

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 <https://www.midwestnativeplants.org/midwest-native-plant-conference>

Friday				
12:00 pm	Vendor Registration Opens	Sponsor, Vendor & Exhibitor Registration.		
1:30 pm	Attendee Registration Opens	Attendee Registration Opens. Vendors sales open to attendees all weekend.		
2:00-3:00 pm	Indoor – Roncalli.	Native Plant Propagation , Gale Martin, Natives in Harmony. (open to exhibitors,vendors,volunteers)		
3:30-4:30 pm	Indoor – Roncalli.	Tree Treasures: The Folklore, Myths, Magic and Wonder of Trees , Rebecca Wood, Companion Plants. (open to exhibitors,vendors,volunteers)		
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		
5:30 pm & 6:00 pm	Dining Room	Dinner Shifts - Flora 5:30 pm - Fauna 6:00 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- 5:30 pm				
8:00-9:00 am	Dining Room	Breakfast 8:00 am - 9:00 am		
8:00 am	Silent Auction - Fireplace Lounge	Silent Auction Benefits Western Reserve Land Conservancy , https://wrlandconservancy.org 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 – Roncalli		Designing Intentional Wild Spaces , Brooke Medlin (open to exhibitors,vendors,volunteers)		
Indoor – Darby		Common Asters Encountered in Ohio , Mark Wessel (open to exhibitors,vendors,volunteers)		
Indoor – Saragossa		Rain Garden Rundown , Sarah Meadows (open to exhibitors,vendors,volunteers)		
Indoor Art Program – Hoelle (downstairs)		Designs in Nature & Nature Journaling , Bill Whorrall (open to volunteers)		
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 – Roncalli		Designing Intentional Wild Spaces , Brooke Medlin (open to exhibitors,vendors,volunteers)		
Indoor – Darby		Common Asters Encountered in Ohio , Mark Wessel (open to exhibitors,vendors,volunteers)		
Indoor – Saragossa		Rain Garden Rundown , Sarah Meadows (open to exhibitors,vendors,volunteers)		
Indoor Art Program – Hoelle (downstairs)		Designs in Nature & Nature Journaling , Bill Whorrall (open to exhibitors,vendors,volunteers)		
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		
3:00-4:00 pm	Indoor, Roncalli	Seeing the Light: A New Way of Understanding Ecosystems , Bill Finch (open to exhibitors,vendors,volunteers)		
3:00-4:00 pm	Indoor, Darby	The Flowering Times, they are a 'changing , Dr. Kellen Calinger (open to exhibitors, vendors, volunteers)		
4:15-5:15 pm	Indoor, Roncalli	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.		
5:30 & 6:00 pm	Dining Room	Dinner Shifts - Flora 5:30 pm & Fauna 6:00 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!				
8:00 – 9:00 am	Dining Room	Continental 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.