

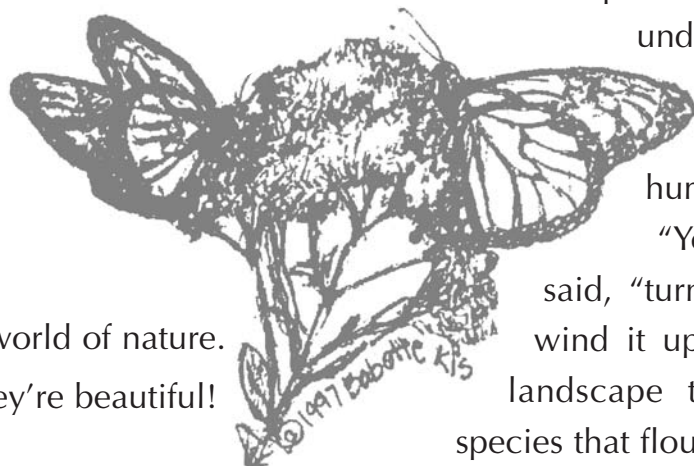
Consider...

- Creating a butterfly-attracting garden.
- Building a small pond for prevention of run-off and for wildlife.
- Planting native trees and shrubs for birds.
- Incorporating native plants into an existing flowerbed.
- Replacing a lawn with low-maintenance native groundcovers.
- Planting your entire yard with native species!

The Benefits of Planting Natives

Native plants have evolved over thousands of years and, as such, are adapted to local conditions.

- They flourish without fertilizers or synthetic pesticides and rarely need watering.
- They provide food and habitat for wildlife.
- They contribute to biodiversity.
- They connect us to our home places and help us celebrate the things that make our regions unique.
- They teach us about the world of nature.
- And last, but not least, they're beautiful!



Whatever the size of your yard, whether you live in a city or the country, your natural landscaping efforts will make a positive difference. Large or small, every native plant landscape creates more habitat for birds and butterflies, more places in harmony with nature.

Just a few hundred years ago, the North American landscape was rich with woodlands, prairies, meadows, savannas and wetlands full of native plants. Today, these natural areas are under increasing pressure, and we are losing species and habitats at a rate unprecedented in human history.

“You can’t,” as Benjamin Franklin said, “turn back the clock, but you *can* wind it up again.” You can restore your landscape to health by planting native species that flourish in harmony with nature.

Wild Ones® Tips to Help You SHINE

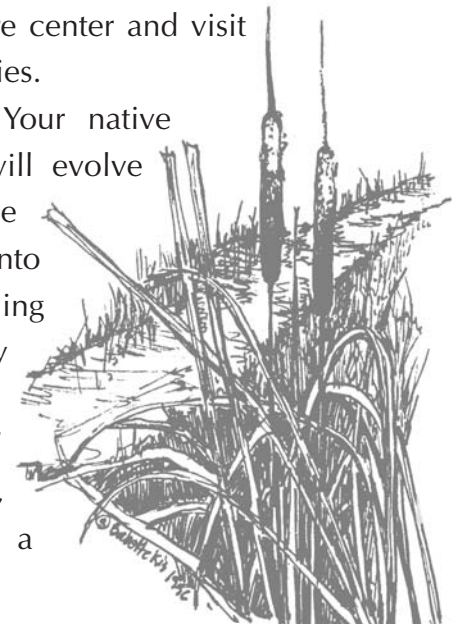
Start Small: Experiment with your design and planting techniques on a small scale, then use what you learn to expand each year.

Honor Others: Be an amiable ambassador for the native plant movement and border your landscape with a fence, hedge or mowed edge as a sign that your property is being managed.

Inform Others: You know that a landscape filled with diverse native species is good for the environment—let others know, too. Tell your neighbors about your goals and give passersby a clue that an ecological plan is developing by posting a sign. Other welcoming elements, such as a bench or birdbath, communicate that you are caring for your yard.

Network with Others: Learn from others and share what you learn. Attend Wild Ones® meetings and outings, get acquainted with the staff at your local nature center and visit native plant nurseries.

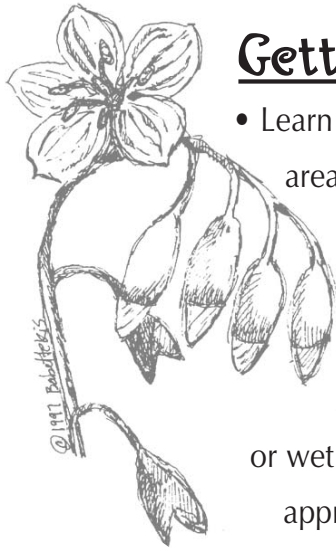
Exercise Patience: Your native plant landscape will evolve and change over the years, developing into maturity and fulfilling your dreams. Enjoy and celebrate each stage in the life of your landscape, knowing that it is a gift to the future.





What Are Native Plants?

Native plants are plants that existed in an area prior to European settlement. Good sources that identify plants native to a particular area include Wild Ones® chapters, field guides, nature clubs, universities and colleges, botanical gardens, nature centers and native plant nurseries. And, of course, one of the best ways to learn about native plants is to explore local wild areas.

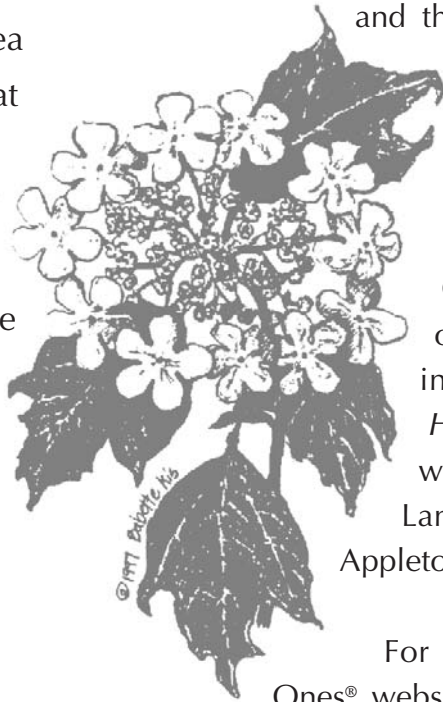


Getting Started

- Learn about plants native to your area.
- Evaluate your conditions (soil, sunlight, climate, etc.).
- Consider whether a woodland, meadow, savanna, prairie or wetland plant community is most appropriate for your conditions.

For More Information

Wild Ones® Natural Landscapers, Ltd. is a non-profit organization whose mission is to educate and share information with its members and the community at the “plant-root” level and promote biodiversity and environmentally sound practices.



For information about a Wild Ones® chapter near you or about our informative publications, including the *Wild Ones® Handbook* and *Wild Ones® Journal*, write to Wild Ones® Natural Landscapers Ltd., P.O. Box 1274, Appleton, WI 54912-1274.

For more resources, see the Wild Ones® website, www.for-wild.org, and follow the links.

This brochure is provided courtesy of the Wild Ones®

For more information about Wild Ones®,
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In Harmony with Nature—

Landscaping with

Native Plants

“When we see the land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect.”

—Aldo Leopold
The Sand County Almanac

