



Wild Ones River City 2022 Highlights

In Memorium

Rest in peace, Carol and Steve.



Carol Phelps

Passed 7-10-2022



Ranger Steve Mueller

Passed 6-16-2022

Donation Received

Elizabeth Anna Wirgau Memorial Fund



Elizabeth Anna Wirgau was a past member of our River City chapter. Sadly, Elizabeth died June 24, 2018 as the result of an automobile accident. A **donation of \$750** from her Memorial Fund was given to Wild Ones River City this year in Elizabeth's memory.

Wild Ones River City is grateful to Elizabeth's family for this gift. Rest in peace, Elizabeth.

Zoom Chapter Programs



Ken-O-Sha: Working for Reconciliation in a West Michigan Watershed

David Warners
Director, Plaster Creek Stewards
Professor, Department of Biology
Calvin University



Managing habitat for monarch butterflies

Nate Haan, PhD
haannath@msu.edu



We started off 2022 with two Zoom programs in February and March:

FEBRUARY - ***Ken-O-Sha: Working for Reconciliation in a West Michigan Watershed*** presented by Dr. Dave Warners. 250 attended on Zoom.

MARCH - ***Managing Habitat for Monarch Butterflies*** presented by Dr. Nathan Haan. 500 attended on Zoom.

Our video library has grown with these programs as well as others for you to access on our website and our YouTube channel.

YouTube views:

2020 1,155 views of 4 videos

2021 1,548 views of 7 videos

2022 **4,156** views of 14 videos

Total views for the last 3 years: **6,859!**

Find our YouTube channel at:

<https://www.youtube.com/@wildonesrivercity>

Wild Ones Volunteering and Outreach



- **Volunteer work sessions at our Native Plant Education Garden (NPEG)** began in April and ended in October. Nine separate work sessions were held during that time frame. The number of volunteers for each session combined equals **69 volunteers** working a total of **125 hours!**



- **Collaboration with Ada Parks/Roselle Park work days**
- **Volunteers with our educational display worked booths at these events:**
 1. Two Meijer Gardens Secchia Master Lecture Series
 2. Earth Day Celebration at Manhattan Park
 3. Earth Day Lakeshore Celebration/Spring Lake
 4. Rockford Sustainability event
 5. Discover Millennium Park
 6. John Ball Zoo Party for the Planet
 7. Kent Conservation District Native Plant Sale and Workshop



In-Person Chapter Programs



May Program

Garlic Mustard Pull and creative ways to use it

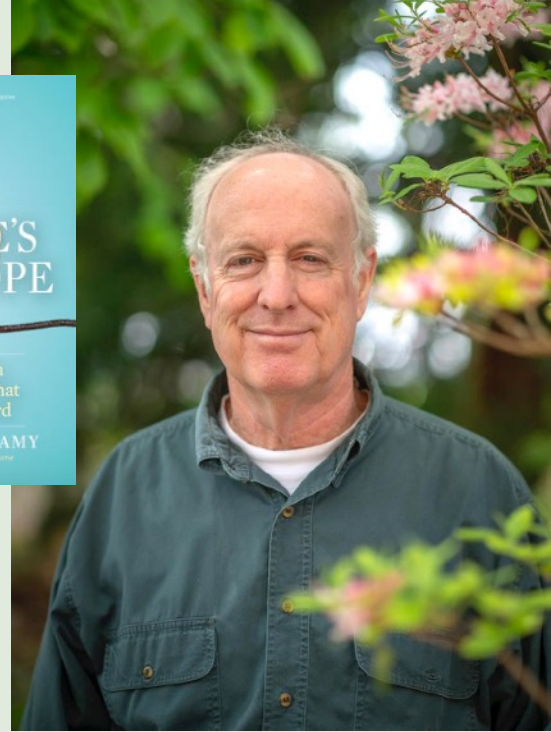
Led by Barbara Zvirzdinis, WORC Programs Chair at Rogue River Park, in Belmont.

A native plant exchange was held afterwards.

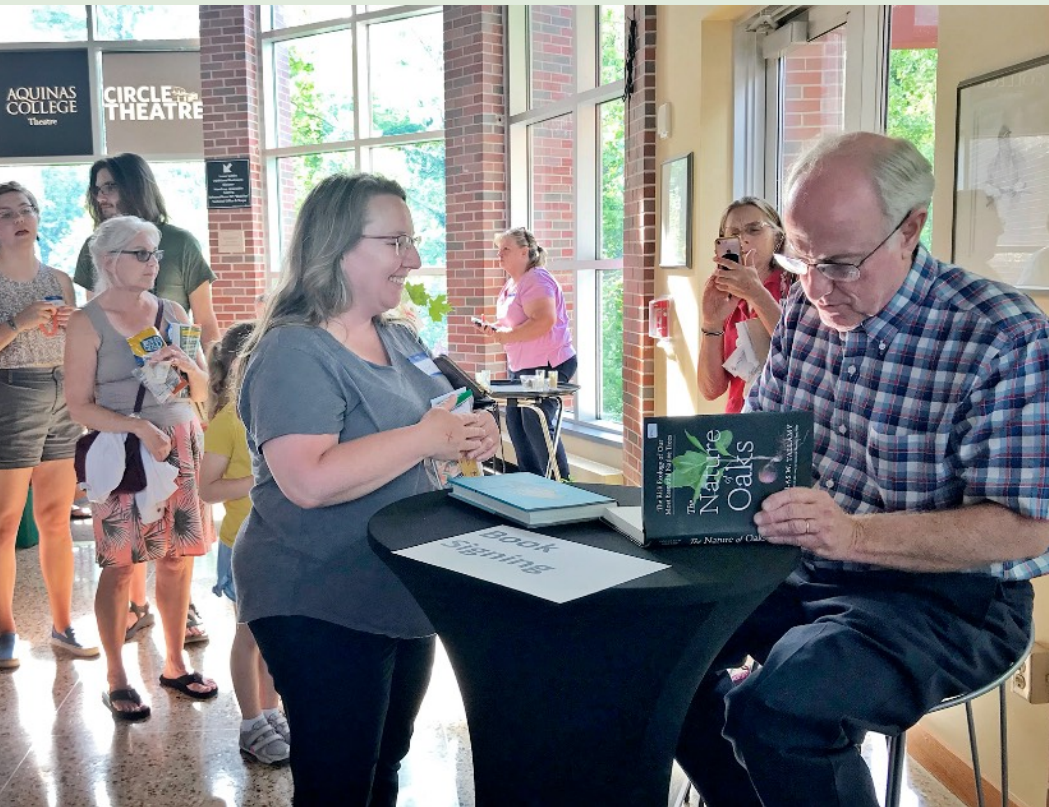


15th Anniversary Celebration

In June we celebrated 15 years of educating and advocating for native plant landscapes with an Expo with community partners and a keynote speaker at Aquinas Performing Arts Center.



Nature's Best Hope with Dr. Douglas Tallamy



15th Anniversary Celebration



15th Anniversary Celebration



A big THANK YOU to Linda Gary, Diane Lange, and Mindy Miner for planning the event!



THANK YOU to our generous sponsors for the 15th Anniversary Event



Native Plant Sales



Offering native plants for consumers and providing educational materials and enthusiastic endorsements of native plants.

- Our annual Native Plant Sale was held online in July, with pickup at the Fulton Street Farmers Market. Plant selection and coordination with the growers was done by Amy Heilman. Online ordering was managed by Ruth Oldenburg and Ann Nowak. Keasha Palmer recruited volunteers.
- Three additional native plant sales were offered in June and September. Our chapter rented booths at the Farmers' Market and we partnered with **Native Plant Guild** growers to provide a wide variety of plants and educational materials to customers at the Farmers Market.

Many thanks to Marty Arnold who coordinated these events and to the growers from the Native Plant Guild who provided the plants.

Garden Tour

In August, Wild Ones River City held a **garden tour of our Native Plant Education Garden**. The garden at 920 Cherry Street SE contains over 80 native plant species. The event attracted many visitors.

Also, a **fundraiser** for our Wild Ones chapter was held at **Brewery Vivant** across the street from the garden on the same night. Brewery Vivant donated a portion of the evening's proceeds to our chapter. ***Thank you Brewery Vivant!***



August Program

Prairie Wildflowers and Ecology

A walk at Hudsonville Nature Center with naturalist, Craig Elston.



September Program



Green Infrastructure Bus Tour

Led by Cara Decker, Stormwater Program Coordinator,
Lower Grand River Organization of Watersheds (LGROW).





2007–2022

2023 Officers



President
Linda Gary



Vice President
Linda Shuster



Treasurer
Ann Nowak



Secretary
Keasha Palmer

Welcome New Board Members-at-Large



Sue Cassidy



Chris Smith

Board Members-at-Large participate in monthly board meetings. This is an opportunity for them to familiarize themselves with the duties of officers, board members and the activities and workings of our chapter.

2023 Committee Chairs



Amy Heilman and Karyn Detmer-Babbitt, *Garden Co-Chairs*

Marty MacCleery, *Education Chair*

Betsy Ford, *Membership Chair*

Ruth Oldenburg, *Communication Chair*

Barbara Zvirzdinis and Barb Olson, *2023 Program Co-Chairs*

Linda Shuster and Kathy Stevens, *2024 Program Coordinators*

Marty Arnold, *Plant Sales Chair*