

MAY 2022

THE NODDING ONION

Newsletter of the Northeast Chapter of the Illinois Native Plant Society



WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE:

Upcoming Chapter Events
INPS Annual Gathering
Field Trip Photos
Saving Bell Bowl Prairie
2022 Research Grant Recipients
Recommended Plant ID Classes

Thalictrum thalictroides by Nicholas McCarney (CC BY-NC)

Northeast Chapter Events

View all event details and RSVP on the [Events page](#).

Northeast Chapter Board Meetings

July 12th, September 13th, November 8th at 7 PM

Our organizing team meets virtually every other month. If you are interested in attending these planning meetings, receiving meeting notes, or getting involved in other ways, please contact us at northeast.inps@gmail.com.

Hike at Flora Prairie & Beach Cemetery Prairie

May 14th from 9:30AM-3PM

498 Poole Rd, Cherry Valley, IL

Hike at Wolf Road Prairie & Hickory Lane

June 4th from 10AM-2PM

11225 Constitution Dr, Westchester, IL

Hike at Cranberry Slough

June 11th from 10AM-12PM

Country Lane Woods, Willow Springs, IL

Hike at Spring Lake

July 9th (details TBA)

Barrington, IL

Hike at Shoe Factory

July 16th from 9AM-11AM

Shoe Factory Rd, Hoffman Estates, IL

RSVP required for all events. Sign up at:

<http://illinoisplants.org/northeast-chapter/events/>



Erythronium albidum
(white trout lily)
by @mumuzi (CC BY-NC)

Statewide News

SAVE THE DATE for the Statewide Annual Gathering

This year's Annual Gathering will take place Friday, June 24th through Sunday, June 26th, 2022 in the Bloomington-Normal area. Learn more at:

illinoisplants.org/2022-annual-gathering-save-the-dates/

2022 Research Grants Awarded

Congratulations to the new cohort of Research Grant recipients who met rigorous guidelines and whose applications were evaluated by a seven-member professional review panel:

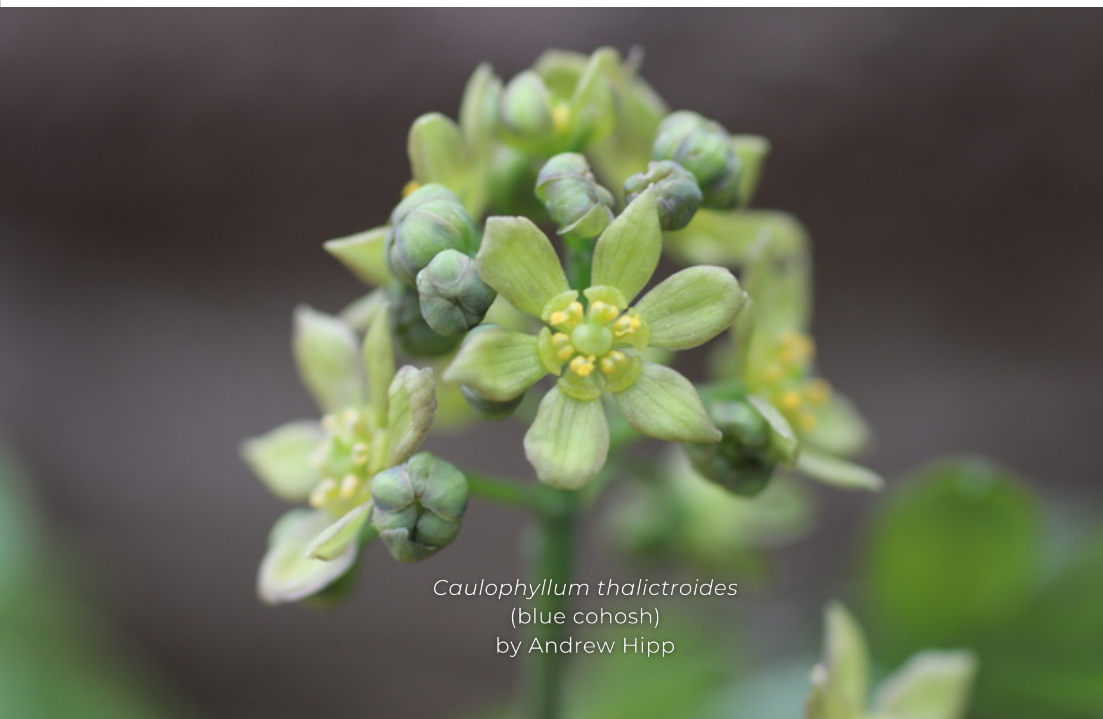
illinoisplants.org/research-grant-awards/

Proposed Bylaws Change Passes

INPS members recently voted in favor of a change of bylaws that will allow the state Governing Board to adjust the amount of dues that are sent to chapters. Previously set at \$3.50 per member, the adjusted rate will be such that 25% of dues will be sent to the primary chapter with which a member affiliates. For example, if a member joins at the "Supporting" level (\$50/year), the portion of those dues sent to the chapter will now be \$12.50 instead of \$3.50.



Ammophila breviligulata
(American marram grass)
by Mark Kluge



Caulophyllum thalictroides
(blue cohosh)
by Andrew Hipp

perigynia prevailingly cuneate at the base, the wing usually narrowed conspicuously below the summit or in the ligule *Carex cristatella*

1. Spikes globose, the perigynia rosulate-spreading, the beaks typically becoming flexed outwardly, obscuring the scales; sheaths with the inner band green-striate, usually rusty tinged at the summit or in the ligule *Carex cristatella*

2. Spikes longer than wide, the perigynia appressed or ascending, leaving the scales quite apparent; sheaths with the inner band hyaline toward the summit, without tinctures of rust.

21. Inflorescence flexuous, all spikes, except the distal ones, not or only slightly overlapping the one above it, the larger with fewer than 35 perigynia; beaks of the perigynia notably divergent from the perigynia above it *Carex projecta*

21. Inflorescence stiff, all spikes, except occasionally the proximal spikes, overlapping, the larger with more than 35 perigynia; beaks appressed to the perigynia above it.

Most perigynia 3.1 times as long as wide or longer, often 4 mm or more long *Carex tribuloides*

Perigynia less than 3.1 times as long as wide, 3-4 mm long *Carex sangamonensis*

Perigynia cuneate to rounded at the base, typically notably winged all the way to the stipe; leaf sheaths tight (loose in *Carex normalis*), without strong edges or wings; sterile leafy culms usually absent (commonly present in *Carex normalis*); perigynia mostly more than 2.5 times as long as wide, the larger ones usually 4 mm or more long, the distance from the top of the achene to the beak tip mostly 2.2 mm.

23. Perigynia with the tips widely spreading from each other; pistillate scales obtuse to *Carex*

23. Perigynia ascending, the spikes of the touching the one above *Carex*

Perigynia nearly all less than *Carex*

Perigynia mostly more than 1.3 mm *Carex scoparia*

Perigynia less than 2.5 times as long as wide, less on the top of the achene to the beak less than 2.2 mm.

24. Perigynia widest at or above the middle, prevailing *Carex*

25. Perigynia widest about the middle, the widest part about 1.5 mm from the base *Carex festucacea*

25. Perigynia widest above the middle, the widest part more than 1.2 mm from the base.

Wings of perigynia ending 0.2-0.4 mm below the tip, the beaks nearly parallel-sided distally, characteristically spreading at maturity; pistillate scales acute at the tip *Carex albulotens*

Wings of perigynia extending to the narrowly deltate tips, the beaks mostly remaining appressed; pistillate scales acute, but rounded at the very tip *Carex longii*

24. Perigynia widest below the middle, many less than 1.7 mm wide.

26. Spikes longer than wide, often clavate at the base, congested into an ovoid spike to 2 cm long; the tips of the perigynia appressed or strongly ascending *Carex bebbii*

26. Spikes nearly as wide as long, not or only shallowly clavate, well separated in spikes more than 2 cm long; tips of the perigynia spreading in age.

27. Beaks of perigynia appressed or strongly ascending, stramineous or rufous at maturity, exceeding the

5. Central perigynia more than 2.3 mm long, more or less tapering to the tip; much exceeding the perigynia; staminate scales tinged with purple; lower ligule shallowly U-shaped, much shorter than the width of the blade

Ligule sharply V-shaped, longer than the width of the blade

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GROUP 4

1. Perigynia glabrous.

2. Perigynia less than 3.5 mm long. Sporocysts

3. Terminal spike staminate throughout.

Perigynia beakless, weakly nerved; proximal sheaths brown

Perigynia with a distinct annular band, thick-nerved; proximal sheaths red

3. Terminal spike

Pistillate scales long-attenuate to awned, about equaling or exceeding

1. Perigynia pubescent or scabrous or if glabrous, then pistillate scales embedded at

6. Leaves pubescent

7. . . .

7. . . .

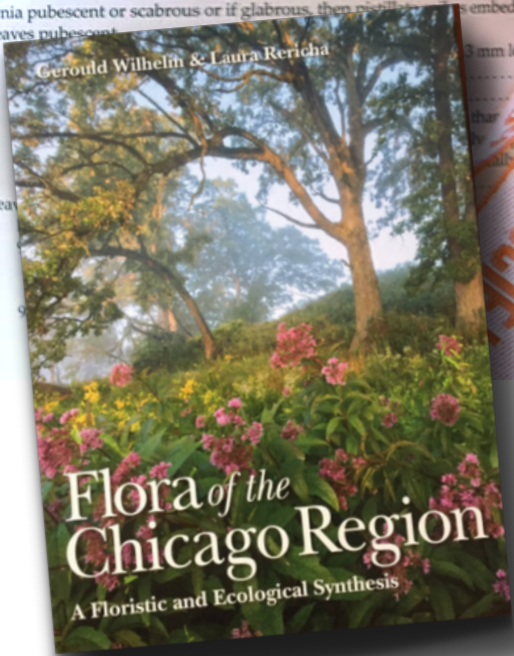
6. Leaf

8. . . .

Gerould Wilhelm & Laura Rericha



ILLINOIS NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY



Flora of the Chicago Region: six copies to be awarded to budding botanists

In 2022, the Northeast Chapter is awarding six (6) copies of the book *Flora of the Chicago Region* to budding botanists, naturalists, habitat restoration volunteers, or students of ecology or conservation-related programs to encourage their personal and/or professional development.

A primary goal of this initiative is to reduce the cost barrier to learning about local plants, as, at \$125, the *Flora* can be cost-prohibitive for many people to purchase on their own. As such, nominees should briefly describe not only their interest in receiving a copy of this book, but also their need.

Visit the site below to submit a nomination: illinoisplants.org/flora-giveaway

1 - Nominating yourself is encouraged! You can also nominate someone else.

2 - Nominee's primary residence must be within the "Chicago Region" - see map at link

3 - Nominee should not already have a copy of book and should demonstrate how they need/will benefit from receiving a complimentary copy.

4 - Nominations are due May 31st.

This initiative is made possible through a grant from the Paul and Dottie Foundation of DuPage Foundation and the Indiana Academy of Sciences.



Quercus macrocarpa (burr oak)



Nabalus albus (white rattlesnakeroot)



Allium cernuum (nodding onion)

INPS Field Trips



Cuscuta glomerata (rope dodder)



Middlefork Savanna Nature Preserve August 15, 2021

All photos by Mark Kluge



Asclepias verticillata (whorled milkweed)
with *Sphex ichneumoneus* (great golden digger wasp)



Somme Prairie Grove Nature Preserve

September 18, 2021

All photos by Mark Kluge



Gentianella quinquefolia
(stiff gentian)



Liatris scariosa var. *nieuwlandii* (savanna blazing star)



Sanguisorba canadensis
(American burnet)



Somme steward Stephen Packard



Black Partridge Woods

April 23, 2022

Photos by Ali Touloupas



Fraxinus quadrangulata (blue ash)



Pedicularis canadensis (wood betony)



Cardamine douglassii
(purple cress)

Photo by Kirk Frazier



Micranthes pensylvanica
(swamp saxifrage)

Photo by Ali Touloupas



Capt. Wright Woods

April 30, 2022

Rain or shine!

Photo by Ali Touloupas



Caltha palustris
(marsh marigold)

Photo by Kirk Frazier



Sagawau

May 7, 2022

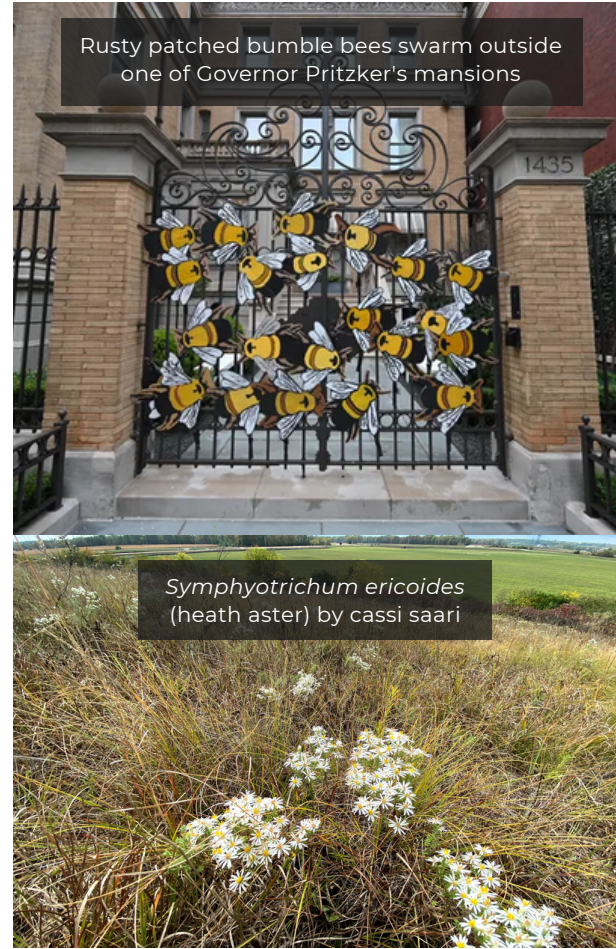
Photo by Ali Touloupas

Saving Bell Bowl Prairie

The Northeast Chapter is proud to share that our chapter sent \$1,000 to the Natural Land Institute to support their legal effort against the airport and several governmental agencies that dropped the ball on environmental consultation.

There is still time to help: head over to www.savebellbowlprairie.org and complete one or more of the action items listed there. If you already made a call or wrote a letter, look at the list and choose something new. Together we can protect this rare prairie which is planned to be bulldozed by the Rockford airport for a road and cargo shipping facility.

Stay tuned into this issue by joining the Save Bell Bowl Prairie Facebook group or following @bellbowlprairie on Instagram and Twitter.



Pulsatilla nuttalliana (eastern pasqueflower) by Ron Panzer

2022 Research Grant Recipients

Congratulations to the new cohort of Illinois Native Plant Society Research Grant recipients:

Andrew Davies

Graduate Student (MS), Northwestern University/Chicago Botanic Garden
Genetic diversity and plant fitness decline in small, rare plant populations: a case study on *Synthyris bullii*

Ingrid Felsl

Graduate Student (MS), Southern Illinois University Carbondale
Determining preferred microsite characteristics of a state threatened legume: *Trifolium reflexum*

Matt Hokanson and Erin Hokanson

Co-owners and ecologists, Woods to Wetlands, LLC
Turf lawn to prairie conversions: evaluating and comparing grass elimination techniques and native seeding scenarios

Melissa Duda

Graduate Student (MS), Northwestern University/Chicago Botanic Garden
Origins and natural history of the rare gentian hybrid, *Gentiana* × *billingtonii*

Noah Pyles

Graduate Student (MS), Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
Auxin production of root-associated bacteria in Illinois prairie orchids

Samantha Berk

Lab technician, Dr. Holly Jones' Research Lab, Northern Illinois University
What role do graminoids play in prairie ecosystem functioning?

Susan McIntyre

Assistant Scientist, Wetland Plant Ecology, Illinois Natural History Survey
Reproductive ecology of *Polygala incarnata* (Polygalaceae) in Illinois

Congrats to all! Read their full project summaries:

illinoisplants.org/research-grant-awards/

Recommended Plant Identification Classes

Institute of Botanical Training

botanytraining.com

Midwestern Flora: May 24 - May 27 in Columbia, MO

Wetland Flora: June 1 - June 3 in Gray Summit, MO

Wetland Flora: June 13 - June 16 in Indianapolis, IN

Midwestern Flora: June 20 - June 23 in Bloomington, IN

Morton Arboretum

mortonarb.org

Basic Tree ID: on-demand online

Advanced Prairie Plant Identification: May 21

Native Plant ID: June 15 or June 18

Plants of Wetlands: June 25 or August 6

Orbis Environmental Consulting

orbisec.com

Wetland and Adjacent Upland Plant Identification

Workshop: August 9 - 11 in northwestern Indiana

DuPage County Stormwater Management

dupagecounty.gov

Wetland Plant Identification: June 14 - 16 in DuPage Co., IL

Golden Hills

goldenhillsrcd.org/plantid.html

Several recorded webinars on willows, sunflowers, sedges, roses, and many other tricky identification topics.



Check your local forest preserve, park district, and other conservation organizations for more events.



Contribute to *The Nodding Onion*

We're looking for submissions!
Do you have an article, artwork,
photos, or other content you'd like
to share with the *Nodding Onion*?
Or, do you have ideas for content
you'd like to see?

Contact us at:
northeast.inps@gmail.com

Northeast Chapter Board

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cassi saari

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Join/Renew/Follow



Quercus alba (white oak)



Quercus macrocarpa (burr oak)



Carya ovata (shagbark hickory)

Photos by Paul Marcum (CC BY-NC)

The Illinois Native Plant Society is a volunteer-led, member-based organization with dues comprising the majority of our revenue. Please renew and encourage friends to join. Join or renew on our website:

<https://illinoisplants.org/member>

As a member of the Illinois Native Plant Society, you contribute to our mission of promoting the appreciation, conservation, and study of the native flora and natural communities of Illinois.

As a member, you receive:

Erigenia: our peer-reviewed scientific journal

The Harbinger: the statewide newsletter

The Nodding Onion: our chapter newsletter

Notification for and priority RSVP for events, including the statewide Annual Gathering, guided field trips, lectures, workshops, and other events.

Follow the Illinois Native Plant Society on social media:

facebook.com/IllinoisPlants

twitter.com/ilplants

Northeast Chapter:

facebook.com/NortheastIllinoisPlants

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