

ECOSCAPER LEVEL III FIELDWORK

Complete a minimum of 2 items.

This is intended to be a listing of appropriate fieldwork and project items to complete Ecoscaper III 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. Participate in a burn with a local environmental group
 - a. Contact the manager of a local nature center, park, outdoor learning center or environmental organization to offer your assistance with a burn of a native landscaped site under their care. 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.
 - b. Prepare a brief report (+/-300 words) indicating day and time, where and what type of ecosystem was burned and who was the certified burn project leader. Also include a list of activities undertaken by participants in the burn, any problems encountered and any unexpected events. Photos and sketches would be helpful. (How to Manage Small Prairie Fires by Wayne R Pauly and Landscaping with Native Plants pg 1-9)

2. Organize a Natural Area Tour within 500 miles of your community
 - a. Contact the Chapter Program Chair and explain the member certification process and volunteer to organize a tour of a natural area tour or yard hike. Ask him/her if he/she would be willing to sign a document acknowledging your efforts.
 - b. Supervise arrangements for transportation and get financial arrangements approved through the chapter financial committee.
 - c. Supervise the preparation of any handouts and notifying members about the tour. Supervise publicity including news releases and placement of posters. Supervise placement of signage for day of tour.
 - d. Whether bus, caravan or individual tours, on day of tour, be on hand to greet participants as they arrive. Make certain materials and refreshments are offered to the participants, answer questions which might arise and make sure all attendees are accounted for.
 - e. Upon completion of the tour of a natural or restored native landscaped area, prepare in +/- 500 words a description of your efforts. (Photos would be helpful.)
 - (1) when, where, why and with which organization

- (2) a brief history of the site
 - (3) tell us about the ecoregion; diagrams or maps may included (with source information). Include reference lists and excerpts (photocopies) to help us verify accuracy and understand more about the area. 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 ecoregion designations for the specific area where you live (for example state ecoregion maps)?
 - (d) Are there names for different parts of this ecoregion (such as Mississippian Plateau, etc)
 - (e) Describe the various plant communities of this ecoregion giving examples of representative plants for each area.
 - (4) differences observed between this ecoregion and the ecoregion in which you reside and why
 - (5) at least three new things you learned while on the tour
 - f. Submit copy of waiver of liability form signed by all participants.
(<http://www.for-wild.org/download/guidebook/0050OriginalForms/005gEventWaiver.doc>)
3. Supervise a plant rescue and transplant donated plants to local receiving area
(<http://www.for-wild.org/download/guidebook/0040Reference/004aPlantRescueProc.pdf>)
(<http://www.for-wild.org/download/guidebook/0040Reference/004aaPlantRescueDosDonts.html>)
(<http://www.for-wild.org/download/guidebook/0050OriginalForms/005hPlantRescueCodeOfEthics.pdf>)
(<http://www.for-wild.org/download/guidebook/0050OriginalForms/005gPlantRescueWaiver.pdf>)
- a. Contact Chapter Dig Chair to offer your assistance in supervising a native plant rescue. 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.
 - b. After contacting the Owner of the site and getting his permission, survey the property for native plant species.
 - c. Upon discovering appropriate species to salvage, contact Owner and arrange a time and date in which to conduct a survey explaining that dig will be supervised and he will be waived of any liability.
 - d. Notify chapter dig participants.
 - e. If there are not already donation receiving facilities identified by the local chapter, develop one or more who should be recipients of donated rescued plants, making sure the facility understands the maintenance requirements for accepting the responsibility for these plants and the waiver of liability. This facility might be a local nature preserve, school outdoor learning center, or government facility such as a park, water retention area, utility development, etc.
 - (1) arrange for transportation of plants to receiving area either by a member of the chapter or a member of the receiving area.

- (2) make certain arrangements have been made to transplant all donated plants as soon as possible at the receiving facility.
 - f. Upon completion of the plant rescue, send a note of thanks to Owner.
 - g. Upon completion of the plant rescue, prepare in +/- 300 words a description of the process including (photos would be helpful):
 - (1) when, where, why the plant rescue was conducted
 - (2) when, where, why the donation receiving facility was chosen
 - (3) the flora and fauna observed using both common and Latin names
 - (4) any problems or successes you encountered during this process
4. Plan a naturally landscaped yard for variety of wildlife (birds, turtles, frogs, butterflies)
- 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.). Include north-south direction. This diagram will be used later and submitted with your questions. *Landscaping with Native Plants*, pg. 12-14.
 - c. Looking over your site, decide what species you want to attract to your yard giving your geographical location. (Birds, butterflies, frogs, dragonflies, turtles, etc)
 - d. Define what steps would be needed to attract each species by the addition of native plants and what essential elements need to be added or improved. The elements are: Food, Water, Cover and Space. *Landscaping with Native Plants*, pg. 24/25. List common and Latin names of plant species.
 - (1) Why is attracting birds beneficial to your landscape?
 - (a) Many songbirds use shrubs for nesting and 2/3 of all migrant songbirds are found in the shrub layer searching for food and protection. Define why it is important to replace invasive shrubs with native shrubs. <http://for-wild.org/land/nbirdscaping.html>
 - (b) Name at least 5 important practices to use in planning your new site. <http://for-wild.org/land/nbirdscaping.html>
 - (2) Why are local ecotypes important in your landscape design? *Landscaping with Native Plants*, pg. 26/27
 - (3) Why is planting in layers and providing high diversity of native plants important in your design? *Landscaping with Native Plants*, pg. 24/25.
 - (4) Can outdoor cats be harmful to wildlife? <http://www.abcbirds.org/cats/>
 - e. Define "habitat corridors": what they are and why they are important. <http://www.for-wild.org/download/donnwood/donnwood.html> & <http://for-wild.org/download/corr1.html>
 - f. Pesticides are harmful to humans as well as wildlife. What are some of the dangers of pesticide use for wildlife, even if used 'as directed'? <http://www.for-wild.org/land/nbirdscaping.html> and <http://www.beyondpesticides.org/>

- g. Looking over your site, describe the type of plants you will be using on the site. List common and Latin names of plant species.
- h. 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.
- i. Briefly list and describe why you are using non-plant elements you’ve selected for your site.
- j. Describe any obstacles from the neighbors or the community which you are likely to encounter and how you plan to overcome them.
- k. Submit landscape plan along with all documentation.

Reference *Landscaping with Native Plants*. You can search the Wild Ones website for additional information about specific topics at: <http://www.for-wild-org>.

- 5. Accept nomination to the board of your local chapter taking on the responsibility of one of the officers or standing committee chair positions for no less than one year
 - a. Contact Chapter Nominating Committee to offer your assistance in conducting the business of the chapter. Explain the member certification process to manager and ask him/her if he/she would be willing to sign a document verifying your participation on the board.
 - b. Upon completion of your term in office, prepare in +/- 300 words a description of you function including (photos would be helpful):
 - (1) when, where, what and for whom the work was conducted
 - (2) any problems or successes you encountered during this process
 - (3) three things you learned while completing your term in office
- 6. If you prepared a List of References in Level I and II, do an update for level III
 - a. Prepare list of books, websites, and miscellaneous other resources used during this certification process for Ecoscaper Level I.
 - b. List title of resource, author if appropriate, subject and brief description

ECOSCAPER LEVEL III PROJECTS

Complete a minimum of 1 item.

- 1. Create a display to share with others
(<http://www.for-wild.org/download/guidebook/0060SampleForms/006fNorthParkChapDisplayColorSheet.jpg>) (<http://www.for-wild.org/download/guidebook/0060SampleForms/006fVACDisplayColorSheet.jpg>)
 - a. Contact the manager of a local nature center, park, PTA, library or business and ask if you can place a display about some aspect of native landscaping in their facility so people passing by might learn about the benefits of using native landscaping. Explain the member certification process to manager and ask

- him/her if he/she would be willing to sign a document acknowledging placement of the display.
- b. Design and construct a display(s) covering the benefits of using native plant species including consideration for wildlife, erosion and pollution (air, water, land) control, little or no water usage, and aesthetic appeal. (New Member Handbook pg 2-11) (Landscaping with Native Plants pg 2-11) (<http://www.for-wild.org/native.html>) (<http://www.for-wild.org/landscap.html>)
 - c. Include photo or sketch of completed display.
2. Implement a chapter activity (hike, invasive cleanup, restoration, interactive learning experience)
- a. Unless you already have a chapter activity in mind, review “program suggestions” under Starting a Wild Ones Chapter for ideas. (http://www.for-wild.org/web/chap_guide.html)
 - b. Contact local Wild Ones Chapter Program Chair and offer to develop a program for one of the chapter educational programs.
 - c. Contact the speaker for the program.
 - (1) Be prepared to request a specific date, but have an alternative date ready.
 - (2) Inquire as to amount of his fee? Or, if he/she will be donating it back to chapter.
 - (3) Find out if he/she will bring sufficient handouts along or if they will require copies to be made by the chapter. If copies will need to be made, speaker should send master ahead of time so you can copy them in advance of the meeting.
 - (4) Find out if speaker has any special audio/visual equipment needs.
 - (5) Offer to meet speaker ahead of time for lunch/dinner, etc.
 - (6) Does speaker require overnight accommodations? If so, please arrange.
 - (7) If speaker requires a fee, arrange to get check from Treasurer prior to meeting, so it is available to give to speaker following his presentation.
 - d. On night of the meeting,
 - (1) Introduce speaker and thank him for coming.
 - (2) Monitor time requirements.
 - (3) Monitor questions so there aren't too many specific needs type questions. Ask questioner to speak to speaker following the conclusion of the program.
 - (4) At conclusion of the presentation, thank speaker and invite attendees to talk with the speaker personally following the meeting.
 - e. Following meeting:
 - (1) Thank speaker for presenting the program
 - (2) Pay him
 - (3) See that he/she understands arrangements for evening's accommodations.
 - f. Upon completion of the meeting, prepare in +/- 100 words a description of the program including
 - (1) when, where, what, why and for which chapter

- (2) at least three new things you learned while participating in the activity either from the speaker presentation or the process of developing the program
3. Create a Poster to present at Wild Ones Annual Meeting/Conference (<http://www.aspb.org/education/poster.cfm>)
 - a. Contact the Conference Chairman for this year's Wild Ones Annual Meeting/Conference and ask if you can place a display about some aspect of native landscaping in their facility so people passing by might learn about the benefits of using native landscaping. Explain the member certification process to manager and ask him/her if he/she would be willing to sign a document acknowledging placement of the poster.
 - b. Design and construct a poster covering the benefits of using native plant species including consideration for wildlife, erosion and pollution (air, water, land) control, little or no water usage, and aesthetic appeal. (New Member Handbook pg 2-11) (Landscaping with Native Plants pg 2-11) (<http://www.for-wild.org/native.html>) (<http://www.for-wild.org/landscap.html>)
 - c. Include photo or sketch of completed poster.
4. Organize a restoration project for a local park, preserve, school 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 restoring the site to native landscaping. Explain the member certification process to manager and ask him/her if he/she would be willing to sign a document indicating the hours your group worked. Must be at least 4 hours.
 - b. Prepare a brief report (+/-300 words) 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)
 - c. Submit copy of waiver of liability form signed by all participants. (<http://www.for-wild.org/download/guidebook/0050OriginalForms/005gEventWaiver.doc>)
5. Install a segment of the yard listed in fieldwork item 5.
 - a. Prepare flow chart (timetable) of actual installation process.
 - b. Provide photos and/or sketches of completed garden.
 - c. Describe planned steps for next three years including maintenance, weed control, introduction of new plants species, signage and other personalizing amenities, etc.
6. If you installed a garden in Level I, and have done an update for level II, question 6, present a program on the development and installation of your garden at a monthly chapter program meeting.

- a. Contact local Wild Ones Chapter Program Chair and offer to present a program for one of the chapter educational programs.
 - (1) Be prepared to request a specific date, but have an alternative date ready.
 - (2) Let Program Chair know what handouts you will have and find out if chapter will be able to make copies ahead of time.
 - (3) Let Program Chair know if there is any special audio/visual equipment needs.
 - (4) Will you require overnight accommodations? If so, please let the Program Chair know. Perhaps you can stay with a local member.
 - b. On night of the meeting,
 - (1) Introduce yourself and thank the members for coming.
 - (2) Monitor time requirements.
 - (3) At conclusion of the presentation, again thank the audience and invite attendees to talk with you personally following the meeting.
 - c. Upon completion of the meeting, prepare in +/- 100 words a description of the program including
 - (1) when, where, what, why and for which chapter along with copies of the your written notes and/or presentation and any handouts used
 - (2) at least three new things you learned while participating in the activity either from the speaker presentation or the process of developing the presentation
7. If you organized a restoration project for a local park, preserve, school learning center, or Wild Ones chapter per question 4 above, prepare an article on the restoration for placement in the *Wild Ones Journal*.
- a. Contact Editor and offer to write an article for consideration for placement in Wild Ones Journal
 - (1) Confirm with the Editor specific date requirements.
 - (2) Confirm with the Editor the approximate number of words in the article and if there will be photos and/or graphics included.
 - b. Upon completion of the article and submittal to the *Journal*, prepare a report to include
 - (1) a copy of the article and anticipated date of publication
 - (2) at least three new things you learned while participating in the activity either from the speaker presentation or the process of developing the presentation

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