<u>Weekly Wíld Wednesday</u> June 12th, 2024 What a Week of "Tea Party Planníng!"

Phase IV!!! We are SO excited to be starting the LAST phase of installation at "The Flower House!" What a fun transformation this has been! We will have one more year in 2025 of maintenance and tweaking on this project while helping Mercedes learn even more about her gardens and her Native and Natural Landscaping! She designed her own layout for this last phase!





Baptisia australis

This easy to grow native springs from the ground in April with aggressively growing stems that form a big, beefy bush. Flower buds quickly form at branch tips producing tall spires of purple hooded blooms in late-May against deep green foliage. It's perfect alone or in garden groups!

BENEFITS:

- Inrives in sunny, well-drained so
- brought tolerant and extremely hardy
- Winter stems offer great perching and nesting
- Pea-like flowers attract many butterfly species
- Big, shrub-like form is great garden critter cover





We used the <u>No Dig Method</u> (which we usually like to let rest for a few weeks or a season but you *can* plant promptly) to smother the grass and give the

project a uniform look. As the years go on, this particular mulch will disintegrate into soil and fill in with plants and seedlings.

There are so many methods to start a new garden bed, and none of them are right or wrong, just different approaches to the same 5 year goals of Native and Pollinator plants in formerly chemical and non-host friendly areas!

We added three Baptisia sourced from Earl May locally. Yucca grown from a sustainable

> seed harvest hosted by <u>Golden Hills</u> <u>RC&D</u> seed-- sourced from Five Ridge Prairie. Lupine sourced from Mulhalls. Lots of chemical free pollinator friendly annuals to make it look great year 1 while the Native Plants fill in over the next <u>Sleep, Creep, Leap</u>









We added a trellis and a <u>Clematis Virginiana</u> from <u>Siouxland Prairie Farms!</u>



Earlier while working with the sedges, we saw a Hummingbird Moth hiding under the blades! We carefully left those plants alone...



← Phase I started in September of 2020, and we showcased that in our <u>VERY FIRST Wild</u> <u>WEDNESDAY September 2nd of</u> <u>2020!</u> We used to deliver a PRINTED copy by HAND to 6 people! Click for link!

All the archived Wild Wednesdays are <u>HERE!</u>



We also have a Board Strategic Planning Session in July!

If you have ideas for programs, speakers, suggestions, interests, or anything YOU would like to see in the coming years, please let us know!

Not shown is the FALL PUBLIC NATIVE PLANT SALE September 14th 9AM-12PM! \leftarrow Join us and see all the changes over the years!

Upcoming Events

• <u>Tea Party and Plant Share at 'The Flower</u> <u>House'</u>

Jun 22nd, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

- Morningside Garden Tour and LOCAL
 ECOTYPE Plant Sale!
 Jul 20th, 10:00 am 1:00 pm
- <u>Garden Walk at "Joy Gardens" and "The</u> <u>Wild Mess in Progress"</u> Aug 10th, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm
- Fall Member's Only Plant Sale Sep 13th, 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm
- <u>Fall Grant Awards</u> Sep 13th, 5:00 pm - 5:30 pm

The New Hork Times

IN THE GARDEN

Butterflies Know: These Native Plants Aren't Weeds

Pollinators recognize a good thing when they see it — and so do gardeners in search of organic pest control. As one put it, "My prairie is my pesticide."

🛱 Share full article 🔗 🗍 🖵 158



Are you interested in helping to rewild Northwest lowa? You have a unique opportunity to learn more about the concept of rewilding, develop and share your ideas, and implement them on Saturday, June 15, at Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center from <u>10 am</u> to <u>3</u> <u>pm</u>.

Dr. David Hoferer from Briar Cliff University will talk about what rewilding means and provide examples happening in the region. You will collaborate with a diverse group of participants, formulating your ideas into action plans. By the end of the session, we will have a roadmap we can follow to Rewild Northwest lowa!

See the agenda and register by noon on Wednesday, June 12, at <u>https://bit.ly/RewildNWIA-6-15-24</u>. Registration is capped at 100 participants. Refreshments and a light lunch will be served; please bring your own water bottle or mug. Rewilding Northwest Iowa, funded by a grant from BeWildReWild, is coordinated by the Northwest Iowa Group of Sierra Club

John shared this awesome article from the New York Times!

← Click for link!

Sharon—And many others—are sending their thank you's for the grants-- and fun Citizen Science observations! Thank you for the opportunity to introduce more native plants to our home. I am attaching a picture of the area where the native plants are in our yard. We have a temporary fence around the area to protect them (from the ever present raccoons) until they have grown stronger. Also, I am attaching a picture of a hummingbird on my Early Figwort (sorry, not a great picture), If you look close, your can see a hummingbird on the plant. I purchased the Figwort two (maybe 3?) years ago in the fall from Wild Ones. Lots of bumblebees in the fall but never a hummingbird. So nice to see a hummingbird too! Thanks again, Wild Ones! Sharon



Dotty shared this event! ← Click photo for link to details and registration---Hurry!! TODAY is the deadline to register—by NOON!!

> Look for Monarch—and other—caterpillars and plant utilizers on your Milkweed Leaves! We are so excited to see these plants "Doing Their Job!!" Thanks, Marc!



≡

Wishing you a week filled with "Native Planning and Planting!"

