Newsletter

of the

Forest Preserve

District

of the Kankakee

River Valley

"All ethics so far evolved rest upon a single premise: that the individual is a member of a community of interdependent parts. The land ethic simply enlarges the boundaries of the community to include soils, waters, plants and animals, or collectively, the land ... a land ethic changes the role of Homo Sapien from conqueror of the land community to plain member and citizen of it... it implies respect for bis fellow members, and so also respect for the community as such."

- Aldo Leopold, "Sand County Almanac"

Don't Miss This December's Geminid Meteor Showers

One of the most abundant annual meteor showers will reach its peak display this year on the night of December 13 and 14th. The Geminid Meteor Shower can be seen for a period of about two weeks, from as early as December 6th, with about one meteor per hour. The rate of visible "shooting stars" increases throughout the following week until a peak of 50-80 meteors per hour on the night of December 13/14. The rate per hour decreases until the last of the Geminids occurs on December 18, with about one meteor per hour.

This meteor shower is named after the constellation Gemini, because it appears to radiate from the constellation Gemini, rising early in the night at this time of the year. On years when there is no moon, the early rising of the Geminids offers viewing throughout the night.



(continued on page 2) p.

This image is a view looking east at about 9:00 p.m. local time on December 13. The red line at the bottom represents the horizon

I do not wish to let go of our enchanting Summer just yet.
With ber soft, warm breezes, one can bardly forget.
I see less of ber amazing sun... day by day,
Green leaves evolving now to a colorful array.
I bave no choice in Autumn sneaking up so soon,
Indians are now dancing in a full barvest moon!

- Amy Ciaccio-Jarvis

Man's heart away from nature becomes hard. – Standing Bear Volume 21, Number 4

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Tree of Peace

Pine trees, along with other conifers, are revered the world over as symbols of vitality and longevity. In European tradition the evergreen is a beloved Christmas tradition, as its tall branches reaching towards the sky representing spirit of Christmas. In the traditions of the Chinese Tao, the pine tree is regarded as a symbol of longevity, steadfastness, self-discipline, endurance and long life. The pine is often depicted in Chinese art with other symbols of longevity such as a deer or a peach tree, and is also found in the tales of the Eight Immortals.

Among the First Peoples of North America, the Northern White Pine is known as the Tree of Peace by the Iroquois, or Hau de no sau nee people - meaning people of the Long House - of the northeastern region of North America. The Tree of Peace is an important symbol of peace in the Iroquois Confederacy. The Iroquois constitution, or Gayanashagowa, the Great Law of Peace, was given by the Great Peacemaker to the Iroquois peoples hundreds of years before the North American colonial period. According to tradition, the Great Law of Peace ended an era of bitter warfare between the five tribes of the Confederacy, the Oneida, Mohawk,



Portion of the famous painting "Shrin-zu bybu or "Pine Trees", by Japanese painter Hasegawa Tohaku (1539-1610). Source: Visipix.com]

Onondaga, Cayuga and Seneca people. The Tuscaroras later joined the Confederacy in the early eighteenth century, bringing the Confederacy to six nations.

Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin and other authors of the United States Constitution admired the ideals of the Iroquois Confederation, and were impressed with the concepts of personal freedoms and representation in government that were fundamental to the Great Law of Peace. Many of these ideals, including separate legislative bodies, were incorporated into the United States Constitution.

The stately White Pine, also known as Northern Pine or Eastern White Pine, is a native North American conifer found from Newfoundland to Manitoba, south to Iowan and Northern Illinois, and to northern Georgia in the Appalachian Mountains. It is a fast growing tree with heights of 50-80 feet; some specimens are well over 180 feet tall with a trunk girth greater than three feet. It may reach considerable age, commonly reaching 200 years of age and may live 450 years or more.

(Continued on page 3)

Don't Miss This December's... (continued from page 1)

This year, a bright waxing gibbous (nearly full) moon will wash out the Geminids early in the peak night of December 13/14; the best viewing will be from moonset at about 4:30 a.m. until dawn at about 7:11 a.m. Although not at the peak of the meteor show, a few nights earlier should provide good viewing earlier in the night after moonset at about 2:30 a.m. on the 12th, about 1:30 on the 11th and about half-past

midnight on the 10th.

While most meteor showers are the debris-trail of comets left in orbit as they pass close to the sun, the Geminids originate from a mysterious celestial body named 3200 Phaethon. Its orbit is classified Apollo, a near-Earth asteroid.

http://ssd.jpl.nasa.gov/sbdb.cgi?sstr=Phaethon;orb=1

This tall pine is distinguished from other native pines by its long needles, up to five inches, in clusters of 5 needles. The pinecones are up to 8"long, oblong in shape, slightly curved and drooping. Its habitat is moist woods and wooded slopes. The bark is brown, with broad ridges divided by shallow fissures.



Pine needle baskets are an elegant handcraft to make from the dried pine needles. My favorite book is Pine Needle Basketry:From Forest Floor to Finished Project by Judy Mallow. There are a number of tutorials on utube also, if you type "pine needle basket" in your browser.

http://pinebaskets.tripod. com/freebasketpattern.html

In Illinois, both the Red and White Pine needles make good tea – experiment to see the different flavors. When



harvesting wild edibles, be sure to avoid areas by roadsides where plants are exposed to herbicides and toxins from traffic and de-icing materials, areas by building foundations because chemical preservatives have been applied and remain in the soil near the foundation for a very long time, or any areas where herbicides or insecticides are applied. To make pine needle tea. Gather a handful of young green pine needles, remove the brown sheath at the base of the clusters and chop the pine needles into small pieces Pour hot (not boiling) water over the needles; steep for 10 minutes (do not boil the pine needle tea as that will destroy the valuable vitamin C).

Many evergreens leaves contain toxins and are not suitable for making tea, so be sure of your species before harvesting! Avoid the junipers, cypress, yew, ponderosa pine, lodgepole pine and Norfolk or Australian pine (toxic to pets).

For more on pine needle tea, visit these websites: http://davesgarden.com/guides/articles/view/3126/ http://www.wikihow.com/Make-Pine-Needle-Tea



THE LEAVES ARE FALLING

The leaves are falling one by one, To signal the season about to come,

With the wet perfume of late blooming flowers In drizzling rain with its cleaning powers,

Cool air replaces hot as the sun quickly sets, The spiders fatten up, on blanketed prey with no regrets,

And the rhythm does surely slow, and darkness begins to rule, As the whitetail's blood does boil and the doves no longer coo,

And they hunt with new urgency, the lizard and snake, As the birds join together, for the journey they'll take,

And the owl must surely love, the lessening of light, With its eerie, haunting calls, it rules the night,

And the palette of colors, which was once filled with green, Slowly fades to browns and grays in a less shadowed scene,

For the axis is now shifting, away from the sun, And the leaves are all falling, one by one.

Nighthawk

Fall 2013

More PBS Recommended Books:

Earth and the Environment

Fish Wish

By Bob Barner Grade Level: PreK-2, 3-5

A young boy imagines what he would do if he were a clownfish. This picture book is a colorful introduction to life on coral reefs; a key at the end of the book identifies all the creatures pictured. The author provides interesting facts about the main characters and describes the biology of corals and reefs.

Forest Explorer: Life-Sized Field Guide

By Nic Bishop

Grade Level: PreK-2, 3-5 Bishop's incredible photos reveal the diversity of animal life right at our feet. Seven two-page spreads show more than 130 life-size creatures and plants in natural settings. Each photo is actually a composite of 60 separate photos. He provides plenty of creature information and an identification key for backyard naturalists.

The Genie in the Bottle: 67 All New Digestible Commentaries on the Fascinating Chemistry of Everyday Life

By Joe Schwarcz

Grade Level: 6-8, 9-12

Is the water you drink safe? The author's intention is to educate his reader's about the science underlying many of today's environmental fears. It appears that many of us are well intentioned but misinformed. This entertaining exploration of chemistry looks at health, food, sanitation, asbestos, methane, soap, and a lot more.

Geology Crafts for Kids: 50 Nifty Projects to Explore the Marvels of Planet Earth

By Alan Anderson, Gwen Diehn, Terry Krautwurst Grade Level: 3-5, 6-8 Here are 50 great ideas for integ

Here are 50 great ideas for integrating science and fun! Students in grades 4-7 will enjoy creating projects focused around the following science topics:

spectrum of geologic phenomena including plate tectonics, continental drift, minerals, volcanoes, earthquakes, rocks, crystals, mountain and valley formation, erosion, fossils and much more!

Green Boy

By Susan Cooper Grade Level: 3-5, 6-8

Long Pond Cay, a Bahaman refuge for bonefish and osprey, is a favorite haunt for twelve-year-old Trey and his mute seven-year old brother Lou. Strange things begin to happen when a development group threatens to turn the cay into a resort. Trey and Lou are transported into a future drastically different from their own time, and Lou is welcomed as the mythic hero destined to change both the future and the present.

Henry Builds a Cabin

By D. B. Johnson

Grade Level: PreK-2, 3-5

Henry David Thoreau was one of our earliest naturalists and nature writers. In 1845, he built a ten by fifteen foot cabin near Walden Pond for \$28.12. This picture book describes how he cut and hewed twelve trees; bought and used bricks, boards and shingles; and employed the help of friends like Emerson and Alcott. A final author's note provides additional information about Thoreau's cabin.

Hey Kids! You're Cooking Now! A Global Awareness Cooking Adventure

By Dianne Pratt Grade Level: 3-5, 6-8

This colorfully illustrated hardback gives parents and children a connection in the kitchen, as they whip up treats like Bananarama Bread and Cha-Cha Chili and ponder recipe-related ecological factoids ("Don't kill the yeast, it is a sensitive fungus.") Later sections include recipes for non-food items like homemade glue and tie-dyed socks, using environmentally responsible ingredients.

The Hidden Connections: Integrating the Biological, Cognitive, and Social Dimensions of Life into a Science of Sustainability

By Fritjof Capra Grade Level: 9-12

Capra's central argument is that to sustain life in the future social institutions must adopt principles consistent with those of nature. He examines management of organizations, economic globalization, and biotechnology. He concludes by offering an alternative to economic globalization.

Humboldt's Cosmos: Alexander Von Humboldt and the Latin American Journey That Changed the Way We See the World

By Gerard Helferich Grade Level: 6-8, 9-12

From 1799 to 1804, Humboldt and his companion, Aime Bonpland, traveled 6000 miles through Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Mexico, and Cuba. Humboldt brought back to Europe more than 60,000 plant specimens and many New World animals. Helferich followed Humboldt's trail and tells of discoveries in anthropology, botany, geography, geology, geophysics, oceanography, physiology, and zoology.

I Took the Moon for a Walk

By Carolyn Curtis and Alison Jay Grade Level: PreK-2

A boy takes the moon for a walk. Along the way, he and the moon observe the world around them. Curtis's verse and Jay's illustrations are engaging. The author has included a final science section on the moon and nocturnal creatures.

The Invention of Clouds: How an Amateur Meteorologist Forged the Language of the Skies

By Richard Hamblyn Grade Level: 6-8, 9-12 Some of us look at clouds and see rain. Some see sheep. Meteorologists distinguish types of formations: cirrus, stratus, cumulus, and nimbus. These terms were first used by Luke Howard in a lecture he delivered in London in 1802. Howard's precise terminology influenced not only science but also literature and art. This is an engaging story about an overlooked scientific pioneer.

Isaac's Storm: A Man, a Time, and the Deadliest Hurricane in History

By Erik Larson

Grade Level: 6-8, 3-5

Travel back to Galveston, Texas in 1900 to learn about the most devastating hurricane in American history. Larson's suspenseful tale focuses on Isaac Cline, the Weather Bureau's officer in Galveston, and the events of his day on September 8, 1900.

Journey to the Center of the Earth

By Nicholas Harris

Grade Level: 3-5

Ever imagine that exploring the earth could be just like cutting through a layer cake? In Harris's colorful book, elementary students will discover various layers of the earth, from its atmosphere all the way to its fiery core.

The Kids' Book of Clouds & Sky

By Frank Staub

Grade Level: 3-5

This collection of 46 questions about the sky and what you can see in it provides concise and readable answers and fun activities. The book is filled with photos and illustrations. It also includes a glossary.

Krakatoa: The Day the World Exploded: August 27, 1883

By Simon Winchester Grade Level: 6-8, 9-12

The dust raised by Krakatoa's destruction stayed in the atmosphere for years, causing unusual sunsets and colder than normal temperatures. Winchester examines the scientific and social impact of the event, from the immediate tsunami that killed 40,000 to anti-Western killings during the Banten Peasants Revolt five years later.

Life on Earth: The Story of Evolution

By Steve Jenkins Grade Level: 3-5, 6-8

The evolution of life on earth over 3.8 billion years is presented in timeline form in this picture book. Jenkins has illustrated representative the diversity of life forms at critical periods. Jenkin's cut paper and mixed media art would make an inspiration for an interdisciplinary project.

Mapping the World

By Sylvia A. Johnson Grade Level: 3-5, 6-8

This introduction to maps and cartography is for readers 9-12 and outlines the science of map-making from one of the oldest known examples, a Babylonian clay tablet from around 500 B.C., to Geographic Information systems (GIS) that make it possible for anyone with a computer to make a map. Anyone who likes to pore over maps and wonder will love this book.

The Map that Changed the World: William Smith and the Birth of Modern Geology

By Simon Winchester Grade Level: 6-8, 9-12

In 1973, William Smith, a canal digger and engineer, noticed that the rock he was digging was layered and that each layer contained different fossils. In turn, Smith realized that by following the fossils he could trace the layers of rock across England. This he did for the next twenty years, finally producing in 1815 a huge hand-painted geological map of England. This is a compelling story of Smith's fortunes, from son of a blacksmith to father of modern geology to pauper and recluse to royal pensioner, had enough ups and downs to make a Dickens' novel.

Mountain Dance

By Thomas Locker Grade Level: PreK-2, 3-5 As in his previous book Cloud Dance, Thomas Locker sets out in Mountain Dance to illustrate a natural phenomenon, the birth and death of mountains. The poetic main text relates the slow dance of creation and destruction. An appendix presents thumbnails of each painting and a more detailed explanation of the geologic forces of creation and erosion.

My Light

By Molly Bang Grade Level: PreK-2

Bang's dynamic illustrations and spare prose trace the transformation of our sun's energy. The sun's heat drives the water cycle and aids in producing hydroelectric power. Air currents allow the production of electricity with windmills. Photosynthesis fuels plant growth and food production. Kids learn about ancient forests and coal beds and solar cells. The book opens with the sun's rays falling on Earth and ends with city light returning to the stars.

Nature Smart

By Gwen Diehn, Terry Krautwurst, Alan Anderson, Joe Rhatigan, and Heather Smith

Grade Level: PreK-2, 3-5

This super science classroom resource is a compilation of three previously published activity books. Sections provide things to do during all seasons and in all weather. There are projects for animals, plants, art, music, cooking, ecology, and a lot more.



Nature's peace will flow into you as sunshine flows into trees. The winds will blow their own freshness into you, and the storms their energy, while cares will drop off like autumn leaves.

– John Muir

Kick the Invasive Exotic Gardening Habit with Great Native Plant Alternatives

What is an invasive plant, and why should we care? Invasive plants are aggressive and tend to overtake an ecosystem, crowding out native plant communities. Locally, garlic mustard, purple loosestrife and bush honeysuckle are some of the introduced plant species that overrun our natural areas. Often invasive species have been introduced from other areas of the world because they are very attractive, have fragrant blossoms, or will thrive in highly disturbed ground such as new housing developments. Some, like crown vetch, have been used to control erosion. Many of these exotic species are notorious for spreading outside of garden boundaries, causing havoc on natural areas. Honeysuckle shrubs smother woodland wildflowers; purple loosestrife and sweet clover spread and take over our natural areas. Introduced plants often have no natural enemy in our local ecosystem - neither insect nor disease - and the aggressive ones often will quickly produce



http://extension.entm.purdue.edu/CAPS/pestInfo/purp-Loosestrife.htm

abundant offspring, some spreading by more than one method such as by seeds, root runners and/or re-sprouting shoots. Many invasive plants are unpalatable to deer and quickly take over where deer are abundant. In order to eradicate unruly invasives from your gardens, replace them with some new choices to your plant inventory. Leaving old garden standards behind is difficult but necessary if our natural parks, forests, and fields are to have a future.

That said, any of our favorite garden plants, both vegetables and flowers are not native to our region, yet are not invasive and will not overtake a local ecosystem. Conversely, not all native plants will do well in a home landscape, and certainly some native plants are both highly undesirable and aggressive – poison ivy is an example everyone is familiar with. For most home gardeners and landscapers, it is not practical – or necessary - to be a purist in the sense of having all native plantings in the yard. Many favorite non-native plants are not likely to rampage across the landscape crowding out the native plant communities. The chart below, courtesy of the Chicago Botannical Garden, lists those agressive plants that are a problem in the greater Chicago region, along with native species that can replace the undesirables with attractive and hardy native plants.

When choosing a native plant alternative, think about the characteristics that you love about the invasive plant you are replacing. Using Japanese Wisteria as an example, its sweet fragrance and showy flowers might be the desired characteristics. http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien/



http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien/ fact/loni1.htm



So, get rid of the wisteria and replant with fragrant sum- fact/loni1.htm

mer bloomers like woodland phlox, or American wisteria, *Wisteria frutescens*. If you like the vine habit, add the summer-blooming native trumpet honeysuckle vine, *Lonicera sempervirens*, which is highly attractive to hummingbirds and butterflies. The new combination gives you everything you liked about the Japanese Wisteria without its devastating weediness.

If you're ready to look for some great native plants, the list on pages 7 & 8 of tough alternatives should help. Though the list includes very resilient perennials and shrubs, they still must be cared for in their first year or two, and then they can tough it out with minimal care. Chicago Botanic Garden Conservation Science Department Status:

R = Remove as soon as possible, including all cultivars, and/or do not add to collection in future;

P = Phase out (species that pose a lesser invasive risk, form significant structural features in landscape, and will be time-consuming to replace will be phased out over a five-to-ten-year period);

E = Evaluate species and cultivars, then remove invasive varieties;

W= Watchlist (varieties not posing a serious invasive risk in the Chicago area currently, but may do so in the future

http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien/fact/lysa1.htm

HERBACEOUS PLANTS					
Problem Species	Common names	Status	Alternatives		
Aegopodium podagraria	Goutweed; Bishops weed; Snow in the Mountain; Ground elder	R	Asarum (wild ginger), Epimedium spp. (barrenwort), Glandularia canadensis (mock rose vervain), Hosta (hosta)		
Carduus nutans	Nodding plumeless thistle	R	Echinacea spp. (coneflower), Silphium spp. (rosinweed, prairie dock, compass plant)		
Centaurea maculosa	Spotted knapweed	R	Echinacea spp. (coneflower), Silphium spp. (rosinweed, prairie dock, compass plant)		
Cirsium arvense Cirsium palustre Cirsium vulgare	Canada thistle Marsh plume thistle Bull thistle	R	Echinacea spp. (coneflower), Silphium spp. (rosinweed, prairie dock, compass plant)		
Conium maculatum	Poison hemlock	R	Achillea spp. (yarrow), Aruncus spp. (goatsbeard), Actaea racemosa (black cohosh), Filipendula spp. (meadowsweet)		
Coronilla varia	Crown vetch	R	Asarum spp. (ginger), Epimedium spp. (barrenwort), Glandularia canadensis (mock rose vervain), Hosta (hosta), Viola (violet)		
Daucus carota	Queen Anne's lace	R	Aruncus spp. (goatsbeard), Achillea spp. (yarrow)		
Dipsacus laciniatus Dipsacus sylvestris	Cutleaf teasel Teasel	R	Echinacea spp. (coneflower), Rudbeckia spp. (black-eyed Susan)		
Echinops sphaerocephalus	Globe thistle	R species E cultivars	Liatris spp. (blazing star), Monarda spp. (beebalm), Phlox spp. (phlox), Salvia spp. (sage), Thalictrum spp.(meadowrue), Veronica spp. (speedwell)		
Epilobium hirsutum	Hairy fireweed	R	(see E. sphaerocephalus)		
Euphorbia cyparissias	Cypress spurge	R	Origanum laevigatum (ornamental oregano), selected Sedum spp. (stonecrop)		
Euphorbia esula	Leafy spurge	R	Aurinia saxatilis (basket-of-gold)		
Glechoma hederacea	Ground ivy	R	Ajuga spp. (bugleweed), Ceratostigma plumbaginoides (leadwort), Plumbago auriculata (cape leadwort)		
Gypsophila paniculata	Baby's breath	W	Boltonia asteroides (boltonia), Panicum virgatum cvs. (switch grass)		
Hemerocallis fulva (locally invasive)	Tawny daylily	R	Hemerocallis hybrids (daylily), Lilium spp. & cvs. (lily), Papaver orientale (Oriental poppy)		
Hesperis matronalis	Dame's rocket	R	Liatris spp. (blazing star), Monarda spp. (beebalm), Phlox spp. (phlox), Salvia spp. (sage), Thalictrum spp.(meadowrue), Veronica spp. (speedwell)		
Houttuynia cordata	Chameleon plant	W	Alchemilla mollis (lady's mantle), Asarum spp. (ginger), Chrysogonum virginianum (green and gold)		
Hypericum perforatum	Common St. Johnswort	R	Other Hypericum spp. (St. Johnswort)		
Iris pseudacorus	Yellow flag iris	R species E cultivars	Iris fulva 'Lois Yellow' (copper iris), Iris virginica var. shrevii (interior blue flag iris)		
Lespedeza cuneata	Chinese bush clover	R	Baptisia spp. (wild indigo)		
Linaria vulgaris	Butter-and-eggs	R	Antirrhinum majus cvs. (snapdragons), Calibrachoa cvs. (million bells), Digitalis spp. (foxglove),		
Lysimachia nummularia	Moneywort	R	Chrysogonum virginianum (green and gold), Origanum laevigatum (ornamental oregano)		

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Problem Species Lythrum salicaria	Common names Purple loosestrife	Status R	Alternatives Asclepias incarnata (swamp milkweed), Liatris spp. (blazing star), Physostegia virginiana 'Vivid' (obedient plant)
Melilotus alba	White sweet-clover	R	Baptisia spp. (wild indigo)
Melilotus officinalis	Yellow sweet- clover	R	Baptisia spp. (wild indigo)
Perilla frutescens	Beefsteak plant	R	Hibiscus acetosella (red leaf hibiscus), Ocimum basilicum cvs. (basil), Solenostemon scutellarioides (coleus)
Polygonum cuspidatum = P. japonicum	Japanese knotweed	E	Actaea racemosa (black cohosh), Aruncus dioicus (goatsbeard), Polygonatum spp. (Solomon's seal), Smilacina racemosa (false Solomon's seal), Tricyrtis spp. (toad lily)
Polygonum sachalinense	Giant knotweed	R	(see P. cuspidatum)
Portulaca oleracea	Purslane	R species E cultivars	Aurinia saxatilis (basket-of-gold), selected Sedum spp. & cvs. (stonecrop)
Potentilla argentea	Silver cinquefoil	R	Chrysogonum virginianum (green and gold)
Rorippa sylvestris	Creeping yellow-cress	R	Aurinia saxatilis (basket-of-gold), selected Sedum ssp. & cvs. (stonecrop)
Rumex acetosella	Garden sorrel	R	Beta vulgaris 'Bright Lights' (Swiss chard) Solenostemon scutellarioides (coleus)
Saponaria officinalis	Bouncing bet	R species E cultivars	Liatris spp. (blazing star), Monarda spp. (bee balm), Phlox spp. (phlox), Salvia spp. (sage), Thalictrum spp. (meadowrue), Veronica spp. (speedwell) E cultivars balm), Phlox spp. (phlox), Salvia spp. (sage), Thalictrum spp. (meadowrue), Veronica spp. (speedwell)
Sonchus arvensis	Field sow-thistle	R	Coreopsis spp. (coreopsis); Helianthus spp. (sunflower)
Valeriana officinalis	Common valerian	R	Liatris spp. (blazing star), Monarda spp. (beebalm), Phlox spp. (phlox), Salvia spp. (sage), Thalictrum spp.(meadowrue), Veronica spp. (speedwell)
Verbascum thapsus	Flannel mullein	R	Digitalis spp. (foxglove)
Verbena bonariensis	Purpletop verbena	W	See Valeriana officinalis
Wisteria floribunda	Japanese Wisteria	R	woodland phlox, Phlox divaricatus American wisteria, Wisteria frutescens
			GRASSES
Species Agropyron repens	Common Name Quack grass	Status R	Alternatives Panicum virgatum cvs. (switch grass), Sporobolus heterolepsis (prairie dropseed)
Miscanthus sacchariflorus	Amur silver grass	R	Panicum virgatum cvs. (switch grass), Sporobolus heterolepsis (prairie dropseed)
Miscanthus sinensis	Chinese silver grass	R var.	Panicum virgatum cvs. (switch grass), Sporobolus heterolepsis (prairie dropseed)
Phalaris arundinacea	Reed canary grass	R	Spartina pectinata 'Aureomarginata' (variegated prairie cordgrass)
Phragmites australis	Common reed	R	Erianthus ravennae (Plume grass)
		1	SHRUBS
Problem Species Buddleia davidii	Common Name Butterfly Bush	Status R	Alternatives Eupatorium (Joe Pye Weed) Native Asters, Geranium maculatum (Wild Geranium) Solidago (Goldenrod), Lupinus (Wild Lupine)

Problem Species	Common Name	Status	Alternatives	
Berberis thunbergii	Japanese barberry	R species E cultivars	Physocarpus opulifolius (ninebark), Ribes odoratum (clove currant)	
Berberis vulgaris E	uropean barberry	R	See Berberis thunbergii	
Cotoneaster multiflorus	Many-flowered cotoneaster	Р	See Berberis thunbergii	
Elaeagnus angustifolia	Russian olive	W	Aesculus parviflora (bottlebrush buckeye), Aronia melanocarpa (black chokeberry), Corylus americana (American filbert), americana (American filbert)	
Elaeagnus umbellatus	Autumn olive	R	See Elaeagnus angustifolia	
Euonymus alatus	Winged euonymus; burning bush	R	Lindera benzoin (spicebush), Euonymus americanus (American strawberry bush), Itea virginica (Virginia sweetspire), Rhus copallina var. latifolia 'Morton' (Prairie Flame shining sumac)	
Euonymus europeaus	European spindletree	R	Euonymus americanus (American strawberry bush), Itea virginica (Virginia sweetspire)	
Ligustrum obtusifolium	Border privet	Р	Physocarpus opulifolius (ninebark), Ribes odoratum (clove currant)	
Ligustrum vulgare	Common privet	Р	Physocarpus opulifolius (ninebark), Ribes odoratum (clove currant)	
Lonicera x bella	Bell's honeysuckle	R	Amelanchier spp. & cvs. (serviceberry), Calycanthus floridus (Carolina allspice), Diervilla spp. (bush honeysuckle)	
Lonicera maackii	Amur honeysuckle	R	Amelanchier spp. & cvs. (serviceberry), Calycanthus floridus (Carolina allspice), Diervilla spp. (bush honeysuckle)	
Lonicera morrowii	Morrow's honeysuckle	R	Amelanchier spp. & cvs. (serviceberry), Calycanthus floridus (Carolina allspice), Diervilla spp. (bush honeysuckle)	
Lonicera tatarica	Tatarian honeysuckle	R	Amelanchier spp. & cvs. (serviceberry), Calycanthus floridus (Carolina allspice), Diervilla spp. (bush honeysuckle)	
Rhamnus cathartica	Common buckthorn	R	Alnus rugosa (speckled alder), Carpinus caroliniana (American hornbeam), Corylus americana (American filbert), Thuja occidentalis (American arborvitae) and Thuja plicata (giant arborvitae)	
Rhamnus frangula	Glossy buckthorn	R	Alnus rugosa (speckled alder), Carpinus caroliniana (American hornbeam), Corylus americana (American filbert), Thuja occidentalis (American arborvitae) and Thuja plicata (giant arborvitae)	
Rosa multiflora	Japanese rose	R	Rosa spp. & cvs. (hardy shrub roses)	
Spiraea japonica	Japanese meadowsweet	W	Clethra spp. (summersweet), Hydrangea spp. (hydrangea), native Spiraea (spirea)	
Syringa reticulata	Japanese tree lilac	W	Clethra spp. (summersweet), Hydrangea spp. (hydrangea)	
Viburnum opulus	European cranberrybush viburnum	R species E cultivars	Viburnum dentatum cvs. (arrowwood viburnum), Viburnum trilobum (American cranberrybush viburnum)	
	1		TREES	
Problem Species Acer ginnala	Common Name Amur maple	Status P	Alternatives Acer rubrum (red maple), Quercus alba (white oak)	
Acer platanoides	Norway maple	R species E cultivars	Acer x freemanii 'Marmo' (Marmo maple), Acer miyabei (Miyabe maple), Acer rubrum (red maple), Quercus alba (white oak)	
Ailanthus altissima	Tree-of-heaven	R	Fraxinus spp. (ash species)	
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Problem Species Alnus glutinosa	Common Name European black alder	Status P species E cultivars	Alternatives Celtis laevigata (sugarberry), Celtis occidentalis (common hackberry), Nyssa sylvatica (black	
Malus spp. (crabapple)	Crabapple	E	Crataegus spp. (hawnthorn species), Prunus serotina (black cherry)	
Morus alba	Mulberry	Р	Crataegus spp. (hawthorn species), Prunus serotina (black cherry)	
Phellodendron amurense (except male cultivars)	Amur corktree	R	Acer rubrum (red maple), Phellodendron amurense (male cvs.), Quercus alba (white oak)	
Populus alba	White poplar	Р	Betula nigra (river birch), Catalpa speciosa (Northern catalpa), Platanus occidentalis (American sycamore)	
Prunus mahaleb	Mahaleb cherry	Р	Crataegus spp. (hawthorn species), Prunus serotina (black cherry)	
Pyrus calleryana	Callery ornamental pear	W	Chionanthus virginicus (fringetree), Crataegus spp. (hawthorn species), Prunus serotina (black cherry)	
Robinia pseudoacacia	Black locust	R species E cultivars	Catalpa speciosa (Northern catalpa), Gleditsia triacanthos (honeylocust)	
Ulmus pumila	Siberian elm	R	Dutch-resistant cvs. of Ulmus americana (American elm)	
		VI	NES AND GROUND COVERS	
Problem Species Ampelopsis brevipedunculata	Common Name Porcelainberry vine	Status R	Alternatives Clematis spp. (clematis)	
Celastrus orbiculatus	Oriental bittersweet	R	Aristolochia durior (Dutchman's pipe), Celastrus scandens (American bittersweet)	
Dioscorea batatas	Chinese yam	R	No ornamental alternative; medicinal purposes only	
Euonymus fortunei	Wintercreeper	E	Asarum spp. (ginger), Helleborus spp. (hellebore)	
Lonicera japonica	Japanese honeysuckle	R	Clematis spp. (clematis), native Lonicera spp. (native honeysuckles)	
Vinca minor	Common periwinkle	E	Asarum spp. (ginger)	
Wisteria sinensis	Chinese wisteria	W	Wisteria macrostachya (Kentucky wisteria)	



For more resources and information on invasive plants in your region, please check out the following web sites:

- Chicago Botanical Gardens: http://www.usna.usda.gov/Gardens/invasives.html
- University of Illinois Extension: http://urbanext.illinois.edu/wildflowers/native-plants.cfm
- U.S. National Arboretum, Invasive Plants Article: http://www.usna.usda.gov/Gardens/invasives.html
- Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center: http://www.wildflower.org/
- Ecosystem Gardening: http://www.ecosystemgardening.com
- Illinois Natural History Survey: http://www.inhs.illinois.edu/animals_plants/ prairie/plants/
- Illinois' Best Plants or http://www.bestplants.org
- Possibility Place: http://www.possibilityplace.com
- Cardno JF New: http://www.cardnojfnew.com

• Midewin Alliance annual native plant sale: https://sites.google.com/site/mide-winalliance/

FOREST PRESERVE SITES

Shannon Bayou Environmental Education Center and Administrative Office

This 46-acre preserve is located at 3301 Waldron Road in Aroma Park, along the Kankakee River. The Center provides space for programs about natural history, ecology and preservation of open space in the Kankakee River Valley. The walking trail area features plantings of many native trees and plants, including native tallgrass prairie species, and a butterfly garden of native plants. The site includes ³/₄ mile asphalt and fine gravel walking trail, a picnic shelter, and picnic tables.

> Shannon Bayou 3301 Waldron Road Aroma Park, IL 60910 41°04'47.61N 87°48'44.31"W

Aroma Land and Water Preserve

One of the best sites in the area for woodland wildflowers, this 133 acre site is located on Hieland Road, 1.4 miles south of Highway 17 East. A 1.2 mile walking trail winds through several different types of natural areas, including high quality forest, prairie, and wetland ecosystems. It also has nearly ¹/₄ mile of Kankakee River frontage, and the associated floodplain forest. There is ample parking in the parking lot on Hieland Road, and a playground, maintained by the Kankakee Valley Park District, for children.

In 2008, the District added a 30-acre piece of property adjacent to the Aroma Land and Water Reserve (Aroma LWR). This area has been seeded back to prairie species indicative of the dry sand prairie found within the current preserve. The Forest Preserve mows a loop trail that branches off the existing 1 ¼ mile trail that meanders through the main body of the Aroma LWR. In the summer of 2011, 49.5 acres of mixed pine and hardwood forest were added. Approximately 40 percent of the Aroma Preserve is a wetland and lies within the flood plain of the Kankakee River. In the spring, the wet oak forest gives a spectacular wildflower display while the wetland and sand prairie are the most colorful in the summer.

> Aroma Land and Water Preserve 1578 South Hieland Road St. Anne, IL 60964 41°06'02.90"N 87°45'24.08"W

Gar Creek Trail and Prairie Restoration

Approximately 85 acres, this site is located about one-half mile east of Route 45 on River Road adjacent to Kankakee Community College. The 16-acre restored tall grass prairie was planted in 1992. A 2.5 mile trail, suitable for hiking, bicycling, and cross country skiing, is a cooperative project with the Kankakee Valley Park District. The trail begins at the prairie, winds along Gar Creek, through oak woodland, and down to the banks of the Kankakee River.

At river's edge, the trail connects with the Kankakee Riverfront Trail Project, which will start at the Aqua Illinois property at Hawkins and Water Streets, go through Shapiro Developmental Center, Kankakee River Valley Forest Preserve, Kankakee Community College, and connect with River Road Park and Splash Valley, of the Kankakee Valley Park District.

Gar Creek Trail and Prairie Restoration 501 River Road Kankakee, IL 60901 41°05'30.84"N 87°51'32.78"W

Waldron Arboretum

Located 1.1 miles south of I-57, this site was once a landscape nursery. On this 90 acre site there is a fine gravel hiking trail suitable for bicycling and cross country skiing. The trail winds through 30 acres of woods, including a small prairie restoration area.

In the winter of 2008, the District acquired an additional 60 acre parcel which had been primarily in agriculture. Future development plans are pending based on the district's needs and funds available through federal and state grants.

> Waldron Arboretum 2755 Waldron Road Aroma Park, IL 60910 41°05'36.28"N 87°49'26.51"W

Strasma Grove

Nestled in a neighborhood in Kankakee, this site is 2 acres of mature native trees.

Strasma Grove Duane Boulevard Kankakee, Illinois 60901 41°06'28.33"N 87°50'43.56"W

Limestone Reforestation Site

This site is a 30 acre preserve and reforestation site, with mixed trees and grasses.

> Limestone Reforestation Site County Road 3750 West Kankakee, Illinois 60901 41°08'38.96"N 87°56'51.08"W

Zeedyk Meadows

This is our newest Forest Preserve site, consisting of four acres of trees and grasses.

Zeedyk Meadows Warren Street St. Anne, Illinois 60964 41° 06' 24.92" N 87° 44' 35.77" W

We must live by the love of what we will never see. This is the secret discipline. It is a refusal

to let the creative act be dissolved away in immediate sense experience, and a stubborn

commitment to the future of our grandchildren. Such disciplined love is what has given

prophets, revolutionaries, and saints the courage to die for the future they envisaged.

They make their own bodies the seed of their own highest hope.

Ruben Alves, from Tomorrow's Child

Fall 2013



Kankakee River Valley Forest Preserve District

1301 Waldron Road • P.O. Box 13 Aroma Park, Illinois 60910 815-935-5630

web address: www.krvfpd.org e-mail: dale@krvfpd.org

Return Service Requested



ON TRAIL...

Call Jean Hurrle at 815-549-9072 for information on times and dates for current programs at your forest preserve. Spring and summer programs include moonlight hikes, wildflower and native prairie walks, and animal tracking. You can also find our programs advertised in the Daily Journal and WVLI radio, or check out "programs" on our website: http://www.krvfpd.org

But when I consider that the nobler animals have been exterminated here - the cougar, panther, lynx, wolverine, wolf, bear, moose, deer, the beaver, the turkey, etc., etc. - I cannot but feel as if I lived in a tamed, and as it were, emasculated country... I listen to a concert in which so many parts are wanting... for instance, thinking that I have here the entire poem, and then, to my chagrin, I hear that it is but an imperfect copy that I possess and have read, that my ancestors have torn out many of the first leaves and grandest passages.

- Henry David Thoreau, Journal, 1856

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