

Wild June Newsletter

Wild Ones motto is “Connecting people and native plants for a Healthy Planet”

All chapters across America work on promoting, connecting and educating on the importance of native plants to our environment.

Here in western Connecticut, we create opportunities to connect by touring gardens, having speakers, listening to specialists, partnering with other like minded organizations. Having a What’s App chat group, and any other activity we would like to create.

This past week we had two great events.

We toured the beautiful Allens meadow in Wilton with the creator and birder extraordinaire Joe Bear. A family was enjoying the home he built by the meadow.



We followed up with a fantastic tour of Ellen Rocketts beautiful native property in Ridgefield. She pointed out one of two ground nests as we walked! She spoiled us with food and beverages.

Both events engaged the participants with a lot of questions, answers, and more questions. It is delightful to connect with more people who feel passionately about eco gardening. Please come to an event and experience for yourself. All are Welcome.

We are following up this month with two more local property tours coming up in June. We do ask that you register so we know how many people we have attending.

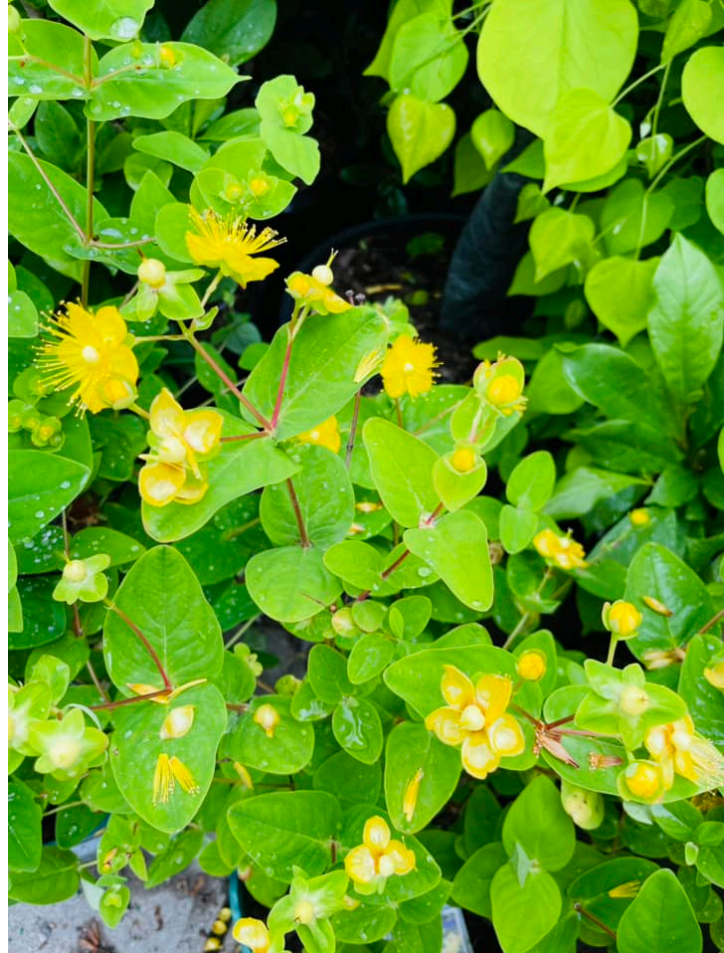


June 11, Thursday, 4:00pm to 6:00pm, Tour Audubon's Smith Richardson Wildlife Preserve, Westport with Audubon Conservation Manager

Stefan Martin, Conservation Manager of CT Audubon, will lead us on a tour of this incredible restoration effort of 36 acres of invasives being transformed into a wildlife oasis. Larry Weaner is consulting on management practice of such a large parcel restoration.

Until roughly 2016, the section was a thicket of weeds and invasive shrubs and vines, including barberry, porcelain berry, bittersweet, and multiflora rose.

Connecticut Audubon envisioned an ecological overhaul that would transform the preserve into a rich, coastal forest and shrub land. They removed many acres of invasive plants and vines that have little value to birds and insects. They replaced them with more than 3,000 native trees and shrubs, providing seeds, fruit, and nectar year-round for birds, butterflies, bees and other wildlife.



Two new two-acre pollinator meadows buzz with insects. Please join us for what should be an amazing experience.

[Register Here](#)

June 13, Saturday, 10:00am to Noon, Foraging Walk at My house, Fairfield

Amelia South from [No BS Herbalist](#), will be leading us on a walk of my property in Greenfield Hill section of Fairfield. As we walk and explore, she will be looking at plants for both food and medicine.

We will then prepare either food or medicine or both, based on what she finds in the kitchen. We will have a bit of food and beverages as well.

I use some of her homemade tinctures for health and have been very impressed with what she makes, and am personally really looking forward to this and hope you will join us.

Address to be given after signing up. Registration limited to 10 people.

[Register Here](#)

June 18th, Thursday, 7:00-8:30pm, Zoom

What is Ecological Horticulture? What distinguishes it from mainstream horticulture? Why is genetic diversity important? Ecological Horticulture takes a different approach from traditional gardening by focusing on nature-friendly principles. This talk will dive into key ideas and challenge common gardening practices. For example: Why is genetic diversity essential? Can I use cultivated versions of native plants? How should climate change influence my gardening choices? These questions and more will guide a discussion on creating and caring for gardens in harmony with the environment.

Uli Lorimer serves as the Director of Horticulture for the Native Plant Trust, a leading non-profit dedicated to preserving the native flora of the Northeastern United States. In this role, he oversees the acclaimed Garden in the Woods in Framingham and Nasami Farm in Western Massachusetts, which focuses on native plant propagation and research. Uli's impressive career includes positions at the National Arboretum, Wave Hill, and as the Curator of Native Plants at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden. A lifelong enthusiast of plants and biodiversity, Uli continues to study the region's ecosystems, collect seeds from the wild, and introduce new plants to collections.

This event is free for CT Horticultural Society and Wild Ones Mountain Laurel Chapter members, \$10 for non-members. CT Hort members and the general public should register at [CT Hort Events: Digging Deeper](#).

Mountain Laurel Chapter members SAVE THE DATE – you will receive the Zoom link for free on or around June 1. DO NOT REGISTER at the CT Hort website or you will have to pay the non-member fee!

If you are not a Wild Ones member and are interested in becoming one, please [click here](#) to see the benefits and costs.

I hope to see you at an event soon. In the meantime, please join our **Wild Ones of SW Connecticut conversations on Whats App**. It is a great vehicle to ask garden questions, connect and stay in touch!

This link will take you to our group. Login or create a login and introduce yourself to fellow members and start chatting.

https://chat.whatsapp.com/JoS4jkkOFeY5YMPiOTDHnA?mode=gi_t

"May your life be like a wildflower, growing freely in the beauty and joy of each day."