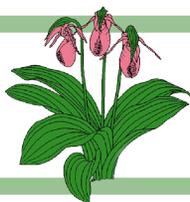


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Native Plant News

NORTH CAROLINA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

Our Mission: To promote the enjoyment and conservation of North Carolina's native plants and their habitats through education, protection, cultivation, and advocacy.

Making a Difference



When we share our joy of native plants, we make a difference. Libby Vagnoni shared her Huntersville yard with fellow gardeners at an NC Native Plant Society event. From left are Tina Zeman, Libby Vagnoni (kneeling), Linda Nelson, Jessica Rayburn, and Ellen Bird. Photo by Cabot Thunem

Making a Difference is our theme for this fall 2022 issue of Native Plant News.

When I think about it, I prefer starting small rather than grand. For example, it cheers me that one pebble can affect a whole pool. We all seem to know that a single pebble tossed into a pool produces ripples that reach the pool's outer edge. From there, that analogy can apply to a single native plant that makes a difference. Maybe it's one or more native plants in our kids' schoolyard or maybe it's a fabulous native plant in our backyard. Maybe it's out in the wild.

Who or what makes a difference for you?

Whatever the situation, one thing is certain: if you're reading this, *you like native plants*. Here at the North Carolina Native Plant Society our mission is to make a difference with native plants – with people, with groups, in wild areas, and on developed lands. We promote the enjoyment and conservation of North Carolina's native plants and their habitats through education, protection, cultivation, and advocacy.

In this newsletter, you can read "make a difference" stories about someone given our Society's highest honor, the President's Award, whose achievements impact our society and other organizations; people enjoying a summer's day at our annual picnic; a statewide program to remove and replace invasive Bradford Pear trees; how fewer pesticides means more lightning bugs; kids installing native plants on a Wilmington school campus. And there's more! Discover it all in our newsletter.

To see plants that make a difference, check out "[Did You Spot These Plants](#)" and "[Botanizing with Friends](#)" from our spring hikes in the Smoky Mountains.

We have lots going on and it all *makes a difference* here—NCNPS statewide and chapter events, activities for individuals and groups, ideas and answers. We also have questions.

Let's explore together. We at the [North Carolina Native Plant Society](#) are making a difference, collectively and individually. It's fun and rejuvenating, plus if we like, we can make friends along the way. Join us! [Become a member](#). [Donate](#).



Andrea Thunem is editor of the North Carolina Native Plant Society's Native Plant News and a member of the NCNPS Southern Piedmont chapter. A retired journalist and landscape designer with a passion for native plants and environmental sustainability, she loves working with people to present their stories about the holistic nature of plants, people, earth, and connections. Email her at newsletter@ncwildflower.org

Making a Difference Leads to President's Award for Lynda Waldrep



Lynda Waldrep was the recipient of this year's President's Award for the North Carolina Native Plant Society. Learn how Lynda has made a difference to NCNPS and also has impacted our greater community.

LEARN HOW

Chlorofiends! Bradford Pears Begone!



Ah March! The time of year when we are weary of winter's cold and ready for warmth and blooms. But wait—what's that awful smell coming from that tree with pretty white flowers? Find out how to replace your Bradford Pear in the most recent [Chlorofiends](#) by Lisa Lofland Gould.

FIND OUT WHY YOU SHOULD REPLACE THESE TREES

We're Growing! At the NC State Fair





There will be new and exciting things to see in the Native Plant Gardens at the North Carolina State Fair this year. More demonstration garden space and a covered open-air booth are some of the changes we're making to the permanent garden that the Margaret Reid (Triangle) Chapter of the NC Native Plant Society has maintained for 16 years.

SEE WHAT'S NEW

Longleaf Pine Ecosystems Are Focus of October Sandhills Field Trip



Invitation-only areas in North Carolina's western sandhills will showcase plant diversity

and management practices. The October 15 Western Sandhills Field Trip sponsored by the NC Native Plant Society will focus on three areas of the Longleaf Pine (*Pinus palustris*) ecosystems.

[GET THE DETAILS HERE](#)

Teaching Toward a Native Future



Students investigate a butterfly garden and pollinator garden. The playground is shaded by indigenous River Birch (*Betula nigra*) and Common Wax-myrtle (*Morella cerifera*). Native wetland plants surround retention ponds. Wherever you look at Friends School of Wilmington, native plants are front and center.

[SEE HOW FRIENDS SCHOOL IS GROWING NATIVE GARDENERS](#)

Native Plants Make a Difference to Lightning Bugs

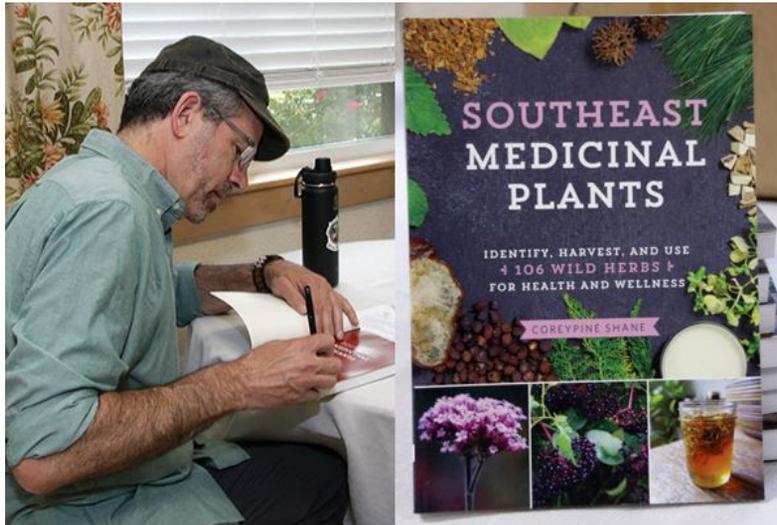




Think about what's upstream and how you can make a difference downstream by using native plants. See how the mystery was solved to encourage the return of lightning bugs to this area.

[LEARN HOW NATIVE PLANTS HELP](#)

Southeast Medicinal Plants by CoreyPine Shane—A Book Review



This is a modern update into what your ancestors knew about many of our southeast plants.

[READ KEN BRIDLE'S REVIEW](#)

A Summer's Day at the Annual Picnic



New plants to bring home, new friendships to make, old connections to renew. The NCNPS Annual Picnic was all about making a difference and having a good time.

[READ MORE HERE](#)

Thank you for being part of our community

Join NCNPS

Donate

Resources and Events

Search the plant gallery, find recommended landscaping plants and native plant nurseries and much more on our [website](#).

View past chapter programs on our [YouTube](#) channel.

Meet other native plant geeks at [events](#) across the state.



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