



# *Native Plant Society of Northeastern Ohio*

Sherwin Preserve in Lake County

Field Trip



17 May 2014

Greetings Everyone,

It seems like just yesterday when sporadic rainfall tried, but couldn't dampen the anticipation of walking the Sherwin preserve property and the enthusiasm of those attending this field trip on 17 May 2014 -- too many visual delights: plant, animal, and geology. As Judy Barnhart outlines in her narrative, there was great diversity in what was encountered this particular morning. Guiding our group down forest, flood plain, and meadow paths throughout this preserve was Doug Yates. The flood plain path along the Chagrin River provided stunning views.

The Native Plant Society wishes to express appreciation to our guide Doug Yates and Tom Yates for sharing their time, knowledge, and enthusiasm. I also wish to thank those who participated in our walk. Your participation and camaraderie make the shared moments of discovery truly a special experience! The following observation list illuminates the diversity found in nature in the space and time of a couple of hours.

Experiencing the beauty of and learning about nature with all of you is always a joyous adventure! Please visit [our website](#) to learn more about native plants, our society, upcoming programs and field trips, and other resources that can help you with your curiosity and your quest to learn about our natural world.

With kindest regards to all,

*Lisa K. Schlag*

Native Plant Society of Northeastern Ohio

18.vi.14



Our group of twelve was led around the 300-acre Sherwin estate by Native Plant Society board member and preserve land manager Doug Yates. Now held by the Western Reserve Land Conservancy, it was once part of the 1000-acre farm owned by the Sherwin family of the Sherwin-Williams paint company.



Recent days of rainfall soaked the surrounding landscape. After parking in a very wet field, the group headed down the badly eroded drive and saw a real "cement pond" as made famous in the Beverly Hillbillies.

At the bottom of the drive, a Baltimore Oriole greeted us with song.





Wild Blue Phlox, *Phlox divaricata*



Water Leaf, *Hydrophyllum* sp.

We proceeded around the north side of a large lake looking at spring wildflowers, a wide diversity of ferns and some invasive species.

Following a pair of deer, we passed a house perched atop a slumping hillside. The hillside is "mowed" by a herd of goats. Not one goat was spied this particular Saturday morning. The goats are owned by a family who purchased one of the Sherwin houses.



Golden Ragwort, *Packera aureus*  
photographs courtesy of Lisa K. SchlaG





Ostrich fern, *Matteuchia struthiopteris*



Cinnamon fern, *Osmunda cinnamomea*

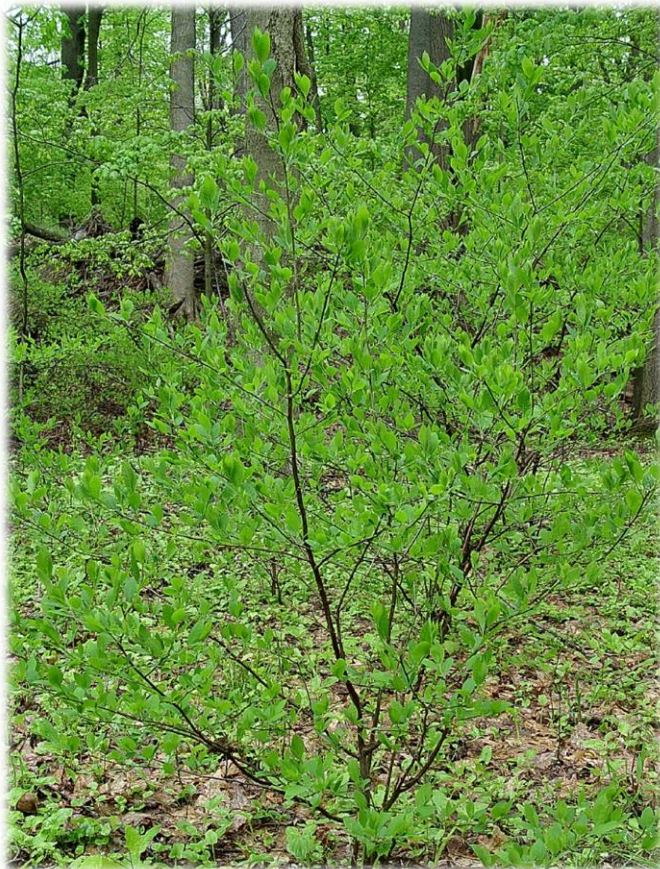


Dryad's Saddle, *Polyporus squamosus*  
photographs courtesy of Lisa K. SchlaG





Black Maple, *Acer nigrum*,  
Leaves and Bark



Spicebush, *Lindera benzoin*, Habit



Squawroot, *Conopholis americana*  
photographs courtesy of Lisa K. SchlaG



The sound of rushing water brought us to a culvert pipe draining water down the shale hillside to the Chagrin River below. Down the slope to the flood plain, we followed the river west pointing out flood plain species along the way.



One particular plant was quite prominent along the river edge. *Petasites*, commonly known as butterbur, is an invasive member of the sunflower family, Asteraceae.

Butterbur, *Petasites* sp.

Several members caught a glimpse of a juvenile bald eagle flying across the river and land in a tree where all could see. As the rain began to fall lightly, the group proceeded out of the flood plain to a point overlooking the river where it makes a sharp bend. The trail followed the river east along the top of the hogback ridge.



photographs courtesy of Lisa K. SchlaG





A pile of fish scales under an oak tree caught our attention. After some deliberation on how they could have gotten to the top of the steep slope, it was decided an eagle must have had a fish dinner in the oak branches overhead.

Back off the ridge we proceeded through a meadow when Doug nearly stepped on a nesting bird. The bird flushed to a nearby tree. After closer examination, a grass nest containing one egg was discovered. On this cool, wet morning, we quickly exited to allow the mother a chance to return sooner to the nest.



American Woodcock, *Scolopax minor*

photographs courtesy of Lisa K. SchlaG





Polytrichum Moss, *Polytrichum* sp.

Our final stop was an acidic moss covered point on the south side of the lake with highbush blueberry and star flower, *Trientalis borealis*, in full bloom.



photographs courtesy of Lisa K. SchlaG

Everyone made it out of the wet field without getting stuck and headed home. We wish to thank Doug for arranging and leading this very diverse property walk. And, we extend appreciation to the Sherwin family for preserving this unique piece of property.

*Judy Barnhart*



## Plant List – Herbaceous

<u>Common Names</u>	<u>Botanical Names</u>	
Common Bugleweed .....	<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	
Garlic Mustard .....	<i>Alliaria petiolata</i> .....	!TARGETED INVASIVE! Harmful to West Virginia White caterpillars & natural area habitats
Wild Leek .....	<i>Allium tricoccum</i> .....	insects: nectar, pollen
Ramps		
Jack-in-the-pulpit .....	<i>Arisaema triphyllum</i>	
Wild Hyacinth .....	<i>Camassia scilloides</i>	
Cut-leaf Toothwort .....	<i>Cardamine concatenata</i> .....	West Virginia White butterfly: larval host & insect: nectar
Squawroot .....	<i>Conopholis americana</i> .....	non-photosynthetic; parasitic on Beech and Oak tree roots; wildlife: food
Wild Geranium .....	<i>Geranium maculatum</i>	
Crainsbill		
Dame's Rocket .....	<i>Hesperis matronalis</i> .....	!WELL-ESTABLISHED INVASIVE!
Water Leaf .....	<i>Hydrophyllum</i> sp.	
Jewelweed .....	<i>Impatiens</i> sp. ....	butterfly/insect/hummingbird: nectar
Golden Ragwort.....	<i>Packera aurea</i>	
Butterbur.....	<i>Petasites</i> sp.	
Wild Blue Phlox .....	<i>Phlox divaricata</i>	
Mayapple .....	<i>Podophyllum peltatum</i> .....	insect: pollen, nectar & wildlife: fruit
Solomon's Seal .....	<i>Polygonatum</i> sp.	
Bloodroot.....	<i>Sanguinaria canadensis</i> .....	seeds distributed by ants <sup>1</sup>
Skunk Cabbage .....	<i>Symplocarpus foetidus</i> .....	early insect: nectar & wildlife: food
Starflower .....	<i>Trientalis borealis</i>	
Large-Flowered Trillium.....	<i>Trillium grandiflorum</i> .....	small wildlife: cover & seeds distributed by ants <sup>1</sup>
Wingstem.....	<i>Verbesina alternifolia</i>	
Common Blue Violet .....	<i>Viola sororia</i>	

## Plant List – Non-Flowering

<u>Common Names</u>	<u>Botanical Names</u>
Polytricum Moss.....	<i>Polytricum</i> sp.
Tree Groundpine.....	<i>Lycopodium</i> sp.
Groundcedar .....	<i>Lycopodium</i> sp.



## Plant List – Woody

### Common Names

### Botanical Names

Black Maple.....	<i>Acer nigrum</i> .....	<i>Acer</i> spp.: wildlife: food, cover & nesting
Serviceberry.....	<i>Amelanchier</i> sp. ....	wildlife: fruit
Yellow Birch.....	<i>Betula lutea</i> .....	wildlife: food; insect: overwinter cover
American Beech.....	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i> .....	wildlife: food, cover & nesting
Witch-hazel.....	<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	
Tamarack .....	<i>Larix</i> sp.	
Larch		
Spicebush.....	<i>Lindera benzoin</i> .....	butterfly: larval host & wildlife: fruit
Black Gum.....	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i> .....	wildlife: fruit
Tupelo		
Norway Spruce .....	<i>Picea abies</i>	
Austrian Pine .....	<i>Pinus nigra</i>	
White Pine .....	<i>Pinus strobus</i> .....	wildlife food
Scotch Pine .....	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	
Poison Sumac .....	<i>Toxicodendron vernix</i>	
Eastern Hemlock.....	<i>Tsuga canadensis</i>	
Highbush Blueberry .....	<i>Vaccinium pallidum</i> .....	butterfly: larval host & wildlife: fruit
White Oak.....	<i>Quercus alba</i> .....	wildlife food, cover, nesting

## Plant List – Ferns

### Common Names

### Botanical Names

Northern Lady Fern .....	<i>Athyrium filix-femina</i> .....	wildlife cover
Spinulose Wood Fern.....	<i>Dryopteris carthusiana</i> .....	wildlife cover
Ostrich Fern .....	<i>Matteuccia struthiopteris</i> .....	wildlife cover
Sensitive Fern .....	<i>Onoclea sensibilis</i> .....	wildlife cover
Cinnamon Fern .....	<i>Osmunda cinnamomea</i> .....	young fiddlehead “fuzz” nesting material for birds; wildlife cover
Royal Fern .....	<i>Osmunda regalis</i> .....	wildlife cover
Christmas Fern.....	<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i> .....	wildlife cover

## Plant List – Fungus

### Common Names

### Botanical Names

Dryad’s Saddle.....	<i>Polyporus squamosus</i>	
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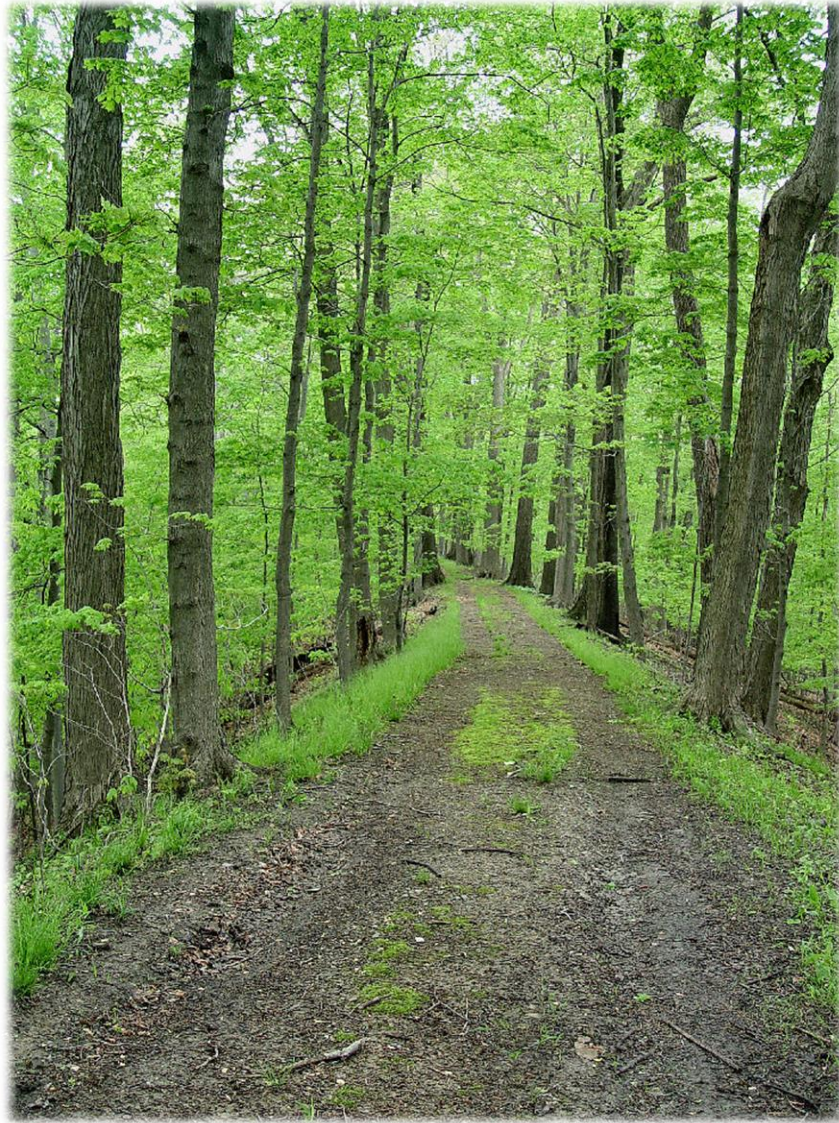
## Wildlife -- Birds

<u>Common Names</u>	<u>Scientific Names</u>	<u>Information &amp; Sound</u>
Great Blue Heron.....	<i>Ardea herodias</i> .....	<a href="#">Cornell Lab of Ornithology</a>
Baltimore Oriole.....	<i>Icterus galbula</i> .....	<a href="#">Cornell Lab of Ornithology</a>
Nest egg:		
American Woodcock.....	<i>Scolopax minor</i> .....	<a href="#">Cornell Lab of Ornithology</a>

### Bibliography

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- Trees of the Eastern and Central United States and Canada*, William H. Harlow
- [Ohio Natural Areas and Preserves Association](#)
- [Ohio Department of Natural Resources: Natural Areas and Preserves website](#)
- [USDA: Natural Resources Conservation Service](#)

<sup>1</sup> This type of seed dispersal is termed myrmecochory. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Myrmecochory>



photograph courtesy of Lisa K. SchlaG

*To find the universal elements enough;  
to find the air and the water exhilarating;  
to be refreshed by a morning walk or an evening saunter;  
to be thrilled by the stars at night;  
to be elated over a bird's nest or a wildflower in spring —  
these are some of the rewards of the simple life.*

*John Burroughs, Leaf and Tendril (1908)*