



The Shooting Star

November 2017

Newsletter

“Dedicated to the study, appreciation, and conservation of the native flora and natural communities in Illinois.”

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Pulling for Bats
Tuesday, November 7th at 6:30 p.m.
Carbondale Township Hall, 217 E. Main St.

Join us as local bat experts talk about the latest information regarding native bat populations. This presentation will cover bat biology, life history, conservation, management, and involvement in Illinois. Invasive species impacts on bats and wildlife, and resources on how to address those impacts will also be discussed. Presenters include employees Matt and Karen Mangan from the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and Kevin Rohling from University of Illinois Extension.

Matt has been with the FWS for the last 10 years in Marion, focusing on federally listed endangered and threatened species, specifically relating to bat and habitat conservation in southern Illinois. Karen is a wildlife biologist at Cypress Creek National Wildlife Refuge, focusing on wetland/forest ecology and wildlife habitat relations. Her interests are waterbird and forest bat ecology and management. Kevin

Rohling is a forestry technician for U of I Extension, also collaborating with the River to River Cooperative Weed Management Area and The Nature Conservancy’s Invasive Species Strike Team in southern Illinois. This program is free and open to the public!



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Message from the Southern Chapter President

The peak of fall color season is upon us and at my cottage in the woods in Makanda, life is good. We have been controlling the invasive species, since this is the optimal season to do so. Already we see the difference in the forest and we await the potential new native species that will come up in place of the honeysuckle and such.

This is just one of the many reasons to be involved with the Illinois Native Plant Society. With 7 chapters throughout the state, INPS has a significant reach, with almost 600 current members statewide. Another election year is upon us and at the state level, we are looking for members to set up to fill the roles of Vice-president (replacing the former President -elect position) and Secretary. As chair of the nomination committee, please let me know if you are interested in serving in one of these positions. At the chapter level, the Southern chapter board has approved the addition of a new programming coordinator, Marisa Szubryt. Marisa is a graduate student in the Plant Biology Department at Southern Illinois University and will be on the ballot for a vote before our membership later this year, along with the rest of the board.

"We have decided to meet at the Carbondale Township Hall before programs at 5:00pm. We encourage members to join us as we treat [program] speakers for dinner."

We have decided to meet at the Carbondale Township Hall before programs at 5:00PM. We encourage members to join us there as we treat each speaker to dinner at a nearby restaurant. The next meeting is on November 7th and will feature Matt Mangan, Karen Mangan, and Kevin Rohling who will speak about managing forests for bat habitat. Meet us at 5:00PM for dinner and at 6:30PM for the program.

Also, we are pleased to announce that we are instituting a conservation leader award to be presented at the annual holiday dinner. This year's recipient is Jim Waycuilis, who served an instrumental role in protecting the Cache River State Natural Areas as Site Superintendent. The annual conservation award is also being coupled with the launch of a conservation project fund. All proceeds from the holiday dinner will go toward the fund.

This year's dinner and award ceremony will be held on December 4th at The Haven, located on Crab Orchard Lake just east of Carbondale. Registration and more information can be found at <http://bit.ly/2zcW2hL> and on page 3. Please join us and invite your friends to make this a successful event and to bolster restoration efforts in southern Illinois habitats.

I hope to see you soon at one of our many events! ~Christopher David Benda

Feature Plant of the Month

Devil's Walking Stick, *Aralia spinosa*

This large-leaved, formidable, yet beautiful woody plant is also known as Hercules Club. It is covered in thorn-like projections that are technically called prickles (be careful where you find a hand hold in the forest). The huge leaves are bipinnately to tripinnately compound and the leaf stalks are swollen to hold up to the massive leaves. It is a great pollinator plant (especially to bees) as it produces many small white flowers. The purple berries are attractive (watch for staining clothes) and valuable to wildlife, such as birds.



Photo courtesy,
MO Botanical Gardens



Photos courtesy,
Chris Benda

2017



Southern Chapter

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www.facebook.com/southernillinoisplants

Calendar of Events

Nov. 7	Kevin Rohling, Matt Mangan	Managing Forests for Bats	CTH
Dec 4	INPS	Holiday Dinner	The Haven

CTH = Carbondale Township Hall, 217 E. Main St., Carbondale IL at 6:30 pm; TBD = To Be Determined
For more information visit <http://www.ill-inps.org/index.php/southern-chapter>

9th Annual INPS Southern Chapter, Holiday Dinner and Awards Ceremony

Monday, December 4th at 6:30 p.m.

The Haven, 10289 Haven Rd., Carbondale, IL



Tickets are \$25 for a catered meal from Cristaudo's. Dinner choices are Pork Chops all'Aceto, a southern specialty of boneless pork loin chops browned in butter, then slow cooked with apples, cider vinegar, and caramelized onions, or Spinach Lasagne, Cristaudo's signature pasta with spinach, cottage cheese, onions, eggs, mozzarella cheese, Parmesan cheese, and Italian tomato sauce. Both entrées are served with roasted vegetables, salad greens, and assorted bite size pastries for dessert. Alcohol will not be provided, but you may bring it with you. **Registration closes on November 29th.**

Proceeds from the dinner will benefit our newly established conservation fund, which will be dedicated towards conservation projects in southern Illinois. We are also establishing an annual conservation award and this year's recipient is Jim Waycuilis. Jim worked as a site superintendent in the Cache River State Natural Area for over 20 years and was crucial in the expansion of state owned land in the region as well as protecting the rare and fragile resources.

Send \$25 along with your menu choice and contact information to P.O. Box 21, Carbondale, IL 62903-271, or you can register online. For more information and to register, please visit the INPS website at:

<https://ill-inps.org/9th-annual-southern-chapter-holiday-dinner-awards-ceremony/>



Summary of Past Events

October Program, Assessing Pollinator Diversity in Southern Illinois, by Dr. Sedonia Sipes



For our October meeting, we welcomed Dr. Sedonia Sipes, Professor of Plant Biology at Southern Illinois University, who presented about a pollinator inventory of natural areas on federal lands in southern Illinois. Sedonia confessed she was really an entomologist, but her interests include the pollination of plants, both native and invasive, although she admitted that in some respects invasive species are easier to work on. She also admitted that she does not do honeybees, which is important to mention since honeybees seem to be all the buzz these days! (sorry, I had to!) But she does work with our native bees.

She mentioned that bees are often thought of by the public as a single species. But the term “bee” refers to a super family that is very diverse. The media often feeds the misconception, but she told us that other than the rusty-patched bumblebee (*Bombus affinis*) federally listed recently, 6 species indigenous to Hawaii have also been listed. Also, 74 bees native to the eastern US have not been seen in 20 years mostly due to loss of habitat. Additionally, demographic data is lacking for most species.

The inventory project is very ambitious. Sedonia has several graduate students and student workers participating on the project and is looking to hire more. She believes that due to geographic, topological, and botanical factors, southern Illinois could be a hotspot for pollinator diversity. The project has 30 sites that are sampled 3 times per season. Many additional suitable sites were encountered and sampled as well. They are sampling using two techniques, hand netting and with passive pan traps filled with soapy water. Both techniques are recommended to collect all groups of insects and sampling is done diurnally. Additionally, conspicuous species like butterflies were counted in the field. The team also identified flowering plants and obtained counts of flowers per plant.

Currently, the lab is processing specimens. They need to pin, label, sort, and repeat for the over 15,000 specimens collected from over 100 species of plants. As far as some preliminary results, 30 or so Lepidopterans been identified, 2400 specimens of *Lasioglossum* (halictid bees), 4 species bumblebees, and lots of flies, especially in the family Syrphidae.

Next, Sedonia showed photos of insect specimens by groups. She also addressed capturing cryptic diversity. People often ask about the seemingly contradictory approach of killing the insects one is trying to conserve, yet it is a necessary approach to assess diversity. The only way to get a grasp on the number of different insects present is to collect them and have them identified under a microscope. Plus, there are many insects that look the same to the untrained eye and some groups require identification by experts, of which there are few. Sedonia believes that when the project is over, is it very possible new state records will be recorded.

Thanks to Dr. Sedonia Sipes for her excellent program presented to our membership!



Pollination Networks

- What role do exotic plants and pollinators play in pollination network
- Do disturbed/degraded sites have lower redundancy or resilience to species loss?
- What % of connections involve specialist pollinators or specialized plants?

The diagram shows a network of connections between plants (represented by green circles) and pollinators (represented by orange squares). The connections are represented by lines, with some plants having multiple connections to different pollinators and vice versa.



Feature Natural Area

Atwood Ridge Research Natural Area



Photo courtesy, Chris Benda

Atwood Ridge is a large site owned and managed by the Shawnee National Forest in Union County just south of Jonesboro. Various types of upland forest can be seen here and remnant stands of the state threatened rock chestnut oak (*Quercus prinus*) occur on the dry, south-facing slopes. Restoration in the form of prescribed fire has been recently implemented to return the forest to its original open character.

Other uncommon and relict plants on this site include panic grass (*Panicum ravenelii*), Cucumber tree (*Magnolia acuminata*), and the rosebud-azalea (*Rhododendron prinophyllum*).

Seed Bank Looking for Plant Populations in Illinois

The Dixon National Tallgrass Prairie Seed Bank is looking for native populations of species on our restoration target list that have not yet been collected. We have 20 taxa listed below that are thought to be locally common somewhere in the state but we have been unable to find suitable populations for collection. Populations of over 50 individuals is ideal. If you know of such populations, we would appreciate information on where those populations occur. It is probable that many of these populations occur on Nature Preserves. We regularly work with site owners, managers and the INPC to secure permission to make collections for the Seed Bank on Nature Preserves. Please take a look at the following list and contact, David Sollenberger, Seed Bank Manager, dsollenberger@chicagobotanic.org, if you know of a suitable population for collection.

Agastache scrophulariifolia
Apocynum androsaemifolium
Asclepias purpurascens
Betula nigra
Carex cephalophora
Carex gravida
Carex sparganoides
Chelone glabra
Desmodium paniculatum
Dichanthelium villosissimum

Apios americana
Arisaema dracontium
Asclepias sullivantii
Cardamine bulbosa
Carex emoryi
Carex scoparia
Carex typhina
Clematis pitcheri
Dichanthelium clandestinum
Dichanthelium latifolium

For more information on the Dixon National Tallgrass Prairie Seed Bank and a complete list of targeted species see our website: <https://www.sciencecollections.org/content/dixon-national-tallgrass-prairie-seed-bank>

Local Events

Cache River Wetlands Center

Winter Plant ID

Saturday November 11th, 1 pm—3 pm

Discover the beauty of the winter remains of summer-flowering plants and grasses, and learn how to identify them by their seedpods and silhouettes. For questions, call the Wetlands Center at (618) 657-2064.



Giant City State Park

Winter Tree ID

Sunday, November 5th 1 pm—3 pm

Identifying trees in winter is a snap when you know what to look for. Join NRCS Soil Conservationist, Margaret Anderson, as she shares easy and fun tips to discover trees in the winter! We will be hiking the 1-mile Giant City Nature Trail. This program is free and open to the public. We will be meeting at the Visitor Center; please register by calling 618-457-4836.

Hidden Natural Treasures of Illinois

Sunday, November 12th 1 pm—3 pm

Illinois is large and biologically diverse with many pristine natural areas located across the state. Join botanist Chris Benda for a tour of the unique natural areas and rare plants that can be found in the 14 different natural divisions in Illinois. This program will highlight places you never knew existed, with emphasis on the plants and animals of southern Illinois. For more information and to register, call the visitor center at (618) 457-4836.



A Week of Hiking Southern Illinois

November 5th—10th

Camp Ondessonk, Ozark, IL

Experience breathtaking views of the geological formations that make Southern Illinois such a hidden gem by canoe, foot, and horseback. Explore natural wonders, historic landmarks, and the highest free-falling waterfall in Illinois. Learn all about the history of the area, the geological features, and the local flora and fauna from experts in the field. Enjoy delicious meals and great company in our nostalgic camp setting. For more information on Camp Ondessonk's Road Scholar programs, contact Greg Santen, our Program Director, at greg.santen@ondessonk.com, via phone at 618-695-2489 ext. 129.

For more information and to register, visit <https://ondessonk.com/year-round/road-scholar/>



This is the time of year when we ask you to renew your memberships. Any new members will be active for the remainder of the year, as well as in 2018. Joining or renewing is easy using our website at <https://ill-inps.org/about-membership/>. Additionally, we ask members to fill out a ballot for changing our bylaws. Vote electronically on the proposed bylaws changes by visiting <http://bit.ly/2zWGv2v>.

You're Invited!

Thursday November 9, 2017

6:30 to 8:30pm

Carbondale Civic Center
200 S. Illinois Avenue
(located on South 51, in between
Route 13 East and West)

Featured Presentation:

*"Are Monarch Declines
Explained by Trends in
Midwestern Milkweeds?"*

By Dr. Greg Spyreas,
Plant Ecologist & Biologist,
Illinois Natural History Survey

- Savory snacks and beverages
- Door prizes
- Special deals on Cache River merchandise
- Update on Friends' projects and activities
- Meet board members and connect with fellow lovers of the Cache!

All Friends of the Cache members welcome –
come and bring a non-member friend!

To RSVP, please contact Paula Havlik at
phavlik@illinois.edu or 217-649-4326.

Need a ride to the meeting?

Let us know and we'll do our best to arrange it.
Willing to provide transport to someone in need?
Thanks, and let us know!

Free evening parking available at meters along
Illinois Avenue and in parking lot on west side
of Civic Center.





Long Forestry's **Landowner Education Series**

Free one hour presentations for private landowners,
given by professional foresters

Fall 2017 Southern Illinois Schedule

How to Have a Successful and Sustainable Timber Sale Recipes for Success - Oak Advanced Regeneration

November 14, 2017
at 6:00 PM

at

Carbondale Civic Center
200 S. Illinois Ave
Carbondale, IL 62901

Introduction to Forest Taxes Recipes for Success - Oak Advanced Regeneration

November 28, 2017
at 6:00 PM

at

Carbondale Civic Center
200 S. Illinois Ave
Carbondale, IL 62901

Bush Honeysuckle: Its Ecology, Economic Impacts, and Treatment Options Understanding the Herbicide Label for Forest Landowners

December 12, 2017
at 6:00 PM

at

Carbondale Civic Center
200 S. Illinois Ave
Carbondale, IL 62901

www.longforestry.com
Click the Landowner Resources Tab



Southern Illinois (618) 893 2307
West Central Illinois (618) 639 TREE

Invasive Species Corner

Please look at the following resources for the latest in Invasive Species news.

CWMA Steering Committee Meetings

We're working through the hiring process for the new CWMA Coordinator; the CWMA Steering Committee Meeting will be postponed until the new Coordinator is on board. We will get the word out once everything is settled.

Pesticide Training and Testing Dates

If anyone is in need of testing/training for their applicator/operator license, or know someone who needs it, the following opportunities are coming up:

There is a training/testing clinic Nov 13 & 14 in Mt. Vernon, and Nov. 28 and 29 in Springfield General standards and row training/testing (no aquatic training, but can test for any of them).

There is also training/testing at: 12/18 & 19/17 @ Urbana ; 01/18 & 19/18 in Mt. Vernon ; 01/29 & 30 @ Urbana ; 02/27 & 28 in Collinsville.

Here is a link to the registration webpage:

<https://web.extension.illinois.edu/psep/training/commercial/clinics.php>

Dan Connelly has the test only events scheduled for early next year; test only (no training; all tests) events are scheduled at Extension offices in 2018 :

Harrisburg 1/11 , Anna 1/16, Murphysboro 1/24, Vienna 1/31, Benton 2/20, Carmi 2/21



The CWMA Project Coordinator position is being reposted. For a copy of the job description and application, please contact Kevin Rohling at 618-694-8150 or krohling@illinois.edu

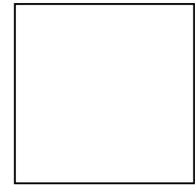
Hike to Bulge Hole

Join CWMA interim coordinator and U of I Extension Forestry Technician, Kevin Rohling, for a hike at the Bulge Hole Ecological Area on the Shawnee National Forest. The hike will be around 3-4 miles and easy to moderate in difficulty, with a small creek crossing or two, some moderately steep slopes, and some amazing geologic features. Bulge Hole EA is one of numerous Ecological Areas found within the Shawnee NF, and is characterized by rare natural communities and species, such as French's shooting star, Turk's-cap lily, and occasional bat species making use of the deep shelter bluff. Check out this blog post for some great photos and more information: <http://www.semissourian.com/blogs/pavementends/entry/46710>

Locations and times: In Carbondale, please meet by the Murdale sign in the Murdale shopping center parking lot by 10:30 am, or meet us in Marion, at the north side of the Rural King parking lot (near the trailers and farm equipment) by 11:00 am. I expect the trip to be done by around 2pm, so bring a snack and some water if you are so inclined, and be sure to dress appropriately for the trail and weather. If you are interested in seeing the location of the site, or meeting us there instead (around 11:30 am) here are the GPS coordinates of (roadside) parking location to access Bulge Hole EA (GPS: 37.501844, -88.888681).

To sign up and attend this outing, please call or email Kevin Rohling at [618-694-8150](tel:618-694-8150) or krohling@illinois.edu on or before December 1.

INPS SOUTHERN CHAPTER
P.O. Box 271
Carbondale, IL 62903-0271



southernillinoisplants@gmail.com
www.ill-inps.org



Dodecatheon frenchii –
French's Shooting Star

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Know someone who would like to receive our newsletter? Please have them send their email address to southernillinoisplants@gmail.com to be added to our distribution list!



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 Life.....\$500.00
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 Dodecatheon (life).....\$2,000.00
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Illinois Native Plant Society, P.O. Box 271, Carbondale, IL 62903

The Harbinger Newsletter is sent electronically by email.

Check here to receive the newsletter BY MAIL

Erigenia, our scientific journal, is now available digitally as well as in print.
Please indicate your preference for receiving the journal.
 Email only Postal Mail only Both

Chapter Affiliation

- Central (Springfield) Northeast (Chicago)
 Forest Glen (Westville) Quad Cities (Rock Island)
 Grand Prairie (Bloomington) Southern (Carbondale)
 Irene Cull (Peoria) Other/Uncertain _____
 Kankakee Torrent

I would like to help with:

- Leadership & Organization (serving on board at State or Chapter level) Giving Workshops &/or Seminars Public Media/Communications
 Leading Field Trips & Tours Public Speaking Writing/Submitting articles
 Organizing Workshops &/or Seminars Fund Raising Photography
 Website Assistance/Managment Other: _____