



Floracliff Field Studies

Backyard Wildlife Habitats, June 22-23, 2012

Instructor: Mary Carol Cooper, Retired, Native Plant Coordinator, KDFWR

Backyard and schoolyard habitats provide important sanctuaries where urban wildlife can find food, water, and shelter. They also serve to beautify the landscape and provide wildlife viewing opportunities for residents and students. This seminar will provide participants with resources to get started creating their own habitat and introduce them to the definition of native, why attracting insects is important, plant identification, plant propagation, microforests, wildlife, and nest box building. All participants will receive a Backyard Wildlife Habitat kit and nest box materials.

Mary Carol Cooper has recently retired from the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources where she served as the Coordinator of the Salato Native Plant Program for 14 years. There she maintained 2 greenhouses full of native plants which are used to landscape Salato exhibits and are donated to public lands and schools who are installing outdoor classrooms.

Day 1- Floracliff 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

- What is native?
- Why would you want to attract insects?
- Plant Identification 101
- Plant Propagation techniques
- Forest walk to discuss microforests and host plants
- Wildlife
- Nest box building activity

Day 2- Field Trips 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

- University of Kentucky Arboretum
 - eco-regions
 - rain gardens
- Native Plant Gardens
 - tour of planted microforest
- Montessori Middle School of Kentucky
 - outdoor classroom

Other Presenter(s):

Amy Deaton Sither, Montessori Middle School of Kentucky