

Weekly Wild Wednesday

February 7th, 2024

What a Week of "Winter Interest and Water Gardens!"

Thank you, Coral, for letting us come over and spend time OOOOO-ing and AAAHHH-ing over your Winter Garden Interest!

Wooooooowwwww!!!!



← Winter Sowing is in full production, Coral already has these mini greenhouses growing out local ecotype seeds for Loess Hills Wild Ones Summer Plant Sale!



← She has NEW Native Plant raised Beds all tucked in with straw!



And taught us an awesome new trick on keeping your 'Leave the Leaves' in place- if you DON'T

want them blowing onto a nearby sidewalk! Zoom in to see the mesh fence covering the leaves! How creative-- and attractive, too!



← There was 'Coral' Berry—Get it? (Groan)

And GORGEOUS seed heads- still filled with seeds- from the Ten Petal Blazing Star!



← My FAVORITE were the small, woolly mini lamb seed heads of the Thimbleweed! Darling!

This Dotted Mint (Or Spotted Bee Balm) is a showpiece all winter! (It's pretty nice in Summer too, haha!) →

Click any photo for links to each plant!



Thank you, Coral, for the Winter Interest stroll admiring your fabulous gardens! We had SO much FUN!



Water Gardens and Water Features

with Jamie Beyer, Midwest Waterscapes



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



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



THIS Saturday!!! Come on over to the Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center from 2-3 PM to learn about Water Gardens and Water Features with Jamie Beyer!

We can hardly wait!

We will try to record this presentation!

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.

Below, if you need a great idea for Valentine's Day check out Hillview Recreation Areas *All About Owls!*

Call 712-947-4270 to register for all --or part-- of this day!

**BUILDING BETTER BIRDERS
ALL ABOUT OWLS**

February 14
1-2:30 Raptor Identification
3-4:30 Christmas Bird Count
5-6:30 Driving Tour
7:00-8:00 Owl Prowl

Iowa Prairie Network has their Winter Seminar coming up- February 24th ALL DAY!

Click photo for link to this information—plus all the details --and Registration-- for this event!



Iowa Prairie Network
Winter Seminar
2/24/24 | 9:45am - 5:15pm
Ames High School
1801 Ridgewood Ave. - Ames, IA

Topics and Speakers

- Urban Conservation: Creating Habitat with Native Plants with Kaytlan Moeller, Outreach Coordinator, Dubuque County Conservation Board and Sarah Nizzi, Pollinator Conservation Specialist, NRCS Partner Biologist
- Storytelling to Communicate Prairies with Tony Vorwald, Naturalist, Jackson County Conservation and Dr. Dale Easley, Geologist, University of Dubuque
- Plant Identification - Native and Non-Native Thistles with Dr. Tom Rosburg, Professor, Dept of Biology, Drake University and Deb Lewis, Ada Hayden Herbarium Curator, Iowa State University
- Climate Change and Iowa's Prairies, Dr. Bill Gutowski, Professor, Department of Geological and Atmospheric Sciences, Iowa State University
- History of Southeastern Grasslands, Jeremy French, Director of Stewardship, Southeastern Grassland Institute
- Old Growth Prairies, Carl Kurtz, Landowner, Author, Prairie Advocate
- Invasive Species and their Allies, Derek Miner, Land Steward Associate, Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation
- Images of Intention, Jacob Pitzenberger Photography

More info and registration: www.iowaprairienetwork.org

Wishing you a week filled with "Winter Interest and Water Features!"

