

ECOSCAPER LEVEL I FIELDWORK

Complete a minimum of 2 items.

This is intended to be a listing of appropriate fieldwork and project items to complete Ecoscaper I certification. If you would like to suggest an alternative fieldwork or project item which is not listed, please do not hesitate to submit it to the Ecoscaper Certification Committee for consideration and approval.

Although much of the fieldwork and some of the projects were developed to be accomplished in conjunction with the local Wild Ones chapters, we are aware that we have many members who are not affiliated with chapters. So, as you go about developing your fieldwork and your project, please feel free to contact environmental organizations with which Wild Ones has established a liaison relationship to accomplish the requirements of the program. If you are not sure what organizations are partnering with Wild Ones on this program, please contact ecoscaper@for-wild.org for specific information or to suggest a local organization with which to establish a liaison.

1. Volunteer a property for Show Me-Help Me Day
 - a. Review Show Me-Help Me Day guidelines from Chapter Guidebook. (www.for-wild.org/download/guidebook/0040Reference/0041ShowMeHelpMeDay.html)
 - b. Contact local Wild Ones Chapter Program Chair or Contact person to offer a property (yours or another's property with property owner's permission) as site for Show Me-Help Me Day program.
 - c. Prepare a handout for attendees including the following:
 - (1) A description of the site, its history and how you determined soil type.
 - (2) List of known plants (native and non-native) on site indicating both common and Latin names including, where applicable, rationale behind placement of plants.
 - (3) description of usual maintenance methods including any problem areas
 - (4) description of proposed landscaping plan including any unusual obstacles and special goals and how it meets the recommendations of the acronym BRASH. (<http://www.for-wild.org/download/bretrapp/city2.html>)
 - d. Have attendees sign guestbook.
 - e. Submit copy of handout and copy of guestbook. Allow room for comments from attendees in the guestbook.

2. Attend a day long conference on natural landscaping or related environmental focus.
 - a. Prepare one para (approx 100 words) on each of three sessions or more that you attended including at least 3 points of specific interest addressed by the speaker. (This could be three things that you personally learned—that really registered with you.) Include speaker's name and brief bio.
 - b. Include copy of conference registration info

3. Participate with a group to eradicate invasive species (in your area at a local park, nature preserve, or outdoor learning center)
 - a. Contact the manager of a local nature center, park, or outdoor learning center to

- offer your assistance in eradicating invasive species from the site. Explain the member certification process to manager and ask him/her if he/she would be willing to sign a document indicating the hours you worked in assisting. Must be at least 4 hours.
- b. Prepare a brief report (approx 1 page) indicating type of plant(s) being removed using common and Latin names, process used to eradicate invasive species, any special procedures or precautions taken, and future plans for restoration and/or maintenance of the site. Photos or sketches would be helpful. (<http://www.for-wild.org/native.html> – invasives) (Landscaping with Native Plants pg 23)
4. Participate in the development of a natural areas project with a local park, preserve, learning center, or Wild Ones chapter.
- a. Contact the manager of a local nature center, park, outdoor learning center or environmental organization to offer your assistance in developing a naturally landscaped site. Explain the member certification process to manager and ask him/her if he/she would be willing to sign a document indicating the hours you worked in assisting. Must be at least 4 hours.
 - b. Prepare a brief report (approx 1 page) indicating history of the site, description of the existing site including type of soil, plant species, etc., how the design was developed and why, how it was prepared for planting, the type of plant(s) and/or seed selected for the restoration using common and Latin names, process used to plant or sow, and future plans for maintenance of the site. Photos or sketches would be helpful. (<http://www.for-wild.org/land/ecotype.html>) (Landscaping with Native Plants pg 10-26)
5. Assist with a Natural Area Tour, etc
- a. Prior to the tour, contact the tour leader and explain the member certification process and volunteer to assist with conducting a natural area tour or yard hike. Ask him/her if he/she would be willing to sign a document acknowledging your participation in the tour.
 - b. Assist in preparing any handouts or notifying members/public about the tour. Put up posters and other signage prior to or day of tour.
 - c. Whether bus, caravan or individual tours, on day of tour, be on hand to greet participants as they arrive. Assist leader with handing out materials and refreshments to the participants, answer questions which might arise or refer to tour leader, and make sure all attendees are accounted for.
 - d. Upon completion of the tour prepare description (approximately one page) of the tour including:
 - (1) when, where, why and with which organization
 - (2) the flora and fauna observed using both common and Latin names
 - (3) at least three new things you learned while on the tour
6. Plan a naturally landscaped site
- a. Show layout, i.d. plants in both Latin and common names, define maintenance procedures, etc. References: *Landscaping with Native Plants and Wild Ones Website*, <http://www.for-wild.org>.
 - (1) Some of these questions may require referencing other materials such as books, internet sites not listed. Please list your additional sources and provide the web address if applicable.
 - b. Define a site (yours or any other site). Draw a rough sketch of the outline of the

site (we don't expect you to be an artist) and include the types of habitats that border the property. (suburban, industrial, wooded, etc.). Indicate north-south directions. This diagram will be used later and submitted with your questions. (*Landscaping with Native Plants*, pg. 12-14.)

- c. Answer the following questions in a paragraph or two:
 - (1) Looking over your site, describe the type of plants you will be using on the site. List common and Latin names of plant species.
 - (2) Referring back to your diagram, add the plants and other elements you will be using in your new landscape. You can include a separate "wish list" for future elements. Include this diagram with your completed questions.
 - (3) Briefly list and describe why you are using non-plant elements you've selected for your site.
 - d. Submit plan along with all requested documentation.
7. Help at a native plant sale
- a. Prior to the plant sale, contact the team leader and explain the member certification process and volunteer to assist with conducting the sale. Ask him/her if he/she would be willing to sign a document acknowledging your participation in the tour.
 - b. Assist in preparing any handouts or notifying members and/or the public about the plant sale. Put up posters and other signage prior to or day of sale.
 - c. Greet participants as they arrive. Assist with identifying plants, sorting plants, and depositing with rightful purchasers. Answer questions which might arise or refer to tour leader, and make sure all attendees are accounted for.
 - d. Upon completion of the plant sale, prepare one page description of the day's events including
 - (1) when, where, why and with which organization
 - (2) the three most popular plants sold including common and Latin names
 - (3) at least three new things you learned while participating
8. Tell us about your ecoregion in one page or more; diagrams or maps may included (with source information). Include reference lists and excerpts (photocopies) to help us verify accuracy and understand more about where you live. Items that you might include are:
- a. Which of the TNC Ecoregions do you live in (show us on a map)
 - b. What are the general characteristics of this region? Soil types, climatic conditions, elevation ranges, etc.
 - c. Are there sub-regions or other designations for the specific area where you live (for example state geological such as Mississippian Plateau, etc)
 - d. Describe the various plant communities of this ecoregion giving examples of representative plants for each area.

NOTE: The requirements for the fieldwork and project along with all their related materials should be submitted together as a complete package. Certification will not be awarded until all three parts of level 1 (test, fieldwork & project) are submitted for review and accepted.

ECOSCAPER LEVEL I PROJECTS

Complete a minimum of 1 item.

1. Assist a Chapter with Program/Event
 - a. Contact the Chapter Program/Event leader and explain the member certification process asking him/her if he/she would be willing to sign a document acknowledging your participation in the program or event.
 - b. Participate in the program/event by accomplishing two or more of the following:
 - (1) Provide Hospitality Services at 3 meetings
 - (a) Help setup meeting facilities, greet attendees, handout materials, clean up
 - (2) Public Program
 - (a) Help transport and set up displays
 - (b) Man the display table, talking with people about Wild Ones and the benefits of native plants in our landscapes
 - (c) Help close up display
 - (3) Help with Chapter Admin functions
 - (a) Run copies
 - (b) Make name tags
 - (c) Help get mailings out
 - (d) Help update website/press - publicity
 - (e) Help with minutes, correspondence (thank you notes), copying, etc.
 - (f) Help with printing/copying handouts
 - c. Upon completion of a project, prepare in approximately one page a description of your efforts including:
 - (1) when, where, why and with which chapter/organization
 - (2) description of the program and its significance in relationship to the Wild Ones mission
 - (3) at least three new things you learned while working on the project (this can be about landscaping or about program/chapter administration)
2. Participate on a Special Project Committee Related to Native Landscaping
 - a. Prior to the beginning work on the special project, contact the Project Leader and explain the member certification process and volunteer to assist with the project. Ask him/her if he/she would be willing to sign a document acknowledging your participation.
 - b. Assist in preparing any handouts or notifying members about the project. Assist with publicity for project as appropriate.
 - c. Assist leader with handing out materials and refreshments to the participants as work is convened on the project, answer questions which might arise or refer to project leader, etc.
 - d. Upon completion of work on the special project committee, submit an approximately one page description of the your efforts including
 - (1) when, where, why and with which organization
 - (2) the relationship between the project and native landscaping
 - (3) at least three new things you learned while working on the project
3. Install a portion of landscape designed in fieldwork item 6 above.
 - a. Prepare flow chart (timetable) of actual installation process and if possible review with an experienced natural landscaper in your chapter or with a professional

- consultant. Amend plan accordingly if appropriate.
- b. Provide photos and/or sketches of completed portion of the garden.
 - c. Describe planned steps for next three years including maintenance, weed control, introduction of new plants species, signage and other personalizing amenities, etc

NOTE: Upon completion of the fieldwork and the project requirements and related materials, you may either e-mail your reports to ecoscaper@for-wild.org or mail them to:

Wild Ones
PO Box 1274
Appleton, WI 54912