

Weekly Wild Wednesday

September 6th, 2023

What a Week of "Buzz, Bison, Dusk & Dawn!"



We saw BIG Nature at the [Broken Kettle Grasslands](#)-- and you can, too! There are Native Plants in bloom along the entire drive!

This darling baby and Mama are often seen from Butcher Road cooling off and nibbling in the pond!

Take a drive to The Nature Conservancy's preservation there on these HOT afternoons and look closely! Take your binoculars!

← Click photo for details!

Thanks, TNC!!

Loess Hills Wild Ones and Sioux City Railroad Museum are co-hosting a Garden Tour!

You Are Invited to the Sioux City Railroad Museum

3400 Sioux River Road (Highway 12) in Sioux City.

Saturday, September 9.

10:00 a.m. to Noon.

LOESS HILLS WILD ONES GARDEN TOUR

Saturday,
September 9

Sioux City Railroad Museum
10 a.m. - Noon
3400 Sioux River Road (Hwy 12)
Sioux City

FREE ADMISSION FOR GARDEN TOUR
Walk the grounds, tour the gardens,
view the trains, ride the mini train

Refreshments/Restrooms
Available
<https://loesshills.wildones.org/>



Admission to the Railroad Museum is waived for garden tour attendees. The Sioux City Railroad Museum is located at 3400 Sioux River Road (Highway 12) in Sioux City.

The native gardens on tour were designed and planted by volunteers La Vone and Dotty and friends beginning in 2021. The agency has received numerous plants from Loess Hills Wild Ones native plant sales, including two non-profit grants to assist with the garden. The garden tour is free, open to the public and is an open house format.

Refreshments and restrooms are available. In addition to seeing the gardens, attendees are welcome to tour the Railroad Museum grounds, ride the mini train, and view the trains.

The Loess Hills chapter of Wild Ones is a non-profit organization that promotes planting native landscapes, both small and large, in Iowa, South Dakota, and Nebraska. Native plants attract native pollinators and wildlife, enhancing your home and the environment.

← Thanks, Dawn, for this great flier and information!



Sound asleep

Early dawn or late dusk, when you no longer hear the active buzz of bees, you might want to look closely at your flowers! Sometimes they have a tucked in, sleeping, gorgeous buzz in a B&B—like this Great blue lobelia!

Thanks, Cheri, for this lovely photo, you brought a smile!

On a hike, Dawn discovered this opposite leafed Buffalo Berry, which we would have thought was the invasive Russian Olive!

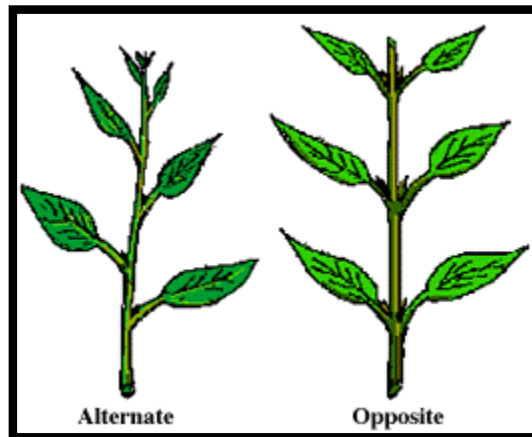
It is NOT!



This highly desired shrub or small tree was loaded with fruit and flutter!

The invasive Russian Olive has alternate leaves!

[Click HERE for a great PDF!](#)



Alternate

Opposite

This ten petal Blazing Star is blooming at dusk and dawn along rocky slopes and side hills all over the Crofton and Yankton areas! During the daylight hours it shuts up tightly!

What an awesome Native flower!

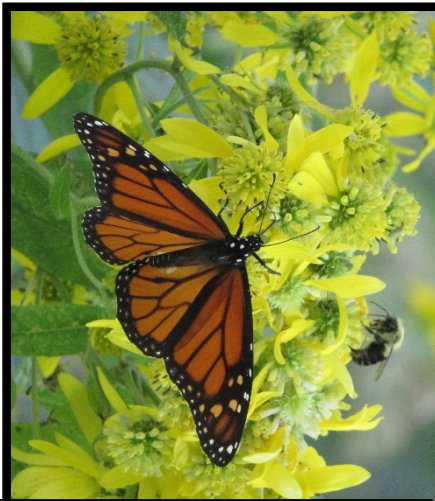
https://wildflowerswest.org/mentzelia_decapetala.htm



And at the *Wild Mess in Progress*, we still have a late blooming Royal Catchfly!

What a beautiful and bright bloom!





← Thanks, Kyle, for the awesome photos and commentary! It IS a great time of year!



I thought I'd share a couple photos with you, 3 of which are of wingstem. They are swarming with bees and the Monarchs are also taking the occasional break from the NE aster and meadow blazing star to partake in the good food source. The other one is showing stiff goldenrod, just coming into bloom and filled with native bees and other insects. Great time of year!!

Below, we caught a lot of action on our own local wild Canada Goldenrod as well!



One of my favorite discoveries this week was a snail at Lincoln Creek Prairie, right across town from me. I've been exploring and photographing Lincoln Creek Prairie for 26 years or so and have never seen a snail in the prairie until this week. In fact, I can't think of where I've seen a land snail in a Nebraska prairie anywhere close to here. Why now? Where was it hiding? Are there more? What species is it? Why does Wendy's make square hamburgers??

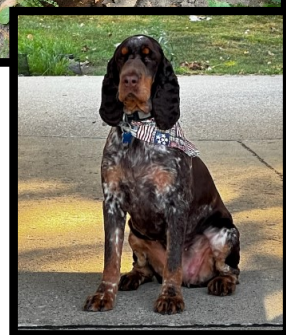
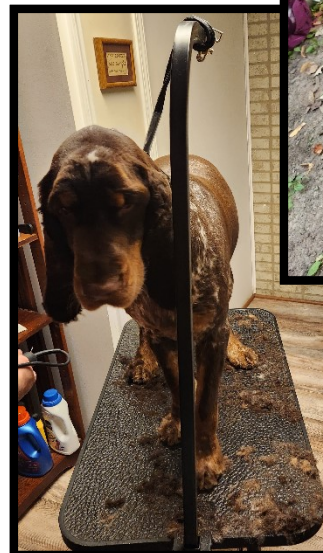
Chris found this live snail! So unusual!
 ← Click for full blogpost!



And the 'Stick Seed Spaniel' took the advice most offered last week and got a buzz cut for Fall!
 Nelle was SO happy!



Jason Sachs photo above- Click for link!



Wishing you a week filled with "Buzz & Bison; Dusk & Dawn!"

