

Educational Resources

Books

- *Bringing Nature Home: How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants*. Douglas W. Tallamy. 2009
 - Available FREE on Kindle for Amazon Prime membership.
 - <http://www.bringingnaturehome.net/>
- *Planting in a Post-Wild World: Designing Plant Communities for Resilient Landscapes*. Thomas Rainer. 2015
 - Available FREE on Kindle for Amazon Prime members
- *The Living Landscape: Designing for Beauty and Biodiversity in the Home Garden*. Rick Darke and Douglas Tallamy. 2014

Online Resources on Oak Habitats, Oaks & Other Trees

Chicago Region Trees Initiative

- Oak Ecosystems Recovery Project
 - <http://chicagorti.org/OakRecovery>
- Chicago Wilderness' "Oak Systems Recovery Plan: Sustaining Oaks in the Chicago Wilderness Area." 2015
 - <https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/conservation/IWAP/Documents/Chicago%20Wilderness%20Oak%20Ecosystem%20Recovery%20Plan.pdf>
- "Best Management Practices: Oak Ecosystem Restoration, Regeneration and Management"
 - http://chicagorti.org/sites/chicagorti/files/BestPractices-OakEcosystem_fin121517.pdf

Illinois Wildflowers- old-school website with a wealth of information on Illinois plants (trees, shrubs, vines, wildflowers, graminoids), including descriptions, cultivation, range/habitats, & animal associates.

- <https://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/>

The Land Conservancy of McHenry County

- Quercus Project
 - <https://www.conservemc.org/what-we-do/conserves-oaks/project-quercus-overview>
- Acorn Roundup- collecting and saving acorns for planting
 - <https://www.conservemc.org/what-we-do/conserves-oaks/acorn-roundup>

The Conservation Foundation- Naperville, Illinois

- Non-profit that has offered assistance with preserving and protecting public and private lands since the 1970s. This includes conservation easements, information on proper land management and encouraging gardening for wildlife with their "Conservation @ Home" and "Conservation @ Work" programs.
 - <http://www.theconservationfoundation.org/page.php?PageID=25>

The Morton Arboretum

- Community Trees Program- Information on Selecting, Planting and Maintaining a wide range of trees (both native and non-native species)
 - <https://www.mortonarb.org/trees-plants/community-trees-program>



Certifying Your Home as a Wildlife Hotspot

- The Conservation Foundation's Conservation @ Home and @ Work programs
 - "Conservation @ Home" Program
 - <http://www.theconservationfoundation.org/page.php?PageID=82>
 - "Conservation @ Work" program
 - <http://www.theconservationfoundation.org/page.php?PageID=53>
 -
- National Wildlife Federations Certified Wildlife Habitat Program
 - <https://www.nwf.org/Garden-for-Wildlife/Certify>

Field's Museum's Field Guides

- "Common Oaks of the Chicago Region"
 - https://fieldguides.fieldmuseum.org/sites/default/files/rapid-color-guides-pdfs/500_usa-common_oaks_of_chicago.pdf
- "Shrubs of the Chicago Region" includes natives and invasive non-native shrubs
 - https://fieldguides.fieldmuseum.org/sites/default/files/rapid-color-guides-pdfs/385_1.pdf

Downers Grove Park District's 2016 Tree Inventory

- <https://www.dgparks.org/upload/2016-DGPD-tree-inventory-reportv4.pdf>

Historical Notes

- "Landscape Vegetation Pattern, Composition, and Structure of DuPage County, Illinois, As Recorded by the U.S. Public Land Survey (1821-1840)". Marlin L. Bowles, Jenny McBride, & Lisa Bell. 1998
 - <http://plantconservation.us/BowlesMcBrideBell1998.pdf>

Creating a Plant Inventory & Finding Your Backyard Coefficient of Conservatism Score

Universal Floristic Quality Assessment (FQA) Calculator

- <https://universalfqa.org/>
- Floristic Quality Assessments (FQAs) are measurements of either a natural area's habitat condition or quality, or a specific natural *community's* condition or quality at a site. FQAs are widely used by government agencies and conservation groups to inform land management decisions.
- After creating an account you can create your own FQA inventory to keep track of your yard/garden's native quality. Or use the website to access the "FQA Databases" tab to look up the "Chicago Region" (1994, 2013, 2014, and 2017) databases to see a complete list of **all** the naturalized vascular plants in Chicagoland.

Pollinator Planting Guides

- "Selecting Plants for Native Pollinator's: A Regional Guide for Farmers, Land Managers, and Gardeners In the Prairie Parkland-Temperate Province"
 - https://pollinator.org/assets/generalFiles/PrairieParklandrx12FINAL_171017_090033.pdf
- "Selecting Plants for Native Pollinator's: A Regional Guide for Farmers, Land Managers, and Gardeners In the Eastern Broadleaf Forest- Continental Province"
 - https://pollinator.org/assets/generalFiles/EBFContinentalrx13FINAL_171017_084359.pdf