



Wild Ones Louisville Metro Chapter
Native Plants, Natural Landscapes
P.O. Box 4593, Louisville, KY 40204
<http://www.for-wild.org>

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Publicity

Spring 2009 Chapter Meeting

Saturday, April 4, 2009
Picnic at Edelens' Farm, Raywick, KY
noon- ??

Come check out Mike's Shooting Stars and other spring woodland flowers! Bring a picnic lunch and let's enjoy the outdoors! There's a rumor there may be music....

Confirm your plans to attend and get directions or carpooling information at 502-897-2485 or r.harned@insightbb.com!

It's time to get outdoors! After this very destructive and cold winter, it's been great to see everything beginning to green up and grow! My spicebush is beginning to flower, the elderberries are full of new shoots, and my columbines, in their third year, are really starting to spread. It's time to check out all the spring wildflowers!

Mike Edelen has invited the Chapter to visit his farm in Raywick on Saturday, April 4! Mike says he has a nice colony of Shooting Stars that should be blooming, as well as a variety of other spring woodland flowers. Raywick is in Larue County, southeast of Elizabethtown, so we've scheduled a noon meeting in order to enjoy the sun (we hope) and a bring-it-yourself picnic lunch. If you would like to carpool - or can drive other members who do need to carpool - please call or email Rick Harned at the number and address above! Mike will be getting driving directions to us soon, so stay tuned!

In the aftermath of two disastrous wind storms, the 2009 spring planting season presents us with a wonderful opportunity to renew our yards and practice more sustainable landscaping! The experience of losing power and dodging downed and weakened trees surely has many people reconsidering the role of large trees in range of power lines. Much of the Louisville metropolitan residential areas have fairly small lot sizes with overhead power and telephone lines. The recent storms took out many of the taller trees around the power lines and left a tangle of non-native exotic invasive plants, such as bush honeysuckle, privet, and an array of aggressive creeping ground covers. This spring would be a fine time to tackle these areas by removing the invasives and planting shrubs that will never be tall enough to interfere with the power lines. Several native shrub species are especially well suited to the task of replacing the invasive shrubs, providing appropriate screening or borders that will not interfere with power lines, and can make a significant contribution to the overall landscape health of our neighborhoods. .

One of my favorite native shrubs for this job is *Physocarpus opulifolius*, known as "Ninebark" because it has exfoliating bark similar to the river birch trees that are common specimen plants in our urban landscapes. These are extremely hardy and versatile shrubs that are amenable to both wet and dry sites, as well as sun to shade. In order to appreciate the exfoliating bark you can prune them up in winter to essentially design your view. They can also be cut to the ground in winter and allowed to re-grow in the summer. I never cease to be amazed by the hardiness of the ninebarks. Several cultivars are available that provide compact size or fall color; but, I have been

thrilled with the true species that I have been using for the past several years. Ninebarks are simply an excellent plant for screening, borders, naturalizing, and soil stabilization

Instead of planting just one species, I encourage homeowners to plant a staggered hedge of several shrubs to provide more diversity. Other native shrubs that I like to intermingle with ninebark include the always wonderful and fragrant "Spicebush", *Lindera benzoin*, the shrub hollies, *Ilex* spp., native hydrangeas, *H. arborescens* and *H. Quercifolia*, and the reliable *Viburnum* species. The three native shrub hollies are *I. decidua*, "Possumhaw", *I. glabra*, "Inkberry", and *I. verticillata*, "Winterberry"; all of which are offered in a variety of cultivars to fit one's desire for a certain size or color. Having enjoyed the bright red orange berries of the Winterberry holly in a neighbor's yard, I am looking forward to using them as I replant utility easements in the neighborhood this year.

The 10th anniversary of our adoption of Wildflower Woods is coming up next July - and the work of all Wild Ones volunteers has made a huge difference in this very visible corner of Cherokee Park! Ward Wilson reports that some new reporting and paperwork requirements are coming down the road, as Metro Parks is turning over some of the management responsibilities for the park to the Olmsted Conservancy, but requiring more documentation of volunteer efforts. We need someone to take on leadership of this long-time Chapter activity! Can you devote a couple of hours a month to recruiting and leading volunteers in this highly-visible project?

This Saturday, March 28, is our next regular work session in Wildflower Woods! Come see the spring flowers, and the more-open canopy! Now is the time to remove sprouting honeysuckle and garlic mustard! **Wildflower Woods needs YOU Saturday at 10 am!**

If you haven't checked out our Yahoo group, you're missing something! It's not too late! Webmaster Amy Akin has organized a group open only to MetroWild Chapter members, that will allow you to ask questions, publicize gardening-related events, read about upcoming chapter activities and announcements, or just keep up with what's going on! Information about your home business can be added to the FILES section of the group site, so that members can find you. PHOTOS and descriptions of your garden are welcome, as are announcements of plant rescue opportunities or of gardening events of interest to the club. Check it out by pointing your browser to http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Louisville_MetroWild_Chapter/! Contact Amy at aravdez1@yahoo.com if you have any difficulty joining! Remember - to join the group, your Wild Ones membership must be current! (There's a convenient coupon on the back page...)

UPCOMING EVENTS: Spring, 2009

Metro Parks – Olmsted Conservancy Workdays - every Saturday, 9:00 am - noon

First and Third Saturday of every month – Cherokee Park; Second Saturday - Iroquois; Fourth Saturday - Shawnee Park. Write to sarah.wolff@olmstedparks.org for details about the meeting locations. The sessions focus on rooting out invasive plants, rebuilding trails and restoring native plants.

Wildflower Woods Workdays – Fourth Saturday, 10:00 am – noon (Mar 28, Apr. 25, May. 23, etc., all weather permitting) **Location:** Wildflower Woods is in Cherokee Park between Cherokee Parkway, Barney Avenue and the Scenic Loop. **For Information:** Contact Rick Harned at 502-897-2485.

Saturday, May 9 2009 - Louisville Nature Center Spring Plant Sale! Pre-orders are available – see the web site at <http://www.louisvillenaturecenter.org> Times are 9 am to 4 pm

Louisville Nature Center Gardening Class: Native Plants in Sun, Shade, and Rain Gardens

Tuesday, April 14, 7-8:30pm or Tuesday, April 21, 10-11:30am In this class, led by our own Phyllis Fitzgerald, you can learn how to use hardy, drought-tolerant native plants in your home gardens, whether you have shade, part-shade or full sun. Find out the best plants to use in rain gardens and how to use rain barrels to keep your gardens watered. Suggested donation: \$7 per person or \$5 per person for groups of ten or more. Registration required. Call 458-1328.

Have you become a member of Wild Ones? Or renewed your membership?

Your dues are essential for sustaining chapter activities,
plus getting you access to the resources of national!

See the last page for a handy new member/renewal form! Send it in today!



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Mailing Instructions:

- Straight dues & SFE gifts go to the national office at:
P.O. Box 1274, Appleton, WI 54912-1274
- Chapter gifts (with or without dues) go to the chapter at:
P.O. Box 4593, Louisville, KY 40204

Louisville Metro Wild Ones Chapter DONATION / MEMBERSHIP	
<p>Name: _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>City: _____</p> <p>State: _____ Zip: _____</p> <p>Phone: _____</p> <p>Email: _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">New _____ Renewal _____</p> <p>Paying for: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 yr <input type="checkbox"/> 2 yrs <input type="checkbox"/> _____ years</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Membership and Donations are Fully Tax Deductible</i></p>	<p>\$30 – Basic Wild Annual Membership</p> <p>\$50 – Wilder Donation! \$75+ - <i>Wildest Donation!!</i></p> <p>\$200/\$500/\$1,000+ - Wild Businesses</p> <p>(\$20 - Full-time Student/Limited Income)</p> <p>_____ Annual Membership Dues</p> <p>_____ Local Chapter Gift</p> <p>_____ Eco Center Capital Campaign Gift</p> <p>_____ Seeds for Education (SFE) Gift</p> <p>_____ Total Amount Enclosed</p> <p>Please make check payable to: Wild Ones</p> <p>See mailing instructions above</p>