

# Weekly Wild Wednesday

July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024

What a Week of "Wonder & Wandering"



At the 'Wild Mess in Progress' we have been slowly replacing invasive species with native plants, trees, and shrubs! Far left, we dug up an invasive honeysuckle bush and replaced it with a Red Osier Dogwood from Siouxland Prairie Farms!

← We stopped to see the Leaf Cutter Bees at work making architectural designs on our leaves! They are the coolest bee, learn more about them by clicking on the leaf with the cutouts! 9 minute video!

Far left, We were SO grateful for the rainstorm that swept through, giving Plants, People and our section of the Planet a break from the 90 degree heat wave that has lasted...and lasted... Thanks Nature, for the welcome water!



## Flower-of-an-hour, a species of *Hibiscus*

Also known as:

- Bladder ketmia
- Bladder weed
- Modesty
- Puarangi
- Shoofly
- Venice mallow
- Bladder hibiscus

Botanical name: *Hibiscus trionum*



We found a Flower-of-an-Hour at The Wild Mess in Progress after Dawn shared a photo of one her relatives had found on their property! Neither of us planted these gorgeous blooms, but they are sure welcomed and wanted!





The Wild Senna is in full bloom, and what a GORGEOUS plant in our gardens! It was literally HUMMING with activity from so many different kinds of bees! We LOVE this plant!

Dianne let us know to be very careful while harvesting herbs, she found this awesome crysalis of a black swallowtail on her sage! Thanks, Dianne, we will keep a careful eye out!



Black swallowtail. It was near dill and had climbed onto the sage. Be careful harvesting herbs!

Sara sent this great photo and info!  
Click moth for link! →



Hey my husband took this picture at woodhouse auto today

Eumorpha achemon, - sphinx moth

I remember the garden you worked on in that area at a business had Virginia creeper - which they feed on.

Maybe that's why it is in that area!!



Mama is blocking the road protecting her baby in the Friends of Stone Park Pocket Prairie! How cute is that! The Pocket Prairie is doing it's job feeding the Wild! We backed up and went another way...

Fireflies are attracted to high grasses and rest on tall blades of grass or shrubbery. Lawns mowed at 3.5 or 4 inches are better for fireflies yet also may produce a healthier lawn.





**CERTIFIED**  
**NATIVE HABITAT**

*Native plants and natural landscapes thriving in every community*



## LOESS HILLS WILD ONES GARDEN WALKS

**Saturday, August 10  
10AM - 1PM**

**“The Wild Mess in Progress” at  
home of Ruth Rose  
18320 Talbot Road in Sioux City**

**AND**

**“Metzger Native Gardens” at home of  
Danielle & James Metzger  
1250 Tucker Hill Drive in Hinton**

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



Any hope of these  
still blooming 3  
weeks from now? 🤔



**Upcoming, we have two VERY different gardening styles in our walks!**

**Danielle’s ‘Metzger Native Gardens’ are in a suburban setting, well organized and thoughtfully designed and landscaped by Danielle and her family!**

**The ‘Ever Wilder Mess in Progress’ are a very wild nature experience indeed! Next to Stone State Park.**

**Come share our common love of Nature and Wild Plants! Open to the Public!**

**This article is really interesting!**

**Click for link! →**

### **'A different form of littering': Homeowners must take closer look at their yards, entomologist says**

Connecticut Public Radio |  
By [Shanice Rhule](#)

Published July 25, 2024 at 3:01  
PM EDT



But pesticides, a need for freshly-cut grass and America's penchant for invasive ornamental plants have broken these types of co-evolutions down, Tallamy said, filling American lawns with plants that don't support anything.

“We're hammering the nature that supports us, that keeps us alive, that provides the life support that we all need,” Tallamy said.

To help, Tallamy said homeowners should embrace more native plants and consider letting nature make its way a little bit more aggressively into your property. He recommends planting keystone trees, such as white oak or birch, and reducing the use of fertilizer and pesticides.

*Wishing you a week filled with "Wonder and Wandering!"*

