

September 2014

# NATIVE NEWS



## BUS TOUR TO HIGHLIGHT NATIVE PLANT APPLICATIONS IN BLOOMINGTON

Our 2014 "Native Plant Communities in the Commercial Landscape" bus tour on Wednesday September 24th in Bloomington Indiana will highlight a variety of native plant applications including storm water practices, stream mitigation, habitat restoration, and LEED applications. Maintenance of native plant communities will be a particular focus of the tour.

After meeting at the [Sycamore Shelter in Lower Cascades Park at 8:30 AM](#), we will board the bus for a trip to Miller Showers Park. Here we will see the results of 10 years of establishment and maintenance of a storm water retention facility design by Ratio Architects. Eco Logic provided weed management services, plugging and overseeding starting in 2007 when the initial plantings were struggling. The site is now well established and management has been turned over to the City of Bloomington.

Next on the agenda is a stream mitigation project on the Indiana University Campus. The project was installed by Eco Logic in 2010, utilizing source identified plugs and seeds provided by Spence Restoration Nursery and trees provided by Woody Warehouse in Lizton, Indiana. The 16,000+ plugs were installed early in the spring and showed remarkable establishment, with most species flowering the first year.



From the IU campus, we will travel west to Eco Logic's new headquarters on Vernal Pike. The facility was completed in December 2013. Features include a green building, entirely native landscape, bioswales, waste water treatment wetland, pervious pavers, and a storm water bio retention basin. Following the site tour, we will enjoy the lunch provided with your registration.

Following lunch, we will continue to Evergreen Village, a LEED certified neighborhood installed in 2007. It includes rain gardens, prairies, and porous pavement sidewalks that all serve to reduce storm water runoff. Native plugs from Spence Restoration Nursery were installed by Eco Logic to establish the storm water BMPs.

Our next site is an ecological restoration on the south side of Bloomington, the Sarkes and Mary Tarzian Nature Preserve. Eco Logic began work here in 1999. This severely disturbed site was converted from tall fescue meadows and degraded woody communities through the installation of tallgrass prairie in the meadows and native trees in the wooded areas.

The final site is the City of Bloomington Utilities. Designed by Schmidt and Associates, this site includes several bioswales for stormwater management, incorporating native plants throughout the design. The plants in the bioswales were selected to provide a long season of bloom from June through September with native grasses like little bluestem extending the interest through winter.

Please join us for this daylong opportunity to learn about the maintenance of native plant communities. It has been approved for 3.5 LA CES by the Indiana Chapter of ASLA. A registration flyer is attached.