

The News From Native Plant School

August 2012



Native Plant School is a partnership between Shaw Nature Reserve, Grow Native! and Wild Ones Natural Landscapers. Classes are held in the Whitmire Wildflower Garden at Shaw Nature Reserve.

Please register and pay [online](#)



Upcoming classes:

Please register and pay [online](#).

2012 Schedule

Friday, Sept. 7, 4-8 p.m.
[Fall Wildflower Sale and Open Garden](#)

Thur, Sept 13, 1-4 p.m.
Reconstructing Tallgrass Prairies (Woodbury)

Thur-Fri, Oct. 11/12, 1-4 p.m.
Small Flowering Trees, Shrubs and Vines Part 3 (Woodbury)

Fri, Oct. 12, 5-7 p.m.
Book Review: Noah's Garden/Stein (Gilberg/Woodbury)

Please register and pay [online](#).

Nature Connection:



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August Native Plant Highlight

Eastern blazing star (*Liatris scariosa*)

Eastern blazingstar is native to much of the eastern U.S., typically found in upland prairies and open woodlands in dry, sometimes rocky soil. It forms an upright clump that reaches a height of 3-4 ft. Tall rosy-purple flower spikes grace this blazingstar in late summer, adding a wonderful vertical element to the landscape in contrast to early blooming asters and sunflowers. *Liatris* is a butterfly magnet, offering nectar to many species. Later in the season, its seeds ripen and attract numerous birds, most notably the goldfinches.



Gardening Tips:

Water all key planting areas thoroughly unless rainfall has been adequate. Weekly deep watering is more effective than daily shallow watering.

Check plants for signs of water stress, nutrient deficiency or disease.

Divide and replant spring blooming perennials.

Hedges and shrubs can be pruned, if necessary, about mid-August.

Continue to check plants regularly for mature seed heads to collect.

*“An early-morning walk is a blessing for the whole day.”
Henry David Thoreau*

Photos from Native Plant School





Native plant school participants were introduced to three types of native plum that are currently in fruit in the wildflower garden. Many of the native trees with edible fruit had unripe fruit on them. We were all looking forward to making jams and other desserts by the end of the class.

Grow Native! Program Takes Root with Missouri Prairie Foundation

Missouri Prairie Foundation

Ten years ago, purple coneflowers, prairie grasses, and other beautiful and resilient native plants were less common in landscaping than they are today. A decade of work by the Grow Native! program, however, has increased the use of natives in the state dramatically. This summer, the successful native plant awareness program reaches another milestone: beginning July 1, it has a new home with the Missouri Prairie Foundation.

In 2002, the Missouri Department of Conservation began Grow Native! to promote the use of native Missouri plants in landscapes, with the Missouri Department of Agriculture later joining in as a partner. Being part of governmental agencies placed constraints on the program, so the Missouri Department of Conservation assembled a team of Grow Native! members to look at options for moving the program to another home. After looking at a variety of options, the team decided MPF would be an ideal fit for the program.

Many features of the Grow Native! program will remain the same: the website (www.grownative.org) is being redesigned with a fresh look, but retains its popular, native plant database, buyer's guide, and native landscaping guides. As in the past, Landscaping with Missouri in Mind workshops will be held in various parts of the state, the annual Grow Native! Professional Membership meeting will continue to inform green industry professionals about the latest trends in native landscaping, and many other membership benefits will continue to be offered to Grow Native! Professional members.

Some new initiatives are planned as well: MPF intends to engage in more outreach with various entities, including counties and municipalities, to organize Grow Native! plant sales, and to support more native landscaping projects.

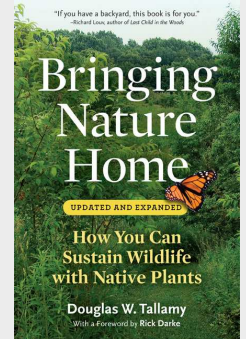


Doug Tallamy to Speak in Jefferson City

Missouri Prairie Foundation

Don't miss Doug Tallamy--author of the acclaimed *Bringing Nature Home* and Professor and Chair of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware--speak in Jefferson City about sustaining wildlife with native plants in your own backyard, and the link between healthy local ecosystems and human well-being.

Organized by Lincoln University Cooperative Extension's Native Plant Program in collaboration with the Missouri Prairie Foundation and Missouri Wildflowers Nursery, the talk will be followed by a special Grow Native! program "transplanting" ceremony, book signing, native plant hors d'oeuvres, and tours of the Native Plant Outdoor Laboratory on the Lincoln University campus. Presentation at 9:30 a.m. in Scruggs University Center , 819 Chestnut. Parking at Dickinson Research Center , 1219 Chestnut, with shuttles to event until 9:15 a.m.



Tickets: \$10.00 for general public and \$5.00 for adults 65 and older. There is no charge for Lincoln University students with a valid student ID. Limited seating; advanced registration is recommended. Send name, postal address, email address, phone number and checks made out to Lincoln University to Ms. Shirley Downing, 900 Chestnut, Allen Hall Room 102, Jefferson City , MO 65101 postmarked **no later than August 15.**

Questions? Contact Nadia Navarrete-Tindall at (573) 681-5392 or navarrete-tindalln@lincolnu.edu.

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