



**November 2023**

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Gift a Wild Ones Membership today!

In the spirit of empowering more Front Range residents with native plant knowledge, and tools and motivation to take action, we are excited to announce our return to publishing a monthly newsletter accessible to all of our followers and supporters.

## All Native Plants are Not Created Equal

*By Deb Lebow Aal*

If you are reading this, you have some familiarity with, and/or, some interest in, native plants and native insects. You probably have planted some native plants in your landscape, or are intending to do so. This article is to remind you that not all native plants are created equal. Some native plants provide the ecosystem with more benefits than others. The measure I am using for ecosystem benefits is how many species of caterpillars a native plant hosts. A review of why we are using this metric: Doug Tallamy, entomologist at University of Delaware, and native plant promoter extraordinaire, has researched and publicized this issue. The oversimplified explanation is baby birds need an extraordinary number of caterpillars to fledge. Fewer caterpillars equals fewer birds. Native plants support caterpillars in much greater numbers than non-native species.

*Read the full article here!*

## Chapter Updates

### Toolkit Update



In WOFR's [Landscaping with Colorado Native Plants Toolkit](#), an updated version of the [Germination Guide for Native Seeds](#) has just been published in the [Growing Native Plants from Seeds](#) section of the Toolkit. A huge thank you to Jan Midgley for refreshing this guide in advance of the November [Seed Swaps](#)!

### Pikes Peak Meet & Greet

Thanks to all who came out for the Pikes Peak Region Meet & Greet. The group met at Rick's Garden Center, an independent garden center and nursery. Billy Richard, the



nursery manager, walked the group through what Rick's is doing to promote native plants. This nursery is really trying to change the industry. Peggy Hansen led a seed cleaning demonstration, and a good time was had by all. Thanks, Sue Wright, for organizing this first meeting of the Pikes Peak regional group, and beginning to plan future gatherings.



## Ask CSU Extension Anything (About Native Plants)



**QUESTION:** Should I add mycorrhizae to the soil when I plant native plants?

[Get the answer here!](#)

*Answer developed by: John Murgel (Extension County Specialist, Horticulture and Natural Resources, Douglas County) and Derek Lowstuter (Extension Mountain Regional Specialist, Expanded Rural Engagement, Food, and Agriculture) Colorado State University Extension*



Have a  
question about  
native plants?  
**Ask it here!**

## **Volunteers Needed!**

Help us educate more people about creating and promoting native plant [Coloradoscapes](#) by sharing your time and talents with us. We're a volunteer-run chapter, so every person willing to help makes a meaningful impact. Plus, it's fun to work with and learn from other people who are passionate about our mission!

Below are our current priority positions - [email us](#) to learn more about any of them. If you are interested in helping with other aspects of our chapter's operations (we're always looking!), please complete our [Volunteer Interest Form](#).

### ***Seed Swaps***

Seed Swaps are coming up in [Denver](#), [Pikes Peak](#) and [Northern Colorado](#). Check out the linked Seed Swap pages for details on how you can contribute to these popular and impactful events!

### ***Short term position: Create Blog Posts for Archived Newsletter Articles***

We are looking for 3 member volunteers to convert our old newsletter articles into blog posts so the content is more searchable on our website. There is so much useful information in these articles that we want to make accessible! Volunteers should be detail oriented and comfortable working in Word/Google Docs. We will provide training, instructions, and support.

### ***Marketing Coordinator***

We need a member volunteer to help increase Front Range residents' awareness of our chapter and how we empower people to create native plant Coloradoscapes. This role will develop consistent messaging about our chapter to be published via our newsletter, website, and social media. The Marketing Coordinator will also develop strategies to publicize our brand and mission in the greater community. Please reach out if you have experience in marketing communications, writing, and/or publicity.

### ***Volunteer Program Coordinator***

As a volunteer-run chapter, we need to continue recruiting and retaining passionate volunteers to help our chapter thrive. Have you helped to run or worked with a successful volunteer program before? Or, are you willing to help us research some volunteer program best practices and apply them for our chapter? If so, please get in touch.

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December 5



ColoradoGivesDay.org

Thanks to your incredible donations each year, we are able to empower more Front Range residents to transform their outdoor spaces into *Coloradoscapes* with native plants. Donations enable us to educate and motivate more people to take action to heal the earth, right where we live.

As a volunteer-run chapter of Wild Ones National, Wild Ones Front Range greatly appreciates your generous donations between now and December 5th.

[Click here to donate!](#)

## Upcoming Events

*Check out our website's [Events](#) section for registration links and full event details!*

### Native Seed Swaps & Giveaways!

#### **Denver**

Saturday, November 4

#### **Pikes Peak**

Sunday, November 5

#### **Northern Colorado**

Sunday, November 12



### 2023 Annual Colorado Pollinator Summit

Monday, November 6

#### **Got Seeds! Now What? Propagating and Establishing Native Plants for Your Garden**

Sunday, November 12

#### **WOFR November Board Meeting**

Wednesday, November 15

#### **"The Gardener's Guide to Prairie Plants" with Neil Dibol and Hilary Cox**

Thursday, November 16





Wild Ones Front Range | 6931 S Adams Way, Centennial, CO 80122

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