

Wildflowers

Wildflower Association of Michigan
Growing through Education

www.wildflowersmich.org

Winter 2002

Volume 7, No. 1

President's Notes



Steve Keto, WAM President

One of the rituals of mid-winter is the planning of your spring and summer gardens. Not only are we

deluged by the seductive garden catalogs in the mail, but tilling warm earth beats snow shoveling any time! While others are more scientific and technical about the way they plan their gardens, I tend to be more reflective on the things I liked and disliked. Any way you do it, planning your garden in winter celebrates the very hopeful nature of gardening itself.

As with any Michigan season, 2001 tested the tolerance of many ornamental plantings. The ample rain and very extended warmth late into fall here in West Michigan caused some concern with garden bulbs, shrubs and exotic perennials. All the questions I answered on these garden challenges reminded me how intimately dependent on the weather

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15th Annual Michigan Wildflower Conference hosts MIPC Symposium



Margi Fuller

2001 Michigan Wildflower Conference Registration Crew

by Elizabeth "Libby" Rice

This year, the Michigan Wildflower Conference hosts a sister organization, the Michigan Invasive Plant Council. Formed two years ago by people concerned about the threat of non-native plants with invasive habits, the Council is now a formal organization—ready to enlist members and get even more active. With its recent adoption of by-laws, election of officers and authorization as a *non-profit*, the Council is primed to kick off its first symposium. The Council welcomes all attendees of the Wildflower Conference to its symposium, which is sure to offer a wealth of practical and lively presentations on invasive plants. The symposium's agenda runs concurrently with Wildflower Conference activities, and a listing of presentations can be found in the registration brochure (page 6) of this newsletter.

As background, members of the Michigan Invasive Plant Council share a concern about the effects of invasive plants in our state. Interest areas include wildflower conservation, botany, natural area management, horticulture, ecosystem function, biological

Please see "Wildflower Conference Hosts MIPC" on Page 7

Conference Highlights

Vendor Sales and Exhibits
expand to three rooms—
Centennial, Red Cedar and Big Ten A

15th Annual Michigan
Wildflower Conference
expands—fills all Big
Ten Wing and two
rooms below

Teachers' Workshop Keynote Speaker
well-known author and editor
Green Teacher Magazine
Toronto, Canada



Author and Environmentalist, Dave Dempsey opens conference on Sunday, March 3.

Dave Dempsey currently serves as Policy Advisor for the Michigan Environmental Council, a coalition of over 50 environmental organizations with a combined total of more than 170,000 members. MEC has provided a collective voice for the environment at the State Capitol since 1980, developing public policy, educating elected officials and the general public, and providing technical assistance and support to member organizations.

Dempsey is author of Ruin and Recovery: Michigan's Rise as a Conservation Leader, an environmental history of Michigan since its statehood in 1837. His book, described by George Weeks of the *Detroit News* as "a remarkable book" and named one of the best books on Michigan topics in the year 2001 by the *Detroit Free Press*, was published by the University of Michigan Press. ✨

Big Birthday Bash

Sunday Evening

CELEBRATING

15th Wildflower Conference
2nd Teachers' Workshop
1st MIPC Symposium
30th Anniversary Michigan Natural
Areas Program



Students and Advisors from Lincoln Elementary in Cadillac will present a slide program on the progress of their Outdoor Environmental Education Center. Lincoln Elementary received a \$1,000 WAM/Glassen Grant in 2001.

Victoria Nuzzo, Biologist
with Natural Area Consultants and
recognized invasive species
expert, comes from New York
State to present two sessions on
Monday, March 4.



Grand Haven Wildlife Viewing Guide

Betty J. Mattson

Illustrated by Kelly Jewell

Sky Enterprises Publications
805 Waverly Avenue
Grand Haven, MI 49417-4254

Review by Cheryl Smith Tolley

A good guide to wildlife viewing in the Grand Haven area, for visitors or natives, especially when used in conjunction with [The Michgian Wildlife Viewing Guide](#). Readers will get details on the history of the areas and excellent drawings.

The book will be available at the conference. ✨

President's Notes

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all us organisms are. From plant to primate we are driven by weather systems.

As you plan ahead for your garden experiences in 2002, the volunteer Board of WAM has been planning an "All New in 2002" Wildflower Conference. This will be an exciting 15th annual celebration with many new speakers.

The addition of Michigan Invasive Plant Council's (MIPC) first symposium brings important focus on the need for comprehensive management of exotics and conservation of natives. Celebrating with us in 2002, the Michigan Natural Areas Program as it marks 30 years of protecting Michigan's Natural Heritage for the future. Our Teachers' Workshop sessions will assist educators in planning, funding and utilizing outdoor classrooms with native plants.

I hope as you plan for the glorious growing seasons ahead, you will take a break and share some time and knowledge with us at the Michigan Wildflower Conference, March 3rd & 4th at the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center in East Lansing. Wishing all WAM members Happy New Year and "All New in 2002"! ✨

about Us . . .

Wildflowers Newsletter

Published four times a year in January, April, July, and October by the Wildflower Association of Michigan—a volunteer-based nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization (38-3340547).

Membership information and form on back cover. For more information and address changes, contact Marilyn Case
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15th Annual Michigan Wildflower Conference hosts MIPC Symposium

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control, and beekeeping. Council members represent several state and federal agencies, cities, universities, as well as private individuals and organizations. The Council views invasive plants as a threat to all of Michigan's lands from natural areas to farm fields. The Michigan Invasive Plant Council charges itself with the following mission and responsibilities:

- To protect Michigan from the threat of invasive plants
- To advance public awareness of invasive plant issues
- To facilitate the exchange of information concerning management, control and monitoring of invasive plants
- To provide a forum for all interested parties to discuss issues relating to invasive plants
- To serve as an educational, advisory and technical support organization for all aspects of invasive plants and related

issues

- To prevent future introductions of new invasive plants
- To maintain an informative website for member and public use
- To maintain and publish a council-reviewed invasive plant species list.

The Michigan Invasive Plant Council is a recognized 501 (c)(3) organization affiliated with South East Exotic Pest Plant Council. This alliance promotes the exchange of information about invasive plants and encourages responsible solutions. The Council welcomes all people interested in working on invasive plant concerns in the state of Michigan.

For more information about the Council and membership materials, please stop by the Council's display booth at the Wildflower Conference.

Membership Form: **New** **Renew**

Category: Household \$ 15.00 _____
 Business/Organization \$ 60.00 _____
 Life Member (Household) \$ 400.00 _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____ e-mai _____

Phone (day) _____ (eve) _____

Please make check or money order payable to WAM and mail with form to:

Wildflower Association of Michigan
 c/o Marilyn Case
 15232 24 Mile Road
 Albion MI 49224-9562

- My areas of interest are: Home gardening/landscaping
 Professional landscaping Rights-of-Way Website
 Wildflowers/native plants in public gardens Folk lore/History
 Annual Conference Conference Committee Speaking
 Fund Raising Native Habitats at Schools Newsletter
 Other _____

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The next Quarterly Meeting of the Board of Directors is Wednesday, January 16, 2002, 10:00 a.m., Hancock Turf Center (Farm Lane and Mt. Hope), Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan. Members are welcome.

Your WAM membership expires on the date above your name. This is the only notice you will receive. If it's time, please renew.

**Michigan Wildflower
 Conference**

March 3 & 4, 2002

**Over 30 sessions
 in four venues**

**Information &
 registration form inside**

www.wildflowersmich.org

Our mission: to promote coordinate and participate in education in employment science and stewardship of native wildflowers and their habitats—including promoting public education of proper principles and ethics and methods of landscaping with native wildflowers and associated habitats.

