

# Weekly Wild Wednesday

October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023

What a Week of "Planting & Preparation!!"

We are on flat out, full on Seed Collecting, Fall Burns, and Fall Preparation for Spring Planting on reclaimed lawn areas! So much fun, and so much progress! Yippeeeeeee!

This Dotted (Nicknamed Dotty) Blazing Star was direct seeded three years ago from Dotty and Bill's Prairie Hills property! These plants put on an AMAZING show this year, and now they are sharing seeds with ALL of Loess Hills Wild Ones, first come first serve, at the Seed Share November 12<sup>th</sup>!

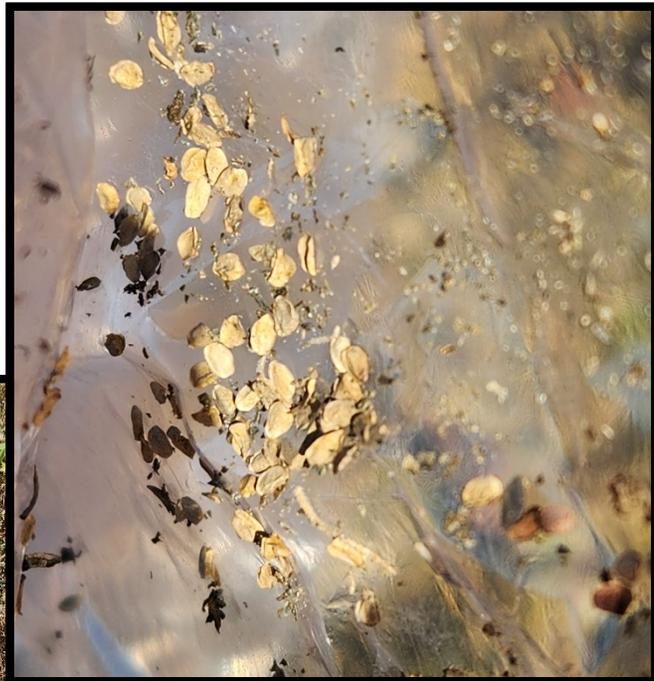
← Speaking of Prairie Hills, Briarcliff University students participated in a burn with Bill and Brian this week to help the prairie be dominated by forbs (flowers) next year! From our limited understanding, Fall burns help with flowers, and Spring burns help promote grasses! The best plan is a mixture of timing in different areas!

Up North in the Crofton area, the Ten Petal Blazing Star seed was dropping all over the place!

We held a bag near this plant, tapped a seed pod with a pencil, and seed fell right in! We did NOT seal the bag, and then transferred this seed to a PAPER bag, as soon as we

returned home. The plastic bag was the only thing in our

vehicle when we spotted this seed in an area where we had already received permission to harvest! Rod FIRST introduced us to this plant in this presentation! Fast Forward to avoid our Tech Challenges, haha!



Dawn showed us how it's done this week with her [Fall Preparation for Spring Planting](#) in a reclaimed area of her lawn! Click link for printable with QR code!

← 1. She picked her spot and plotted it out.

2. She laid out cardboard in her chosen shape and size. You can use paper, too! →

← 3. New to us, she used landscaping staples to secure her cardboard! Great idea!



← 4. She secured leftover wood chips from a friend's pile. 5. She covered the cardboard 2-4 inches deep.

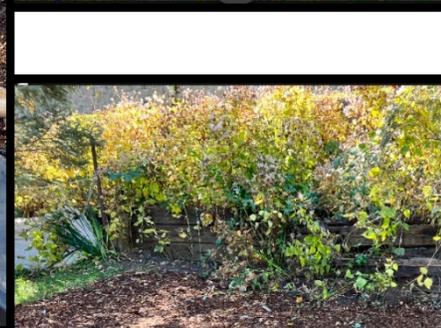
Buddy supervised and approved!



You can use your leaves, your compost, or any mulch!



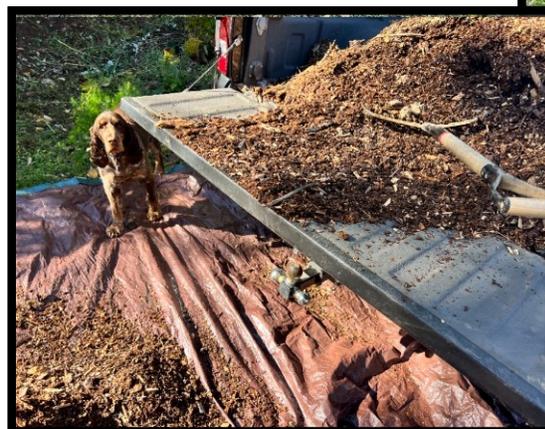
Buddy Approved Project!



Yippee!!!! Nature will turn this lawn area into a perfect planting medium for the Spring Plant Sale May 17, 18<sup>th</sup>!

We Love this project!

Above, Nelle thought this was a GREAT way to spend time in the yard!





# Loess Hills Wild Ones

Annual Meeting,  
Elections, Potluck,  
& Seed Share

Sunday,  
November 12  
2-4PM

Sioux City Public  
Museum

607 4th Street

New Location

Sneaky's Chicken &  
beverages will be provided.  
**BRING A SIDE DISH TO SHARE.**

Bring seeds to share

(please label type and source)

Send photos of your gardens

for our slide show to

loesshillswildones@gmail.com

by Nov. 5th.



We have learned SO much in the last four years about seed collecting and preparation for planting, and we will have Native seeds to SHARE November 12<sup>th</sup> from 2-4PM at the Sioux City Museum! Plus FOOD and FUN! Parking is FREE!

There will be many people who can help YOU with success growing Native plants from seed!

Please Join us! Open to everyone!



Talk of Iowa  
Iowa Public Radio

4 days ago

## How to return your land to its native ecosystem

Playing



Tall grass prairie once covered about 85% of the land we now know as Iowa. It now makes up less than one-tenth of a percent.

Charity Nebbe ALWAYS makes us smile, but she really hit it out of the park on THIS podcast! With guests Pauline Drobney and Kelly Norris, so many good tips to get us started or start us adding Nature in our OWN spaces! I listened to this one while planting my last few plants! [Click for link](#)→

The funniest line goes to Kelly, who said “Only a Mother could love a First Year Prairie!”

P.S. Mulhalls in Omaha has a 50% off Native Plants sale!

Yes! We are still planting wet feet plants at the Wild Mess! We listened to the 12 reasons to plant flowers in Autumn and we are BIG fans of this way of planting Native plants in prepped areas! Below, Wild Blue Lobelia, Cardinal Flower, Blue Flag Iris! Fingers crossed! Find What You Need, Little Plants!

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## 12 REASONS TO PLANT FLOWERS IN AUTUMN Garden Tips



*Wishing you a week filled with "Planting and Preparation!"*

