



# Mississippi Native Plants and Environmental Education



Newsletter of The Mississippi Native Plant Society and the Mississippi Environmental Education Alliance

Volume 26 Number 3

*We are indeed fortunate to live in a part of the world where God colors the fall foliage*

Fall 08

The **Mississippi Native Plant Society**, is a non-profit organization established in 1980 to promote the preservation of native plants and their habitats in Mississippi through conservation, education, and utilization.

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The **Mississippi Environmental Education Alliance** promotes environmental education, supports the work of environmental educators and encourages the adoption of earth-friendly lifestyles leading to the sustainability of natural resources.

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## ***Brzuszek Honored for Outstanding Contribution***

Bob Brzuszek, Assistant Extension Professor at the Department of Landscape Architecture at Mississippi State University and past President of the Mississippi Native Plant Society, was honored with a Life Membership award from the East Central Chapter of the Mississippi Native Plant Society.

The award recognizes Bob's outstanding contributions in promoting the use of native plants in the landscape, and in particular, his practical and easily accessible articles on the Mississippi State University Extension Service website, [msucares.com](http://msucares.com) <<http://msucares.com>>. He was also instrumental in the development of The Crosby Arboretum and most recently the planning of the Native Plant Garden at the Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge and the landscaping of the College of Forest Resources building on campus at MSU.

## ***Ken Finch to Speak at MEEA Conference on the The Play Imperative: Restoring the Nature of Childhood***

Ken Finch is the founder and president of Green Hearts Institute for Nature in Childhood, focused on restoring and strengthening the bonds between children and nature. Ken has been working in environmental education for 35 years and holds a master's degree in that field. He has served as the director of two of the country's largest nature centers, as a middle manager for two children's museums, and as the Minnesota State Director for the National Audubon Society. Among his extensive volunteer service has been a term as national president of the Association of Nature Center Administrators. Ken, his wife, and their two boys live in Omaha, Nebraska, where Green Hearts is based.

Frequent, unstructured childhood play in natural settings has been found to be the most common influence on the development of lasting conservation values. Yet just as we are learning the value of "nature play," it is vanishing from American childhoods — creating a looming crisis for the conservation movement. Ken Finch will help us consider the implications of this dilemma, and will provide thoughts and guidance on how we can adjust our educational methods and priorities to address the challenge.

Ken Finch is the keynote speaker for the MEEA conference and understanding the importance of this speaker, MEEA is making his presentation available to the general public with dinner for \$25. But please, RSVP by sending your check to MEEA Conference, c/o Angel Rohnke 2148 Riverside Dr., Jackson, MS 39202.

## ***MEEA and MNPS Conferences Issue – Important information***

Please note this issue contains conference and registration information for both organizations conferences. MEEA has an outstanding keynote and realized demand will be high based on Ken's popularity as a speaker and the recent interest in the importance of youth having more time outdoors. So they are making his presentation available to the general public.

MNPS will be charging for participation at their annual meeting and requiring those that participate be members or join. Also there is a charge for materials for one of the workshops. The number of participants in each workshop is limited and it already looks like some will fill during the preregistration period so you will want to preregister!

## ***MEEA and MNPS Presidents Describe 2 Outstanding Conferences for This Fall!***

### **Dear MEEA,**

A brisk northwest wind is buffeting the canyon of the Teton Range where I am attending the ANCA Summit this late summer day. This summit brings together the administrators and teachers from the best nature and science schools across the nation. This conference / vacation, is a great time not only for refectation but inspiration for MEEA and the endeavors' of environmental education in Mississippi. I have met many great folks and shared amazing ideas on the future of environmental education. This alone has reaffirmed my belief that MEEA's focus on EE even though small is powerful, productive and inspirational. Our forethought as an organization is continuing this fall with our annual conference.

Mark your calendars for November 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> for Eagle Ridge Conference Center located near Jackson on the Hinds Community College campus. The theme this year is 'Ready, Set... Green.' This theme will focus on the "Green" efforts in the state of Mississippi and how to bring the green movement to your home, school or business. Ken Finch is the keynote speaker for the Friday night event. Ken will help us consider the importance of "natural play" and will provide thoughts and guidance on how we can adjust our educational methods and priorities to address this challenge in our conservation efforts. A variety of sessions on Saturday will focus on green and educational efforts around the state that are successful and can be incorporated into your school or home living. Please bring a green idea from your neck of the woods to share with others. Hope to see you in November.

John DeFillipo, MEEA President

### **Dear MNPS Members,**

As I prepared the Registration Form for our Annual Conference, I read the agenda and workshop descriptions and I became really excited about our program all over again! I think our **October 25<sup>th</sup> meeting** will possibly be the best we have ever had. I am delighted that we will meet at the Noxubee Refuge which is among the region's most beautiful natural areas. The folks at the Refuge are on the cutting edge of the Environmental Education movement. They impact the lives of hundreds of school children every year. These kids are our future members. I am thankful to the Refuge staff for the wonderful work they are doing. Directions to the Refuge (which is near Brooksville, Mississippi) are included in this newsletter.

I am also humbled by the awesome slate of speakers, workshop leaders and field trip guides who have agreed to present. Every one of them is very knowledgeable, articulate and entertaining. A copy of the agenda is included in this newsletter.

I have heard a few complaints such as "I can't make up my mind. I want to go to all the workshops." We are trying the concurrent workshop/field trip idea on for size this year. I would love to hear your feedback. We will decide after the meeting if we want to continue the concurrent sessions next year. If so, we may want to repeat some of these workshops in 2009.

I do need a favor from all of you who are planning to attend this exciting event. Please, please, please pre-register by October 15. The form is on the inside back page of this newsletter. We will provide lunch for all pre-registered attendees and an additional 10% that we estimate will register on site. We will use the headcount that we calculate from the registration forms to allocate space for workshops. But.... Most important of all – we will use these numbers to purchase the food needed for lunch. We cannot guarantee that there will be enough food for those who do not pre-register. If you decide to come at the last minute and it is too late to pre-register, please come on, register on site and bring along a food donation if possible.

We are still in the planning stages about what we will be feeding you. We will possibly fire up a grill, provide sandwich fixings or order pizza. We may do all of the above and create an eclectic buffet. We hope to purchase some tasty baked goods from the Ol' Country Bakery in Brooksville. If anyone would care to bring a food donation, any side dish (like slaw, potato salad, etc.) would be welcome.

Contact me at 601-483-3588 or at [lgbarton@comcast.net](mailto:lgbarton@comcast.net) if you have questions or if you would like to help with food.

I look forward to seeing you at our 2008 meeting. Please plan to attend and bring a friend. I leave you now with a serious ear-to-ear grin on my face at the thought of the fun, fellowship and fall flora I foresee in our future. Be there or be square!

Gail Barton, MNPS President

Editors Note: ***Preregistration*** at **MEEA's conference and the MNPS meeting** is very important this year. We urgently suggest you check your calendars right now and mail your check to the respective organization. Excitement is high in both groups! The **Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality is a co-sponsor of this year's MEEA conference** and, because of Ken Finch's popularity, MEEA needs to know how many to expect for dinner. **MNPS** is charging a registration and will furnish lunch and first come first served on the workshops (participation limited)! MEEA and MNPS members, check out the other conference – both have outstanding sessions!

MNP&EE is the quarterly newsletter of the Mississippi Native Plant Society and the Mississippi Environmental Education Alliance.

#### **Deadlines for Articles**

Winter (Dec - Feb) - November 15  
Spring (March - May) - February 15  
Summer (June - August) - May 15  
Fall (Sept - Nov) - August 15

## ***Cullowhee Through the Years by Pat Dracket, Senior Curator MSU Crosby Arboretum***

What a true delight it was to attend the Cullowhee Native Plant Conference at Western North Carolina University this July! For those of you who were fortunate enough to have made the journey to those gorgeous mountains, you're already well aware that at Cullowhee, one is faced with the most wonderful dilemma of having to pick and choose from an incredible menu of field trips, workshops and sessions allowing an attendee to design their very own "spa package," a total native plant immersion that lasts for three days of total bliss, or, as aptly described in a past article, "Native Plant Nirvana." Leaving the conference can bring to mind a feeling akin to that experienced as a child once all the Christmas packages have been opened, the sparkling holiday is over and one begins counting the days until that magical time appears once more.

What greatly encouraged me about this conference, having not had a reason or opportunity to return for 20 years, was the observation of the growth and maturity of the field and how much has been learned since the early years, and ultimately having a far-reaching effect on raising the regional "native plant consciousness." I was just a little bit envious seeing old friends who reported they had made all or most of the conferences since my last!

From my perspective, two themes were prominent at this conference: the obvious need for educating the public to adopt more sustainable landscape practices, and *the critical importance for providing copious opportunities for exposing children to the natural world*. Richard Louv's powerful book, "Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder" was the topic of quite a few conversations. Although many of us will casually remark about how their kids would rather sit inside and punch their techno-gadgets than play in the backyard, how can they ignore the true origins of this behavior? Have we parents become so busy and disconnected from nature ourselves that we have lost sight of the importance of encouraging our children to splash in a puddle, build a fort, to garden, or to catch salamanders in the creek, activities that so many of us once took for granted?

Well, how to begin to condense it all? **Tom Wessels'** keynote address, based on his recent book, "The Myth of Progress, Toward a Sustainable Future" gave a strong message of hope, in spite of the obvious deterioration of our global environment. Wouldn't most of us rather choose to believe that all is not lost, that time still remains in which we may bring about permanent, positive changes by educating others to make wise choices in conserving our natural resources?

What a mix of workshops, field trips, intimate sessions and general assemblies! I chose an incredibly informative day-and-a-half workshop on native plant propagation with **Jan Midgley**. A field trip with the class to the Blue Ridge Parkway revealed tiny sundews sparkling among the moss of the moist rock "seeps" found along the roadsides. We had a sneak peek of Part One ("Time and Terrain") from the new PBS documentary series entitled "Appalachia", a production of the James Agee Film Project ([www.ageefilms.org/appalachia.html](http://www.ageefilms.org/appalachia.html) has a trailer for the film) Wow! It is billed as a "spellbinding portrait of one of the world's great ecological treasures... with the central characters of the series (being) the Appalachian Mountains themselves." It delivers.

Karen Hall spoke of the development of the **Cherokee** Worldview Garden at the South Carolina Botanical Garden (Clemson University), an interpretative garden that educates visitors about the unique way in which the Cherokee see the world and their cultural uses of plants. **Keith Tomlinson**, director of Meadowlark Botanical Gardens near Washington, DC talked about using biogeographic factors to define plant collections, as theirs uses the geographic province of the Potomac River Basin to determine which native plants they accession. "Living Legend" **Don Shadow** from Middle Tennessee dazzled the crowds with his plant samples and slide show of "new and unusual" plants, photos of his latest animal acquisitions, and an informative review of new dogwoods that are anthracnose resistant.

Conversations with other attendees allow, thankfully, for the absorption of material from other sessions; for example, many were in heaven following their field trip to the **Southern Highlands Reserve**, "a private, non-profit institution dedicated to the preservation, cultivation and display of plants native to the Southern Appalachians that is open to academics and horticultural professionals. The 120 acre Reserve is located at 4500' at the summit of Toxaway Mountain. A 20 acre Core Park of display gardens features the Azalea Walk (Gregory Bald azaleas), the Vaseyi Trail and Pond, the Wildflower Labyrinth (late summer meadow species) and the Woodland Glade. Of special interest is the newly completed roof garden. Surrounding the Core Park is a 100 acre natural area with rock cliffs, waterfalls and seeps, and perhaps the world's largest natural stand of Vasey azalea. A well-maintained trail system featuring artistic originality in wood and iron traverses both woodlands and cliffs." Are you already planning your next summer vacation after reading this?

The plant selections offered by the many nursery vendors were a delightful shopping experience to wander through and dream. And a new feature, the poster sessions, now offer a new display venue to learn of other groups' activities, and the realization that there's a heck of a lot of great projects going on in our region. We also learned of a new searchable data base of native plants, **NameThatPlant.net**, by **Janie Marlowe**, which currently features 2353 plants, a "clearinghouse of information about native and naturalized plants of the Carolinas", but also having a greater application to other southern states.

On another personal note, I was treated to details of the brand new, and long-awaited M.L.A. program in landscape architecture at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, beginning this fall. Now, Tennesseans who wish to have an advanced degree in landscape

architecture will no longer have to go out of state to get it, as I did reluctantly in 1986, having grown up in Knoxville. The new program's director is **Sam Rogers**, who is a strong proponent of the increased use of native plants in the landscape. At the conference, I was treated to Sam's PowerPoint presentation of the UT Environmental Landscape Design Lab's many sustainable landscape design and ecological restoration projects implemented by his students. This presentation could have easily held its own as a conference session, and is just one example of the many talented folks who make up the crowd each year at Cullowhee. But, the highlight of the conference was to be able to give a big hug to **Ed Clebsch**, and his wife Meredith. Ed was my botany professor extraordinaire from UT Knoxville, and is responsible for starting me on this wonderful journey that just gets better with time.

With this report, I've hopefully impressed upon the reader the experience of a short period of "Native Plant Nirvana," which I am seeking – following a glimpse of heaven – to sustain, and to impart upon all who might happen to visit with us at the Crosby Arboretum. And, if you have never been fortunate enough to attend the Cullowhee Conference, I hope I've inspired you to consider a visit!

### ***Nature's First Aid Kit or the Green Pharmacopeia Part 2 by Dr. John Guyton***

(continued from last newsletter)

**Congestive heart failure** – Foxglove (*Digitalis ambigua*) contain cardiac glycosides in their roots, stems, leaves and blossoms that are useful for slowing and regulating heart rate. Dangerous to experiment with because of the varying concentrations of the active ingredients.

**Cholesterol** – Garlic reduces serum cholesterol and triglycerides, lower blood pressure, and may reverse the deposition of plaque in the arteries (atherosclerosis).

**Colds** – Sweet flag (*Acorus calamus*) root chewed for relief of colds; Wormwood (*Artemisia* spp.) tea;

**Constipation** – Buckhorn seed are the most important ingredient in Metamucil™; Sacred bark or Cascara Sagrada (*Frangula purshiana*) considered outstanding and known to the Native Americans is made by boiling year-old bark for several hours and then letting it cool (a teacup to a teaspoon of the ground bark) and taken before bedtime. Senna (*Senna alexandrina*) cathartic pods are as popular in drugstore laxatives as they were with Arab physicians in the ninth century! Eating raw daylily flowers; decoctions from dandelion leaves.

**Cough** – infusion made from the inner bark of aspen; All parts of the nasturtium (*Tropaeolum majus*) contain an antibiotic and vitamin C that when consumed stimulates coughing thus reduces phlegm production; true marshmallow (*Althea officinalis*) syrup from the roots is used in treating coughs and irritated throats; mullein tea works for me!

**Cramps** – carrot seed tea; Horse chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*) seed and leaf extracts.

**Cuts** - chew a leaf from the buckhorn or Plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*), it is edible as well as styptic, then apply it directly to a cut or scrape. It quickly stops the bleeding and since it is also antimicrobial it speeds healing without infection. I have noticed it seems to numb the pain. Leave it in contact with the skin for only 10 minutes or so – longer will result in a tannin tattoo. Hyssop (*Hyssopus officinalis*) poultice made from the fresh herb; garlic chives (*Allium tuberosum*) leaves and bulbs; true marshmallow (*Althea officinalis*).

**Depression** – St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*)

**Diarrhea** – black cherry root tea; Pineapple Weed (*Matricaria matricarioides*) extracts (of the whole plant) can be used to treat diarrhea; tea made from blackberries roots; boil white oak bark and drink the liquid for bleeding hemorrhoids and diarrhea; club moss (*Lycopodium clavatum*) spores for severe diarrhea.

**Eczema** – evening primrose (*Oenothera biennis*) may ease the symptoms.

**Emetic** (used to induce vomiting) – Black Walnut (*Juglans nigra*) inner bark tea; Ipecac (*Cephaelis ipecacuana*) extract from roots.

**Eye and ear infections** – goldenseal; saffrafrs poultice made from pith of twigs for eye ailments; Fennel (*Foeniculum vulgare*) extracts useful as an eye wash: Maypop (*Passiflora incarnata*) juice for eyewash; onion juice and olive oil for earaches; Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*) infusion used for ear aches; .

**Fatigue** – Garlic Chives (*Allium tuberosum*), Echinacea.

**Fever** – tea made from elm or willow bark or linden flowers, infusion of elder flowers or fruit, a decoction of Feverwort leaves; boneset tea; tea of crushed and steeped fresh horsemint leaves.

**Flatulent** – carrot seed tea; Hyssop (*Hyssopus officinalis*) tea made from the leaves is useful; Catnip (*Nepeta cataria*); Pennyroyal (*Mentha pulegium*) tea

**Gingivitis** – chamomile tea; true marshmallow (*Althea officinalis*).

**Hangovers** – dried petals from the Apothecary's Rose steeped in wine.

**Headache** – willow bark tea or just chewing on a willow twig, a tea made from steeped pennyroyal leaves, Columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*) crushed seeds; poultice of crushed yellow-poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) leaves; Oregon myrtle (*Umbellularia californica*) leaves crushed and applied to the head or an infusion; Pennyroyal (*Mentha pulegium*) tea.

**Hemorrhoids** – An external wash made from elm or oak bark or plantain leaf juice.

**Indigestion or heartburn** – dill or oil from dill seeds, dandelion root tea; Red Bud (*Cercis canadensis*) bark tea; chalk or limestone.

(Continued in next newsletter)

***Don't forget to bring some neat things for MEEA's Silent Auction.  
The proceeds go into MEEA's mini-grant program.***

### ***Twelve Unknown Facts About Prairie Gardening in Mississippi by Marc Pastorek***

1. Mississippi prairies are ecosystems in a climax stage of development. This means they stay in a permanent state as long as tree and shrub growth is kept in check either by mowing or prescribed burning. Key to prairie reconstruction is selecting climax species when collecting seed.
2. Establishing prairie changes the hydrology of the reconstruction site. Fibrous root systems of grasses and forbs often reach six feet or more in depth. These roots act as channels for water to percolate deeply through the soil, replenishing aquifers and hillside seeps.
3. Many climax species of herbs and grasses have been shown to consistently remove pioneer species such as blackberry, dewberry, vasey grass, and other noxious perennials. Privet, cedar and other woody plants can be kept in check by mowing or burning. Research has shown that these so-called “pushy perennials” are genetically predisposed to aggressively rehabilitate the ecosystem after disturbance occurs.
4. Indicator plants are showy species that identify areas of relative high species richness and diversity or “seedbanks.” Some common indicator herb species are *Silphium*, *Eryngium*, *Pycnanthemum*, *Liatris*, *Baptisia*, *Phlox*, and *Asclepias*. Some indicator grasses are *Paspalum*, *Andropogon*, *Schizachyrium*, and *Sorghastrum*. These plants don’t always signal rarities but most always identify a level of species richness.
5. Using indicator plants to locate nearby stands of wildflowers and grasses insures a greater chance of success in prairie restoration and reconstruction.
6. The Mississippi prairie is the most threatened ecosystem in the state. Ethical collection of seed during prairie restoration work can save many genetic ecotypes from the brink of extinction.
7. Prairie gardening in most Midwestern states is an integral landscape design element. This increases habitat diversity and provides tens of millions of dollars to the economy. Millions of acres of prairie existed in Mississippi in pre- Columbian times. The stewardship of existing prairie remnants and the restoration/reconstruction of adjacent and disjunct fields could produce similar benefits here in our home state.
8. Prairie plants, by virtue of where they exist, are proven to be the most adaptable plants to the most hostile environmental conditions. The most important requirements are lots of sun and tree-encroachment suppression.
9. Prairie grasses and herbs provide ideal forage for herbivores. They support many insects that feed threatened field songbirds. They provide nectar for pollinators and are host plants for egg-laying butterflies and insects. Grasses provide fuel for much needed fire.
10. Research has shown that mowing a newly established prairie planting as regularly as every three weeks during the first and second growing season will keep rank pioneer species from reseeding and also will prevent these plants from shading out seedlings of desirable climax species.
11. Most prairie seeds do not germinate in a uniform fashion. *Baptisia* seed, for instance, will germinate a percentage the first year, another percentage the second and so on. This insures reproduction over the long term. Research has shown that many prairie species are viable up to thirty years. This phenomenon insures surprises for the prairie enthusiast for many years.
12. Patience is the most valuable commodity when gardening a la prairie. However, it is my experience that when planting a tree, one expects to wait three to five or more years to “harvest” the equity of its beauty. This is also true with herbs and grasses.

### ***Recycling Corner – Classroom Landfill & Waste Management by Dr. John Guyton***

The production of solid waste has become a significant problem. Each person generates 2 to 7 pounds of waste per day. The Environmental Protection Agency has suggested the following four strategies: source reduction - creating less garbage in the first place; recycling and composting - or getting multiple uses out of the products we use; combustion - burning waste materials that cannot be recycled; and using landfills - for waste that cannot be handled by other means. Recycling must become a way of life.

Recycling programs can be used to help youth understand the importance of recycling or to solve a short term need, such as raising funds for a specific project. The purpose must be clear from the start. Youth are very impressionable and quickly learn our attitudes toward recycling. If it is not important to us and a part of our life, it will not be important to them. A recycling program can only be started once if it is a part of our way of life.

Find a cardboard washing machine box which will become the classroom transfer station and landfill. If students wish, they can paint flowers or other designs on it.

- All classroom trash disposed of during the year will remain in this box or pass through it.
- Inside the box there should be several smaller boxes. Place a plastic liner in each of these boxes. Use one small box for vegetable matter such as apple cores, orange rinds and chewing gum. Allow these materials to just begin to smell before introducing the idea of a compost pile. Monitor and graph the rate of decomposition of different materials. Another box could hold aluminum cans until they can be recycled. When the volume of cans begins to exceed the space available introduce the idea of crushing them thus allowing better use of the space. The third box could hold paper which can be used again as scrap paper for notes. Note pads could be made by cutting the paper down to size and gluing one edge. Another box could contain plastic and, as with the aluminum cans, it will soon be evident that space is at a premium. Compressing the plastic bottles will save space (landfill operators prefer you leave the tops off bottles so they can be further compressed). Newspaper can be composted if there is not a

better alternative. It can be used in animal cages as litter before being composted.

- The only way materials can leave the box is by recycling. There will be some materials which cannot be recycled in some classrooms. For example, batteries used in science lessons, should be discarded in the Classroom Landfill because they cannot be recycled.
- By the end of the year students will have encountered many problems experienced by landfill operators including the need for extra space, leaks, smells and problems associated with transportation of materials to a recycling center. Ideas such as using products which minimize packing material or which contain recycled or recyclable material should be rewarded.

### Call for Nominations for MEEA 2008 Environmental Education Awards

The established categories are: 1) Individual Award 2) Organizational Award

Nominations should include: 1) Name and contact information of the person making the nomination, 2) Name and contact information of the nominee, and 3) A one page statement of why the nominee is deserving of the award. Nominations should be mailed or e-mailed to Matthew Miller by September 22<sup>nd</sup>. Matthew\_miller@tnc.org PO Box 3477, Tupelo 38803.

### MEEA Conference: READY, SET, GREEN (Tentative Agenda)

When: **November 14th & 15th**

Where: **Eagle Ridge Conference Center (on the Hinds Community College campus)**

**Friday:** 3:00pm Arrival/Registration

5:00pm - 6:00pm Poster Sessions

Poster session/ tables with information from different organizations and opportunities for family & field trips. State parks, Natchez Trace, Wildlife Refuges, etc.

6:00pm Dinner (Silent Auction opens after dinner)

7:00pm- Key Note Speaker: **Ken Finch**, Founder and President of Green Hearts Institute for Nature in Childhood, one of the country's first nonprofit conservation organizations entirely focused on restoring children's play in natural settings. Ken has been working in environmental education for 35 years.

**Saturday:** 6:00-7:00am Before breakfast: Nature and Well-being -- a guided walk

8:00am Rocks & Fossils in Mississippi Gravel – David Dockery

9:00am Backyard Habitat Talk – Jeannine May

10:00am Biodiversity or Endangered Species – Terri Jacobson

Geocaching Buck Buchanan

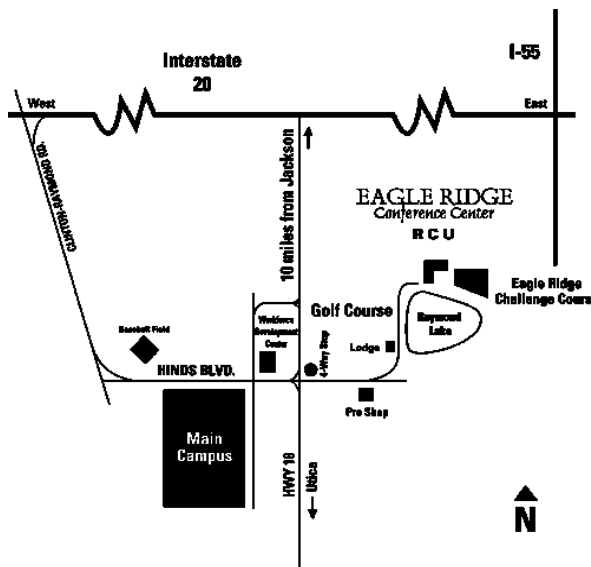
11:00 am Recycling Program – Brad DeVaughn/ Booneville High School

12:00 Lunch (silent auction closes)

1:00-1:30 Members Meeting

1:30-2:30 Environmental Education Through Music and Stories – John Stark

2:30 Evaluation & wrap up



### MEEA Conference Registration Form

November 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> at the Eagle Ridge Conference Center

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_  Teachers, check if you want 1 CEU  
(No charge for CEUs, thanks to Northeast MS Community College)

Conference Options

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| A. Friday Dinner and Ken Finch Talk (only): \$25                         | \$ _____ |
| B. All meals, entire conference + single occupancy lodging: \$125/person | \$ _____ |
| C. All meals, entire conference + double occupancy lodging: \$100/person | \$ _____ |
| D. All conference drive in (meals only, no lodging): \$60                | \$ _____ |
| Deadline for early bird reservation October 24.                          |          |
| <b>Conference registration after October 24 add \$10.</b>                | \$ _____ |
| Total  | \$ _____ |

**Ready Set Green**  
Mississippi Environmental Education Alliance  
2008  
Conference

**MSU Crosby Arboretum FALL PLANT SALE, Programs and Field Trips**

- Plant Sale** Sat. Sept. 27 & Sun. Sept. 28 Sat/Sun 9 - 10 Members Only/ General Public Sale: 10 - 3.
- Gardening with Native Plants** Sat., Oct. 4 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. with Darla Pastorek
- Gourds 101** Friday, October 10 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. Gourd crafter Janet Schlauderaff will get you started!
- BASIC Soapmaking Techniques** Friday, Oct. 3 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. With Phyllis Davenport of Country Clean Soaps to learn how to homecraft our own soaps! Learn the process, ingredients and equipment
- NATURAL AREA FIELD TRIP HILLSIDE BOG** Saturday, Nov. 22 12:30 - 4:30 p.m. Join us in a fall trip to one of the arboretum's natural areas, a highly diverse 70 acre habitat in northern Hancock County
- For more information**, visit their website at [www.crosbyarboretum.msstate.edu](http://www.crosbyarboretum.msstate.edu) or call (601) 799-2311.

**Mississippi Native Plant Society Oct. 25, 2008 Conference Registration Form**

(Please print)  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

- Choose a Concurrent Workshop – Note: **You may attend only one.** Please circle your choice.
- Option #1: Exploring the Red-cockaded Woodpecker Habitat with Margaret Copeland
  - Option #2: Native Grass Identification with Lucas Majure
  - Option #3: Planning Your Backyard Habitat Garden with Lelia Kelly
  - Option #4: Using Native Plants in Floral Design with Sam Ledbetter

Note: Choose only 1 workshop and 1 field trip. First come first serve!

- Choose a concurrent Field Trip– Note: **You may attend only one.** Please circle your choice.
- Option A – Hike the Scattertown Trail with Bob Brzuszek (moderately strenuous)
  - Option B – Trek to see State Champion Oaks with JoVonn Hill (drive-in and easy walk)

Cost of Attendance: Please list amounts paid for each item in the spaces provided.

Conference Fee (includes lunch):  
 \$10.00 before October 15 or \$15.00 after October 15 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Membership if due: See the back of this form for fees. \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**Non-members will be required to join and members with lapsed dues can re-up.**  
 Life members and those whose dues are current through Oct. 25 need not pay membership  
 \$10.00 Materials Fee ONLY for those attending the Floral Design Workshop. \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Donation to MNPS \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please send this form with your check, payable to Mississippi Native Plant Society to: Gail Barton, MNPS President, 5201 West Gate Hills Drive, Meridian, MS 39307.

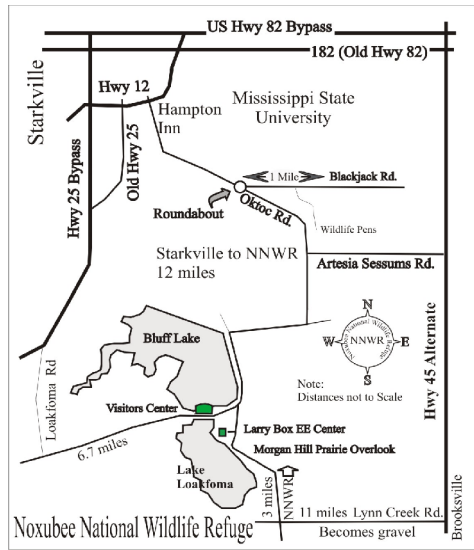
**Directions to the Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge**

**From Starkville** turn SOUTH at the Hampton Inn onto Spring St. At the round-a-bout take the first right onto Oktoc Rd. When it comes to a “T” turn right and follow the signs to the visitors center. The NNWR is about 12 miles from the round-a-bout.

**From Hwy 25** turn east off Hwy 25 just south of Oktibbeha County in Winston County onto Loakfoma Rd. At the end of Loakfoma Rd. Turn left and the visitors center will be 6.7 miles on the left.

**From the south on Hwy 45** turn west on Lynn creek Rd at Brooksville (note the road will turn to gravel). At the 4 way stop, about 11 miles turn left. You should see a sign to the NNWR. Go another 3 miles and turn left at the 3 way intersection to reach the visitor’s center.

**From the north on Hwy 45** Alternate turn right on Sessums Artesia Rd. At the “T” turn left onto Oktoc Rd. When Oktoc road comes to a “T” turn right and follow the signs.



### MS Native Plant Society Membership Application or Renewal Form

Join the organization devoted to the study and appreciation of wildflowers, grasses, shrubs and trees native to the state of Mississippi. **Join Today!**

\_\_\_\_ New Member \_\_\_\_ Renewal    Name \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ Student: \$7.50                    County \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ Individual or Family: \$10.00    Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ Sustaining: \$15.00                    \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ Contributing: \$35.00                Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ Life: \$125.00                            email \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form with check to: MNPS, Inc., C/O Dr. Debora Mann, 114 Auburn Drive, Clinton, MS 39056-6002

**Coastal Plains Chapter MNPS** Meets every 4<sup>th</sup> Monday at various locations near Gulfport. For more information contact president, Edie Dreher at 228-864-2775 or mail to 100 24<sup>th</sup> St., Gulfport, MS 39507.

**Starkville Chapter** Contact Bob Brzuszek at rbrzuszek@lalc.msstate.edu or phone 662-325-7896.

**North East MS Native Plant Society Chapter** contact Margaret Gratz at 662-844-5640 or gratz@redmagnet.com

**East Central Chapter** Contact Hilary Shughart at 662-816-3459 or shughart@watervalley.net

### Mississippi Environmental Education Alliance Membership Application

The state alliance devoted to environmental education and the affiliate of the North American Association for Environmental Education. **Join Today!**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_

**School or Organization:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:(day)** \_\_\_\_\_ **(evening)** \_\_\_\_\_

**e-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fax:** \_\_\_\_\_

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <b>Membership Category</b>                           | <b>Committee Interests:</b>                  | Return this application, with your check or money order, to MEEA, C/O John DeFillipo, MS Museum of Natural Science, 4391 South Frontage Rd., Columbus, MS 39701 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual (\$10.00)        | <input type="checkbox"/> Strategic Planning  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student (\$5.00)            | <input type="checkbox"/> Nomination          |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family (\$25.00)            | <input type="checkbox"/> Conference/Workshop |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Institution/Business (\$50) | <input type="checkbox"/> Awards              |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life (\$150.00)             | <input type="checkbox"/> Communications      |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron (\$150 - \$1,000+)   | <input type="checkbox"/> Financial           |   |

***Join MNPS, MEEA or Both!***

The Mississippi Environmental Education Alliance conducts an annual conference and occasional workshops. They are preparing to assist colleges of education meet the new EE standards required for NCATE accreditation. For information on upcoming activities watch the newsletter, contact President John DeFillipo or check the calendar on [ecinMississippi.org](http://ecinMississippi.org)

*The Mississippi Native Plant Society meeting is on October 25, 2008 at the Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge.*

*The Mississippi Environmental Education Alliance annual conference is on November 14-15, 2008.*

### MISSISSIPPI NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

c/o Dr. Debora Mann  
Millsaps College  
1701 North State Street  
Jackson, MS 39210-0001