



PLAN IT NATIVE

LANDSCAPES CONFERENCE



Presented by Deep Roots KC | February 10-11, 2026



DEEPROOTSKC



DEEPROOTSKC



DEEPROOTSKC



Izel Native Plants

From laptop to doorstep
Let your imagination grow

Wholesale inventories from multiple growers
available at your fingertips.

Whether you need a handful of plants or a
truckload, from the Midwest to the East Coast,
Izel offers solutions.

izelplants.com
Every plant counts. Grow natives.



— M U R I E L M c B R I E N —
KAUFFMAN FAMILY FOUNDATION



Board of Directors

Margo Farnsworth
Chair

Tom Jacobs
Treasurer

Carolyn Kusmin
Secretary

Bob Berkebile

Sunny Branick

G. David Gale

Kathy Gates
Founder

Jason Jensen

Susan Lordi Marker

Marion Pierson, MD

Kristin Riott

Eric Tschanz

Planning Committee

Noel Bennion

Stacey Davis

Margo Farnsworth

Hunter Gale

Kathy Gates

Anna Graether

Brett Spangler

Eric Tschanz

A MESSAGE FROM DEEP ROOTS KC WELCOME TO PLAN IT NATIVE 2026!

Thank you for your passion and interest in native plants. At Deep Roots we say, What You Plant Matters. There is no time in history when that has meant more. We hope this conference inspires you, expands your knowledge, and prepares you to plant and maintain more native plant landscapes, both large and small!

Plan It Native 2026 spans the adjoining grounds of two valued partners, the Kauffman Family Foundation and the Missouri Department of Conservation. The path between the two spaces thrives even in the depths of winter. As our days lengthen and get warmer, the grounds of the Anita B. Gorman Conservation Discovery Center will bloom with native plant beauty throughout the growing season. Following Plan It Native, we hope you visit again and enjoy this amazing urban habitat.

Planning is already underway for Plan It Native 2027. Are you passionate about native plants and want to share your knowledge? Do you have content ideas for next year's conference? We welcome your feedback, and, if you're interested, please consider joining the Plan It Native Planning Committee. Just email hello@DeepRootsKC.org to learn more.

We'd like to thank our sponsors and volunteers, whose support makes this event possible. We'd like to also thank our speakers, many of whom traveled significant distances to join us. Together, this native plant community makes Plan It Native 2026 a truly impactful event.

Thank you, again, for joining Plan It Native 2026. Your passion is making the world a better place.

Stacia B. Stelk, Executive Director, Deep Roots KC
Denna Nachlinger, Administrator and Plan It Native Conference Coordinator

Maddie Ball, Outreach and Education Program Coordinator

P.J. Born, Land Manager

Chris Cardwell, Program Manager

Cydney Ross, Outdoor Education Program Manager

Kay Thomason, Outdoor Education and Outreach Program Coordinator

hello@deeproutskc.org | deeprouts.org | 816.301.7545

Cover Photo & Contest Winner: Great Spangled Fritillary Butterfly on Marsh Milkweed by Sally Urdang

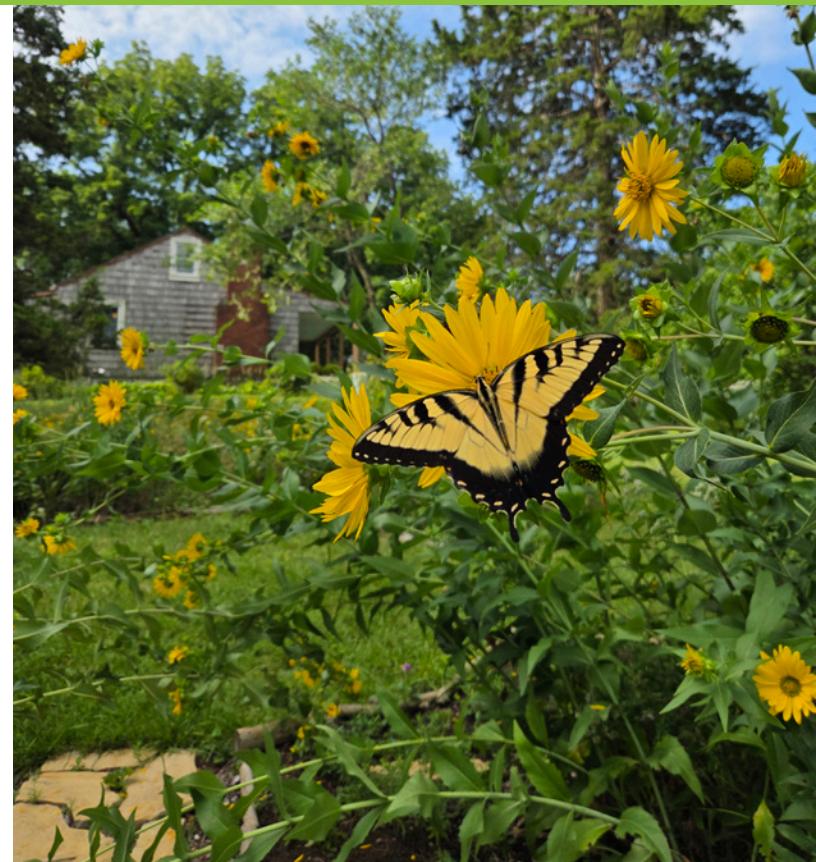


Photo contest finalists: Swallowtail Caterpillar on Spicebush, Sara Wittenberg (left); Tiger Swallowtail on Silphium, Amanda Gehin (right)

KEYNOTES



OPENING KEYNOTE CAMILLE DUNGY, AWARD WINNING POET, ACCLAIMED ESSAYIST & CRITIC

Planting Resilience, Restoration, and Joy: A Reading and Talk

In her book-length narrative *Soil: The Story of a Black Mother's Garden*, Camille Dungy blends memoir, poetry, photography, and maps to describe her family's work to create a more diverse, sustainable, and community-oriented environment, starting with the mostly native pollinator garden they plant in their own yard. In this talk she'll discuss some of the ways literature, gardening, and community engagement help her harness the twinned powers of hope and resilience as we work to build safer and more equitable spaces all around us.



CLOSING KEYNOTE DR. ABIGAIL DERBY LEWIS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CITIZENS FOR CONSERVATION

The Power of People, Pollinators and Prairies

Intentional partnership-building across sectors to advance shared goals for resilient landscapes can generate wide-ranging benefits for both people and nature. Working lands have enormous potential—not only to grow healthy food—but also to enhance ecosystem function, provide vital habitat and refuge for pollinators and birds, strengthen communities, and boost profitability. Similarly, urban landscapes are rich with opportunities to support biodiversity, ecosystem services, and human wellbeing. Abigail will share how her work offers a model that can be adapted across different landscapes. Her approach illustrates how collective action rooted in inclusive partnerships can transform not just land, but also the lives and communities that depend on it.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

| Time • Details | Location |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 7:30-8:20am • REGISTRATION & EXHIBIT HALL OPEN | Discovery Center |
| 8:30-9:15am • WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS | Discovery Center Auditorium |
| 10:00-10:50am • SESSION 1 | Kauffman Center |
| Danae Wolfe: The ABCs of Wildlife Conservation: Why We Protect What We Love | Troost |
| Luke & Linda Black Elk: Gifts That Keep on Giving: Edible and Medicinal Perennial Plants | Brush Creek |
| Jesse Nippert: How Can We Manage Deciduous Shrubs to Save Our Prairies? | Paseo |
| 11:00-11:50am • SESSION 2 | Kauffman Center |
| Dr. Liz Koziol: Restoration Below the Grassland | Troost |
| Shannon Currey: Native Grasses for Every Garden | Brush Creek |
| Stacy Passmore: Future Natures: Designing Resilient Landscapes & Policy | Paseo |
| 12:00-1:15pm • LUNCH (First Shift 12:00pm, Second Shift 12:30pm) | Town Square |
| 1:30-2:30pm • MIDDAY KEYNOTE | Discovery Center |
| Camille Dungy: Planting Resilience, Restoration, and Joy: A Reading and Talk | Auditorium |
| 2:30-2:50pm • LIGHT DESSERT AND SNACKS / EXHIBIT HALL OPEN | Discovery Center |
| 3:00-3:50pm • SESSION 3 | Kauffman Center |
| Dr. Gerardo Camilo: Grow Your Membership, Not Your Lawn | Troost |
| Erin Presley: Treecycling: Funky and Functional Ways to Conserve Woody Debris | Brush Creek |
| Mike Saxton: Transforming a Degraded Landscape – The Wolf Run Grassland Restoration | Paseo |
| 4:00-4:50pm • SESSION 4 | Kauffman Center |
| Eric Eaton: Beyond Bees and Butterflies: Embracing and Conserving Local Insects | Troost |
| Brad Guhr: Native Landscaping – Gardening with a Sense of Place | Brush Creek |
| Rita Cunha: The Art, Joy, and Science of Local Ecotype Native Seed Harvests | Paseo |
| 5:00-7:00pm • SOCIAL HOUR | Kauffman Center |

TUESDAY MENU

LUNCH

Baked Cacciatore Pasta: Baked cacciatore pasta in a red sauce served with seasonal vegetables, chicken on the side, garden salad with two dressings, and garlic bread sticks (V, VG)

RECEPTION

Chardonnay, pinot noir, cabernet sauvignon, beer
Stuffed cremini mushrooms (V)
Hummus, pita & crudités (V, VG)
Cheese assortment with crackers & fruit (V)

TUESDAY SESSIONS

SESSION 1

The ABCs of Wildlife Conservation: Why We Protect What We Love

Danae Wolfe

Conservation Photographer, Writer, and TEDx speaker

Why do some species inspire our protection while others are ignored—or worse, reviled? In this thought-provoking talk, conservation photographer and storyteller Danae Wolfe explores the psychology behind our conservation choices. Using the ABCs of Wildlife Conservation framework—Anthropomorphic, Beneficial, and Cute—we'll unpack how emotional resonance and cultural perception shape what (and who) we fight to save. From charismatic megafauna to overlooked microfauna, Danae reveals how beauty, utility, and relatability influence public support, inviting audiences to challenge their assumptions and see the hidden wonder in the miniature world beneath our feet. With vivid stories, striking photography, and a fresh perspective, this talk offers a compelling case for rethinking what deserves our care and why.

Gifts That Keep on Giving: Edible and Medicinal Perennial Plants

Luke and Linda Black Elk

Food Sovereignty Activists, Teachers

We all love perennials... they're beautiful, resilient, and reliable. But did you know that many of these amazing plants are also edible and even medicinal, offering an incredible assortment of flavors, textures, and aromas? Join ethnobotanist Linda Black Elk and farmer/forager Luke Black Elk for a discussion about some of their favorite useful perennial plants that are perfect for any garden!

How Can We Manage Deciduous Shrubs to Save Our Prairies?

Jesse Nippert

Grassland Ecologist, Konza Prairie Biological Station; University Distinguished Professor, Kansas State University

For the past half century, land managers, conservationists, and ecologists have documented the expansion of woody plants into grasslands and worked to identify solutions to this problem. While some of

these strategies have had success, most large landscapes continue to transition from grassland to shrubland or woodland. Natural areas managers need additional tools and strategies beyond a 'resist at all costs' approach to woody encroachment. This session will provide information illustrating the drivers and consequences of this phenomenon followed by potential approaches to maintain biodiversity, range production, and other key ecological services.

SESSION 2

Restoration Below the Grassland

Dr. Liz Koziol

Assistant Research Professor, University of Kansas; Co-founder, MycoBloom

Restoring native grasslands requires more than planting seeds—it depends on rebuilding the below ground microbial communities that support plant growth and ecosystem resilience. Dr. Liz Koziol will share research on transplanting remnant prairie microbes and using mycorrhizal inoculants to enhance restoration success. She will compare "nativars" and cultivars of native species, exploring how plant selection influences soil microbial relationships. Drawing on collaborative projects with NGOs and government agencies, she will highlight lessons from grassland restoration across Kansas and beyond. Attendees will learn how mycorrhizal inoculants can improve plant establishment, reduce non-native management needs, and support long-term ecosystem function with practical strategies for field-scale restoration.

Native Grasses for Every Garden

Shannon Currey

Education & Outreach, Izel Native Plants

Looking for strategies to garden smarter and boost your landscape's ecological impact? Join us to learn how native grasses can help reduce resource use, add biodiversity, and increase resilience. Offering so much more than turfgrasses can, these extraordinary plants help preserve and build the soil, reduce weed competition, and lend a host of ecosystem benefits. They're workhorses that get the job done while adding aesthetic appeal. We'll examine what makes grasses special and explore how you can use them in your landscape. And while sedges are

wonderful, grasslike plants with virtues of their own, this session will focus on true grasses. From short to tall, in shade and in sun, there's a native grass for every garden.

Future Natures: Designing Resilient Landscapes & Policy

Stacy Passmore

Principal and Co-Founder, Superbloom, a Denver-based Landscape Architecture firm

Superbloom approaches design as a practice of resilience, moving past outdated models of high-water lawns and decorative plantings toward landscapes that conserve resources, support biodiversity, and inspire connection. From transforming civic landscapes to shaping new codes that phase out non-functional turf, Superbloom's work shows how design and policy together can create more adaptive and enduring landscapes. In this session, Stacy will share lessons from projects that span scales—from civic transformations to policy frameworks such as the Denver Resilient Landscapes zoning code updates and the Denver Public Schools Sustainable Landscape Manual. Pilot projects, including the Denver City & County Building Landscape Transformation, show how design can serve as both proof-of-concept and catalyst for systemic change.

SESSION 3

Grow Your Membership, Not Your Lawn

Dr. Gerardo Camilo

Professor, Department of Biology, Saint Louis University

Backyard conservation programs have grown in popularity in the United States in the last decade as a way to provide habitat for biodiversity, combat the effects of climate change, and provide aesthetic value to the community. Yet, the vast majority of people participating in these programs were already conservation enthusiasts, i.e., "the choir." In order to expand membership, and reach a critical mass, conservation organizations must reach people who usually are not interested in gardening, may not be knowledgeable, or don't have much time for it. We identified 115 such programs in the United States. We then determined how these programs enroll and certify members; provide information and support;

and encourage outreach to non-members. Finally, we analyzed the content of the programs' websites for clarity, jargon, ease of navigation, and links to further information. In general, most websites could use significant improvements, and organizations could benefit from learning how to reach out to the non-choir. We propose the use of branding and advertising, along with simplification of messages, in order to reach potential new members.

Treecycling: Funky and Functional Ways to Conserve Woody Debris for a Healthier Garden Ecosystem

Erin Presley

Horticulturist, Olbrich Botanical Gardens

Recycling woody debris like fallen twigs, branches, and logs is foundational to nurturing a healthy garden ecosystem. Keeping woody debris onsite fosters the development of fungal and invertebrate communities to build soil, and creates habitat for birds and insects, while saving labor and resources involved with material hauling. Just in time for pruning season,

Olbrich horticulturist Erin Presley outlines easy and attractive ways to save and re-incorporate your garden's precious coarse woody debris!

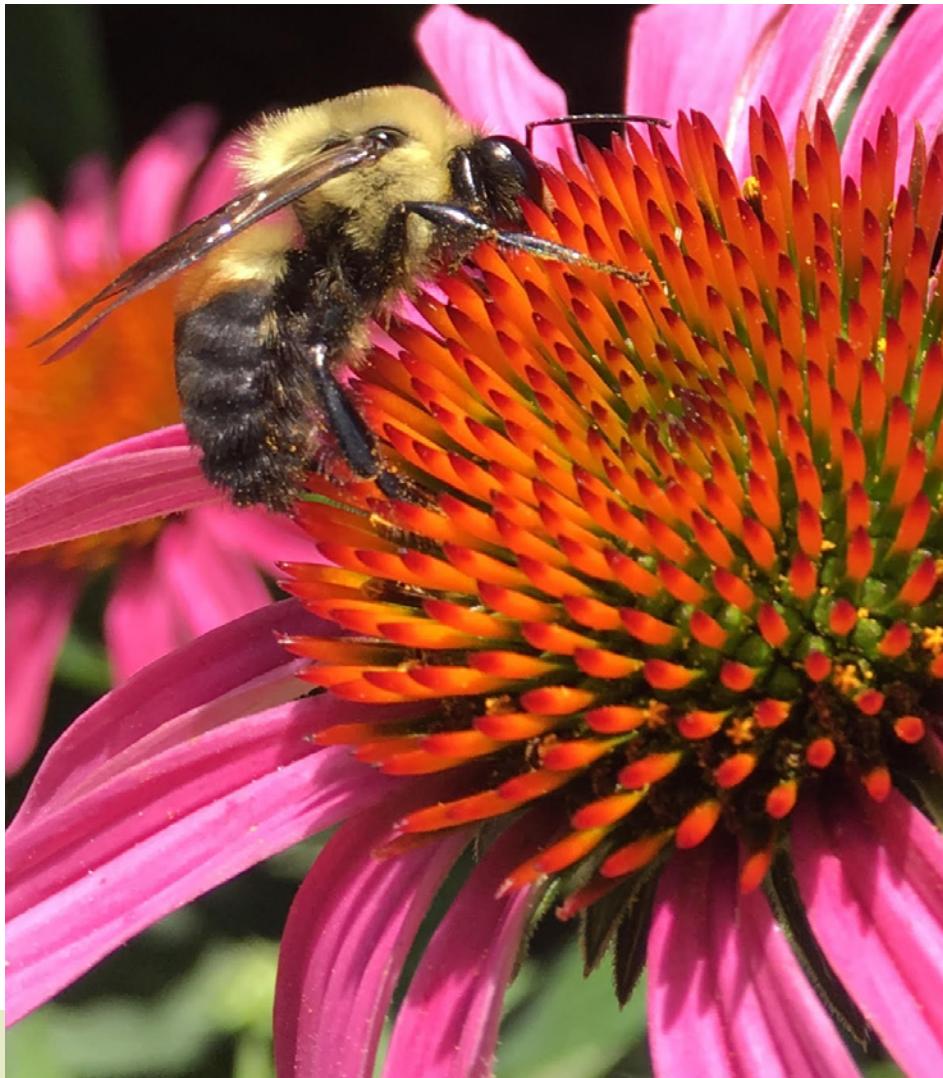
Transforming a Degraded Landscape – The Wolf Run Grassland Restoration

Mike Saxton

Manager of Ecological Restoration & Land Stewardship, Shaw Nature Reserve through December 2025; Executive Director, Nachusa Grasslands January 2026

In 1960, 120 acres of open ground at Shaw Nature Reserve in Gray Summit, MO was allowed to "go back to nature" through old-field succession. The land became a thicket of eastern red cedar and invasive shrubs. In 2021, the Reserve set out to restore this area to ecological health. After logging and years of stump removal, drone spraying and seed addition, the land was transformed into a diverse array of open woodlands, oak savanna and diverse prairie. This success story suggests that even the most forlorn areas can be restored to vibrant, healthy landscapes.

Photo contest finalist: Bee on Echinacea, Jim Pascoe



SESSION 4

Beyond Bees and Butterflies: Embracing and Conserving Local Insects

Eric Eaton

Author

In this age of insect decline, it is of paramount importance to rewild landscapes to promote biodiversity and abundance. Focusing on ecological relationships is key, along with expanding the community of citizen scientists. The most important action you can take is one that no one talks about.

Native Landscaping – Gardening with a Sense of Place

Brad Guhr

Education / Prairie Restoration / Concert Series Coordinator, Dyck Arboretum of the Plains

Creating a native plant landscape is a journey, not a destination. It's a process that connects you to the local environment and makes a statement about your style and values. This presentation will show you how to start, establish, and maintain a native landscape that becomes more resilient and beautiful over time. As your landscape matures, it will attract a diverse array of wildlife and contribute to the conservation of local soil, water and biodiversity. Whether you're planning a small garden bed or a large habitat restoration, you'll learn effective strategies to restore the land and deepen your connection to the place you call home.

The Art, Joy, and Science of Local Ecotype Native Seed Harvests

Rita Cunha

Native Seed Technician, Conservation Blueprint

There's a growing demand for native seed and vendors across the country are working hard to bolster the supply. For one company in Nebraska, that means hand collecting seed from wild populations on privately owned high-quality grassland remnants. It's a seemingly simple strategy that comes with unique challenges: What species do we need to focus on? How many pounds should we target, and how do we do it sustainably? How do we develop relationships with private landowners so we can harvest seed from their grasslands? During this presentation, native seed technician Rita Cunha gives attendees a peek into the seed harvesting process — from the early planning stages to the work in the field and beyond.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

| Time • Details | Location |
|---|-------------------------|
| 8:00-9:00am • EXHIBIT HALL OPEN | Discovery Center |
| 9:00-10:00am • INTERACTIVE EXPERIENCES / EXHIBIT HALL | Discovery Center |
| 10:15-11:05am • SESSION 5 | Kauffman Center |
| Dana Ripper: From Seed to Sky: How Native Plants Fuel Bird Life Year-Round | Troost |
| Shannon Currey: Native Plant Solutions: Managing Water in Your Landscape | Brush Creek |
| Elizabeth Steele: Successfully Establishing Native Plantings | Paseo |
| 11:15am-12:05pm • SESSION 6 | Kauffman Center |
| Dr. Gerardo Camilo: Bees in the City: Natives are Better | Troost |
| Brad Guhr: The Urban Plant Palette: Natives, Nativars, and Adaptable Choices | Brush Creek |
| Kate Austin: Keeping It Green: Designing & Planning for Green Infrastructure Maintenance | Paseo |
| 12:15-1:30pm • LUNCH (First Shift 12:15pm, Second Shift 12:45pm) | Town Square |
| 1:45-2:35pm • SESSION 7 | Kauffman Center |
| Kristen Baum: Supporting Monarch Resilience: The Role of Native Plants | Troost |
| Erin Presley: Nurturing Vibrant Garden Communities at Olbrich Botanical Gardens | Brush Creek |
| Julie Copley: Igniting Collaboration: Expanding Capacity for Good Fire | Paseo |
| 2:35-3:00pm • LIGHT DESSERT AND SNACKS / EXHIBIT HALL OPEN | Discovery Center |
| 3:15-4:05pm • CLOSING KEYNOTE | Discovery Center |
| Dr. Abigail Derby Lewis: The Power of People, Pollinators, and Prairies | Auditorium |

WEDNESDAY MENU

LUNCH

Sandwich Buffet

- Roasted Turkey: House roasted turkey breast, provolone and mixed greens with a dijonnaise spread on whole grain bread
- California Chicken Club: Deli-sliced chicken breast, cheddar, bacon, lettuce, and tomato with an avocado spread on whole grain bread or as a wrap
- Portobello Wrap: Grilled portobello mushrooms, roasted red peppers, grilled asparagus & spinach with an herb aioli in a flour or lettuce tortilla wrap (V, VG)
- Served with a garden side salad (V, VG)



Photo contest finalists: Monarch chrysalis, Chris DeLong (left), Red Milkweed Beetle, Sally Urdang (right)

NOTES

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

— MURIEL MCBRIEN —
KAUFFMAN FAMILY FOUNDATION

WEDNESDAY SESSIONS

SESSION 5

From Seed to Sky: How Native Plants Fuel Bird Life Year-Round

Dana Ripper

Executive Director, Missouri River Bird Observatory

Birds and plants have been perfecting their partnership for millions of years, with migration schedules, breeding seasons, and food availability woven together in an intricate ecological dance. Even species we think of as “seed eaters,” like the familiar Northern Cardinal, rely on insect protein at critical times. Those insects, in turn, depend on the right native plants at the right time. This presentation will explore how bird migration is timed with plant flowering and fruiting cycles, and how those cycles are linked to the rise and fall of insect populations. We’ll look at how native plants outshine their non-native counterparts in supporting birds through every season - offering protein-packed caterpillars in spring, nutrient-rich fruits in summer, and

fat-laden seeds in fall and winter. Through vivid examples of standout native plant species, we’ll see exactly why these plants are ecological keystones. From fueling warblers on their long journeys to sustaining winter flocks, these plants are more than beautiful—they’re lifelines. By the end, you’ll see your yard, park, or roadside not just as a patch of greenery, but as part of a continent-spanning web that keeps our skies full of wings.

Native Plant Solutions: Managing Water in Your Landscape

Shannon Currey

Education & Outreach, Izel Native Plants

Traditionally, built structures and hardscape did the heavy lifting when it came to managing water and runoff in our landscapes. While that’s often still the case, we now recognize that plants, soils, and natural systems have a greater role to play. Not only do they provide solutions, but they also add ecological benefits and build resilience. This presentation focuses

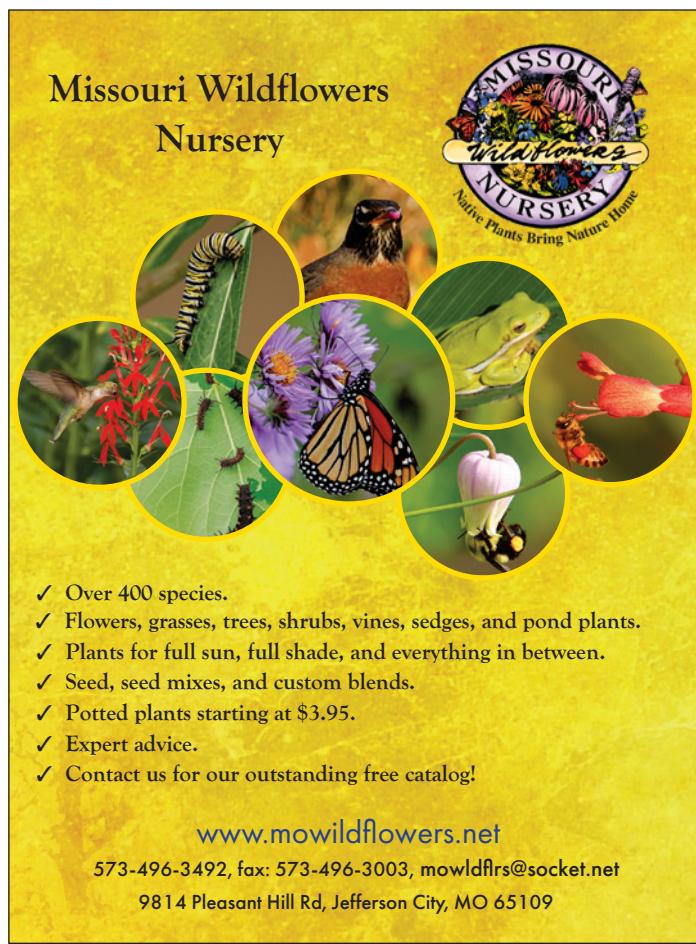
on plant-based solutions for managing the water that falls on our landscapes. We’ll discuss how we treat it and how to make plant choices that support its role as a precious resource. We’ll examine wetland indicator status as a helpful tool and then take a deep dive into a handful of specific native plants that are well-adapted for drainage areas—at the base of downspouts, in ditches, near air conditioning outlets, or anywhere that water collects. We’ll focus on characteristics and adaptations that make these plants particularly helpful. Leave the presentation with a better understanding of how plants can improve drainage and help your garden in the face of increasingly severe storms.

Successfully Establishing Native Plantings

Elizabeth Steele

Sales & Marketing, Hamilton Native Outpost

Establishing native plants from seed is not complicated when there is a plan in place.



Missouri Wildflowers Nursery

Over 400 species. Flowers, grasses, trees, shrubs, vines, sedges, and pond plants. Plants for full sun, full shade, and everything in between. Seed, seed mixes, and custom blends. Potted plants starting at \$3.95. Expert advice. Contact us for our outstanding free catalog!

www.mowildflowers.net
573-496-3492, fax: 573-496-3003, mowldflrs@socket.net
9814 Pleasant Hill Rd, Jefferson City, MO 65109

CONTAIN THE RAIN

50% reimbursement

to complete eligible landscape projects.



containtherainjoco.com

This presentation will cover establishment methods for a host of purposes ranging from restoration of prairies, glades, and savannas to wildflower meadows, wildlife habitat, and livestock forage. How do I kill the existing vegetation? Can I kill it without herbicides? Should my establishment method change based on what I want to plant? Do I drill or broadcast the seed? Are there any new ways to establish seed that I may not have heard about? Learn answers to these questions and more from Hamilton Native Outpost's 40+ years of experience establishing native plantings from seed on thousands of acres.

SESSION 6

Bees in the City: Natives are Better Dr. Gerardo Camilo

Professor, Department of Biology, Saint Louis University

Cities in general are considered biodiversity-poor due to the harsh environment, e.g., urban heat island effect and the constant disturbance. Alternatively for many insect pollinators, like bees, cities can be a refuge of sorts. Many cities can host as many bee species as restored prairies, and many times that of agricultural lands. Yet, we still don't have a full understanding of the underlying mechanism. We propose that employing native plant species for landscaping is one of the main drivers of this pattern. We sampled plants and bees in homes enrolled in a backyard conservation program in the St. Louis area for two years. Homes with native plants had significantly more bees than those with non-natives. Our results strongly suggest the important role that native plants have in providing resources to native bees.

The Urban Plant Palette: Natives, Nativars, and Adaptable Choices Brad Guhr

Education / Prairie Restoration / Concert Series Coordinator, Dyck Arboretum of the Plains

While native plants may be our first choice for urban landscapes, what happens when they aren't commercially available or are not the best fit for a specific site? A native-first approach is not always practical for urban gardeners with non-native conditions of altered soils and hydrology, site-specific microclimates, and human-centric aesthetic sensibilities. The staff at Dyck Arboretum of the Plains have spent decades helping urban gardeners try to navigate these tricky scenarios. This presentation

will explore the expanded palette of plants offered by wild-type natives, their cultivars and adaptables with an aim to help gardeners maximize ecosystem function and environmental sustainability.

Keeping it Green: Designing and Planning for Green Infrastructure Maintenance

Kate Austin

Green Infrastructure Asset Coordinator, City of Lancaster, PA

The City of Lancaster, PA has been installing and maintaining green infrastructure practices including rain gardens, porous pavements, green roofs, and constructed wetlands for over a decade, and has learned key lessons in developing a successful maintenance program that prioritizes monthly visual inspections, routine maintenance, and asset management to ensure designed infiltration rates and ecological health after years of use. In this session, Kate will discuss design considerations, long term maintenance planning, staffing and equipment investments, and lessons learned in the field that are now working to maintain 400 (and growing!) green infrastructure practices throughout the city.

SESSION 7

Supporting Monarch Resilience: The Role of Native Plants

Kristen Baum

Director of Monarch Watch; Professor, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, The University of Kansas

Monarch butterflies have experienced population declines in recent years, with habitat loss, pesticides, and climate identified as contributing factors. Recent research on monarch responses to changing conditions is discussed in the context of native plants and ways to support monarch conservation, including benefits to other insects of conservation concern.

Nurturing Vibrant Garden Communities at Olbrich Botanical Gardens

Erin Presley

Horticulturalist, Olbrich Botanical Gardens

On the shores of Lake Monona in Madison, Wisconsin, Olbrich's enchanting gardens are the culmination of relationships between the many layers of community we invite and nurture. From plants to people,

and pollinators to predators, OBG seeks to cultivate appropriate habitat for all our garden residents. In this presentation, rich photography from Olbrich's horticulturists illustrates creative and sustainable techniques used to support a flourishing garden ecosystem. Equally important is how we engage and support our volunteers, members, guests, budding gardeners and our greater community, so we can all grow better together.

Igniting Collaboration: Expanding Capacity for Good Fire

Julie Copley

Fire & Stewardship Coordinator, The Nature Conservancy - Missouri

Fire is a dynamic and essential component of almost all ecological communities. When used thoughtfully, prescribed fire promotes biodiversity, strengthens resilience, and restores landscapes. Yet despite its benefits, numerous challenges often prevent prescribed burns from happening.

In this presentation, you'll learn about approaches and collaborative strategies that The Nature Conservancy and fellow conservation stakeholders are using to put more good fire on the ground. This discussion emphasizes the power of doing things "together" for larger conservation outcomes. We'll also explore the ecological and historical significance of fire, particularly in the Central Tallgrass Prairie Ecoregion, and why it remains a cornerstone of restoration efforts.



MILLER HAMMOND CHARITABLE FUND



3 Things YOU Can Do to Help Pollinators

1 Plant Natives

Native plants are a food source for bees, butterflies, and other pollinators. Add the plants shown below to your landscape.

2 Keep it Blooming

Keep something in bloom each season. Some species bloom all year, others only in April and May, still others in July and August. Learn more at mdc.mo.gov/monarch.

3 Get Involved

Protect native grasslands, provide nesting places! To learn how, visit GrowNative.org or enjoy a guided **Native Landscape Chat** through the Discovery Center gardens every first Friday at 1pm. Bring your gardening questions and ask the experts!



NOTES

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



— Prairie Willow Sponsors —



MYCOBLOOM.COM



TAYLORCREEKNURSERIES.COM



LEAFANDSKY.COM



JOSTGREENHOUSES.COM



PRINTFOREST.COM



JCPRDFOUNDATION.ORG



REDRIVERVALLEYDESIGN.COM



BEVIREO.COM



HABITATARCHITECTS.NET



HAMILTONNATIVEOUTPOST.COM



LINDAHALL.ORG



MARC.ORG



WELLNITZTREECARE.COM



FKNURSERY.COM

NOTES

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



Sugar Maple Sponsors



HEARTLANDCONSERVATIONALLIANCE.ORG



SOWWILDNATIVES.COM



CITYROOTSNURSERY.COM



PRAIRIEBIRTHDAYFARM.COM



Aviara®

A GREENWILLOW COMMUNITY

Aviara is coming to
Liberty, Missouri in 2026,
with *nature at the heart of*
1,100 acres.



Where your dreams find an address.

AviaraLiberty.com

For the Every Green Team, protecting and restoring our environment has always been our passion. Today, Green Team volunteers continue to partner with educators, agencies, and conservation groups. To plant native vegetation. To construct new wetlands. To build nesting boxes. To recover wildlife species. It's working. Together, we've created or restored thousands of wetland acres.

The Green Team is proud to help create a greener, safer, richer environment for future generations.



everygreen.com | GreenTeam@everygreen.com



Clean streams.
Plentiful wildlife.
Healthy habitats

mochf.org



NOTES

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

MILLER HAMMOND CHARITABLE FUND



Get involved with Deep Roots throughout the year!

“This is exactly what we needed to wrap our heads around what should go where, why, and how it all fits together. You all are really onto something with this service.”

Nature Advisors

A nature inspiration and consultation service

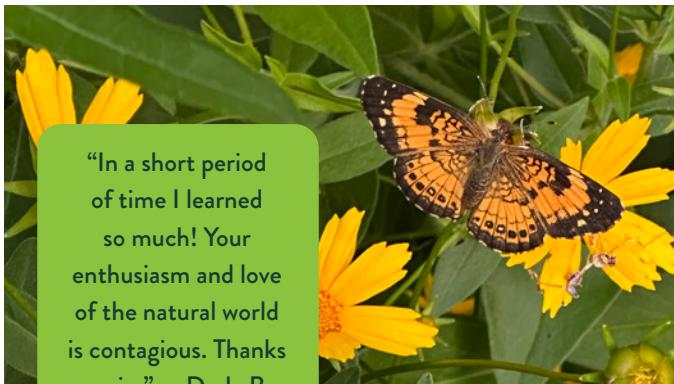
Nature Advisors volunteer consultants span the metro, meet with residents, tour their properties, and provide detailed gardening guidance in person and in a written report. Request a consultation or share your knowledge and help more people choose native plants!

MILLER HAMMOND
CHARITABLE FUND



evergy

Photo contest finalist: Pearl Crescent on Tickseed, Jes Holtz



“In a short period of time I learned so much! Your enthusiasm and love of the natural world is contagious. Thanks again.” — Darla B.

Discover Native Gardening

Hands-on gardening workshops at the Anita B. Gorman Conservation Discovery Center

Feel empowered – Enjoy Camaraderie
Learn Seasonal Skills



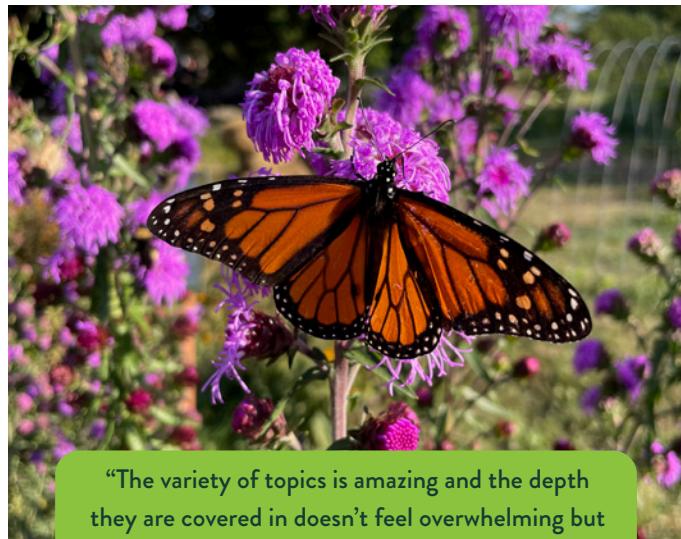
“Tours were a fantastic experience. The gardens themselves were inspiring. I met other gardeners who gave me ideas and resources to continue this native garden journey.”

Habitat Garden Tours

Join us and get inspired! Join the 2026 Habitat Garden tours for an exploration of the residential native habitats that support our birds, bees, and butterflies.

Nominate a garden, volunteer, or join a tour!

Photo contest finalist: Monarch on Blazing star, Linda Chubbuck



“The variety of topics is amazing and the depth they are covered in doesn’t feel overwhelming but really pulls you in. I appreciate so much of what is done with this show.”

Curious by Nature

Deep Roots’ native plant webinar series, Curious By Nature, brings together experts on the first and third Thursdays of each month to explore our local natural areas, answer gardening questions, and discuss all native plant need to know!

Get involved and learn more at www.deeproots.org.

NOTES

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS





Thank You to Our Sponsors!

— Bur Oak Sponsors —

— MURIEL McCBRIEN —
KAUFFMAN FAMILY FOUNDATION



MILLER HAMMOND CHARITABLE FUND

— Black Cherry Sponsors —



— Prairie Willow Sponsors —



— Sugar Maple Sponsors —

