

Contact: Citizens for Conservation
(847) 382-7283

Learn benefits of native shrubs at CFC Community Education series

BARRINGTON, IL - *February 28, 2017* - “Native Shrubs as Habitat and Host Plants,” the March program in Citizens for Conservation’s 2017 Community Education program series, will focus on how indigenous creatures use native shrubs for food, shelter and reproduction.

The program will be Saturday, March 11, at Barrington Village Hall, 200 S. Hough St., Barrington.

Speaker will be Connor Shaw, owner of Possibility Place Nursery, the area’s leading showcase for native arboriculture. Shaw has been growing and selling native woody plants since 1978 and has a B.S. in forest hydrology and an M.S. in wild land hydrology.

The program will begin at 10 a.m.; come for coffee, conversation and handouts at 9:30. Program is free for CFC members; \$10 for nonmembers. Parking is available in the lot behind Village Hall.

Please RSVP to 847-382-SAVE (7283) or to communityed@citizensforconservation.org. Provide your name, phone number and the program name.

The final program in the series will be “Personal Land Restoration,” on Saturday, April 8. Ders Anderson, greenways director at Openlands, will tell the story of the prairie that he and his family began in 1981.

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**CFC youth program
to tour bird rehab center**

BARRINGTON, IL - *February 28, 2017* - What should you do if you find a baby bird in your backyard?

Citizens for Conservation's March Youth Education program, "Are You My Mother?" will focus on the rehabilitation of injured or orphaned raptors and songbirds. The program will be held Saturday, March 11, from 1-3 p.m.

Participants will meet at CFC headquarters, 459 W. Rt. 22, Barrington, and will carpool to Barnswallow - A Wild Bird Concern, a local licensed wild bird rehabilitation and education center.

The class is open to children and young adults of all ages, and parents are welcome to attend. The program is free for CFC members; \$5 per person for nonmembers. Donations for Barnswallow are also welcome, including used towels, paper towels, tissues, applesauce, grape jelly and sandwich or gallon storage bags.

Registration deadline is Saturday, March 4; sign up at <http://www.citizensforconservation.org> or call 847-382-SAVE (7283) for more information.

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Online ordering for CFC spring plant sale begins March 1

BARRINGTON, IL - *February 28, 2017* - Online ordering begins March 1 for Citizens for Conservation's 21st annual Native Plant, Shrub and Tree Sale.

The sale will be held Saturday, May 6 and Sunday, May 7, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., in the Good Shepherd Hospital barn area, east of the hospital, at 450 W. Highway 22 in Lake Barrington.

Native plants provide many advantages for both gardeners and the environment, and buyers can choose from a huge selection of robust, hardy native plants, including perennials, ferns, sedges, grasses, shrubs and trees. As part of CFC's Milkweed for Monarchs campaign to encourage monarch populations, numerous species of native milkweed will be available at discounted prices. Knowledgeable volunteers will be on hand to answer questions about plants and native gardening. Shoppers are also encouraged to bring their own wagons to help transport their purchases.

Pre-sale online ordering will be available through April 12. Orders are filled on a first-come-first-filled basis, so order early. Pickup date for preorders is Friday, May 5, from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. CFC members will also be able to shop the sale on May 5, and members get a 10 percent discount all days.

The online store will be on CFC's website, www.citizensforconservation.org. For more information, call CFC at 847-382-SAVE (7283).

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**CFC program
helps you plan
your native garden**

BARRINGTON, IL - *February 28, 2017* - Citizens for Conservation's 21st annual Native Plant, Shrub and Tree Sale will be held May 6 -7. But buyers can start planning with ideas and information from CFC's free program "Native Plants—Greatest Hits" on Saturday, March 18 at 10 a.m.

The program will focus on plants most important to Barrington-area habitats as well as those that are toughest—and easiest—to grow. Program presenters Meredith Tucker and Annamarie Lukes are members of CFC's Community Education Committee and chairs of CFC's Habitat Corridors program. Bring questions and take some notes.

The program will be at Barrington Village Hall, 200 S. Hough St., Barrington. Coffee, conversation and handouts will be available at 9:30. Free parking is available in the lot behind Village Hall.

Please RSVP to 847-382-SAVE (7283) or to communityed@citizensforconservation.org. Provide your name, phone number and the program name.

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Wendy Paulson bird walks welcome spring

BARRINGTON, IL - *February 28, 2017* - Spring bird walks with naturalist Wendy Paulson will begin Friday, April 7. Walks are sponsored by Citizens for Conservation and Audubon Great Lakes.

Dates for the walks, which will run through June, will be:

April 7, 8 a.m.—Beese Park (meet at Beese Park, east end of Cornell Avenue)

April 21, 8 a.m.—Beese Park (meet at Beese Park, east end of Cornell Avenue)

May 5, 7:30 a.m. — Baker's Lake (meet at the parking lot on Highland Ave. south of Hillside Ave.)

May 12, 7:30 a.m. — Camp Reinberg (entrance on east side of Quentin between Dundee and Lake Cook Road.)

May 19, 7:30 a.m.—Beverly Lake (parking lot on the north side of Higgins Road/Rt. 72, east of Rt. 25, west of Beverly Road)

May 24, 7:30 a.m. — Penny Road South (meet at Penny Road Pond parking lot, less than a mile west of Old Sutton/Penny Road intersection)

June 2, 7 a.m.—Headwaters (parking lot on Wichman Road off north side of Rt. 72; a half mile west of Rt. 59)

June 9, 7 a.m.—Gallop Hill (meet at Penny Road Pond parking lot, less than a mile west of Old Sutton/Penny Road intersection)

June 18, 5:00 p.m. — Gallop Hill (as above)

The hikes on May 19, May 24, June 10, June 2, June 9 and June 18 will be more strenuous.

The walks are free and open to the public although spaces are limited, and RSVPs are required. Waterproof boots are strongly recommended, and participants should bring binoculars. Please RSVP and provide contact information to Daniel Jacobson (312) 453-0230, ext. 2002 or djacobson@audubon.org. Participants should check the CFC website (www.citizensforconservation.org) for last-minute changes.

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**Habitat Corridors volunteers
help homeowners create
earth-friendly landscapes**

BARRINGTON, IL - *February 28, 2017* - Is your backyard a healthy habitat?

Citizens for Conservation's Habitat Corridors project encourages and assists local property owners in becoming more earth friendly in landscaping choices and maintenance practices.

CFC volunteers visit home properties free of charge, identify existing native plants, and make recommendations for changes that are beneficial for wildlife, children and homeowners. Suggestions can range from adding specific native plants to rainwater solutions to invasive species identification.

Last year, Habitat Corridors volunteers conducted more than 50 visits; home visits for 2017 will begin in April. Interested homeowners should contact the group at info@habitatcorridors.org to arrange a site visit.

Properties which meet verified criteria receive a sign to display that recognizes the property's earth-friendly practices to improve habitat and air and water quality.

For more information, visit the Habitat Corridors website at <http://habitatcorridors.org/>.

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CFC continues winter workdays

BARRINGTON, IL - *February 28, 2017* - Citizens for Conservation will continue its winter volunteer workdays; volunteers cut brush on Thursday and Saturdays from 9 - 11 a.m. Experienced and new volunteers of all ages are always welcome.

Meet at CFC's office, 459 W. Highway 22, Lake Barrington, across from Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital. Bring work gloves, wear sturdy shoes and dress for the weather.

For more information, call CFC at 847-382-SAVE (7283) or visit its website at www.citizensforconservation.org.

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