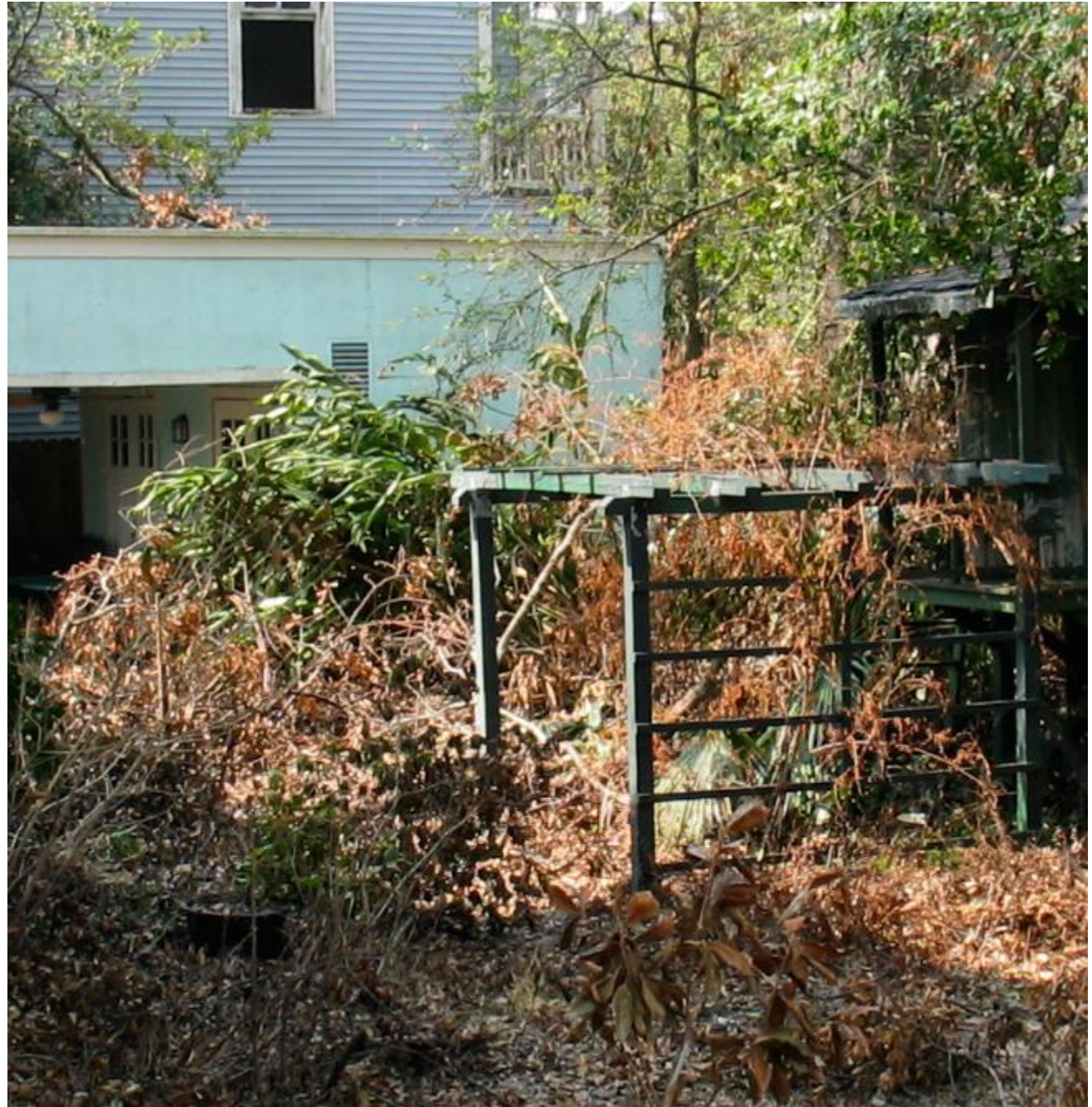
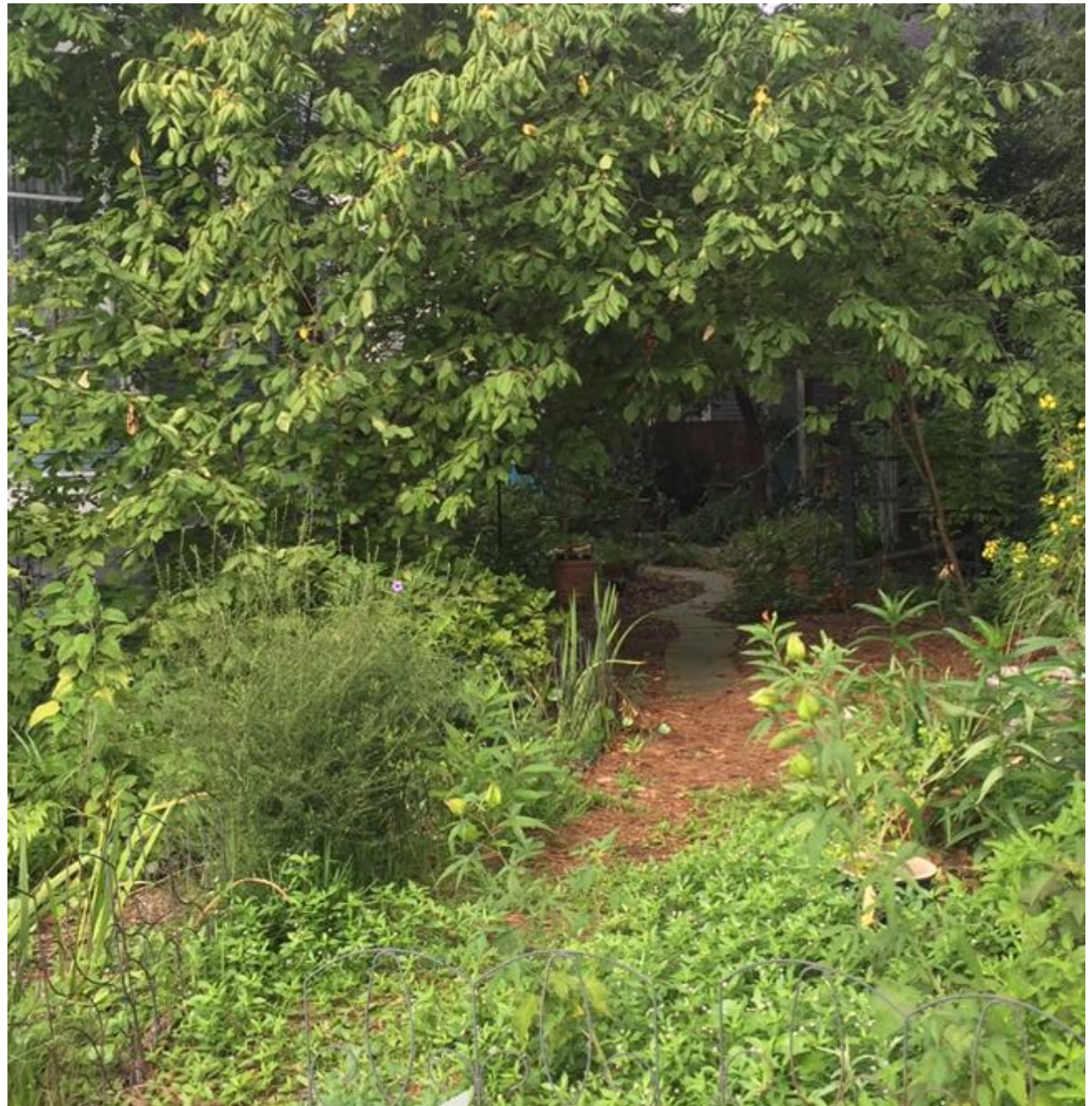


Evolution of a Wildlife Garden

*Anne's garden in uptown
New Orleans after Katrina.*



*Anne's garden today.
(same location as
previous picture)*



How did the garden begin?

Seasons in the Garden



Winter

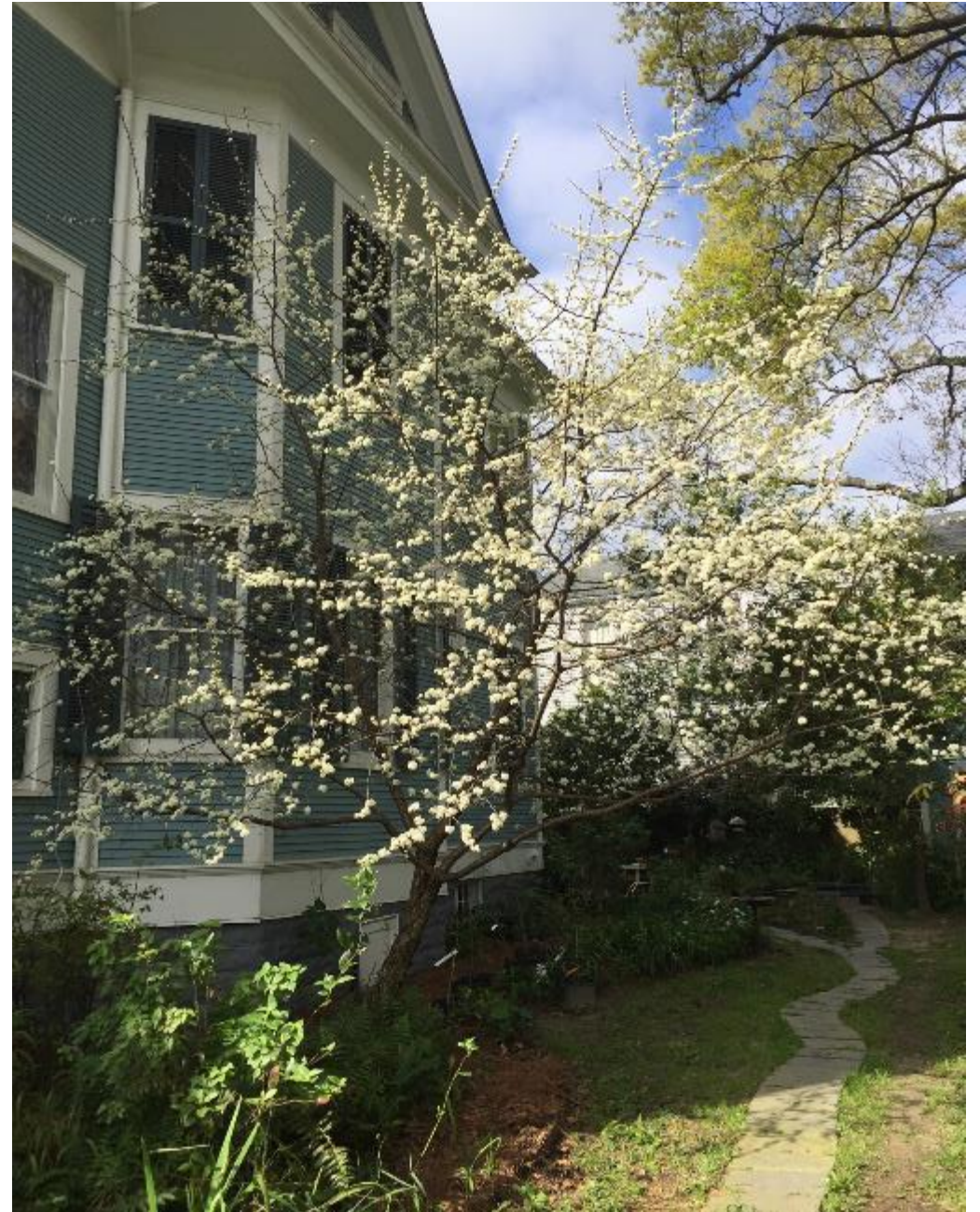
Christmas Day

Witch hazel tree - winter
food for the pollinators

Winter

February

Mexican plum





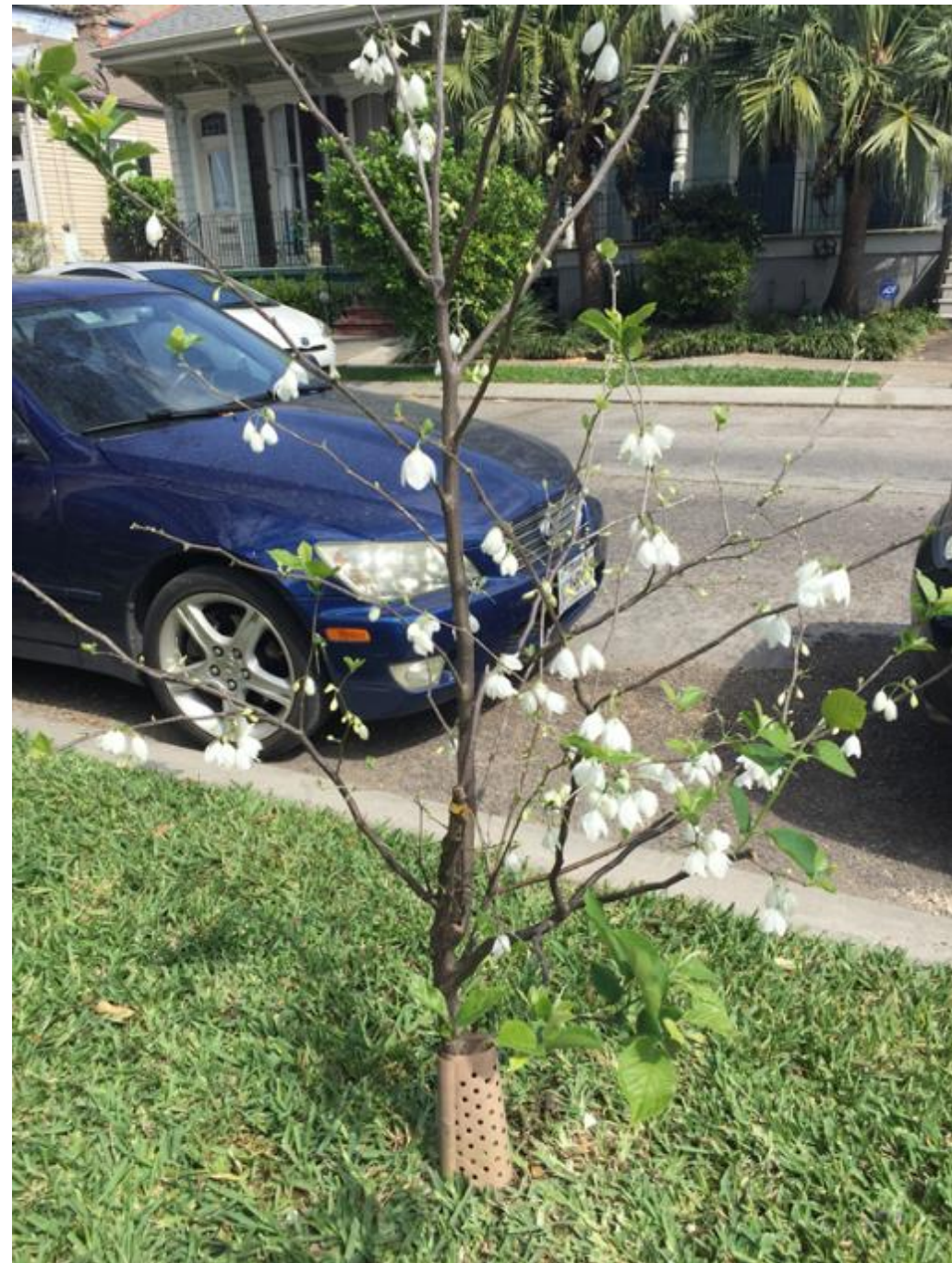
February/March

Violets

Spring

Silverbell Tree

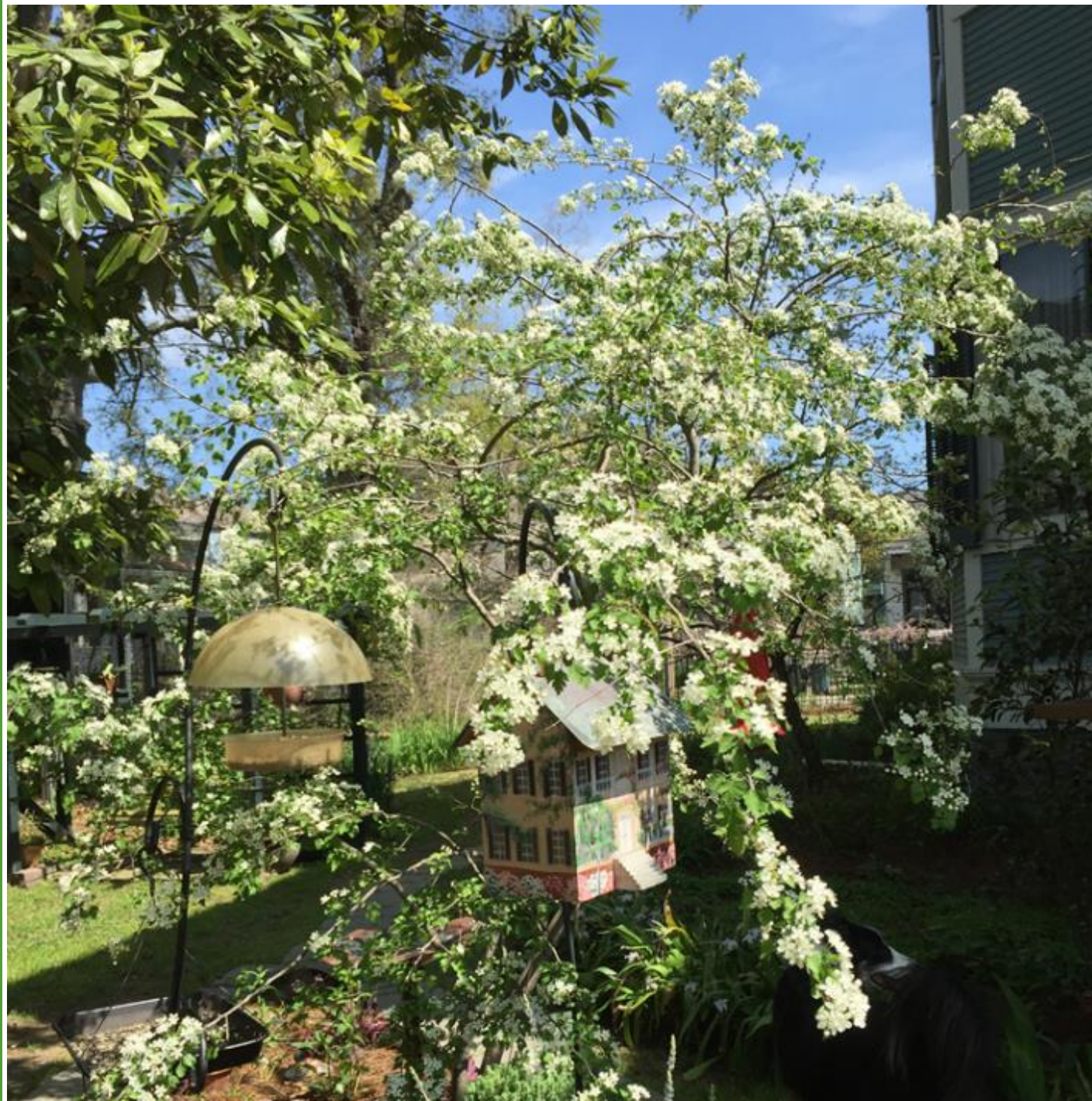
- Attracts hummingbirds, and supports 7 different species of lepidopteran caterpillars.
- Buds and flower clusters are eaten by birds.
- Butterflies, bees, and other pollinators enjoy the nectar from the flowers.



Spring

March

Parsley hawthorn in bloom





Spring Feb-April Louisiana iris 'Jeri'



Coral Honeysuckle

Lonicera sempervirens

Big flush in spring, but blooms all year for hummers



Spring/Summer

April/May
Gulf Coast Penstemon



Spring/Summer

March, April & May

Salvia lyrata, lyre leaf sage

Joe-Pye Weed with a friend

- An important *native* food source for wildlife. First, nectar-rich blooms attract a variety of bees and butterflies. The butterfly species that you can expect to see include skippers, fritillaries, and swallowtails.
- Attract birds to your backyard. During the summer, it's common to see hummingbirds sipping nectar from the flowers.

Summer





Summer

Passionflower (Maypop)

Attracts Gulf Fritillary, Zebra Longwing, Crimson-patch longwing, Red-banded hairstreak, Julia butterfly, Mexican butterfly.

Gulf fritillary caterpillar on passion vine

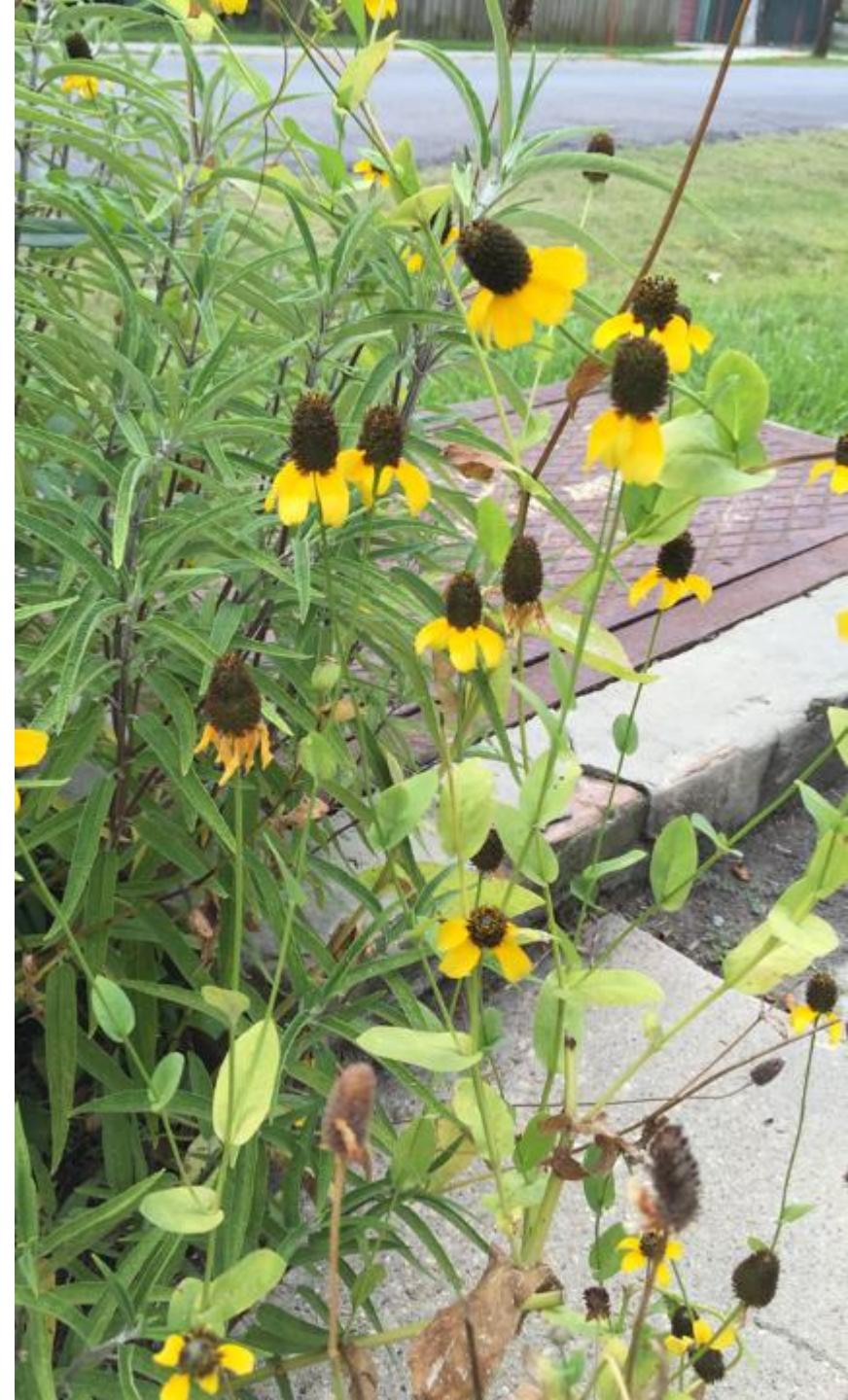
June

Monarda Jacob Cline



Summer

Black-eyed Susan/Clasping Coneflower



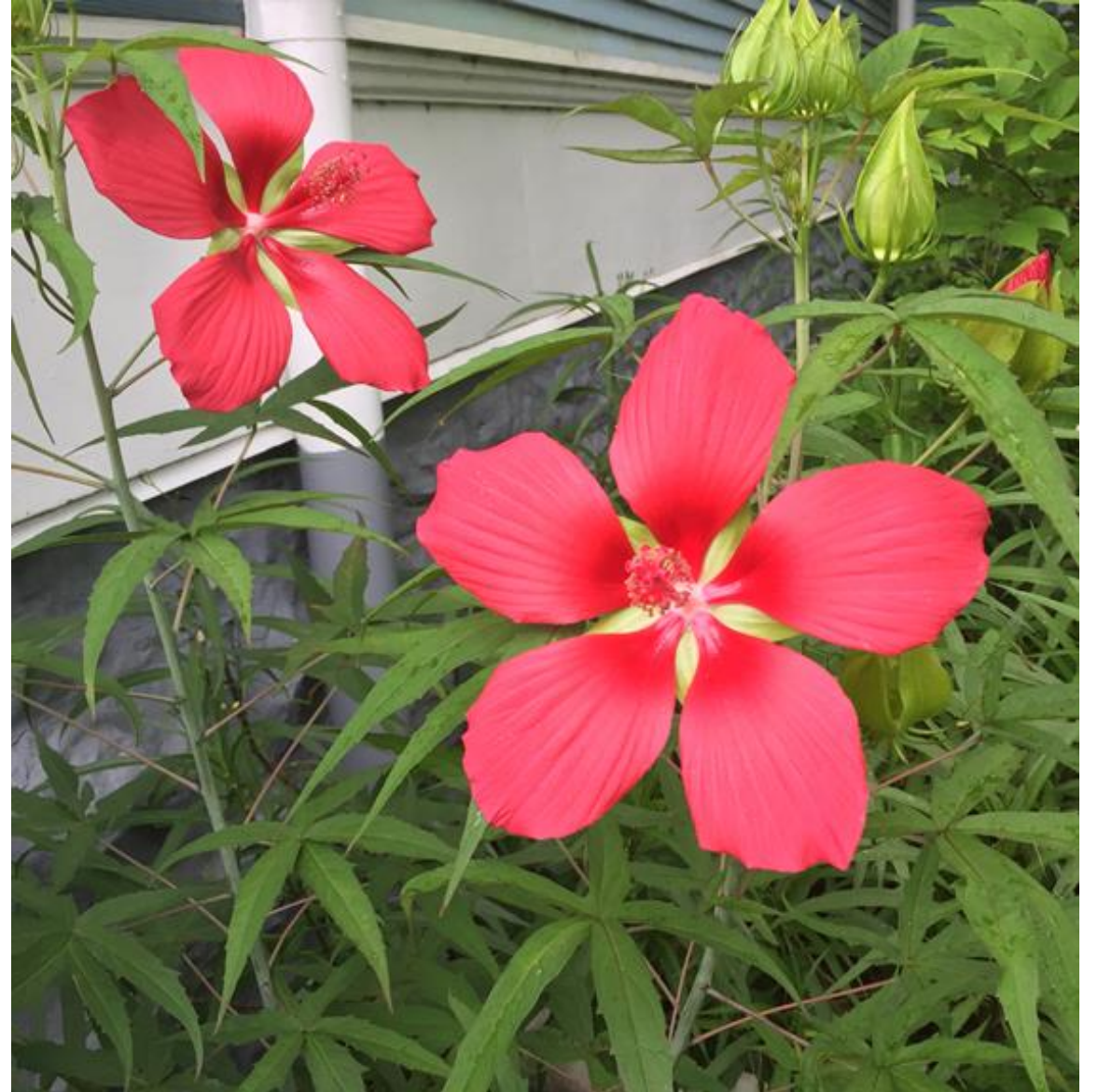


A Visiting Friend - sphinx moth?

Summer

Texas Star Hibiscus

- Blooms all summer
- Likes wet areas and is perfect for streams, bogs and rain gardens and in ponds
- Attracts butterflies and hummingbirds





Milkweed for Monarchs



Fall

Ironweed

Blooms in September

17 species of butterflies
and moths use this as a
caterpillar host plant

Fall

Helianthus angustifolia

And when it finishes the flower heads feed all the finches for weeks.



Fall

American Beautyberry

Blooms in August/September

Attracts more than forty species of songbirds.

Used by Native American tribes treat malarial fevers and rheumatism. The roots were used to treat dizziness, stomachaches and dysentery. Roots and berries were boiled and drunk to treat colic.

Farmers rubbed the crushed leaves on themselves to repel mosquitoes and biting bugs. Studies conducted by the Agricultural Research Service has shown two compounds – callicarpenal and intermedeol - are responsible for the repellent.





Fall

November

Parsley Hawthorn with fruit



Helianthus maximilliani
after the flowers fade, the
plants are filled with
finches of all kinds eating
the seeds.

Fall

Fall

Blue Mist
Flower





Certified Wildlife Gardens

Your wildlife garden should include:

Food: Native plants provide nectar, seeds, nuts, fruits, berries, foliage, pollen, and insects eaten by an exciting variety of wildlife.

Water: All animals need water to survive and some need it for bathing or breeding as well.

Cover: Wildlife need places to find shelter from bad weather and places to hide from predators or stalk prey.

Places to Raise Young: Wildlife need resources to reproduce and keep their species going. Some species have totally different habitat needs in their juvenile phase than they do as adults.

Sustainable Practices: How you manage your garden can have an effect on the health of the soil, air, water, and habitat for native wildlife as well as the human community.

<https://www.nwf.org/Garden-for-Wildlife/Create>

The Herb Society of America

is dedicated to promoting the knowledge, use and delight of herbs through educational programs, research, and sharing the experience of its members with the community.



GreenBridges™ Initiative program helps to create opportunities for the safe passage of plants and pollinators and to avoid habitat fragmentation. Each GreenBridges™ garden is a link in the chain across the nation, providing safe movement for the plants and pollinators that help maintain healthy ecosystems. Get involved in creating GreenBridges™ and you will...

- Learn best practices from a network of GreenBridges™ gardeners
- Grow the native herbs unique to your own region
- Share information with other GreenBridges™ gardeners
- Work toward a more sustainable gardening style

[GreenBridges™ Brochure \(PDF\)](#)

[Alternative to Invasives \(PDF\)](#)

[GreenBridges™ Certification Application \(PDF\)](#)

[GUIDELINES FOR SAFE GARDENING](#) The Public Gardening Code

<https://www.herbsociety.org/hsa-about/>

Monarch Watch

Monarch butterfly numbers are down. A number of factors are involved: habitat losses in the United States and Canada, degradation of the forests that support overwintering monarchs in Mexico, and catastrophic mortality of monarchs due to winter storms at the overwintering sites. All of these have reduced the monarch migration.



Monarch Waystations are places that provide resources necessary for monarchs to produce successive generations and sustain their migration. Without milkweeds throughout their spring and summer breeding areas in North America, monarchs would not be able to produce the successive generations that culminate in the migration each fall. Similarly, without nectar from flowers these fall migratory monarch butterflies would be unable to make their long journey to overwintering grounds in Mexico. The need for host plants for larvae and energy sources for adults applies to all monarch and butterfly populations around the world.

<https://monarchwatch.org/waystations/>

Native Plant Initiative of Greater New Orleans

To increase the use of native plants in our area by expanding public awareness of their ecological benefits, boosting availability, and by preserving and creating native plant communities.

Why Restore Habitat?

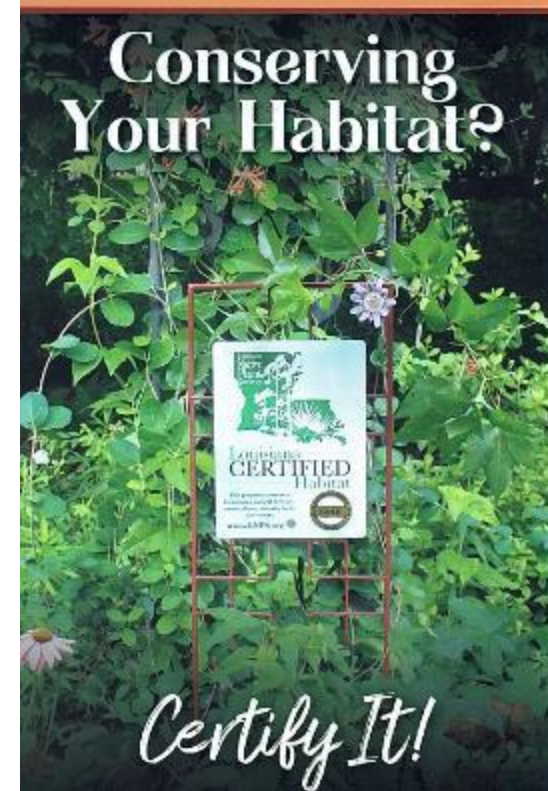
Habitat loss from development and agriculture makes conservation on private property more critical than ever.

LA is 1st stop on migratory bird flyway. Huge declines due to loss of habitat and pesticide use.

LA prairies, forests and wetlands are dwindling reservoirs of environmental resistance.

Native plants are the foundation of natural food webs and support insects which in turn feed other animals. Non-native plants do not fulfill this crucial role.

<https://www.npi-gno.org/louisiana-certified-habitat/>



National Wildlife Federation

Wildlife habitat gardens are a haven for local birds, butterflies, and other wildlife. Tell us how your yard or garden provides habitat and the National Wildlife Federation will recognize it as a Certified Wildlife Habitat®.

<https://www.nwf.org/Garden-for-Wildlife/Certify>



**BIG BOX GARDEN CENTERS
HAVE SOLD US
AN ENTIRELY NEW ECOSYSTEM
NATIVE TO OTHER CONTINENTS
THAT OUR POLLINATORS
CAN'T RECOGNIZE**

pollinator friendly yards on facebook



Where to buy native plants

- City Park Pelican Greenhouse Plant Sales
<https://neworleanscitypark.com/events/pelican-greenhouse-plant-sales>
- Linda Auld – Barber Laboratories
<https://barberlaboratories.com/>
- Delta Flora
<https://www.facebook.com/deltafloranativeplants/>
- Crosby Arboretum – Picayune, MS
<http://crosbyarboretum.msstate.edu/>
- Dixielandscape Co.
<https://www.facebook.com/Dixielandscape-Co-587985484669953/>
- Almost Eden – Mail order. Merryville, LA
<https://www.almostedenplants.com/>

Where to buy native plants – wholesalers

While they do not sell to the public, they often sell at events like garden shows

- Maypop Hill Nursery – Clinton, LA
<http://www.maypophill.com/>
- Bill Fontenot – Lafayette, LA
Prairie Basse - landscape design and ecological restoration consulting business
- Rick Webb – Amite, LA
<https://lanativeplants.com/>

Bibliography

- ***Bringing Nature Home and Nature's Best Hope*** by Doug Tallamy is first because this book and it's followup have brought the ecological disaster we have created to a wider audience - he has made it accessible to the non scientific community. Easily read, clearly explained, using popular and visible bluebirds, anyone can understand the insect collapse and the food chain collapse afterwards with it's devastating affects on birds and by implication, everything else.
- My very first wildflower book was Clair Brown's ***Wildflowers of Louisiana and Adjoining States***. I purchased it in 1990. It was published in 1965. It's still a favorite. He also published *Louisiana Trees and Shrubs* which I don't find as useful. *Wildflowers* has naturalized exotics which is helpful.
- ***Louisiana Wildflower Guide*** by Charles Allen, Kenneth Wilson, and Harry Winters is a more recent and beautifully done work also detailing a large number of native plants. They have two other publications on native plants.

Bibliography (continued)

- ***The Wildlife Garden*** by Charlotte Seidenberg is a combination narrative of learning and storytelling with lists and descriptions of plants and their preferred growth environments. A wonderful if slightly dated (1995) list of sources and references.
- A beautiful but very useful coffee table style book, ***Gardening with Native Plants of the South*** by Sally Wasowski was my sidekick for some time. It has really lovely photos of mature gardens for inspiration.
- Bill Fontenot's ***Native Gardening in the South*** (1992) is a resource for understanding your environment before you plant, enabling you to put the right plant in the right place more easily.
- ***Flora of Louisiana*** by Margaret Stones is almost like looking at herbarium specimens. The line drawings or photos include most parts of the plants and the colorized ones are outstanding.

The Native Plant Finder

When it comes to attracting beautiful butterflies and birds to your yard or community, the best thing you can do is use native plants. By planting natives, you restore the health and function of your local ecosystem. This website will help you find the best native plants specifically for your area that attract butterflies and moths and the birds that feed on their caterpillars, based on the scientific research of Dr. Douglas Tallamy.

<https://www.nwf.org/NativePlantFinder/>

Native Plant Gardens Map

Click the link above to view an interactive map of native plant gardens around New Orleans.