

The News From Native Plant School

September 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, 4-7:30 p.m.
[Shaw Wildflower Market](#)

Saturday, Sept. 15 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
[Prairie Day](#)

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

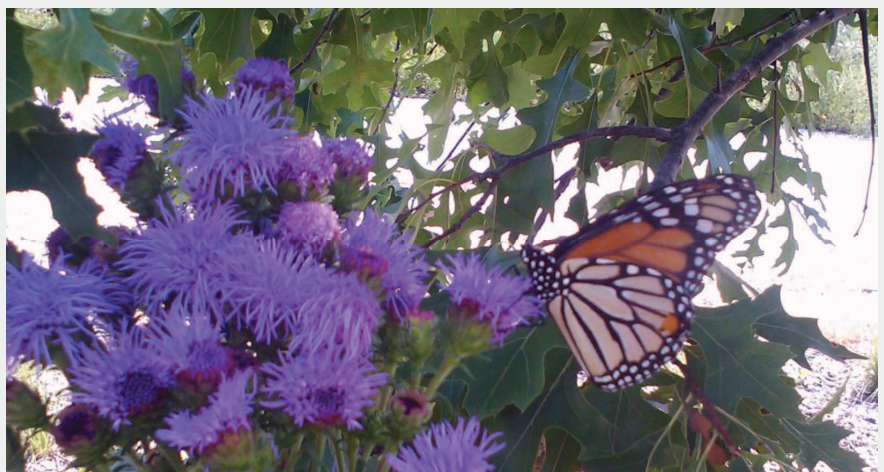
Thur-Fri, Oct. 11/12, 1-4 p.m.
Small Flowering Trees, Shrubs and
Vines Part 3 (Woodbury)

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

2013 Schedule

Nature Connection:

In September and October huge numbers of monarchs migrate from the Central U.S. to a few locations near Mexico City. Along the way, they feed on the nectar of fall-blooming prairie and wetland plants like Aster, goldenrod, bur marigold, ironweed, and blazingstar. Though monarch flight is slow and gliding, adult butterflies travel 1,500 miles (from St. Louis) to reach their over-wintering grounds in the forested mountains of southern Mexico. In spring they return, mating and laying eggs on milkweed plants as they fly north. Migrating Monarchs can live up to 9 months, but summer butterflies tend to live only 6-10 weeks.



2013 Schedule

Thur, Jan. 10, 1-4 p.m.
Control & ID of Common Invasive
Plants (Woodbury)

Thur, Feb 14, 1-4 p.m.
Conducting Small Controlled
Prairie/Woodland Burns
(Woodbury)

Thur, Mar. 16, 1-4 p.m.
Native Plant Propagation from Seed
(Brandt/Woodbury)

**Please register and
pay [online](#).**



Shaw Wildflower Market:

Friday, September 7, 2012
from 4 p.m. till 7:30 p.m.
at Shaw Nature Reserve in
Gray Summit MO

Local Wildflowers, Wine, Bread,
Meats, Cheese, Art, Beer,
Produce and more...

Admission is \$5 per person and
free to Missouri Botanical
Garden Members and Shaw
Nature Reserve Passholders.



The Shaw Wildflower Market is geared for new and experienced gardeners and people looking for locally made products for a greener community, including Wildflowers, Wine, Bread, Meats, Cheese, Art, Beer, Produce and more.

The event is located in the pavilions behind the Bascom House, near the [Whitmire Wildflower Garden](#) at Shaw Nature Reserve. The garden is devoted to showcasing native plants in many habitats and design styles. Participants will be able to stroll through the gardens, gaining inspiration from the mature plantings within each area.

This event is planned rain or shine. Native Plant Experts will be on hand to answer questions, identify plants and give guidance to gardeners wishing to expand their plant palette with native plants.

September Native Plant Highlight

Wild onion (*Allium stellatum*)

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Also known as fall glade onion, this diminutive gem graces dry hillsides and glades of Missouri in late August and September. Its grass-like foliage is waxy with the taste of onion, making it both drought and deer resistant. Reaching 12-15" in height, its rich pink flowers resemble clusters of stars. While it was once used in cooking as an onion substitute, it is not considered to have much culinary value. Wild onion is an excellent choice for use in hot, sunny sites such as rock gardens and dry slopes.

Gardening Tips:

After recent rains check for signs of erosion in lawns and mulched beds.

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

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

"A weed is a plant that has mastered every survival skill except for learning how to grow in rows."
Doug Larson

Using Missouri Natives on a Green Roof at Shaw Nature Reserve



Our green roof atop the new restrooms behind the Bascom House is looking beautiful. The most abundant species is clammy weed (*Polanisia dodecandra*) interspersed with the magenta-colored fame flower (*Phemeranthus calycinus*) and the yellow partridge pea (*Chamaecrista fasciculata*).





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Green roofs are usually planted with different varieties of sedums. Although we do have some native sedums we are trialing a variety of native plants on our green roof. We want to have a diverse rooftop ecosystem that benefits the native pollinators as well as being beautiful.

The roof top soil was installed using a crane in late April and Shaw horticulture staff sowed native seed in early May. The seed was mixed last January and given a two month stratification. In the coming years look for:

Achillea millefolium
Agalinis tenuifolia
Allium cernuum
A. stellatum
Amorpha canescens
Aster oolentangiense
Bouteloua curtipendula
Calamintha arkansana
Chamaecrista fasciculata
Chrysopsis villosa
Coreopsis lanceolata
Dalea purpurea
Echinacea simulata
Gentiana andrewsii
Helenium amarum
Heuchera richardsonii
Koeleria macrantha
Liatris punctata
Manfreda virginica
Palafoxia callosa
Phemeranthus calycinus
Polanisia dodecandra
Pycnanthemum tenuifolia
Ratibida columnifera
R. pinnata
Rudbeckia hirta
R. missouriensis
Solidago missouriensis
S. nemoralis
Sporobolus compositus
S. heterolepis
Tridens strictus
Zizia aurea

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