

MIDWEST NATIVE PLANT CONFERENCE AGENDA

August 1-3-2025, Bergamo Center for Lifelong Learning on the grounds of the Mt. St. John Nature Preserve
 Conference Documents can be found online at: <https://midwestnativeplants.org/midwest-native-plant-conference/>

Friday				
12:00 pm Vendor Registration Opens	Sponsor, Vendor & Exhibitor Registration.			
1:30 pm Attendee Registration Opens	Full Attendee Registration Opens. Vendors open to attendees all weekend.			
2:00-3:00 pm Indoor – Roncalli. Open to exhibitors/vendors/volunteers	Native Plant Propagation , Gale Martin, Natives in Harmony.			
3:30-4:30 pm Indoor – Roncalli. Open to exhibitors/vendors/volunteers	Tree Treasures: The Folklore, Myths, Magic and Wonder of Trees , Rebecca Wood, Companion Plants.			
3:30-4:30 pm Outdoor Walk	Tour of the Native Landscaping at Bergamo Center , MEEC Staff			
4:30-6:30 pm Social - Fireplace Lounge	Social & Cash Bar until 6:30 pm			
5:00 pm & 5:30 pm Dining Room	Dinner Shifts - Flora 5:00 pm - Fauna 5:30 pm			
7:00 pm Roncalli – Announcements	Welcome, Marianist Environmental Education Center & Midwest Native Plant Society			
7:30 pm Roncalli - Keynote Speaker	Why the South is the Future of Midwestern Forests, Grasslands and Gardens , Bill Finch			
9:00 pm Outdoor Activities-meet at front entrance. Other Events TBA.	Firefly Walk -Matthew & Christa Speights	Sounds of the Night -Lisa Rainsong & Wendy Partridge	General Nature Prowl -Jim McCormac	Nothing & Night Insects - Kim Banks
Saturday				
Saturday Native Plants & Artisan Sale, open to the public, 10:00 am				
8:00-9:00 am Dining Room	Breakfast 8:00 am - 9:00 am			
8:00 am Silent Auction - Fireplace Lounge	Silent Auction. Must Be Present to Win! Bidding closes 6:15 pm			
9:15 am Roncalli	Welcome and Announcements			
9:30-10:30 am Roncalli Keynote Speaker	Native Predatory Wasps: Their Role as Pollinators and Beneficial Insects , Heather Holm			
10:45-11:45 am Breakout Session I	Session 1 - Meet outside front door for outdoor programs			
Indoor – Open to exhibitors/vendors/volunteers	Designing Intentional Wild Spaces , Brooke Medlin			
Indoor – Open to exhibitors/vendors/volunteers	Common Asters Encountered in Ohio , Mark Wessel			
Indoor – Open to exhibitors/vendors/volunteers	Rain Garden Rundown , Sarah Meadows			
Indoor Art Program – Open to volunteers	Designs in Nature & Nature Journaling , Bill Whorrall <i>Hoelle Room</i>			
Outdoor Nursery Tour	DIY Growing Native Plants: MEEC Nursery Tour , Michele Banker			
Outdoor	Basic Invasive Plant Identification & Control, Session I , Tom Borgman			
Outdoor	Matrix Design with Grasses & Sedges , Michael Keeler			
Outdoor	Birds, Bugs & Botany: Take a Walk on the Wild Side , Judy Semroc			
Noon-1:30 pm Dining Room	Lunch Shifts - Flora 12:00 pm & Fauna 12:30 pm			
1:30-2:30 pm Breakout Session II	Session 2 - Meet outside front door for outdoor programs			
Indoor – Open to exhibitors/vendors/volunteers	Designing Intentional Wild Spaces , Brooke Medlin			
Indoor – Open to exhibitors/vendors/volunteers	Common Asters Encountered in Ohio , Mark Wessel			
Indoor – Open to exhibitors/vendors/volunteers	Rain Garden Rundown , Sarah Meadows			
Indoor Art Program - Open to volunteers	Designs in Nature & Nature Journaling , Bill Whorrall <i>Hoelle Room</i>			
Outdoor Nursery Tour	DIY Growing Native Plants: MEEC Nursery Tour , Michele Banker			
Outdoor	Advanced Invasive Plant Control, Session II , Tom Borgman			
Outdoor	Matrix Design with Grasses & Sedges , Michael Keeler			
Outdoor	Birds, Bugs & Botany: Take a Walk on the Wild Side , Judy Semroc			
3:15-4:15 pm Indoor, Open to exhibitors/vendors	Seeing the Light: A New Way of Understanding Ecosystems , Bill Finch			
3:15-4:15 pm Indoor, Open to exhibitors/vendors	The Flowering Times, they are a 'changing , Dr. Kellen Calinger			
4:30-5:30 pm Indoor	Autumn Gold: The Goldenrods , Jim McCormac			
4:30-6:30 pm - Social Fireplace Lounge	Cash Bar until 6:30 pm. Silent Auction bidding ends 6:15 pm.			
5:00 & 5:30 pm Dining Room	Dinner Shifts - Flora 5:00 pm & Fauna 5:30 pm. Silent Auction Bidding Ends 6:15 pm			
7:00 pm Roncalli - Announcements	Centerpiece Raffle & Silent Auction Winners Announced– <i>Must be present to win!</i>			
7:30 pm Roncalli Keynote Speaker	Prairie Garden Design Principles , Neil Diboll			
9:00 pm Outdoor Activities-meet at front entrance. Other events TBA.	Firefly Walk -Matthew & Christa Speights	Sounds of the Night -Lisa Rainsong & Wendy Partridge	General Nature Prowl -Jim McCormac	Nothing & Night Insects -Kim Banks
Sunday				
Conference Ends - Thank you for Joining Us!				
7:30-8:30 am Dining Room	Breakfast and Room Checkout 7:30 am - 8:30 am			
9:00 am Field Trips Depart	Fill your water bottle, get your snacks and maps, and then head out to your field trip.			

UNLESS SPECIFIED, ALL PROGRAMS AND FIELD TRIPS ARE FOR ATTENDEES ONLY.