

Native Plant Society of Northeastern Ohio 2016 Programs

For more details, see: NativePlantSocietyNEO.org

Sat. Jan. 30, 2pm. – From Field to Herbarium. Cleveland Museum of Natural History. What happens to all those plants Jim Bissell collects in the field? Get a behind-the-scenes look at how these plants are processed into the herbarium and used to document the flora of northeastern Ohio.

Sun. Feb. 14, 2pm. – A Cultural, Historical and Modern Day Plant Hunter's Tour Through China. The West Woods Nature Center, Geauga County. Join Tom Sampliner, photographer and past Native Plant Society president, as he shares his travels to China including highlights from Beijing, Xian (terra-cotta warriors), the Rainbow Mountains in Gansu Province, the major Panda rehabilitation center in Chengdu, then on to the rugged mountains of Sichuan Province and Aba Autonomous Region, both labeled the center of world diversity for the slipper orchids and other marvelous flowering plants set amidst fantastic earth features of travertine and tufa. A few ancient towns and markets round out the program. Presented in conjunction with the Geauga Park District.

Sat. March 26, 2pm – Phenology: The age-old science of predicting blooming times and insect activity. The West Woods Nature Center, Geauga County.

Phenology is the study of recurring phenomena and their relationship to weather and climate. Bird migration, hunting and gathering seasons, plant blooming, insect appearance are examples of events that have been recorded for centuries. Denise Ellsworth of OSU Agricultural Research Center will share how phenology tells us what's blooming and what insect activity is in the near future. With an easy-to-use web-based biological calendar, participants will learn how to customize this calendar for garden plants and insects. Presented in conjunction with the Geauga Park District. Directions: take St. Rt. 87 east from Rt. 306 in Russell Township approx. 2 miles to the park entrance on south side of the road. 9465 Kinsman Road, Novelty, Ohio 44072. No registration required. 41.458335 N -81.307086 W

Sat., April 23, 1pm-2 p.m. – Native Plant Landscaping. The West Woods Nature Center, Geauga County.

Consider using some of our beautiful native plants when planning your garden or designing your landscape. Kathy Hanratty, Native Plant Society of Northeast Ohio president shares how natives give our landscape a sense of place and promote a more biologically rich region. A limited number of native plants may be available after the program. Joint program with Geauga Park District. Directions: take Rt. 87 east from Rt. 306 in Russell Township approx. 2 miles to the park entrance

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Sat., May 7, 10am-Noon – Morgan Swamp, Ashtabula County. Karen Adair of The Nature Conservancy will take us on a walk to see painted trillium and heartleaf twayblade as well as an overview of their project to develop a native plant educational garden at the new Grand River Conservation Campus at Morgan Swamp. Directions: from I90 travel south on Rt. 45 approximately 12 miles. Turn right (west) on Callender Rd., proceed 1.4 miles to the campus drive on the right after the bridge. 3973 Callender Rd, Rock Creek, OH 44084. Registration: call Judy at 440-409-1688 (C) or email judysbarnhart@gmail.com. 41.637756 N -80.891995 W

Sat., May 14, 1pm – 3 pm. The Westwoods Nature Center. Wildflower ID workshop. Learn the basics of spring wildflower ID indoors using the Newcomb's Wildflower Guide before heading down the trail in search of flowers. A limited number of wildflower guides will be available for purchase. Directions: take Rt. 87 east from Rt. 306 in Russell Township approx. 2 miles to the park entrance on south side of the road. 9465 Kinsman Rd, Novelty, Ohio 44072. Registration: call Geauga Park District at 440-279-0880. 41.458335 N -81.307086 W

Thurs., May 19, 9am – Noon. Bass Lake Preserve, Geauga County. Jim Bissell, Curator of Botany at Cleveland Museum of Natural History, leads this joint trip with NEON to the museum's 192-acre preserve adjacent to Geauga Park District's Bass Lake Preserve. Directions: 11445 Lakeview Rd, Chardon, OH 44024. Registration: call Judy at 440-409-1688 (C) or 440 279-0890 (W). 41.550145 N -81.229009 W

Sat., June 18, 10am-Noon. – NPS MEMBERS ONLY: Gott Fen, Portage County. Rick Gardner, ODNR Division of Natural Areas & Preserves Botanist, and preserve manager Adam Wohlover lead the trip to this state nature preserve to see the showy lady's slipper orchid and results of our stewardship days cutting the invasive European buckthorn. Gott Fen harbors more than 20 state-listed species, including the largest population of showy lady's-slipper in the state. Other rarities include round-leaved sundew, grass-of-parnassus, shrubby cinquefoil, and northern bayberry. One of the finest boreal fens in the state. The site, normally closed to the public, does not have a trail system and visitors are asked to prepare for wet walking, knee-high boots recommended. Some poison sumac occurs on the property, as well. Directions: Take Rt 43 south through Streetsboro to Rt 303, turn right (west). Parking will be at the north end of the Target parking lot where we'll carpool to the site. Registration required and limited due to fragile habitat by calling Judy at 440-409-1688 or emailing at judysbarnhart@gmail.com.

Saturday, July 16, 10am-Noon. – Liberty Park, Summit County. Twinsburg City Park Naturalist Stanley Stine begins the day with a tour of the new nature center before a short walk down to the ledges area. Enjoy the lunch you brought before heading over to the office area where Stanley has been experimenting with native plants in various garden and meadow plantings for nearly two decades. Directions: Exit I480 east at Rt 82, Cannon Road. Head east past Rt 91, Darrow road, to Liberty Road. Turn left (north) on Liberty to Post Road, the nature center parking area will be on the right across from Post Rd. 9385 Liberty Road, Twinsburg, OH 44087. Call Judy to register Registration required by calling Judy at 440-409-1688 (C) or emailing at judysbarnhart@gmail.com. 41.317218 N -81.419225 W

Sat., August 6, 10am-Noon – Guy Denny's Prairie, Fredericktown, Ohio. With Guy as our guide we will walk one of the best, and most established of Ohio's prairies. Vital to the survival of many native pollinators and birds, prairies are diverse and biologically productive landscapes. We will be carpooling as this Prairie is approximately a 2.5 hour drive from the Cleveland area. Details of meeting times and locations will be provided upon registration. Registration required. Call Kathy at 440-477-5468 for details.. 40.465756 -82.636583 W

[Sat., Sep 17, 10am-Noon – Lake Erie Bluffs Gentian Walk, Lake County. Lake Metroparks Biologist John Pogacnik will lead us on a tour where we hope to see a number of rare and uncommon beach plants. We should also see some Fringed Gentian (the plant on our logo) in bloom. Lake Erie Bluffs is a nationally significant successful modern conservation project. The 600-acre Lake Erie Bluffs property will permanently protect a significant amount of wetland, meadow and mostly undeveloped lakefront habitat used by rare and common plant and animal species. The property remains largely unspoiled by previous development. The mix of 40-foot high beach bluffs and open sandy and cobble beach across 9,000 feet of shoreline are the site's dominant features. The beach area hosts trees, shrubs and small plants including the majority of the park's rare plants. Directions: Take Rt. 2 east to where it ends and becomes Route 20. Follow Route 20 to Blackmore Rd. Turn left (north) and follow Blackmore Rd. until it ends. Turn right (east) onto Clark Rd. Entrance to the park will be on the left (north). 2901 Clark Rd., Perry Township, OH 44081 41.788226 N -81.176286 W

Sat., October 8, 10am-Noon – Sherwin Preserve, Waite Hill. Doug Yates leads this special trip to Western Reserve Land Conservancy property. Tour the 300-acre Sherwin Preserve, part of the 1000-acre farm owned by the Sherwin family of the Sherwin-Williams Paint Company. Directions: From Rt 306 in Kirtland take Eagle Rd west to Smith Rd., turn right(north) on Smith Rd., parking in large open field on east side of road. 9800 Smith Rd., Willoughby, OH 44094. Registration required by calling Judy at 440-409-1688 (C) or emailing at judysbarnhart@gmail.com. 41.605346 N -81.399797 W

Sat., Oct. 29, 5:30p.m. – Annual Dinner Meeting, Pine Lake Trout Club, Bainbridge. Jim McCormac will be the featured speaker. Jim works for the Ohio Division of Wildlife, specializing in nongame wildlife diversity issues, especially birds. He is the author of many books and over 100 articles on wildlife and natural resources.

Sat., Nov. 19, 1pm-3pm – The West Woods, Nature Center, Geauga County. From fruits, twigs, and bark, learn how to recognize trees in winter condition. indoor instruction session followed by outdoor hike. Master tree finder booklets which will be used for the program is available for purchase in the gift shop for \$6.00. Joint program with Geauga Park District. Directions: take Rt. 87 east from Rt. 306 in Russell Township approx. 2 miles to the park entrance on south side of the road. 9465 Kinsman Rd, Novelty, Ohio 44072. Registration: call Geauga Park District at 440-279-0880. 41.458335 N -81.307086 W

OUR GOALS

- Promote conservation of native plants and natural plant communities through habitat protection and other means
- Foster public knowledge and appreciation of native plants
- Support natural landscaping
- Raise awareness of the ethical issues regarding native plants
- Encourage surveys and research into native plant species and the publication of findings
- Promote cooperation with other programs and organizations concerned with the conservation of natural resources

2016 MIDWEEK WILDFLOWER WALKS Starting at 6:30 pm each Wednesday

With the warmth of Spring the forest floor begins to turn green as the native flowers and ferns begin this year's growing season. Come enjoy the Spring season through this easy series of walks in eight different locations.

Guests are always welcome.

April 6: Wilson Mills Trailhead, North Chagrin Reservation, Cleveland Metroparks. The trail climbs away from the parking lot into the forest. With both forest and wetland this will likely be a lively area with early Spring life. Directions: The parking lot is located about 500 feet west of River Road on Wilson Mills Road. Leader Kent Scott. 41°33.043 N 81°25.105 W

April 13: Brecksville Reservation, Cleveland Metroparks. Explore Brecksville's Wildflower Loop Trail with member, Ellen Brown-Armstrong. We'll discover woodland species along with emerging prairie plants in the Tall Grass Prairie, with brief stops at the Keeler Memorial and Wallin Creek. Walk is on wide groomed path, with 2 hills with steps. Meet at: Brecksville Nature Center parking lot. 9000 Chippewa Creek Drive, Brecksville 44141. 41.31766° N 81.61581° W

April 20: Bedford Reservation, Cleveland Metroparks. Volunteer Naturalist Fred Losi will lead this walk as we explore, examine, and identify early spring wildflowers in eastern Bedford Reservation. Optionally bring your camera to help preserve the beauty of spring. Terrain is moderate. Meet at the Egbert Picnic Area. Directions: Egbert Picnic Area is located off Gorge Parkway in Bedford Reservation. 41°23.100 N 81°32.418 W

April 27: The Rookery Geauga Park District, Geauga County. Highlight will be the white trout lily, anemones, and other Chagrin River spring ephemerals. Flat walking on old railroad bed. Directions: From I-90 exit 200 (Painesville/Chardon). Turn south onto Route 44, turning right at the first intersection (.3 mile) onto Auburn Road. Traveling south approximately 9.7 miles, cross Route 322 (Mayfield Rd) and continue 2 miles to Cedar Rd. Turn west onto Cedar Rd, and travel approximately 1.9 miles to park entrance. 10110 Cedar Road. Munson, OH 44026. 41°29.986 N -81°16.692 W

May 4: Shaw Woods, Ravenna Twp., Portage County. Diverse mix of forest, with nearly mature and floodplain forests with an abundance of trails over rolling terrain. Fairly easy to navigate. Directions: Entrance is just north of 7051 Beery Rd. between Beechwood Rd and McCormick Rd., Ravenna 44266. West of Ravenna Arsenal. 41.182427 N -81.193944 W

May 11: Geology Meets Botany at Holden Arboretum. Geologists take a 4-dimensional view of the world that includes time. Pat Biliter, a geologist retired from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 15-year Holden volunteer, an Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist and instructor, and vice president of the Burroughs Nature Club will lead us on a walking tour that will focus on wildflowers, trees, and other plants that have an ancient geologic history, or grow only on specific types of rocks. We will meet in front of the Visitor Center. Directions: From I-90. Take Exit 193 and turn south on Route 306. Go just short of a mile and turn left at the traffic light to take Route 615. After 0.2 mile, at another traffic light, turn right onto Kirtland Chardon Road. Continue southeast for 3+ miles to Sperry Road, where you turn left onto Holden property. Continue north on Sperry Road for 1+ miles. Watch for the gate to the Visitor Center on the left. From U.S. 6, turn northwest onto Kirtland Chardon Road. Continue for about 2 miles to Sperry Road. Turn right onto Holden property (passing the Sperry Road intersection that goes to the left—ignore it). Continue north on Sperry Road for 1+ miles. Watch for the gate to the Visitor Center on the left. 41.6126° N, -81.3013° W

May 18: Swine Creek Reservation, Swine Creek Lodge, Geauga Parks. This mature woods includes an amazing and colorful array of spring wildflowers; maybe the best in the area. The trail follows a small stream so be prepared for several crossings and a small hill or two. Directions: From downtown Middlefield, take Rt. 87 east 2.5 miles to Hayes Road. Turn right (south) 1.5 miles to the park entrance on the right. Bear left to Lodge. 16004 Hayes Rd., Middlefield, 44062. Leader Kent Scott. 41°26.262 N 81°1.314 W

May 25: Sunnybrook Preserve, Geauga County Park District, Geauga County. Enjoy a walk along trails that take you through woodlands and a meadow opening, alongside nearby wetlands, and a ravine, as we discover and observe wildflowers and wildlife that call this 73-acre natural area preserve home. Walking is easy to moderate on gravel path along flat to rolling terrain. Directions: Head south on Heath Rd. from Wilson Mills Rd. or head north on Heath Rd. from Mayfield Rd./US-322. Park entrance is on west.. 12474 Heath Rd. Chesterland 44026. 41°30.314 N 81°6.103 W