



The Shooting Star

NEWSLETTER

of the

Illinois Native Plant Society – Southern Chapter

June 2012

“...dedicated to the preservation, conservation, and study of native plants and vegetation in Illinois.”

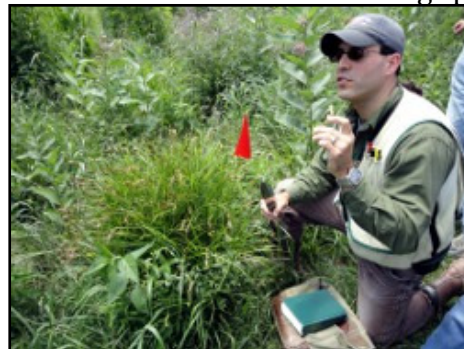
SEDGE ID WORKSHOP A GREAT SUCCESS!



At long last we were able to organize a sedge identification workshop, with focus on the genus *Carex*. Ten plant enthusiasts gathered in the plant systematics room at Southern Illinois University on a Saturday morning for a presentation about sedges by Mike Murphy, a botanist with the Illinois Natural History Survey in Champaign, Illinois. After the presentation, we drove to Rhonda and Rob Rothrock's residence for the field portion of the class. After a nice lunch provided by the Rothrock's, we proceeded about the property, looking at various sedges that had been flagged the day before. We collected about 25 species of sedges at this site and learned a great deal about the importance of voucher specimens as well as how to properly collect plants for deposition in herbaria.



The next day we met again at Southern Illinois University to dissect the sedge specimens under microscopes. With the help of our instructor, we worked through the dichotomous keys as a class, learning the meaning of terms like trigonous, lenticular, androgynous, and gynecandrous. We teased apart the minute differences between *Carex retroflexa*, *C. texensis*, *C. radiata* and *C. rosea*. We debated the shape of the achenes of *Carex lupulina*, which looks very similar to *C. lupuliformis*. In fact, Mike taught us that nearly every sedge has a look-alike species so great care must be made when making species identifications.



The sedge identification workshop was organized by the southern chapter of the Illinois Native Plant Society and made possible by the Department of Plant Biology at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale and a grant from the Illinois Wildlife Preservation Fund.



INPS 2012 CALENDAR

Upcoming 2012 Events:	<u>SPEAKER</u>	<u>PROGRAM</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
June 19 th	- Shawnee NF	<i>Fire and Land Management</i>	CTH
July 17 th	- Dr. John Van Dyk	<i>Flora Updates to Crab Orchard NWR</i>	CTH
July 21 st	- Dr. John Van Dyk	<i>Hike at Rocky Bluff</i>	Crab Orchard NWR
August	- Dr. Gordon Tucker	<i>Sedge ID Workshop II</i>	TBA
September	- TBA		TBA
October	- Dr. Nancy Garwood	<i>Ranunculaceae Family</i>	CTH
October	- Chris Benda	<i>Hike to Boss Island</i>	Vienna, IL
November	- TBA		TBA
December	- TBA	<i>2012 Holiday Dinner</i>	TBA

Please look for more programming in upcoming newsletters for 2012

Past 2012 Events:

January 17 th	- Damon Lesmeister	<i>Conflicts in Conservation</i>	CTH
February 4 th	- Josh Nickelson	<i>Winter Tree ID</i>	SIU campus, Ag bldg.
February 21 st	- Dr. Doug Tallamy	<i>Replay slideshow talk from Feb 2011</i>	CTH
March 23 rd	- Chris Benda	<i>Top 10 Places in Southern Illinois</i>	CTH
March 24 th	- Chris Benda	<i>Degognia Canyon</i>	Degognia, IL
April 22 nd	- INPS So. Chapter	<i>2012 Spring Social</i>	Goreville, IL
May 15 th	- ISST - Bruce/Kevin	<i>Coordinated Control of Invasives</i>	CTH
June 2 nd -3 rd	- Mike Murphy	<i>Sedge ID Workshop I</i>	SUIC

CTH = Carbondale Township Hall, 217 Main St.

Special thanks to **Bruce Henry and Kevin Rohling** for presenting about the **Southern Illinois Strike Team** and to **Mike Murphy and Dr. Dan Nickrent** for instructing the **Sedge ID Workshop** last month!

Related June Events

- June 6th: Snakes of Southern Illinois presented by Scott Ballard at 2pm in the Giant City State Park Visitor's Center, hosted by the Friends of Giant City State Park.
- June 9th: Summer Wild Mushroom Foray at Touch Of Nature Environmental Center from 9am to 7pm. This is a free public event with food and lodging available. See www.illinoismushrooms.com for more details.

Please visit the Beautify Southern Illinois calendar at <http://www.beautifysouthernillinois.org/events/calendar.htm>



The ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT of NATURAL RESOURCES needs your support! After a long spring, a bill has finally been introduced onto the floor of both the House and the Senate that will ensure that our state parks can stay open and maintained into the future, and all IDNR programs fully functioning . Follow the links below to send letters to your representatives.

<https://www.secure.sierraclub.org/site/Advocacy?cmd=display&page=UserAction&id=8781>

http://www.action.ilenviro.org/p/dia/action/public/index.sjs?action_KEY=7704



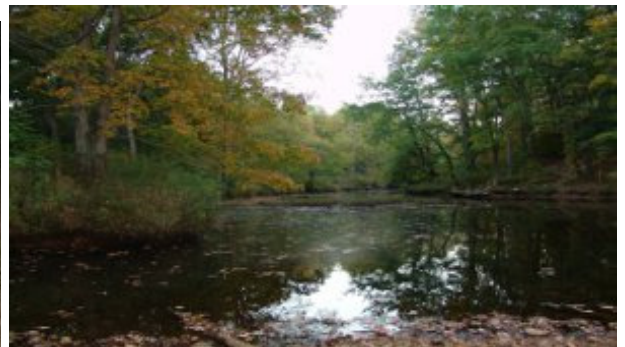
INPS JUNE PROGRAM



**The Southern Chapter of the Illinois Native Plant Society
is pleased to host US Forest Service biologists
Matt Lechner and Scott Crist for a presentation entitled
“Resource Management on the Shawnee National Forest”**

**June 19th, 2012 at 6:30pm at the Carbondale Township Hall
217 East Main St., Carbondale, IL**

(please enter from the back alley)



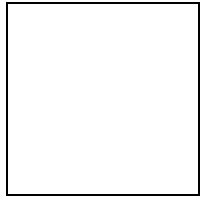
DETAILS: The Shawnee National Forest is responsible for managing 280,000 acres of woodlands, barrens, glades, and wetland, including 80 natural areas and 7 wilderness areas. The National Forest system is dedicated to restore and enhance landscapes, protect and enhance water resources, develop climate change resiliency and help create jobs that will sustain communities. The many user groups make implementing policy a challenging task. Biologists at the Shawnee National Forest work within their constraints to manage the forest for a variety of uses. This program will focus on the current and ongoing management activities on the forest.



BIO: Scott Crist has worked on the Shawnee National Forest for eight years, first as District Fire Management Officer and now in his current position as Fuels Specialist. He is responsible for implementing the prescribed fire program.

BIO: Matthew Lechner has worked on the Shawnee National Forest for almost nine years. As Natural Resources Program manager he is responsible for coordinating all resource work on the Forest including rare plant resources, general botany, invasive species management, wildlife (including threatened and endangered species), fisheries, aquatic ecology, watershed resources, soils, geology, and air quality. Over the last nine years the Forest Service has successfully completed Openlands Management, the Trails Designation Project, and various prescribed fire projects designed to improve vegetative condition in the central hardwoods ecosystem. Matthew has spent about 32 years working in resource management. *(photos provided by the Matt Lechner)*

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



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



Dodecatheon frenchii –
French’s Shooting Star

Board Members

President: Chris Benda
Vice-President: Chris Evans
Secretary: Karla Gage
Treasurer: Rhonda Rothrock
At-large: Nancy Garwood
At-large: Jody Shimp

Please become a member and support this local non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation, conservation, and study of the native plants and vegetation of Illinois!!!



Join us!

- New member
- Renewal
- Address Change only

Mr./Mrs./Ms./Miss/Dr. _____
Street _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone Number _____ Membership Year _____
Email _____

Check here if you want to receive newsletters by postal mail*

Membership Categories

- Student.....\$13.00
- Individual.....\$20.00
- Family (new category).....\$30.00
- Institutional (nonvoting).\$20.00
- Supporting.....\$30.00
- Patron.....\$55.00
- Life.....\$300.00

Chapter Affiliation

- Central (Springfield)
- Forest Glen (Westville)
- Northeast (Chicago)
- Southern (Carbondale)
- Quad City (Rock Island)
- Irene Cull (Peoria)

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Illinois Native Plant Society
Mail to:
INPS Southern Chapter
P.O. Box 271
Carbondale, Illinois 62903