

August 2019

# Meramec Hills

## Upcoming Chapter Events

August 26: Monthly  
Chapter Meeting at  
Land Survey  
Building

September 21: Fall  
Family Fun Day at  
Round Springs  
Campground

September 23:  
Monthly Chapter  
Meeting at Land  
Survey Building

## Native Knowledge...

By Pat Perry

### Lizard's Tail

(*Saururus cernuus*)

This semi upright perennial will grow to a height of 4 feet. It is a southern species of shaded marshes and stream margins. It will grow in mud or up to 6 inches of water. Its spread is 20 to 60 inches and makes great cover for wildlife on the edge of ponds.

The leaves are alternate and heart shaped to nearly triangular. The bloom period is May and it lasts for up to a month. Slender nodding solitary spikes of tiny, white flowers occur opposite a leaf. The flower spikes are 6-8 inches long. Each flower is ¼ inch long consisting of 6-8 white stamens and 3-4 white carpels at the

center. There are no petals or sepals. They bloom from the bottom to the top.

When the flowers go to seed, the curving spike is covered with grayish nutlets that make it look similar to a lizard's tail.

All parts of the plant smell like citrus.



My plant is growing in a clay pot that is sunk into a small goldfish pond. Come winter time, I bring it indoors and take it to the basement. I keep it in a pot of water over winter where a lot of the leaves die back. I return it to the pond in the spring when temperatures are above freezing.



**ncm**  
Newburg Children's Museum

Ants/bees/wasps. Beetles and true bugs display installed at Newburg Children's museum on 7/6/19

<http://www.meramechills.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/MMNMeramecHillsChapter>

## 2019 Mid Year Report

Missouri Master Naturalist have completed:

**35,330 service hours**

**7,185 AT hours**



August							September							October						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31		

## Upcoming Activities

### August 6 (Tuesday)

Bray Back To School Fishing Night, 6:00 -8:00pm, Bray CA. School-aged children & families can enjoy an evening of catch-and-release fishing. Children who attend will receive school supplies, courtesy of MDC and Missouri Master Naturalists. For more information, contact Conservation Educator Dwight Warnke at 573-368-2225 or [Dwight.Warnke@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:Dwight.Warnke@mdc.mo.gov).

### August 24 (Saturday)

MNPS Field Trip, 10:00am -2:00pm, Montauk State Park. Work with Park Naturalist Steve Bost to look for plants of conservation concern in Missouri. Carpool from Kroger at 9am and bring a sack lunch, etc. For more info, contact Pam Barnabee at [pamela.barnabee@gmail.com](mailto:pamela.barnabee@gmail.com).

### August 26 (Monday)

Regular monthly meeting of the Chapter, 6:00pm, Land Survey Building (1251A Gale Dr., Rolla). Topic: Fire Ecology at the Ozark Field Station. Social hour & help session for questions regarding activities and entering hours from 5:00-6:00pm.

### September 10 (Tuesday)

Bray Workday, 1:00pm - 5:00pm, Bray CA. Come out and join the Bray Bunch! Dress for the weather and bring work gloves, hat, drink and a snack. For more info, contact [pamela.barnabee@gmail.com](mailto:pamela.barnabee@gmail.com).

### September 21 (Saturday)

Fall Family Fun Day, 10:30am - 3:30pm, Round Spring Campground. Come on out and join the fun with family & friends! Neal Humke of the L-A-D Foundation will lead us on a tour through part of the Pioneer Forest followed by a pot luck lunch. Volunteer Opportunity to follow.

### September 23 (Monday)

Regular monthly meeting of the Chapter, 6:00pm, Land Survey Building (1251A Gale Dr., Rolla). Topic: Night Skies in Nature. Social hour & help session for questions regarding activities and entering hours from 5:00-6:00pm.

### October 8 (Tuesday)

Bray Workday, 1:00pm - 5:00pm, Bray CA. Come out and join the Bray Bunch! Dress for the weather and bring work gloves, hat, drink and a snack. For more info, contact [pamela.barnabee@gmail.com](mailto:pamela.barnabee@gmail.com).

### October 28 (Monday)

Regular monthly meeting of the Chapter, 6:00pm, Land Survey Building (1251A Gale Dr., Rolla). Topic: TBD. Social hour & help session for questions regarding activities and entering hours from 5:00-6:00pm.

### November 12 (Tuesday)

Bray Workday, 1:00pm - 5:00pm, Bray CA. Come out and join the Bray Bunch! Dress for the weather and bring work gloves, hat, drink and a snack. For more info, contact [pamela.barnabee@gmail.com](mailto:pamela.barnabee@gmail.com).

### November 25 (Monday)

Regular monthly meeting of the Chapter, 6:00pm, Land Survey Building (1251A Gale Dr., Rolla). Topic: Show & Tell (bring your favorite book, tools, etc to show & tell). Social hour & help session for questions regarding activities and entering hours from 5:00-6:00pm.

### December 10 (Tuesday)

Bray Workday, 1:00pm - 5:00pm, Bray CA. Come out and join the Bray Bunch! Dress for the weather and bring work gloves, hat, drink and a snack. For more info, contact [pamela.barnabee@gmail.com](mailto:pamela.barnabee@gmail.com).

*Do you have milkweeds on your property, or know where to find them on public land? MDC is looking for help collecting all types of milkweed seeds for their nursery in Licking, MO.*

# Milkweeds for Monarchs

Seed Collection for Department of Conservation Nursery

## Seed Collection Information

- Species Name (keep each species separate)
- Location Collected (county, town)
- Date Collected
- Notes: anything significant about the area

## Cleaning

Please remove husks and clean as much fiber and plant material off the seeds as you can.

## Storage

Seed should be kept in a brown paper, cloth, or nylon bag, so that air can move around it. It needs to be kept in a cool dark location. Moisture can be trapped in a plastic bag and could cause it to mold or encourage it to break dormancy. Heat will also kill germination more than cold. However, putting seed in a refrigerator or crisper drawer could mimic early season conditions that could cause seed to germinate.

The best storage is to place seed in a bag that will allow air movement and store in a cool/dark place with low moisture. The rule of thumb to follow is to keep seed where a combination of temperature and humidity is less than 100.

## Send seeds to:

Mike Fiaoni  
George O. White Nursery  
14027 Shafer Rd.  
Licking, MO 65542



Osage Trails Chapter, Jim Hinds

## A note from MDC:

Meramec Hills Chapter of the Missouri Master Naturalists,

I wish to introduce myself and let you know I will be serving as the new Conservation Educator for the Rolla/Camdenton District.

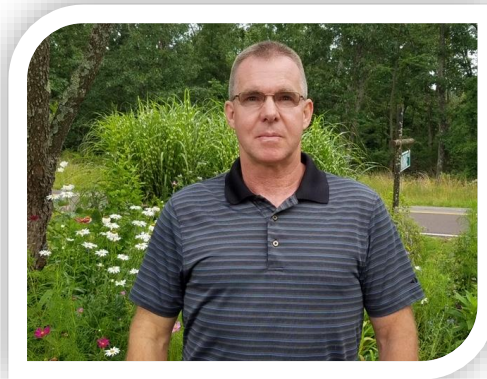
I grew up on a farm near Stover, MO in Morgan county and have enjoyed hunting and fishing my whole life. I have a B.S. in education from CMSU in biology with a minor in earth science and earned a M.S. degree from CMSU in curriculum and instruction. I served as a Missouri high school science teacher since 1985 and always made it a point to infused conservation values into my curriculum. It is an honor to continue my career in providing opportunities to strengthen our citizens' ties to fisheries, forestry, and wildlife along with developing lifelong outdoor skills.

My wife and I have always enjoyed walking the trails at Bray CA and appreciate all the work that members and volunteers at Meramec Hills Chapter has done to make it a premier site for citizen to enjoy and appreciate nature. I was contacted by Mitch and Nidge Cottrell and they expressed they would like to keep the momentum with the family fishing events held at Bray CA; we are working together for a "Back to School" family fishing event at Bray CA for next week Tuesday, Aug. 6 (6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.). I am sure that Mitch, Nidge, and myself would appreciate any additional help during the "Back to School" fishing event next Tuesday which I have advertised as being presented by Missouri Master Naturalist and MDC.

I am excited to provide programs that can enhance opportunities for our citizens to develop lifelong outdoor skills and a deeper appreciation of Missouri's outdoors. I look forward to meeting each of you in person.

Sincerely,

Dwight Warnke  
 Conservation Educator  
 Rolla Office  
 12655 State Route Y  
 Rolla MO 65401-6252  
 (W): 573-368-2590 ext.1584  
[Dwight.Warnke@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:Dwight.Warnke@mdc.mo.gov)



## MS&T seeks Adjunct Instructors

*By Robin Verble, Ozark Research Field Station*

Missouri University of Science and Technology's Department of Biological Sciences is seeking adjunct instructors to teach in spring 2020.

Potential courses include:

1173 Intro to Environmental Science  
 2383 Plant Biology

Minimum qualification will be an MS with significant teaching experience. PhD preferred.

We are asking individuals who might be interested to please submit their CV and a list of topics or courses that they would be interested in teaching to [biosci@mst.edu](mailto:biosci@mst.edu).



# Bray Wonderbug program volunteers needed

By Kari Lane

Wonderbugs is a monthly educational program devoted to encouraging interest and exploration in nature for children of all ages. Initiated by former MDC Naturalist Connie Schmiedeskamp at Bray Conservation Area, the program has plans to continue under the direction of Master Naturalist Helen Johnston. Helen plans to continue the themes of 2019, exploring the wildlife of the Missouri outdoors. Each program begins with a story and is followed by a craft. Children and families are encouraged to explore nature around them and get outdoors! The program typically ends with

outdoor exploration, playtime or a short hike. Sharing Bray with the community and growing awareness about the program has led to increased attendance. The months of May & June had at least 20 children at each event. Helen is seeking volunteers to assist with crafts and being on hand to answer questions for families or fill in as needed. If you're interested in helping or learning more about the program, you can contact Helen at 573-364-3043 or at [slvrhawk@embarqmail.com](mailto:slvrhawk@embarqmail.com).



**Missouri Master Naturalist – Meramec Hills**

PRESIDENT  
Judy Cavender

VICE PRESIDENT  
Phyllis Murphy

SECRETARY  
Kathy Gallagher

TREASURER  
Drew Lane

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**We're on the Web!**

See us at:

<http://www.meramechills.org/>  
and

<https://www.facebook.com/MMNMeramecHillsChapter>



**Volunteer Outlets Profile:**

**Youth Outreach: Connect with Missouri S&T and Rolla High School**

Meramec Hills members have become used to seeing students at some of our Chapter volunteer events. Whether it is a school or scout group, or a University service fraternity or organization, young people are often looking for opportunities to give back to our communities. While many of these opportunities are focused in the Rolla area, they don't need to be. Members who live in or near other communities can reach out to school or scout groups and sometimes it is a connection with a youth leader that opens the door.

Some recent examples include:

- Rolla High School Eco Club contacted us in 2018 requesting help with the design of a native plant garden for pollinators on their campus. While this project didn't ever take off because of several factors, it did lead to the club scheduling a few workdays at the 1200-square foot pollinator garden at Rolla's Recreation Center.
- Eco Miners, a service organization at Missouri S&T, contacted us several years ago asking about cleaning a stream in the city. After our first clean up event at least two more were scheduled with the local Dry Fork Stream Team (all Meramec Hills members). Our relationship with the Eco Miners has expanded over the years and has been very rewarding. Eco Miners members set up a booth for the Fall Native Plant Sale, Birding & Pollinator Festival and for the last several years we have helped them out with booths at MS&T's Earth Day Festival on campus.
- Lambda Sigma Pi, a women's service organization at MS&T, has also worked with our Stream Team to clean up a creek and both organizations have helped us during spring and fall at the Centre.
- MS&T Campus Volunteer days include "Gonzo Give Back Day of Service" as part of the St. Pat's Day celebration and "MLK Day of Service" on the Martin Luther King holiday. These are coordinated through the Program Administration for Volunteerism and Greek Life.

If you are interested in being part of outreach to the University, please contact Susan Wrasmann.

There is a "Minerrama" meet and greet event we have been invited to participate in. We can set up a booth for this event on Friday, August 23. It could be an opportunity to find individuals and organizations willing and interested in community service. Some might find the Missouri Master Naturalist program is exactly the service opportunity they are looking for.



**About the Master Naturalists...**

The Missouri Master Naturalist™ program is a community-based natural resource education and volunteer service program for adults sponsored by Missouri Department of

Conservation and the University of Missouri Extension. Our mission is to engage Missourians in the stewardship of our state's natural resources through science-based

education and volunteer community service. Our chapter is comprised of residents primarily from Phelps, Pulaski and Dent County. Meetings are held once a month in Rolla.

**A High Five to our Members!**

Initial Certification: Marc Didier, Janet Miller, Kerry Mondy  
2019 Re-Certification: Kathy Gallagher, Ellen Williamson