

# Fall Horticulture Seminar

Hosted By: Horticulture Committee of Austin County



**August 25, 2023**

**American Legion Post #442**

**1630 Meyer St**

**Sealy, Texas 77474**

Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid, service or accommodation in order to participate in this activity are encouraged to contact the Extension Office in Austin County at least eight days prior to the program for assistance. The members of Texas A&M AgriLife will provide equal opportunities in programs and activities, education, and employment to all persons regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation or gender identity and will strive to achieve full and equal employment opportunity throughout Texas A&M AgriLife.



## *Fall Horticulture Seminar*

*Friday, August 25, 2023  
American Legion Post #442*

*Registration – 12:30– 1:00 p.m.  
Program – 1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.*

### **Speakers and Topics:**

- |                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <b>1:00 pm – 1:10 pm</b> | <b>Welcome &amp; Introductions</b><br><i>Martha Neva, Chairman of the Horticulture Committee</i>  |
| <b>1:10 pm – 2:10 pm</b> | <b>How Native Plants Can Increase Biodiversity in Your Landscape</b><br><i>John Williamson<br/>Bluebonnet Master Gardener, and Committee Member</i> |
| <b>2:10 pm – 2:20 pm</b> | <b>Break</b>  |
| <b>2:20 pm – 3:20 pm</b> | <b>Native Pollinators</b><br><i>Master Naturalist from Gideon Lincecum Chapter<br/>(Austin, Colorado, Fayette, Lee, &amp; Washington Counties)</i>  |
| <b>3:20 pm – 3:30 pm</b> | <b>Break</b>  |
| <b>3:30 pm – 4:30 pm</b> | <b>Berries: Blue, Black, and Red</b><br><i>Stephan Janak<br/>Texas A&amp;M AgriLife Extension Program Specialist,<br/>Sustainable Fruit Project</i> |
| <b>4:30 pm</b>           | <b>Wrap Up &amp; Evaluation</b><br><i>Martha Neva, Chairman of the Horticulture Committee</i>   |

### **Program Organizers**

Horticulture Committee of Austin County

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**AUSTIN COUNTY  
HORTICULTURE COMMITTEE**

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Ian Anderson

Faye Beery

Jeri Berckenhoff

Pete Berckenhoff

Freddie Engelbrecht

Renee Kofman

Carey Kokemor

Garry Kroeger

Charlotte Leissner

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Martha Neva

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John Williamson

Lenore Williamson

# THANK YOU SPONSORS!





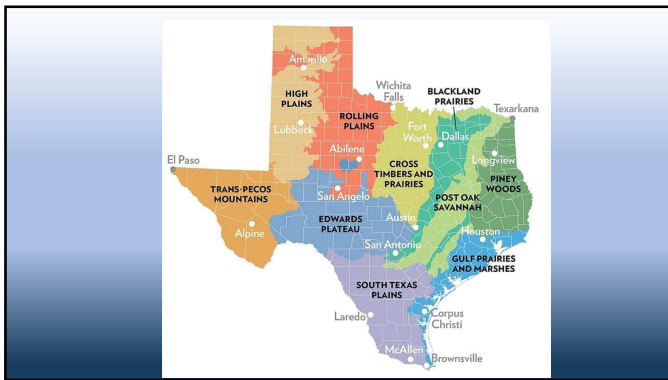
## How Native Plants Can Increase Biodiversity in your Landscape

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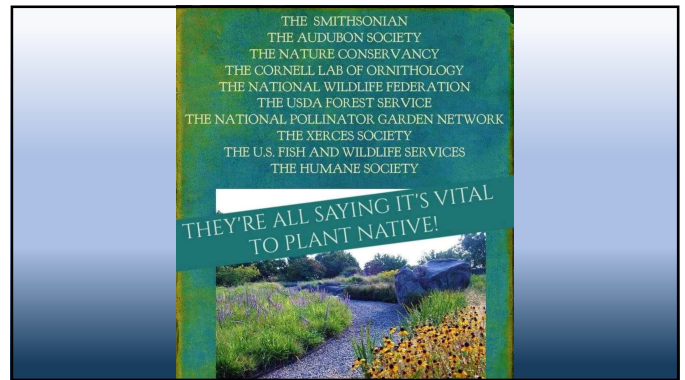
### Native Plant Definition

- Plants that existed before Europeans started settling North America
- *Easiest definition ever!*
- They have evolved over thousands of years with native insects, birds and other wildlife and are their food sources and living environments.
- Native Plants range from ground covers and mosses to massive canopy trees and everything in between.
- Add in **planting zones** (8b) and **ecoregions** (34a – Northern Humid Gulf Coast Prairies) to focus on the best native plants for your area.

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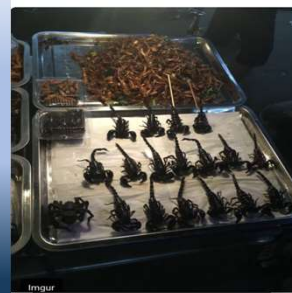
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### To increase biodiversity use native plants

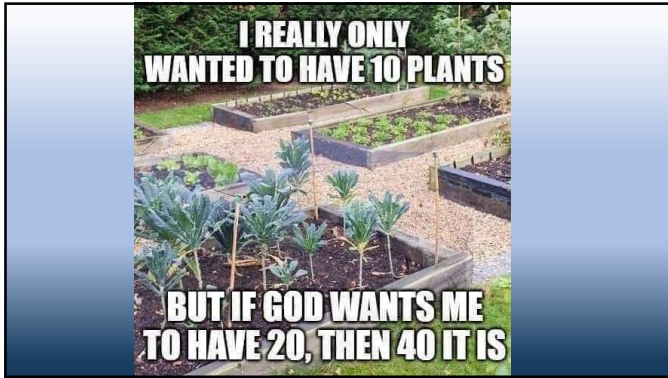
- Ornamental plants are beautiful and can offer a great visual accent
- **BUT** they are from all over the world - 30% max is recommended
- Local insects and wildlife don't use/feed on non-native plants. You can have a beautiful yard but it's less benefit to these insects and wildlife.
- Native plants are better for insects and wildlife

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### PEOPLE IN THAILAND EAT FRIED SCORPIONS



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### What's in it for you to plant Native?

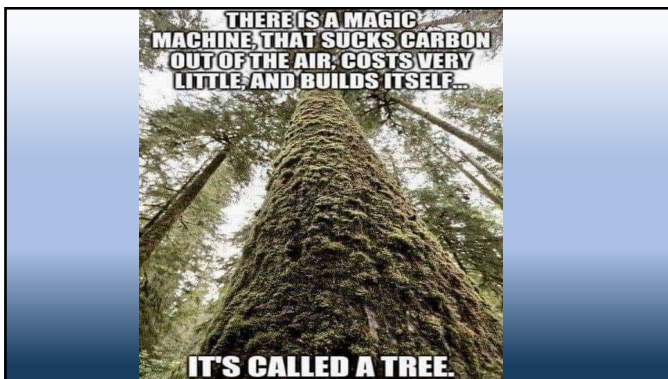
- Borrowing from Mattress Mac – “Saves you money!”
- Native Plants handle weather extremes a lot better so you're not having to replant every year.
- Less or no fertilizers needed – many natives grow better without fertilizers!
- Less water requirements
- Less disease prone
- There some evidence that natives “survive” gophers better.
- Less lawn to cut, trim, blow = less gas
- Natives are a justification for doing less in your yard and not be considered lazy!
- Better for the environment

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### Better for local environment

- Natives typically have longer root systems
  - Sequester more carbon
  - Use less water
  - Help with storm runoff and help maintain healthy watersheds
  - More interactive with local nature
- Local insects rely heavily on native plants for food sources. Non-natives offer less of what they need.

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### What's So Great About Native Plants?

**ABOVE GROUND:**

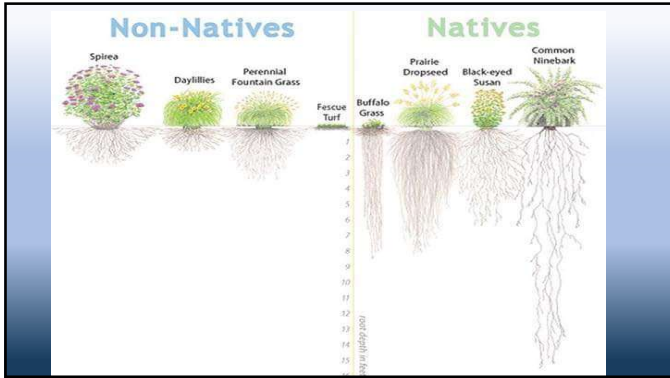
- Native landscaping practices can help improve air quality.
- Native species attract beneficial wildlife and support healthy and diverse ecosystems.

**BELOW GROUND:**

- Their deep root systems filter pollutants from stormwater runoff.
- Natives require less fertilizer, pesticides, and watering than non-native species.

LEARN MORE AT [WWW.DURASCO.ORG/ENR](http://WWW.DURASCO.ORG/ENR)

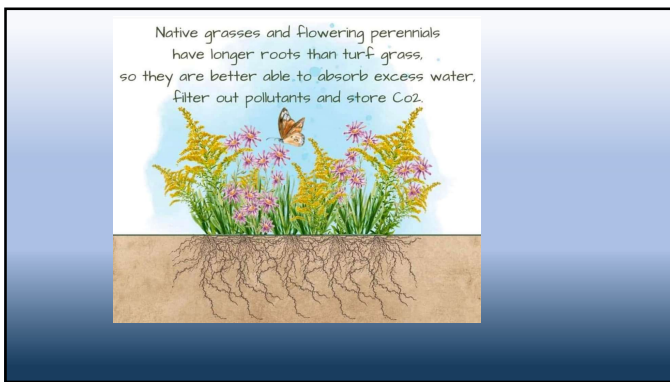
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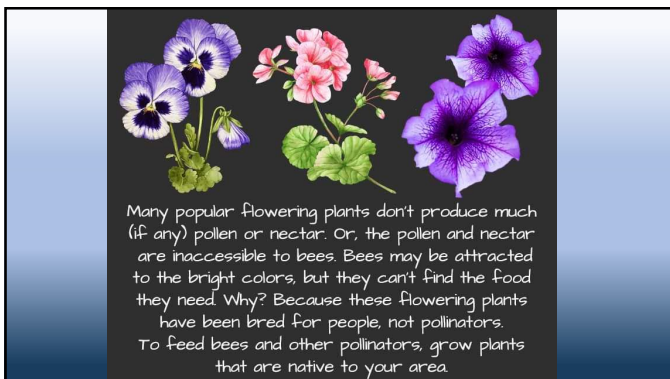
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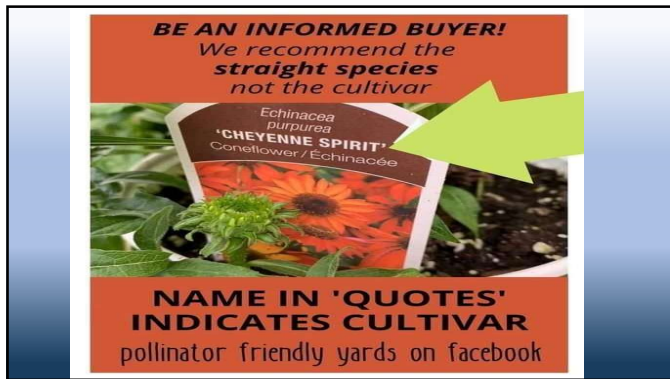


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### Non-natives can become Invasives

- Invasives can out compete natives (plants, wildlife and insects) and can thrive since their natural competition doesn't exist. They can also introduce diseases and pests.
  - Kudzu – introduced in 1876 during an expo for flowers and sweet smell
  - European chestnuts brought chestnut blight fungus. Native American chestnuts were once a dominant species are now virtually extinct.
  - Dandelions were brought by Europeans for medicinal value.
  - Water Hyacinth was introduced in 1884 during the Cotton States Exposition as gifts for attendees for their backyard ponds
  - Hundreds of other examples. Many times people don't realize their introducing an invasive.

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### SOURCES OF NATIVE PLANTS IN THE HOUSTON AREA

The following is a list of organizations and nurseries that provide native plants. Availability of native plants will vary from nursery to nursery and by season. Please call ahead for availability, hours, and directions. Some nurseries are willing to order specific plants when requested.

<p><b>Abingdon's Ace Hardware</b> 2205 West Loop West, Suite 100 Houston, TX 77027-1000 http://www.abingdonhardware.com</p> <p><b>The Cedar Store</b> 15113 Fwy 300 - Houston, TX 77057 281-555-4444 www.thecedarstore.com</p> <p><b>Hill Country Tree Nursery</b> 14005 FM 1464, Roundwood, TX 281-777-9223 http://www.hillcountrytree.com</p> <p><b>Hill Country's Native Plants</b> 641 West Loop West, Suite 100 Houston, TX 77027 www.hillcountrynativeplants.com</p> <p><b>Callaway Nursery</b> 4027 FM 1464, Roundwood, TX 281-777-9223 www.callawnursery.com</p> <p><b>Dixie's Wholesale Nursery</b> 1901 TX 6200, Houston, TX 77057 www.dixies.com</p> <p><b>The Greenhouse Project</b> 14141 FM 1464 - Roundwood, TX 281-777-9223 www.thegreenhouseproject.com</p> <p><b>Everheart Gardens Nursery</b> 14005 FM 1464, Roundwood, TX 281-777-9223 www.everheartgardens.com</p> <p><b>Greenwood Plant Farm</b> 13801 W Loop West, Suite 100, TX Houston, TX 77027 http://www.greenwoodplantfarm.com</p>	<p><b>Houston Arboretum</b> Native Plant Sales www.houstonarboretum.org</p> <p><b>Houston Audubon's</b> 4405 Audubon St. #142 Houston, TX 77041 www.audubonhouston.org</p> <p><b>Native Nurseries</b> www.nativeplants.com</p> <p><b>Jackson's Native Plants</b> 4210 FM 1464, Roundwood, TX 281-777-9223 www.jacksonsnativeplants.com</p> <p><b>Kingwood Garden Center</b> 3200 Kingwood Dr., Kingwood, TX 281-777-9223 www.kingwoodgarden.com</p> <p><b>Native Nurseries</b> www.nativeplants.com</p> <p><b>Native Plant Society of Texas</b> www.nativeplantsocietyoftx.com</p> <p><b>Native Plant Society of Houston</b> www.nativeplantshouston.org</p> <p><b>Native Plant Society of The Woodlands</b> www.nativeplantsthewoodlands.com</p> <p><b>Native Plant Society of The Woodlands</b> www.nativeplantsthewoodlands.com</p> <p><b>New World Botanical</b> 13000 FM 1464, Roundwood, TX 281-777-9223 www.newworldbotanical.com</p> <p><b>Profound Gardens</b> 14005 FM 1464, Roundwood, TX 281-777-9223 www.profoundgardens.com</p> <p><b>Native American Seed</b> www.nativeamericanseed.com</p> <p><b>Texas Native Plant Society</b> www.texasnativeplantsociety.com</p>
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This information sheet was prepared by the Native Plant Society of Texas - Houston Chapter. The members and organizations listed herein are provided for informational purposes only. The list does not imply endorsement by the Native Plant Society of Texas. If you would like more information about Texas natives, we offer monthly membership programs, field trips, speaker presentations, and books. We meet on the 1st Thursday of most months. Contact: Elizabeth Hays at eahays@nativeplantsocietyoftx.com or visit our website at www.npsot.org/Houston

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### A little bit about the future of water

- Water usage has become a concern
  - Drought conditions have hit most of Texas for over 15 years
  - The summer of 2011 saw the loss of over a half a billion trees statewide!
  - The City of Austin implemented a permanent watering ban in June of 2022. Only allowing lawn water by sprinkler system once a week (a second day is acceptable when needed by hose). Lots of other restrictions.
  - San Antonio is paying a homeowner \$1000 to remove front grass

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### Other parts of the county

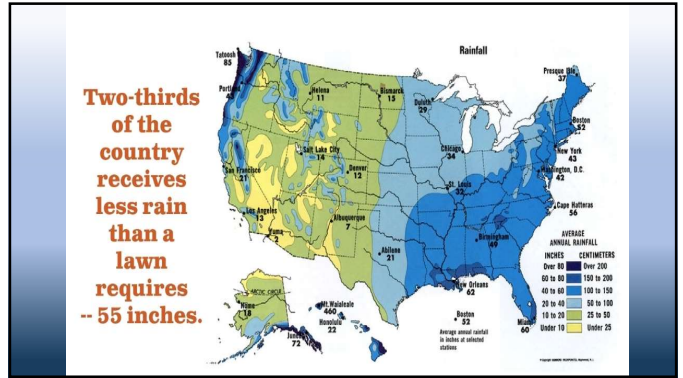
- California now will pay – from \$2/sq. ft to \$6/sq. ft.!! - home owners to remove lawns and replace with drought resistant / native plants or other surfaces such as Astro turf, rock, etc.
- Residential landscaping uses 9% of total water use in US.
- Lawns are becoming an area that local municipalities target for water usage

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### Ways to increase biodiversity? Examples

- Most interesting example is Chernobyl. The land is returning to nature. Vegetation is taking over. It's been over 34 years and the area is now populated with brown bears, bison, wolves, lynxes, Przewalski horses, and more than 200 bird species, among other animals.
- There was a study to be done using orange peels for fertilizer in Argentina that dumped over 12,000 tons with railcars in a cleared area. A lawsuit caused it to be abandoned. A visit 40 years later was astounding the vegetation growth and wildlife especially compared to the same area next to it that didn't receive any orange peels

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**A couple spent 26 years replanting a rain forest in India which they bought in 1991. It now covers over 300 acres and is home to more than 200 globally endangered species of plants and animals, including Asian elephants and Bengal tigers.**

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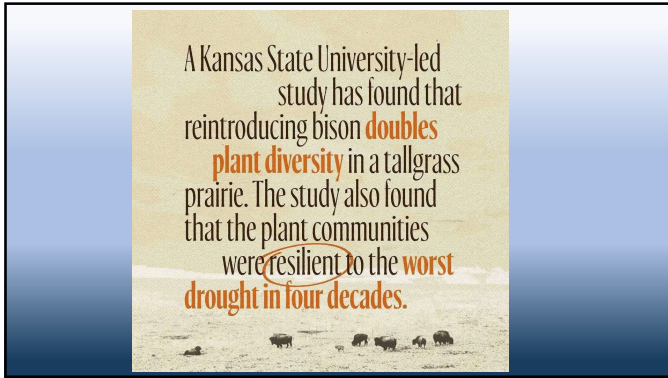
**Concerned about our loss of bees, Morgan Freeman converted his 124-acre Mississippi ranch into a bee refuge. He's hired a gardener, filled acres with clover, planted hundreds of flowering trees, purchased 26 hives and has turned himself into a beekeeper.**

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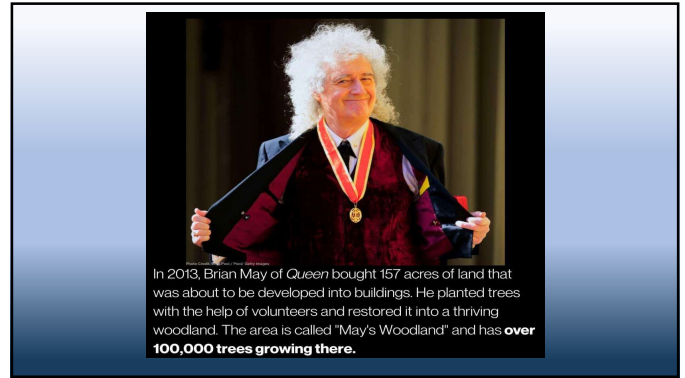
**All over Paris car parking spaces are being upgraded to plots for trees and micro gardens - cooling the city, cleaning the air & making the streets more pleasant for people - thanks to the vision & tenacity of city's mayor...**

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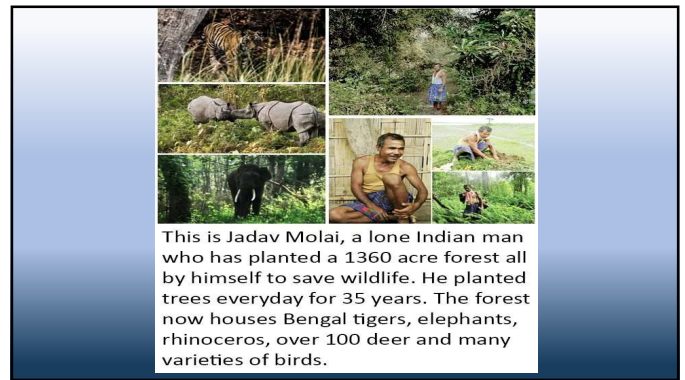
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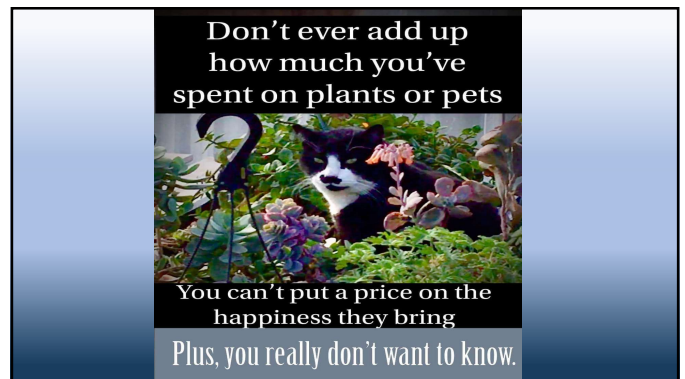
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## Biodiversity Definition

- Biodiversity is derived from 2 words Biology and Diversity.
- There are three types of Biodiversity that intertwine –
  - Ecosystem
  - Species
  - Genetic
- **Biodiversity is a worldwide concern!** There was a **15th UN Biodiversity Conference (POC – 15)** December 7-19 2023 that has 188 governments ratify proposals to preserve nature.
- Balancing Biodiversity is not only a worldwide challenge but a local one too. We'll keep it simple and explore why and what can be done by individuals.

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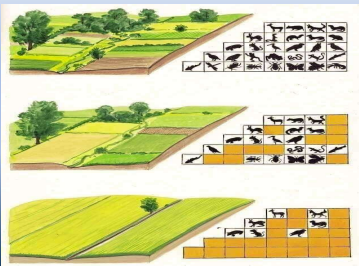
## IN NATURE NOTHING EXISTS ALONE

- RACHEL CARSON



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## If you only remember one slide about biodiversity – this is it!



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**Hedgerows** are biodiversity hotspots, habitat for birds & corridors for wildlife. They are home to pollinators and other beneficial insects, plants and flowers for agriculture. They can provide food, medicine, construction material and fuel. Essentially wild, they are low maintenance, good for privacy and a noise deterrent.

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## Opposite of biodiversity is monoculture

- Basically a single plant species covering XXX amount of area
- Useful for commercial endeavors like farming, logging, etc.
- One of the largest monoculture in the US is lawns. Lawns take up 2% of all land mass in US.
- Monocultures can be perceived by wildlife and insects as a desert. There isn't anything for them to support their existence.
  - An interesting example - Almond orchards are over 1,400,000 acres in California. They have to import bee hives for pollination.

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## Monoculture forests vs biodiverse forests

### Monoculture Forest

#### Monoculture forest drawbacks

- Pushes out wildlife
- Vulnerable to tree pests and diseases
- Degrades soil

### Biodiverse Forest

#### Biodiverse forest benefits

- Reduces flood risk
- Provide habitat for birds and pollinators
- Resistant to tree pests and diseases

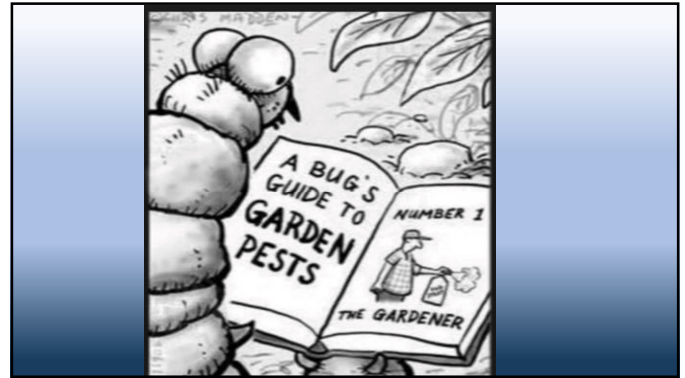
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## There's been a decrease in insects worldwide

- Estimates between 40 - 45% decline in last 40 years.
- Science started tracking insect population in the 1990s.
- Main reasons are insecticides, no "corridors", monocultures (biological deserts) and loss of habitat.
- Butterflies have gotten most of the attention
- Monarchs have a severe decline but all caterpillars (butterflies/moths) should be a concern.

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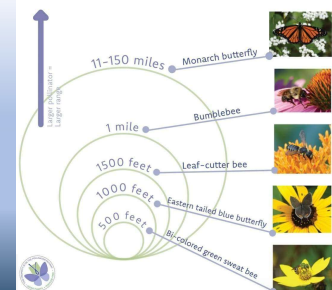
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## FRANCE BANS ALL GARDEN PESTICIDES!



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## How far can a pollinator fly to find food?

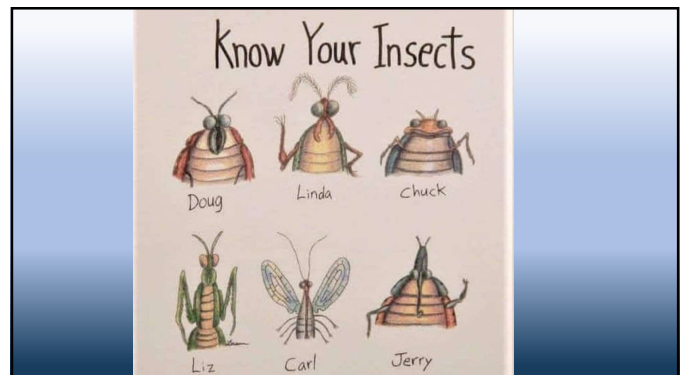


Connecting our pollinator gardens along a pathway helps bees and butterflies thrive.

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If you never cared about insects, add some native plants to your garden and spend some time learning about the fascinating world of insects. The more you learn, the more you will care. Why should you care? Because all life on the planet—including ours—depends on insects. Your yard has ecological significance. You can make a difference by planting natives and bringing these fascinating insects into your garden.

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Butterflies and Their Host Plant			
	Caterpillar	Host Plant	Adult
1. <b>Spicebush swallowtail</b> <i>PLANT NATIVE!</i> Host Plant: Spicebush Trees <i>Azalea norteyana</i>			
2. <b>Zebra Swallowtail</b> Host Plant: Pongara Tree			
3. <b>Gulf fritillary</b> Host Plant: Passion Vine			
4. <b>Monarch</b> Host Plant: Milkweed			
5. <b>Painted Ladies</b> Host Plant: Thistles			
6. <b>Viceroy</b> Host Plant: Willow Tree			
7. <b>Tiger swallowtail</b> Host Plant: Ash Tree Host Plant: Green Tree Host Plant: Paper Tree			
8. <b>Red Admiral</b> Host Plant: Nettle			
9. <b>Question Mark</b> Host Plant: Hackberry Tree			
10. <b>Sulphur</b> Host Plant: Pharyland senna			

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**Life Cycle of a Ladybug**

Having **Ladybugs** in your garden is of great benefit to any organic gardener as they **help to eliminate destructive pests like aphids, mites and scale insects**. The female ladybird will lay 10-50 eggs on a plant that has enough food for her offspring to eat once they have hatched.

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**Conservation corridors are needed to help wildlife increase and survive**

- Conservation Corridors provide areas for animals and insects to travel much like a road or highway. Native plants attract wildlife.
- Waiting for the a national government program to have an impact will take a long time if at all.
  - Some TXDOT agencies (and other states) are now planting natives along highways
  - Some states and cities are providing incentives to move away from lawns and increase biodiversity for insects and animals.
- There are ideas and organizations pushing for homeowners to create these corridors using their yards. The more yards participate, the more corridors, the more increase in wildlife and insects.

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## What are “corridors?”

- The US is lacking conservation corridors for wildlife to travel
- Slowly the US is recognizing “something” needs to be done
- Even birds and flying insects have problems traveling cross country
- National parks are great but they are isolation zones
- There are private movements to create grassroots approach one yard at a time
- Even a 10 sq ft. native plant garden in every yard would be a great help.

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Someone writes: "The guy who mows the lawn in my building left a rectangle of wildflowers for the bees to use".



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This local council in Glamorgan, Wales has decided to leave verges and grassy areas uncut this year to preserve biodiversity!

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This is Rotherham where council have planted 8 miles of wild flower verges. It has saved 25k in mowing costs. These photos posted by British Beekeeping Association!



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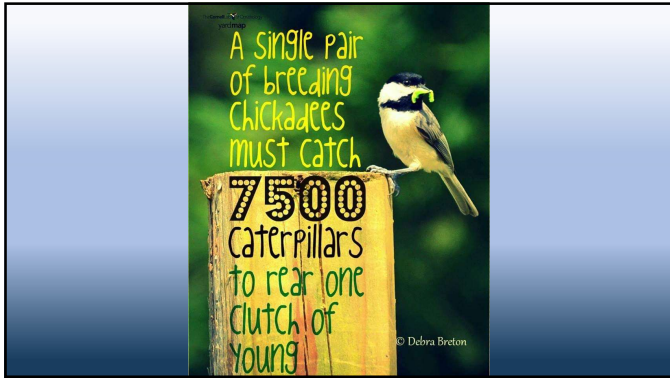
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## Caterpillars are critical for birds

- Caterpillars are the **main source** of food for baby birds. No caterpillars = no baby birds. The further parents have to fly, the less likely babies survive.
- High in the right proteins and fats, no exoskeleton, easy to digest, etc.
- Quick source of growing nutrition – baby birds must fledge fast to increase chances of survival
- Parent birds make trips with insects everyday. **How many trips?**
  - Wilson warbler pair 812 trips/day
  - Bob-o-link pair 840 trips/day
  - Sapsucker pair 4260 trips/ total
  - Downy woodpecker 4095 trips /total
  - Carolina Chickweed 6000-9000 trips /total

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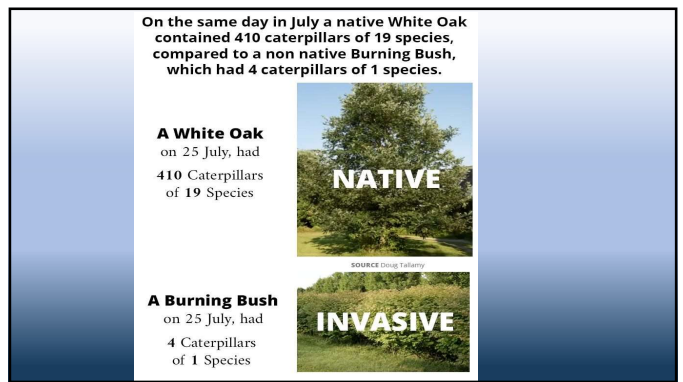
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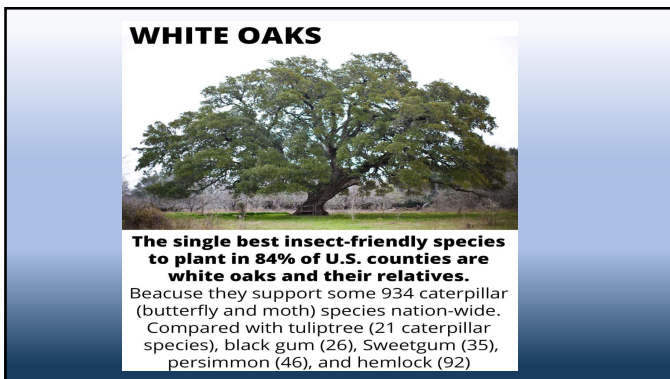
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## What are KEYSTONE PLANTS?

Understanding the Importance Keystone Native Plants

Serendipity FB Group...Grow Native • Grow Biodiversity

•“The keystone is that stone in the middle of the Roman arch and if you take it out, the arch collapses. If you take keystone plants out of your local food web, the food web collapses, because they are producing most of the caterpillars that run that food web” (Tallamy)

•“Keystone plants are natives that are essential to our ecosystems because they support 90% of the caterpillar species that enable our terrestrial birds to reproduce, as well as all of our specialist native bee species” (National Wildlife Federation)

Photos by Shannon Mach, MI

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## PLANT KEYSTONE SPECIES

**NATIVE OAK** CAN HOST UP TO **500** SPECIES OF BUTTERFLIES AND BEAUTIFUL MOTHS **THANK YOU!**

**NATIVE CHERRY** CAN HOST UP TO **400** SPECIES OF BUTTERFLIES AND BEAUTIFUL MOTHS **YES!**

**NATIVE WILLOW** CAN HOST UP TO **300** SPECIES OF BUTTERFLIES AND BEAUTIFUL MOTHS **WOW!**

THESE NUMBERS ARE ONLY FULFILLED IF YOU PLANT A TYPE OF OAK, CHERRY AND WILLOW THAT ARE NATIVE TO YOUR SPECIFIC AREA

pollinator friendly yards on facebook

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## KEYSTONE PLANTS THAT SUPPORT THE MAJORITY OF BUTTERFLIES AND MOTHS

Fig. 2: Some plant genera are disproportionately important for supporting host plant Lepidoptera interaction networks.

LISTED IN ORDER OF POWER TO HOST THE MOST CATERPILLARS SPECIES

- Quercus - Oak Native To Your Area
- Salix - Willow Native To Your Area
- Prunus - Cherry Native To Your Area
- Pinus - Pine Native To Your Area
- Populus - Poplar Native To Your Area
- Betula - Birch Native To Your Area
- Vaccinium - Blueberry Native To Your Area
- Acer - Maple Native To Your Area
- Carya - Hickory Native To Your Area
- Malus - Crabapple Native To Your Area
- Ulmus - Elm Native To Your Area
- Alnus - Alder Native To Your Area
- Tilia - Basswood Native To Your Area
- Crataegus - Hawthorn Native To Your Area
- Rubus - Blackberry Native To Your Area
- Castanea - Chinquapin Native To Your Area
- Picea - Spruce Native To Your Area
- Pseudotsuga - Fir Native To Your Area
- Fraxinus - Ash Native To Your Area
- Viburnum - Viburnum Native To Your Area

From The Work Of Dr. Doug Tallamy  
learn more on pollinator friendly yards on facebook

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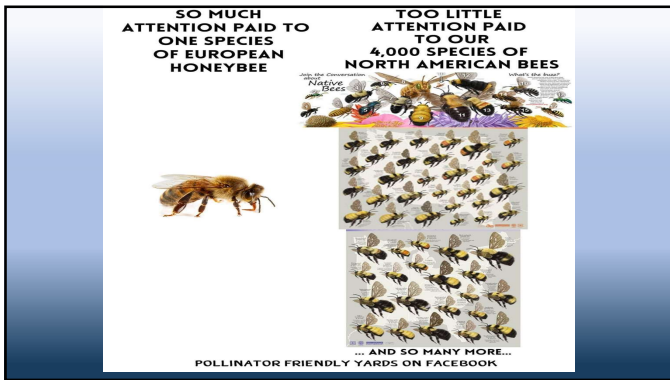
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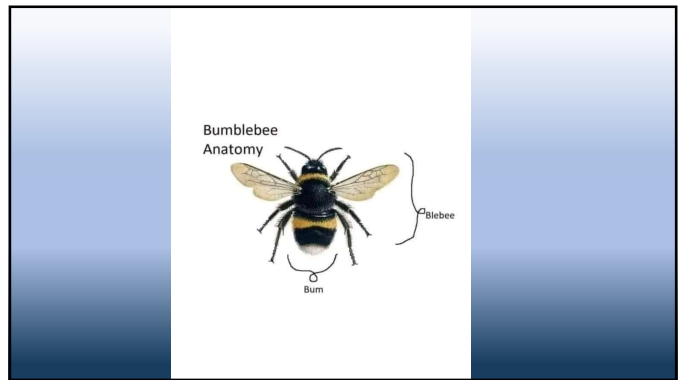
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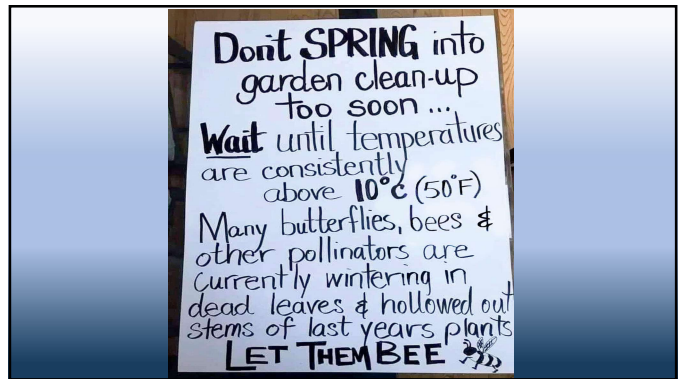
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**How to create habitat for stem-nesting bees**

Help wild bees find places to live by providing essential nesting habitat. Around 90 out of a 70 bee species in Minnesota nest in cavities made in stems or wood. Removing dead flower stalks is a common gardening practice, but these bees need stems to survive the winter. Bees also need a variety of other resources such as leaves, mud, plant hairs, and resin to build successful nests.

How can you manage stems to provide natural habitat for a wide diversity of stem-nesting bees?

**Steps to create stem-nesting bee habitat**

- Provide hollow and pithy stems from flowers and grasses.
  - Cut stems in spring.
  - Provide a variety of stem heights from 8 to 24 inches.
  - Provide a variety of stem diameters from 1/8 to 5/8 inches.
- Leave stems through summer, winter, and at least the first half of second summer.
  - To deter parasites, don't form or bundle stems.
  - Bees will use vertical, horizontal, or angled stems.
  - Protect the plants from pesticide exposure.
- Provide diverse plants nearby to provide other nesting needs such as leaves, plant hairs, and resin.
- Provide open water for mud-building bees.

**Nest necessities**

**Stem**   **Food**   **Building Material**

**UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA EXTENSION**

**How to Create Habitat for Stem-nesting Bees**

**WINTER** Leave dead flower stalks standing over the winter

**SPRING** Cut back dead stems and remove any nesting stems. Leave stems standing 8 to 24 inches tall. Leave stems and pith intact.

**SUMMER** New growth of stems is important to bees during the growing season.

**FALL** Stems should be cut back after the first frost.

**ADULT BEES** Adult bees emerge and search for nesting sites. They are attracted to hollow stems.

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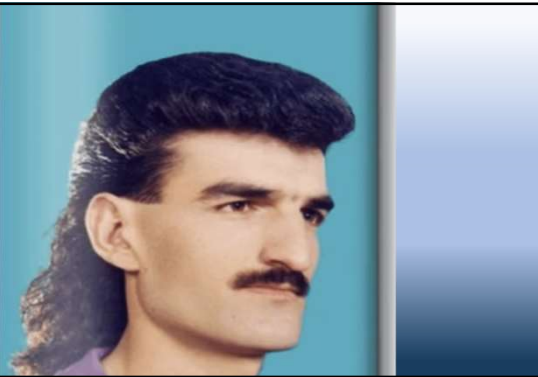
Has a bee ever landed on you, and instead of getting scared, you appreciate the possibility that you got confused for a flower

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## So what can you do?

- Awareness and balance!!!
- Hopefully the next time you obtain some plants you consider natives because of what you learned here today.
- When current plants die off – consider natives to replace them
- Start natives in a section of your yard that's always been a problem – too wet, too dry, not enough sun, too much sun, all clay, all sand – there are native plants that will grow in almost any type of soil condition
- “Mullet Landscaping”

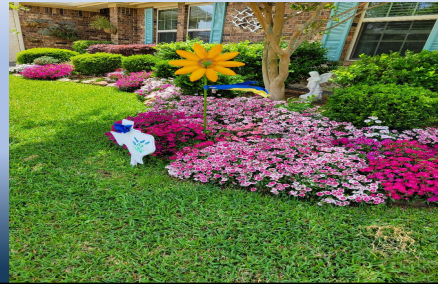
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## “Mullet Gardening”

Traditional in the front, Native in the back



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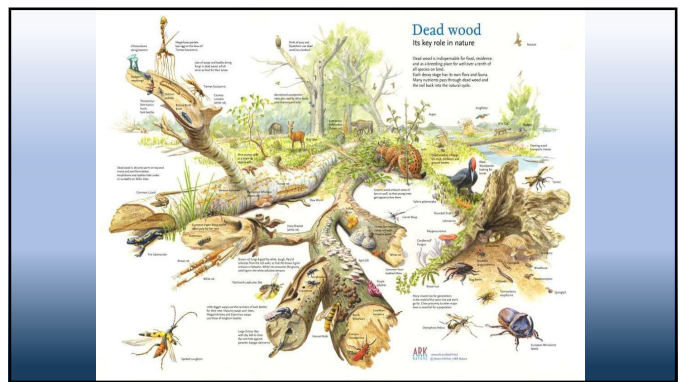
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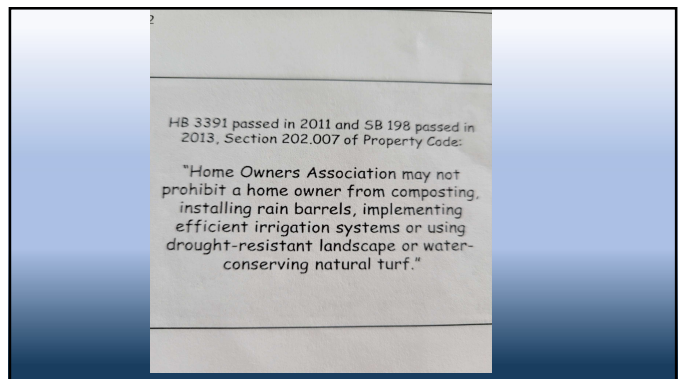
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**The Deep Middle**  
GARDENING & WRITING IN THE SUBURBAN WOODS

**Most Garden Problems Can Be Solved With More Plants**  
7/22/2022 5 Comments

Many issues in a landscape bed can be addressed by increasing the number of plants in that bed. I see it time and again -- a native plant garden filled with wood mulch and plants spaced far apart, like in a bed that mow and blow landscapers install. Or like sculptures in a museum. I think we treat our plants with too much reverence. We need to let them get tangled up, struggle, and compete. And even fade away. This is how nature works, and we do the plants -- and our goals of creating a sustainable ecosystem -- a disservice when we space plants far apart and without layers. This is something I hammer home in several of my lectures, especially "Fundamentals of Garden Layers."

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**Pollinators Need You, America Facing Decline of Native Plants**

**By Renee Casper**  
Photo: Matt Pridemore/Corbis

North America is home to more than 40,000 native bee species as well as countless other types of native pollinators including birds, butterflies, beetles, wasps and moths. In Virginia, roughly 400 of these native bees can be found, including many specialist types that only visit specific groups of flowering plants. However, across North America native pollinators are in decline due to the effects of human-induced climate change and the rapid replacement of our local environments. The decline of native pollinators, coupled with the decline of the animals, but also important European honeybees, affect the health of our environment and the functionality of our food systems. Almost 75 percent of the flowering plants on earth rely on pollinators to help them set seed or fruit, and one in three kinds of our food is a direct result of a pollinator.

Pollinators need help in finding the food and laying their eggs to survive. Here are five simple but important actions that you can take to help pollinators in your landscape.

**STRIVE FOR DIVERSITY** — Use a combination of flowers, shrubs, grasses, and trees to better mimic our natural surroundings. A garden of all perennial flowers or all shrubs will lack the natural elements that a small mixture of trees or large shade tree provides to the landscape. The more varieties of plants you make available, the more variety of pollinators you will serve and your landscape. Bees forage mainly for pollen from a wide variety of plants, but butterflies and moths often require specific host plants for their larvae to feed on. If you want to keep butterflies in your landscape, you need to plant these host plants, such as milkweed, for the monarchs.

**INCORPORATE NATIVE PLANTS** — When making additions or changes to your landscape, opt to use native plants. Not only are native pollinators better adapted to native plants in the garden, these plants also do better in your yard because they are well-adapted to our specific climate and soil conditions. To narrow down the great number of options, first assess your specific conditions for light, moisture, and space. Take the native plants for every season, shade, moist, and dry soil conditions. You will find a list of some favorites at the end of the article that are all excellent.

**PROVIDE NESTING HABITAT** — Erect to have certain areas of your garden undisturbed throughout the year to create nesting habitat for native bees. While the European honeybee and certain bumblebees and wasps are social bees that build bigger nests, most of our native bees are solitary in nature and make their nests in the ground or in hollow plant stems.

**AVOID PESTICIDES** — Before grazing down or mowing a lawn, know what you are dealing with. That includes eating a few leaves will black turn into a beautiful butterfly. Many insects on plants are actually beneficial and consume the pest ones. Spraying lawn for mosquitoes is also killing the pollinators in your yard and your neighbors as well.

**PLANT FOR YEAR-ROUND FOOD SOURCES** — Plant your garden so that the winter stages of food sources are available to pollinators across the longest time period. Providing plants that flower in spring, summer, and fall provides food sources for different species, those who first emerge in the spring, to whom they are peaking their form in late fall. Remember that many plants provide multiple rounds of food opportunities, often with the flowers of spring and summer yielding the fruits and seeds of fall and winter. Choosing plants that bloom at different times also provides you with greater color and interest in the garden throughout the growing season, making the space more enjoyable and inviting.

**SOME FAVORITE NATIVES** — This list is only a small sample of the many native species of perennial flowers, shrubs and trees (by bloom season) to help make your property a better ecosystem for the native pollinators in our area. An excellent resource for finding out more about native plants and when to source them is PlantNOVA, Native & Plant Community.org

**Spring:** *Eastern Red Columbine* (perennial), *Blue Wild Indigo* (perennial), *Four o'clock* (perennial), *Black Plantain* (perennial), *Wild Spice* (shrub), *Apple-blossom Thymus* (shrub), *Northern Spicebush* (shrub), *Eastern Redbud* (tree), *Canada Spicebush* (tree), *Quercus* (tree), *Blue Isabella* (perennial), *Scarlet Tanager* (perennial), *Narrow-leafed Yellow* (perennial), *White* (perennial), *Blackberry* (shrub), *Red Chokeberry* (shrub), *Burns* (shrub), *American Hornbeam* (tree), *White Magnolia* (tree), *Fall* (tree), *Wildflower* (perennial), *White Wood Aster* (perennial), *Narrow-leaved Sunflower* (perennial), *Goldenrod* (perennial), *Black Sycamore* (shrub), *Cornus* (shrub), *American Dogwood* (shrub), *White Oak* (tree), *Blackgum* (tree).

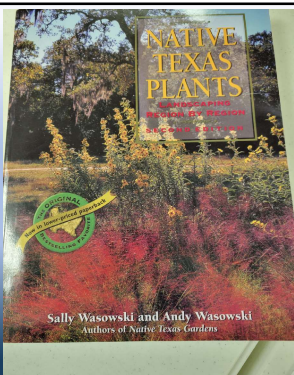
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**HOUSTON AREA ENVIRONMENTAL EVENT CALENDAR/LIST**  
Confirm dates, times & details at organization websites.

- **Special Events and Programs:**
- **July 7** Post Oak Chapter NPSOT From Landscape to Wildscape: Gardening for Wildlife at Home, with Lauren Simpson [www.npsot.org/2022/07/07/](http://www.npsot.org/2022/07/07/)
- **July 8** July Views Blackland Prairies and Woodlands with Grant Manichan at the Sam Houston National Forest -waitlist- [www.meechun.com/Houston-Santa-Cruz-Online](http://www.meechun.com/Houston-Santa-Cruz-Online)
- **July 11**, also **August 8** 6:30 pm (2nd Monday) Online Clear Lake Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas <http://nativeplant.org/2022/07/11/>
- **July 21 7 pm** (3rd Thursday) Houston Chapter Native Plant Society Meeting <https://www.npsot.org/>
- **July 23-31 National Moth Week** <https://nationalmothweek.org>
- **July 28** 8 am Watson Preserve Volunteer Workday, 9:30 am Aug. 6 Wildflower Walk <http://npsot.org/2022/07/28/>
- **July 30-24 2022 BugGuide Gathering in Las Vegas, New Mexico** <https://bugguide.org/2022/07/30/>
- **July 30 - 23** Cullowhee Native Plant Conference in North Carolina - Zoom option available [www.npsot.org/](http://www.npsot.org/)
- **July 23-31 National Moth Week** <https://nationalmothweek.org>
- **Wed, July 27** (4th Wednesday) Houston Chapter of Native Prairies of Texas meeting [www.houstonprairies.org](http://www.houstonprairies.org)
- **July 31** Steve Stelze with "Green Jobs" - online at [www.eventbrite.com/green-jobs-tickets-30799997827](http://www.eventbrite.com/green-jobs-tickets-30799997827)
- **Aug. 2** 6:30 pm Mercer Botanic Gardens Student Research and Education Symposium [www.hpcg.com/2022/08/02/](http://www.hpcg.com/2022/08/02/)
- **Sept. 17** Wildscape Workshop & Native Plant Sale [www.npsot.org/houston](http://www.npsot.org/houston)
- **Sept. 17 & 24** Extreme Hummingbird Extravaganza at the Gulf Coast Bird Observatory [www.ecbo.org](http://www.ecbo.org)
- **Sept. 22-25** NPSOT Fall Symposium in Alpine, Texas [www.npsot.org](http://www.npsot.org)
- **Oct. 6** Bird City Sunrise Nature Fest <https://www.birdcityofarizona.com/>
- **Oct. 20-23** Texas Master Naturalist 2022 Annual Meeting in Houston [www.tamnb.org](http://www.tamnb.org)
- **Register for a Kayak Trip with Artist Boat** [www.artistboat.org](http://www.artistboat.org)

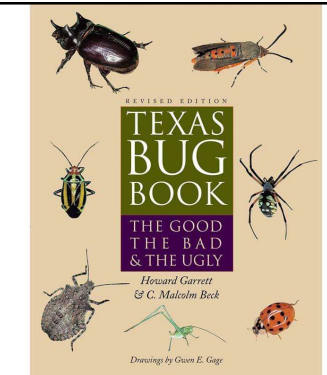
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**NATIVE TEXAS PLANTS**  
A Field Guide to the Plants of Texas

Sally Wasowski and Andy Wasowski  
Authors of *Native Texas Gardens*

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**TEXAS BUG BOOK**  
THE GOOD, THE BAD & THE UGLY

Howard Garrett & C. Malcolm Beck

Drawings by Owen E. Gage

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**NATURE'S BEST HOPE**  
A New Approach to Conservation That Starts in Your Yard

DOUGLAS W. TALLAMY  
Author of *Bringing Nature Home*

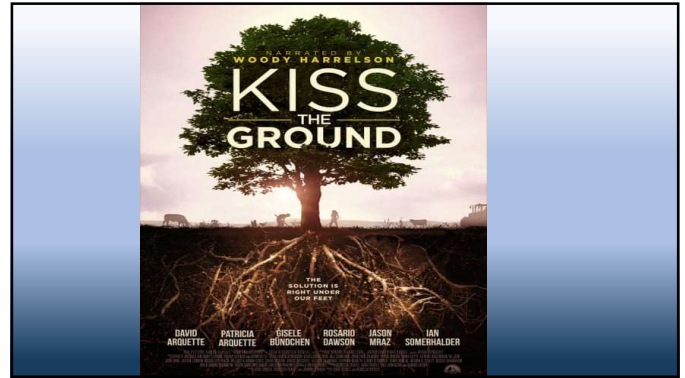
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## TV / Documentaries

- Sir David Attenboroug (who's 96 -*unbelievable photography*)
- **"Our Planet"** on Netflix – documentary about planet changes he's seen over the last 60 years. Makes a great case for biodiversity and how increase it through simple things actions. Great examples of areas are bouncing back.
- **"The Green Plant"** on PBS - Series on plants and how they are connected to the local environment.
- **"Kiss the Soil"** on Netflix – documentary on the changes in soil structure in the US. Narrated by Woody Harrelson.

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"So how do I know where you live?"

Me: "Don't worry about it"



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# SOURCES OF *NATIVE PLANTS* IN THE HOUSTON AREA

The nurseries & organizations listed below carry a variety of plants, including some native species. Availability of native plants will vary from nursery to nursery and by season. **Please call ahead for availability, hours and directions.** Some nurseries are willing to order specific plants when requested.

**Alspaugh's Ace Hardware**  
2720 West Lake Houston Pkwy -  
Kingwood, TX 77339 281-360-2231  
<http://alspaughs.com/services>

**The Arbor Gate**  
15635 FM 2920 - Tomball, TX 77375  
281-351-8851  
[www.arbortgate.com](http://www.arbortgate.com)

**Bill Bownds Tree Nursery**  
10519 FM 1464 - Richmond 77469  
281-277-2033  
<http://billbowndsnursery.com>

**Buchanan's Native Plants**  
611 East 11<sup>th</sup> Street Houston 77008  
713-861-5702  
[www.buchanansplants.com](http://www.buchanansplants.com)

**Caldwell Nursery**  
2436 Band Rd. - Rosenberg 77471  
281-342-4016  
[www.caldwellhort.com](http://www.caldwellhort.com)

**Doremus Wholesale Nursery**  
2167-CR 1550 Warren, Texas 77664  
409-547-3536 (wholesale only)  
edoremus@aol.com  
[www.facebook.com/doremus.nursery](http://www.facebook.com/doremus.nursery)

**The Enchanted Forest**  
10611 FM 2759 - Richmond 77469  
281-937-9449 [www.myenchanted.com](http://www.myenchanted.com)

**Enchanted Gardens Nursery**  
6420 FM 359 Richmond 77469  
281-341-1206  
<http://myenchanted.com>

**Greenstar Wetland Plant Farm**  
1300 W 19th St #70205 Houston, TX  
77008 281-989-5517  
[info@greenstarwetlands.com](mailto:info@greenstarwetlands.com)  
<https://greenstarwetlands.com>

**Houston Arboretum  
Native Plant Sales**  
[www.houstonarboretum.org](http://www.houstonarboretum.org)

**Houston Audubon's  
Natives Nursery**  
440 Wilchester Blvd. - Houston, TX  
77079 713-932-1639  
[www.houstonaudubon.org](http://www.houstonaudubon.org)

**Joshua's Native Plants**  
502 West 18<sup>th</sup> St. Houston 77008  
713-869-6911  
[www.Joshuasnativeplants.com](http://www.Joshuasnativeplants.com)

**Kingwood Garden Center**  
1216 Stonehollow Dr.  
Kingwood, TX 77339  
281-358-1805  
[www.kingwoodgardencenter.com](http://www.kingwoodgardencenter.com)

**Maas Nursery**  
5511 Todville Rd Seabrook, TX 77586  
281-474-2488  
[www.maasnursery.com](http://www.maasnursery.com)

**MD Native Plants**  
by appointment only  
713-628-7575  
[Ktart2001@yahoo.com](mailto:Ktart2001@yahoo.com)

**Morning Star Prairie Plants**  
21107 Pecan Bend - Damon, TX  
77430 713-446-2509 by appt. only  
[morgy@consolidated.net](mailto:morgy@consolidated.net)  
[www.facebook.com/SupportSustainableAgriculture](http://www.facebook.com/SupportSustainableAgriculture)

**Native American Seed**  
Junction, Texas 1-800-728-4043  
[info@seedsource.com](mailto:info@seedsource.com)  
[www.seedsource.com](http://www.seedsource.com)

**Native Plant Society of Texas-  
Clear Lake Chapter**  
**Spring or Fall Plant Sale**  
[www.npsot.org/wp/Clearlake](http://www.npsot.org/wp/Clearlake)

**Native Plant Society of Texas-  
Houston Chapter**  
**Wildscapes Workshop  
& Native Plant Sale (Sept.)**  
[www.npsot.org/wp/Houston](http://www.npsot.org/wp/Houston)

**Nature's Way Resources**  
John Ferguson, M.S., P.G.  
101 Sherbrook Circle Conroe, Texas  
77385 (281) 507-5303 Cell  
(936) 321-6990 Metro  
(936) 273-1200 Conroe  
(936) 273-1655 Fax  
[www.natureswayresources.com](http://www.natureswayresources.com)

**Nelson Water Gardens &  
Nursery** 281-391-4769  
1502 Katy Fort Bend Road -  
Katy, TX 77493  
[www.nelsonwatergardens.com](http://www.nelsonwatergardens.com)

**New World Botanical**  
2701 Lone Star Pkwy  
Montgomery, Tx 77356  
936-689-8751  
[martinsimonton@gmail.com](mailto:martinsimonton@gmail.com)

**Peckerwood Garden**  
20559 FM 359 Road - Hempstead, TX  
77445 976-826-3232 - on open days or  
by appt only  
[www.peckerwoodgarden.org](http://www.peckerwoodgarden.org)

**RCW Nurseries**  
15809 State Highway 249  
Houston 77086 281-440-5161  
[www.rcwnurseries.com](http://www.rcwnurseries.com)

**Treeseach Farms** (wholesale only)  
7625 Alabonson Road  
Houston 77088 713-937-9811  
[www.treeseachfarms.com](http://www.treeseachfarms.com)

This information sheet was prepared by the Native Plant Society of Texas - Houston Chapter. The nurseries and organizations listed above are provided for your information only. The list does not imply endorsement by the Native Plant Society of Texas. If you would like more information about Texas natives, we offer monthly speaker/slide programs, field trips, member newsletter, and books. We meet on 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of most months. Contact [DKnowlesPE@aol.com](mailto:DKnowlesPE@aol.com) for changes to this page.

[www.npsot.org/Houston](http://www.npsot.org/Houston)





# TOP 10 TEXAS DROUGHT TOLERANT PLANTS



## ESPERANZA

*Tacoma stans*

**Bloom Period:** Spring - Fall  
**Host Plant:** Dogface butterfly  
**Wildlife Benefits:** Nectar for pollinators.

Large Shrub | 6-10 ft. | Full Sun - Part Sun



## FLAME ACANTHUS

*Anisacanthus quadrifidus*

**Bloom Period:** July - Sept.  
**Host Plant:** Crimson Patch & Texas Crescent butterflies  
**Wildlife Benefits:** Nectar for pollinators. Deer resistant.

Large Shrub | 3-5 ft. | Full Sun - Part Sun



## ZEXMENIA

*Wedelia acapulcensis* var. *hispida*

**Bloom Period:** May - Nov.  
**Host Plant:** Bordered Patch, Sierran Metalmark, Lacinia Patch butterflies.  
**Wildlife Benefits:** Nectar & pollen. Birds eat seed heads.

Perennial Flower | 1-3 ft. | Full Sun - Part Sun



## CENIZO

*Leucophyllum frutescens*

**Bloom Period:** During rain periods throughout the year  
**Host Plant:** Theona Checkerspot and Calleta Silkmoth  
**Wildlife Benefits:** Shelter for birds & mammals. Deer resistant.

Large Evergreen Shrub | 6+ ft. | Full Sun



## FOUR NERVE DAISY

*Tetrameuris acaulis* var. *arizonica*

**Bloom Period:** April - Sept.  
**Host Plant:** N/A  
**Wildlife Benefits:** Nectar and pollen.

Perennial Flower | 1 ft. | Full Sun - Part Sun



## BLACKFOOT DAISY

*Melampodium leucanthum*

**Bloom Period:** Mar. - Nov.  
**Host Plant:** N/A  
**Wildlife Benefits:** Nectar for pollinators, seeds for birds.

Perennial Flower | 1 ft. | Full Sun - Part Sun



## TEXAS LANTANA

*Lantana urticoides*

**Bloom Period:** April - Oct.  
**Host Plant:** N/A  
**Wildlife Benefits:** Nectar attracts butterflies.

Medium Shrub | 2-4 ft. | Full Sun



## MEALY BLUE SAGE

*Salvia farinacea*

**Bloom Period:** May - Nov.  
**Host Plant:** N/A  
**Wildlife Benefits:** Nectar and pollen for pollinators, especially bumblebees.

Perennial Flower | 2-3 ft. | Full Sun - Part Sun



## AUTUMN SAGE

*Salvia greggii*

**Bloom Period:** Mar. - Nov.  
**Host Plant:** N/A  
**Wildlife Benefits:** Nectar for hummingbirds & pollinators. Deer resistant.

Small Shrub | 2-3 ft. | Full Sun



## RED YUCCA

*Hesperaloe parviflora*

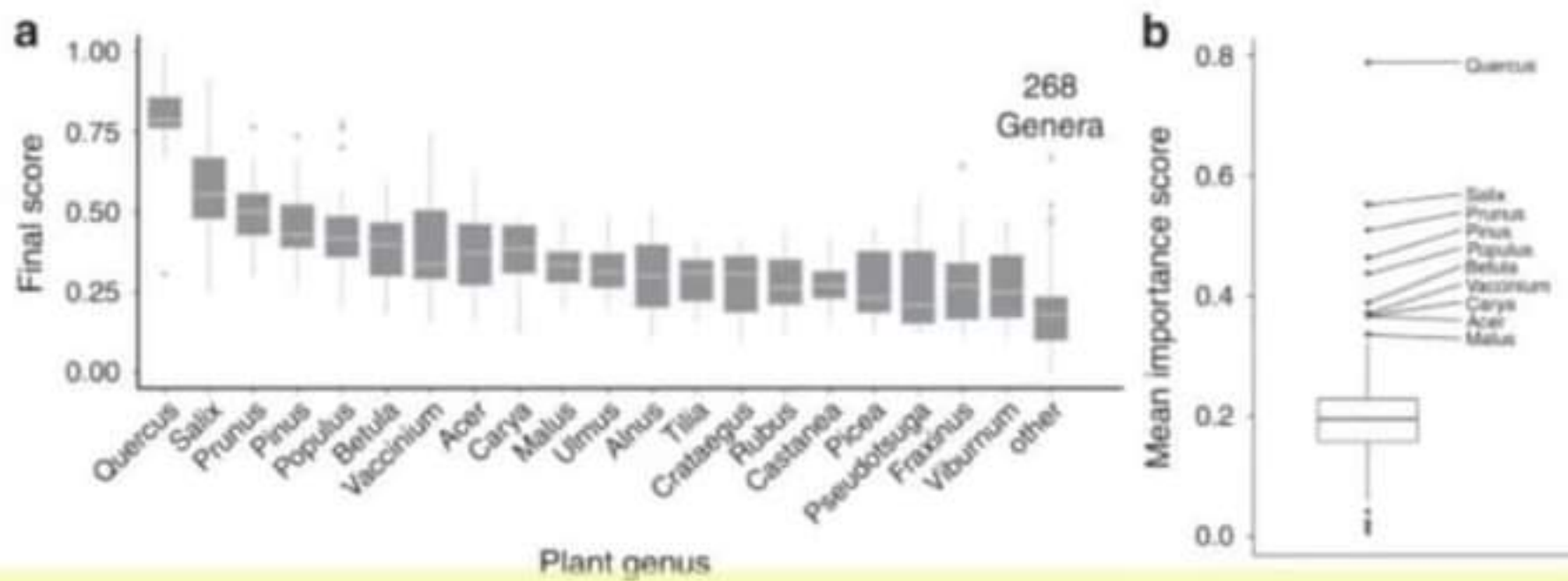
**Bloom Period:** Mar. - July  
**Host Plant:** N/A  
**Wildlife Benefits:** Nectar for pollinators.

Evergreen Succulent | 3-4 ft. | Full Sun



# KEYSTONE PLANTS THAT SUPPORT THE MAJORITY OF BUTTERFLIES AND MOTHS

**Fig. 2: Some plant genera are disproportionately important for supporting host plant-Lepidoptera interaction networks.**



**LISTED IN ORDER OF POWER TO HOST THE MOST CATERPILLARS SPECIES**

- Quercus - Oak Native To Your Area
- Salix - Willow Native To Your Area
- Prunus - Cherry Native To Your Area
- Pinus - Pine Native To Your Area
- Populus - Poplar Native To Your Area
- Betula - Birch Native To Your Area
- Vaccinium - Blueberry Native To Your Area
- Acer - Maple Native To Your Area
- Carya - Hickory Native To Your Area
- Malus - Crabapple Native To Your Area
- Ulmus - Elm Native To Your Area
- Alnus - Alder Native To Your Area
- Tilia - Basswood Native To Your Area
- Crataegus - Hawthorn Native To Your Area
- Rubus - Blackberry Native To Your Area
- Castanea - Chinkapin Native To Your Area
- Picea - Spruce Native To Your Area
- Pseudotsuga - Fir Native To Your Area
- Fraxinus - Ash Native To Your Area
- Viburnum - Viburnum Native To Your Area

From The Work Of Dr. Doug Tallamy  
learn more on pollinator friendly yards on facebook



# NATIVE HOST PLANTS FOR SOUTHEAST TEXAS BUTTERFLIES

## Butterfly

Giant Swallowtail.....  
 Pipevine Swallowtail.....  
 Zebra Swallowtail.....  
 Black Swallowtail.....  
 Tiger Swallowtail.....  
 Spicebush Swallowtail.....  
 Palamedes Swallowtail.....  
 Cloudless Sulphur, Sleepy Orange  
 Little Sulphur.....  
 Soapberry Hairstreak.....  
 Banded Hairstreak.....  
 Northern Hairstreak, Horace's Hairstreak  
 Red Banded Hairstreak.....  
 Cedar Hairstreak.....  
 Henry's Elfin.....  
 E. Pine Elfin.....  
 Cassius Blue, Marine Blue.....  
 Snout Butterfly.....  
 Gulf Fritillary and Variegated Fritillary.  
 Texas Crescent.....  
 Phaon Crescent.....  
 American Painted Lady, Pearl Crescent  
 Question Mark.....  
 Red Admiral.....  
 Painted Lady.....  
 Buckeye.....  
 Red Spotted Purple.....  
 Viceroy.....  
 Hackberry Emperor & Tawny Emperor..  
 Little Wood Satyr.....  
 Monarch and Queen .....

## Plants

Lime Prickley Ash, Hercules Club, Common Hop Tree  
 Aristolochia species (pipevines) A. erecta, A. reticulata, A. tomentosa  
 Paw Paw (Asimina triloba, A. parviflora)  
 Apiaceae (Prairie Parsley)  
 Ash species, Black Cherry  
 Spicebush, Sassafras, Sweetbay Magnolia  
 Red Bay, Sassafras, Sweetbay Magnolia  
 Senna, Partridge Pea  
 Senna, Partridge Pea, Powderpuff  
 Western Soapberry  
 Oaks, Hickories, Walnuts  
 Oak species ( Bur, Willow, Water, Swamp Chestnut, Red)  
 Sumacs, Southern Wax Myrtle, Croton, Oaks  
 Eastern Red Cedar  
 Redbud, Vaccinium, Hollies, Viburnum, Texas Mountain Laurel, Mexican Buckeye  
 Native Pines (not slash or non-natives)  
 Rattlebox, various legumes  
 Hackberry species  
 Passion flower (Passiflora incarnata, P. foetida, P. lutea)  
 Flame Acanthus, Ruellia, Water Willow  
 Frog Fruit (Phyla incisa)  
 Asteraceae: Asters, Sunflowers, Echinacea, Coreopsis, Eupatorium, Liatris, Rudbeckia  
 Elm, Hackberry species, nettle  
 Nettle (Urtica), False Nettle (Boemeria)  
 Thistle, Mallows (Malvaceae), Hibiscus, Sida  
 Toadflax, Plantain (Plantago), Ruellia  
 Black Cherry, Cottonwood, Hawthorns  
 Willows, Cottonwood, Cherry trees  
 Hackberry species  
 Various grasses  
 Asclepiadaceae, Milkweed species  
 Legumes (Acacia, Baptisia, Mimosa, Sesbania, Senna, Sophora, Amorpha)  
 Legumes (Acacia, Baptisia, Mimosa, Sesbania, Senna, Sophora, Amorpha)  
 Baptisia, Lupines, Crown Vetch, Rattlebush,  
 Sidas, Globe-mallows, other Mallows  
 Little Bluestem  
 Grasses  
 Sedges, Marsh Millet  
 Sedges  
 Grasses



**Native Plant Society of Texas – Houston Chapter** [www.npsot.org/houston](http://www.npsot.org/houston)

Prepared by Glenn Olsen from these References: Butterflies of Houston: John & Gloria Tveten, Checklist Of The Vascular Plants Of Texas: Hatch, Gandhi, Brown, Butterflies Of North America: John Feltwell, The Milkweed And Its World Of Animals: Ada and Frank Graham, A Textbook Of Entomology: Herbert H. Ross, Manual of Cultivated Plants: L.H. Bailey *This is a partial list; many more native plants are food sources for butterflies & moths!*





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- **July 9, July Views Blackland Prairies and Wildflowers** with Brandt Mannchen at the Sam Houston National Forest -waitlist- [www.meetup.com/Houston-Sierra-Club-Outings](http://www.meetup.com/Houston-Sierra-Club-Outings)
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- **July 20 – 23 Cullowhee Native Plant Conference** in North Carolina - Zoom option available [www.wcu.edu](http://www.wcu.edu)
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- **Aug. 3 5:30 pm Mercer Botanic Gardens Student Research and Education Symposium** [www.hpc3.com/MBG](http://www.hpc3.com/MBG)
- **Sept. 17 Wildscapes Workshop & Native Plant Sale** [www.npsot.org/houston](http://www.npsot.org/houston)
- **Sept. 17 & 24 Extreme Hummingbird Extravaganza at the Gulf Coast Bird Observatory** [www.acbo.org](http://www.acbo.org)
- **Sept. 22-25 NPSOT Fall Symposium in Alpine, Texas** [www.npsot.org](http://www.npsot.org)
- **Oct. 8 Bird City Surfside Nature Fest** <https://fb.me/e/3iTqF4RGU>
- **Oct. 20-23 Texas Master Naturalist 2022 Annual Meeting** in Houston [www.txmn.tamu.edu](http://www.txmn.tamu.edu)
- **Register for a Kayak Trip with Artist Boat** [www.artistboat.org](http://www.artistboat.org)





## AUGUST 2023 HOUSTON AREA ENVIRONMENTAL EVENT CALENDAR/LIST

Confirm dates, times & details at organization websites.

### Special Events and Programs:

- ❖ Please Bring 1 gallon plastic pots to the Houston Arboretum for their native plant growing efforts. [www.houstonarboretum.org](http://www.houstonarboretum.org)
- ❖ **Wed., Aug. 2 Mercer Botanic Garden Intern Symposium** [www.pct3.com/MBG](http://www.pct3.com/MBG)
- ❖ **Sat. Aug. 5 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Nature Walk** at Stephen F. Austin State Park <https://tpwd.texas.gov>
- ❖ **Sat. Aug. 5 Tree ID Walk** at the Nature Discovery Center [www.naturediscoverycenter.org](http://www.naturediscoverycenter.org)
- ❖ **Sat. Aug. 5 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual OHBA OHBAPalooza** [www.ohbaonline.org](http://www.ohbaonline.org)
- ❖ **Thurs., August 10 Sierra Club Meeting** [www.meetup.com/Houston-Sierra-Club-Outings](http://www.meetup.com/Houston-Sierra-Club-Outings)
- ❖ **Mon., Aug. 14 2<sup>nd</sup> Mon Online Clear Lake Chapter of NPSOT** <http://npsot.org/wp/clearlake>
- ❖ **Thurs., Aug. 17 (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday) 7 pm NPSOT - Houston Meeting** [www.npsot.org/houston](http://www.npsot.org/houston)
- ❖ **Sat. Aug. 19 8 am Watson Preserve Volunteer Workday** <http://watsonpreserve.ning.com>
- ❖ **Wed., Aug. 23 Houston Chapter- Native Prairies Assoc. TX Meeting** [www.texasprairie.org](http://www.texasprairie.org)
- ❖ **View PLANT PARTY Videos** at <https://southtexasrangelands.tamu.edu/plant-party>
- ❖ **Sat. Sept. 9 Kleb Woods Hummingbird Festival** <https://hcp4.net/parks/kleb-woods-nature-preserve>
- ❖ **Sat. Sept. 16 Fall Pollinator Event** at Armand Bayou Nature Center (I-Naturalist Parks for Pollinators Project) [www.abnc.org](http://www.abnc.org)
- ❖ **Sat. Sept. 16 & Sat. Sept. 23 Gulf Coast Bird Observatory Hummingbird Extravaganza** [www.gcbo.org](http://www.gcbo.org)
- ❖ **Sat. Sept. 23 Wildscapes Workshop & Native Plant Sale** at HCC West Loop [www.npsot.org/houston](http://www.npsot.org/houston)
- ❖ **Sat., Sept. 30 Intro to Native Plants** at the Houston Arboretum [www.houstonarboretum.org](http://www.houstonarboretum.org)
- ❖ **Oct. 12-14 81<sup>st</sup> Bulb and Plant Mart** [www.gchouston.org/bulb-plant-mart-info](http://www.gchouston.org/bulb-plant-mart-info)
- ❖ **Sat. Oct. 14 10 am- 4 pm Houston Arboretum ARBOORETUM** [www.houstonarboretum.org](http://www.houstonarboretum.org)
- ❖ **Fri. & Sat., Oct. 27 & 28, Fall Plant Sale** at the Houston Arboretum [www.houstonarboretum.org](http://www.houstonarboretum.org)
- ❖ **Thurs. Nov. 9 to Sun. Nov. 12 NPSOT Fall Symposium in Nacogdoches** [www.npsot.org](http://www.npsot.org)
- ❖ **Sat., Mar. 2, 2024 NPSOT Spring Symposium in Austin** [www.npsot.org](http://www.npsot.org)

----- August 2023 -----

### Tues, Aug. 1

1. 7:30 am Rice U Bird Survey [www.houstonaudubon.org](http://www.houstonaudubon.org)
2. 8 am Lorraine Cherry Park Tues Bird Walks [www.facebook.com/West11thStPark](https://www.facebook.com/West11thStPark)
3. 9 am – noon Greenhouse Gardening at Mercer Tues., Wed.& Thurs. [www.pct3.com/MBG](http://www.pct3.com/MBG)
4. Texas Master Naturalist TMNTuesday [www.txmn.tamu.edu](http://www.txmn.tamu.edu)
5. Prairie Tuesday at Armand Bayou Nature Center [www.abnc.org](http://www.abnc.org)

### Wed., Aug. 2

6. Visit the Raptor Center [www.houstonaudubon.org](http://www.houstonaudubon.org)



# Online Sources

**A&M AgriLife** [agrilifeextension.tamu.edu](http://agrilifeextension.tamu.edu) Ask any question for help online. Tons of information and help.

**Ladybird Johnson Wildflower Center** [wildflower.org](http://wildflower.org) Best source of information for wildflowers and native plants. The most detailed information. Located in Austin, TX!

**Native Plant Society of Texas** [npsot.org](http://npsot.org) Check for local chapters.

**Xerces Society** [xerces.org](http://xerces.org) Nonprofit organization that protects the natural world through the conservation of invertebrates and their habitat

**Wild Ones** [wildones.org](http://wildones.org) Native plants, natural landscapes

**Audubon** [audubon.org](http://audubon.org) Protecting birds and habitat

**Native Backyards** [nativebackyards.com](http://nativebackyards.com) Out of San Antonio Lots of information and resources. Also has a book, "Native plant Gardening for Beginners".

National Wildlife Federation [nwf.org](http://nwf.org) Group lays out ways to protect natural resources.

## Facebook Groups

*Just a small sampling of groups available –*

Bluebonnet Master Gardeners Association

Growing Texas Natives

Pollinator Friendly Yards

Native Bees of North America

Texas Wildflowers

Texas Plants and Invertebrates

Native Habitat Managers