry is also a food source for small mammals. The fruits are important food for many birds. Flowers attract butterflies. Larval Host: Small-eyed sphinx.

Native peoples and settlers used chokecherry bark and roots to make sedatives, blood-fortifying tonics, appetite stimulants and medicinal teas for treating coughs, tuberculosis, malaria, stomachaches and intestinal worms.

**Size:** 12-36 ft.

**Flower:** White, conspicuous, fragrant, perfect

**Bloom Time:** Apr , May , Jun , Jul

**Native Habitat:** Moist woods; stream banks; prairie hillsides; fence rows; rocky bluffs; roadsides,

**Water Use:** Medium

**Light Requirement:** Sun, Part Shade, Shade

**Soil Description:** Rich, moist soils. Limestone-based, Sandy, Sandy Loam, Medium Loam, Clay Loam, Clay



Source: [https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id\\_plant=PRVI](https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=PRVI)

Photos: 1) [Wasowski, Sally and Andy](#) 2) [Reveal, James L.](#)

### Black Gum - *Nyssa sylvatica*

Cornaceae (Dogwood Family)

Tree with a dense, conical or sometimes flat-topped crown, many slender, nearly horizontal branches, and glossy foliage turning scarlet in autumn. An attractive, variable-shaped deciduous tree, black gum grows 30-60 ft. or taller, with horizontally spreading branches. A bottle-shaped trunk forms if grown in shallow standing water. Smooth, waxy, dark-green summer foliage changes to fluorescent yellow, orange, scarlet and purple in fall.

Leaves are alternate, simple, obovate, abruptly pointed at the tip, tapering to the base, sometimes with an erratic tooth along the edges, otherwise toothless, smooth and shiny on the upper surface, paler and sometimes hairy on the lower surface, up to 5 inches long, up to 2 inches wide, on stalks 1-1 1/2 inches long. Flowers are Dioecious - male and female borne on separate trees, appearing after the leaves begin to unfold, the male in spherical clusters, the female 1-several on long stalks arising from the leaf axils. The juicy fruit is consumed by many birds and mammals. This species tolerates drier soils but also tolerates poor drainage.



**Fruit:** Drupes oval, dark blue, bitter, up to 1/2 inch long.

**Bloom Color:** White , Green , Brown

**Bloom Time:** Apr , May , Jun

**Native Habitat:** Low, wet woods; drier, sandy sites

**Water Use:** Medium

**Light Requirement:** Sun, Part Shade , Shade

**Soil:** Moist, various acid soils. Acid-based, Gravelly, Sandy, Sandy Loam, Medium Loam, Clay Loam, Clay.

**Autumn Foliage:** yes

**Wildlife:** Substrate-insectivorous birds, Fruit-birds, Fruit-mammals, Nectar-bees.



Source: [https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id\\_plant=nysy](https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=nysy)

Photographer: [Makin, Julie](#)

## Plant Study—New Shrubs for 2020

### Wild Plum - *Prunus americana*,

Family: Rose (*Rosaceae*)

Wild plum, sometimes called American plum, is a short tree that can reach up to 25 feet tall. It has grey bark, and a short and stout trunk. The dark green leaves are four inches long and grow alternately on the branches. They are serrated and ovate in shape. Two to six white flowers form at the axils of the leaves and last about two weeks. Each is about one inch wide. Initially, the one-inch wide fruits are green and then they turn either red or yellow when ripe. The fleshy pulp is juicy and sweet and a relatively large stone resides in the center.

For a wild plum to produce fruit/seed, even though they are monoecious (male & female flowers on same plant) two genetically distinct trees must be close enough for pollinators to cross-pollinate them in order to reproduce through seed/fruit. Preferred habitats are open mesic woodlands and savannas; and it can also be found in powerline ROWs and fence rows. Flowers attract a wide variety of bees, flies and other Insects. Many insects may feed on other parts of the tree. Fruits are primarily eaten by mammals, especially Red and Grey foxes.

**Points of Interest:** Covered in flowers and edible fruits  
**Bloom Time:** Mid - Late Spring  
**Flowers:** White pleasant fragrance  
**Height and Spread:** 25 feet and up to 20 feet wide  
**Light:** Full to Partial Sun  
**Soil Moisture:** Moist, but can tolerate drier soils  
**Soil:** Loam, but can tolerate other types



Source: [www.illinoiswildflowers.info/prairie/plantx](http://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/prairie/plantx)  
 Photo Credits: John Hilty ([www.illinoiswildflowers.info](http://www.illinoiswildflowers.info))

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### Staghorn Sumac - *Rhus typhina*

Anacardiaceae (Sumac Family)

The stag-horn sumac is a 15-30 ft., colony-forming, deciduous shrub with crooked, leaning trunks, picturesque branches and velvety twigs. Large, bright-green, pinnately-compound leaves become extremely colorful in early fall. On female plants, yellow-green flowers are followed by fuzzy, bright red berries in erect, pyramidal clusters which persist throughout winter. Staghorn Sumac commonly forms thickets. In winter, the bare, widely forking, stout, hairy twigs resemble deer antlers in velvet, hence the alternate common name.

Sumacs grow in dry waste areas, such as impossible slopes where even juniper struggle. They are fast growing, generally pest and disease-free, and drought-tolerant. Colonies are often single-sexed, formed from a single, suckering parent. Only female plants produce flowers and berries.

Berries are a food source for over 30 species of birds, and since the fruit hangs on throughout the winter, is another excellent emergency source of food. Bees are attracted to the flowers in spring. Provides nesting material for Native Bees.

Indians made a lemonade-like drink from the crushed fruit of this and related species. The tannin-rich fruit, bark and leaves were used to tan hides. The leaves and fruits were boiled to make black ink, and the dried leaves were an ingredient in smoking mixtures.

**Size :** Height to 25 feet.  
**Flowers:** Red , Yellow , Green. Unisexual , Dioecious  
**Bloom Time:** Jun , Jul  
**Native Habitat:** Dry uplands; old fields; hardwood forest edges  
**Water Use:** Low  
**Light Requirement:** Sun , Part Shade , Shade  
**Soil:** Dry, rocky or gravelly



Source: [https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id\\_plant=RHTY](https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=RHTY), Photographer: [Hixson, John](#)

## THE TERRESTRIAL PLANT RULE & A GUIDE TO INVASIVE PLANTS IN INDIANA

April 18, 2020

**The Terrestrial Invasive Plant Rule (TPR)** became enforceable on April 18, 2020. The rule is a significant milestone and tool in our toolbox to help foster healthy lands and waters that support insects, birds, other wild-life and of course us. In order to protect and manage our wonderful green spaces (our parks, preserves, forests, etc.) we need to manage invasive terrestrial plants. Part of management is to avoid planting an invasive plant, hence the terrestrial plant rule. In order to manage our public and private lands effectively we also need to also be able to identify invasive plants, report them to assess damage and work collaboratively to control them, and use native plants appropriately to help our lands and waters heal.

To enhance efforts to identify invasive plants for mapping and management, the Indiana Invasive Species Council, The Nature Conservancy in Indiana, and the Indiana Native Plant Society have collaborated to create **A Guide to the Regulated Terrestrial Invasive Plants Species of Indiana**. This field guide covers 49 regulated terrestrial invasive plants in Indiana with pictures and descriptions on how to identify the species, as well as specifics on how to distinguish these invasive species from similar native species. Information on the regulations and how to report violations are also included. This **pdf is free to download** and a printed version of the field guide will be available for purchase later this year.

**Note from Editor: Click on the highlighted links for more information and to download the *Guide to Regulated Terrestrial Invasive Plants Species*. You won't be disappointed!**

Source: <http://www.sicim.info/news/2020/4/18/tprandguide>

### THINGS TO DO

***Due to Covid-19 restrictions, some events may be cancelled or postponed. Please check before you go!***

#### Miller Garden Club 18th Annual Plant Sale

Saturday May 9, 10A-3P  
Build-A-Bike Parking Lot  
Corner of Miller Ave and S. Grand BLVD.  
Miller Beach, IN 46403

**Will Be Selling A Selection Of Annuals, Herbs, And  
Veggies, As Well As Lovely Hanging Baskets And Patio  
Pots For Gifts For Mother's Day.**

\*Social distancing will be practiced by allowing  
10 shoppers at a time into the sale.

\***First Come/First Serve**

\***All shoppers must wear masks and gloves.**

**Cash & Credit Cards Accepted**

For more information, please visit  
<https://www.millergardenclub.org/>

#### Spring Perennial Swap Deep River County Park

**Postponed to Saturday May 16th 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

Spring is the perfect time to spice and change up your garden. At our plant swap happening Saturday, May 9th at 10 am you can exchange your current plants for something new without costing you anything. Just separate and pot some of your perennials and bring them to the swap, and leave with something new! Arrive early, plants go fast! Deep River's General Store in the Visitors center will be open throughout the plant swap. MEET in the back of the parking lot near trail head for swap!

Please check the Lake County Parks website or Deep River's Facebook page for updates, or call the park at 219-947-1958.

Friends of the Lowell Library

#### GardenFest

Given the circumstances with COVID-19, it is unfortunate but necessary that we postpone the GardenFest to a date later in the year. Although it is too early to set a new date for the event, it will hopefully be rescheduled for August or September.