

Possible Wildflower Walk Tours - Alfred Caldwell Lily Pool and North Pond Nature Sanctuary

(possible themes/messages)

Please note, these are tour ideas and possible messages. They could/should probably be revised to meet your own person interests and knowledge.

Possible Tour #1: Uses of Wildflowers

Wildflowers, such as the ones we see here today, have been used for a wide variety of purposes throughout history – sometimes successfully!

- Native Americans and early settlers used the plants you will see here today to cure everything from lovesickness to cancer.
 - Columbine, Boneset, Culver's Root, Milkweed, Nodding Onion, Spiderwort, Joe Pye Weed, Bergamont
- Modern medicine looks at traditional uses of these plants, as well as other factors, to try to find treatments that have real results.
 - Rose,
- Even when plants didn't have medicinal purposes, people used the plants for food or shelter
 - Iris, Elderberry, Milkweed, Spiderwort, Bergamot

Possible Tour #2: Plant/Animal Connections

Wildflowers provide essential food and or shelter to wildlife of all types

- Plants provide nectar or pollen, or even poison, that keeps insects alive and serve the plant's purpose
 - Milkweed
- Mammals and birds us the plants for food
 - Elderberry,

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Possible Tour #3: Names Tell a Story

Both scientific and common names of plants, including those we see here today, connect us to ideas and attitudes of the past, including what people thought plants were good for...

- Latin names (the scientific names) show relationships between plants around the world as well as possible uses for plants, even those found in the Midwest.
 - Columbine, Black-Eyed Susan, Iris, Foxglove Beardtongue/*Penstemon digitalis*, Milkweed, Nodding Onion, *Coreopsis*, Bergamot
- Common names for wildflowers often reflect what people thought they looked like or were used for.
 - Boneset, (Culver's Root), Foxglove Beardtongue/*Penstemon digitalis*, Milkweed, *Coreopsis*, (Joe Pye Weed),
- Names can both clarify and confuse our understanding of plants, their uses, and relationships to other plants.
 - Spiderwort,

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Main Message (What is the ONE concept they should remember when they leave?):

- Complete thought w/ a point of view
- Connects concepts to specific plants
- Answers the question "so what?"
- Engaging and interesting

Objectives: What do you want participants to do or know? How will you know if they do?

Introduction:

- Who you are
- Who the Conservancy is & what we do/our Mission
- Basic needs (water, bathroom, etc)
- What's going to happen on the tour
- Where are you going on the tour
- Where will the tour end
- How long it's going to take
- What will be required of visitors (will they have to answer questions, touch things, DO something, etc.)
- Message statement

Body: Supporting points, stories about plants, activities for people to do

Conclusion:

- Summary of the main message
- Suggestions of things they can do to keep learning/exploring
- Opportunity to seek further information from you
- Restatement of LP Conservancy mission and
- Promotion of a good feeling about the site
- Thank you!