



STORMY DAY REVIEW

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STORMWATER FACT

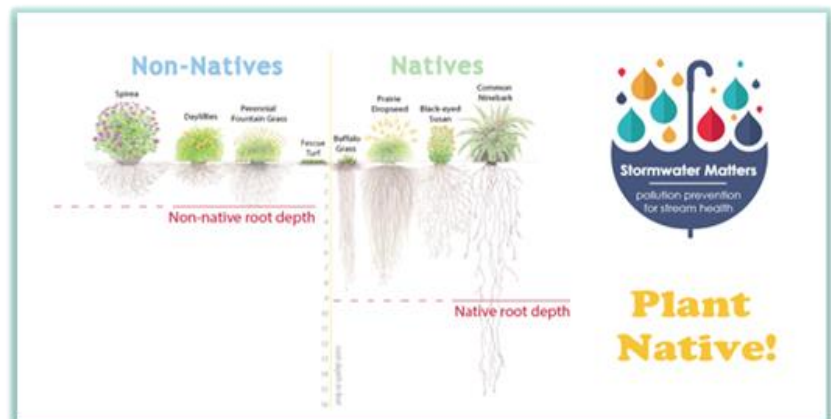
Over 36 billion tons of soil is lost world-wide every year, making sediment the #1 pollutant in our rivers and streams

Going Native

Native plants are beautiful! They come in all shapes, sizes, and colors. These grasses, flowers, and trees have been in the area for thousands of years. Native plants are great to look at, but they offer a lot more than good looks alone. They have a well-established relationship with the surrounding environment. Soils, animals, insects, climates, and microorganisms are interdependent on the region's native plant varieties. Listed below are some of the countless benefits of planting native species in your yard!

Reduce Stormwater Pollution

Native plants soak up more water than ornamental grasses that are found in most yards. Native plants have deeper roots compared to non-natives. These deeper roots offer many advantages. Roots act as a pathway for water to make it deeper into the soil improving the quality of the soil and the water availability for the surrounding plants. Since native plants are already adapted to the area, they do not need as much attention. They generally do not need as much water, fertilizer, and pesticides. Less watering and the absorption of water decreases the amount of runoff containing these nutrients compared to non-natives.





Monarch Butterflies on a Milkweed Plants 2

You can increase native species stormwater management ability by choosing plants that love moisture. These plants slow down the runoff, take up water and nutrients, and improve water quality. They can be planted individually or multiple species can be included when landscaping, building rain gardens, bioretention basins, and wetlands.

Less Work

Native plants are hardier in their natural environment than non-native plants. Once established they usually require less care. Perennial plants will come back year after year and can take away the planting hassle for the years to come. Planting native might help reduce the amount of grass that needs mowing and watering, freeing up your summer.

Saves Money

Planting native will help save money in the long run, by reducing runoff and preventing erosion, and the costs associated with erosion. Not having to use fertilizer or pesticides and will save time and dollars. By choosing native plants that come back every year, you lose the yearly replacement costs.

Flood Reduction

Native plants create more permeable surfaces that are better able to slow down and absorb rainwater. Decreasing the amount of water that pools on the road and causes flash flooding events.

Provide Habitat for Wildlife

There's nothing better than Missouri wildlife. Diverse and healthy plants communities can provide food and shelter for local wildlife. Native plants and animals have developed a complicated relationship over the years. They rely on one another to prosper. As seen in the image above, Milkweed is a beautiful addition to a landscape and is necessary for the reproduction of Monarch Butterflies. Natives can also be used to discourage unwanted wildlife from being around your home. Plants such as wild onion, garlic, and marigolds can help keep pests away.



An example of a native groundcover8

Where to Start

Choosing the correct native plants for your yard can seem overwhelming at first. There are many organizations that can help. "Grow Native" is an organization whose goals are to support and encourage native planting and assist people along the way. To learn more about Grow Native go to <https://www.moprairie.org> If you need help finding the perfect plant for your yard conditions, tools on The Blue Thumb website, <http://www.blue-thumb.org/plants/> may be helpful. Also, keep your eye on the upcoming events calendar to know when local organizations are hosting workshops and plant sales.

All Call for Boone County Stream Photos

For many thousands of years, people have lived on the banks of Boone County streams. Water has been a hot spot for human activity and development for many centuries. Please help us decode the past by sending photos of streams in Boone County. We are searching for pictures from Hinkson Creek to the Moniteau River and everything around and in-between.



A view of Hinkson Creek in 1910

Courtesy of the Missouri State Archives³

Photos can help fill gaps in knowledge. Often, we do not explicitly write down changes we see over time or that seem to be natural. This can leave us knowing only bits and pieces of our past. Did you know that there was a Balancing Rock alongside Hinkson Creek that was a hot spot for dates and church picnickers to frequent? Additionally, there was a water-powered mill in Rock Bridge Memorial State Park that milled grain for a distillery and local farmers.

Photos of streams are a window into the past showing us how the land has been developed; it gives us an idea of the health and the relationship that people have had with the water over the years. We want to know more and fill in some gaps about the streams of Boone County. Dust off your family albums and share your valuable history. Or send in a photo from this springs fishing trip!

Please send in any photos you have of Boone County to 801 E. Walnut Room 315 Columbia MO, 65201 or email them to Stormwater@boonecountymo.org

The Photos can be of any stream in Boone County from any year, Current and vintage photos are both welcomed!

Photo: *digital or hard copy*

Location: *on what stream and near a land mark or address if it is known*

Date: *list the date or rough date if it is known*



Balanced Rock on the bank of Hinkson Creek

Courtesy of The State Historical Society of Missouri⁴

Calendar of events

<p>March 26th 5:30-8:00 Deer Run Hike at Rock Bridge Memorial State Park</p> <p>March 27th 11:00-12:00 and 2:00-3:00 Presentation: The Incredible Missouri River at Daniel Boone Regional Library</p> <p>April 3rd 5:30-7:30 Audubon, Stormwater Management, and Columbia Parks Nature Walk on Grindstone Trail</p>	<p>April 13th 8:30-12 Rock Bridge Renew at Rock Bridge Memorial State Park</p> <p>April 13th 10:00-2:00 Native Plant Sale at MU Bradford Farm Research Center</p> <p>April 27th 9:00-3:00 Mid-Missouri Expo held by University of Missouri Extension at Battle High School</p>	<p>April 28th Earth Day festival downtown Columbia</p> <p>May 11th 8:30-12:00 Stream Critter and Health at Rock bridge Memorial State Park</p> <p>July 13th Water Festival at Rock Bridge Memorial State Park</p>
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For more information about these events email Stormwater@boonecountymo.org or call (573) 886-4330

- 1) Plant Native! (2018, April 26). Retrieved from <https://bridgingthegap.org/plant-native/>
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- 3) Lover's Leap. (1910). Retrieved from <http://cdm.sos.mo.gov/cdm/ref/collection/msaphotos/id/265>
- 4) Balanced Rock. (1910.). Retrieved from <http://digital.shsmo.org/digital/collection/imc/id/14508/rec/3>
- 4) Pratt, D. M. (2017, April 07). 10 Terrifying Stormwater Pollution Statistics. Retrieved from <https://www.green-buildings.com/articles/10-terrifying-stormwater-pollution-statistics/>
- 5) "Water Pollution." Everything Connects, www.everythingconnects.org/water-pollution.html.
- 6) "How to Get Rid of Rodents and Other Pests." New England Today, 26 Jan. 2017, newengland.com/today/living/pests/rodents-beatles-slugs/.
- 7) "Livestock Nutrient Management in Arkansas." Arkansas Nutrient Management - Conservation, Agriculture, Research, www.uaex.edu/environment-nature/water/quality/nutrient-applicators.aspx.
- 8) Tousseau, Annee. "Bonne Femme Watershed Plan Approved." Columbia Missourian, 21 July 2008, www.columbiamissourian.com/news/local/bonne-femme-watershed-plan-approved/article_2098ee68-173f-54ec-b586-5c5855b05def.html.

Quick Quiz Or Photo

Enter to win a prize by taking this quick quiz or send in a historic photo of a Boone County Stream. Send these to Michele Woolbright in Resource Management or email them to Stormwater@boonecountymo.org by April 5th. Participants are entered to win a trowel and a gift certificate to Strawberry Hill Farms!

- 1) What are two ways native plants help reduce stormwater pollution? _____
- 2) How many tons of soil are lost each year? _____
- 3) What type of photos are needed to be submitted? _____
- 4) What event is on April 3rd? _____
- 5) Is there a stormwater topic you would like to know more about? _____