

*Thanksgiving Poem Loess Hills Wild Ones*  
By Ruth M Rose November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021

*Such a Year of Adventure-In Our Own Back Yards!  
Our Front Yards, Our Pocket Prairies, Our Places-  
Our hanging Pots, Window Boxes, Patios too-  
Our Businesses, Parks, and Community Spaces*

*We're planting for Nature, for feeding us all-  
Sharing Living Examples--and also our Voices!  
We're planting for beauty, for benefit, for Butterflies-  
We're protecting this Earth with our choices!*

*This year, we turned spaces filled with Chemicals and Death-  
Spaces With Concrete and Poisons-- ever duller.  
Planted Blooms in those spaces--Soon saw Butterflies, Bees, and Birds-  
Zones of Lifesaving Spaces-- full of color!*

*This Year filled with Progress, and Plants and GREAT People-  
Filled with Smiles, and Soil and Seeds-  
We saw Raptors and Monarchs, and Bumble Bee Queens-  
Learned to Love plants we used to call "Weeds"!*

*We saw some leaf damage, and a caterpillar or three-  
That's the Food web of LIFE -large and small!  
This Plant NOW is just doing its JOB, we have learned--  
Filling our Future with Thrilling Birdcalls!*

*So what can we do on this Thanksgiving Weekend?  
Look for ways that provide Natural Bonds-  
We can prep beds for Spring, Spread seeds yet this Fall-  
Remove Invasives, and Research Beneficial Lawns!*

*We CAN make a difference, One Act At A Time,  
One Step to make Nature part of each Space!  
Use Plants that provide Homes to the creatures near us-  
One bird bath-- to provide a watering place.*

*One lawn without chemicals, One garden free of pesticides-  
One Place where our Children Safely Play-  
One Patio, one Basket or Planter or Community Garden-  
One Butterfly Garden- providing beautiful SAFE Bouquets!*

*Please Join Us! Make Friends! (Whether Winged, Legged or Blooms)  
Wild Ones Welcomes You Into the Fold!  
And Learn About All that our OWN Spaces can provide!  
Heal your Earth, And your Space-And your Soul.*

