**CHAPTER VISION STATEMENT:**
To restore and sustain biodiversity through education and the practice of landscaping with native plants.

**WILD ONES:**
THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION

Wild Ones, Native Plants, Natural Landscapes is a national, not-for-profit organization founded in 1979 to encourage gardening practices that protect the environment, preserve and restore native plant communities, and help maintain biological diversity. Wild Ones now has about 50 chapters, mainly in the Midwest, and over 3000 members. The organization publishes the *Wild Ones Journal* several times a year and holds an annual conference. For more information about Wild Ones or landscaping with native plants, please visit the Wild Ones website: www.wildones.org.

**WILD ONES:**
THE KALAMAZOO AREA CHAPTER

Founded in 1999, the Kalamazoo Area Chapter has a large and active membership. Our programs, community projects, and our own yards help us meet our vision: To restore and sustain biodiversity through education and the practice of landscaping with native plants.

**October through March:** Evening programs are generally held the fourth Wednesday of each month (except December) at Kalamazoo First United Methodist Church, 212 S. Park St., downtown Kalamazoo.

**April through September:** Field trips, community projects, and plant exchanges.

For information about our meeting site, activities or chapter, please visit www.kalamazoowildones.org

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**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP LEVELS:**
(PLEASE CHECK ONE)

- Wild ! $37
- Wilder !! $50
- Wildest !!! $100+
- Student/Limited Income $20
- Not-for-Profit Affiliate $90
- Professional/Educator $90
- Business Membership $250

(PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

- New membership
- Renewal
- New address or contact information

Name: ____________________________
Address: ____________________________
City: ____________________________
State/ZIP: ____________________________
Phone: ____________________________
E-mail: ____________________________

How did you hear about us?: ____________________________

GIFT:
Occasion: ____________________________
Donor’s Name: ____________________________

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PLEASE MAKE OUT YOUR CHECK TO: Wild Ones
AND SEND IT WITH THIS FORM TO:
Kalamazoo Area Wild Ones
P.O. Box 20324
Kalamazoo, MI 49019

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PLEASE RECYCLE THIS BROCHURE

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8/2013
WHY NATIVE PLANTS?

They are beautiful and extremely varied.

They support wildlife—the insects, amphibians, birds, and mammals with which they evolved—much better than nonnative plants do.

They are better adapted to our soils, climate, and weather than nonnative plants are.

They thrive without fertilizers or pesticides, and, once established, require less water than nonnative plants do.

Their extensive roots absorb stormwater better than the short roots of lawngrass are able to do; as a result, they help prevent erosion, filter pollutants, and recharge groundwater.

They save energy as they don't have to be mowed or maintained with chemicals.

They sequester carbon better than lawngrass and other shallow-rooted plants do.

They connect us to our history and locale.

They don't destroy natural areas as some nonnative plants do.

WHY NATIVE PLANTS?

AMONG THE BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

Interesting and valuable indoor presentations; enjoyable and educational field trips.

A site visit to your property, with analysis and helpful suggestions by experienced members.

Mentorship Program, which continues site visit consultation (by application each year).

At least once a year, a plant exchange.

The national Wild Ones Journal, with timely and useful articles.

Seedlings, the chapter’s e-newsletter, announcing chapter and area events.

New member’s packet of information.

Volunteer opportunities at chapter projects at schools, parks, and natural areas.

Networking opportunities. Join old friends and make new ones at meetings and outings. Enjoy camaraderie and benefit from informal advice.