

# Weekly Wild Wednesday

January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024

What a Week of "Winter Strolling and Winter Sowing"



PERFECT weather for watching wildlife --

From INDOORS →

Or taking a snowshoe Meander Tour--

← OUTDOORS!



← Don't try to hike in plain knee high boots...You will get left sadly behind...



Buddy is light enough not to break through the deep crusted snow!



Enjoy the **MOMENT** the sun peeks through the snowing clouds from indoors **OR** outdoors!

And look for **TRACKS** everywhere!

This is an interesting optical illusion!

At first glance, these tracks **LOOK** like they are sunken into the snow. However, they are **ACTUALLY** raised above the snow pack! When they were packed down, they stayed firm when all the snow from **AROUND** them blew away! They are actually about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch **ABOVE** the surrounding snow! About 50% of people 'see' this correctly after staring at them for a couple of minutes!!





Date  
Change!

# WINTER SEED SOWING



**SATURDAY,  
JANUARY 27TH**

**DOROTHY PECAUT  
NATURE CENTER**

1 - 3 PM

Bring 1-2 empty milk jugs.  
We will provide the  
instructions, soil, and seeds.  
Free!



The BLIZZARD postponed our Winter Sowing Workshop-Drats!

HOWEVER, Guess What?

THIS COMING Saturday January 27<sup>th</sup> is also—

[National Seed Swap Day!](#)

Yippeeeee!!!

We will have PLENTY of SEEDS to SHARE, whether you bring some to SWAP or NOT!

Also we will have extra gallon jugs in case you don't have those to bring--until they run out!

One way to Winter Sow--  
[Printable PDF HERE!!](#)

← In a fascinatingly icky way, Nature is Scarifying and Stratifying Seeds—Through Bird Scat! Click on either photo to access a detailed explanation of BOTH terms! We saw MANY areas with future Native Plants spread by seed flown here and there by the BIRDS!

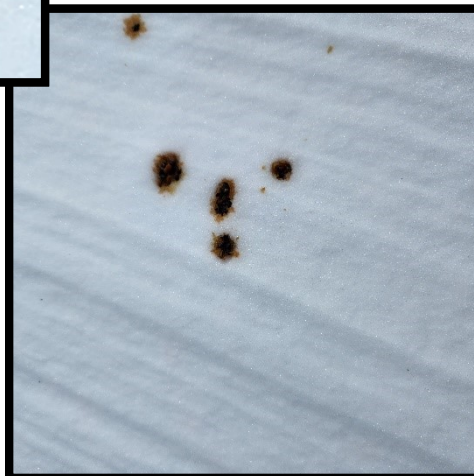
Yuck but...Grow, Nature!



Far left shows once again, the abundance of seed heads and food provided by Native plants! The barren area is the mowed hiking path, buried in snow.

Motto for *The Wild Mess in Progress*—  
“Only mow what you USE!!”

Above, at *The Flower House*, the seed heads are still doing their job—  
Right in the middle of Sioux City!  
Yippeeeee!!!!






# Water Gardens and Water Features

with Jamie Beyer, Midwest Waterscapes



Sat., February 10  
Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center  
2-3 PM

 <https://loesshills.wildones.org/>



← Upcoming Program! Mark Your Calendars!!

**Saturday, February 10: Water Gardens and Water Features with Jamie Beyer, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m., Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center.** There is a water feature for every landscape. Learn what might be best for your yard to add the wonder of water. Bring your questions and comments. Jamie has worked on more than 1,000 ponds, both large and small. It has been his passion for over 55 years. He owns a consulting business, Midwest Waterscapes, and lives in Boone, Iowa. Co-sponsored by Loess Hills Wild Ones and Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center.

## Native Plant Garden 10 Years In: 5 Plant Lessons Learned

Updated: Jan 5

The plant details!



Side Garden in Year 5

This excellent Nuts for Natives Post is really worth the time to read!

We learned a LOT and really appreciate this idea of sharing Lessons Learned—since we are ALL learning together!!

Thanks, Nuts for Natives!!

← Click for link!

AND—Our NEW LOGO NEW Catch Phrase CLOTHING arrived!

Click for link to the newly opened STORE at National Wild Ones!



Connecting PEOPLE and native PLANTS for a healthy PLANET!



Click photos for link!



*Wishing you a week filled with "Strolling and Sowing!"*

