



PRESS RELEASE

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WILD ONES ANNOUNCES CHAPTER LEADERSHIP TRANSITION AND EXPANDED REGIONAL FOCUS IN THE ERIE DRIFT PLAINS

Wild Ones Erie Drift Plains Chapter, formerly known as the Youngstown Area Chapter, is proud to announce its new name and expanded regional focus. With a chapter hub based in Meadville, Pennsylvania, the group will continue to serve and connect communities across the Erie Drift Plains EcoRegion—including northwest Pennsylvania and eastern Ohio—through advocacy, education, and hands-on efforts to support native plants and biodiversity.

This change marks a meaningful shift in the chapter's identity and impact, allowing it to serve as a regional hub for native plant education, conservation, and community connection across the Erie Drift Plains Ecoregion. The chapter now encompasses a wide area, including counties in both PA and OH:

- PA: Erie, Crawford, Venango, Mercer, Lawrence, Forest, Warren, Clarion
- OH: Trumbull, Mahoning, Ashtabula

With the new appointment of Bobbi Hartsock as Chapter Director, and its new reach across the region, the chapter enters a new phase of growth, partnership, and grassroots restoration: "We're rooted in the same mission but reaching more communities who care deeply about the health of our native ecosystems," says Hartsock. "Our landscapes are deeply connected—to our watersheds, wildlife, and each other. That's why this chapter exists: to be a gathering place for people who care."

Wild Ones Erie Drift Plains offers programs, events, and resources designed to empower landowners, gardeners, and communities to landscape with native plants, restore habitat, and protect biodiversity.

About Wild Ones

Wild Ones is a national nonprofit organization that advocates for the use of native plants in landscaping to combat the loss of biodiversity. With over 120 local chapters and more than 10,000 members, Wild Ones provides education, resources, and support to help individuals and communities make environmentally beneficial choices for their local ecosystems. Learn more at WildOnes.org.

About the Wild Ones Erie Drift Plains Chapter

The Wild Ones Erie Drift Plains Chapter serves communities across northwestern Pennsylvania and northeastern Ohio, connecting people and native plants for a healthier, more resilient region. Formerly the Youngstown Area Chapter, this chapter has grown to reflect its broader ecological footprint while continuing to offer local programs, community partnerships, educational walks, and plant-focused challenges. Learn more at <https://eriedriftplains.wildones.org>.