

# Weekly Wild Wednesday

August 16th, 2023

What a Week of "Containers and Communities!"

## Container Gardening with Native Plants

Garden Design Native Perennials Native Plants New Gardeners Urban Gardening

BEAUTY MADE EASY



"From a Planter to a Prairie, Find *your* Style" is something Loess Hills Wild Ones wants to pay a LOT of attention towards in the future! We can find plant communities in the wild, in our gardens, or on our decks and sidewalks! Learning about plants and their Wild Partners like birds, bees, butterflies is as easy as starting your own natural space, visiting a garden on a Garden Walk, or going to visit a large wildlife preserve or park dedicated towards Native plants!

Find YOUR OWN way of learning about the Wild in YOUR area!

We decided to try a FREE Hugelkultur Native planting in a container-- from scratch! Can this really work? We shall see!

←Click photos for video and article! →



← First we found an old pot with cracks in the bottom and added leftover chunks of wood from the woodpile.

← Then we added branches, twigs, and leaves both from the yard and collected along the roadside.

← We topped the wood layers with a layer of wood chips and a layer of compost.

Below, we added a layer of potting soil from an old bag we found in the barn. You can use plain top soil for this step!

← And last we watered thoroughly to let all of this settle together for a few weeks!



We will use seeds from the Loess Hills Wild Ones Seed Share, Annual Meeting, and Potluck coming up November 12th, mark your calendars! We will let this pot overwinter outside in the snow and Winter Elements! Fingers Crossed!



**Garden Walks THIS WEEK! Yippee!!!!!!** Loess Hills Wild Ones is hosting **TWO** Garden Walks near Hinton in Plymouth County on the morning of Saturday, August 19.

The first tour is at Hillview Recreation Area near Hinton from 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. This area is managed by the Plymouth County Conservation Board. Meet at the Dennis L. Sohl Center for Outdoor Learning to stroll through the native wildflower gardens and rain garden. Hillview is located at 25601 C60, one mile west of Hinton, Iowa.



The second Walk is from 10:00 a.m. to Noon. It is located at 1250 Tucker Hill Drive in Hinton, at the home of Danielle & James Metzger. Metzger native gardens were started in Spring of 2020 and are ever expanding with each passing year. Each garden has a name and was designed by Danielle using plants

mostly from Loess Hills Wild Ones native plant sales.

Most of the rock borders for the gardens were transported from Danielle's father's farm located in Buena Vista County. Danielle has a love for grasses and sedges and her favorite wildflowers are the different species of Purple Coneflower *Echinacea* and Butterfly Weed *Asclepias tuberosa*. Her love of the Monarch Butterfly is what sparked and ignited her joy of native gardening. The garden tours are free, open to the public, and are open house format!



And you can have a Wild Adventure with mowed pathways, a gorgeous Nature Center, and an up close Bison Experience by taking a dog friendly road trip to the Prairie Heritage Center in Peterson Iowa!

← Click photo for link to the website!





# 320-Nature's Best Hope: Why Our Plant Choices Matter, with Doug Tallamy-Encore Presentation

JULY 6, 2023 | **PLANT, PODCAST**



photo: Doug Tallamy)

This awesome podcast is great to download and listen to while you are exploring-- or working in your Native Plant Areas!

← Click for link!

## Upcoming Events

- [Garden Walks at Hillview and Metzger Gardens](#)  
Aug 19th, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
- [Fall Plant Sale and Social](#)  
Aug 25th, 3:00 pm to Aug 26th, 12:00 pm
- [Garden Walk at the Railroad Museum](#)  
Sep 9th, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
- [Seed Harvest at Flathers-Wetmore Prairie](#)  
Oct 8th, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
- [Annual Meeting, Potluck, and Seed Share!](#)  
Nov 12th, 2:00 pm - 3:05 pm

And click for a link to all our currently scheduled Future Events!



Chris' blog and Photos of the Week are GORGEOUS!

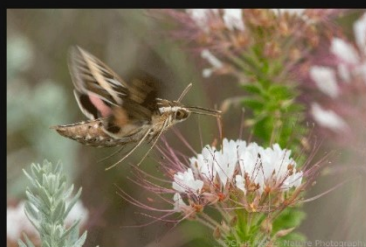
← Click for the full blogpost!

Whatever you decide is YOUR way of participating in Natural Landscapes and Native Plants, take the time to bring a little Nature into YOUR spaces this coming week!

You can learn—right along with us-- to create a little Wild in YOUR life!

And we are always thrilled and thankful to have your Native Seeds for the Fall and Winter Seed Shares!

Please help out by packaging YOUR seeds for OTHERS!



Sphinx moth feeding on clammy-weed (*Polanisia dodecandra*).



A tiny sweat bee (top right) on clammy-weed.



*Wishing you a week filled with "Containers and Communities!"*

