

Rock River Valley Chapter Dewslet

Volume 17, Issue 2 February 2015

Promoting Native Plants for Natural Landscapes.

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Scan with your Smartphone for more information about **Rock River Valley** Wild Ones

MEMBER ORGANIZATION

Articles for the March 2015 newsletter, must be submitted to:

Constance@wildonesrrvc.org by February 23, 2015.

Ephemerals – Harbingers of Spring Thursday, February 19, 2015

Location: Rock Valley College,

Woodward Technology Center, WTC

3301 North Mulford Road, Rockford, IL 61114

Time: 7:00 pm



Kris Koch, Education Coordinator for Rotary Botanical Gardens, Janesville, WI, will whet our appetite for the early spring wildflowers. Kris has experience as a landscaper. florist and working in garden centers. However, her true passion is Environmental Education. Besides her interests in horticulture and education. Kris is a photographer and artist. She says, "I love Nature and find endless inspiration in the fascinating microcosms hidden in plain sight if only one takes the time to look and explore."

Blooming spring ephemerals are Nature's reward to Midwestern gardeners for making it through the cold and bleak months of winter. In actuality, these often woodland plants have short life cycles, taking advantage of sunlight and other resources before trees and other woody plants leaf out. After reproducing, the aboveground flowers and foliage usually die back, allowing later blooming plants their chance to thrive. In the upper Midwest, spring ephemerals include a wide variety of wildflowers including several *Dicentra spp.*, Virginia Bluebells (Mertensia virginiana), Bloodroot (Sanguinaria canadensis), Trillium spp., and many more. Come and learn technical facts as well as fascinating plant lore about these garden workhorses whose arrival we so crave each spring.







The program is free and open to the public. Come early and browse the library, merchandise tables, and refreshments table. We welcome and appreciate new members! Call 815-627-0344.

Submitted by Jamie B. Johannsen, Program Chair

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Message from the Co-President Lenae Weichel Hello Again When I moved to the

So many of you know me already but I am happy to be (re)introducing myself to you as a co-president of this fantastic chapter. Wild Ones was the first organization I joined when I moved from North Carolina to northern Illinois in the spring of 2000. In fact, I had not yet lived here a month when, as a first-time homeowner, I eagerly joined the chapter. Fifteen years and a new (to us) home later, and I am still reaping the benefits of my Wild Ones

membership; learning something new each month to put

into practice in my own changing landscape.

I had the great good fortune to have grown up in a place where nature education was valued. Many are surprised to learn that my suburban (Chicago) high school maintained a prairie relict and that seed-collecting and invasives removal was part of the biology curriculum. Because of this (and being raised in a family that enjoyed learning and exploring outdoors), I was ready to plant natives in my home landscape from the start.

When I moved to this area I worked in Student Affairs at Rock Valley College, using my freshly minted Master's degree. After a time, our family grew and I chose to be a full-time parent. I kept my professional skills in use by continuing to volunteer for groups like Wild Ones, Severson Dells Nature Center, Master Naturalists, and my children's elementary school. I find myself working again now (although this time self-employed) as my husband and I are restoring a downtown office building. So, free time is limited but when I find it I choose to garden (natives and food), kayak, backpack, read, cook, or knit.

I am very excited about the year ahead for our chapter and I hope that you are too. The educational programs and newsletters promise to be fascinating, the plant sales will bring new excitement to our landscapes, and the events and gatherings will be inspirational and fun. Thank you for your membership and participation to help make our chapter such a success.

Thank you to the 2014 Woodland Sale Volunteers Barbara Flores

This most sincere, albeit a little late in coming, thank you goes to the 24 people who made the 2014 woodland sale the great success it was. Approximately 2,200 native woodland plants, representing 63 delightful species, found a home in Winnebago and surrounding counties. The four sale events, made possible because of these good people, provided the opportunity to talk with others about the Wild Ones mission while at the same time making native plants readily available.

Here's how so many helped. The plant sale begins in November with selecting and ordering the plants. Several people helped from the get go with the preparation of the woodland brochure which involves researching and writing plant descriptions and layout of the brochure. After printing, brochures. are collated and mailed to those who have signed up to receive this information; e-mail copies are also sent out to a lengthy list of recipients. The paper brochures are distributed to many locations and additional publicity, a single sheet flyer, is sent to gardening events for each attendee. Publicity also goes to newspapers and several websites.

In April many hands were needed during pickup to set up tables, get the plants from the grower, unload and tag them, pull orders and assist customers. For those who love plants in general and native plants in particular it was a lot of fun and a good way to become familiar with many of these lovely woodland plants. The native plant sale provides an opportunity to talk with nonmembers

about landscaping with natives (half of the 67 woodland orders were from nonmembers) as well as to meet fellow Wild Ones members.

In addition, in order to fulfill the Wild Ones mission, plants were offered at a sale at Nicholas Conservatory to tie in with their butterfly exhibit and at the two day Birdfest event. Plants were offered at the May meeting and finally at the prairie pickup. These sales could not have happened without the help of others.

So, many thanks to everyone who helped in 2014. As is done with a list of characters in a play these folks are listed "in order of their appearance."

Anita Johnson, Tim Lewis, Shey Lowman, Barbara Kober, Marcia DeClerk, Olga and Dan Bechtol, Karen Matz, Barbara Kuminowski, Ed Kletecka, Joe Hemlock, Cathy Johnson, Janet Giesen, Cynthia Nelson, Guy Smith, John Peterson, Dianne Stenerson, Jane Evans, Ginnie Watson, Paula Evans, William Flores, Judy Letourneau.

Many of these folks helped multiple times, for long shifts, and trekked a distance to do so. We all shared our knowledge and experience and it was a great pleasure to be in such good company.

Special thanks go to my husband Frank—for patiently explaining the Excel program, sweeping the barn floor, preparing lunch for everyone and helping in any way needed during the four weeks of the sale.

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Mini Grants Kim Lowman Vollmer, Youth Education and Grant Chair

Are you interested in having native plants at your place of worship, school, or other public area? Wild Ones is here to support and help you make that possible. Our mission is to educate others, young and old, about the many benefits of natural landscapes. Developing natural areas helps native species, the environment and earth. A group project increases pride in the community, develops civic responsibility and leadership, is a worthwhile hands on experience, offers an increased understanding of native plant communities, and numerous other positive benefits.

The Rock River Valley Chapter of Wild Ones provides Mini Grants to help you get started developing native areas or enlarge and enhance already established plantings. The grant application can be found on our web site at http://wildonesrrvc.org/Mini_Grants. html. April 1st is the deadline for plants from the woodland and prairie sale and September 1st for the tree and shrub sale. Grants will be received, judged by a committee and grant recipients will be notified. If you have any question, please contact me at 815-397-6044 or at grants@wildonesrrvc.org.

Membership Survey Highlights Shey Lowman

Since we began sending surveys via email in October 2014, your response has been terrific and we are grateful for your input. Our average response rate is almost 25%, which is very high and includes 48-61 responses. Here are some of the highlights.

Top three 2014 meeting presentations/events:

- Wild for Monarchs lecture, Michael Jeffords, and yard tours
- Shooting Stars: A Plant With an Attitude, Paul Sorensen
- Butterflies: Winged Wildflowers of Illinois, Don Miller

How members hear about meetings and events:

- 1. Chapter newsletter, 74%
- 2. Monthly chapter email, 43%

Why members attend:

- 1. Interest in the topic or presenter, 80%
- 2. To learn more about native plants, 75%
- 3. To support Wild Ones, 70%

What is important at meetings:

- 1. Topic or speaker, 98%
- 2. Time of day, 82%
- 3. Location, 75%

Most important type of meeting or event:

- 1. Monthly meetings, 84%
- 2. Native plant sales, 80%

85% of members are highly likely to recommend Wild Ones to a friend, colleague or family member. That is quite a compliment for the chapter.

And last, a big thank you to the 51 members who signed up to volunteer on behalf of the chapter.

Native Woodland Plant Sale Regins

Included with this newsletter is the 2015 Native Woodland Plant Sale brochure. By happy chance, this corresponds with the February meeting presentation on spring ephemerals.

Please enjoy reading about the woodland plants available for the 2015 growing season. Each year we have been able to offer several new species and this year is no exception. The sale includes 65 species of woodland and part shade plants, 35 of which are described in the brochure.

In addition to the species in the brochure more than 25 additional species will be available at pickup. Please go to the Wild Ones website www.WildOnesrrvc.org for a complete list of these pickup plants. Questions or comments about the sale and special requests for plants are most welcome.

Becoming involved with the woodland sale, or the chapter's other plant sales, prairie and tree and shrub, is a great way to increase one's knowledge of native species of our area. In addition, it is a wonderful way to get to know fellow Wild Ones members. Please contact Barbara if you'd like to participate in any way.

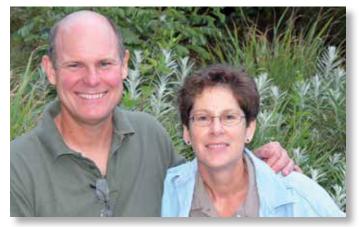
Submitted by Barbara Flores, Native Woodland Plant Sale Coordinator Barbara@WildOnesrrvc.org or 815-289-8602

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January Meeting Recap Cathy Johnson

photos by Tim Lewis

Converting a City Lot into a Wild Place



Long time Wild Ones members, Mary Anne and Bruce Mathwich, educated and entertained the audience at the first meeting of 2015 with their account of how they have transformed not one, but two residential sites into beautiful natural landscapes.

Their initial yard conversion was at their home in Cherry Valley at a time when there was not much information about this. Wild Ones had just begun, and there were few resources for this project. Even so, Mary Anne says she recalls this project, other than the physical work of digging out the sod, as being, "not that hard." The soil was flat, former farm land, with no existing landscaping. Once the sod was removed, it required little more than spreading some seed, and planting a few native trees and shrubs, and within three years they had a pretty nice yard. Wild Ones members had an opportunity to see that yard for themselves during a visit to the site several years ago. This past summer, their current yard was on display during the chapter's 20th anniversary event yard tours.

Bruce and Mary Anne's PowerPoint presentation illustrated the conversion of the yard surrounding their present home in Rockton, on the banks of the Rock River. The house, a 1950's ranch style "fixer-upper" they bought in 2001, was, at time of purchase, surrounded by trees and shrubs reflecting the times. Like their first venture, the yard was converted within about three years, but presented many more challenges than their first project had, including many unwanted trees, an incline behind the house, railroad ties on the way to the river, from which sprung up metal pipes promising to impale someone, and sandy soil.

Experienced "do-it-your-selfers," Bruce and Mary Anne tackled the bulk of the work themselves. This included taking down some of the trees and shrubs, including several ash trees, Siberian Elms, a dying corkscrew willow, and many junipers. One native tree, a white pine, had to be taken down to prevent damage to the

roof; after having replaced the older roof with a lighter, membrane roof, they were advised against having anything hanging over it that could pose a threat. Other tasks they completed included creating the design, removing stumps, digging out junipers, re-grading around the house, constructing a trellis for vines that provided a privacy screen, putting in an arbor and a fence row berm, clean slating the yards in preparation for planting, choosing the plants, propagating the seeds and getting them into the ground.

In prepping for the work, they sketched plans for planting and mowing, and made a sun chart for optimal placement of prairie plants in the back yard. An area two feet wide, was dug around the house and filled with river rock, to create an insect barrier and allow access for working on the house. While they weren't happy about it, they did use Round-Up to kill the grass, figuring that it was better to do this "bad thing" once, but after which they would not be mowing, fertilizing, watering, and they would be providing natural habitat. They used plugs instead of seed on the incline, afraid that seeds would be lost due to erosion.

Mary Anne currently serves as the chapter's person in charge of plant rescues, and many of Bruce and Mary Anne's plants have been acquired from plants and seeds from plant rescues. In sharing information on seed collection for woodland and prairie plants, Mary Anne described the various mechanisms that seeds employ to get themselves dispersed and propagated, including among woodland plants, the methods of catapults, or launching themselves out into the environment (wild geranium), seeds with elaisome, an oily substance which attracts ants or other organisms which then move them around (trillium, Dutchman's breeches, bloodroot, trout lily, violets and hepatica) and berries (Solomon's seal, baneberries and Jack-in-the-pulpit). Some prairie plants, such as wild petunia and partridge pea, use the catapult method, too. Others, such as penstemon, shooting stars, and cinquefoil can be poured out from the seed head when they are ripe, and others, such as blazingstar, thimbleweed, and prairie clovers and grasses can be stripped off when ripe.

Other types of plants require other methods, some of them more aggressive, to remove their seeds. Some seeds need to be scarified, in which the seed hull is scratched or otherwise roughened up to wear it down. Mary Anne has often used a blender for this purpose. To sow the seeds, she advises mixing seed in a five gallon bucket with some sand or vermiculite, then broadcasting this by hand. To get a good seed-to-soil contact, rake and stomp the ground after broadcasting.

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January Meeting Recap (cont'd)



Claudia Fleeman and Mary Anne Mathwich

The privacy screen that Bruce and Mary Anne constructed to separate their drive from their neighbor's was made from wood, mainly 4x4's fished out of the Rock River. That screen is now covered with a variety of vines, including wild yam, Moonseed vine, wild grape, wild cucumber, virgin's bower, Virginia creeper, and yellow honeysuckle.

Having added a dog to their household last year, Bruce and Mary Anne provided some caveats regarding things to be careful about if you have pets that might be attracted to eating items in your landscape. Some that have been identified by the ASPCA as being poisonous to dogs include the Malus (apple) family, oak acorns, walnut, elderberry, lobelia, foxglove, moonseed vine, bittersweet, Mayapple, Jack in the Pulpit, skunk cabbage, wahoo, buttercup and more. Their dog, Rocky River Mathwich, has been helpful in collecting seeds himself, bringing in things like sticky tick trefoil seeds on his coat from outdoors.

Mary Anne says that one, less obvious side benefit of native plantings is the number of interesting organisms, they attract, including gastropods such as banana slugs, and isopods such as sowbugs.

In closing Mary Anne asked the audience this question: "If you haven't done this yet, why not?" She says it very satisfying and people should not be intimidated by the idea, but should be fearless and just "DO IT!".



Bruce Mathwich, Steve Symes and Jane Snively Socializing

Roard of Directors in Action Cathy Johnson, Secretary Highlights of activities of the Wild Ones Rock River Valley Chapter Board of Directors, as discussed at the

December 11, 2014 meeting, include the following.

- November was highlighted by a member potluck and seed exchange, which featured a workshop by Loris Damerow, president of the Wild Ones of Fox Valley Area Chapter (WI) on using stalks, seedpods, vines and branches of natives in decorative dried arrangements. Participants very much enjoyed the workshop and created some lovely arrangements while learning more about native plants.
- The annual election of board officers was conducted electronically for the first time, and resulted in many more members participating in the process.
- The annual board retreat is being planned for January or early February, 2015.
- The next board meeting will be Thursday, February 12 at 6:00p.m, at Thunder Bay Grill, 7652 Potawotami Trail, Rockford, IL. The meeting officially starts at 6:00 p.m., but many come at 5:00 to purchase their dinner. All chapter members are welcome and invited to attend Board meetings.

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Looking for a Merchandise Coordinator Shey Lowman

We are looking for a member who would be interested in becoming our next Merchandise Coordinator. I have had a lot of fun in my role since August 2009, but after five years and my increasing responsibilities as Membership Chair; it is time for me to pass the merchandise baton.

My philosophy for merchandise has been to offer items that are of particular interest to members that are hard to find or not readily available. Current merchandise items include books, Parsnip Predators, field bags, pruning sleeves and a few other small items. Merchandise can and should reflect the passions of the Merchandise Coordinator.

Merchandise records are kept in a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet and there is one for each year since 2009. Merchandise transactions include cash, checks and credit card acceptance with a free Square Register app and card reader (smartphone or tablet required for use). The Merchandise Coordinator works closely with the chapter Treasurer.

As Merchandise Coordinator, you are invited to participate in Chapter Board meetings as an appointed (non-voting) member. Board meetings are held on the second Thursday of even numbered months (February, April, June, August, October, December) from 6:00-8:00 p.m. in Rockford.

If you would be interested, please contact me at shey@wildonesrrvc.org or 815-757-4456. I have a job description and Merchandise Coordinator guidelines available for any member who is interested. Also you can see a merchandise flyer on the chapter website at: www.wildonesrrvc.org/Documents/Merchandise/Wild_Ones_Merchandise_Flyer_2014.pdf.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration, I look forward to hearing from one of you entrepreneurial members that is enthusiastic about continuing our merchandise offerings at Chapter meetings and events!



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Membership Application/Renewal						
An Inch	Name:	·				
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<i>Milvila Whe</i> s	City, State, Zip:					
NATIVE PLANTS, NATURAL LANDSCAPES						
ROCK RIVER VALLEY	Phone:					
	Email:					
 □ I prefer receiving the color digital version of the monthly newsletter as a PDF file via email. □ Check here if you do not want to be published in the annual January membership roster. 						
Please select your me	mbership category:	Wild	Wilder	Wildest		
Household Membership	1 0 ,	□ \$37	□ \$6o	□ \$100+		
Household Lifetime Membership □ \$1500 (Or 3 annual payments of \$500)						
Professional Educator Membership		□ \$90	□ \$120	□ \$150		
Not-for-Profit Affiliate Organization Membership		□ \$90	□ \$120	□ \$150		
Associate Membership (l	imited income/student)	□ \$20				
Business Membership		□ \$250				
Gift Household Members			□ \$6o			
If this is a gift membership, please put your name below to let the recipient know it is from you:						
☐ I would like to make an additional donation to support the Wild Ones Rock River Valley Chapter for: \$			Wild Ones Rock River Valley Chapter 1643 N Alpine Rd Ste 104 PMB 233 Rockford, IL 61107-1464			
rease make your check pagable to wild ones and main it to.						
I have enclosed \$ to □ start/□ renew my membership for year(s).						

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Membership Apdate Shey Lowman, Membership Co-Chair

A membership e-form and our membership brochure describing the benefits of membership are both available on the chapter website (www.wildonesrrvc.org). Click on **Join/Renew** under the **Membership** tab. You can renew (or join) with any major credit card through PayPal (no PayPal account required) by using our website. Go ahead and rack up your rewards points and we all win. We appreciate your support!

218 memberships as of January 23, 2015

Thanks to our **30** members who have renewed since November 2014!

Welcome to new members!

William Dolak, Belvidere, IL Matt Kocovrek, Brodhead, WI Ed & Judy Uchno, Stillman Valley, IL Dee Vowell, Rockton, IL Mark Weir, Mt Prospect, IL

Each of our new members are identified with a bright green ribbon on their meeting name badge. Please introduce yourself to them and help us welcome new members to our great chapter!

78 attended the January meeting, including 13 guests.

A big thank you to our January meeting volunteers! Greeters - Janaan Lewis, Janet Giesen Refreshments - Cynthia Nelson, Anita Johnson and to Barbara Flores for bringing reusable mugs AV/Sound Equipment - Bob Arevalo Meeting Recap for the Newsletter - Cathy Johnson Photographer - Tim Lewis Library Assistants - Barbara Flores, Cathy Johnson

A Special Note about Your Membership and Dues:

You get **2 for 1** with your annual dues. Please be aware that your membership includes both a membership with national Wild Ones and a chapter membership with the Rock River Valley Chapter. We've been seeing a number of members sending dues both to the chapter and to national. When that

happens your membership is extended for an additional year.

While all dues sent to the chapter are forwarded to national, we ask that you send your dues directly to the chapter so there is no delay in keeping you on our roster and sending newsletters to you. And it helps us keep your contact information current. National Wild Ones reimburses our chapter 30% of the dues they receive from our chapter members each quarter, about \$2,100 a year, which supports our annual budget of \$23,900.

It is preferred that renewal memberships be sent directly to the chapter for quicker processing and to avoid delays in receiving your chapter newsletter. Please use the address below:

Wild Ones Rock River Valley Chapter 1643 N Alpine Rd Ste 104 PMB 233 Rockford, IL 61107-1464

Your expiration date is on your chapter newsletter and your national Journal address labels. You will be mailed a renewal reminder two months prior to your expiration date with a completed membership form and return envelope for your convenience.

Please send address and email address changes to Shey Lowman at shey@wildonesrrvc.org.

Thirty percent of all dues paid are returned to the chapter by National Wild Ones to support our chapter activities. All dues and donations are fully tax deductible.

Thank you for your continued support!

2015 Chapter Programs and Events

February 19 7:00-9:00 p.m.	Spring Ephemerals: Gems in our Woodland Gardens	Kris Koch , Education Coordinator –Rotary Gardens, Janesville, WI	Rock Valley College Woodward Technology Center
March 19 7:00-9:00 p.m.	Land Management in This Area Prior to European Settlement	Ed Jakaitis , Archaeologist, Illinois Archaeological Survey	Rock Valley College Woodward Technology Center
Mar-April	Native Woodland Plant Sale Orders taken during this time	Barbara Flores Coordinator	815-289-8602
	Native Prairie Plant Sale Orders taken during this time	Rick & Deb Freiman Coordinators	815-871-7424
April 16 7:00-9:00 pm	Starting From Scratch: Planning Your Native Landscape	Rebecca Olson Olson Ecological Solutions	Rock Valley College Woodward Technology Center

Unless noted, programs are free and open to the public. Programs are subject to change. Please contact Jamie Johannsen 815-494-6977 for more information.



ROCK RIVER VALLEY

ROCK RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

c/o Pambi Camacho 1643 N. Alpine Rd., Suite 104 PMB 233 Rockford, IL 61107

Don't become extinct!

If the expiration date on the mailing label is **2/1/2015**, this is your last chapter newsletter and you have received your last Wild Ones *Journal* until you activate your membership

You may receive a renewal notice from both the National organization and your chapter. Your membership information will be updated quicker if you renew through your chapter so you won't miss an Issue of the chapter newsletter.

Mail your renewal:

Wild Ones Rock River Valley 1643 N. Alpine Rd., Suite 104 PMB 233 Rockford, IL 61107

Wild Ones - Rock River Valley Chapter

Board of Directors and Chairs

Co-Presidents: Ginnie Watson 815-398-0138 ginnie@wildonesrrvc.org Lenae Weichel 815-282-5482 lenae@wildonesrrvc.org

Vice President: Jerry Paulson 815-222-4414 jerry@wildonesrrvc.org

Secretary: Cathy Johnson 815-978-0865 cathy@wildonesrrvc.org

Treasurer: Janet Giesen 815-899-6139 janet@wildonesrrvc.org

Membership Chair: Shey Lowman 815-757-4456 shey@wildonesrrvc.org

Newsletter Chair: Pambi Camacho 815-332-7637 pambi@wildonesrrvc.org

Plant Rescues & Seed Collection Chair: Mary Anne Mathwich 815 721-5187. maryanne@wildonesrrvc.org Program Chair: Jamie Johannsen 815-494-6977 jamie@wildonesrrvc.org

Show Me/Help Me Chair: Claudia Fleeman 815-985-5158 claudia@wildonesrrvc.org

Youth Education & Grants Chair: Kim Lowman Vollmer 815-397-6044 kim@wildonesrrvc.org

Appointed Coordinators

Woodland Plant Sale Coordinator: Barbara Flores 815-289-8602 barbara@wildonesrrvc.org

Prairie Plant Sale Coordinators: Rick Freiman 815-871-7424 rick@wildonesrrvc.org Deb Freiman 815-871-7424 deb@wildonesrrvc.org Tree & Shrub Sale Coordinator: John Peterson 815-979-8539 john@wildonesrrvc.org

Booth Coordinator, FREC Representative: Tim Lewis 815-874-3468 tim@wildonesrrvc.org

Facebook Coordinator: Marilyn Heneghan 815-389-7869 marilyn@wildonesrrvc.org

Library Coordinator: Ginnie Watson 815-398-0138 ginnie@wildonesrrvc.org

Mentor Coordinator: Melanie Costello 815-645-8430 melanie@wildonesrrvc.org

Merchandise/Website Coordinator: Shey Lowman 815-757-4456 shey@wildonesrrvc.org

Publicity Coordinator: Doreen O'Brien 815-985-4064 doreen@wildonesrrvc.org

Volunteer Coordinator: Cynthia Nelson 815-758-8978 cynthia@wildonesrrvc.org

Regular meetings are held the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm at Rock Valley College/Woodward Technology Center, WTC, 3301 North Mulford Road, Rockford, IL 61114 Special meetings, outings, and events are scheduled periodically and sometimes replace the regular meeting time/place. Contact any officer to confirm information about our next meeting.

Wild Ones Annual Memberships: Household \$37, Associate (limited income/full-time student) \$20, Affiliate Non-Profit Organization or Educator \$90, Business \$250. Your entire membership contribution is tax deductible. Contact Membership Co-Chairs for additional information or to join.

815-627-0344 • Join on-line with any major credit card at www.WildOnesRRVC.org

Wild Ones Mission

Wild Ones: Native Plants, Natural Landscapes promotes environmentally sound landscaping practices to preserve biodiversity through the preservation, restorations and establishment of native plant communities. Wild Ones is a not-for-profit environmental education and advocacy organization.