Building a Web of Life

22nd Annual
Michigan Wildflower Conference
and Educators Workshop

March 8–9, 2009

Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan

www.wildflowersmich.org
WELCOME
22nd Annual Michigan Wildflower Conference

MISSION STATEMENT...
By increasing awareness and knowledge, the Wildflower Association of Michigan encourages the preservation and restoration of Michigan’s native plants and native plant communities.

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WAM Organization ...................... 1
Sponsors & Supporters .............. 1
WAM History .............................. 2
Keynote Presenter ..................... 3
Agenda, Sunday ......................... 4-5
Educators’ Workshop ................. 6
Glassen Foundation .................. 6
Agenda, Monday ...................... 7-8
Speaker Profiles ....................... 11-14
Exhibitors & Vendors .............. 16
Bus. & Org. Members ............. 17-19
MNPPA Members .................. 20
The Wildflower Association of Michigan traces its roots back to March of 1986, when an exploratory meeting was held during Agriculture and Natural Resources Week at Michigan State University. Eighty individuals from various organizations and agencies, including Michigan Department of Transportation, Michigan State University Department of Parks and Recreation, and Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc. (formerly Federated Garden Clubs of Michigan), gathered to discuss wildflower-related programs, challenges and potential, and to formulate a plan. Professor Louis F. Twardzik, MSU, was chairperson and Kim Herman, MDOT, was recorder of this group. The interest generated at this first meeting warranted forming a Wildflower Alliance. Additional meetings were held throughout the remainder of that year.

The first Michigan Wildflower Conference was held March 24, 1987 during ANR Week. After this conference, the group formally organized, creating bylaws and electing officers. Harry Doehne, owner of Michigan Wildflower Farm, presided as interim president. Elected officers were Glenn Goff, President; Kim Herman, Vice President; Betty Dick, Secretary; and Robert Welch, Treasurer.

Because attendees at the 1988 Michigan Wildflower Conference noted an increasing interest in the availability of native Michigan seed, and a lack of commercial growers, the first Wildflower Seed Growers Workshop was held during the 1989 conference. As an outgrowth of this workshop, the Wildflower Association of Michigan received funding to prepare a Wildflower Production Position Paper, presenting the results of a survey on the potential usage of wildflower seed in Michigan. The WAM Seed Committee published this report and sent it to the Michigan Department of Agriculture in January of 1990, documenting the current and future status of Michigan native wildflower seed production and recommendations. The outgrowth of this interest in native Michigan seed and plant production resulted in the formation of the Michigan Native Plant Producers Association (MNPPA) in 2000. Membership has grown to ten firms, with others interested in joining.

The Wildflower Association of Michigan has experienced phenomenal growth since those early years. The Michigan Wildflower Conference, held annually in March, includes the WAM annual meeting and two days of workshops and seminars featuring knowledgeable speakers with expertise in proper principles, ethics and methods of landscaping with native wildflowers and associated habitats on various levels of understanding, from novice to professional. The conference has been host to other groups interested in native plants, including the Michigan Invasive Plant Council, Wild Ones, and the Stewardship Network.

During the conference, WAM sponsors a concurrent Educators’ Workshop to help teachers plan and develop outstanding outdoor educational facilities, improve grant-writing skills, and get feedback on individual projects. At the conference’s grant awards luncheon, educational grants are awarded to qualifying facilities through a partnership with the Hal and Jean Glassen Memorial Foundation. The Glassen Foundation will have given over $40,500 in grants to fund the WAM/Glassen Grant Fund over the past eight years.

Operation Wildflower, the Michigan Garden Club’s cooperative effort with the Michigan Department of Transportation to plant native wildflowers along Michigan’s roadsides, received WAM support while it was active. A newsletter, Wildflowers, is published quarterly and features articles on native Michigan wildflowers, habitats, legislative updates, book reviews, upcoming events, and related stories. An official Web site <www.wildflowersmich.org>, presents the latest information about WAM activities, along with a wildflower library and links to other helpful Web sites. The Wildflower Association of Michigan received 501(c)(3) status in 2001.
Professor Tallamy is Chair of the Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware, where he has taught Insect Taxonomy, Behavioral Ecology and other courses for 27 years.

In his book *Bringing Nature Home: How Native Plants Sustain Wildlife in Our Gardens* (Timber Press 2007) he explores how what we do in our gardens has become crucial to the ongoing diversity and survival of plant and animal communities.

Author of over 68 scientific articles, he has concentrated his research on the ways insects interact with plants and how such interactions determine the diversity of animal communities.

Professor Tallamy has been touring widely to promote his book and to spread his message. Of great importance to him is teaching young people the importance of the myriad life forms all around them. He’s an avid photographer, birdwatcher and hiker. He also works to restore native species and biodiversity on his own ten-acre property in southeastern Pennsylvania.

Douglas W. Tallamy

Native Prairie Planting at the Chicago Botanic Gardens
7:30 Registration Opens – Red Cedar Room
7:30 – 8:30 Refreshments – Red Cedar Room

Morning General Sessions: Rooms Big Ten B/C

8:30–8:45 Greetings and Announcements

8:45–9:45 Building a Butterfly Garden ~ DOUGLAS TALLAMY, PROFESSOR and CHAIR of the DEPARTMENT of ENTOMOLOGY and WILDLIFE ECOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE.
Successful butterfly gardens provide both nectar sources for adult butterflies and host plants for the larval stages of butterflies. It often comes as a surprise that many butterfly host plants are native woody plant species not typically used in butterfly gardens. But to have butterflies we must make butterflies. Properly designed butterfly gardens also support a variety of beautiful moth species. Professor Tallamy will discuss these principles as well as Lepidoptera behavior and the differences between moths, butterflies and skippers.

9:45–10:00 Break

10:00–11:00 One yard at a time: Creating Habitat for Migrating Songbirds ~ KAY CHARTER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - SAVING BIRDS THROUGH HABITAT
Birds depend heavily on the insect biomass that is supported by native plants. Charter's program demonstrates why native plants are crucial to these feathered jewels (as well as many other life forms) and show how every one of us can make a positive difference in our own backyards, regardless of the location or size.

11:00–11:45 Wild Rice Restoration and Preservation: Michigan's Aquatic Gardens ~ DR. SCOTT HERRON, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF BIOLOGY, FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY
During Dr. Herron's presentation you will learn to identify both varieties of wild rice in each stage of development, growing conditions and habitats. He will also explore how restoration efforts have led to habitat improvements for songbirds, waterfowl, several threatened migratory birds and how you can bring wild rice into your backyard pond or wetland to increase habitat potential.

11:45–12:00 Break

12:00–1:45 Grant Awards Lunch (Big Ten A)
ROBERT KRUEGER, Ph.D, EDUCATIONAL GRANTS CHAIRMAN
WAM/Glassen Grants will be awarded at this luncheon. Winners will have an opportunity to share details about their winning projects.
AGENDA ~ Sunday, March 8, 2009

**Afternoon General and Concurrent Sessions**

2:00-3:00

*(Big Ten B)*

**Tools and Techniques of the Nature Photographer** ~
MARK CARLSON and BOB GRZESIAK, GREAT LAKES PHOTO TOURS

Bob and Mark will show you methods to improve your photography and increase your enjoyment of the natural world. Take your photography to the next level, regardless of your skill level or equipment.

3:00-3:15

Break

3:15-4:15

*(Big Ten B)*

**Asters and Goldenrods: Michigan’s Fall Treasures** ~
ANTON REZNICEK, Ph.D., CURATOR of VASCULAR PLANTS, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN HERBARIUM

Tony will examine the diversity of Asters and Goldenrods in Michigan with a focus on the more distinctive species and the plants most suitable for naturalistic landscapes of various kinds. He will also introduce the new classification of these plants.

2:00-3:00

*(Big Ten C)*

**Oak Savannas: Rediscovery and Restoration of Lost Landscapes** ~
RYAN O’CONNOR, CONSERVATION SCIENTIST, BOTANY, MICHIGAN NATURAL FEATURES INVENTORY

Two hundred years ago explorers described vast tracts of savanna in Michigan: today it has all but vanished. Rediscover this unique landscape, the process that sustained it and how you can help restoration efforts.

3:00-3:15

Break

3:15-4:15

*(Big Ten C)*

**Invasive Species: Destroyers of Diversity**
MELANIE GOOD, LAND CONSERVANCY of WEST MICHIGAN'S STEWARDSHIP COORDINATOR

Invasive plant species have a devastating effect on the fabric of the web of life. Melanie will discuss how invasives affect the health and productivity of natural systems, and a few of the worst invaders.

4:30-6:00

Annual Meeting and Social Hour *(Red Cedar Room)*

Join us for a brief WAM Annual meeting followed by the opportunity to socialize with speakers and fellow WAMMERS!
Hal and Jean Glassen were born and raised in Wisconsin. After graduating from the University of Wisconsin, they moved to the Lansing area. It was there that Hal practiced law for 62 years with the firm of Glassen, Rhead, McLean, Campbell and Bergamini. After nearly 60 years of marriage, Hal and Jean established the Glassen Foundation so that the ambitions and goals to which they had dedicated their lives could be continued.

Hal and Jean were lovers of animals and thoroughly enjoyed the out-of-doors. They were avid hunters who believed in the scientific management of wildlife. Lifelong conservationists, they supported research and programs aimed at habitat improvement, sustainable harvest through controlled hunting and understanding the carrying capacity of land for wildlife. They were very supportive of the natural resource schools at the University of Wisconsin.

It is because of the generosity of the Hal and Jean Glassen Memorial Foundation that the Wildflower Association of Michigan is able to award educational grants this year. These grants will be given to educational facilities that have shown their desire to continue the work that the Glassens supported.

Each facility has demonstrated the thought and planning needed to establish or enhance natural areas that will support local wildlife populations, while educating students on the need to protect such habitats. It is through the use of these types of outdoor educational areas that students learn an appreciation and respect for our remaining remnant natural areas and the plant and animal life they contain. Without instilling this admiration in our youth, the future of these areas is in jeopardy.

The Wildflower Association of Michigan would like to thank the Hal and Jean Glassen Memorial Foundation for its support. We would especially like to thank the Foundation Board of Directors for their enthusiasm and dedication to the fulfillment of the wishes of Hal and Jean Glassen.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Speaker/Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:30-8:40</td>
<td>Greetings and Announcements</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:40-9:40</td>
<td>Wayne County's Green Infrastructure Strategy</td>
<td>Noel Mullett, Jr., Wayne County Dept. of Environment, Water Quality Division</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Excessive storm water runoff and stream flow</td>
<td>Excessive storm water runoff and stream flow is a major challenge for restoring and protecting our water ways and has had a detrimental impact on the natural web of life. Noel will share his experience in Wayne County’s projects.</td>
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<td>9:40-9:50</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>9:50-10:50</td>
<td>The Life of the Soil-Sustaining it Through Native Plant Gardening</td>
<td>Tom Small, Emeritus Professor of English, Western Michigan University, Co-Founder - Kalamazoo Wild Ones</td>
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<td>Natural landscape with nature’s own methods, cycles and “waste” material.</td>
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<td>10:50-11:00</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>11:00-11:45</td>
<td>Conservation Stewards: Learning to Volunteer</td>
<td>Ray Rustem, MDNR, State Coordinator for Project Wild and Conservation Stewards</td>
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<td>The history of natural resources conservation in Michigan is based in the efforts of volunteers. The Conservation Stewards program is a cooperative effort between the Michigan State University Extension and Department of Natural Resources to train citizens in being stewards and making sound choices to benefit our natural heritage.</td>
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12:00-1:00 Lunch – (Big Ten A)

Special Recognition Awards and Door Prize Drawing.
AGENDA ~ Monday, March 9, 2008

AFTERNOON SESSIONS

1:15-2:15 (Big Ten B/C)  
**KEYNOTE ADDRESS:**

**GARDENING FOR LIFE**  
DOUGLAS TALLAMY, PROFESSOR and CHAIR of the DEPARTMENT of ENTOMOLOGY and WILDLIFE ECOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE

With as many as 33,000 species imperiled in the U.S., it is clear that we must change our approach to gardening and landscaping if we hope to share the spaces we live and work with other living things. Native plants will play a key role in the restoration of our landscapes because only natives provide the coevolved relationships required by animals. By supporting a diversity of insect herbivores, native plants provide food for a large and healthy community of natural enemies that keep herbivores in balance and our gardens aesthetically pleasing. Gardening in the crowded world carries both moral and ecological responsibilities that we can no longer ignore.

2:15-2:30  
Break

2:30-4:00 (Big Ten B/C)  
**Panel on Native Plant Garden Design**  
MIKE APPEL, APPEL ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN  
JERRY STEWART, NATIVE CONNECTIONS  
CHERYL S. TOLLEY, SANDHILL FARM

The panelists will discuss the process of designing for and installing native plants, with photos of their own projects. The process of site preparation, plant selection, decisions on seeds versus plugs, and proper maintenance will be covered with time for you to ask your native plant questions.
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Join Us in 2009 at These Special Venues & Events:

- May 1st  Lansing City Market’s 2nd Annual Native Plant & Wildflower Saturday
- May 7th & 14th  Northville Farmer’s Market
- May 16th & 23rd  Frankenmuth Farmers Market
- June 10th  2009 Art & Garden Festival, Andersen Enrichment Center, Saginaw

Visit Our Website for an updated Calendar & Hyperlinks to all Venues & Events

Mlwildflowers.com  Launching April, 2009
MIKE APPEL
Mike Appel is the owner of Appel Environmental Design, LLC, an Ann Arbor based company that connects people and place. Successful projects combine an understanding of site history, human need, water and time to create landscapes that enhance beauty, biodiversity and sustainability.

MARK CARLSON / BOB GRZESIAK
Mark has been a nature photographer for more than 32 years. He has won many awards and has published several books of his photographs. For 15 years, Bob was general manager of a chain of camera specialty stores, then spent 18 years as a technical representative for Fuji Film. Currently, Bob is a digital photography consultant and partner in Great Lakes Photo, LLC.

KAY CHARTER
In order to aid the bird populations, Kay along with her husband Jim, established Charter Sanctuary in 1993. Since that time, she has used the property to teach others about how to help these feathered treasures. Her writings and photographs have been featured in numerous publications and her book For the Love of Birds, was published in 2000. She received the Michigan United Conservation Club’s “Exceptional Outdoorswoman of 2006” award, one of the state’s highest conservation awards.

MELANIE GOOD
Melanie is the Stewardship Coordinator for the Land Conservancy of West Michigan. She received her B.S. in Environmental Science and Biology and M.S. in Conservation Biology from Central Michigan University. She worked as an Environmental Educator for ten years, first at Chippewa Nature Center in Midland, then at Blandford Nature Center in Grand Rapids. Her life passions include protecting critical natural areas and helping people connect with these places so that they also want to protect them.

SCOTT HERRON, Ph.D.
Dr. Herron is an Associate Professor of Biology at Ferris State University and an Adjunct Associate Professor of Ethnobotany at the University of Michigan Biological Station. He is co-chair of the regional Native Wild Rice Coalition, has taken on leadership roles in the Michigan Academy’s Botany and Plant Ecology section as well as the Traditional Ecological Knowledge section of the Ecological Society of America.
DAVID KAROWE, Ph.D.
Dr. David Karowe received his Bachelor’s degree in Biology from Harvard University and his Ph.D. in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from the University of Michigan. He is currently an Associate Professor at Western Michigan University. With grants from the National Science Foundation and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Dr. Karowe and others are studying the effects of rising atmospheric CO2 on plants and their insect herbivores, and also creating and implementing a doctoral training program and an undergraduate research in global change ecology.

DAN KETO
Dan Keto is the Lead Interpretive Naturalist and has been the Director of Camp Programs at The Kalamazoo Nature Center for the past 12 years. Each summer, he coordinates the Nature Up Close camp, attended by nearly 1000 children ages 3 to 17. Dan has worked as a naturalist for Baraga State Park, and also supervised an outdoor education facility in Oakland County. For several years, Dan has lent his expertise to WAM’s Educator’s workshop.

DIANTHA MARTIN
Ms. Martin received her Bachelor’s of Science degree from Purdue University. She was the senior naturalist at For-Mar Nature Preserve and Arboretum in Flint for 29 years. For-Mar has over 380 acres, with 7 miles of hiking trails with signage, a Visitor Center and designated picnic area. Ms. Martin is music director with the Flint Banjo Club, she sings with the Flint Symphony and the Flint Festival Chorus.

CHRIS MENSING
Chris Mensing is a Fish and Wildlife Biologist at its East Lansing Field Office. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting and enhancing fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. Since 2000, he has been working in Michigan’s Jack Pine forests to conserve the Kirtland’s Warbler. Chris coordinates the annual Brown-Headed Cowbird control program and Kirtland’s Warbler guided tours.
NOEL MULLETT, Jr.
Noel Mullett is the Technical Projects Coordinator for Wayne County’s Department of Environment in the Water Quality Division – Watershed Management Unit. In this role he has been involved in all elements of the Rouge River National Wet Weather Demonstration Project and he assists the Division Director with the coordination and implementation of the Division’s watershed management services. Since 1993, Noel has been working with local communities, MDEQ, MDNR, Friends of the Rouge, Friends of Detroit River, Downriver Stream Team and other citizen volunteers to plan and implement numerous environmental stewardship and monitoring programs and projects.

RYAN O’CONNOR
Ryan O’Connor is a Conservation Scientist and has worked for six years with the Michigan Natural Features Inventory, a department of Michigan State University Extension. With expertise in rare species and ecosystems, Ryan conducts extensive research on public and privately-owned prairie and savanna lands and monitors their restoration. He helped develop the MDNR Wildlife Division Landowner Incentive Program and continues to play an active role in assisting private landowners to help rare species through habitat restoration. He is also the author of the new book, Prairies and Savannas in Michigan: Rediscovering Our Natural Heritage.

ANTON REZNICEK, Ph.D.
Dr. Reznicek is the Curator of Vascular Plants for the University of Michigan Herbarium. He has been a popular speaker at WAM conferences since the organization was formed. Dr. Reznicek has shared his expertise at four prior conferences: in 1987, Wildflower Conservation and Regulation; in 1990, Rock Gardens, Native Plants in Small Spaces; in 1991 Wetland Plant Production; and in 1997, Native Grasses And Sedges. His current research interests include; systematics and evolution of Cyperaceae, Phytogeography of the Northeastern North American flora, and Conservation of the Great Lakes Region flora.

RAYMOND RUSTEM
Ray Rustem graduated from Michigan State University with a Bachelor’s and Master’s degree in Fisheries and Wildlife Management. He also completed teacher certification training in biology and physical sciences. Ray worked with Michigan United Conservation Clubs for nine years as a field representative and as a Wildlife and Fisheries specialist. He has been with the Department of Natural Resources for 20 years, joining as a Wildlife Education specialist, then supervising the Natural Heritage Program. Ray is currently the state coordinator for Project WILD and national education curriculum and also works on the state Conservation Stewards Program. He also serves on the board of directors of WAM.

New England Aster
TOM SMALL
Tom Small, Professor Emeritus of English, Western Michigan University, is co-founder of the Kalamazoo Chapter of Wild Ones and former presiding clerk of Quaker Earthcare Witness, the Quaker environmental organization for North and Central America. He is the author of The Divine Gift Of Good Soil, in Earthcare for Friends (Burlington VT 2004)
Tom is co-editor of newsletters on natural landscaping and on climate change. He and his wife Nancy have developed many techniques for fostering the soil food web and combating climate change in their urban yard, growing native plants and returning “yard waste” to the soil. Tom’s wife Nancy, serves on the board of directors of WAM and both have been active with WAM for many years.

JERRY STEWART
Jerry is the owner of Native Connections in Three Rivers, Michigan. He received a B.S. in Agronomy and has done graduate work in Ecological Restoration at MSU. He has developed his interest in planting natives over the last 21 years of designing, installing and maintaining large and small landscapes.

DOUGLAS TALLAMY, Ph.D.
Please see Dr. Tallamy’s biography on page 3

CHERYL S. TOLLEY
Cheryl is the owner of Sandhill Farm Nursery in Rockford, Michigan. Cheryl is a charter member of WAM and is the immediate past president. She works as a professional gardener, blending her love of natives into the planned landscape.

KAREN KRAMER WILSON
Karen has double duty as an Outreach Educator and Lead Birds of Prey Educator. Her passion for the natural world delights the many audiences she reaches through the Kalamazoo Nature Center. We welcome her to the Educator’s workshop.
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Ph. 734-996-3266.
E-mail: dborneman@ci.annarbor.mi.us
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Geum Services is a full service ecological consulting company offering services to individuals, organizations, communities and businesses with the hope that through education and stewardship, we can assist in creating a better environment for all.

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E-mail: rebecca.gale@mcc.edu.
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**MICHIGAN NATIVE PLANT PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION (MNPPA)**

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**Why Use Michigan Natives**

Whether you are planting a small plot in your yard, landscaping a workplace, naturalizing a golf course, or restoring a natural area, it just makes good sense to utilize plant species native to Michigan.

Native species are adapted to Michigan’s climate and soils. Over time utilizing native species can save both the environment and money as fertilizers, watering, and continuous mowing are not necessary. These plants provide habitat for Michigan’s wildlife, which is quickly disappearing with development.

Not only are these plants beautiful and interesting to the eye, but the incredible root system of these plants rebuild the soil and work as filtering systems. Michigan’s native flora is unique to Michigan and provides us with a sense of place. We encourage you to learn about, celebrate, and utilize these plants in your landscape.

Esther Dunwald  
Michigan Wildflower Farm

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**About Michigan Genotype Native Plants**

"Michigan native plants" are here defined as species that occurred prior to European settlement. The Floristic Quality Assessment, developed in 2001 by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Natural Heritage Program, was used to determine whether a species is native to Michigan.

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**Michigan Native Plant Producers Association**

**Sources for Michigan native plants and seeds**

This seal indicates that the seed and plants produced by member growers are native to Michigan, grown in Michigan, and originate from Michigan genotypes.

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Fax: (248) 577-3955  
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Wildflowers and native plants, many of Oakland County genotype.

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**Mary Ann’s Michigan Trees & Shrubs**

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Phone: (269) 638-2474  
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Esther Dunwald  
11770 Ox Ter  
Portland, MI 48875-9452  
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Fax: (517) 847-6022  
Email: wildflowers@mycarrier.net  
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Michigan native wildflowers and grass seed, consultation, installation, and maintenance.

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**Native Connections**

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**The Native Plant Nursery LLC**

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Native plants and seed, consulting, design, and installation.

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Michael’s slide show will motivate your creative skills in your own gardens. Michael’s gardens have been certified by the National Wildlife Federation due to his dedication over the years to the green results of his natural wildlife habitat. His gardens rock in all the seasons and so can yours.

He has been a guest of National Public Radios, "Detroit Today" and lectures throughout the state on various horticultural topics. His classes are held throughout the year at the Community House in Birmingham, Michigan and Waterford Townships Community Adult Education. Good Earth Landscape Institute is a associate member of the Michigan Wildflower Association, The Remineralize the Earth Foundation, National Wildlife Federation and the Master Gardener Program of Oakland County.

For a presentation to your Garden Club, Seminar, Symposium or a general group, contact Michael Saint on 248-620-7188 or MichaelSaint@goodearthlandscapellc.com
www.goodearthlandscapellc.com
MNPPA member growers are your source for Michigan native plants and seeds and can provide expert consulting, site preparation, installation, and management services.

Find locations, plants, seeds, and services provided by MNPPA member growers on the inside!

Michigan natives available as plants or seeds —
- 180 species of wildflowers
- 12 species of ferns
- 50 species of grasses, sedges and rushes
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Our mission is to benefit individual member businesses by creating an ethical, profitable and ecologically sound business environment. As responsible propagators of Michigan native plants, we are committed to enhancing the diversity and health of Michigan’s unique natural heritage.