

WEBVTT

1

00:00:14.280 --> 00:00:20.730

Saint Louis Zoo Education Liaisons: Good evening everyone, we will get started in just a minute just open it up so i'm gonna let everybody filing before we start.

2

00:00:47.370 --> 00:00:55.200

Saint Louis Zoo Education Liaisons: Alright folks are still coming in, has slowed down just a smidge, so I think we will go ahead and get started.

3

00:00:56.040 --> 00:01:06.840

Saint Louis Zoo Education Liaisons: So so good evening everyone, and thank you all so much for joining us for our eighth Community climate forum, combating climate change with native plants.

4

00:01:07.140 --> 00:01:22.470

Saint Louis Zoo Education Liaisons: My name is Lisa litigious and, as always, I will be your host and moderator tonight, I am a conservation education liaison at the St Louis zoo and co Chair of the zoo's climate change task force or i'm sorry climate communication Committee I keep forgetting that we changed our name.

5

00:01:23.520 --> 00:01:38.880

Saint Louis Zoo Education Liaisons: Before I introduce our presenters I want to first give a quick overview of how this webinar will work first the webinar is being recorded and will be shared at s t e l Z O dot O r g slash climate change.

6

00:01:39.240 --> 00:01:48.690

Saint Louis Zoo Education Liaisons: Probably the same page or many of you registered for tonight's webinar because this is a webinar we are unable to see or hear you, but our goal tonight is to engage with you.

7

00:01:49.530 --> 00:01:57.750

Saint Louis Zoo Education Liaisons: To hear your thoughts and answer your questions, we will be monitoring the Q amp a and the chat so please put your questions in the Q amp a box.

8

00:01:58.020 --> 00:02:05.400

Saint Louis Zoo Education Liaisons: and any thoughts or discussion

points in the chat and please remember to be respectful and courteous to our presenter panelists and each other.

9

00:02:05.820 --> 00:02:17.070

Saint Louis Zoo Education Liaisons: And please keep your questions and thoughts relevant to the presented topic, if someone is unable to follow these protocols their comment or question may be removed and they themselves may be removed entirely from the webinar.

10

00:02:17.820 --> 00:02:25.800

Saint Louis Zoo Education Liaisons: Our presenters will also leave as much time as possible at the end of their presentation to address questions and discussion points with everyone.

11

00:02:26.250 --> 00:02:41.670

Saint Louis Zoo Education Liaisons: So without further ado let's begin our distinguished presenters tonight are Louise Bradshaw the director of education here at the zoo and gene Ponzi green resources manager at the earthly Center of the Missouri botanical garden take it away Louise and G.

12

00:02:44.250 --> 00:02:46.350

Louise Bradshaw: Well, thank you so much Lisa and.

13

00:02:47.430 --> 00:02:50.730

Louise Bradshaw: You know gene and I are here to share with you.

14

00:02:51.930 --> 00:03:03.330

Louise Bradshaw: A number of things that are really dear to our heart and make us really, really excited and especially when we talk about climate solutions, we want to be as positive and up and hope filled as possible.

15

00:03:14.790 --> 00:03:16.350

Louise Bradshaw: Jean I think you're still muted.

16

00:03:16.620 --> 00:03:18.810

Jean Ponzi: unmute there we go not anymore.

17

00:03:20.940 --> 00:03:29.130

Jean Ponzi: I have to say, please I changed the verb of the title of

this from combating climate change to dance with plants.

18

00:03:30.390 --> 00:03:42.030

Jean Ponzi: Because we can achieve that end, we can achieve the ends that we want, which is humanoids living in a cord what a concept with the entire planet and all of our relatives and all our living communities.

19

00:03:42.870 --> 00:03:48.570

Jean Ponzi: doing things that we you know, we still have dance competitions, but we don't have to go back each other so ha.

20

00:03:50.310 --> 00:04:09.810

Louise Bradshaw: Well, this is really about our love affair, with the planet I love affair, with nature, this is really about taking an asset based approach you know and really creating a stronger, more reciprocal and even regenerative relationship with nature.

21

00:04:12.570 --> 00:04:13.350

Jean Ponzi: and

22

00:04:13.380 --> 00:04:15.630

Jean Ponzi: Nobody had that I know.

23

00:04:18.420 --> 00:04:20.910

Jean Ponzi: We have to hold our hands up every.

24

00:04:21.660 --> 00:04:26.400

Louise Bradshaw: Time we're doing this tag team style folks so thank you for bearing with us.

25

00:04:27.360 --> 00:04:36.120

Louise Bradshaw: You know, growing native plants isn't an exploration it's it's an experiment, you know I know it's something that i've been engaged in for a long time and.

26

00:04:36.420 --> 00:04:56.520

Louise Bradshaw: i'm still learning things about some tried and true native plants and about my own personal landscape and this really obviously can blossom into a lifelong, shall we say, love affair, with nature in Ha ha Ha ha Jean bug you haha that was pretty funny in a

good way yeah yeah yeah.

27

00:04:56.730 --> 00:05:05.700

Jean Ponzi: yeah you know, ecology, is all about relationships ecology is about relationships in place.

28

00:05:06.000 --> 00:05:20.880

Jean Ponzi: And we're talking tonight about what we can do in the place where each one of us lives if it's a house if it's got a patio if it's near a park if it's an apartment if it's you know, whatever wherever we are, we can.

29

00:05:21.240 --> 00:05:26.820

Jean Ponzi: engage with plants learn about them learn about relationships and ecological relationships and.

30

00:05:27.210 --> 00:05:34.470

Jean Ponzi: It and help turn the Titanic of climate change and in all the time that i've been talking about plant related stuff.

31

00:05:34.740 --> 00:05:42.330

Jean Ponzi: which has been quite a while and also recycling and changing your light bulbs, and all that more sort of human centric climate solutions kind of stuff.

32

00:05:42.750 --> 00:05:50.730

Jean Ponzi: It only really recently occurred to me how powerful a strategy ecological landscaping with native plants it's.

33

00:05:51.060 --> 00:05:59.040

Jean Ponzi: And so we're going to start by taking a whack at the conventions of landscaping the ways in which we are so.

34

00:05:59.490 --> 00:06:09.270

Jean Ponzi: What can I say we're so enthralled as in thrall says, then we've got like you know colors around our necks and we're hooked to our lawn mowers.

35

00:06:09.780 --> 00:06:22.980

Jean Ponzi: We use a lot of machinery we use a lot of fuel, we use a lot of water, I happen to live in the city of St Louis where water is

not needed on the basis of use, but most of the people in the St Louis region pay for water on the basis of views.

36

00:06:23.640 --> 00:06:33.330

Jean Ponzi: You your landscape choices, especially the trees, which are multi taskers can help cut your home heating and cooling costs.

37

00:06:34.290 --> 00:06:48.690

Jean Ponzi: plantings around you can help reduce noise and certainly reduce air pollution so landscaping is really a powerful strategy in a lot, a lot of ways, and now i'm going to really take the big whack at turf.

38

00:06:50.010 --> 00:06:59.730

Jean Ponzi: grass, the green carpet, which is only a few cellular steps away from concrete that you have to do, maintenance on green concrete.

39

00:07:02.850 --> 00:07:14.280

Jean Ponzi: Again, recent research here, I was working on a grant proposal and I was trying to get some documentation about carbon reduction and carbon emission reduction ltv to landscaping.

40

00:07:15.090 --> 00:07:29.250

Jean Ponzi: The the 67% of non road emissions comes from guess the the gas powered lawn maintenance equipment, mostly it's lawns it's also some bushes and trees and stuff.

41

00:07:29.700 --> 00:07:43.770

Jean Ponzi: And 4% of all non road emissions CO2 emissions is generated by landscaping that's a lot now maybe you have a big enough place that it doesn't make sense to switch from your gas guzzling.

42

00:07:45.660 --> 00:07:58.830

Jean Ponzi: Not environmentally friendly, are you friendly in any way more to a real more the quiet push kind that is the case with me in the place that I live in in St Louis because our place is just too big.

43

00:07:59.340 --> 00:08:13.230

Jean Ponzi: And when you push the wheel more and only when you push it forward so then what's the opportunity, the opportunity is to take

some of that property out of turf and transform it into native into native plants plantings.

44

00:08:13.800 --> 00:08:22.380

Jean Ponzi: And that can be a challenge, because we have an attitude about our environments, that we have inherited from like the crawlies of downtown Abbey and the other great.

45

00:08:22.740 --> 00:08:33.450

Jean Ponzi: You know landed gentry of the old world and we also have this idea that we're supposed to keep up with our neighbors and that a tidy green lawn is the That means a good neighbor.

46

00:08:33.900 --> 00:08:44.940

Jean Ponzi: Changing that value set changing that aesthetic one conversation and one yard, at a time and then really having it move out into the communities that we are in.

47

00:08:45.210 --> 00:08:53.670

Jean Ponzi: Imagine if we were overlooking a street plan like this, a streetscape like this and saw.

48

00:08:54.060 --> 00:09:06.870

Jean Ponzi: twice as much green and half as much anything else have as much non living stuff now that would necessitate changing some of the roads, but it also would necessitate changing some of the ways in which these properties were managed.

49

00:09:07.560 --> 00:09:13.200

Jean Ponzi: So what's the alternative what's a way what's a way through this tunnel with.

50

00:09:14.610 --> 00:09:29.520

Louise Bradshaw: Well, interesting you would ask how about gardening for pollinators using native plants Look how beautiful, they are and look at the wide variety of animals that really rely on them.

51

00:09:30.300 --> 00:09:44.430

Louise Bradshaw: we're in the migratory pathway for monarch butterflies, some of you probably know that this is a species that's been you know kind of on the brink of being declared endangered and what an opportunity.

52

00:09:45.540 --> 00:10:03.900

Louise Bradshaw: What an opportunity to be able to plant critical native native hit landscape, I mean YouTube can be an credibly important conservationists even if you have a teeny tiny yard, or you have a pot, you can do it too so pollinator garden it gardening is is really fantastic.

53

00:10:04.470 --> 00:10:13.470

Jean Ponzi: And speaking of combat and competition Louise remember in 2014 it was the 200 and 50th anniversary of the city of St Louis and the mill Queens for monarchs.

54

00:10:13.830 --> 00:10:29.280

Jean Ponzi: project was going to put 250 monarch gardens around and then project pollinator popped up in St Louis county not to be outdone so that that love of competition that love of one upmanship that can function ecologically to.

55

00:10:32.220 --> 00:10:39.540

Louise Bradshaw: And you know native plants really make vital connections, as I said, you know we're talking about the monarch butterflies in your upper right hand corner, but.

56

00:10:39.960 --> 00:10:45.150

Louise Bradshaw: You know super swell details the monarch caterpillars you know I know so many people who.

57

00:10:46.110 --> 00:11:03.150

Louise Bradshaw: Through early exposure or you know exposure as adults they're like wait, I had no idea look at what would it, what is this taking a picture of something in their yard, or something that they ran across you know just along their way during their day so native plants really helps support.

58

00:11:04.230 --> 00:11:15.540

Louise Bradshaw: native animals, they also decrease carbon emissions, how about that, and you know what I love from the education space they're really important for us.

59

00:11:15.990 --> 00:11:28.500

Louise Bradshaw: we'll talk a little bit more about some of the

research behind connecting children to nature in a little bit, but we also know that that's really important for children of all ages, really, really key and really, really important.

60

00:11:29.610 --> 00:11:33.510

Louise Bradshaw: So, Jean what are some of the initiatives that are happening that would would help us with this.

61

00:11:34.050 --> 00:11:44.190

Jean Ponzi: Well, this is a big one, this is a big new umbrella that I am one of several partners working to bring in kind of and get established in St Louis.

62

00:11:44.550 --> 00:11:52.260

Jean Ponzi: homegrown National Park, is an idea that was developed by Doug tallamy you see him there was kind of thoughtful pose and his head on.

63

00:11:52.530 --> 00:11:59.790

Jean Ponzi: he's an entomologist he's a bug guy at the University of Delaware and he is the author of three best selling books.

64

00:12:00.210 --> 00:12:16.410

Jean Ponzi: Bringing nature home, I believe that was published in 2011 nature's best hope came out in the beginning of 2020 and then last year, the nature of oaks don't tell me is the best explainer, in my opinion of why ecological landscaping isn't for.

65

00:12:17.820 --> 00:12:22.170

Jean Ponzi: The web of life that we have been ripping up frankly with our.

66

00:12:22.560 --> 00:12:31.500

Jean Ponzi: Human habits and homegrown National Park, is a concept that he came up with thinking about the acreage of our entire national park system.

67

00:12:31.800 --> 00:12:42.030

Jean Ponzi: And how much acreage is in turf and in the United States in the 50 United States and the idea here is if we took if each one of us.

68

00:12:42.390 --> 00:12:53.220

Jean Ponzi: are many of us a critical mass of US took 50% of our property out of turf which doesn't support any life it doesn't even support soil organisms, nobody eats turf.

69

00:12:53.790 --> 00:13:04.020

Jean Ponzi: And then had 70% of the plant tissue by volume on our property be native species, you can get to that pretty easily with trees.

70

00:13:04.560 --> 00:13:11.010

Jean Ponzi: That acreage would exceed the entire total acreage of the entire national park system, including denali.

71

00:13:11.400 --> 00:13:20.550

Jean Ponzi: And we can't just rely on those farflung extraordinary places anymore for habitat, because you know we're we're eating the habitat.

72

00:13:21.060 --> 00:13:33.210

Jean Ponzi: So here is Doug tell me again given us a little bit of a you know, a graphic depiction of how we typically how we conventionally have chosen plants for our landscape.

73

00:13:33.600 --> 00:13:42.570

Jean Ponzi: Because they're pretty or maybe because they're new there's a new thing that you can get it, the garden Center because they give us privacy around our property.

74

00:13:42.780 --> 00:13:49.620

Jean Ponzi: Because a plant might be the anchor the one tree or the one Bush or the focal point that you have in your property.

75

00:13:50.010 --> 00:14:00.660

Jean Ponzi: And when you only make your landscaping decisions based on these kinds of values, you get this it might be pretty, but there is.

76

00:14:01.200 --> 00:14:11.370

Jean Ponzi: No life there this habitat, even the stuff that is blooming is not supporting food webs it's not sequestering carbon.

77

00:14:11.640 --> 00:14:20.430

Jean Ponzi: it's not cleaning water it's not performing any of the functions that an ecological landscape can do and should do so here's how to balance that out.

78

00:14:20.760 --> 00:14:31.410

Jean Ponzi: When we change the way in which we're landscaping and we emphasize a landscape that supports food webs and the basis of that is plants and caterpillar's especially.

79

00:14:31.980 --> 00:14:39.750

Jean Ponzi: When we garden when we when we we tool our landscapes, so that they can sequester carbon so that.

80

00:14:40.560 --> 00:14:48.450

Jean Ponzi: The the landscape itself can protect water and store water create pollinator habitat give us the opportunity to appreciate wildlife.

81

00:14:48.780 --> 00:14:58.410

Jean Ponzi: And even moderate heat islands and the heat stresses that increasingly more and more of us are subject to so, then this kind of landscape.

82

00:14:58.710 --> 00:15:08.730

Jean Ponzi: That still has some turn around and it still has places to walk out and run and throw a frisbee with the dog and have the kids play whatever it is.

83

00:15:09.180 --> 00:15:24.300

Jean Ponzi: But it's a it's alive it's bio diverse it's thriving it is humans living in the midst of how nature forms ecological rant landscapes, so that everything supports everything else.

84

00:15:24.630 --> 00:15:40.740

Jean Ponzi: and landscaping professionals increasingly know how to do that and that's the cutting edge that's the leading edge of landscaping as a profession, so this is a pretty innovative concept but Louise we've got some other innovations that we've been dogging down to talk about here.

85

00:15:41.850 --> 00:15:53.100

Louise Bradshaw: so sure let's talk about a really great connection between looking at alternative sources of energy and how do we create habitat for pollinators at the same time using native plants.

86

00:15:53.430 --> 00:16:05.730

Louise Bradshaw: check this out, and this is Missouri Missouri really working on a planning tool for solar sites to be able to figure out how on these kind of like larger array solar sites, but you could.

87

00:16:06.450 --> 00:16:19.020

Louise Bradshaw: If you have a solar array that's on the ground, you could look at doing this, too, so we just want to go yay win, win, win, win, win, win all around this is fantastic.

88

00:16:19.620 --> 00:16:30.450

Louise Bradshaw: You know there's a few other ones that are we're coming to get to know here it is April, we are just passing the and you know, last frost date.

89

00:16:31.140 --> 00:16:43.380

Louise Bradshaw: or typical last frost date here in Missouri and you know, everybody, I know, in my neighborhood everybody's been out mowing and cleaning and you know getting their garden already and so forth, and as much as.

90

00:16:44.460 --> 00:16:56.790

Louise Bradshaw: I want to i'm resisting and resisting because I want to make sure that bees and native pollinators have access to really good quality.

91

00:16:57.270 --> 00:17:09.660

Louise Bradshaw: food sources April and May or is some of the most important times for them to breed you know mommy and Daddy bees really need high quality pollen for their babies.

92

00:17:10.500 --> 00:17:21.030

Louise Bradshaw: This is a really again it's like the putting milk weeds in your yard for the monarch butterflies, this is a fantastic way to get this started it started in the UK and then.

93

00:17:21.780 --> 00:17:31.290

Louise Bradshaw: folks in appleton Wisconsin and Stevens point that are mentioned here, they did they actually got people to sign up register their yards for nomo May.

94

00:17:31.590 --> 00:17:40.530

Louise Bradshaw: And then they did research to see what pollinator diversity and density was happening and yards that were not mode compared to.

95

00:17:41.190 --> 00:17:48.180

Louise Bradshaw: public spaces that had sort of a similar combination of lawn and native plantings that were were.

96

00:17:48.780 --> 00:17:56.400

Louise Bradshaw: You know vigorously regularly mode and they found that to be diversity was off the charts how about that isn't that really cool.

97

00:17:57.210 --> 00:18:11.730

Louise Bradshaw: there's also a whole approach again from looking at research about maybe mowing instead of mowing every week we you know so after may instead of going every week every other week, this really allows a lot of the.

98

00:18:13.290 --> 00:18:28.620

Louise Bradshaw: Oh great Thank you a lot of the the the pollinating plants and these food sources to thrive and you still get a nice lawn and just think of the energy can save could be drinking lemonade instead of mowing.

99

00:18:31.650 --> 00:18:38.160

Louise Bradshaw: And then, lastly, you know, a below, and this is something that the University of Minnesota extension is promoting so.

100

00:18:38.580 --> 00:18:47.850

Louise Bradshaw: I think we've had some chatting already about this So what do you plant in your lawn if you want green space for the kids to play soccer, for you know the frisbee whatever.

101

00:18:48.210 --> 00:18:58.020

Louise Bradshaw: What what could you plan and what could you do a lot of the garden centers that really focus on native plants and can give

you some really great suggestions.

102

00:18:58.920 --> 00:19:07.650

Louise Bradshaw: are recommending Dutch white clover creeping time and then you have something for dinner too, because I tell you, you know a good quality time on some chicken.

103

00:19:08.280 --> 00:19:18.840

Louise Bradshaw: pretty good Lansley self heal even dandelions will support pollinators and you know and they tolerate some traffic and their and their green green green green green.

104

00:19:19.590 --> 00:19:27.240

Louise Bradshaw: So yay we're you know we're making sure that we're getting good information and we're passing this along to you, because these are things that we know work.

105

00:19:28.500 --> 00:19:34.260

Jean Ponzi: And these are things that we're going to have to have conversations with our neighbors about because there are plenty of people.

106

00:19:34.470 --> 00:19:44.010

Jean Ponzi: that are going to be very upset if you have dandelions in your lawn However, if you can invite them over for that glass eliminate or that glass amarillo or whatever.

107

00:19:44.250 --> 00:19:51.060

Jean Ponzi: and have a conversation about the insects that are pollinating your yard and how beneficial, that is, you might be able to bridge that gap.

108

00:19:51.960 --> 00:20:08.010

Jean Ponzi: So where do you get the plants, if you are already engaged with ecological landscaping with native plants, you really know some of this but you're always on the lookout for where next if you haven't engaged with this, it is so easy to start.

109

00:20:08.640 --> 00:20:21.840

Jean Ponzi: And I think out of many, many resources, one of the best places to start is with grow native this was originally our Missouri state native plant program it was launched in you do.

110

00:20:23.460 --> 00:20:30.420

Jean Ponzi: By the Missouri department of conservation they oversee our fish force and wildlife, they are a tax supported State Agency.

111

00:20:30.810 --> 00:20:41.430

Jean Ponzi: And NBC grew grow native up to be a robust program that included supporting people who were growing and producing the native plants.

112

00:20:41.670 --> 00:20:48.960

Jean Ponzi: Marketing made a plan, so the idea of plants, the kinds of values that we're talking about here, and then also.

113

00:20:49.410 --> 00:21:01.710

Jean Ponzi: Looking at this, not only as a movement, but as a business as an enterprise as a when we're human natural and capital resources that triple bottom line.

114

00:21:02.010 --> 00:21:12.510

Jean Ponzi: They publish publish a resource guide every year, you can get them in print, you can get them online that's the easy place to find who to hire to do this kind of work where to get the plants.

115

00:21:12.810 --> 00:21:17.880

Jean Ponzi: You get planting plants like that little kidney shaped island down there that's the ideal thing to start.

116

00:21:18.600 --> 00:21:26.970

Jean Ponzi: Having that island suddenly sprout up out of your ocean of model cultural extremely demanding high maintenance turf.

117

00:21:27.840 --> 00:21:46.740

Jean Ponzi: And perhaps expand that island from there grow native dot 0 rg when you go to a locally own garden Center you'll see either purple and green plant tags, or perhaps even the places where the native plants are available those shelves that display stuff will be painted purple.

118

00:21:47.340 --> 00:22:01.110

Jean Ponzi: Go native which is now managed by the Missouri prairie

foundation, it was handed off to a nonprofit in 2012 I believe so grow native is my humble opinion, the best native plant program in the US.

119

00:22:01.440 --> 00:22:11.340

Jean Ponzi: that's saying something, because every state, I believe, at this point has one another really good resource is a program from St Louis audubon it's called bring conservation home.

120

00:22:11.790 --> 00:22:23.400

Jean Ponzi: And this is a program that has been going, I believe, since 2012 what happens is you pay a very, very modest fee that also get to a membership to audubon.

121

00:22:23.760 --> 00:22:34.350

Jean Ponzi: And a team of two or three trained habitat advisors, people who are generally master gardeners are master naturalist they go through a training will come out to your property walk around your property.

122

00:22:35.520 --> 00:22:42.360

Jean Ponzi: And then give you a written report of everything that you have that is native which you may not already know anything you might have this invasive.

123

00:22:42.660 --> 00:22:47.910

Jean Ponzi: And most importantly, give you written recommendations for ways to bio diversify your place.

124

00:22:48.240 --> 00:23:00.060

Jean Ponzi: in accord with the nature of your place is it what is it dry, is it sloping is a flat, is it sunny is a chimney and what are the aesthetics, of the neighborhood like So how can you kind of get this rolling.

125

00:23:01.020 --> 00:23:12.060

Jean Ponzi: without upsetting too many attitudinal apple carts very, very, very successful right now there's a backlog of applications but it's worth getting in the queue.

126

00:23:12.480 --> 00:23:19.050

Jean Ponzi: And then the plants are for sale at plants sales shawnee to reserve our grace summit.

127

00:23:19.620 --> 00:23:24.330

Jean Ponzi: Rural outpost of Missouri botanical garden will have our big annual spring wildflower market.

128

00:23:24.630 --> 00:23:30.690

Jean Ponzi: The Friday evening and Saturday have mother's day weekend very happy to be doing that back in person again this year.

129

00:23:30.960 --> 00:23:40.050

Jean Ponzi: You can order plants from Israel wildflower nursery, which is our largest grower they're based in Missouri and they will drop them off at places like kirkwood farmers market.

130

00:23:40.500 --> 00:23:45.870

Jean Ponzi: We just had a plant sale last Sunday up at beyond housing enormity at the heart of the.

131

00:23:46.650 --> 00:23:54.870

Jean Ponzi: communities, and it was a big success and reached new audience new people who are going to be dancing with plants and exploring this ecological.

132

00:23:55.800 --> 00:24:10.470

Jean Ponzi: adventure go to you locally owned garden centers they're the ones that make a specialization that have a person on staff that knows natives that sometimes have plant plug giveaways or other kinds of promotions.

133

00:24:10.770 --> 00:24:27.150

Jean Ponzi: And every dollar you spend in a locally owned enterprise out of every dollar you spend 45 cents or more stays in your local community compared to 15 cents or less that you might spend at a chain store, so there is that local power of green as well.

134

00:24:28.080 --> 00:24:35.550

Jean Ponzi: Louise the science of biophilia there's, this is a big deal kind of motivating all this nature stuff too yeah.

135

00:24:36.540 --> 00:24:39.930

Louise Bradshaw: Well, you know we're talking about Oh, we have a

question.

136

00:24:40.290 --> 00:24:49.680

Saint Louis Zoo Education Liaisons: Before before we talk about biophilia on TIM had a question about can you provide info on the plant market again, so I think it was the two slides ago.

137

00:24:50.490 --> 00:25:02.400

Jean Ponzi: Yes, yes okay so shawnee to reserve the spring wildflower market, the actual date, if you are a Missouri botanical garden number, this is a really good way reason to join the garden.

138

00:25:02.730 --> 00:25:10.200

Jean Ponzi: You can come to the Members preview on Friday evening make six that I say march i'm at me Friday evening may six.

139

00:25:10.440 --> 00:25:18.630

Jean Ponzi: that's the night when there's live music and there's a wine and there's local beer and everybody and they get the best selection of the plants and then Saturday may 7.

140

00:25:19.200 --> 00:25:38.700

Jean Ponzi: will be open to the general public, there are at least 10 sometimes more growers of native plants that are vendors at this market it's the biggest native plants sale, that we have in our region it's super fun to have conversations and it's a really, really great place to get to.

141

00:25:39.810 --> 00:25:43.260

Jean Ponzi: explore native plants and and get good advice for people.

142

00:25:43.620 --> 00:25:53.610

Jean Ponzi: And this photo was taken back in 2001 when I got a grant from the Department of conservation to buy native plants for the place that we were working at the earth way Center.

143

00:25:53.940 --> 00:26:07.290

Jean Ponzi: It was one of the first times I had shot for native plants, this is the beginning of my romance with native plants and that's not you know I like the person, on the other side to Emily Andrews.

144

00:26:08.310 --> 00:26:14.160

Jean Ponzi: director of US green building Council she loves native plants but she's not my romantic interest and I have a husband.

145

00:26:18.360 --> 00:26:34.710

Louise Bradshaw: So love, while we're talking about love and i'll just do a little segue so during the pandemic, you know, particularly during that time we were all inside the spare bedroom which was my office looked out over an oak tree in our front yard.

146

00:26:35.730 --> 00:26:43.230

Louise Bradshaw: And it was I would oh my God they're so there's a warbler there's a yellow chat there's you know the nesting.

147

00:26:44.430 --> 00:26:45.180

Louise Bradshaw: The nesting.

148

00:26:46.230 --> 00:26:54.810

Louise Bradshaw: chicken ease I just you know it just filled me with hope and joy it was so exciting to feel like I was living in the trees.

149

00:26:55.380 --> 00:27:12.510

Louise Bradshaw: And some really brilliant people Eo Wilson, is one of them and Stephen callard have really looked again this is research based looked at this biophilia and I hope some of you have heard of it but it's it's really an innate.

150

00:27:13.710 --> 00:27:21.840

Louise Bradshaw: genetically determined love for the natural world that that everyone has and look at all these different positive impacts.

151

00:27:22.380 --> 00:27:33.300

Louise Bradshaw: You know, you can imagine, certainly the pandemic creates stress reduces stress faster recovery more stable blood pressure, improved sleep quality and cognitive performance.

152

00:27:33.990 --> 00:27:43.140

Louise Bradshaw: Pretty darn remarkable, so this is a new ish approach to looking at the built environment, as well as the.

153

00:27:43.590 --> 00:28:00.960

Louise Bradshaw: adjacent natural environment really thinking about you know biophilia, how do we create workspaces gathering places that that enhance all these feelings which are so important for our basic health, really, really critical.

154

00:28:04.590 --> 00:28:06.360

Louise Bradshaw: Next slide please.

155

00:28:08.640 --> 00:28:10.470

Louise Bradshaw: uh some of you may be aware of.

156

00:28:11.610 --> 00:28:18.090

Louise Bradshaw: A term nature deficit disorder again we're digging into some really fantastic research Richard Lewis.

157

00:28:19.080 --> 00:28:28.620

Louise Bradshaw: wrote a fantastic book last child in the woods was his first book and then you know many others nature principal nature rx vitamin n.

158

00:28:29.100 --> 00:28:39.810

Louise Bradshaw: And founded the children and nature network, we know that for our health and for the health of future generations it's really, really important to have.

159

00:28:40.230 --> 00:28:49.500

Louise Bradshaw: positive experiences in nature, I would i'll put in the chat the link to the children and nature website and particularly.

160

00:28:49.830 --> 00:28:58.890

Louise Bradshaw: As a as kind of a research nerd i'm really interested in the latest findings, the latest research and how we can use it here at the zoo with our programs.

161

00:28:59.700 --> 00:29:18.510

Louise Bradshaw: Like our nature based preschool the work we do with teens adults school groups and everyone how do we, how do we enhance these connections and and build bridges to help people have really positive fun delightful healing and healthful experiences in nature.

162

00:29:23.910 --> 00:29:24.330

Louise Bradshaw: You know.

163

00:29:26.520 --> 00:29:33.630

Louise Bradshaw: I just love these photos Jean I mean, I hope you know, one of the things that's that's actually sad is.

164

00:29:34.080 --> 00:29:39.720

Louise Bradshaw: I this is these photos I know they're contemporary kids, but this is pretty much what I grew up doing.

165

00:29:40.080 --> 00:29:46.140

Louise Bradshaw: You know my parents were like go outside no TV go outside you can come back when the sun comes down it's dinner time.

166

00:29:46.560 --> 00:29:58.620

Louise Bradshaw: We had creaks to plan we had woods, there was lots of discovery open into play, and particularly open in a play that's supported by an adult you know and nurtured and coached and and.

167

00:29:59.640 --> 00:30:11.220

Louise Bradshaw: The it just it's just so important, even for kids as much as I hate to say kids test scores, you know as they get into school and start into that sort of competitive environment.

168

00:30:12.450 --> 00:30:25.080

Louise Bradshaw: Many kids who have ADHD or show up on the autism spectrum find a lot of healing from extended safe lovely play in nature.

169

00:30:29.130 --> 00:30:41.310

Louise Bradshaw: And one great place that just open and we're just I mean, as a community, we should be all incredibly so proud forest park forever just open this amazing nature place scape that's.

170

00:30:41.940 --> 00:30:49.080

Louise Bradshaw: that's right here in the park i'm talking to you from the zoo and I get to to go by this every morning when I come into work.

171

00:30:50.520 --> 00:31:03.000

Louise Bradshaw: In it is based on all these biophilia design principles using natural material materials, you know you see the children climbing in the tree how to do this safely, how to do this in a way that.

172

00:31:03.420 --> 00:31:13.920

Louise Bradshaw: That is really building confidence building competence, you know it's it's just fantastic really, really great so um and and you know what i'll tell you a secret.

173

00:31:15.090 --> 00:31:18.600

Louise Bradshaw: You don't have to have a kid with you to go and hang out and have a good time.

174

00:31:19.710 --> 00:31:30.330

Louise Bradshaw: A same with a zoo you don't have to have a kid with you, I mean if you do that's great you know borrow a neighbor child, you know if you need to but you don't have to to have a good time.

175

00:31:32.610 --> 00:31:32.880

Louise Bradshaw: And we.

176

00:31:32.910 --> 00:31:44.820

Jean Ponzi: Go you do not, and you don't have to have a kid, but if you know go with a friend go by yourself to the many, many places around our community to see native plants to get to meet them.

177

00:31:45.150 --> 00:31:56.640

Jean Ponzi: already doing their thing this presentation is not about how to garden with native plants, this is a big about the why and this part is a little tour de force about the were.

178

00:31:56.910 --> 00:32:07.770

Jean Ponzi: places that are available to everyone city garden downtown St Louis did you know it is 100% planted with native plants.

179

00:32:08.190 --> 00:32:21.000

Jean Ponzi: it's a very, very formal landscape Missouri botanical garden advised on this, this is a really good example, if you are on a corporate campus or a college campus or you're in a Tony neighborhood

or whatever, and you want the native plants to be like.

180

00:32:22.200 --> 00:32:29.790

Jean Ponzi: city garden is a good example of how to do that it's a limited palette its formal plantings and it's fabulous and everybody can walk in there and have a great time.

181

00:32:30.240 --> 00:32:41.730

Jean Ponzi: There are native plantings in the city at the intersection of kings highway and Southwest and banner banner is the wonderful bright side St Louis demonstration garden.

182

00:32:41.940 --> 00:32:54.420

Jean Ponzi: Which is also working landscape, it is a stormwater management landscape and it's a delightful place to walk around or hang out you could walk in there anytime it's got good signage and the sidewalks are sparkly.

183

00:32:54.720 --> 00:33:03.210

Jean Ponzi: And then out on the katy trail, this is that peers, the little peers general store Dan and candy burkhardt who own this and also own some property further West on a trail have been.

184

00:33:03.480 --> 00:33:16.080

Jean Ponzi: revitalizing what was just basically grass along a trail with in this case, this is a six acre prairie I was there one day last summer went out with some friends to hear.

185

00:33:16.800 --> 00:33:27.690

Jean Ponzi: musicians, playing on the porch and I wound up spending the entire time and the prairie and it was absolutely enchanting it was in July, I was walking on a little mode path, and I did not get one sugar bite.

186

00:33:28.770 --> 00:33:38.550

Jean Ponzi: The firewall flower garden at Shaw nature reserve, one of the best if not the best made a plant gardens in the US and a native plant garden.

187

00:33:38.760 --> 00:33:49.770

Jean Ponzi: That is absolutely committed to using the native species not cultivars or what are sometimes called native ours, so if you want

to see.

188

00:33:50.220 --> 00:34:03.000

Jean Ponzi: native plants for shade or for containers or for a boggy area, or whatever you can see them, you can enjoy them year round at the whitmire wildflower garden.

189

00:34:03.210 --> 00:34:09.180

Jean Ponzi: And you can really learn about them, and this is a great way to great place to go to meet some of those plants and then look them up and bring them home.

190

00:34:09.630 --> 00:34:28.290

Jean Ponzi: And also has been a tremendous learning experience for the people who have been working there, most notably my colleague my esteemed colleague Scott woodbury who's been the chief horticulturist i'm Louise you have to use to speak about this, this is your places native plants.

191

00:34:29.340 --> 00:34:41.190

Louise Bradshaw: yeah it's it's one of them we're trying to sneak him in everywhere we can we have a lot of native trees, but we have a very specific meadow that's right adjacent to the bear insectarium.

192

00:34:41.850 --> 00:35:00.750

Louise Bradshaw: That we call mystery meadow and and you know this you've got some slides here about a pollinator CAFE we celebrate native pollinator week and the end of June so put that on your calendar yeah the spot, is just just so delightful it's so fun and I tell you.

193

00:35:03.090 --> 00:35:19.950

Louise Bradshaw: You know, there are times when i'm like I need a I need a nature moment and my job, and so just doing a couple quick loops around there, and when we were in the pandemic and and staff was asked to work on capacity, monitoring and masking and all those things I standing outside.

194

00:35:21.090 --> 00:35:22.740

Louise Bradshaw: I was just.

195

00:35:23.910 --> 00:35:31.290

Louise Bradshaw: not paying as much attention to the people as I probably should have had Mamas and monarchs and just you know.

196

00:35:31.830 --> 00:35:50.430

Louise Bradshaw: Just all sorts of really cool wasps and b's and and native birds as well goldfinches and and Ruby throated humming words which by the way, restarted hummingbirds are if they're not in your yard they're very close, this is just such an exciting time of year.

197

00:35:52.590 --> 00:35:57.900

Jean Ponzi: When you grow it, they will come i'm going to just kind of be a little tour de force here a quick.

198

00:35:58.170 --> 00:36:12.810

Jean Ponzi: zip through other places to see native plants, yes, we have golf courses, yes, we have tennis courts, yes, we have fabulous cultural institutions in forest Park, we also have an extraordinary diversity of very, very.

199

00:36:13.320 --> 00:36:20.580

Jean Ponzi: Healthy and uplifting ecological landscapes in and around forest park.

200

00:36:21.390 --> 00:36:35.940

Jean Ponzi: When forest park masterplan was being developed native plantings were an anchor of that, and this was really early in our St Louis native plant movement when there was not a lot of expertise to do this kind of work.

201

00:36:36.300 --> 00:36:46.110

Jean Ponzi: So when you're in forest Park, you can see wildlife and you can experience some of what those ecological relationships are like after you get off the tennis court.

202

00:36:46.920 --> 00:36:54.960

Jean Ponzi: Right smack in the middle of all of street road in the middle of suburban St Louis we have the campus of one of the world's premier.

203

00:36:55.560 --> 00:36:59.910

Jean Ponzi: biotech institutions plant science institutions, the Donald and forth plants science Center.

204

00:37:00.180 --> 00:37:06.840

Jean Ponzi: And when Donald and forth expanded their physical facilities several years ago, they also transformed their grounds.

205

00:37:07.110 --> 00:37:21.090

Jean Ponzi: And now the grounds around this world class biotech research Center are a prairie I drove by there actually today, I had to take my car out to a dealer for some service, and right now it's cut down its in its.

206

00:37:21.450 --> 00:37:36.450

Jean Ponzi: End of winter going out of dormancy state, but as the weeks and the days go by, you will see that landscape come alive and the fact that it is where it is, is a transformer of attitudes and values and aesthetics.

207

00:37:37.380 --> 00:37:47.790

Jean Ponzi: You can put a little native landscape in the tiniest place, this is the home of Catherine Werner sustainability director for the city of St Louis.

208

00:37:48.210 --> 00:37:51.510

Jean Ponzi: On her street, you can see very, very conventional landscapes.

209

00:37:52.080 --> 00:38:00.660

Jean Ponzi: turf and box woods unknown infinity uniform and Catherine Warner loves prairies so she put a little prayer in a very intentional little space.

210

00:38:00.900 --> 00:38:12.270

Jean Ponzi: With a border around it that's one way to say i'm doing this on purpose, this is not a mess, this is not an accident, but there was Catherine little prairie little perfect little jewel of a prairie.

211

00:38:12.780 --> 00:38:21.960

Jean Ponzi: Homeowners associations are going to be an interesting nut to crack because there are so many regulations and so many.

212

00:38:24.030 --> 00:38:36.270

Jean Ponzi: So established values, let me say that, however, if he when we start to see as we start to see he always transform the ways in which they have their regulations and they have their expectations.

213

00:38:36.510 --> 00:38:49.620

Jean Ponzi: I think we will see a cascade of that kind of transformation, because the landscape with native plants is so much more lush so much more beautiful landscaping costs will ultimately go down stormwater management.

214

00:38:50.190 --> 00:38:56.040

Jean Ponzi: will increase in efficiency wildlife will boost up and property values will go up.

215

00:38:56.550 --> 00:39:07.860

Jean Ponzi: Around schools, we see native landscapes as often or more often as we see food gardens, and a lot of times the the same two kinds of gardening will be on the same property.

216

00:39:08.100 --> 00:39:13.710

Jean Ponzi: This is my school to high school and the school to Illinois so this school property is now a learning lab.

217

00:39:14.040 --> 00:39:25.770

Jean Ponzi: And as students are out there measuring and evaluating and observing and writing and experiencing and having their their cells refreshed by that break on the school grounds.

218

00:39:26.280 --> 00:39:39.120

Jean Ponzi: School is able to use more of a budget for learning and less of its budget for grass cutting and still have somebody on their staff are on contract to do some of this work.

219

00:39:39.480 --> 00:39:44.400

Jean Ponzi: In the corporate environment there is increasingly a call for an expectation of.

220

00:39:44.910 --> 00:39:55.140

Jean Ponzi: reward for companies, transforming their landscapes with ecological principles and native plants and the first to do that in a really big way here in St Louis was albury see constructors.

221

00:39:55.440 --> 00:40:03.870

Jean Ponzi: They did it because they were going for the highest level of leed certification in the world, and they had to retain 100% of the stormwater on their property.

222

00:40:04.290 --> 00:40:16.830

Jean Ponzi: And they were really a standard setter, for how to use native plants in formal and and you know workplace settings lovely walking paths around this property.

223

00:40:17.400 --> 00:40:25.590

Jean Ponzi: Our metropolitan sewer district is giving grants to property owners to use native plants as the workhorses for stormwater management features.

224

00:40:25.830 --> 00:40:33.120

Jean Ponzi: This is called green infrastructure and it's another thing that is really giving a boost to our thriving native plant movement here.

225

00:40:33.450 --> 00:40:48.660

Jean Ponzi: You can what you're doing is you're using the plants to do what plants have always done, which is capture and filter and direct water, and when I talk about this, I always like to say that rain scaping green infrastructure does not put the concrete.

226

00:40:49.740 --> 00:41:03.840

Jean Ponzi: work we still need that profession and it leverages in not only the power plants, but the green industry, the horticultural industry that designers the Installers the maintainer, it is a win, win, win, and it is rocket.

227

00:41:04.800 --> 00:41:12.270

Jean Ponzi: And when you transform that part of that holding part of the middle of your condo development or your your office park.

228

00:41:12.930 --> 00:41:20.670

Jean Ponzi: From a hole in the ground with water and mosquitoes and Canada geese which are great until they nip at you, and they poop all over the grass.

229

00:41:21.180 --> 00:41:32.220

Jean Ponzi: With native plants, suddenly, you have habitat suddenly you have liveliness you have nature around people, and that is a really good thing for the nature and the people.

230

00:41:36.120 --> 00:41:44.190

Louise Bradshaw: So we've given you some really great ideas, where where can you go and see native planting you know what's accessible, where is it.

231

00:41:44.730 --> 00:41:55.140

Louise Bradshaw: You know and here's like a sort of a power map that the our colleagues at the botanical garden and i'm just going to say any anything we're doing in this.

232

00:41:55.740 --> 00:42:06.090

Louise Bradshaw: All of this biodiversity space is super collaborative we have so many different organizations and St Louis who are all pitching in and working together.

233

00:42:06.450 --> 00:42:21.120

Louise Bradshaw: it's it's like, how do we all work together to make all boats rise, particularly the ones that are carrying bees and native birds and native plants so um the map on the right hand side is available, I think it's available now right gene on the.

234

00:42:21.930 --> 00:42:30.420

Jean Ponzi: it's it's about ready to be posted on the biodiversity pages of the gardens websites going through a couple of last tiny little tweaks shortly.

235

00:42:30.930 --> 00:42:39.930

Louise Bradshaw: So one of the things that we're going to do is in addition to this, recording we're going to create a list of resources clickable resources.

236

00:42:40.140 --> 00:42:46.260

Louise Bradshaw: That will include a lot of the things that we've been talking about we recognize a lot of folks have been asking more detailed questions.

237

00:42:46.890 --> 00:43:00.450

Louise Bradshaw: And then, so this is where to go and then, what do you do another incredible collaborative that is really global is city nature challenge so it's all about getting people outdoors could be your yard.

238

00:43:00.900 --> 00:43:08.130

Louise Bradshaw: could be your neighbor's yard, it could be the local park could be a going some adventure and explore one of these wonderful natural spaces.

239

00:43:08.760 --> 00:43:19.560

Louise Bradshaw: US download the I naturalist APP and take pictures of your native nature sightings here the dates April 29 30 may 1 and, second, we have.

240

00:43:20.430 --> 00:43:33.300

Louise Bradshaw: Researchers people who were who who can tell the difference and go yeah that's a Robin no it's not every decided Tony you know sorry but Robin circle Robin Sir good we like robins.

241

00:43:35.100 --> 00:43:46.170

Louise Bradshaw: And we're working on building an urban biodiversity inventory for the region for the entire region, this is really, really important, because many of us recognize that.

242

00:43:46.710 --> 00:44:02.040

Louise Bradshaw: we've lost a lot of biodiversity, over the past several hundred years and it's important to know what's there when and working together on what what is it that we could do about it, what can we do.

243

00:44:03.420 --> 00:44:13.740

Jean Ponzi: we've been working together on this for a long time, Louise and boy, as you said, it is a network of peeps of colleagues of cooperation and collaboration that would make Mother Nature proud.

244

00:44:15.330 --> 00:44:23.760

Louise Bradshaw: So i'm going to call this the founding mothers there, there have been additional mothers before us i'll just say so it's a long line of.

245

00:44:24.030 --> 00:44:31.710

Louise Bradshaw: And we've had some you know, anyway, not to get too too gender nerdy here but we've had a wide variety of people so looking at.

246

00:44:31.980 --> 00:44:43.350

Louise Bradshaw: The list down below so many different organizations people stepping up, how can they help what can they do what information do they have what what information do they need, how can they work on.

247

00:44:44.190 --> 00:44:53.970

Louise Bradshaw: On different codes building codes or Hoa codes to be able to plant milk away for their monarchs how do they work on a Community wide basis so.

248

00:44:54.240 --> 00:45:07.500

Louise Bradshaw: You know there's really it's about the diversity of life active, healthy nature rich living and increasing the capacities of Community to practice sustainable stewardship I tell you there is nothing more fulfilling.

249

00:45:08.160 --> 00:45:16.350

Louise Bradshaw: than throwing yourself into something and realizing you're making a difference and that's really what we're talking about this is how to make a difference.

250

00:45:18.450 --> 00:45:19.530

Louise Bradshaw: So um.

251

00:45:21.510 --> 00:45:23.130

Louise Bradshaw: Oh great angie Thank you.

252

00:45:24.210 --> 00:45:24.810

Louise Bradshaw: um.

253

00:45:25.890 --> 00:45:32.190

Louise Bradshaw: Well we'll touch on that in a minute so i'm bio diverse city has kind of spawned this.

254

00:45:33.480 --> 00:45:38.490

Louise Bradshaw: This other project that is really sort of working with the east, west gateway Council of governments.

255

00:45:38.850 --> 00:45:51.420

Louise Bradshaw: working to create a sustainability plan for our region, what are the areas we need to work on what are the areas we need to focus on who do we need to talk to.

256

00:45:51.780 --> 00:46:08.970

Louise Bradshaw: You know, and one of the areas is is biodiversity and that's where you know gina and I are heading this up, so if you think about our region, you know from the typical triple A highway map, you know, this is what it looks like it doesn't look very biophilia does it.

257

00:46:10.170 --> 00:46:14.850

Louise Bradshaw: But this is what this really is, if you think about all the different landscapes.

258

00:46:14.880 --> 00:46:20.640

Louise Bradshaw: The different watersheds we have a really incredibly rich region we have.

259

00:46:21.690 --> 00:46:24.630

Louise Bradshaw: You know all sorts of woodlands and.

260

00:46:26.970 --> 00:46:38.910

Louise Bradshaw: bluffs and different kinds of tree biodiversity that's amazing you know just some of the some of the areas are just fantastic to stop and look and listen and go.

261

00:46:39.420 --> 00:46:53.610

Louise Bradshaw: wow St Louis isn't this the region isn't this homogenous everything it's really diverse and needs our help, so we're doing a lot with species of inventory, thank you for helping with.

262

00:46:55.650 --> 00:47:01.530

Louise Bradshaw: Sydney nature challenge because that information on I naturalists really helps feed this we're looking at.

263

00:47:01.950 --> 00:47:11.280

Louise Bradshaw: Working with a lot of partners on both sides of the river, you know how do we create enhance biodiversity quarters and projects and plans.

264

00:47:11.700 --> 00:47:29.220

Louise Bradshaw: i'll just speak for the zoo a little bit some of you may know that we have purchase some acreage that's right up in Spanish lake it's just it's very, very close to the compliments of the Missouri and the Mississippi and it was a golf course, but there was a lot of.

265

00:47:29.280 --> 00:47:30.540

Louise Bradshaw: native animals that use the.

266

00:47:30.540 --> 00:47:32.700

Louise Bradshaw: Space and we've done a lot of research.

267

00:47:34.230 --> 00:47:40.470

Louise Bradshaw: Even during code to figure out what native animals are using that space and then, as we design.

268

00:47:40.920 --> 00:47:49.170

Louise Bradshaw: You know all the things that we're going to design for that, how do we include the need for these animals to make their way through at different times of the year.

269

00:47:49.380 --> 00:47:59.190

Louise Bradshaw: You know, to enhance their habitat needs and so forth, so that would be like a great story of an opportunity we want to really push out research findings.

270

00:47:59.490 --> 00:48:12.600

Louise Bradshaw: You know nature friendly policies and practice, again, we want to elevate and we want to say wait way to go, congratulations, you know wildwood, for instance, has some really amazing nature friendly policies and practices.

271

00:48:14.160 --> 00:48:36.480

Louise Bradshaw: And then also really help with doing an inventory of groups that are actively stewarding local landscapes and oh my gosh in St Louis there are so many groups that kind of passion and ownership and you know dogged persistence is is is a very critical ingredient

for success.

272

00:48:39.060 --> 00:48:43.140

Jean Ponzi: So, as the climate solution.

273

00:48:44.580 --> 00:48:53.100

Jean Ponzi: Looking at where we are on the planet and what kind of place is around us, ecology relationships in place.

274

00:48:53.400 --> 00:49:01.770

Jean Ponzi: Yes, I work for the Missouri botanical garden, and I consider myself now a plant Li I am at one, but I am advancing their cause speaking for them.

275

00:49:02.220 --> 00:49:16.620

Jean Ponzi: The power of ecological landscaping to restore habitat to support pollinators to sequester carbon and we're and we're looking at ways to get better data on that more ways to track data on man.

276

00:49:17.130 --> 00:49:36.120

Jean Ponzi: to manage storm water devices that already and to connect ourselves and bring our feelings alive and give ourselves the refreshment that nature can give us in even in extreme circumstances in life nature can give you that.

277

00:49:39.150 --> 00:49:48.510

Jean Ponzi: it's a plant based you can do, and we are not starting from scratch, I mentioned Doug tallamy earlier who's a major major national.

278

00:49:49.020 --> 00:49:59.970

Jean Ponzi: spokesperson for the importance and the value of ecological landscaping he has said over and over and over again, and public St Louis is the leader among cities in the country.

279

00:50:00.390 --> 00:50:10.770

Jean Ponzi: In our native plant movement, I have had the opportunity during the pandemic to give zoom talks to the entire Texas master naturalist organization and.

280

00:50:11.100 --> 00:50:17.760

Jean Ponzi: People in Ohio and people in Indiana I'm going going recently to Lawrence Kansas to work with some master gardeners.

281

00:50:18.090 --> 00:50:26.070

Jean Ponzi: We are sharing information back and forth, and what St Louis is doing and the the resources that we have the partnerships that we have the processes that we are using.

282

00:50:26.370 --> 00:50:43.680

Jean Ponzi: Are replicable and adaptable to many different kinds of places, this may seem like it's not really very much what we're doing in our gardens what we're doing in our human relationships, as we danced with plants, but it is very powerful and it's joyful.

283

00:50:44.370 --> 00:50:52.320

Jean Ponzi: And it works, so we are very happy to take questions we have a little bit of time, yet we also have.

284

00:50:53.460 --> 00:51:02.880

Jean Ponzi: The zoo and the garden both have question lines if you have animal questions you can ask the St Louis zoo and we'll questions at St Louis zoo dot org.

285

00:51:03.150 --> 00:51:07.440

Jean Ponzi: If you have questions that anytime about anything having to do with sustainable living.

286

00:51:07.740 --> 00:51:16.440

Jean Ponzi: You can ask Missouri botanical garden our Green resources info services that your service green resources@mobile.org.

287

00:51:16.740 --> 00:51:20.880

Jean Ponzi: And then bio diverse city St Louis which is kind of it's a network.

288

00:51:21.180 --> 00:51:30.360

Jean Ponzi: of organizations that are doing many different kinds of things to advance and protect and understand and connect to biodiversity in our area.

289

00:51:30.540 --> 00:51:45.690

Jean Ponzi: We have a wonderful bi monthly E news that comes out no zealots will call on you, but you'll get good information coming to you in an easily digestible way, so let me leave this up for a minute, so they can get these resources and how can we take questions now Louise.

290

00:51:47.370 --> 00:51:52.020

Louise Bradshaw: yeah i'm just going to add a little little note here, I just want to say gene and.

291

00:51:52.650 --> 00:52:04.740

Louise Bradshaw: For the Missouri botanical garden you guys have been really leading the way in this collaboration and being able to get funding to support your time and funding to support the resources and.

292

00:52:05.700 --> 00:52:16.260

Louise Bradshaw: it's just been really great to be along for the ride I help as much as we can that again this is St Louis you know we work together on good solutions.

293

00:52:18.390 --> 00:52:33.720

Jean Ponzi: yep it's a it's a phenomenal network of peeps and friends and colleagues with common interests and you know every once in a while you want to give somebody a pokemon in the snood but that's human beings that's Okay, you get over it, you get past it.

294

00:52:34.050 --> 00:52:37.800

Jean Ponzi: You want to do that with a plan every once in a while to or you just dig it up and move it.

295

00:52:38.880 --> 00:52:41.730

Jean Ponzi: Lisa are there questions you've been moderating and the Q amp a.

296

00:52:42.360 --> 00:52:50.070

Saint Louis Zoo Education Liaisons: And we don't have anything in the Q amp a but we've had some good stuff in the chat earlier on, and I, I hope I answer this correctly.

297

00:52:50.520 --> 00:53:08.850

Saint Louis Zoo Education Liaisons: But katie asked she lives in the city on tam I Francis park and was wondering if she's been considering

switching her lawn to clover or flocks so I figured clover, is a great idea wasn't sure about flocks so we kick that to you guys and see what you thought.

298

00:53:10.980 --> 00:53:13.500

Jean Ponzi: um there are there are small.

299

00:53:14.520 --> 00:53:18.120

Jean Ponzi: varieties of flux, I am not a plants woman katie i'm a talker.

300

00:53:18.720 --> 00:53:20.790

Jean Ponzi: I personally have not grown small.

301

00:53:20.940 --> 00:53:25.200

Jean Ponzi: flux, but I would say i'm a.

302

00:53:26.490 --> 00:53:34.590

Jean Ponzi: Try changing parts of it, I think, especially if it's in your front yard and especially if you think you're going to get pushback from your neighbors.

303

00:53:34.860 --> 00:53:36.600

Jean Ponzi: start with a little island.

304

00:53:36.660 --> 00:53:44.520

Jean Ponzi: of something, and that also will be less work for you and then eventually perhaps you can have a whole archipelago or archipelago of.

305

00:53:45.240 --> 00:53:54.660

Jean Ponzi: native planted stuff in terms of ground cover in terms of turf replacement there is some really good guidance we had a little bit of that earlier in the presentation.

306

00:53:55.530 --> 00:54:03.750

Jean Ponzi: one kind of plant is not what I would advise in general for a habitat creation a diversity of.

307

00:54:04.110 --> 00:54:17.130

Jean Ponzi: Excuse me a diversity of plants and there may be stuff already growing there that you could just kind of let go and not be so much a monitoring or manicurist as much as you might be not passing judgment on you though katie.

308

00:54:18.810 --> 00:54:26.340

Saint Louis Zoo Education Liaisons: Now that's a great idea just kind of instead of trying to transform everything all at once, trying a smaller spot see how it works.

309

00:54:27.630 --> 00:54:28.650

Saint Louis Zoo Education Liaisons: I think that's great idea.

310

00:54:29.070 --> 00:54:31.080

Louise Bradshaw: I mean add a little bit about.

311

00:54:31.080 --> 00:54:40.170

Louise Bradshaw: flocks that I learned from our friends at the misery wildlife nursery because that was one of the things I spent a lot of money on in the pandemic.

312

00:54:40.770 --> 00:54:50.430

Louise Bradshaw: um because you know it made me feel good and and it was beautiful and you know, for all the right things, but I learned that a rabbit really like flocks.

313

00:54:51.030 --> 00:55:07.320

Louise Bradshaw: So if you have rabbits um it's going to be difficult to grow flax they'll love the clover clover won't mind the clover will just keep doing what clover does and it covers the legumes so it's also pushing nitrogen into the soil, which is.

314

00:55:07.350 --> 00:55:08.520

Louise Bradshaw: Good for everybody else.

315

00:55:09.420 --> 00:55:15.120

Saint Louis Zoo Education Liaisons: Yes, they also like flax, for their nests as well as for food it.

316

00:55:15.600 --> 00:55:16.230

Louise Bradshaw: sounds like.

317

00:55:16.410 --> 00:55:17.850

Louise Bradshaw: The voice of experience Lisa.

318

00:55:17.880 --> 00:55:19.710

Saint Louis Zoo Education Liaisons: Yes, yes, yes.

319

00:55:21.780 --> 00:55:34.530

Saint Louis Zoo Education Liaisons: Okay, and so we have actually had a couple pop up in the Q amp a meredith is brand new to St Louis and is trying to learn what's available looking to build a rain garden and other measures to mitigate water and turn.

320

00:55:35.640 --> 00:55:49.230

Saint Louis Zoo Education Liaisons: Their immense lawn into a more bio diverse area suggestions were to start previously built drought tolerant landscape, so all I can think of is grow native but what other good places are out there for.

321

00:55:50.070 --> 00:56:02.490

Jean Ponzi: a really good place to start meredith is the the rain scaping section of Missouri botanical gardens website, which is mobile m 0 B 0 t.org mobile.org slash rain escaping.

322

00:56:02.910 --> 00:56:11.340

Jean Ponzi: When you go there, you will see a graphic it was in one of our slides and it's like a an image of a residential property and it's got all these little.

323

00:56:12.120 --> 00:56:29.550

Jean Ponzi: bubbles out beyond it, and when you, and they are the whole range of strategies that you can use plant based strategies and some hard scaping strategies, like previous payment to capture and hold stormwater where it falls, which is rain escaping so I suggest that you look at that.

324

00:56:30.570 --> 00:56:42.810

Jean Ponzi: We there are contractors who are well versed in landscaping mst metropolitan sewer district project clear has a grants program it's very competitive but it's worth looking into that to potentially.

325

00:56:43.140 --> 00:56:48.900

Jean Ponzi: recoup some of the costs, I just I want to say there's no one size fits all.

326

00:56:49.170 --> 00:57:00.240

Jean Ponzi: For landscaping and for plants for for native plants remember they're wild flowers, they have names like Joe pie weed and meal we eat, and while bergamasco and stuff like that.

327

00:57:00.660 --> 00:57:16.500

Jean Ponzi: So you want to kind of experiment with them and mess around with them and see what works it's good to start on a smaller scale and relative to rain scaping we have terrific resources here mobile.org slash landscaping you can get biodiversity and stormwater management.

328

00:57:17.760 --> 00:57:20.940

Saint Louis Zoo Education Liaisons: awesome and we had another question oh sorry.

329

00:57:21.000 --> 00:57:39.780

Louise Bradshaw: I was just gonna say all the climate models show St Louis this region is wetter and warmer, which is already happening so go go go that's exactly what you're doing you're figuring out ways to to really adapt and you know, possibly ameliorate some of those issues.

330

00:57:41.970 --> 00:57:47.190

Jean Ponzi: I saw grace's question about better native plants, to start with, you know.

331

00:57:48.540 --> 00:57:54.510

Jean Ponzi: that's like saying Is it better to eat a cookie or better to eat a brownie really.

332

00:57:55.950 --> 00:58:07.260

Jean Ponzi: I, I think the question is where would you like to have native plants would you like to create a pollinator garden in a sunny place where a lot of things can flower.

333

00:58:07.560 --> 00:58:14.820

Jean Ponzi: Is your place really shady would you like to get some native plants established in and around what you might already have.

334

00:58:15.150 --> 00:58:29.550

Jean Ponzi: Think about where you'd like to have the native plants and then start looking for plants that will do well in those circumstances, the Missouri wildflower nurseries annual catalog is organized exactly that way.

335

00:58:29.760 --> 00:58:39.630

Jean Ponzi: isn't funny is it shady is it wet is it dry it's in full color it's a really great thing to have around to start looking and thinking about those plants and then.

336

00:58:40.050 --> 00:58:52.320

Jean Ponzi: When you go to a place, like the whitmire wild flower garden or the Missouri meadow at the zoo you'll see some signage about what those plants are and if there's one that you like that appeals to you try that one.

337

00:58:54.570 --> 00:59:04.020

Louise Bradshaw: them I think gene, you mentioned that the Missouri wildflower nursery folks are at the kirkwood farmers market the least through the end of April, I think, maybe.

338

00:59:04.410 --> 00:59:13.680

Louise Bradshaw: You know, one or two last weekend's and i'm full reveal a living kirkwood and I just walked down and gone um you know in between customers so.

339

00:59:14.040 --> 00:59:20.340

Louise Bradshaw: What do I do about this, and what about, can you tell me about that, I will say I asked about golden currents gene.

340

00:59:21.270 --> 00:59:37.530

Louise Bradshaw: And they were like oh we've been sold out of those four months, everybody wants them it's a beautiful Bush and that has the most lovely smell, and you know I know it from actually from chains backyard.

341

00:59:38.580 --> 00:59:48.030

Louise Bradshaw: But but it's you know it's good to know what where

that's one source, but that's also an opportunity, just to go and chat with somebody and get some really good expertise.

342

00:59:49.260 --> 00:59:50.970

Jean Ponzi: i'm typing into the chat.

343

00:59:51.270 --> 00:59:51.660

Saint Louis Zoo Education Liaisons: Thank you.

344

00:59:51.990 --> 01:00:12.750

Jean Ponzi: w mole wild flowers.net, that is, the website of Missouri wildflower nursery, as I said, they're the largest grower one of many growers, but the largest of native plants in Missouri and you can call and they will send you a catalog or they will be at the kirkwood farmers market.

345

01:00:14.790 --> 01:00:20.280

Jean Ponzi: For there was four dates in April two dates and maybe they'll be at the Sean he reserve wildflower market.

346

01:00:21.750 --> 01:00:21.990

Jean Ponzi: it's.

347

01:00:23.370 --> 01:00:29.910

Jean Ponzi: I never have one very far if I want to look up who and what and where and just look it up on paper.

348

01:00:30.840 --> 01:00:33.810

Saint Louis Zoo Education Liaisons: fabulous and I think we have time for one more question.

349

01:00:34.980 --> 01:00:42.150

Saint Louis Zoo Education Liaisons: So Lynn is has a good actually a really good question about a fenced in backyard with pets.

350

01:00:42.870 --> 01:00:58.920

Saint Louis Zoo Education Liaisons: So would like plants that are dog trample and dog P tolerant, I have a feeling after everything i've just learned that maybe a combo situation of a smaller lawn with a lot of other native options, but when I kick it to you both as well.

351

01:01:00.540 --> 01:01:05.970

Jean Ponzi: yeah and you know, one of your your turf needs can change as your life goes on.

352

01:01:07.020 --> 01:01:12.450

Jean Ponzi: I was talking to a friend, the other day, whose son is getting ready to go into high school and it's still playing.

353

01:01:12.900 --> 01:01:17.130

Jean Ponzi: You know, playing soccer with his friends on the line, but that's going to change at some point.

354

01:01:17.460 --> 01:01:29.040

Jean Ponzi: Something that you can do if you have dogs and you like to have your dogs one in your yard start at the very edges of your yard and bring those edges in maybe have kind of a sneaky border and have between the.

355

01:01:29.520 --> 01:01:38.460

Jean Ponzi: Your boundary and that little border be a little bit of a birdland start with bush's things that dogs are less likely to trample.

356

01:01:38.820 --> 01:01:47.880

Jean Ponzi: And, depending on whether you have shady or sunny conditions, you know think think about it, what you're doing is you're creating habitat you're creating spaces.

357

01:01:48.180 --> 01:02:06.270

Jean Ponzi: That you can enjoy that your whole household can enjoy and that will be spaces, that will welcome pollinators and other wildlife into the place that you inhabit so it's kind of like getting to develop whole new rooms of space and dwelling in enjoyment and then furnish them with plants.

358

01:02:08.490 --> 01:02:08.970

Saint Louis Zoo Education Liaisons: alright.

359

01:02:09.600 --> 01:02:12.450

Louise Bradshaw: Having a fence backyard and a rambunctious dog.

360

01:02:12.540 --> 01:02:20.220

Louise Bradshaw: part of what we've done is just watch what the dog does and her favorite places to do X and y and Z and just give it up.

361

01:02:20.790 --> 01:02:30.240

Louise Bradshaw: Just just give it up and try to like encourage her to do her thing which involves getting up high and barking at the dog that's immediately in the backyard.

362

01:02:30.780 --> 01:02:43.260

Louise Bradshaw: You know so like that's her thing so i'm not gonna you know, whatever that's that's all good, but I know where she really hardly ever goes and luckily she's not a digger so.

363

01:02:46.140 --> 01:02:48.630

Saint Louis Zoo Education Liaisons: Well i'm before we sign off, I have to.

364

01:02:49.860 --> 01:03:01.140

Saint Louis Zoo Education Liaisons: give it an extra shout out to miss gouda half my family's from their gene, and I think my mom grew up there, and for me it's an even bigger deal because an entire time is surrounded by farmland.

365

01:03:01.560 --> 01:03:10.230

Saint Louis Zoo Education Liaisons: So, to have them convert such a big space back to prairie is just made me very happy tonight, so that was really great to hear yeah.

366

01:03:11.190 --> 01:03:14.700

Jean Ponzi: Can I give a last word on behalf yes pinnacle garden.

367

01:03:14.910 --> 01:03:31.950

Jean Ponzi: Please this stuff is impactful, this is not fluffy it's joyful you can mess around you can make mistakes, you can dig up things gardening is all about tinkering and trying things and then, if it doesn't work dig it up and give it to somebody else or dig it up and move it.

368

01:03:32.460 --> 01:03:39.120

Jean Ponzi: This is our species homo sapiens working with the plant

world the plant kingdom.

369

01:03:39.480 --> 01:03:50.490

Jean Ponzi: to reconnect the relationships that are habitat has trampled on or his ripped up or have you because we didn't know you know, ecology and I are the same age.

370

01:03:51.060 --> 01:04:09.120

Jean Ponzi: Nobody knows this stuff that long but learning it and then digging into it and then for forming and valuing and enjoying these relationships, this is real, these are climate solutions that are also uplifting and joyful and healing and that go under your solar panels.

371

01:04:10.380 --> 01:04:10.860

Saint Louis Zoo Education Liaisons: mm hmm.

372

01:04:11.280 --> 01:04:14.970

Saint Louis Zoo Education Liaisons: yeah absolutely Louise was there anything else you'd like to say.

373

01:04:15.480 --> 01:04:16.890

Louise Bradshaw: Valley, I think I have no more.

374

01:04:16.890 --> 01:04:17.490

words.

375

01:04:18.570 --> 01:04:21.120

Louise Bradshaw: Except you know this has just been a delight.

376

01:04:21.600 --> 01:04:27.240

Louise Bradshaw: To be with you all and to share all of this information hope it really you know.

377

01:04:27.990 --> 01:04:34.770

Louise Bradshaw: warms the cockles of my heart that so many people have joined us today and have such great questions, and I really doing what gene.

378

01:04:35.370 --> 01:04:47.700

Louise Bradshaw: suggested we'll we'll try this let's figure it out

let's see what can happen there are there are a lot of folks you can ask questions of and we'll be sharing a lot of resources with you, when we share the recording.

379

01:04:48.600 --> 01:04:50.760

Saint Louis Zoo Education Liaisons: Yes, okay gee.

380

01:04:51.150 --> 01:04:57.450

Jean Ponzi: Thanks Lisa thanks, it was the zoo is the leading institution in our Community in.

381

01:04:58.350 --> 01:05:14.130

Jean Ponzi: elevating about having the dialogue about climate change and climate solutions, thank you, thank you, thank you, St Louis zoo for taking that lead and having so many entities be partners and setting that example and creating the opportunity to have these exchanges.

382

01:05:15.060 --> 01:05:20.130

Saint Louis Zoo Education Liaisons: Well, thank you, Jean and thank Thank you all so much for joining us tonight, and again I can't.

383

01:05:20.370 --> 01:05:27.300

Saint Louis Zoo Education Liaisons: Thank Louise and Jean enough on the bottom of my heart for a fabulous presentation and facilitating this discussion.

384

01:05:27.540 --> 01:05:38.850

Saint Louis Zoo Education Liaisons: This evening so everyone, please be on the lookout for information on next month's Community climate form which will be held on may 12 at 5:30pm have a wonderful rest of your evening Thank you everyone.

385

01:05:39.930 --> 01:05:40.380

Louise Bradshaw: goodbye.