



Photo by Great Rivers Greenway

## WILD IDEAS WORTH SHARING Speaker Series

### INVASIVE SPECIES SOLUTIONS

When science, policy, and stewardship converge

Our local lands and waters—and the life they support—are among our region’s most valuable assets. These special places face many threats, including the problematic spread of invasive species. In recent years, the BiodiverseCity St. Louis network of organizations and individuals have joined forces to activate the region in tackling this problem hands-on, through the Honeysuckle Sweep for Healthy Habitats citizen stewardship campaign. This campaign occurs March 1–31 and November 1–30 each year. As part of the November campaign, a trio of field experts have been invited to St. Louis to share the science of invasion biology, underscore the urgent need to manage existing and emerging invasive species, highlight the role citizens can play in changing policy to preserve biodiversity, and how sustained stewardship can restore and heal landscapes and whole communities.

#### Dr. Ryan McEwan, University of Dayton

*Amur honeysuckle: What can we learn about the “rules” of nature from a plant that breaks them all?*

Amur honeysuckle seems to always win. It wins in the forest, in the road-side ditch, and in the edge of the agricultural field. If you are not careful, it will win your backyard. In this talk, Dr. Ryan McEwan will share the science behind why this plant wins all the time, and what that means for forests, streams, and future ecosystems where all the rules have changed.



#### Dr. Theresa Culley, University of Cincinnati

*Stopping plant invasions by starting with ourselves*

The Callery pear is a perfect example of a perfect storm of gardening fervor, widespread commercialization, and prodigious fruit set, all triggered by human desires and tastes. We are all part of the problem, so we must be part of the solution. Dr. Culley will share how she is using science and data to engage policy-makers and build political and cultural will around preserving biodiversity.



#### Stephen Packard, Woods and Prairie Foundation

*Celebrating invasive control and the recovery of rare species*

In many cases, it took decades, changes of tactics, and the work of good numbers of dedicated, creative, spirited people. Renowned conservationist and ecological restoration practitioner, Stephen Packard, shares stories of failures and dramatic successes in the fight to restore growing populations of endangered and threatened plants, and the wildlife dependent on them.



#### WHEN

Thursday, November 14, 2019

6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

- 6:00 p.m. Check-in/networking/hors d'oeuvres/cash bar
- 6:45 p.m. Formal presentation

#### WHERE

Missouri Botanical Garden  
Ridgway Visitor Center  
4344 Shaw Boulevard  
St. Louis, MO 63110

#### REGISTRATION

FREE, but registration is required by **Thursday, November 7**. Please register at <http://tiny.cc/WIWS>.

#### ABOUT THE SERIES

Wild Ideas Worth Sharing is a free, open-to-the-public speaker series of the BiodiverseCity St. Louis network, in partnership with the Academy of Science St. Louis. The series shines the spotlight on local and global issues and initiatives that advance biodiversity conservation in significant and novel ways.

#### ABOUT BIODIVERSECITY ST. LOUIS

BiodiverseCity St. Louis is a nature-driven network of organizations and individuals working to transform landscapes and lives throughout the region.

Supported by the Albers/Kuhn Family Foundation



Academy of Science | St. Louis  
CONNECTING SCIENCE & THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1856



FREE | REGISTRATION REQUIRED | REGISTER BY NOVEMBER 7