

Promoting Native Plants for Natural Landscapes.

Inside this Issue:

Message from the Co-President	2
June Meeting Recap	3-4
Quad Cities Pollinator Conference	5
May Show Me/Help Me Recap	6-7
Mentor Program	8
Board in Action	8
Found Coat	8
Membership	9
Chapter Calendar	9
Chapter Contact Information	10



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



All articles for the August 2015 newsletter, must be submitted to: Constance@wildonesrrvc.org by August 23, 2015.

Members Only Evening Social and Yard Tour Thursday, July 16, 2015

Location: The home of Claudia and Steve Fleeman
4411 Dorset Dr.,
Rockford, IL 61114

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Members are cordially invited to our home on Thursday, July 16 at 7:00 p.m. Please bring a delicious dish to pass and a lawn chair. Iced tea, lemonade, and water will be provided. Paper plates, napkins, cups, and forks will also be provided, but feel free to bring your own eating utensils if you prefer.

Our property is nestled behind rows of old cedars and backed by pine and fir trees. The front yard slopes into a basin and is populated by prairie forbs, grasses, and sedges, with a 7 foot tall, 6 foot wide *Eupatorium purpureum* (Joe-Pye weed) as the centerpiece. After waiting for four years, the Michigan lilies started from seed are beginning to bloom. The backyard is shaded by pine, maple, and oak trees, and is planted with woodland natives.

There is an organic vegetable and fruit garden on one side of the house. This is where most of my experiments have taken place this year. By interspersing this area with native plantings, I am hoping to attract more native beneficial insects and pollinators. So far, the pumpkin, cucumber, and watermelon vines seem less bothered by pests.

As an artist with an engineering background, I see the native plantings in my yard as a collection of visual puzzles to be arranged in optimal aesthetic formations. But it is the jewel box of bees, spiders, beetles, moths, and butterflies that native plants attract which keeps me really hooked. The fireflies are my favorites, so stay until the end to see the light show, courtesy of the fireflies.

Members only (i.e., members plus partner, significant other, friend, etc.)

Dorset Dr. is off Alpine Rd., four streets north of Spring Creek Rd. From Alpine Rd. turn west onto Dorset Dr. Our house is the second house from the corner on the south side of the street. (Note: Dorset Dr. is across the street from Old Lyme Dr.) Park along the street on either side. Please do not park in the driveway.

For more information, please contact me, your friendly Show Me/Help Me chairperson, at 815-985-5158 or claudia@wildonesrrvc.org



Message from the Co-President Ginny Watson



Ginnie Watson

photo by Jon McGinty

Wild Ones members tend to be industrious folk. Full time workers, retired, or otherwise occupied, we find time to tend our native gardens or natural areas with an eye to turning over ever more lawn space to natives. As busy as we are, many of our members, individually, spend precious hours away from their yards working as Master Naturalists or volunteers for other outside native plant projects. Wouldn't it be incredible if our chapter could harness some of that

energy to work on a project...together?

It just so happens I know of an important project in development right now. It would provide a way to live our mission, as well as follow through on our continuing focus on monarch conservancy. Jamie Johannsen, Director of Marketing and Community Relations for the Forest Preserves of Winnebago County (also our Program Chair) and Kerry Leigh, Executive Director for the Natural Land Institute, have been discussing a collaboration of their two representative organizations on a grant application for the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Monarch Butterfly Conservation Fund.

According to Jamie, "A major goal of the NFWF program is to increase capacity and coordination among organizations engaged in increasing the quantity and quality of monarch habitat, including milkweed seed blend production and distribution, and restoration of nectar plants." To that end, NLI and FPWC plan to "write a grant proposal for habitat enhancement at one NLI site and one FPWC site."

Jamie continues, "Since natives seed collecting and propagation would be a major part of the project, and since it is an excellent fit with Wild Ones' national focus on monarchs, I am hoping that Wild Ones RRV might agree to being a supporting partner



Jamie Johannsen,
Director of Marketing
and Community
Relations for the
Forest Preserves of
Winnebago County

in this project. Wild Ones RRV could participate by providing technical expertise on milkweed propagation, and Wild Ones members might volunteer to do some of the collecting and propagating at the FPWC greenhouse and at the NLI greenhouse."

This is a chance to provide more than just lip service to concerns for the monarch as well as other pollinators, and to get in at the very start of a project that will increase habitat for and viability of the monarchs that depend on our area for sustenance. If you are interested in helping our chapter get behind a great project to increase the

"quantity and quality of monarch habitat", get in touch with Jamie Johannsen at Jamie@WildOnesRRVC.org and tell her that you are ready to do your part to help save this magnificent species.

If we join forces and come together as a chapter to work on a single project, just think what we could accomplish!



Monarch Butterfly, photo taken by Jamie Johannsen

June Meeting Recap Jerry Paulson

photos by Pat Hollingsworth

Propagating Conservative Native Plants



At the end of Rob Sulski's talk about Propagating Conservative Native Plants, on June 18, he thanked our chapter of Wild Ones for asking him to speak about his work as a steward with the North Branch Prairie Restoration Project because it forced him to put what he has learned from many years of experimenting into a program that he can share with other people.

"I'd rather be poking in the dirt than sitting at a computer putting together a slide show," he said. We're happy that he took the time away from propagating native plants long enough to share with us his vast knowledge of native plants, and advice on how to grow them.

Rob started learning about native plants when he was a student at Glenbrook North High School in Northbrook. He was recruited to help Marion Cole, a legend in the early days of the prairie preservation movement in the Chicago area, to help manage the 1.5-acre remnant of mesic black soil prairie that was on the high school property. This rare prairie remnant was later made into an Illinois nature preserve, and Rob returned many years later to take over the stewardship of the site. By then he was a water pollution control engineer with the Illinois EPA, and put his science skills to work growing native species to plant in the buffer area next to the prairie.

He got an IEPA grant to clear brush from a wooded area by the prairie and to restore a construction site that had disturbed the soil nearby. He worked with volunteers from the North Branch Prairie Restoration Project to collect seeds from nearby remnants along the Chicago River, and from native seed gardens in the area, to plant in the cleared and disturbed soils. But, as Rob explained, that was no easy task.

Rob told us about seed collecting, and how to catch seeds from pods that explode and propel seeds into the air, like violets; how to store the seeds so they don't mold or wind up eaten by mice or insects; and how to process the seeds and sow them in the field or in flats. The best time to sow seeds in the field is in the fall when there are fewer rodents and birds, after a burn and before the first or second snowfall.

But growing seeds in flats and containers is tricky. Seeds

that mature before July 1 need to be stored in moist soil and allowed to sprout before putting them into a cold treatment over winter. Seeds that mature after July 1 should be stored in moist soil in sealed plastic bags and kept cold (33° F) over winter. You can sow the seeds directly into flats and keep them outside during the winter, but they need to be protected from extreme cold and rain by covering with filter fabric, leaves, or mulch, or put into a cold frame.

When the seeds were taken out of storage in the spring, they were either planted in the field or in backyard native seed gardens, or grown into seedlings and transferred into pots. Rob used interns and volunteers to help him put the plants into the ground in his restoration projects. He used a power auger to drill the holes to speed up the planting process. He quickly learned that some of the plants were dug up and eaten by squirrels and rodents, and thus had to be protected by wire cages. Squirrels like to eat the bulbs and corms of lilies, violet wood sorrel, and yellow star-grass. He also learned that weevils didn't eat all the Baptisia seeds in pods on plants that were grown in gardens, and that some plants produce more seeds when they are grown in pots.

Using his engineering and science background, he took on the challenge of propagating the hard-to-grow, conservative species that are usually not found in prairie restorations. He studied the natural conditions where each species grew, checked the research literature, and experimented with different propagation methods.

He found that early seeders like *Phlox*, *Viola*, *Panicum*, *Carex*, *Heuchera*, *Dodecatheon*, *Oxalis*, and *Oenothera*, grew better if seeded in the same pot as the parent plant. These species needed a warm-cold-warm treatment to germinate, just like in nature. The seeds can be stored in moist soil in an open plastic bag until the fall, and then sown into the field along with other seeds. Prairie lily seed requires two cold treatments, and the seed from *Hepatica* takes two years, or two cold treatments to break dormancy.

The hardest species to grow are those that are hemi-parasitic on other plants, like *Comandra*, *Pedicularis*, *Polygala*, and *Castilleja*. After some experimentation, Rob learned to put the seeds of these species into the same flat or pot with seeds from the host plant. Often a common grass could be used as a nurse plant. The sprouts of the hemi-parasite would grow into the seedling of the host plant. The unripe, green seeds of *Comandra* worked the best.

He also figured out how to cause fire-dependent seeds like *Ceanothus* and the rare *Geranium bicknellii* to

June Meeting Recap (cont'd)

germinate by building a small fire pit, putting the seeds in the bottom and burning a fire in the pit for one hour. The fire broke the seed coat and the seeds germinated after being overwintered in moist soil.

Since retiring from the IEPA, Rob has started his own sustainable stormwater management company that

helps homeowners and housing associations install and manage rain gardens and native landscapes in subdivisions. He continues to consult with the volunteer stewards and native plant gardeners of the North Branch Prairie Restoration Project, and to manage the Glenbrook North High School Prairie.



Ron Cress (right) and Jack Armstrong (rear) with the speaker



Cynthia Chmell, Mary Anne Mathwich & Maggie Kincaid

Quad Cities Pollinator Conference Barbara Williams

The first Quad Cities Pollinator Conference was held June 10 and 11, 2015 in Rock Island, Illinois to discuss threats to pollinators and to look for ways to reverse some of the recent declines in pollinator populations. The major sponsors of the event were the U.S. Fish and Wildlife service and the Nahant Marsh Education Center.

The turnout was impressive, with 270 participants registered. Speakers and participants ranged across the whole spectrum of interests and involvement, including backyard beekeepers, gardeners, landowners, nature educators, state and federal park and refuge managers, farmers of all scales, native plant advocates and growers, as well as agricultural chemical companies.

The keynote speakers were May Berenbaum from the University of Illinois addressing the evidence for, and impact of, pollinator declines, and John Phipps, writer and commentator for U.S. Farm Report, speaking on the challenges of communication between the widely differing interest groups that have a stake in the health of our pollinators and who have impacts on the populations of pollinators.

About twenty additional speakers presented short programs during the two days on their special areas of interest and expertise, ranging from restoration ecology, stormwater management systems, cutting edge farming techniques, creating filter and buffer strips using prairie plants, land conservation practices, pollinator-friendly landscapes in agricultural and urban settings, surveying native bee populations, plant-pollinator relationships and designing pollinator support plantings.

Several of the sessions dealt directly with honey bee culture, including the latest honey bee research, beekeeping techniques, honey bee diseases and parasites, as well as honey bee hive management and ways that honey bees and wild bees interact with each other.

Ms. Mariposa (a.k.a. Rhonda Brady) was in attendance with the Butterfly Bus, a traveling classroom used to teach about monarchs, milkweeds, and the ecosystems that support them. Fifteen other exhibitors had tables with



handouts and information about their organizations. They included the local Sierra Club, Trees Forever, the Women, Food and Agriculture Network, local Soil and Water Conservation Districts, several native plant nurseries, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the Tallgrass Prairie Center from the University of Northern Iowa.

Doug Helmers of the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program presented an outline of a program currently underway to create a patchwork of monarch habitats spanning Iowa on private lands. The program concentrates on a swath of land 100 miles wide and centered on Route 35, which runs north and south through the center of Iowa. The goal is to give migrating monarch butterflies a “stepping stone” pathway to move through Iowa in safety.

Several speakers discussed Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management, a program that has been used with great effect in Iowa. Half of Iowa’s counties participate in IRVM programs to reduce mowing and erosion and to create more beautiful and wildlife-friendly roadsides. Pipeline and electric line rights-of-way are also being planted in pollinator-friendly mixes of prairie plants and other natives.

The goal of the conference was to provide an opportunity for knowledge-sharing, open dialogue, networking opportunities, and pollinator-related exhibits. I believe that we all left the conference with new-found knowledge, a well-rounded understanding of pollinator problems and successes, and the desire to help support pollinator health and encourage others to do the same.

May 2015 Show Me/Help Me

Claudia Fortucci-Fleeman

This year's first Show Me/Help Me took place in Kingston. Fourteen members attended. We met up at Walnut Grove Farm in front of a large red barn where one of our Wild Ones, Ron Cress, introduced us to Gene Heinsohn, the farm's benefactor. Gene is a man with a big heart and an intense sense of purpose. He explained that the mission of the farm is to provide a place where people with special needs could develop skills and then use those skills to engage in work that was both meaningful and marketable. Pointing to the barn, Gene spoke of plans to renovate it in order to hold barn dances. He then guided us over to a large greenhouse that was being assembled. Native plants, vegetable seedlings, and a crop of mums would be grown there. To the north of the greenhouse, a fruit orchard was in the works. To the south, a stretch of land would alternate between pasture for livestock and vegetable gardens. Next to the house, native plants, vegetables, and flowers could be sold from a stand. The outbuilding would



Ron Cress introduces Walnut Grove Farm's benefactor, Gene Heinsohn



Construction of the Walnut Grove Farm Greenhouse

be outfitted for wood and metal working shops. Because each individual's abilities will differ, a variety of skills are being considered: welding, farm machinery repair, crop farming, animal husbandry, mowing, pulling weeds, canning, and baking. Gene Heinsohn is coming at this task with a lot of life experience. He is a high school welding instructor, a farmer, and a father of a young man with special needs.

Next, Ron led us across the fields to the eight acres that he is transforming into native prairie. A portion of this acreage gently slopes towards a winding creek and is populated with old growth bur and chinkapin oaks; the remainder has been used as a soybean field over the years. This April, Ron and his team of volunteers planted, then painstakingly protected with hardware cloth, American plum, pecan, walnut, Kentucky coffee, and Eastern wahoo trees, and button bush shrubs. Forb and grass seedlings have been planted in the bean field, including several trays obtained through the Wild Ones grant program. Karen Matz recently planted Culver's root seedlings in the field. The seedlings were thriving. Very few weeds were present. However, too wet to cultivate for farming, the acreage along the creek was not tilled or sprayed over the years and consequently became populated with reed canary grass. In April, Ron Cress and his team worked from morning to nightfall on a burn to eradicate it. Now, just six weeks later, the reed canary grass was knee high and dense. It did not seem possible for grass to grow so aggressively; it was as if this stretch of land had been taken over by maniac invading plants from outer space. Ron is continuing to research the most reliable and environmentally sound methods



Ron Cress talks about the progress of the Walnut Grove Farm prairie habitat effort with the group

May 2015 Show Me/Help Me (cont'd)



Tom Hartung in knee-high reed canary grass

for controlling and eradicating reed canary grass and says it may take two to four years to win this battle. Ron Cress needs volunteers to help with his prairie initiative and Gene Heinsohn needs volunteers with some knowledge of building, construction, and plumbing. If you would enjoy getting your hands a little dirty for a good cause, please contact Ron Cress at roncress@earthlink.net.

For the day's finale, we drove to South Branch Prairie to meet up with Al Roloff, Natural Resources Manager for the DeKalb County Forest Preserve District. We were truly fortunate to have this opportunity. Standing in the wetland prairie, waving his hands through the air like a maestro conducting his orchestra, Al enthusiastically gave us a recounting of the South Branch restoration. In December of 2011, starting with what was previously a cornfield and consequently a reduced weed seed bank, a drill-and-seed operation was undertaken by Al and his team. The top few inches of the soil were frozen at the time, allowing access for heavy machinery, but they had to seed the wettest areas by hand. This was followed up with hand seeding of the entire prairie every winter. He went on to explain the upkeep of the prairie, emphasizing the need to be constantly vigilant against invasive species, and hand pulling or painstakingly applying Rodeo Roundup to each weed with a cotton glove pulled over a nitrile glove (what Al refers to as "the glove of death"). He pointed out that leopard frogs, garter snakes, 14 species

of mussels, and 130 native species of plants now inhabit the prairie. Leading us into the center of the prairie, he identified angelica, Turk's cap lily, water plantain, brown fox sedge and reed manna grass, speaking about each species at length.



Al Roloff recounts the South Branch Prairie restoration



Al Roloff leads the group into the South Branch Prairie

The group then drove to Russell Woods Forest Preserve and had a picnic lunch. Members of the Russell Woods volunteer crew made sure that the Resource Center facilities were open specifically for the Wild Ones. Several members from our group wandered up there to browse through their display and visit with their giant land turtle.

Wild Ones thank Ron Cress, Gene Heinsohn, Al Roloff, and the staff at Russell Woods for helping to make this event a memorable experience.

Mentor Program Update Melanie Costello

It's not too late to get some advice from a Wild Ones mentor! Even later in the growing season, a mentor can be a valuable resource. This is especially true if you are contemplating adding some trees or shrubs to your yard, as the chapter tree and shrub sale is starting soon. This is one of the great benefits of your Wild Ones membership. To request a mentor, or to volunteer to be a mentor, contact Melanie Costello at melanie@wildonesrrvc.org or 815-751-1583.

Board 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 June 11, 2015 meeting, include the following:

- Both plant sales, woodland and prairie, have concluded, with another successful year of moving thousands of native plants out to people in northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin. A wider variety of plants was available this year, and several new customers, along with many returning customers, purchased plants.
- A Transition Committee has been created to help the chapter with the process of evolving to a policy board, with the purpose of conducting chapter business more efficiently and effectively.
- The chapter is actively looking for persons to fill the volunteer positions of Woodland Plant Sale Coordinator, Prairie Plant Sale Coordinator, Volunteer Coordinator, and photographers.
- The chapter's annual members-only Evening Social and Potluck will be July 16 at the home of Claudia and Steve Fleeman, 4411 Dorset Dr. in Rockford.

- The next board meeting will be Thursday, August 13 at 6:00 p.m., at Thunder Bay Grille, 7652 Potawatomi 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.**



This coat was left at the May meeting. The owner can call Ginny Watson at 815-398-0138.

Membership Application/Renewal



Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City, State, Zip: _____
 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 membership category:

- Household Membership
- Household Lifetime Membership
- Professional Educator Membership
- Not-for-Profit Affiliate Organization Membership
- Associate Membership (limited income/student)
- Business Membership
- Gift Household Membership

Wild	Wilder	Wildest
<input type="checkbox"/> \$37	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100+
<input type="checkbox"/> \$1500 (Or 3 annual payments of \$500)		
<input type="checkbox"/> \$90	<input type="checkbox"/> \$120	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150
<input type="checkbox"/> \$90	<input type="checkbox"/> \$120	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150
<input type="checkbox"/> \$20		
<input type="checkbox"/> \$250	<input type="checkbox"/> \$600	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1,200
<input type="checkbox"/> \$37	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100+

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: \$ _____

Please make your **check payable** to **Wild Ones** and mail it to:

I have enclosed \$ _____ to start/ renew my membership for _____ year(s).

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

Membership Update 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!

NOTICE:

Members, please be aware that membership renewal processing will be a bit delayed during the first two to three weeks of July so that the Membership Chair can have a knee replaced. Your patience is greatly appreciated!

222 memberships as of June 23, 2015

Welcome to our new members!

- Ruth Wheaton Cox, Rockford, IL
- Virginia Rous, Rockton, IL
- Charles Sewell, Poplar Grove, IL
- Elizabeth Wolden & Eli Vasilopoulos, DeKalb, IL

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

65 attended the June meeting, including 12 guests.

A big thank you to our June meeting volunteers!

- Greeters:* Janaan Lewis, Shey Lowman
- Refreshments:* Anita Johnson
- AV/Sound Equipment:* Bob Arevalo
- Meeting Recap for the Newsletter:* Jerry Paulson
- Photographer:* Pat Hollingsworth
- Library Assistant:* Barbara Flores

Anniversaries

Congratulations to this month's loyal members!

20 Years

John & Kim Lowman Vollmer, South Beloit, IL

15 Years

Dianne Stenerson, Rockford, IL

10 Years

Daniel Riggs, Klehm Arboretum, Rockford, IL

5 Years

- Cathy Johnson, Rockford, IL
- Tracey Kast, Rockford, IL

It is preferred that renewal memberships be sent directly to the chapter for quicker processing and to avoid delays in receiving your chapter newsletter. Remember, your dues include membership in both National Wild Ones and our chapter. 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 from the chapter 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. Email or call 8156270343 if you have any questions about membership.

Thirty percent of all dues paid (about \$11.10 per membership) 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 continuing sup

2015 Chapter Programs and Events

July 16 7:00-9:00 p.m.	Members only Summer Evening Social & Potluck Tour of Native Landscaping	Home of Claudia Fleeman	4411 Dorset Dr. Rockford, IL 61114
August 20 7:00-9:00 p.m.	Permaculture for Native Gardeners	Judy Speer	Rock Valley College Woodward Technology Center
September	Native Tree & Shrub Sale Orders taken until September 26	John Peterson	815-979-8539 john@wildonesrrvc.org

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 **7/1/2015**, 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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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

Editorial Coordinator: Constance McCarthy
815-282-0316 constance@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 Coordinator:
Cynthia Chmell 815-969-7435
chmell@wildonesrrvc.org

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

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

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

Regular meetings are held the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. 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 online 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.