



# The Shooting Star **April 2021**

## Newsletter

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

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## 2021 Illinois Indigenous Plants Symposium



ILLINOIS  
INDIGENOUS PLANTS  
SYMPOSIUM

**Putting Theory into Practice  
Ecosystem Restoration & Management**

**Virtual Symposium**  
April 15 | 6PM-8PM  
April 16 | 6PM-8PM  
April 17 | 9AM-4PM

Register with Hopin, our virtual platform at  
<https://hopin.com/events/2021-illinois-indigenous-plants-symposium>



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## *Message from the Southern Chapter President*

Hello everyone and welcome to April! We just wrapped up our annual Illinois Indigenous Plants Symposium. Over the years, this symposium has served as a venue to highlight some of the research underway in southern Illinois that better our understanding of native plant and natural land management and protection.

I cannot overemphasize the importance of research, monitoring, survey, and evaluation when it comes to management. These allow managers to objectively determine the best route to take and to adapt if needed. As I am sure you are aware, the Illinois Native Plant Society has three stated purposes: 1) to promote the study, appreciation, and conservation of the native flora and natural communities of Illinois; 2) to provide education to the general public as to the value of the native flora and its habitat; and 3) to produce publications that provide an outlet for such information. The Illinois Indigenous Plants Symposium is one of those outlets that both provides education and promote conservation. Another outlet that we have started using is our new YouTube channel (search for Illinois Native Plant Society Southern Chapter in Youtube to find it). Here we are hosting recordings of the great presentations from our recent virtual meetings, as well as the symposium talks. If you happen to have missed one of our meetings, you can still listen to great presentations, such as our most recent meeting, where Dr. Ashley Morris covered her great research on the rare leafy prairie clover.

I hope you continue to be involved with the Native Plant Society and participate in our programs.

~ Chris Evans

Illinois Wildflowers



Leafy Prairie Clover, *Dalea foliosa*

**“I cannot overemphasize the important of research, monitoring, survey, and evaluation when it comes to management. These allow managers to objectively determine the best route to take and adapt if needed.”**

### *Feature Plant of the Month*

**Bloodroot,**  
*Sanguinaria canadensis*

All parts of this spring woodland ephemeral plant exude a reddish-orange sap when cut, lending to the gruesome yet aptly named species. It can spread via its root system (rhizomatous), but also depends on ants to disperse its seeds, also known as myrmecochory. Each flower is accompanied with one grayish-green basal leaf, palmately (hand-like) shaped. The short-lived flowers bloom during the day and close at night for only one to two days, turning into a seed capsule which will eventually split open to release the seeds. The sap was once used by Native American for dyes and the roots have been used medicinally as an antiseptic.



Photo courtesy,  
Chris Benda

2021



## Southern Chapter

P.O. Box 271, Carbondale IL 62901

southernillinoisplants@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/southernillinoisplants

### Calendar of Events

|            |               |                          |                       |
|------------|---------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| May 18     | Tricia Bethke | Oak Pests and Diseases   | Virtual               |
| June 15    | Chris Benda   | Plants of Concern        | Virtual               |
| July - TBD | Nick Seaton   | Guided Hike at Max Creek | Registration required |
| August 17  | Alice Brandon | TBD                      | Virtual               |

### The Natural Areas Association, Board of Directors

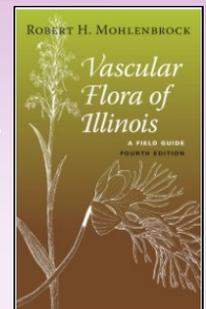
The Natural Areas Association (NAA) Board of Directors is actively seeking experienced, dedicated leaders with diverse perspectives to join its Board of Directors in guiding the organization as it grows and providing assistance to its Executive Director and other staff. For more information, visit <https://bit.ly/3wCSaAR>.



### Vascular Flora of Illinois: A Field Guide, Fourth Edition PDF

The latest edition includes over thirty-four hundred species of flora from Illinois, adding more than two hundred fifty newly-recognized plants to this definitive collection. This book compiles essential information about plants, including all known taxa native to Illinois either at present or in the past and all non-native vascular plants that grow spontaneously and appear able to maintain themselves year after year without cultivation.

You can download a copy by visiting <https://muse.jhu.edu/book/41840>.



117th Congress, 1st session, S. RES. 109

Designating April 2021 as “National Native Plant Month”

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-resolution/109/text>

Don't forget that April is Arbor Day month and Earth Day!

<https://www.arborday.org/> <https://www.earthday.org/earth-day-2021/>



## Local Events & Announcements

### Giant City State Park

#### Spring Wildflower Walk

Saturday, April 17<sup>th</sup> 10am— 12pm

Trillium Trail in Giant City is one of the best spring wildflower trails in southern Illinois. Join the Natural Resource Coordinator as we meander through the spring woods and take a closer look at these petite beauties. This is a moderately difficult two-mile trail with some steep stair climbing.

#### Art in the Park

Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2—4pm

What better setting than outdoors at Giant City State Park to get creative and learn how to watercolor paint! Join local artist, Anne Krippenstapel, for a leisurely afternoon of creating art inspired by local wildlife. This is a free program and all supplies will be provided.



In order to prevent the spread of COVID 19 and to help keep program participants safe, all programs will take place outdoors and will have a limited registration of 10 or less people. Please remember to bring a mask. If social distancing of at least 6 feet is not possible, masks **must** be worn.

**Registration is required for all programs.** Please call the Giant City Visitors Center at 618-457-4836 for more information or to register.



All programs are free!

*Happy Hiking!*



### Caterpillars Count! <https://caterpillarscount.unc.edu/>

### Caterpillars Count!

Caterpillars Count! is a citizen project for measuring seasonal variation, also known as phenology, and bundance of arthropods like caterpillars, beetles, and spiders found on the foliage of trees and shrubs. This project aims to enlist members of the public to count insects and other arthropod..

Each week, monitor tree branches and identify insects to order (i.e., beetle versus caterpillar versus cricket, etc.). Try out the protocol by playing our [Virtual Survey Game](#).. [Visualize and explore data](#) on arthropod phenology, composition, and density across North America. Make use of existing [Educator Resources](#) or create your own.

**Where:** Nature Centers, Environmental Education Centers, parks, schools, summer camps, or private backyard, anywhere in the world with woody vegetation.

### IDNR Launches New Website to Encourage Habitat Protection

The new CICADA (Conservation Inclusive Construction and Development Archive) aims to engage the public and private sectors in habitat protection, restoration, and biodiversity conservation through voluntary actions. It serves as one-stop-shop for residential and private landowners, as well as commercial and industrial sectors, to find guidance and ideas to make their properties or development projects more wildlife friendly. To read the press release, visit <https://bit.ly/3wzE7w5>. Visit the CIDADA website at <https://cicada-idnr.org/>



### IDNR, Conservation Worker Seasonal Openings

<https://illinois.jobs2web.com/> Belknap-Mermet Lake or Cave-In-Rock State Park

Type “Conservation Worker” into the search engine and create an account to apply by April 27.



## *Local Events & Announcements*

### Bailey Family: Flavoring Wine and Spirits for Four Generations

<https://bit.ly/3s2CJyn>

One of only a dozen independent stave mills in the United States, Perryville Stave Co. has been operating in the same location and by the same family for 75 years.

A stave is a narrow length of wood with a slightly beveled edge to form the sides of the barrels, and much of the success of Perryville Stave comes from the quality of the wood they have access to (including white oaks from Illinois). American [white] oak helps create tannin-rich, bold wines and is popular with wines produced in Spain, Australia, and the Americas. To continue reading the story, click on the link above.



CARBONDALE SPRING FOOD AUTONOMY

# COMMUNITY PLANT SWAP

4.24.21 10A - 1P RED HEN GARDEN

+ WOMEN FOR CHANGE  
GARDEN GALA

+ NEIGHBORHOOD  
PLANTING PROJECT

free native fruit & nut trees  
& shrubs,  
garden starts, flowers, &  
seeding demos





### **April 21 - Safe Use of Herbicide in Natural Settings**

Herbicides are an indispensable tool for vegetation managers, but they must be used properly as off-target movement can be very damaging. Learn about common herbicide issues faced by Illinois landowners and applicators, what herbicide injury symptoms look like, and who to contact if herbicide injury is suspected. Leave with tips on herbicide application that prevents and avoids herbicide movement.

*Michelle Wiesbrook, Extension Specialist, Pesticide Safety Education Program, University of Illinois*

### **April 28 - Providing Suitable Woodland Habitat for Secretive Animals – Bats, Snakes, and Salamanders**

Woodlands across Illinois are home to many secretive animals that creep, crawl, or fly such as salamanders, snakes, and bats. We tend to think these animals prefer dark and cold spaces, but this is not always the best habitat for them. Discover how you can provide habitat for these animals in your woods.

The Forestry Spring Webinar Series will be 2 to 3 p.m. CT Wednesdays from March 24 to April 28. Sign up for one session or the whole series. Register for free online at [go.illinois.edu/SpringForestry](https://go.illinois.edu/SpringForestry).

**To register, visit <https://bit.ly/3lbo7uQ>**

If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in these programs, please contact [Chris Evans](mailto:cwevans@illinois.edu) at [cwevans@illinois.edu](mailto:cwevans@illinois.edu). Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time for meeting your access needs.

The Extension Forestry program provides forestry and natural resources education, technical assistance, programming, and awareness to a diverse audience including an estimated 132,000 private forest landowners who own 3.7 million acres or 82% of all forest land in Illinois. Find more about the program online at [extension.illinois.edu/forestry](https://extension.illinois.edu/forestry).

# Invasive Species Corner

<http://www.rtrcwma.org>  
<https://www.frstillinois.com>  
[www.sipba.org](http://www.sipba.org)

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

## Non-Native Invasive Species Update (NNIS) - Nick Seaton & Isaiah Tanner

This will be our last PSA about one of our usual suspects in this publication: garlic mustard (*Alliaria petioalata*). This biennial herbaceous plant is capable of wreaking havoc on native ecosystems. Garlic mustard releases chemicals into the soil that can disrupt mycorrhizal associations with native plants. This suppresses native plant growth by limiting their nutrient supply and optimizes conditions for more garlic mustard.

When addressing garlic mustard infestations, a mechanical control option involves pulling up the plant with an intact root system. After pulling the plant(s), remove them from the site by placing them in a impermeable bag. Take care to contain and dispose of all plant parts and to limit any unintentional spread.

On to other species, now is an excellent time to scout for Japanese stiltgrass (*Microstegium viminium*) and plan your spring/summer treatments. Commonly known as stiltgrass, this aggressive invasive is an annual capable of producing 1000 seeds per plant that remain viable in soil up to five years. The image below shows last year's dried up growth that forms a dense mat of dead material. The second image shows their current phenology.



Current phenology of garlic mustard

If you think you have an infestation of Japanese Stiltgrass you can check out the resources at <https://www.rtrcwma.org/> to lock in your identification and determine the right technique for control on your land. If you need help identifying invasives, making a plan for treatment, or starting out on your property, the

Forest Restoration Support Team would love to help. Email us at [volunteerfrst@gmail.com](mailto:volunteerfrst@gmail.com) with your questions.



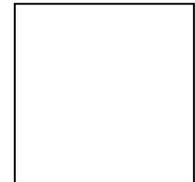
Last year's growth of Japanese stiltgrass, now dead and matted

Current phenology of Japanese Stiltgrass

**"Garlic mustard releases chemicals into the soil that can disrupt mycorrhizal associations with native plants."**



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[www.ill-inps.org](http://www.ill-inps.org)



*Dodecatheon frenchii* –  
French's Shooting Star

**Board Members**

- President: Chris Evans
- VP: Jean Sellar
- Secretary: Erin Garrett
- Treasurer: Nancy Garwood
- At-large: Nick Seaton
- At-large: Kurt Neubig
- At-large: Jen Harris
- At-large: Rhonda Rothrock
- Newsletter: Jennifer Behnken

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**Know someone who would like to receive our newsletter? Please have them send their email address to [southernillinoisplants@gmail.com](mailto:southernillinoisplants@gmail.com) to be added to our distribution list!**



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- Family.....\$35.00
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- Patron.....\$100.00
- Business.....\$125.00
- Life.....\$500.00
- Iliamma* (life).....\$1,000.00
- Dodecatheon* (life).....\$2,000.00
- Erigenia* (life).....\$3,000.00

Please make checks payable to: Illinois Native Plant Society, Attn: Dr. Nancy Garwood  
Life Science II—Mailcode 6509 Southern Illinois University 1125 Lincoln Dr. Carbondale, IL 62901

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- 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)
- Kankakee Torrent
- Other/Uncertain \_\_\_\_\_

**I would like to help with:**

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

**My area of expertise:** \_\_\_\_\_