



*(Early spring) Skunk Cabbage (Symplocarpus foetidus)*

May/June 2018

## **SEEDLINGS**

### **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

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Illustration by Amelia Hansen, *Hoary Vervain*.



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Hello **\*|FNAME|\***,

Spring blossoms are in their glory, and so is our field trip season!

Mark your calendar and bring the family out to our fun and informative outdoor events scheduled over the next couple of months.

Don't miss our Annual Plant Sale and our Spring Plant Exchange, both great opportunities to expand the native diversity of your yard and gardens.

Enjoy the fabulous weather!

*Kim Patrie*

*Associate Editor*



American Plum

# Wild Ones Native-Plant Sale

*Saturday, May 19*



***\*\*\* 2018 Featured Plants: FERNS \*\*\****

**Get all of your locally grown, pesticide free, nursery quality native trees, shrubs, wildflowers, grasses, and ferns at one convenient location in Kalamazoo. For the first time, ferns will be featured at the sale. Native plant experts will be at the sale to help you select your plants.**

Pre-orders are encouraged, but plants can be selected at the sale. All preorders will be sold at discounted prices and will be filled in the order that they are received. Some plants will sell out, so get your order in early.

We will have our “**Buyers Discount**” again with PFC. Anyone with a day-of receipt from the PFC will receive a 10% discount at the plant sale, and conversely, anyone with a day-of receipt from the plant sale will receive a 10% discount at the PFC.

**Proceeds from the sale will help Kalamazoo Wild Ones to expand our activities and programs.**

**Print Plant order forms from [Our Webpage](#).**



**WORKSHOP:**  
**MONARCH LARVA**  
**MONITORING**  
*Wednesday, May 23*



Interested in helping our lovely monarch butterflies thrive? You are invited to attend a training workshop on how to participate in the [Monarch Larva Monitoring Project](#).

The free workshop, facilitated by Ilse Gebhard, will be held on May 23, 2018 at the [Wolf Lake State Fish Hatchery Visitor Center](#). [RSVP to Ilse](#) by May 18.

*The MLMP is a Citizen Science project that aims to better understand the distribution and abundance of breeding monarchs, and to use that knowledge to inform and inspire monarch conservation.*

**Nate Fuller: Invasive Plants Field Trip**  
*Tuesday, June 5*

The follow-up field trip to Nate Fuller's April program on invasive species will take us to the Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy's Bow-in the Clouds Preserve. The preserve, a local wetland and woodland area, features improved nature trails and a boardwalk through the wetland area. Established by the Sisters of St. Joseph over 100 years ago, SWMLC volunteers and staff have cleared out areas overgrown with invasives to reveal magnificent 200-year-old oaks and hickories and remnants of an original oak savanna ecosystem in the surrounding upland areas. [Read more...](#)



## **Black Swallow Wort**

*(Vincetoxicum nigrum)*

Part of the milkweed family, this invasive vine resembles milkweed, but is toxic to monarch larva.

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## **Dave Wendling: Mosses & Ferns Field Trip** *Saturday, June 23*

Dave Wendling will facilitate this informative trip as a follow-up to his March program on the early land plants. We will visit Dowagiac Woods to see some of the common Bryophytes (Mosses and Liverworts) as well as the great diversity of ferns. We will learn how to use the [Fern Finder](#) to identify the ferns. Along the way Dave will point out some of the common Mosses and Liverworts.

[More info...](#)



*Sensitive Fern (Onoclea sensibilis)*

Photo courtesy of [Michigan Wildflowers](#). Used by permission.

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## **Plant of the Month: Skunk Cabbage**



## Skunk cabbage

(*Symplocarpus foetidus*) is a thermogenic plant; it produces heat and can melt the early spring snow it may encounter as it emerges from the cool mud it prefers. As its name implies, it emits a foul odor, which attracts early insects who covet the heat it produces, which encourages pollination.

*Skunk Cabbage with marsh marigolds in later spring; note the large leaves. See photo at top of email for interesting and beautiful early spring foliage.*

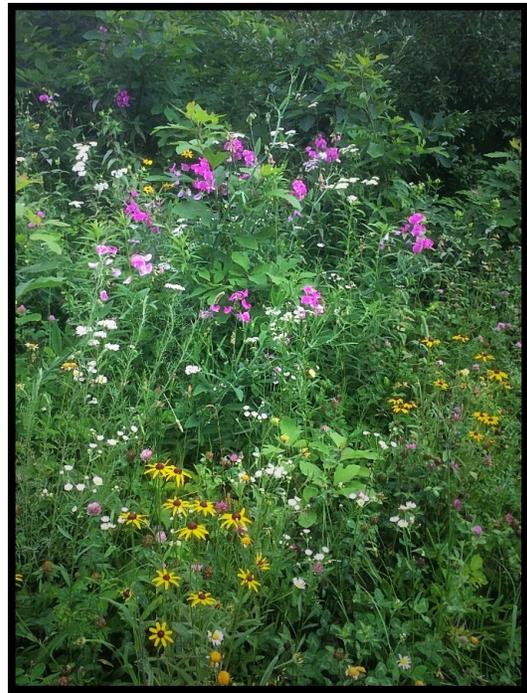
*Photo by Justin Meissen - CC BY-SA 2.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=39551029>*

## A Site Visit: Is It For You?

By **Dave Wendling**

It's spring and it's time to start thinking about a site visit. If you are a Wild Ones member and need some advice on native gardening, need to know what is growing in your yard, need to know how to control invasive plants, or need resources, we are here to help.

Whether you are a new member or an established member, we will arrange for a more experienced native gardener to visit your property as a consultant to help you decide on how to use native plants in your landscape.



We don't ask for money; our reward is seeing you succeed in creating beauty and native habitat in your yard.

If you have already had a site visit and need more help with your landscape, you can contact Dave Wendling about our mentorship program.

To sign up for a site visit, contact Dave at 269-366-8857 or [dave.wendling47@gmail.com](mailto:dave.wendling47@gmail.com). Please provide your name, phone number, and email address.



26th Annual  
Spring Plant Exchange:  
**Find New Native Plants,  
New Friends**  
*Sunday, June 3*

**Tom, Ruth, and the Wild Ones invite you to the 26th annual Spring Plant Exchange!** Held at Ruth and Tom's house, 2502 Waite Ave., Kalamazoo, on Sunday, June 3, from 1 to 5 p.m. The exchange will offer numerous plants from Tom and Ruth's gardens, as well as plants brought by other Wild Ones members and supporters. In keeping with principles we've always emphasized, it's not necessary to bring a plant in order to take one; and no plants will be for sale. [More info...](#)

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***Please Note: Change of Date for  
Fall Plant Exchange***

Due to a scheduling conflict, we've had to change the date for the Fall Plant Exchange to the same weekend as last year. We'll see you on **Sunday, August 26, from 1 to 5 p.m.**, at Tom and Ruth's house and gardens, 2502 Waite Ave., Kalamazoo.

**Please note and make the change in your calendars.**

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When we first sense that a pine tree really doesn't need us, that it has a physical life and a moral life and a spiritual life that is complete without us, we feel alienated and depressed.  
The second time we feel it, we feel joyful.

*--Robert Bly*

*White Pine photo: Joseph O'Brien <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=5309401>*

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## Community Events of Interest to Wild Ones

**June 3** - 1 to 5 p.m. - [Wild Ones 26th Annual Spring Plant Exchange](#)

Ruth and Tom's house, 2502 Waite Ave., Kalamazoo.

An exchange--no plants for sale. Limited to plants native to Michigan. Lots of information about the value of native plants to pollinators and native wildlife. Assistance in choosing plants appropriate for your property.

Your first time? No plants to exchange? Then bring some healthy snacks to share, take some plants home, and get started. Rain or shine, we proceed.

**June 6** - Michigan Federation of Garden Clubs Annual Conference, Radisson Hotel, Kalamazoo. Three Wild Ones will be presenters at the conference: Heather Catania, Ilse Gebhard, and Tom Small.

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**SEEDLINGS** is edited by Tom Small and Kim Patrie. It appears five times a year, with a few additional brief supplements.

The next regular issue, for **July-Sept., 2018**, will come early in July. **Deadline for submission is Friday, June 15.** Please send submissions to Tom at [yard2prairy@gmail.com](mailto:yard2prairy@gmail.com)

**To share comments and suggestions, simply reply to this email. We look forward to hearing from you!**

Find more information and news at [www.KalamazooWildOnes.org](http://www.KalamazooWildOnes.org)  
and [www.Facebook.com/KalamazooAreaWildOnes](https://www.Facebook.com/KalamazooAreaWildOnes)



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