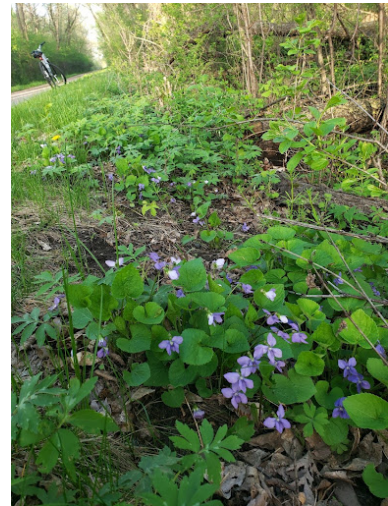
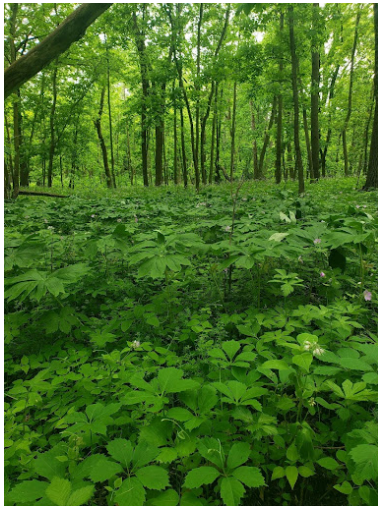




# Wilson's Nursery



## Connie's Corner

*\*Written 6/3/24\**

*Images above taken by Connie*

***Taking Time***  
*by Connie Kratzke*

*Greetings, All! May is over, so I'm going to try and write again. Things are*

*settling into a saner pace, allowing for more meaningful observations and deeper thoughts.*

*A couple of weeks ago I planted a new shade garden in a spot I have been eyeing up for years. The former home of our Shell Lake Nipigon makes a much better garden than it did a nautical retirement home. Although, I owe the boat some credit for killing off the grass. I doubt I could have obtained my husband's blessing to evict that much healthy sod. Our yard is home to large trees that generate ample shade and root competition. The new garden is positioned to collect runoff, with carefully placed depressions for the thirstiest perennials. I don't have many moisture-loving shade plants in other gardens because they just can't hack it. This was my chance to add new genera to my collection.*

*I got kind of artsy fartsy with it, but managed to incorporate a few natives for pollinators. I utilized three Royal Standard Hostas that needed homes, then spent too much money on fun new stuff. 'Black Ace' Chelones and Kirengeshomas form the backdrop. 'Mighty Chocolate Cherry' Astilbe and 'Red Umbrellas' Filipendula provide a little pizzazz. 'Misty Lace' Aruncus, 'Heaven Scent' Polemoniums and 'First Frost' Hostas occupy the middle. Towards the front, 'Lady in Red' Ferns, 'Winky Red and White' Aquilegias and 'Nova' Mukgenias echo rich reds. While nothing about my little menagerie looks native, nature is a constant source of inspiration.*

*Whenever possible, I bike the Luce Line after work. From Silver Lake west to the bridge just past the entrance to Crow River Winery is my stretch. There are some lovely sections of woods along it filled with Bloodroots and Violas. Virginia Water Leafs and False Solomon's Seals mingle with occasional Merrybells and Ramps. Gooseberries, Raspberries and Roses dominate the shrub layer. A patch of American Cranberries lives near County 16. White Snowberries like the section between Lace and Kale. A couple of weeks ago, the aromas of Elderberry and Plum blossoms were almost overpowering. At a glance, you see nothing but Nettles, Plantains, Motherworts and Mulleins; but it's so much more complex than that. As with all natural landscapes, the display is ever changing and constantly providing. Tonight's ride companions included numerous chipmunks and gophers, baby bunnies, a garter snake and a deer. One brave little chippy was so busy eating a worm (like spaghetti) that he barely moved when I pedaled by!*

*Over Memorial Day weekend, my husband and I camped at Rice Lake State Park near Owatonna. We haven't camped in that portion of the state often and I was quite intrigued by the flora there. The woods were absolutely loaded with Wild Geraniums and Jack in the Pulpits. Meadow Rues, May Apples and Golden Alexanders were also present in large numbers. Harvesting mushrooms and picking fruits is okay in this park and that isn't always the case. I was lucky enough to score a chicken of the woods mushroom to use in our camp stir-fry. I was grateful for the opportunity to relax and observe. The moisture-loving entities within the Rice Creek ecosystem are having a great year and it shows.*

*Gardening, hiking and biking are some of my favorite pastimes. In order to have anything useful to say, I have to give myself time for those things. Lessons always arise from connections with the natural world.*

*We're receiving adequate moisture this spring. Some may even say it's excessive. I was beginning to believe prophecies that Minnesota was the new Kansas. Since I find that theory repellent, I'll revert to an old axiom. "If you don't like Minnesota weather, just wait a minute." We spend a lot of time trying to predict the future and plant for it. Maybe we should be asking ourselves, "what is abundant?" "What thrives everywhere?" The answers are out there. In managed and unmanaged landscapes, truths emerge. Failures are revealed. I'm not suggesting we plant Ragweed because it thrives in all environments. Nor am I proposing reduced diversity. Watch what nature does. See how the plants blend together. Be aware of environmental conditions that attract riff raff. Notice how slight shifts in light and moisture influence dominance. All of that information can be put to use when you go back to work after your refreshing evening, weekend or week. Now you can justify it. You're welcome.*

*Disclaimer: The plants you see in photos below are wildflowers in their environments. Most of them are not available at Wilsons...yet. Please let us know if we are missing your favorite native plant.*



I was out walking the shrub lot the other day and ran into our Inventory Manager, Call, looking overwhelmed, confused and very hot. So I asked him, "What are you doing?" His response was, "Well, I am overwhelmed and confused as to why we haven't ran a sale on items such as these (#5 and S2 Alpine Currants in photo), and I am very hot - it's dang hot out here!"

After a few moments of further discussion we determined it was time. Time to get the lists out and get people details on...

## *Wilson's Hot Summer Sale!!!*

-the summer gets hot, but not as hot as some of these deals!

**Wilson's Hot Summer Sale Excel Document([click here](#))\*[Link to photo album in document](#)\***

Email your filled out Excel document to:[orders@wilsonsnurseryinc.com](mailto:orders@wilsonsnurseryinc.com) for sale pricing!  
All material is subject to availability.

\*Prices only honored with use of spreadsheet\*  
Sale ends July 1, 2024.



Even the Limelight Hydrangeas in PW#3 containers? What else is on this list? Well, Call, you are the Inventory Manager!!

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Matthew Gorzlancyk  
Strategic Systems / Sales  
Wilson's Nursery Inc.  
Cell: (612) 990-4073  
Office: (952) 353-2762

Email: [matt@wilsonsnurseryinc.com](mailto:matt@wilsonsnurseryinc.com)

**Current Hours of Operation**  
Monday-Friday 7:30am-5:00pm  
\*Remaining Saturdays open from  
8:00am-12:00pm (6/15, 6/22, 6/29),  
then we go to Monday-Friday only.

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Wilson's Nursery, Inc | 5730 Yancy Avenue, New Germany, MN 55367 | (952) 353-2762

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