



Goldenrod Spider



Golden Alexander



2022 Annual Report

Join us and welcome nature home!

Deep Roots KC invites nature to our outdoor spaces!

Through public programming and professional education, we're creating vibrant gardens and acres.

By the numbers:

NEW!

Four Native Plants at Noon *On the Road* webinars took viewers on a tour of Missouri's best conservation areas from the comfort of their own homes.

↑ **4,955**

POLLINATOR SUBSCRIBERS

↑ **8,630**

WEBINAR GUESTS

↑ **7,200**

NATIVE PLANTS SOLD

↑ **119,000**

NATIVE PLANTS PLANTED BY PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS



Programs

MONTHLY LUNCH & LEARN AND NATIVE PLANTS AT NOON WEBINARS

Deep Roots Lunch & Learn Webinars bring together experts on the first Thursday of each month at noon to talk about all things native plants!

“I can watch them over and over. Always a great reference source for my garden.”

Native Plants at Noon tours the landscapes of treasured Missouri Department of Conservation landmarks throughout Missouri including the Anita B. Gorman Discovery Center. Landscape Specialists Alix Daniel and Cydney Ross are often our exuberant guides!



Alix Daniel (L) and Cydney Ross

“Alix & Cydney have so much enthusiasm, it’s just contagious. They make learning about natives fun and changed the way I look at leaves in my yard in the fall.”

CALLERY PEAR RECALL EVENT

Deep Roots hosted its first **Callery Pear Recall Event** in 2022. Residents cut down Callery pear trees (like the infamous Bradford pear) and exchanged them for free, native tree replacements.



Party on the Prairie

PARTY ON THE PRAIRIE

Deep Roots’ first prairie party toured a reconstructed prairie and admired a multitude of plant species and the butterflies, bees, and birds that rely on them.

PLAN IT NATIVE 2022

Deep Roots’ annual conference boasted 29 expert speakers and panelists. Attendees from 20 states (plus the District of Columbia and Canada) joined this online event.

MORE DEEP ROOTS PROGRAMMING IN 2022

- Native Plant Demonstration Garden at the Discovery Center
- Maintenance and Improvement Recommendations for the Shawnee Mission Environmental Science Lab
- Creating and implementing a new entry garden for the Shawnee Mission School District’s Center for Academic Achievement



Invite nature into your outdoor spaces with native plants!



Soft Landings

Oak (*Quercus*), birch (*Betula*), and maple (*Acer*) trees are among several tree species that serve as host plants to hundreds of species of caterpillars.

Give those caterpillars a **soft landing** when they fall from the tree. Soft landings are gardens beneath keystone trees that provide shelter and habitat for moths, butterflies, and beneficial insects throughout their life cycle.



This **soft landing** garden is seeded jumpseed (*Persicaria virginiana*) which provides a soft landing beneath the oak tree. It is a great pollen source for a wide variety of bees, wasps, and ants. Jumpseed offers interest throughout the growing season.



Imperial moth caterpillar on oak



Oaks (*Quercus spp.*) are used by hundreds of species of insects, including as host plants to the **Gray Hairstreak**.

Keystones Are the Key!

Goldenrods (*Solidago sp.*) are another keystone plant supporting both *Lepidoptera* (caterpillars) as well as pollinators. There are two kinds of host plants: those that are host plants and feed young caterpillars and those plants that feed nectar and pollen to generalist bees and specialist bees (who only eat pollen from specific plants).



A symbiotic relationship - Native bumblebees gather nectar from goldenrods (*Solidago sp.*) and return the favor with pollination.



Golden Alexander (*Zizia aurea*) is popular with pollinators and the host plant to the black swallowtail butterfly.



Aromatic aster (*Symphyotrichum oblongifolium*) is another keystone species attracting large numbers of native bees. As a bonus, it also attracts predatory insects that prey upon pest insects



Invite Nature Home.

Invite nature to your outdoor spaces with Deep Roots' newest program, Nature Advisors! Nature Advisors offer advice in:

- Landscaping with environmentally appropriate and sustainable native plant species,
- The removal of exotic invasive plant species, such as shrub honeysuckle,
- Water conservation for residential landscapes, and
- Gardening practices that promote healthy habitats for birds, native wildlife, and people.

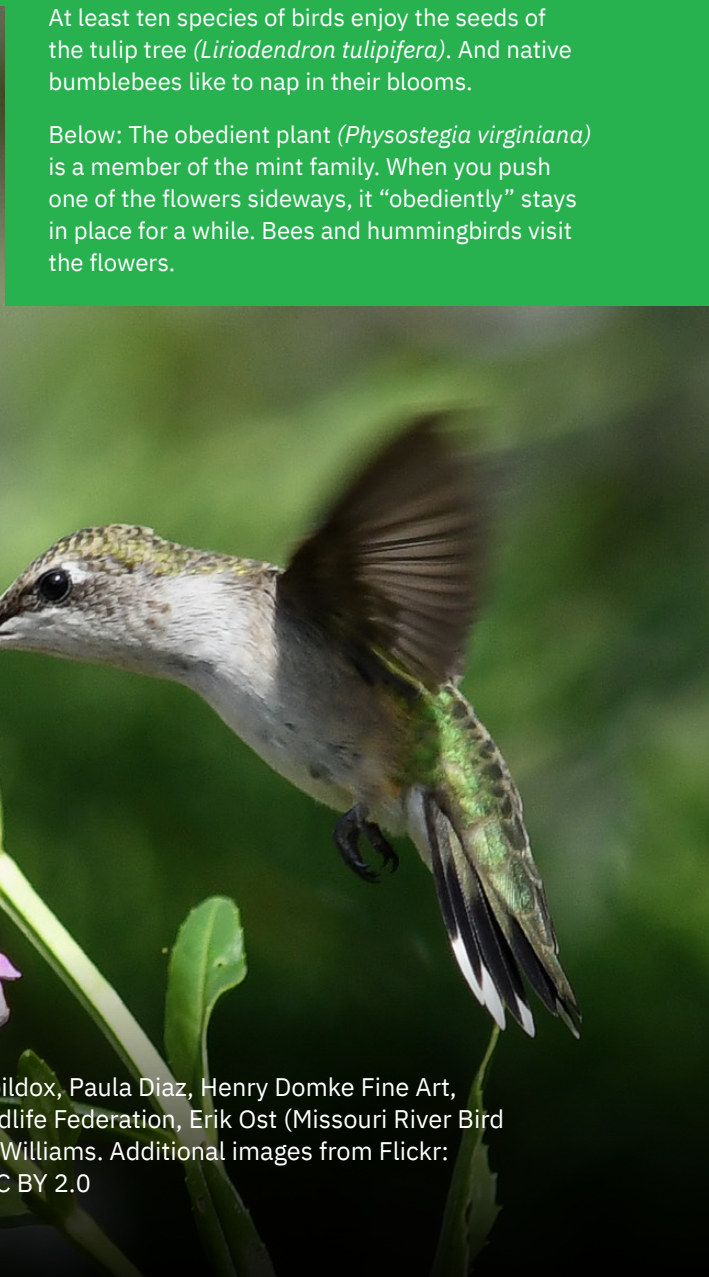


American Goldfinch are rather unique among perching birds and feed their newly hatched young a strict diet of regurgitated seeds rather than high-protein insects or a mix of seeds and insects. The native tall thistle (*Cirsium altissimum*) is a favorite nesting material for goldfinches.



At least ten species of birds enjoy the seeds of the tulip tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*). And native bumblebees like to nap in their blooms.

Below: The obedient plant (*Physostegia virginiana*) is a member of the mint family. When you push one of the flowers sideways, it "obediently" stays in place for a while. Bees and hummingbirds visit the flowers.



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Coming Soon!
Most Likely to Succeed Plant List
Look for it in the *Pollinator!*



PLAN IT NATIVE RETURNS IN 2024
NOW A WINTER EVENT AND **IN PERSON!**

