

Fall, 2007

NEW ENGLAND
WILD
FLOWER
SOCIETY



Dear Members and Friends,

Please send us your email address and help us go GREENER

Why am I asking for your email address?

I'd like to share plant conservation and horticulture updates with you by email, instead of using paper. If you are receiving this letter, it means that we do not have your current email address. **I promise the New England Wild Flower Society will NEVER share your email with anyone.** Please email Karen Pierce, our Membership Director, kpierce@newenglandWILD.org using the email address you want us to have. Put "Nasami Farm" in the subject line, and be sure to include your name and mailing address in the message. Thanks in advance for helping us conserve resources.

Reducing our Carbon Footprint As a conservation organization, this is a priority for us. We've reworked our production cycles to require less overwintering of plants and use less fossil fuel. We're maximizing planting times to take better advantage of prime sunshine. We've added two new greenhouses this year for a total of eight production greenhouses, and doubled our uncovered pad area. This allows us to begin growing for restoration work, and we are off to a great start—producing 12,000 coastal white cedars (*Chamaecyparis thyoides*) for the City of Plymouth Massachusetts to help restore a 67-acre cranberry bog.

FREE Native Plant Seminars & NEW Fall Hours Thanks to your support, we've **expanded** our retail hours. The new date for the fall **GRAND OPENING** is **Thursday, September 6**, and we'll now be open every Thursday-Sunday, 9-5 through October 7. Don't miss our **FREE Native Plant Seminars at 1 pm on Sundays**, 9/9, 9/16 and 9/23. See the enclosed listing for more award-winning education programs in the Pioneer Valley or visit www.newenglandWILD.org.

Native Plants for Earth-friendly Gardens This is a marvelous year for the nursery. The woody plants are very lush, and the perennials remarkably robust. Umbrella magnolia (*Magnolia tripetala*) and American wisteria (*Wisteria frutescens*) are well rooted, and the winterberries (*Ilex verticillata*) are loaded with fruit. The fetterbush, (*Pieris floribunda*) is having the best season ever, as is the beautiful bird's foot violet (*Viola pedata*). Pots of mayflower (*Epigaea repens*) are spectacular. Come see the five new Echinacea hybrids with lovely color and fragrance, and a record 550 species and cultivars offered for fall.

(continued)

NASAMI FARM NATIVE PLANT NURSERY

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Bluebirds, Otters, Monarchs, & More We constructed and installed a half dozen bluebird boxes and have seen two hatchings. The rare wood turtles are back this year. Two river otters swam by as we cleared a drainage ditch last week! We've seen a peregrine falcon, redtail hawk, and several kestrels. A recent butterfly count revealed 19 butterfly species on the property, including a Milbert's tortoise shell (*Aglais milberti*).

Your interest in New England Wild Flower Society means a lot to us. If you are already a member, we thank you for supporting plant conservation and native plant education. This has been a great year for protecting rare plants in the wild, invasive plant removal, and initiating native plant education programs in the Pioneer Valley, and we couldn't have done it without you.

Are you considering joining as a member? Membership makes a powerful contribution to healthy habitats throughout New England, and member benefits include plant and program discounts. You can sign up at Nasami Farm; join or renew online at www.newenglandWILD.org; or contact Karen Pierce at kpierce@newenglandWILD.org or 508-877-7630 x 3801.

Volunteer to help native plants. Become an administration, sanctuary, or nursery volunteer. Contact Robin Silva, Nursery Coordinator, at rsilva@newenglandWILD.org or 413-397-9922. To apply for training to be a conservation volunteer helping to control invasive plants in the Pioneer Valley, please contact Ted Elliman, telliman@newenglandWILD.org or 508-877-7630 x 3203. The Society needs volunteers to help with preparing native seeds, some of which may become part of the exciting MillenniumSeed Bank/Seeds of Success project. Contact Tristram Seidler at tseidler@newenglandWILD.org or 413-658-5336. No previous experience is required.

I'm looking forward to meeting you, so please come by and say hello when we reopen for the season.

See you soon,

Ron M. Wik

Nursery Director

New England Wild Flower Society