

Promoting Native Plants for Natural Landscapes.

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NEW!!!!
Woodland Plant Sale
See insert for more information

The Use of Native Plants in Green Roof Systems, Thursday, February 19, 2009

Location: Burpee Museum of Natural History
737 N. Main St., Rockford, IL
Time: 7:00–9:00 pm



As suburban and urban open spaces and habitats are replaced with trendy hardscaping – driveways, patios and pathways – the need to develop alternative solutions to manage storm-water, overall environmental water quality, and habitat loss becomes a top priority. Typically, shallow-substrate roof systems featuring a few selected species, including *Sedum*, are chosen for installation.

Corrine Daniels, Vice President of Applied Ecological Services/Taylor Creek Restoration Nurseries, will compare and contrast the use of a more diverse mixture of native plant species in both shallow-substrate and deeper-substrate modular and traditional green roof systems. The advantages and disadvantages of *Sedum*-dominated roof systems and diverse native-roof systems will be discussed, along with the ecological and financial benefits of biologically diverse modular green roof systems using native plants.

As winter winds down and spring is around the corner, come join us for an exciting presentation on another way to use native plants to improve the biodiversity of our communities.

This program is free and open to the public.
For more information, please contact Kim Risley at (815) 962-4584.

Submitted by Kim Risley, V. Pre.s/Program Chair



Articles for the February 2009 newsletter, must be submitted to the Newsletter Editor, at dkcamps@aol.com by March 23, 2009.

Guy Sternberg, one of our more popular presenters, gave us a sterling program in August of 2007 on the ills that befall our precious oak trees. He also presented a fine program at the 2006 Wild Ones Conference in Naperville. He very generously provided several 2 year old white oak saplings which he sprouted from acorns from the storm felled Indian Trail Tree. Guy and his wife recently donated their Starhill Forest Arboretum to a local college. An article detailing the donation recently appeared in the International Oak Society newsletter, Oak News & Notes. (see page 2 of this newsletter)

Guy Sternberg wrote two books and they are both in our Wild Ones library. They are some of the finest reference books available for trees native to North America.

Message from the President Constance McCarthy

Thoughts on Program Cancellation

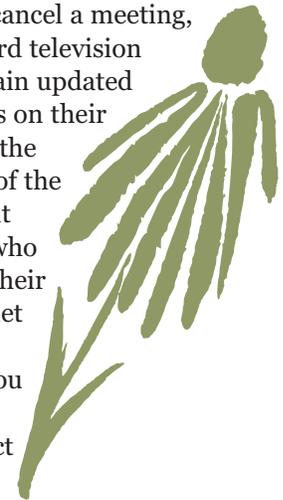
I'm sure I'm not the only one who was disappointed that our January program was cancelled. Fear not, soil lovers! This speaker will be rescheduled for another meeting later this year. The January program was cancelled because our speaker phoned us that Thursday morning with concerns about driving from Madison in the cold weather.

Although we don't have a formal policy on meeting cancellations, I'll share some of my thoughts with you. I think that as long as the presenter is planning on coming and the roads in Rockford are passable, the program will be held. Most of our speakers are coming from out of town, and I'm sure that they would let us know if they thought road conditions would be too difficult for them to make the trip.

While some members (or guests) might not want to venture out in less than rosy weather, I think that there are other folks who come to feel cooped up and look forward to a chance to shake their cabin fever. Of course,

everyone can make their own decision on whether or not to join us at Burpee. Such is life in the winter in the Midwest....

In the event that we do need to cancel a meeting, we will give notice to the Rockford television stations. I know that they maintain updated lists of closings and cancellations on their websites, in addition to running the cancellations across the bottom of the TV screen. In January, I also sent out an email to those members who have provided the chapter with their address. If you don't have Internet access, you can call me or Kim Risley (Programming Chair) if you have concerns about whether a program will be held. Our contact information is on the back of your newsletter.



Starhill Forest Arboretum Donated to Illinois College

In a formal signing ceremony on Sunday, October 26, involving representatives from Illinois College and Starhill Forest Arboretum, Guy and Edie Sternberg, founding proprietors of the Starhill Forest Arboretum located in Petersburg, Illinois, formalized their partnership with Illinois College. The Sternberg's gift will provide the college with an attractive setting for biological and environmental research, photography, student internships and other educational programming.

Axel Steuer, Illinois College President, said, "We will carry forward the Sternberg's educational vision for the Arboretum in perpetuity by creating an off-campus teaching and learning environment consistent with Illinois College educational mission of preparing young men and women for fulfilling lives of leadership and service". He continued, "We look forward to providing a beautiful venue for educating young people and the general public on trees and other plantings, wildlife and environmental issues."

Established in 1976 by Guy and Edie Sternberg, Starhill Forest Arboretum consists of 48 acres in southern Menard County, Illinois. The name Starhill is derived from the German Sternberg, which can be translated into Star Mountain. The Arboretum is centered on a hill overlooking the valley of Rock Creek, two miles upstream from the confluence with the Sangamon River. Starhill is a forest arboretum with many naturalized plantings. The Arboretum's primary scientific collection is its oak (*Quercus*) collection, which is one of the most comprehensive collections of this genus in the US, including many rare species, varieties, cultivars, nothospecies, and hybrids throughout the property and more than 100 tropical oak taxa wintered in greenhouses. A few oak trees on the property exceed 150 years of age, and several trees rank as State or County Champions.

In addition to the oak collection, approximately 150 other genera of woody plants are available for study, as well as herb and perennial landscapes, a native prairie garden, several provenance tests and a conifer plantation. Sixty species of woody plants grow spontaneously throughout the arboretum, and more than 600 additional taxa have been planted.

Guy and Edie Sternberg also have adjunct faculty positions at the college. Elizabeth Tobin, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the College, said, "The Sternbergs will provide both classroom teaching and off-campus teaching and learning experiences consistent with our intent to provide a balanced liberal arts curriculum with a broad range of quality experiential learning opportunities." She continued by saying, "Such programs will cross a broad range of academic departments at the college to include art, biology, literature and environmental studies."

Membership Update Marilyn Heneghan, Membership Chair

173 memberships on February 1, 2009

Welcome New Members

Larry & Dee Dee McPheron
Audrey S. Jansen

Carol Delheimer is on her way to be a **lifetime member**

**Special Thanks to Recent
Rock River Valley Chapter Donators**

(any amount about the \$30 basic dues)
Cindy Torrissi

Dues payments can be sent either directly to the National Office or to the Chapter Membership Chair, Marilyn Heneghan. Forty percent of the dues paid, regardless of the amount, are shared with Rock River Valley Chapter. Members wishing to make donations specifically for the local chapter, should make a separate payment or so note on their membership application under "Chapter Contribution" and mail to the Chapter Membership Chair. Dues payments, regardless of amount, are considered a donation and are tax deductible.

Note: It is preferred that renewal donations be sent directly to the Chapter's Membership Chair, Marilyn Heneghan, rather than to the national office. Processing goes quicker this way for the chapter. Your expiration date is on your newsletter and your Journal address label. Thank you.

"NEW EMAIL ADDRESSES"
Please notify Marilyn Heneghan at informationoptions@att.net when your Insight email address has changed.

2009 Chapter Programs and Events

Date/Time	Program	Speaker	Location
Feb. 7 4:00 - ? PM (later for hot chocolate by the fire!)	Almost Full Moon Walk Guided magical night hike focusing on winter nature and, hopefully, owl song. We will finish the evening by enjoying a hot cup of chocolate. Sign up now to join the fun!	Don Miller Education Director with Severson Dells Nature Center	Rock Cut State Park cabin on the lake
February 19 7:00-9:00 PM	Getting On Top of...Roof Gardens	Corrine Daniels Applied Ecological Services	Burpee Museum of Natural History
March 19 7:00-9:00 PM	The Importance of Rain Gardens	Dr. Stacy James Water Resources Scientist, Prairie Rivers Network	Burpee Museum of Natural History
Mar -Apr	Native Plant Sale Orders taken during this time	Dianne Stenerson Plant Sale Chair Kim Risley Woodland plant Ch.	
April 16 7:00-9:00 PM	Using Native Woodland Plants in Your Landscape	John Harrington Professor, University of Wisconsin-Madison	Burpee Museum of Natural History
April 21	Last Day Woodland plant orders will be accepted	Kim Risley Woodland plant Ch.	
April 28	Last Day plant orders will be accepted	Dianne Stenerson Plant Sale Chair	
May 1-2	Pick Up Woodland Plant Orders See Flyer for full details	Kim Risley Woodland plant Ch	
May 15-16	Pick Up Prairie Plant Orders (more information)	Dianne Stenerson Plant Sale Chair	
May 21 7:00-9:00 PM	Identifying Prairie & Savanna Plants	Dr. Steven Hill IL Natural History Survey	Burpee Museum of Natural History

Please check future newsletters for remaining 2009 Events and Activities
Unless noted, programs are free and open to the public. Programs are subject to change.
Please contact Kim Risley (815) 398-0138 for more information.



ROCK RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

c/o Pambi Camacho
6680 Hartwig Drive
Cherry Valley, IL 61016

Don't become extinct!

If the expiration date on the mailing label is **2/1/2009**, 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 to Marilyn Heneghan
P.O. Box 114, Roscoe, IL 61073

Wild Ones - Rock River Valley Chapter

Board of Directors

President: Constance McCarthy 815-282-0316 (kublaikhan@mac.com) *Newsletter Editor:* Pambi Camacho 815-332-7637 (dkcamps@aol.com)
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Membership Chair: Marilyn Heneghan 815-389-7869 (informationoptions@att.net)

Regular meetings are held the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm at the
Burpee Museum of Natural History, 737 North Main St., Rockford, IL

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 Membership: Family \$30, Limited Income/Full-Time Student \$20, Business \$200
Entire membership contribution is tax deductible. Contact Membership Chair for additional information or to join.

Visit our Web site at www.for-wild.org/chapters.html

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.