

What would Mother Nature Do?

6:30 PM September 26, 2023

La Cygne Public Library

209 N Broadway St

La Cygne, KS 66040

What Would Mother Nature Do?

Sustainable gardening practices endorsed by Mother Nature

Lenora Larson

Many gardeners have an antagonistic relationship with Mother Nature and attempt to impose artificial chemical and physical solutions to perceived gardening problems. However, she has been managing terrestrial plants for about 250 million years with sustainable systems that link the convergent worlds of plants, microbes and insects. When a question or challenge occurs, the gardener can take advantage of her expertise by asking, "What Would Mother Nature Do?" For instance, when does Mother Nature mulch? When does she clean up? How does she fertilize? What are her methods of planting, weed control and insect management? Participants will see plants in three settings: a highly managed ornamental garden, a "Prairie Garden" and as a Prairie restoration. Gardeners can then choose and apply the sustainable maintenance techniques that meet their aesthetic and pragmatic goals.

Bio

Lenora Larson is a Marais des Cygnes Extension Master Gardener and member of local chapters of both the Idalia Butterfly Society and Kansas Native Plant Society. Lenora is a proud 'science geek' with a degree in microbiology from Michigan State University, a career in molecular biology and a life-long interest in wildlife, especially the creepy and crawly. She maintains a 2-acre NABA (North American Butterfly Association) certified garden in the English Estate landscape style on her 27-acre property, Long Lips Farm, in rural Paola, Kansas.

Mother Nature's Garden



Betsy Betros' Prairi Remnant

A Human Garden



Botanical Garden, Springfield, MO