

Weekly Wild Wednesday

February 8th, 2023
What a Week of "Wild Wandering"

We have been collecting seeds from MANY sources to Winter Sow a square yard micro prairie right in downtown Siouxland! We mixed all the seeds together, and were going to hand broadcast them when we came up with an accidental and wonderful way to sow those seeds! Any size plant containers will work!

← First, get two containers of exactly the same size and hole distribution. We used both gallon sized and these pint sized containers.

Second, Place the two containers together, one inside the other. →

Third, holding the bottom container in one hand, twist or dial the top container with your other hand until the holes are completely shut!

Play with this a little twisting back and forth-- so that you know which direction you want to twist the container when you are ready to sow your seeds.

Fourth, with the holes SHUT, fill the container with seeds-- and when you are ready to sow-- twist the container very slightly and gently shake

to distribute your seeds exactly where you would like them to go, at the rate you would like them to fall out of the bottom of the container!

We did take a box with us to catch the seeds and hold the container just in case it started pouring out seeds too fast for our tiny project!

Good Luck!

If you have an area you would like to mix or distribute seeds in a very controlled manner, give this a try! If you have a great method of your own, please share YOUR successes!





← And our Coral Berry Seeds are back to COLD until Spring! We took them from their warm spot in the house, and shoveled snow on top of them to give them moisture in a very chilly snow pile!

Finger's Crossed! These SHOULD sprout this Spring if we timed everything correctly!! These are a Double Dormancy cold/warm/cold/warm seed we are trying to trick into sprouting in ONE season, rather than TWO! Click all photo for details!

And we went on several wanderings this week! What perfect weather for snow hikes! Stone State Park is gorgeous as the sun begins to set! This Canada Wild Rye really picks up drama in that light! →

← Adams Nature Preserve has cross country ski trails groomed into the snowy paths, from an easy peasy loop to the 7+ mile River Loop—Pick your style!

← Look for seed heads in the snow, like the June Grass that Bill identified for us by the Bison Lake Loop!

Buddy LOVED the groomed trails at Gavin's Point by Lewis and Clark Lake! →

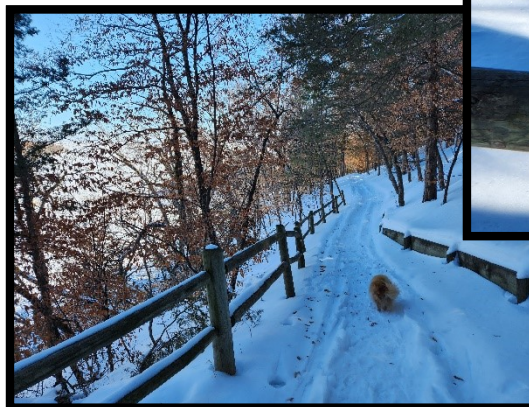
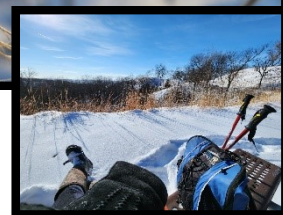
Click photos for maps, information, and plant details!

← Danielle shared her Meander Tour right by her front door!

Asters in my front door garden on Jan 22. Beautifully frosted!!!

MMS 9:33 AM

Stunning!!!



Wooooowww!!!!



[Register HERE!](#)

Join Sarah Nizzi from Xerces Society
for our Loess Hills Wild Ones February Program on Zoom!

February 12th at [2PM](#)

(Zoom connection opens at [1:30](#) but the program begins at [2PM](#))

Sarah will present:

"Site Prep, Plant Selection, and The Needs of Pollinators"

Learn about the steps YOU can take in YOUR OWN SPACE--
Conserving and Supporting Pollinators.

Big or small, every conservation effort counts!

Sarah will cover:
The Habitat Needs of Pollinators
Site Preparation
Plant Selection
and more!

[Join Loess Hills Wild Ones](#)

← Click Sarah's photo to register for the February 12th
"Site Prep, Plant Selection, and The Needs of Pollinators
Zoom! We are so excited about this presentation!

And click photo SOON as
registration is CLOSING
for the Iowa Prairie
Network Winter Seminar!
Zoom or in person
options!



Below left, Universal
Landscape Goals from
Homegrown National
Park! Click photo for link!

And below right,
FABULOUS news from
Iowa Natural Heritage
Foundation on saving a
gorgeous and large
section of NATURE!

Grow INHF!

2023 Winter Seminar

2023 IPN Winter
Seminar
*Prairies in a Changing
Landscape*

February 18th, 2023
Drake University, Des
Moines, IA

[Register here!](#)

Click photo for link!!



4 Universal Landscape Goals By Doug Tallamy



There are four ecological functions every landscape must perform if we are to achieve a sustainable relationship with the natural world that support us (and continuing to insist on landscapes that do not sustain mother nature is not and has never been a realistic option). It's really very simple; our landscapes must do the things that enable ecosystems to produce the life support we and every other species requires.

1) They must support a diverse community of pollinators throughout the growing season.



Iowa
Natural Heritage
Foundation

January 2023

Protecting and restoring Iowa's land, water and wildlife.



INHF purchases Little Sioux Scout Ranch

Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation has purchased the Little Sioux Scout Ranch in western Iowa from the Mid-America Council of the Boy Scouts of America after raising \$2 million in private donations. The 1,776-acre property sits in the globally unique Loess Hills and is crucial to wildlife habitat while being an ideal spot for remote outdoor recreation.

[Read more](#)

Wishing you a week filled with “Wild Wandering!”

