

***SEEDLINGS, the Newsletter
of Kalamazoo Area WILD ONES
Native Plants, Natural Landscapes***

What more substantial service to conservation
than to practice it on one's own land?

--Aldo Leopold

June, 2014 — Contents

- **Wild Ones Visit TREECOLOGY, Kathy and Mike McMinn's 40-acre property and native shrub and tree nursery near Delton, Saturday, June 21**
 - **22nd Annual Spring Plant Exchange and First Annual Wild Ones Plant Sale Both Wildly Successful**
 - **Other Programs of Interest to Wild Ones**
 - **Quotations for Contemplation**
-
-



[View Restoration Work on 40-Acre Property Near Delton](#)

***Wild Ones Offer June 21 Field Trip to Treecology,
Cathy & Mike McMinn's Native Tree & Shrub Nursery***

Kalamazoo Area Wild Ones will gather at 10 a.m. Saturday, June 21, to tour the property and native-plant nursery of KAWO members Cathy and Mike McMinn near Delton. This will be the only member-yard field trip for 2014.

In 1987 Cathy and Mike McMinn moved onto 40 acres in Delton. It had been a small dairy operation until about 1970 and had become overgrown fields and young woods when they moved there. Since that time they have been working to control invasives and re-establish native species. Last year they decided to start a small native tree and shrub nursery at their home. Cathy and Mike are passionate about native plants, and all their trees and shrubs are Michigan ecotype.

Come walk the property, learn about the restoration work they've done, and see **Treecology**, their developing nursery. Wear your walking shoes. You'll see some shrubs and trees and get some advice appropriate to your property and native plantings.

Cathy and Mike will offer refreshments as well as advice and tours.

Cathy is the secretary for the Kalamazoo Area Wild Ones executive committee. She and Mike recently presented a program on "The Importance of Native Plants" for Garden Education Day at the the Kellogg Biological Station. Some of their shrubs and

trees were included in the recent very successful Wild Ones Native-Plant Sale at the People's Food Co-op.

Directions to Cathy and Mike's from Kalamazoo:

1. Take M-43/Gull Road to Richland (8 miles)
2. Turn left at light onto M-43E/N 32nd Street (2.4 miles)
3. M-43 takes a sharp right at this point. Stay to the left and go straight onto Lockshore Rd. /32nd Street. Continue onto Lockshore Rd. (2.5 miles)
4. Turn left onto Milo Road/S Norris Road (4.5 miles)
5. Turn left at 4-way stop in Prairieville staying on S Norris Rd (3 miles)
6. Turn left onto Guernsey Lake Rd. Treecology Nursery is 2nd drive on your left.

The address is 9167 Guernsey Lake Rd, Delton Mi. Look for the big brown barn with a deck on the back and the Treecology sign!

OR:

From US-131 North

1. Take exit 49A to merge onto M-89E/W Allegan St. toward Plainwell (1.1 miles)
2. Turn left onto N. Main St. (1.5 miles)
3. Turn right onto 106th Ave/Marsh Rd (5.5 miles)
4. Turn right onto Pine Rd (0.6 miles)
5. Turn left onto Pine Lake Rd (4.8 miles)
6. Turn left onto S Norris Rd. (2.7 miles)
7. Turn left onto Guernsey Lake Rd. Treecology Nursery is 2nd drive on your left.

Please join us for an educational and joyful morning of looking, learning, and relaxing with the McMinns. Introduction and tour begin at 10 a.m.

+++++

***First Annual Wild Ones Plant Sale was a Sell-Out;
22nd Annual Spring Plant Exchange an Exchange-Out***

Fine weather, fine native plants, careful preparation, and dedicated volunteers made the Wild Ones plant exchange and plant sale great successes.

Congratulations to Jeff Weiss and his plant-sale committee: the first annual Wild Ones plant sale was a **sell-out**—no leftovers and a few disappointed latecomers. So count on many more spring plant sales in years to come.

There were, unusually, very few leftovers from the plant exchange: three cup plants, three virgin's bower vines, and three black walnut saplings. That was it! We had the usual steady flow of people seeking plants, perhaps not quite so many people bringing plants. The 22-year tradition of spring plant exchanges, good food, and good company continues!

Our thanks to the wonderful crew of volunteers who helped in preparing for the plant exchange: Bruce Alden, Harry Bird, Kristi Chapman, John and Judy Dircks, Fran



The 22nd annual Spring Native-Plant Exchange. Finding better uses for driveways.

Galow, Weston Hillier, Catherine Niessink, and Paul Olexia. Thanks as well to all who helped keep people and plants moving during the day of the exchange, with special gratitude to Kathy McGoff, Neil Sikora, Judy Dircks, Ilse Gebhard, and Carol and Mike Klug.

+++++

Other Programs of Interest to Wild Ones

Monday, June 9, 9 a.m.

Heronwood Field Station of the Kalamazoo Nature Center

6378 Hart Drive

Meeting of the **Green Infrastructure Working Group**, a collaboration of Kalamazoo Area Wild Ones with the Kalamazoo Climate Change Coalition and the Kalamazoo Nature Center. For further information, contact Dave Wendling, dave.wendling47@gmail.com.

+++++

Quotations for Contemplation

More than ever before in the history of the Americas, the completion of metamorphosis by monarch butterflies may depend on how willing we are to foster a similarly dramatic

transformation in our food system and in our spiritual responsibility to the earth's creatures.
--Gary Paul Nabhan, "Metamorphosis: Monarch Butterflies, North American Foodsheds, and That Which Feeds Our Spirits"

The Marcellus shale of Pennsylvania—and New York, Ohio, West Virginia, and Maryland—is an oceanic graveyard. Those bubbles of methane trapped inside represent the bodies of marine animals, sea lilies, and squids that died 400 million years ago. But the Marcellus shale is also alive. It's an ecosystem, teeming with colonies of relic organisms—bacteria and archaea—that microgeologists call *deep life*. Deep life organisms may make up more than half of the total biomass on Earth. They play a role in the carbon cycle and may therefore play a role in climate stability. To get gas out of the shale, you have to kill them. That's one reason that fracking fluid is so toxic. It contains biocides.
--Sandra Steingraber, "Why I Am a Fracking Abolitionist" (Sandra is the author of *Living Downstream* and *Raising Elijah*; she teaches biology at Ithaca College, New York.)

You have . . . despoiled the earth, the rocks, the minerals, all of which you call "dead" but which are very much alive.
--John Lane Deer, *John (Fire) Lane Deer: Seeker of Visions* (1972)

+++++

SEEDLINGS is edited by Tom Small and appears five times a year, with a few additional brief supplements. The next regular issue, for **July-September**, will come early in July. **Deadline for submission is Friday, June 27, 2014.** Please send submissions, comments, and suggestions to Tom at yard2prairy@gmail.com. For more information and news, check us out at www.kalamazoowildones.org and www.facebook.com/KalamazooAreaWildOnes