

NATIVE NEWS

Gibson Woods Wild Ones

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

October, 2018

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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.

FROM THE EDITOR

Another Symposium is behind us, and I must say that it went well. Everything came together quite nicely & 'hitches' on the big day were at a minimum. Congratulations team! We all did a spectacular job.

All of our speakers were outstanding, and comments from attendees were mostly all very positive! We still have to send out our follow-ups to speakers & sponsors, but I will say THANK YOU to them right now - and then again formally later.



Speaking of our sponsors, we had many great Silent Auction items because of generous donations from some very supportive businesses, as well as from many of our members. We had 22 items total. How awesome is that?! All of our door prizes were donated by members, and we had plenty to go around. I will now say THANK YOU to all of our Donors!

We also had some information tables from organizations who have been very supportive to Wild Ones throughout the years. These were well received and very much appreciated. A THANK YOU goes out to them as well!!!

We tried something new this year. All attendees who paid non-member ticket prices were offered \$10 off their first year of membership if they join by December 31st. We received 4 new members right there at the event! This in itself made the event worthwhile. Our goal was to spread awareness, and we accomplished that!

Last, I want to say THANK YOU to everyone who attended our 7th Biennial Symposium. I hope you enjoyed it as well as we enjoyed putting this together for you!

Sincerely,
Kim Moor

OCTOBER MEETING

Wild Ones member & Lake County Master Gardner, Dolly Foster will be our guest speaker at the October meeting. Dolly has been gardening for Pollinators for many years, and will share with us all her tried & true methods for collecting & cleaning seeds - just in time to apply her expertise in your own garden this Fall!

Make sure you save the date for our February meeting (2/2/19), because Dolly will be back to teach us everything she knows about winter sowing for those seeds!

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.

October 6, 2018

Dolly Foster, WO Member & LCMG
Seed Collecting & Cleaning
Hosts: Marilyn Thompson, Mary Hackett

November 3, 2018

Keith Nowakowski, Landscaper/
Author - *Incorporating Native Plants
Into Your Garden*
Hosts: Theresa Corriere, Kim Moor

December 1, 2018

Tree Decorating Naturally
Potluck

January 5, 2019

Greenhouse Orientation -
at the Greenhouse
Bring your own snack

February 2, 2019

Dolly Foster, WO Member & LCMG
Winter Sowing Workshop
Hosts: TBA

Inside this Issue:

Greeting	1
Announcements	2
Plant Study	3
Things to Do	4

Join us on Facebook

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

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ANNOUNCEMENTS*** Welcome New Members ***

Steve & Mary Bender

Linda Greer

Zora Ludwig

Philip Matsikas

Karen Ortegon

Joanne Sarros

Gibson Woods Clean-up

We've arranged a clean-up of the Flower Garden at Gibson Woods right after the meeting. If you can spare the time, please plan on staying for a while to help out. If we all pitch in, it shouldn't take too much time at all!!

Bring your garden gloves & clippers - and some bug spray!

Officer Elections

Have you taken time to consider running for one of our Officer positions? Our election takes place in November, so now is the time to put your name in for the position you're interested in. Do you think a certain person would be good at one of the jobs? Nominate them. We'll discuss it with the individual before we put him or her on the ballot. New to Wild Ones? No problem. What better way to get acquainted with the group than to jump right in!!

Positions that must be voted on are:

President - Vice President - Secretary - Treasurer.

Reminder:

While you're cleaning up your garden this Fall (not too much cleaning I hope), don't forget to pick out some interesting items to bring to our December tree decorating party.

We will make ornaments using items from Nature. It's always so much fun seeing what kind of creativity we all come up with!

PLANT STUDY - by Kim Moor

This month's Plant Study is a repeat from a couple years ago. I chose to review plants from the Rudbeckia family again because I think many of us struggle with the different varieties of Black & Brown-eyed Susans. I know I do. I have a few different varieties in my yard, some of which have made babies, and I'm having a hard time figuring out which is which. Hopefully after I read & re-read this page, and compare the leaves & what I remember of the flowers, I'll have it all figured out. If you have the same problems with these guys as I do, I hope this helps you too!

Showy Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia fulgida*) also known as Orange, Sullivants, or Deams Coneflower is quite variable in appearance from one site to another. Consequently, this species has been a source of taxonomic problems that continues to this day. Some authorities classify *Rudbeckia fulgida* as a single species consisting of several varieties, while others regard it as a complex of several closely-related species. Varieties of *Rudbeckia fulgida* that may be encountered in Indiana include: *Rudbeckia fulgida sullivantii* (Sullivant's Coneflower) has large flowerheads (typically 2-3" across) and leaves that are typically 5" long & 2 1/2" wide. *Rudbeckia fulgida fulgida* (Orange Coneflower), has more slender leaves and smaller flowerheads (1-2" across); *Rudbeckia fulgida deamii* (Deam's Coneflower), which has more hairy stems, smaller flowerheads (1-2" across), and larger upper leaves; and *Rudbeckia fulgida speciosa* (Showy Black-eyed Susan), which has slightly smaller flowerheads (1 1/2-2 1/2" across) and lower leaves that are more narrow and shallowly cleft. Among these different varieties, Sullivant's coneflower is the one that is most often cultivated in gardens. It is possible to confuse *Rudbeckia fulgida* with the common *Rudbeckia hirta* (Black-Eyed Susan) in appearance, but it can be distinguished from the latter species as follows: 1) *Rudbeckia fulgida* has foliage that is less hairy, 2) its leaves have petioles (leaf stalks) that are conspicuously winged, 3) each of its achenes (seeds) has a crown of tiny teeth, 4) it is a perennial, and 5) root system is fibrous and rhizomatous. In contrast, *Rudbeckia hirta* has more hairy foliage, its petioles (leaf stalks) lack conspicuous wings, and it is usually annual or biennial in habit.



Sweet Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia subtomentosa*) is also called Fragrant or Sweet Coneflower. It is more long-lived than two similar species, Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*) and Brown-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia triloba*), and is fragrant. Compared to the Black-eyed Susan, Sweet Coneflower is a taller plant (3-6 ft.) with many deeply lobed leaves. The leaves of *Rudbeckia hirta* lack lobes. Compared to *Rudbeckia triloba* the flowerheads of Sweet Coneflower are larger in size (2-3") with longer and more abundant petaloid rays (flower petals). Achenes (seeds) are long and narrow in shape. The root system is fibrous and rhizomatous.

Brown-Eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia triloba*) can be distinguished from similar species by the smaller size of its flowerheads (1-2") and the smaller number of ray florets per flowerhead. It is usually more tall (3-5 ft.) and bushy than *Rudbeckia hirta* (Black-Eyed Susan). Leaves are lobed and are 4" long & 2" across. On robust plants, 6 or more flowerheads are often in bloom at the same time, creating a showy effect. The small achenes (seeds) are 4-angled. The root system is shallow and fibrous.



Black-Eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*) is a biennial or short-lived perennial plant that is about 1-2 1/2 ft. tall. It occasionally branches near the base, with each stem producing a single composite flower. The stems have long white hairs. The alternate leaves do not have lobes, are greyish green and covered with small stiff hairs, providing them with a rough texture. Each flower is about 2-3" across. The achenes (seeds) are black, oblong and finely nerved. The root system consists of a central taproot and is without rhizomes – this plant reproduces entirely by seed.

Source: <http://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/>

THINGS TO DO

Oak Ridge Prairie Programs & Hikes

301 South Colfax Street, Griffith, IN

Owl Prowl

October 19, 2018, 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Whooo's in the woods? Find out as we spend a special evening venturing into the forest at Oak Ridge Prairie, while listening and calling for owls.

UPCOMING MILLER GARDEN CLUB EVENT

Miller Garden Club Presents:

Beer, Brats & Bulbs

Aquatorium, Miller Beach, Indiana

Sat, October 20. 10 am to 3 pm

Beer, \$5.00 brat lunches, live music & dancing!

20 varieties of Alliums, wild and species Tulips, naturalizing Daffodils, 8-foot-tall Tree Lilies, 35 types of Woodland Bulbs for shade, Rock Garden bulbs, Deer-Resistant bulbs, Squirrel-Resistant bulbs, Bulbs for pollinators, Heirloom bulbs, Award-winning bulbs, Bulbs for forcing, 25 different Amaryllis, 2 color of Paperwhites, US Native Jack-in-the-Pulpits, and 2 types of Trillium.

GIBSON WOODS PROGRAMS & HIKES

6201 Parrish Ave, Hammond, IN

Call for details & to register 219-844-3188

Whooo's There?

October 26, 2018, 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Owl be glad to see you as we invite Nicole Harmon, educator for Humane Indiana Wildlife Rehabilitation Center and you for a visit with some of our favorite nocturnal friends. Seating is limited. Co-sponsored by Wild Ones-Gibson Woods Chapter and Dunes-Calumet Audubon Society.

Winter Bird ID

November 2 from 10-11:30 AM

Many species of birds stick around for our cold Northwest Indiana winters. Join a park naturalist to find out what birds you still see and where to look for them. A short outdoor hike will conclude the program, weather permitting. This program is designed for adults.

Name that Tune

Wednesdays, Nov 7 - Mar 27

Increase your birding lists by enhancing your birding skills! Join us for this free program Wednesdays from November 7 through March 27 at 9:30 AM as we familiarize ourselves with the bird songs we hear in Northwest Indiana throughout the year. No program December 19, 26 or January 2. This program is designed for adults. Please register by calling 219-844-3188.

GIBSON WOODS PROGRAMS & HIKES - CONTINUED

6201 Parrish Ave, Hammond, IN

Call for details & to register 219-844-3188

Family Nature Walks

Saturday, Nov. 17 at 9:30 AM

Bring the family to meet a naturalist and walk the trails as you learn about the plants and wildlife in the park. Join us monthly to experience nature's fascinating flora & fauna. This program is free, and designed for all ages.

Rocks on the Beach:

A History of Great Lakes Geology

Sunday, November 18 at 1 PM

Beachcombing for rocks along the beaches of Lake Michigan is not only fun, but also serves as a textbook study into geologic story of Great Lakes region. Join us as Dave Dolak, senior lecturer at the Science and Mathematics department of Columbia College Chicago, Calumet region native and graduate researcher at Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, helps add new dimension of geologic appreciation to your next stroll along the beaches of the Calumet Region.

#OptOutside Gibson Woods Hike

Friday, November 23, 2018

Started in 2015 by outdoor retailer REI, #OptOutside is not just about Black Friday. It's about choosing life outdoors and living a little more simply, even just for a day. You can join us for this hike Friday, November 23 at Gibson Woods from 10-11:30 AM. What better way to work off some of those Thanksgiving calories and enjoy some outdoors time! Please register by calling 219-844-3188. No organized groups, please.

SAVE THE DATE

February 23, 2019

8:00 - 4:30 PM

Michiana Master Gardeners Present the first annual Elkhart County Garden Expo

Elkhart County Fairgrounds
117746 County Road 34
Goshen, IN

Sponsored by:
Michiana Master Gardeners' Association in
Cooperation with Purdue Extension of Elkhart County