

NewsLeaf Friends of the Arboretum Newsletter

Building positive relationships between people and the land through support of the UW–Madison Arboretum

Winter 2023

Volume XXXVIII No. 1

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Native Plant Sale™



For a shortcut to foamadison.org, scan this QR code with a smartphone. Open your phone's camera and aim it at this black and white square. In a moment, a URL link will appear on the phone's screen. Tap the link to take the shortcut.

FOA office phone: 608-890-2555



Kathy King

Shop the Native Plant Sale In the Tent In 2023

Save the date: May 20, 2023

Early shopping for Friends at 9 A.M.

General public from 10 A.M. until plants sell out

AND

Last year's wildly popular online Native Plant Sale is back! Order between January 1 and March 15, 2023 for convenient curbside pickup in May. Our online store: foamadison.org

Online offerings include our most popular species for your native garden:

- Trees and shrubs will be picked up curbside at McKay Garden Center in Oregon, WI in May. Bear in mind that some of these are in large (5-gallon) pots, or more than 4 feet tall, and may need a larger vehicle for pickup.
- Trays of wildflowers and/or grasses will be picked up curbside at the Arboretum the week of May 9. We will contact you in late April to schedule your pickup.
- Selected species will be available in single-species full and half trays of 16–32 plants. **Please note: there is a 16 plant minimum order.**
- Garden mixes will also be available for rain gardens, savanna gardens, and pollinators (support monarchs or hummingbirds, and participate in citizen science by reporting your sightings).

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Partnership with Journey North



Our popular Citizen Science Kits in collaboration with Journey North return for 2023. These kits focus on nectaring plants for two migrating species that Wisconsinites treasure—monarchs and hummingbirds.

Support the Arboretum, provide food for monarchs and hummingbirds and join Journey North. Choose either Monarchs or Hummingbirds Citizen Science Kits. Each kit includes:

- A colorful garden sign to tell passersby that your planting is part of a citizen science project
- Information about registering with Journey North to submit your observations and watch the migration unfold on real-time interactive maps
- A kit of native plants—16 plants specifically selected to provide nectar to either monarchs or hummingbirds

In-tent offerings will include a wide variety of species, available as individual plants. We will also offer our popular garden mixes (for rain gardens, savanna gardens, monarch butterflies, or hummingbirds) in the tent, which will be located on the Arboretum Lawn. **Note: Trees and shrubs this year are only available online, not at the tent sale.**

Watch this space in the spring *NewsLeaf* for an article from Julia Whidden, Citizen Science Coordinator at the UW–Madison Arboretum. She'll be sharing ways you can become a citizen scientist using the ecosystem in your own backyard in order to support greater conservation efforts in your community and beyond.



2023 Native Plant Sale Order—due March 15

You may complete your order online OR fill out the order form below. DO NOT DO BOTH.

Please see the FOA website (foamadison.org) for complete information about the plants or mixes you wish to order. There is a 16-plant minimum.

Species or Mix Name	Number of Plants (Minimum 16)	Unit Price	Extended Price
_____		x	=

Please continue on an additional sheet of paper if more lines are needed.

Grand Total \$ _____

Buyer information (required for further communication about pickup—please print clearly.)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Check payable to Friends of the Arboretum enclosed.

Please charge my credit card:

Credit card # _____

Expiration date mm/yy _____ 3-digit code _____

Name as it appears on card: _____

Order confirmation, including pickup instructions, will be sent in April.

Questions? Email Mary Chandler (npscoordinator@foamadison.org) or call (608) 890-2555 and leave a message.

Online ordering preferred foamadison.org



Mail order form and payment to:
Friends of the Arboretum
1207 Seminole Highway
Madison, WI 53711

Get to Know the New FOA Board President

by Kate Martin

I grew up in New England visiting Boston's Arnold Arboretum and hiking in the White and Green Mountains. I discovered the Arboretum as a freshman at the UW and have lived nearby for almost 40 years. Walks in the Arb are part of my regular routine as well as part of my family's favorite outings. Years ago, my husband and I took our newborn daughter to "see" the lilacs as her very first outing and many family walks followed. On my Dad's last visit to Madison, when he was 92, we went for a walk together in Curtis Prairie.

When I retired, I knew that I wanted to find meaningful volunteer activities. Working as an environmental engineer, project manager, and then leading an engineering team to design and construct utility scale wind and solar projects across the country, I had not found time for as much volunteering as I wanted. I also wanted to continue my quest as a life-long learner.

I started volunteering as a receptionist at the Arb visitor center and enjoyed sharing my favorite spots with visitors answering questions. I found the Arb staff approachable and happy to share their knowledge. I appreciated that they respected and valued volunteers. So, it was natural that I expanded my time involved in the Arb and joined the Friends Board. Through my involvement with the Arb I have gotten to work with talented people and learned a great deal. I'm an advocate for more naturalist topics on Jeopardy!

I am humbled and challenged to serve as leader of the Friends Board. Through my donations of both time and money, I know that I am helping the Arboretum play a worthy role in stewardship of nature and I am supporting a gem in our community. I hope to continue making our Native Plant Sale, luncheon lectures, and trips successful. We are always looking for new volunteers to get involved with us in these three activities, so please consider joining one of these committees because, like for me, it might bring you so much in return.



Meet Your New FOA Board Members

Tim Norris

Tim is the retired UW–Madison Budget Director and Associate Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration.



Tim served the university as an executive financial manager in a career spanning three decades, including fifteen years as Budget Director. Tim and wife Maddie visit the Arboretum frequently for leisure and learning. They are avid bird watchers and native plant and vegetable gardeners.



Vince Aiello

Vince has lived in Wisconsin most of his life and has a strong appreciation for nature. He is an avid nature photographer and his current passion is mushrooms and fungi. He has taken classes on herbalism and attended the Master Gardener program and two United Plant Savers events.

We bid a grateful farewell to **Donald Tipple** who enthusiastically served two terms, a total of 6 years, as a board member. We wish him and his family well. Thank you Don for all you did and continue to do for the Arboretum.

Luncheon-Lectures 2023

Luncheon-Lectures are held from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Arboretum Visitor Center Auditorium. Lunch is followed by an educational presentation. This popular series fills up quickly, so register as soon as you can.

You may register online at foamadison.org or send a check payable to FOA to Friends of the Arboretum, 1207 Seminole Hwy., Madison, WI 53711. The cost of each of the Luncheon-Lectures is \$40.00. Here is a list of dates for the remaining lectures. More detail is available on our website.

Wednesday, January 18, 2023: *The Arboretum's Grady Tract: 200 Acres of History, Restoration, and Research*—Michael Hansen, Land Care Manager, UW–Madison Arboretum

Tuesday, February 14, 2023: *Conservation in the 21st Century: Lessons from the Driftless Area to the World*—Curt Meine, Senior Fellow, Aldo Leopold Foundation/Center for Human and Nature; Adjunct Associate Professor, UW–Madison

Tuesday, March 14, 2023: *The Wisconsin Native Plant Garden: Reflections and Resilience*—Susan Carpenter, Native Plant Garden Curator, UW–Madison Arboretum

Tuesday, April 11, 2023: *The Nature Conservancy in Wisconsin: Saving What We Love Together*—Elizabeth Koehler, State Director, Nature Conservancy of Wisconsin

Tuesday, May 16, 2023: *May T. Watts, the Morton Arboretum, and the Origins of the Illinois Prairie Path*—William Barnett, Professor of History at North Central College in Naperville, IL

Thursday, June 8, 2023: *Everyone Is Listening for Something*—Douglas Hill, Emeritus Professor of Music, UW–Madison



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FOA WATER Subaward Grant Update: A Successful Conclusion

Alli Parrish (Wenman)—Regional Climate Outreach Project Manager; Natural Resources Institute, UW—Madison Division of Extension

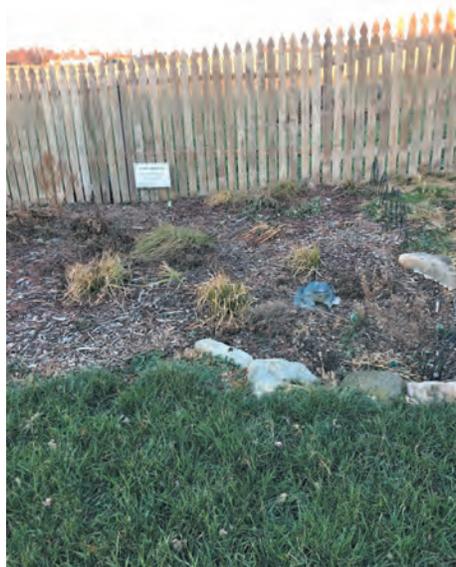
This year, FOA piloted an initiative called *Grass-To-Gardens* to provide rain garden kits to motivated applicants living in the Lake Wingra watershed, free-of-charge. We awarded three rain garden kits (32 plants each with a mix of species) earlier this summer to residents in the surrounding community who sited and planted the gardens themselves. So now we ask—was the pilot successful?

To determine if it was successful, we had to back up and ask ourselves, how do we define success. For this project, our team had 2 goals—getting rain gardens where they otherwise would not be and creating positive ripple effects. An end-of-season survey helped us determine whether we met these goals. Some highlights from the survey responses include:

- Respondents indicated that they plan to continue maintaining their garden next year. We were excited about this because it indicates longevity for the gardens!
- One respondent used the toolkit of rain garden resources that FOA compiled. This toolkit included planting schematics, routine maintenance schedule, and a plant list, among other resources that we thought would help address some common barriers to feeling confident maintaining a rain garden. We were pleased to see that this recipient found select resources helpful.
- One respondent had conversations with their neighbors about their rain garden. We love this one! This garden planting definitely created ripple effects.

Since we were able to cover the cost of these kits this year using WATER grant subaward funding from the Arboretum, all this happened at no cost to FOA. Though the impact was modest, we are happy to consider our first step into providing garden awards to achieve environmental impacts a success.

The Friends subaward is part of an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) environmental education grant awarded to the UW—Madison Arboretum.



Erin Avila-Vissers

Seasonal Truths

The houses are all wearing whiskers and sparrows are eating the highbush cranberries. Must be Wisconsin, must be January.

—Kathy Dodd Miner

Your FOA Donations at Work

With over half of all Friends of the Arboretum donations coming in at the end of the calendar year, we wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for your generous support! December was a very successful month and over \$80,000 has been raised so far this fiscal year. This puts us on track for a record-breaking year and we are so grateful for your support. Be on the lookout this spring for the Arboretum's Annual Report for an in-depth look at the programs in land care, education and research that your donations support.

—Erica Lee, Advancement Manager, UW—Madison Arboretum