Green Sheet Information (April 1, 2021)

April 5 – May 26: Doug Tallamy’s Teachings

“Douglas W. Tallamy is professor and chair of the Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware in Newark, Delaware, where he has published 68 research articles and has taught insect taxonomy, behavioral ecology, and other courses for nearly three decades. Chief among his research goals is to better understand the many ways insects interact with plants and how such interactions determine the diversity of animal communities. The Garden Writers Association of America awarded *Bringing Nature Home* its Silver Medal in 2008.” (from the inside cover of Tallamy’s book, “*Bringing Nature Home”*) His newest book is “Nature’s Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation that Starts in Your Yard” that is the genesis for this Facebook program.

To get to the program, go to Facebook, search for Rock Lake Improvement Association, and you will find a link. We will also be sharing the link on the Heart of the City Facebook page.

WK 1 ***Monday, April 5*** - What if you carved out a piece of your yard for a nature sanctuary?

***Wednesday, April 7*** - Why should you carve out a portion of your yard to create a sanctuary?

WK 2 ***Monday, April 12*** - Welcome bugs into your yard

***Wednesday, April 14*** - How many caterpillars are enough?

***Friday, April 16*** - Make the right choice.  Plant natives.

WK 3 ***Monday, April 19*** - Make bees feel at home

**Wednesday, April 21** - Support Butterflies

***Friday, April 23***- Reduce night time lighting

WK 4 ***Monday, April 26*** - Reduce your lawn size

***Wednesday, April 28*** - Plant trees

***Friday, April 30*** - Use Native groundcovers under trees or try a combination of native shrubs/plants

WK 5 ***Monday, May 3*** - Change the way you mow

***Wednesday May 5*** - Strive to minimize fertilizer

***Friday, May 7***- Strive to minimize insecticide use

WK 6 ***Monday*, *May 10*** - Remove Invasive Species

***Wednesday, May 12*** - Don’t clean up your gardens in Fall

***Friday, May 14*** - Add a water feature to your yard

WK 7 ***Monday, May 17*** - House cats kill up to four billion birds per year in the US

***Wednesday, May 19*** *- Should you change how you protect your pet from fleas, ticks and* parasites?

***Friday, May 21*** - Install window well covers

WK 8 ***Monday, May 24*** – Save birds by reducing window strikes

***Wednesday, May 26*** – Work with you neighbors

***Friday, May 28*** – What will you do?

(This program was brought to our attention by Susan Trier from Lake Mills.)

A link to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service page:

https://www.fws.gov/pollinators/

Information about resources at the federal level and declarations about Pollinator Week which appear to have occurred the third or fourth week of June. No information about this year’s Pollinator Week has been published yet so keep watching the page for the announcement.

A couple of links from the WI Department of Natural Resources website:

<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/endangeredresources/nativeplants.html>

This page has links to several other resources, a listing of local native plant sales, native landscaping webinars and garden tour videos, and an abundance of additional resources. Great for beginners as well as gardeners looking for deeper information.

<https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/endangeredresources/documents/nhQuarterlySeptember2015>

More information about the Wisconsin Native Plants publication, how to use the lists, how DNR developed them and why native plants are beneficial can be found in the winter 2017 issue of Natural Heritage Quarterly. To view past issues or sign up for this newsletter for landowners interested in protecting, restoring and managing land for rare species go to [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov) and search "Natural Heritage Quarterly."

<https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Stormwater/documents/RainGardenManual.pdf>

Rain Gardens: a guide for homeowners and landscapers from the Dept of Natural Resources

<https://wiatri.net/inventory/bbb/>

This is the “Bumble Bee Brigade” website where you can learn about and how to track bumble bees and see where they are in the state. This site is produced in conjunction with the [Wisconsin Aquatic and Terrestrial Resources Inventory](https://wiatri.net/) and sponsored by the [Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources](https://dnr.wi.gov).

The following links are from other websites:

<https://thebeereport.buzzsprout.com/>

The Bee Report Podcast

<https://www.kb.jniplants.com/native-plant-guide/>

This link will take you to Johnson Nursery’s Native Plant Guide. Johnson’s Nursery is located in Menominee Falls but they ship all over the state and further. Their staff is very knowledgeable and highly trained.

<https://p.widencdn.net/bja4ru/NH0532>

A short, two-page primer with pictures of early Spring bloomers.

<https://regenerative.com/>

This is a permaculture website with online courses on several topics including water management, compost and soil, natural living, permaculture and water management.

<https://phys.org/news/2019-11-thought.html?fbclid=IwAR18nmmvsZA861EEw2zkerwFRjKUend-MjHthu3ETX_ClqEn5iRMwf3i_Wk>

This link takes you to information on a study of how plants help each other through a plant process called facilitation. Contrary to the long-held belief that plants in the natural world are always in competition, new research has found that in harsh environments mature plants help smaller ones—and thrive as a result.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2pnUrct-fA8>

YouTube resources on Native Plant Gardens

From Stevens Point

<https://stevenspoint.com/DocumentCenter/View/939/Create-a-Healthy-Lawn?bidId>=

3 Simple Steps to Create a Lawn That’s Healthy for Kids, Pets, Wildlife and Water Quality

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/dep/greenman/lawncare.pdf

Environmental Lawn Care by Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection

[www.beyondpesticides.org/lawn/factsheets/Children&LawnChemsDontMix.pdf](http://www.beyondpesticides.org/lawn/factsheets/Children&LawnChemsDontMix.pdf)

Children and Lawn Chemicals Don’t Mix by Beyond Pesticides

www.nwf.org/backyardwildlifehabitat/cutlawn.cfm

Cut Your Lawn - In Half! by National Wildlife Federation

<http://clean-water.uwex.edu/pubs/yardcare/lgfert.pdf>

Lawn & Garden Fertilizers by UW-Extension

<http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov./Study/Lawn/>

Looking for Lawns by Earth Observatory (NASA)

[www.stormwatercenter.net/Pollution\_Prevention\_Factsheets/LandscapingandLawnCare.htm](http://www.stormwatercenter.net/Pollution_Prevention_Factsheets/LandscapingandLawnCare.htm)

Pollution Prevention Fact Sheet: Landscaping and Lawn Care by Center for Watershed Protection

www.uwsp.edu/cnr/landcenter/Publications/waterfront.pdf

Protecting Your Waterfront Investment: 10 Simple Shoreland Stewardship Practices by Center for Land Use Education

From Jefferson County

<http://www.landtrustnetwork.org/pb/psInfo/psInfo.html>

This is information about the Land Trust in Jefferson County. They also have a native plant sale every year if you want to keep your dollars local.

Pollinator Partnership

pollinatorpartnership.org

Pollinator Partnership’s mission is to promote the health of pollinators, critical to food and ecosystems, through conservation, education, and research.

(This list is only a small sampling of resources available on this topic. If you find a website that you think is worthy of being shared, please be sure to share it through our e-mail at nomowmay@gmail.com)

May 6 – Fort Library has an online program for younger children and a display of gardening books

***QUESTION FOR YOU:***

We have been discussing a possible plant exchange perhaps at the end of June or early July after Spring blooming is over and again at the end of September or early October when we start getting our yards ready for the winter. Would you be interested in participating in an activity like this? Please send your response to our e-mail address at nmm@gmail.com.