

Illinois Native Plant Society Northeast Chapter

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SEPTEMBER 2016

A few words from the president

Cool September greetings, Northeast Chapter!

It was beautiful in Grayslake today, with a nice breeze and a high around 70 degrees- excellent conditions for identifying plants in a wet prairie and hopefully a taste of what's to come this fall. The yellows of sawtooth sunflower (*Helianthus grosseserratus*) and grass-leaved goldenrod (*Euthamia graminifolia*) blooms were vibrant and contrasted nicely with the long, purple, ray flowers of some newly-blooming New England aster (*Aster novae-angliae*). Seeing these late growing season bloomers in flower with cool temps served as a reminder that we're not far from leaves changing colors and dropping from trees and shrubs.

Before they all drop their leaves, we're going to teach another tree identification workshop so we can add leaf characters to our tree ID repertoire, and we're hoping you can join us! On Saturday, September 17 we'll hike the grounds at the Forest Preserve District of Cook County's Sagawau Environmental Learning Center in Lemont, where there's a nice diversity of tree species in a fairly small area. We'll plan to hike around for a couple hours, maybe even three for anyone that wants to stick around and see some more plants. The workshop is free and should be useful for participants ranging in experience from tree ID beginners to professionals, and even folks just looking to enjoy a nice fall stroll! We'll meet at the parking lot at noon and will head out on the hike from there. We'll send out a detailed workshop notification email with a map of our meeting place and contact details soon, so keep your eyes peeled for that one! If you plan to join us, please send me an RSVP at andy.olnas@gmail.com, so we can get an idea of how many people to expect. I hope to see you there!

- Andy

Summer might be over, but I've shared a few photos of our more common species to hold us over until the fall foliage displays begin.

- Linda



Rudbeckia sp.

Native Plant Excursions

Visit our FaceBook page for more info!

UPCOMING

NE-INPS Tree ID Workshop & Hike at Sagawau! Saturday, 9/17

Watch your email and our Facebook page for more information!

Cook County

Join a [Guided Autumn Walk](#) at Trailside Museum on 10/2. Check out the Forest Preserve District of Cook County's [web page](#) for complete FP listings.

DuPage County

Participate in a [Nature Walk](#) at St. James Farm (9/3). Visit the [DuPage County Forest Preserve](#) web site for locations and schedule details.

Kane County

There are a number of Big Tree Tours offered through Kane County Forest Preserve (10/8, 10/12, and 10/22) and a Fall Tree Identification workshop on 10/15. You can also Trek with a Naturalist on 10/20. The Harvest of the Acorn Moon festival also includes a

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number of guided hikes. See the most recent issue of [The Treeline](#) for more information.

Lake County

Walk with a Naturalist (9/3) or [Walk on the Wildflower Side](#) (9/24) at Grant Woods. The next Walk with a Naturalist is 10/1 at Prairie Wolf. A [Fall Color](#) hike is scheduled for 10/2 (registration required, fee \$5/\$7). Visit the [Lake County Forest Preserve](#) web site for locations and schedule details.

McHenry County

There is a Fall Wildflower Walk at Glacial Park on 9/8 and a Fungi Hike at Coral Woods on 9/13.



Eryngium yuccifolium (Rattlesnake Master)

Other Regional Plant Events

Cook County

Learn about [Insects and Blooms](#) on 9/3, [Edible Fungi](#) on 9/18, or [Name That Oak](#) on 10/15 at Little Red Schoolhouse. [Stroll Through a September Prairie](#) at Crabtree Nature Center on 9/4. Sagawau hosts [Garden Insects: Friends or Foes](#) in the next Master Gardener session on 9/10. Toward the end of the month grab your hand lens and head back to Sagawau for the fourth installment of [The Unseen Prairie](#) (9/24). [The Science of Fall Colors](#) event on 10/8 at Sand Ridge includes a talk and short hike. Learn how to [Collect and Store Seed](#) in the 10/9 Master Gardener Series at Sagawau. For

complete listings, see the Forest Preserve District of Cook County's [web page](#).

Chicago Botanic Garden hosts the Illinois Mycological Association [Mushroom Show & Sale](#) on 9/4, a [Hard Cider Tasting](#) on 9/14, and [Seasonal Beer Tasting](#) on 10/13.

West Cook Wild Ones is hosting a [Fall Preparations](#) presentation by Stephanie Walquist that includes information on collecting and cleaning seeds (9/18).

Fall includes a number of Free Admission Days at The Field Museum for Illinois residents on 9/10, 9/17-19, 10/2, and 10/16.

Kane County

A Harvesting Seed for Habitat Restoration workshop is offered on 9/10 at Creek Bend Nature Center, and a Fall Tree Identification workshop happens on 10/15 at Freeman Kame. See the most recent issue of [The Treeline](#) for more information.

Northern Kane County Wild Ones is sponsoring a [garden tour](#) at the home of Karen Sherman on 9/24.

Lake County

Learn about urban trees and their care in [TreeKeepers](#), an eight session certificate program (Wednesdays or Saturdays, \$80 fee).

Lake to Prairie Wild Ones is hosting a talk on [Permaculture](#) (9/6) and another on [Prescribed Burning and Natural Areas Management](#) (10/4).

Further Afield

Grassland Restoration Network Workshop

Near Grand Island, central Nebraska
September 13-14.

A unique opportunity to compare notes on restoration techniques, visit restoration sites, and meet other prairie restoration professionals. More information is available [here](#).

Also check out [The Outside Calendar](#) for more events.

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Lobelia cardinalis (Cardinal flower)

Volunteer Opportunities

Check out the various Forest Preserve web pages for listings in each county.

Cook County

Forest Preserve District of Cook County [web page](#). **Restoration Workdays** at the Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center (no registration required) or River Trail Nature Center (call 847-824-8360 to register). A special R.I.P. (Removing Invasive Plants) Workday happens on 9/10.

DuPage County

The Forest Preserve District of DuPage County [web page](#) has lots of listings including **Restoration Workdays** at various prairies and woods, and at the Native Plant Nursery. Register at 630-933-7681 at least five business days prior.

Kane County

Plant trees, collect seeds and clear brush at the [National Public Lands Day](#) event on 9/24 at Burnidge or join in seed collection every Wednesday (August through November; visit the [website](#) or call 630-762-2741).

Lake County

There are numerous opportunities to assist in **Restoration Workdays** at the Native Seed Nursery or in a variety of communities. Contact the Restoration workday coordinator [Tom Smith](#) to participate. Desk: 847-968-3329, Cell: 847-276-5379. Visit the Lake County Forest Preserve [web page](#) for more information.

McHenry County

The annual [Weekend of Restoration](#) event happens on 9/23-9/25 at Glacial Park (registration; fee \$40-\$75). [Oaktober Planting Party](#) is taking place on 10/15 in The Big Woods.

[The Habitat Project](#) and [Habitat 2030](#) [ongoing]



Asclepias syriaca (Common Milkweed)

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Monarda fistulosa (Wild Bergamot)

Events At A Glance:

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| September 4 | Mushroom show |
| September 13-14 | Grassland Restoration |
| September 17 | Sagawau Tree ID Workshop Hike |
| September 23-25 | Weekend of Restoration |

Plus several fall foliage walks.



Echinacea purpurea (Purple Coneflower)

Check on our NE-INPS or Facebook pages for late additions to the calendar of events. Got some great ideas for places to go or plants to see? Want to hear talks on specific topics? Send us an email message:

northeast.inps@gmail.com or write me directly at lindamprince@gmail.com

If you received this as a complimentary copy, you may wish to join the Illinois Native Plant Society. Send your name, address, and phone number with a check made out to INPS for

- \$15 Student
- \$25 Individual
- \$20 Institutional (nonvoting)
- \$35 Family
- \$50 Supporting
- \$100 Patron
- \$125 Business
- \$500 Life*

**Additional Life membership categories provide even greater support for our organization.*

To join, visit www.ill-inps.org. Please indicate that your chapter is Northeast OR

Mail to: Illinois Native Plant Society, Membership, P.O. Box 271, Carbondale, IL 62903-0271

Like us on FaceBook in [English](#) or [Spanish](#)!

INPS NE Chapter 2016 Officers:

President: Andy Olnas

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