



The Harbinger

April 2019
Vol. 36, No. 1

Newsletter of the
Illinois Native Plant Society

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



Speckled alder catkins (*Alnus incana*) alongside last year's fruit. Chicago, Cook County. Photo: Mike Weise.

Editorial

There are lots of things going on with INPS and I'm excited to share them with you in this newsletter. INPS welcomes Floyd Catchpole of the Kankakee Torrent Chapter as the new State Board President as of the beginning of the year, and Susanne Masi has stepped into the Vice-President role. I'd like to recognize two other new members to the Board: Anna Braum as an At-Large member and Courtney Cartney as Treasurer. Anna works for The Wetlands Initiative in Chicago and Courtney is a finance executive at IBM (and my twin sister). Be on the lookout for your copy of the long-anticipated issue of *Erigenia*! We also welcome several new Life Members to INPS and thank them for their support. Lastly, the registration packet for the Annual Gathering will be forthcoming and we hope you will join us in Oglesby on June 21-23. Christopher David Benda.

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Message from the President



I started my first term as State Board President this year and came away from our Board retreat at Adams Wildlife Sanctuary (thanks, Illinois Audubon) in February excited about how invigorated the Board is. I learned a lot about what is going on at INPS and thought I'd tell you about some of the many exciting projects that are underway. My apologies to those whose projects are not mentioned.

INPS has two grant programs: one operating at the State level and one operated by the Central Chapter. Both of these programs fund research related to native plants. Central Chapter's program has been hugely successful, in part due to funds from their massive, nearly 30-year-old native plant sale. The State grant program is smaller, being funded by member dues and donations to our dedicated grant fund account. If you want to support native plant research in Illinois, please consider donating to our [Grant Fund](#). All money donated goes to students/researchers.

On the publications front, I hope you have been enjoying the *Harbinger* issues as well as the most recent issue of *Erigenia*. While *Harbinger* has been coming out like clockwork, we have had particularly frustrating times getting out the most recent issue of *Erigenia*, our peer-reviewed science journal. The Board discussed this at the retreat and we believe we have resolved the problems. We are now looking for scientific articles to publish in next year's *Erigenia*. This is an opportunity for students, professors, and others to publish articles about the Illinois flora and build their publications list.

The Central Chapter has posted filmed meeting presentations on the INPS website (go to [their webpage](#) and choose Videos). This handy free resource is available to the public. An especially timely video is on orchids, as INPS is participating in the formation of a grass pink orchid (*Calopogon tuberosus*) recovery initiative that is coming together in northeast Illinois.

Which brings up the Grand Prairie Chapter's exciting news. Illinois State University has agreed to allow INPS to use some of their Horticulture Center grounds for the production of native plants. Low genetic diversity, inbreeding, and poor pollination due to distance between flowers, etc., can put rare populations into a death spiral. INPS is currently developing a watchlist of rare plant species that are at risk of becoming endangered and these should be among the early selections for propagating at ISU to help at-risk wild populations.

The Illinois Botanist Big Year continues to be a fun event for plant geeks and has resulted in the discovery of at least one state record. For more information, visit the [Big Year webpage](#) under Events on the INPS website.

Last, but not least, our Annual Gathering at Illinois Valley Community College (June 21-23) promises to be a fun event, with field trips to sand savannas, wetlands, cliffs, woodlands, and prairies. Gary Sullivan will present a talk on the plants and ecosystems of the Hennepin Bend area. The State Board chose this beautiful part of Illinois because it is not near any Chapter, so come enjoy the sites.

Floyd Catchpole

President, INPS

INPS Chapters

CENTRAL CHAPTER

Springfield

Trish Quintenz (President)

trishquintenz@gmail.com

FOREST GLEN CHAPTER

Champaign/Urbana, Danville

Connie Cunningham (President)

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GRAND PRAIRIE CHAPTER

Bloomington/Normal

Joe Armstrong (President)

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KANKAKEE TORRENT CHAPTER - Bourbonnais

Floyd Catchpole (President)

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NORTHEAST CHAPTER

Chicago

cassi saari (President)

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Rock Island

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SOUTHERN CHAPTER

Carbondale

Chris Benda (President)

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Check out the [Illinois Native Plant Society Events Calendar](#) for Chapter meetings and workshops.

Welcome New Members

Central Chapter

Steven Borcharding
Rita Bordignon
Nancy Bowman
James Bray
W. Dulka
Margaret Evans
Judy Ostermeier
Alana Reynolds
Caleb Rieger
Paul Romiti
Dale Schaffenacker
Lori Rondel Shurtz
Damon Vincent
Janet Ward
Trent Wiewel
Curt & Kathleen Winhold

Grand Prairie Chapter

Tracy Alderson
Brittany Gavin
Nancy & Wade Smith

Southern Chapter

Larry & Peg Brammer*
Sarah Burton
Tharran Hobson
Catherine Lyons
Jim & Mary Maginel*
Clint Samuel
Ernesto Scott

Forest Glen Chapter

Julie, George, & Novah
Hardebeck

Kankakee Torrent Chapter

Anthony Gibson
Heather Linehan

Northeast Chapter

Patty Bergquist
Michael Bertolani
Candace Blank
Kelly Bougher
Michael Buhmann
Kris DaPra
Sharon Devo
Carol Flaig
Gretel Kiefer*
Shelley Kiefer
Katherine Kucera
Lyndsay Murphree
Elizabeth Pickvance
Julie Poposki
Lailah Reich
Paul Roots
John Valej


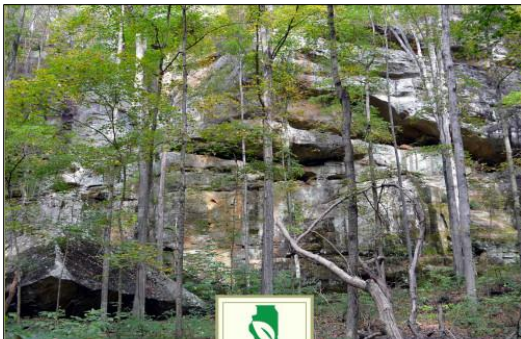
* **New Life Member**

INPS News

Save the Dates

- April 5-7: Illinois Indigenous Plants Symposium, Carterville, IL. <https://ill-inps.org/2019-illinois-indigenous-plants-symposium/>
- June 2-5: 25th North American Prairie Conference, Houston, TX. <http://www.northamericanprairie.org/>
- June 21-23: INPS Annual Gathering, Illinois Valley Community College, Oglesby, IL. Check the [INPS homepage](#) for more information, coming soon.

Illinois Indigenous Plants Symposium: Understanding the Research Behind Local Conservation



Illinois Indigenous Plants Symposium

Understanding the Research Behind Local Conservation

April 5-7, 2019
John A. Logan College, Carterville, IL

Keynote: Chris Evans
Closing: Justin Schoof

Guided Hikes
April 5 - Atwood Ridge
April 7 - Rocky Bluff

Native Plant Sale on
Saturday, April 6

Register online: <https://ill-inps.org/2019-illinois-indigenous-plants-symposium/>

ILLINOIS Extension COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

UAS

SIU Southern Illinois University CARBONDALE

Southern Illinois is known to be one of the most biologically diverse places in the Midwest, and the Shawnee National Forest, the related state and federal lands, and our large private holdings contain the most magnificent examples of that diversity. About 400 plants and animals that are listed on the state's threatened or endangered species list occur within the forest, as well as federally-listed species. The Shawnee's 79 natural areas include 25 different natural communities, ranging from woodlands and glades to barrens and caves.

The Illinois Indigenous Plants Symposium begins Friday, April 5, with a guided hike at Atwood Ridge, one of the wilder sectors in the Shawnee. Saturday, April 6, is a full day of presentations with lunch provided. The event ends on Sunday, April 7, with a hike at Rocky Bluff, one of the holdings of US Fish & Wildlife Service.

The annual native plant sale organized by Green Earth will also be held on Saturday. Other area organizations will be on hand to help extend the knowledge of native plants, research, and natural areas.

[Find Out More and Register for the Symposium](#)

Illinois Botanists Big Year 2018

In 2016, INPS hosted the first annual Illinois Botanists Big Year. Anyone may participate, from professional botanist to plant identification novice, by uploading photographic proof of their plant sightings to an online database: iNaturalist. Through the website or mobile apps, botanical enthusiasts upload photos, a species identification, GPS location, date of sighting, and field notes. Since other iNaturalist users can help with identification, participants need not be plant experts and can learn quite a bit about plants just by snapping photos and engaging with the community.

The [2018 results](#) are in!

The winner for the most species is Erin Faulkner! She found 857 species of plants in 2018 in Illinois (research grade on iNaturalist).

Summary of results:

- 35,864 research grade observations of plants
- 1,468 species
- 2,167 observers
- 973 identifiers

The most-observed species was common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*). The most-observed non-native species was chicory (*Cichorium intybus*).

Visit <http://www.cassisaari.com/the-illinois-botanists-big-year-2018/> for lots more highlights and the most-favored photos. And sign up Illinois Botanists Big Year 2019!

Native Plant Sales

Check out the many opportunities to buy native plants from INPS chapters and other organizations this season on the [INPS Native Plant Sales webpage](#).

CHAPTER NEWS

Central Chapter News

Central Chapter preparations for this year's plant sale are well underway. The sale will be held May 11 at the State Fairgrounds Commodities Pavilion in Springfield.



Volunteers are needed to sign up for work days on March 30 and April 6 at the home of Lois and George Fox in Waverly. Volunteers will be primarily potting plant divisions for sale day. Work begins at 9 AM both days. Volunteers are also needed for sale set up and to work on sale day. Sign up [online](#) or contact sale chair Mary Ring with questions (westring@frontier.com).

Since the sale date has changed this year, we will have an April meeting but no May meeting. Barb Grabner-Kerns will present on the *Illinois Strike Team: Tree Risk Assessment After Natural*

Disaster. See the full calendar at: <http://ill-inps.org/central-chapter-field-trips/>.

Forest Glen Chapter News

Stay tuned for upcoming announcements of nature outings with the Forest Glen Chapter of INPS! Our chapter and the local Audubon Society chapter (Middlefork) have joined forces this year for a new hiking series we call: Birds and Blooms—which will feature outings to various natural areas in Vermilion County and nearby where we can enjoy the birds and blooms throughout the seasons.

Kankakee Torrent Chapter News

The Kankakee Torrent Chapter is accepting nominations for vice-president as Keith Nowakowski has stepped down. Contact K3T Chapter secretary or attend next meeting to submit your nomination. Keith, thank you for your service and the chapter will miss you!

- April 13, Saturday, Camp Shaw-Waw-Nas-See Spring Cleaning Work Day, 8 AM to 4 PM, please support to provide in kind payment for use of building.
- April 28, Sunday, 1 PM, Pembroke Spring Hike.
- May 5, Sunday, 1 PM, Camp Shaw Open House & Spring Flora Hikes.
- May 17/18, Bringing Nature Home Native Plant Sale, FPD Will County.
- May 19, Sunday, 10 AM-4 PM Rhubarb Festival, Kankakee, Educational display, T-shirts, and some plants for sale.
- May 31, Friday, Assisting Kankakee Soil & Water Conservation District setting up the pick-up of native plant sale orders.

- June 1, Saturday, Assisting KSWCD at plant sale and with order pick up.
- June 10, Monday, Regular Meeting, Manhattan Public Library.

Northeast Chapter News

Thank you so much to the large, engaged group of people who came out to the INPS membership meeting at Thatcher Woods the afternoon of March 3. Meeting notes [can be found here](#).

Iza Redlinski and Michael Huft hosted a chapter tour of the Field Museum's herbarium in Chicago on Sunday, March 17. Members enjoyed an introduction to a vast collection of over 2 million plant specimens, including many collected locally in the Chicago region.

Executive committee positions have been elected! Please welcome our new organizing team: cassi saari (President), Mark Kluge (Vice President), Jason Zylka (Treasurer), Kathleen Garness (Membership Chair), Iza Redlinski (Field Trips Coordinator), Anna Braum (Newsletter Editor), and Sheri Moor (Committee Member-at-large). We are excited to reboot the chapter newsletter, likely starting in April.



Upcoming Event -- Monday, May 27 (Memorial Day), 9:30AM: Hike at Illinois Beach State Park and Chiwaukee Prairie. Hike the trail at Illinois' first nature preserve with your fellow native plant enthusiasts! See dozens of rare natives and spring wildflowers in multiple unique and rare habitats including beach dunes and pannes. You already have the day off, come join us at 9:30 AM at the Nature Center, rain or shine ([map link](#))! Dress for the weather and bring good boots. It's usually not wet along the trails at IBSP. After a lunch at Culver's (or bring your own) we will likely drive a few minutes north to Chiwaukee Prairie for the afternoon, which often has wet trails. The trip to Chiwaukee is optional, but spectacular. RSVP at <http://bit.ly/puccoon2019>.

Event announcements will always be emailed to members, but you can also follow the chapter [on Facebook](#) and keep an eye on the Events page on our website at <https://ill-inps.org/northeast-chapter/events/>.

And finally, make your voice heard! Vote for a quintessentially northeastern Illinois plant, potentially to be used in a chapter logo of sorts: <http://bit.ly/neinpsplantpoll>.

Quad Cities Chapter News

The Quad City Chapter held its meeting on Wednesday March 13 at Nahant Marsh in Davenport, IA. Bob Bryant gave a presentation entitled *The Lost, Almost Lost and Newly Discovered*, a historical look at the interaction of man and nature and its impact on the flora and fauna of the Quad City region from the 1830s to the present.

The chapter will also be taking a field trip in late March to observe skunk cabbage in bloom at Ike's Fen in Geneseo, IL. Date to be announced soon.

Our annual *Stroll Through Spring* is scheduled for Black Hawk State Historic Site in Rock Island, IL on April 27, the last Saturday in April. Bird walk at 7 am, refreshments at 9 am and wildflowers at 10 am.

Keeping an Eye on Invasives: Garlic Mustard

By Ryan Pankau.

It's beginning to feel more like spring and I know that many of us are anxiously awaiting the awakening of the plant world. Although we all know spring is sure to come, it would be nice to have some assurances on the timing and date of warm weather's arrival. Unfortunately, that's just not possible without a truly working crystal ball. However, there is some very important information about the seasonal habits of plants we can surmise from collection of phenology data from year to year.

Phenology is the study of seasonal natural phenomena. We can use phenology data about plant emergence, flowering, seed production, and dormancy from past years to predict the timing of those processes now and in the future. This can be an invaluable tool when planning or coordinating the management of invasive species in Illinois.

Illinois Extension Forester, Chris Evans, recently embarked on a project focused on collection of these data to better inform land managers around the state.

"Phenology data for invasive plants is critical information for the development of effective management programs and timing of control treatments," notes Evans. "We use phenology data to fine tune our invasive plant management. Knowing the timing allows us to target the plants for management at just the right time."

Since 2015, Evans has been collecting data on almost three dozen invasive plants that occur across Illinois. Volunteers from all over the state have provided data from their seasonal observations and Evans has used that data to publish monthly phenology reports as an Illinois Extension Technical Forestry Bulletin series.

"The phenology program has allowed us to know much more about how these plants differ in terms of timing across the state and from year to year," says Evans.

Over time, Evans' growing data set will reveal more of this annual variability. Recently, he compiled the first three years of data on this project into a statewide calendar. Since Illinois spans two USDA plant hardiness zones, from the Wisconsin border to the confluence of the Mississippi and Ohio rivers, there is quite a bit of variability in plant phenology from north to south. The data are grouped by regions of the state, representing the southern, central, and northern regions. If you are interested in viewing the calendar, it is available at: go.illinois.edu/PhenologyCalendar.

Evans is always looking for more volunteers to contribute data. Most notably, there is a lack of reporting in the central part of the state. If you are interested in reporting phenology from this area and can identify and monitor 3-4 invasive species, please contact Chris Evans at (618) 695-3383 or cwevans@illinois.edu.

One of the often most critical points of plant development each year is seed production and many invasive species, such as garlic mustard, are prolific seed producers. In order to stop the spread of these invasives it is critical to understand the timing of seed set and plan control measures that will inhibit seed production.

Garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*) is a common invasive in central Illinois, infesting natural areas and outcompeting native vegetation to lower diversity of native plants and dominate forest understories. This exotic, invasive plant was brought to our continent from Europe for its culinary value. As its name implies, this biennial herbaceous plant is edible, adding a strong garlic flavor to food.

If you live close to an area with established garlic mustard, it can become a problem in our home landscapes and gardens as well. Thankfully, this plant is easily hand-pulled in the early spring prior to seed production, which is a critical control point as it only reproduces from seed. Being a biennial plant it takes two years to fully mature and produce seeds. Seed production is truly astronomical, cited as anywhere from 600 to over 7,000 seeds per plant. In central Illinois, garlic mustard typically flowers around mid-April, with seeds reaching maturity by about mid-May.

Interestingly, a garlic mustard plant that has been pulled from the ground can actually still produce viable seeds if flowers were present at the time of removal. Hand-pulling must be timed accordingly to stop flower and seed production and the pulled plants must be bagged and removed from the area for proper disposal.

One local group, the [Headwaters Invasive Plant Partnership \(HIPP\)](#), sponsors the annual Great Garlic Mustard Hunt across several sites in east central Illinois. If you are interested in learning more about this invasive plant and joining the front lines in the battle to stop its spread, there are a number of opportunities to join HIPP and their partnering agencies in the fight. More information about the 2019 Great Garlic Mustard Hunt can be found at: go.Illinois.edu/GreatGarlicMustardHunt.

Ryan Pankau is a horticulture educator with the University of Illinois Extension, serving Champaign, Ford, Iroquois and Vermilion counties.

Reprinted with permission from The News-Gazette, Champaign, IL, March 16, 2019: <http://www.news-gazette.com/living/2019-03-16/the-garden-keeping-eye-invasives.html>



Garlic mustard is an invasive plant that is prevalent in natural areas of central Illinois. Photo by: Mike Daab, Champaign County Forest Preserve District.

Botany Basics: Technical Fruit Types, Part II

By Abel Kinser.

Continued from *Technical Fruit Types: Part I*, published in *The Harbinger*, Vol. 35, No. 4, December 2018.

Follicle: Dry, dehiscent fruit derived from a single carpel that splits down one side at maturity. Follicles are characteristic of the milkweed family and some members of the buttercup family.



Tall Green Milkweed
(*Asclepias hirtella*)



Common Milkweed
(*Asclepias syriaca*)

Legume: Similar to a follicle but they split along both sides. Legumes are found in the pea family.



Redbud
(*Cercis canadensis*)



Groundnut
(*Apios americana*)



Tick Trefoil
(*Desmodium sessilifolium*)

Multiple: Cluster of fruit produced from a cluster of flowers. Mulberry, Osage orange, and sweetgum produce multiple fruits.



Osage Orange
(*Maclura pomifera*)



Sweetgum
(*Liquidambar styraciflua*)

Nut: Dry, indehiscent, hard, one-seeded fruit derived from a compound ovary. Hazelnuts and acorns are both examples of nuts. The edible parts of walnuts and pecans technically are not nuts, but actually parts of the seed found inside a drupe.



White Oak
(*Quercus alba*)



Hazelnut
(*Corylus americana*)

Pome: Fleshy fruit derived mainly from floral parts surrounding the ovary. Pomes are unique to a subfamily of the rose family including apples, pears, and serviceberry.



Serviceberry
(*Amelanchier arborea*)

Samara: Dry, one- or two-seeded indehiscent fruit with wing-like outgrowths. This type of fruit is found in our elm and ash trees.



Slippery Elm
(*Ulmus rubra*)



Green Ash
(*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*)

Schizocarp: Dry, indehiscent fruit with two or more united carpels that split at maturity. Maples and the carrot family (*Apiaceae*) produce schizocarps.



Red Maple
(*Acer rubrum*)



Prairie Parsley
(*Polytaenia nuttallii*)

Silique and Silicle: Dry, dehiscent fruit composed of two fused carpels. At maturity, the sides split, exposing the seeds attached to a persistent central portion. These are characteristic of the mustard family (*Brassicaceae*). Siliques are much longer than broad, while silicles are short and broad.



Field Mustard
(*Brassica rapa*)



Penny Cress
(*Thlaspi arvensis*)

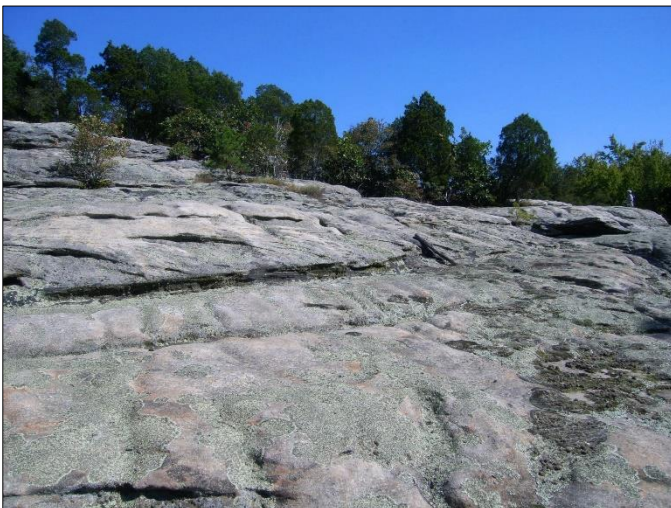
Natural Area Profile: Crow Knob Ecological Area

By Chris Benda.

There are 80 natural areas within the Shawnee National Forest in southern Illinois and the US Forest Service calls them ecological areas. Pope County has more public land than any other county in Illinois and therefore has many ecological areas. A unique site is Crow Knob Ecological Area.

This is a Category I natural area for the presence of high quality sandstone glade and dry barrens communities. The site features a prominent sandstone bluff with rare plants like climbing milkweed (*Matelea obliqua*) and cinnamon fern (*Osmundastrum cinnamomeum*). It can be reached by a short walk along a Forest Service road from Cedar Grove Road near Eddyville.

The site also has an interesting cultural history. Freed slaves from Tennessee settled the area that was called Miller Grove and it became an important area along the Underground Railroad. Fires were reportedly set on top of the bluff as a signal to freedom seekers. Little was recorded about this period though, because of the danger posed by helping runaway slaves.



Crow Knob glade.



Cinnamon fern (*Osmundastrum cinnamomeum*).

Tales from Braidwood Savanna: Addendum

By Floyd Catchpole.

An addendum to Tales from Braidwood Savanna, which appeared in The Harbinger Vol. 35, No. 3, Fall 2018 and continued in Vol. 35, No. 4, December 2018.

I inadvertently failed to include Mesic Sand Prairie amongst the communities at the Braidwood Savanna. So here it is:

Mesic Prairie often occurs on a thin layer of blow sand over lakebed sand, or in areas where clay or bedrock is relatively close to the surface. Typical examples can be seen at Braidwood Dunes and Savanna, Hitt's Siding and Sand Ridge Savanna, and a somewhat degraded mesic prairie occurs along Hudson Creek that may be resting on sand over shallow clay. Shrubs are sparse, while Indian grass (*Sorghastrum nutans*) and bluestems are dominant throughout. Early low blueberries (*Vaccinium angustifolium*), and chokeberry (*Aronia prunifolium*) occur at the wet end of mesic, and wild quinine (*Parthenium integrifolium*), colic root (*Aletris farinosa*), tall nutrush (*Scleria triglomerata*), etc., grow in the drier areas. As organic matter increases, purple prairie clover (*Dalea purpurea*) may occur, as it does in a private, mesic sand prairie over bedrock.

Floyd Catchpole has been the Land Management Program Coordinator for the Forest Preserve District of Will County, Illinois (FPDWC) since 2007 and a member of INPS since 1988. In 2011, the FPDWC began a multimillion dollar restoration effort in this area that Floyd has been heavily involved in.



Colic root (*Aletris farinosa*), a mesic sand prairie indicator species.

Web Links

Update on the Botany Bill

On March 6, US Representative Mike Quigley (IL-05), who serves as a member of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on the Interior and Vice-Chair of the House Sustainable Energy and Environment Coalition, reintroduced the *Botanical Sciences and Native Plant Materials Research, Restoration, and Promotion Act* to build the botanical science capacity of the federal government and encourage the use of native plants. More information is available in Rep. Quigley's [press release](#).

Native Plant Conservation Campaign: Year in Review 2018



The [Native Plant Conservation Campaign](#) (NPCC) is a network of Affiliate native plant societies and other native plant conservation organizations throughout the United States. Our mission is to promote the conservation of native plants and their habitats through collaboration, education, and advocacy.

Strengthening the Native Plant Conservation Community

- NPCC welcomed one new Affiliate organization in 2018. The [52 NPCC Affiliates](#) now represent more than 250,000 advocates for native plant science and conservation in the US.
- New organizations signed the [Equal Protection for Plants Statement](#) calling for equal protection for plants and animals under the federal Endangered Species Act.
- Worked with the [Endangered Species Coalition](#) to provide small grants for pollinator gardens for NPCC Affiliates.
- Joined a task force working to develop national online database of locally adapted native plant species for gardeners, landscape architects, and land managers.
- Held a national conference call for native plant conservation leaders.
- [Affiliate Leaders Discussion Forum on Facebook](#). We are seeking a volunteer to help moderate this Forum. Please [contact us](#) if you are interested.
- Director Emily Roberson gave presentations to NPCC Affiliates the Florida Native Plant Society, California Native Plant Society, Alabama Wildflower Society and others. Presentations were also delivered at the Alabama and Georgia Botanic Gardens and to the South Eastern Partners in Plant Conservation. NOTE: If you would like to schedule a meeting or presentation, please [contact us](#).

Education and Outreach – Fighting Plant Blindness

- Worked with our partner the [Endangered Species Coalition](#), a national network of several hundred conservation groups, to promote native plant and wildlife conservation on Earth Day, Endangered Species Day, World Biodiversity Day, and other events
- Distributed more than 60 news items and alerts about plant science and conservation through [NPCC News](#), and doubled the number of *NPCC News* subscribers. Ask your family, friends, and colleagues to [sign up!](#)
- Increased the number of likes for NPCC Facebook page by 300%. Please remind your members to LIKE or FOLLOW the [NPCC Facebook page](#).
- Developed an online voter registration and [Get Out The Wild Vote](#) Action Center for plants, wildlife, and science in cooperation with the Endangered Species Coalition. The Action Center provided more than 16,000 visitors with information on how voting supports conservation, finding polling places, voter registration, early voting, candidate positions, and more.
- Offered mini grants to 13 grassroots native plant conservation and other groups to do conservation and Get Out The Wild Vote outreach at botanic gardens, conferences, Earth Day, and other events.
- Affiliates can download a PDF of our brochures [Save Plants-Save the Planet-Save Ourselves](#) or our [Native Plant Ecosystem Services](#) infographic to print and distribute at your venues and events. You can also [request pre-printed copies](#) from NPCC.
- Added tools to the [NPCC Speak Out for Plants webpage](#) to help advocates more easily communicate with elected officials and the media about the “Botany Bill” other native plant conservation issues.
- A new and improved Ecosystem Services section will soon be added to the webpage
- Improved the [Native Plants in the News webpage](#) with native plant science and conservation ideas and news from around the world.

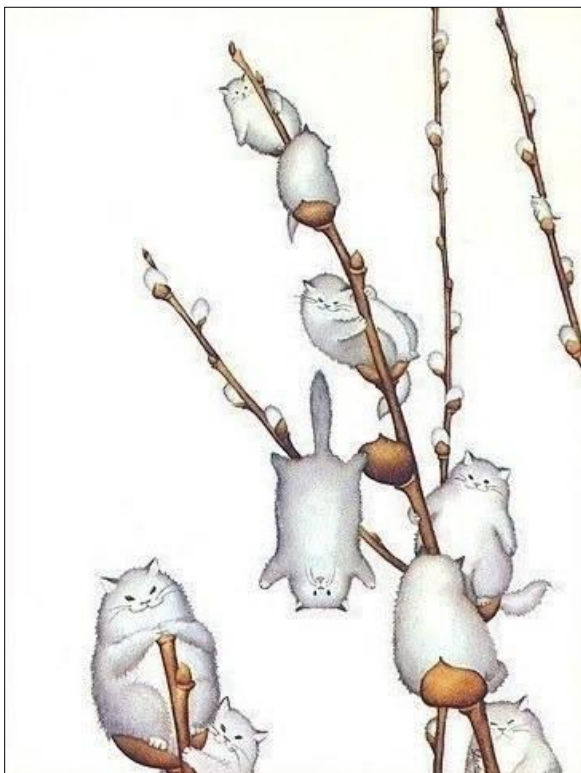
Comments

- NPCC signed onto numerous coalition letters opposing attacks on federal science and conservation programs
- NOTE: NPCC offers technical support and referrals to experts for Affiliates developing comments on federal policies and actions. Please [contact us to request assistance](#).

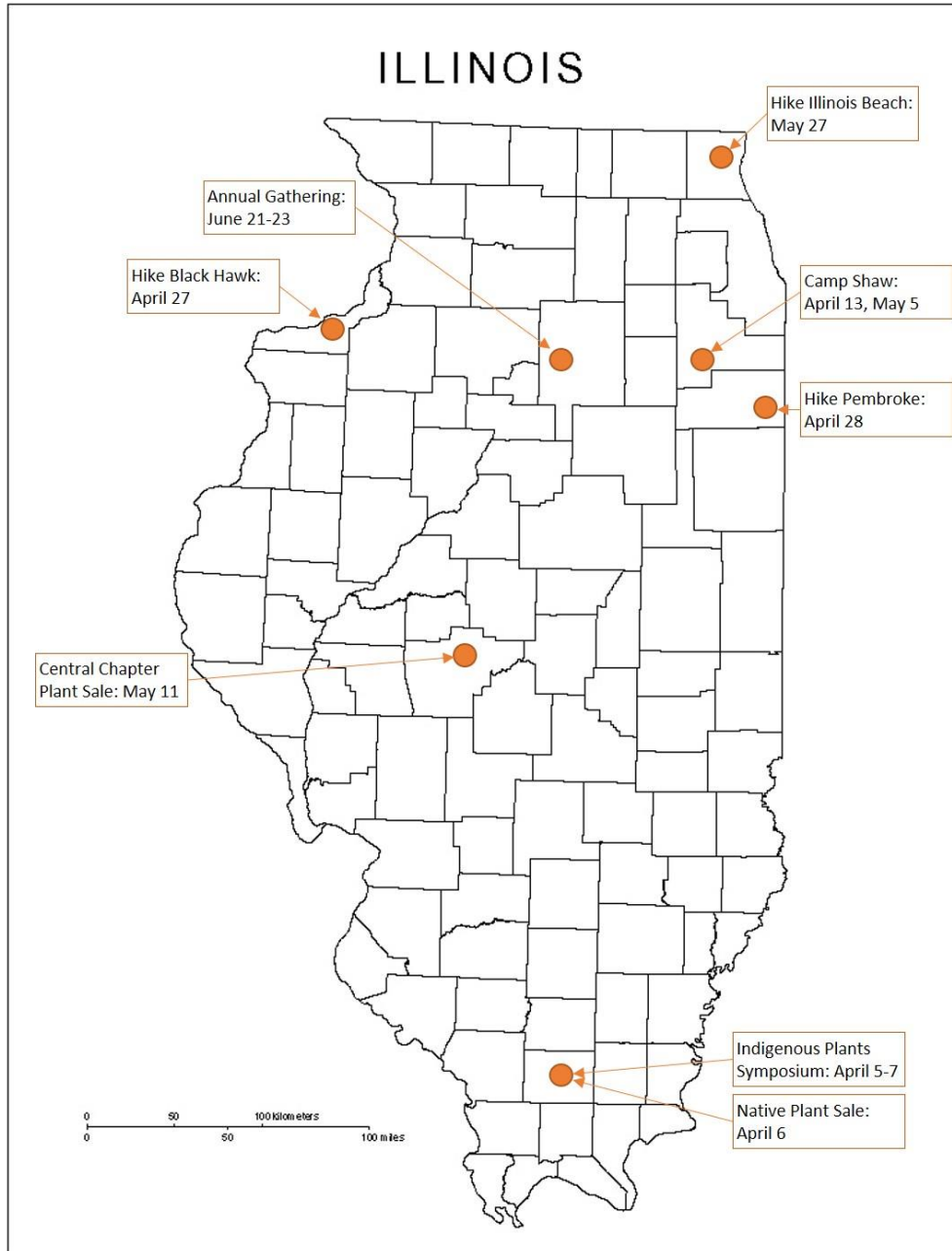
Proposed NPCC Priorities 2019 (if you have comments or suggestions, please [contact us](#))

- Continue to help native plant groups to meet and exchange ideas and information via conference calls, online discussion groups, web meetings, etc.
- Continue collaboration with Endangered Species Coalition to encourage our communities to vote and otherwise participate in democracy.
- Work to strengthen and build support for the Botanical Sciences and Native Plant Materials Research, Restoration, and Promotion Act (aka "[Botany Bill](#)").
- Create toolkit to help advocates develop and promote pro-native plant local and state laws (e.g., Florida's [Model Native Plant Landscape Ordinance Handbook](#), New Jersey's [roadside law](#) requiring the use of native plants to landscape roadways).
- Expand and improve tools on [NPCC Speak Out For Plants webpage](#) to help members more easily and effectively to advocate for native plants.
- Defend conservation laws such as the Endangered Species Act and the National Environmental Policy Act.
- Defend federal botany and other science programs.
- Continue to expand collaborations with national scientific, environmental, wilderness, and wildlife conservation organizations to urge them to incorporate native plants into their advocacy and outreach.

Botany Humor



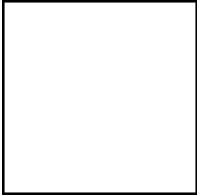
Botanizing Map



ILLINOIS NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

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Carbondale, IL 62903

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



Skunk Cabbage
(Symplocarpus foetidus),
Campton Hills, Kane County.
Photo: Tim Felinski.

The Harbinger April 2019

You can renew/join by filling out the form below or online at <http://www.ill-inps.org/online-membership-form/>.

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
- Address Change only
- Renewal
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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: _____