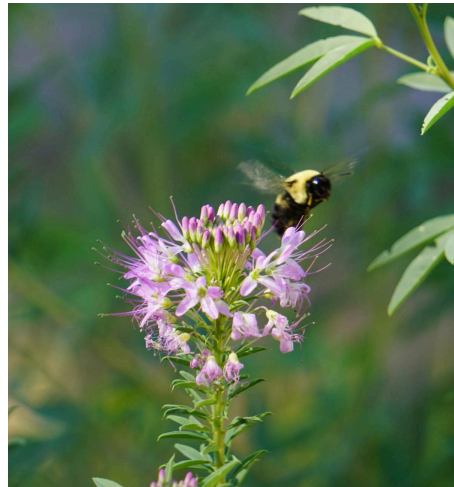




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Front Range



Summertime - Photos by R. Phillips

September/October 2025

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Learn to Love Yellow Composites

By Jonathan Sciarcon*



In midsummer and fall yellow composites (in this case sunflowers) dominate the Colorado landscape. Photo by Larry Lamsa, Flickr.

A fellow Wild Ones Front Range Board member asked me to write an article for this month's newsletter on "damn yellow composites" with the request that I make it funny. While I appreciate her belief that I can write comedically, the truth is that I was not even aware of the term "damn yellow composites," (yellow flowers in the *Asteraceae* family). Thus, when preparing to write this article, I searched the term online and found that many gardeners dislike mid to late season yellow composite flowers. I also realized I have nothing funny or witty to say about this. Instead, I decided it might be best to share my perspective, which is the perspective of a person with no eye for fashion, detail or aesthetics and who came to gardening at the relatively late age of 39.



Grindelia squarrosa is also known as gumweed due to the sticky sap found on the involucre). (Photo by Jacob W. Frank, Rocky Mountain National Park)

In many parts of my life, my own preconceived notions of what is good or bad continue to impact how I view and navigate the world. Having started to garden in mid-life after never having taken the time to care about the aesthetic value of plants is an advantage in the sense that I almost solely focus on what a plant does and not how it looks. My relationship to gardening reminds me of Frank Drebin's comment to Jane in the original *Naked Gun* film: "Jane, since I met you, I've noticed things that I never knew were there before... birds singing, dew glistening on a newly formed leaf, stoplights." While it's true that I notice more now, what I notice may be different than someone who grew up gardening. It would certainly be different than someone trained in horticulture. This doesn't make my views correct, but I do think my perspective may help others learn to love or at least appreciate what we might call "damn yellow composite season."



Rudbeckia hirta, better known as *Black-eyed Susan*, is a favorite annual that readily reseeds. (Photo by Martin van der Grinten, USDA.)

Yellow composites are in the Asteraceae family. Common yellow composites along or near the Front Range include *Helianthus annuus* (Annual sunflower), *Grindelia squarrosa* (Curlycup gumweed), *Helianthus maximiliani* (Maximilian sunflower), *Oligoneuron rigidum* (Stiff goldenrod), *Heliopsis helianthoides* (Early false sunflower), *Heliomeris multiflora* (Showy goldeneye), *Rudbeckia hirta* (Black-eyed susan), *Ericameria nauseosa* (Rubber rabbitbrush), and *Engelmannia peristenia* (Engelmann's daisy). Please note that I'm omitting many flowers and am including ones with which I have a great deal of experience. These plants are often in bloom in mid- to late-summer, and sometimes all at the same time. For example, *Heliomeris multiflora* blooms in my yard from late June to frost and so, at some point, blooms alongside every other plant listed above.



Heliomeris multiflora (Showy Goldeneye) is a long bloomer and is often found blooming along the late-season asters. (Photo by Photo ©Al Schneider, www.swcoloradowildflowers.com)

I recognize there are many gardeners who detest yards or fields full of yellow composite plants in bloom, especially when there are no, or only a few, purple, red, or orange blooms alongside them. If you're a gardener with this mindset, I want to propose two possible solutions. First, try to recalibrate your gardening goals to focus on function instead of form. Admittedly, I take this farther than most, but it is helpful for me to always remember why I'm personally gardening, which is to support local wildlife. I always try to find a mix of plants that can provide pollen and nectar services to native insects, feed other native animals, host native caterpillars, and manage my property's watershed. Many native yellow composites are among the best native annuals, biennials, and perennials in one or more of these categories. *Helianthus maximiliani*, for example, is a tremendous source of nectar for native bees and butterflies and is highly drought tolerant in full sun. It also spreads readily by rhizome and seed and so helps prevent soil erosion while also battling against invasive weeds. *Heliomeris multiflora* is another sun loving, drought tolerant perennial, which is also an important source of nectar for smaller native bees and pollinating insects. Meanwhile, anyone who has had *Oligoneuron rigidum* or *Ericameria nauseosa* in the landscape can attest to their abilities to attract numerous pollinating insects when in bloom. Both also thrive in low water, full sun conditions. Additionally, many of these plants, especially *Helianthus sp.*, *Oligoneuron sp.*, and native *Solidago sp.* are among the best host plants we have, short of keystone native shrubs and trees. Finally, many of these plants support specialist pollinating insects in our local ecosystems.

Cleome serrulata is a long-blooming annual that looks great with any yellow composite. (Photo ©Al Schneider, www.swcoloradowildflowers.com)



Second, there are some cheap and easy ways to add mid to late season color contrast in a yard. I have found that *Cleome serrulata* (Rocky Mountain bee plant) and *Machaeranthera bigelovii* (Bigelow's tansyaster) complement many of the yellow composites I have already mentioned in terms of both form and function. Not that anyone should necessarily take my aesthetic views seriously (after all, I watch the movie *Road House* whenever it comes on), but I do think that *Cleome serrulata* and *Helianthus annuus* look beautiful when planted next to one another. They both feed similar generalist and specialist insects and provide significant support to native birds in early fall. *Machaeranthera bigelovii* pairs especially well with *Heliomeris multiflora* as the plants grow to similar heights, bloom together for around two months, and both support smaller native pollinators. The water and sun requirements of these plants are also similar.

Another option is to incorporate colorful native grasses. In my opinion, if you have full sun you cannot go wrong with *Schizachyrium scoparium* (*Little Bluestem*), which turns from a beautiful blue-green to a gorgeous red in late summer and early fall. The lovely seed heads on *Panicum virgatum* (*Switchgrass*) also provide excellent contrast for many yellow composites while providing vertical support for taller plants such as *Helianthus annuus* and *Helianthus maximiliani*.

In conclusion, I actually love yellow composites for what they do. George Costanza once said that he would drape himself in velvet if it were socially acceptable. I'm not going to pretend that I love yellow composites at that level, but I wouldn't mind a yard full of them in mid to late summer. For those who see the value in yellow composites and want a variety of other colors, just experiment! Focus on finding plants that have similar sun and water needs and see what works. Nature is dynamic and our yards and gardens can (and in my opinion should) be as well.

*Jonathan Sciarcon is a Board Member of Wild Ones Front Range Chapter, and he actually is funny!

Questions to Ask Before Starting a Native Plant Landscaping Project

By Danna Liebert (original by Pam Sherman and Deb Lebow Aal)



(Landscape plan by Kenton Seth)

Wondering where or how to even begin your landscape transformation? A good place to start is by taking time to sit quietly in your yard asking yourself questions to hone in on your purpose and vision for your landscape. Identifying your purpose and vision will, in turn, help guide your design choices, plant and material selections, and more. The questions below are intended to help you clarify your values and priorities as a first step in creating a cohesive plan and ultimately, a gratifying landscape. However, if you're the type of person who wants to dive in without an overall plan, go for it (chaos gardening is a thing)!

Notice that your responses can draw out unrecognized obstacles as well as clarify your purpose. Leave open the possibility that some or all of your responses could change over time due to outside factors like climate or changes to your neighborhood, or personal changes like health challenges and aging, getting a dog, or a change in finances. And, you don't have to answer all these questions! Pick the ones that speak to you.

Why am I doing this?

Are you gardening for pollinators; to save water/reduce water bills; sequester carbon; for beauty; to provide shade and a calm place to sit?

Why now?

Is there a problem that I want this yard to solve or a yearning I want it to fulfill?



Do you need space for a vegetable or herb garden? Will children be using the space? Where is hose access? (Photo by Raksa R from Pixabay)

How will the space be used?

- Do I plan to go out barefoot?
- Do I want a place to sit/watch the stars/picnic/read?
- Do I want a special or private spot for meditation/rejuvenation?
- Do I need places for the children and/or a dog to play?
- Do I have a pet that needs somewhere to go to the bathroom?
- Do I want an outdoor gathering space for entertaining? How many people do I envision hosting?
- Do I need a work area, complete with potting bench, compost area, trash cans, or maybe an area to propagate plants?
- How can I stack functions? Can I design elements that meet more than one function?
- How much time will I spend in this space?
- Do I primarily want attractive views from my windows or the curb, or along the outer parts of my outdoor space?
- Or do I want a more interactive nature space where, for example, I can see birds and insects close up, smell the plants?



Do you want to attract wildlife? A bird bath is a water source for many animals. (Photo by SpiritPhotos, Pixabay)



Do you want your yard to attract and support the Monarch butterfly? You'll need to plant native milkweed. Asclepias incarnata can grow to 4 feet high. (Photo by Jan Midgley)

What functions do I want the landscape to serve?

- Do I want to attract birds?
- Do I want to attract bees and other pollinators?
- If gardening for ecological value, what do the birds need? the insects? the soil? the water? the air? wildlife?
- Would I like a water feature to support birds and/or butterflies?
- Do I want a cut flower garden?
- Do I want a garden or landscape that provides food for me?
- Do I want to plant herbs or spices and culinary medicine?
- What does the land here need or want that this project can help fulfill?
- How might these functions change over time? (trees will grow and shade out sun-loving plantings, etc.)

What are my aesthetic preferences?

- Would I like a low-water desert-like Southern Colorado landscape?
- Do I want a meadow/naturalistic design?
- Do I like dense planting or prefer more of a specimen garden that highlights individual?
- What feeling do I want the landscape to evoke?
- What is my tolerance for letting the plants do their thing vs. maintaining an intended design?
- Are there examples of landscapes I love (from books, Pinterest, garden tours, my neighborhood)?
- Are there colors I want to emphasize?
- Are there plants with a scent I love? or can't stand?
- Are there plants that have special meaning to me that I want a spot for?



Who is going to do the work? What is their skill level? Do you have a budget to hire a contractor? (Photo by Mariya M., Pixabay)

Practical aspects for realistic installation goals:

- What does my family/others I live with need/want from this space?
- How much help will I get from my friends/people I live with?
- How much time do I want to devote to installation?
- How much money do I want to spend?
- How will/does this fit in with the rest of my life?
- What challenges do I/we see, in terms of nature, people, pets?
- What skills does the project need that I want to acquire?
- What other resources does the project need that I want to acquire?
- What skills and resources are needed that I do *not* want to acquire?
- Where can I get the services I will need? Can I buy/rent/share/trade/barter?
- What resources do I have? (i.e. - mentors, guides, consultants, websites, books)?
- Can I stage the project? In other words, do one phase at a time?
- Will we monitor and evaluate what has worked; what needs work?

Anticipating Maintenance

(Note, and this is important: There is no such thing as a garden that does not need maintenance!)

- How do I plan to deal with maintenance and weeds?
- How much time can I devote to this?
- Will I enjoy doing ongoing maintenance myself or would I prefer to hire someone for future maintenance?
- If the latter, what is my annual budget for Spring and Fall cleanup, and weeding as needed?
- What is my tolerance for less-delightful wildlife and insects?
- How will I dispose of yard waste to minimize the carbon footprint?

Mission Statement

Do I want to create a statement summing up my project purpose and goals? A mission statement can be useful to review when the project feels daunting or hits a road bump.

Here is one example: *"I am creating a healing space to nourish my soul with year-round natural beauty and to nourish pollinating insects and birds with food and nesting resources. I want my landscape to inspire others to create restorative ecosystems in their yards."*

Finally, here are a few quotes to motivate your journey:

"My garden is my therapist, my gym, my art studio and my teacher. I learn and grow from my plants every time I step into the garden. Enjoy the sensuality of your garden and it will never feel like 'work.'"—*Deb Lebow Aal*

"I love my forest garden. We plant native-food plants, but I also love to see what native (and other!) plants will pop up on their own from the soil seed bank and thanks to the wind, the birds, the "weed-free" straw. I prefer letting the plants grow semi-wild, wherever they wish, though I do knock back those that take over. My husband prefers neat, crop-only rows, so we strike a balance. For me the garden/landscape is a learning lab full of surprises about our human relationship with nature." —*Pam Sherman*

Ask CSU Extension Anything (About Native Plants)



Are Sunflowers Allelopathic?

Question: I'm a returning Wild Ones member with a confounding question. I began a Coloradoscape garden last year and many sunflowers volunteered (from feeding the birds). I left some of them as I discovered they were popular with all manner of insects and birds. However, I recently read that sunflowers produce chemicals that inhibit the growth of nearby plants, esp. natives. Should I remove the sunflowers?

Answer: Sunflowers are not allelopathic, that is, they do not produce harmful chemicals. They are, however, very competitive plants and can overwhelm slower-growing plants, especially in new gardens. To decide on an action plan, you'll want to evaluate your garden goals. For starters, sunflowers (*Helianthus annuus*) are native plants in much of the state. If you are motivated by having a garden of strictly geographic natives, then sunflowers can be included without feelings of guilt, though the varieties grown for and spread by bird seed may or may not be genetically close to the varieties that grow wild in Colorado. If you're growing natives in order to help support birds and pollinators, then the sunflowers are certainly helping you accomplish that mission (and their nativity is essentially irrelevant). From a purely horticultural perspective, you might want to at least control the number of sunflowers that you allow to grow and set seed in order to make sure that the perennials that you have planted are able to establish and flourish without adverse competition. You might also wish to thin the sunflowers for aesthetic purposes.

*By John Murgel, Extension County Specialist, Horticulture and Natural Resources,
Douglas County, Colorado State University Extension*

Have a question about native plants? Ask us here

Book Review



FINDING THE MOTHER TREE

Discovering the
Wisdom of the Forest

SUZANNE SIMARD

Review by Richard Phillips

What do you consider the basic behaviors of a good mother towards her children? Certainly she must be able to identify them, know what they need and provide it for them, identify who their foes are and protect them from them, and help them adapt to a changing world. I'm sure you are thinking I am talking about a human or other mammalian mother, but I'm not. I am describing the traits of a mother tree towards the seedlings that grew from her seeds! The author, Suzanne Simard, was one of the first forest scientists to explore and prove these concepts.

Simard spent a lot of time in forests as a child. She came from a family that included several generations of loggers. She literally ate dirt. The book is an autobiography, covering her childhood through her years of forest research as a professor. She interweaves stories of her early childhood and how it impacted her later work with the narrative about her discoveries as a researcher.

She was one of the few women of her generation who chose to study forestry. She experienced sexism in her early jobs and later as a professor. Working for a lumber company, she was overlooked for a promotion that was given to a less qualified male coworker. While at the lumber company, her field surveys of clear-cut plots that were re-

planted with a mono-culture of a single species of trees showed poor recovery. Her insight suggesting that a collection of different species would perform better, reflecting how natural forests grow, was pooh-poohed by her peers.

She ultimately left the timber industry and eventually got a job in a government forestry research lab. She then decided to go back to school and get masters and doctorate degrees in forest ecology.

Her doctoral research focused on the question of whether trees can communicate with one another. Researchers from other countries had shown that other plants were exchanging nutrients from one to another. They were showing this by using radioactive carbon isotopes to trace how nutrients were transferred from one plant to another.

She was initially able to confirm simply that trees in a forest do pass nutrients to other trees. Her insight suggested this was being done through the extensive mycorrhizal fungus network that exists in forest soil. She teamed with a mycologist to explore this further and they were able to confirm that the fungus served as the medium for passing information and nutrients between trees.

She then focused on identifying more complex hypotheses about communication between the trees. This is when she was able to develop the "Mother Tree" concept. Among other things, she was able to prove that a Mother Tree was able to identify which of the seedlings on the network were her "children" and for these seedlings she passed on extra doses of nutrients. She was even able to show that a Mother Tree could assist in providing things such as more sun to a tree that was in the shade, by adjusting its leaf growth to allow more sun to pass through to a seedling that needed it. She was even able to show that different species of trees cooperatively exchange nutrients, contrary to the common belief that all species compete to survive.

Overall, this is an enjoyable book to read. Especially in the later chapters, there is a lot of discussion about the scientific experiments she deployed. This can get a little tedious at times, but in general she explains things in a way that a sophisticated layperson can understand and the important thing is just to understand the results of the experiment, which are fairly simple. She keeps things light by interweaving her own life into the story. She discusses friendships, family, children and her professional life; including the difficult time she had in convincing other researchers and forestry professionals that her findings were accurate.

The information about how trees communicate is truly amazing, something most humans would never expect. This book further reinforces our evolving knowledge that plants have very sophisticated interactions with the world around them as presented in the book, *Light Eaters*.

Chapter News

Our next Board Meetings are September 17 and October 21, from 6-8 pm. If you have any interest in joining our board, consider attending our meeting this month to see how we operate. [Email us](#) to get an invitation.

Who's Got Seeds?

by Sue Parilla, Jeffco Regional Co-Coordinator

Have you noticed the seed pods developing in your garden? Many are ready to be harvested right now!

One way that we will all be able to spread the wealth of seeds that we have is to participate in the Fall Seed Swaps. (Check the Events Calendar—there are 3 regional swaps scheduled, with at least one more to be scheduled. <https://frontrange.wildones.org/events/>) Some will be public, and some will be for Wild Ones members only, so be sure to check for details.

How do you know when to harvest seeds from your plants? Here are some resources.

- The graphic below from Healthy Yards gives you an idea of how dry you want a seed head to look before it is ready to be harvested.
- Lisa Olsen, former WOFR President, is featured in a wonderful video teaching us how to harvest many common native seeds <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sLuENqEBmdY>
- Here are quick "how to" videos from Peggy Hanson for a few species:
 - [Berlandiera lyrata \(chocolate flower\)](#)
 - [Mirabilis multiflora \(desert four o'clock\)](#)
 - [Callirhoe involucrata \(winecups or poppymallow\)](#)
- At the very end of [Jan Midgley's Germination Guide](#), she lists when to expect to collect seeds from some common native plants. This is just a guide. If your seeds are ready, harvest them. If they aren't ready, wait.



Let your regional coordinator know if you are interested in seed collection and/or if you have so many seeds to harvest that you could use some help. If you don't know who to contact, send an email to frontrangewildones@gmail.com.

When harvesting seeds, Wild Ones members are asked to:

- [Practice ethical seed harvesting](#)
 - When harvesting seeds in your personal garden, consider leaving seeds for wildlife.
 - Harvest seeds on public or private land only with permission. A permit is required on all public lands.
 - Harvest no more than 10-15% of the seeds available in an area so as not to disrupt the natural propagation of the plant nor the benefit to wildlife.
- Maintain accurate records of the seeds harvested listing the botanical name, common name, location harvested (city), category of seed (personal garden, public garden, wild, purchased), elevation.
- Keep seeds separated from others.
 - One species of seed should be separate from others.

- Collections made of the same species from different locations and dates should be stored and labeled separately.
- Harvest when seeds are ripe. Educate yourself about the plant you are harvesting seeds from. If you harvest too soon, the seeds will likely not be viable.
- Harvest on a dry weather day to reduce moisture in the collection and prevent mold from forming.
- Harvest and donate seeds only if you know the true botanical name and origin. Donating seeds to others or to a seed swap when we don't know the true identity of the seed is not appropriate.
- For Wild Ones events, members are asked to donate only Colorado or regionally native seeds (NM, AZ, UT, WY, KS, NE, OK, TX). If the plant is a commercially produced cultivar (hybrid), we do not want it.
- Practice good seed storage: reduced light, cool temperatures, extreme dryness.
 - At the time of harvest, store seeds in an open container, such as a paper bag in a well-ventilated space, away from sunlight.
 - Many seeds will need some additional cleaning. If you aren't sure how to clean them, ask or bring them to a seed cleaning session.
 - When the cleaned seeds have dried (weeks later), they can be transferred to a container with a lid for long term storage, but still away from sunlight and at less than 70 degrees.
- [Read more at this link from Seed Savers](#)

What will you do with the seeds you harvest? Look for announcements about upcoming seed harvesting and seed cleaning sessions. We'll demonstrate hands-on techniques with seeds from our own backyards.

We will have propagation sessions for winter sowing in January. We can teach you how to sow the seeds you have harvested.

Thank you for reading! I know this was a lot of information. Again, please be in touch with your regional coordinator if you have any questions. We are all here to help each other.

Chapter Events





Photos by Sue Parilla and Peggy Hanson

Jeffco's Partnership with the City of Lakewood Blossoms Into a Plant Share

by Patti O'Neal and Sue Parilla

In November 2024, Deb Lebow Aal set up a meeting with Lee Blair, City of Lakewood Open Space Supervisor, to discuss how Wild Ones might collaborate to further promote native plants. The city invited Wild Ones to, among other things, volunteer to clean native seeds. Laurel Starr, Jeffco Co-Regional Coordinator, coordinated with Brittany Klappert, City of Lakewood Natural Resource Specialist, and Wild Ones volunteers got to work! With assistance from Peggy Hanson, our beloved Plant/Seed Swap Chair Emeritus, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed in April of this year and a partnership between Wild Ones Front Range Chapter and the City of Lakewood was formed.

Focusing on regional plant swaps, Sue Parilla stepped in to coordinate the Jeffco Plant Share, supported by Laurel Starr, Jessica Padgham and Diane Koziol. Working with Brittany, an agreement blossomed to hold the event at the City of Lakewood Greenhouse.

Jeffco's first Native Plant Share held on June 14 drew 130 WOFR members (including some kids) who chose among 4,000+ plants propagated by over 40 WOFR members to enrich their home gardens. In addition, several of these plants benefited school native gardens, Jeffco Extension Office native gardens managed by Colorado Master Gardeners, and a couple other public native gardens.

The Jeffco Native Plant Share Event Team of 27 volunteers created an easy in, easy out event where members found common natives such as, *Gaillardia aristata*, as well as some harder to find species, *Penstemon tubaeflorus*.

Grateful does not adequately describe our sentiment for our partnership with the City of Lakewood Greenhouse and Horticulture staff. Wild Ones was able to store some plants at the City's hoop houses which eased the load on volunteers providing plants. They also gifted us with the use of their property, a beautiful, quiet spot that was easily accessible to members with adequate parking as well as generous space to set up our event. The City also provided staff during the event to assist us with logistics, engage with members, and provide awesome educational resources. This is a great gift to Wild Ones to be associated with a like-minded community resource who shares our mission to promote native ecology through native plant usage and education. We could not appreciate them more!

Post event surveys were conducted and responses from over half the attendees provided feedback on how much they appreciated the smaller Plant Share event and venue. We

also know our members would like to see more Penstemons, shrubs and grasses at the next event.

- Overwhelming kudos for not having to wait in an hour-long line and then not finding plants they hoped to find once they got “in the door.”
- Overwhelming comments for the organized event, the volunteer expertise for questions on site and for suggestions for appropriate plants for landscape areas.
- Great opportunity for social interaction with other Native Plant gardeners.
- The plant selection was amazing.
- The whole atmosphere was so welcoming.
- Attendees were able to find just about everything they were looking for.

We also heard some thoughtful feedback on some things we could do to improve the event which are in consideration for next year’s Share. (Except for the weather following the event – Mother Nature doesn’t take suggestions!)

We were happy with the attendance and the positive remarks from attendees, are excited about our new members who joined right before and during the event, and look forward to seeing you at our upcoming Seed Swap in November. Thank you to all who gave so much time and effort into every aspect of the production of the event and to all our members who attended and provided such helpful feedback.

All-in-all, a very successful first ever Jeffco Member Plant Share. As a region, we hope that members participate in the life cycle of a native plant through WOFR. We offer opportunities for our members to learn how to harvest native seeds, store and propagate them, garden with them, and then offer the bounty of native plant babies to others to expand our community of native plant people.

Call for More Volunteers

Our Wild Ones chapter is growing so fast, our small volunteer board can’t keep up! With 748 members, we are by far the largest of the 98 chapters across the nation, and while we love having this explosive growth, we need more help and active engagement from more of our members. Here are a few areas we want to highlight:

Seed Swap Lead: We need someone to take the lead for the seed swaps in the fall. Each of our regions will likely hold its own swap. We need someone to serve as the coordinator for the swap activities, from designing the flyers to assisting the regions and managing distribution of the seed inventories, and ensuring that the seeds distributed by Wild Ones are accurately identified. You’ll gain expertise in accurately identifying native plant seeds and collecting and preparing them for the swap, and meet like-minded wonderful people! Training will be provided.

Newsletter Lead: Deb has been leading the newsletter work for over 7 years and we would love to find relief for her. This position is responsible for providing (although not always writing) the content of the newsletter every month (or we may go to every other month). We need someone to generate ideas for articles, find writers, tickle those writers when an article is due, edit articles, keep the newsletter schedule up to date, and review the newsletter once it is put together in Constant Contact. Familiarity with Constant Contact is a plus, but training will be provided. You’ll contribute to one of the Chapter’s signature information resources and gain visibility with our members. If you like behind the scenes work, this is for you!

Membership Chair: This position sits on the Board of Directors and is responsible for the member recruitment and retention practices, primarily by cultivating the relationships and serving as liaison between members and the Board. This position also promotes member/volunteer engagement and participation and arranges opportunities to attract members and volunteers. The level of activity and commitment can be flexible. It’s a great way to meet like-minded plant people.

Grant Writer: We need someone to write a grant guidance document for us for giving out and receiving money. You would be helping the chapter give and receive grants in the future.

Upcoming Events

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

Northern Region's Fort Collins Garden Crawl (members only)
September 6

Boulder County+ Garden Crawl
September 13

WOFR Monthly Board Meeting
September 17

Free Webinar: "Eco-Beneficial Landscape Strategies for the Climate Crisis" with Kim Eierman (hosted by National Wild Ones)
September 18

Pikes Peak Region Social
September 19

Wild Ones National Webinar with Doug Tallamy
October 16

Boulder County Region Seed Cleaning
October 18

WOFR Monthly Board Meeting
October 21

Pikes Peak Region Seed Collecting
October 27

Zero-Cost Donation!

There's a simple way you can contribute financially to WOFR, without spending any money! A *free donation!* Link WOFR (Wild Ones Front Range Chapter) with your King Soopers Card. Their [Community Rewards Program](#) will then make a contribution to WOFR at the end of the year, based on the total amount of purchases by the people who have linked their card to our organization. *Do it today!*



Pollinator License Plate



You can show your true colors on your car as you drive around. The Protect Our Pollinators license plate was created by our sister organization, PPAN (People and Pollinators Action Network). The image on the plate is a Hunt's Bumblebee on a Blanket Flower, both Colorado natives species. For a one-time contribution to PPAN you can support pollinators and get others interested as well. For more information, visit their website [PPAN License Plate](#).

We love hearing from you!

If you would like to comment on anything in this newsletter or write an article, please [email us](#) your comments or ideas.

Wild Ones Front Range Chapter | <https://frontrange.wildones.org/>



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