



THE RHODE ISLAND WILD PLANT SOCIETY

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PRESS RELEASE -- UPCOMING EVENTS for January 2010

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Upcoming January Events and Programs

January General Meeting

Date: Saturday, January 9, 2009

Speaker: Dr. Rebecca Brown, Assistant Professor,
Department of Plant Sciences at the University of Rhode Island

Time: 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Location: South Kingstown Land Trust Barn
17 Matunuck Beach Road, South Kingstown, RI 02879

Talk: "Survival of the fittest: Native and Naturalized grasses in High-stress Environments"

Dr. Brown's talk will focus on the work she has done with the adaptations grasses, both native and naturalized, have developed in order to survive. This talk will cover the different stresses these plants encounter and why in some cases native plants are the best adapted and in other cases introduced plants out-compete the natives.

Dr. Brown earned her Masters degree at the University of Minnesota and her Ph.D. at Oregon State University. She teaches horticultural science, vegetable crop production and conducts research on lawns and vegetables. Part of her research focuses on development of perennial grasses adapted to the soils and climate of Rhode Island for use on lawns, roadsides, and other areas where a mowed groundcover is desired. When not teaching, she can sometimes be found on the side of the interstate, wearing an orange vest, carrying a clipboard, and studying the grasses

Free and open to the public- Bring a Friend

Seed Propagation of Native Perennials: a Lecture and Demonstration

Date: Saturday, January 23, 2010

Time: 10:00am – noon

Location: Portsmouth Library
2658 East Main Road, Portsmouth, RI

Lecturer: Mary Fisher

(weather date: Sat., Jan. 30, 2-4pm)

The propagation of native plants from seed is not a difficult process.

There are a few special techniques that will make it easier for the gardener to be successful. This lecture and demonstration will cover ways to prepare the seed, soils to use, and the care and transplanting of the delicate seedlings. Our presenter, Marty Fisher, had a native plant nursery in Colorado, growing wildflowers for the retail and wholesale trade. Since moving to Rhode Island she has continued to explore the wildflowers here and to grow many of them from seed.

A great way to get the cold of winter to pass quickly is to dream of beautiful summer wildflowers, check through your seed catalogs and then come to the Portsmouth Library and hear Marty, now Rhode Island's talented propagator.

Min. #5, Max. #30

Fee: FREE, but pre-registration required.

Pre-registration required at least 48 hours in advance, except where noted. Our programs fill up fast so be sure to secure your spot. Please e-mail office@riwps.org to register and for more information or call (401) 789-7497 and leave a message.

Registered participants will receive directions to the site and more details by e-mail or telephone.

The Rhode Island Wild Plant Society, Inc., is a nonprofit conservation organization dedicated to the preservation and protection of Rhode Island's native plants and their habitats.