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This medium-sized, semi-aquatic turtle is easy to see at a distance because of its unique bright yellow neck and chin. The upper shell is brown-black with yellow streaks. An adult turtle grows to about 8-10 inches and can weigh up to 3 pounds. They prefer to live in grassy marshes with shallow water. Disappearing wetlands due to land development is the main reason for the turtle's

decline. It is listed as endangered in Indiana and Missouri, and threatened in Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP

Conserve Habitats – one of the most important ways to help threatened plants and animals survive is to protect their habitats permanently in national parks, nature reserves or wilderness areas. Make Space For Wildlife – build a bird feeder and establish a birdbath for the neighborhood birds. Plant trees and plants that are native to your area.

– Baba Dioum

In the end, we will conserve only what we love, we will love only what we understand, and we will understand only what we are taught.

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BLANDING'S TURTLE

Emydoidea blandingia

Threatened







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WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP

The blacknose shiner is a small minnow species, growing to only 2.5 inches long. It lives in small creeks and in the weedy shallows of lakes and ponds. Like some of the other blackstripe minnows,

Notropis beterolepis

Endangered

it is becoming rare due to loss of habitat and deteriorating water quality.



In wildness is the preservation of the world.

1





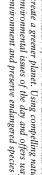


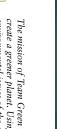














BLACKNOSE SHINER

- Jimmy Carter

can prevail on earth, and if we can teach our children to honor nature's gifts, the joys and here forever. to realize that if love and peace beauties of the outdoors will be It is good

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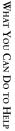
HAY-SCENTED FERN

Dennstaedtia punctilobula Endangered

This species of fern is native to eastern North America, and is becoming increasingly rare in the western part of its range. It is a delicate looking fern which emits the smell of fresh cut

hay when its leaves are crushed. It will grow to 40 inches.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP





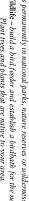
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WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP

prefer open fresh-water wetlands, but different subspecies will also use bogs, sedge meadows, fens and open grass-land. The need to protect breeding and migratory land is essential for this bird's continued preservation. This majestic species of bird has a wingspan of 7 feet, and is thought to be over 2.5 million years old. These birds Threatened



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SANDHILL CRANE

Grus canadensis

S ess share the same bre e an nan,

SI spiri



MOUNTAIN BLUE-EYED GRASS Sisyrinchium montanum Endangered

This species is a member of the iris family and has violet-blue, star-like flowers. It's a grass-like plant that grows between 6-15 inches in small clumps. While common in parts of it's range this flower is endangered in Illinois, Indiana, New Jersey and Ohio.

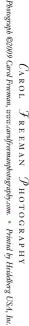
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CAROL FREEMAN PHOTOGRAPHY 7 11812 Photograph ©2009 Carol Freeman, www.carolfreemanphotography.com. * Printed by Heidelberg USA, Inc. Space travel has given us a new appreciation for the Earth. We realize that the Earth is special. We've seen it from afar. The Earth is the only natural home for man we know of, and that we had better protect it.

— James Erwin







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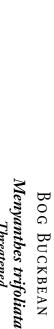
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WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP

Fascinating feathery flowers adorn this perennial bog and wetland plant. It grows to 12 inches tall and blooms in the spring. It has a large range but is declining in some areas, most likely due to habitat degradation. Threatened





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- William Wordsworth

nature be your teacher. Come forth into the light of things. Let



DECURRENT FALSE ASTER Boltonia decurrens

Federally Threatened

This floodplain perennial is native to the Illinois River Valley. It is one of the rarest native species in this area. Plant populations have been reduced due to habitat destruction and modification. Construction of dams, locks and levees along the river has altered the natural flood cycles, causing either excessive or insufficient water levels for the plant to survive. A member of the Aster family, its light pink to lavender blooms can be seen from August to October. It can grow over 6 feet tall.

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CAROL FREEMAN PHOTOGRAPHY 7 1812. Photograph ©2009 Carol Freeman, www.carolfreemanphotography.com. * Printed by Heidelberg USA, Inc. There is hope if people will begin to awaken that spiritual part of themselves, that heartfelt knowledge that we are caretakers of this planet.



GRASS PINK ORCHID Calopogon tuberosus Endangered

This orchid is native to the eastern United States. It is endangered in Illinois, Kentucky, and Maryland, and as "exploitably vulnerable" in New York. It has unique 1.5 inch pink flowers that bloom late spring or summer depending on its location. The presence of this orchid (as well as other orchids) is an indicator of high-quality natural areas. Most species of calopogon frequent wet and sunny swales, bogs, and edges of marshy areas. They associate with ferns, sedges, grasses and forbs.

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CAROL FREEMAN PHOTOGRAPHY 7 11812 Photograph ©2009 Carol Freeman, www.carolfreemanphotography.com. * Printed by Heidelberg USA, Inc. Those who contemplate the beauty of the earth find reserves of strength that will endure as long as life lasts.

- Rachel Carlson



SMALL WHITE LADY'S SLIPPER ORCHID Cypripedium candidum Threatened

This orchid is found in wet prairies and fens, in rich, highly calcareous (alkaline) soils. Cypripedium candidum grows to a height of 4 to 10 inches tall. The 1 inch white slipper-like blooms can be seen from May to June. Populations of this plant have become rare and isolated, as much of its former habitat has been converted for agriculture and development. Unlike most orchids, it likes full sun as long as its roots stay cool and moist.

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When we see land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect.

- Aldo Leopold

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LAKESIDE DAISY Hymenoxys berbacea Federally Tbreatened

This bright, yellow flower is found in dry and rocky prairie grasslands underlain by limestone. It is named for Lakeside, Ohio, one of its best known sites. Limestone quarrying, which has increased in recent years, destroys the daisy's habitat. Collectors also pose a threat, as it is found in just a handful of sites. Fire suppression practices have eliminated the wildfires which once regularly cleared prairie grasslands of encroaching woods. Now the expansion of shrubs and trees threatens the daisy, which needs full sun to survive.

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CAROL FREEMAN PHOTOGRAPHY 7 1812. Photograph ©2009 Carol Freeman, www.carolfreemanphotography.com. * Printed by Heidelberg USA, Inc. To live a pure unselfish life, one must count nothing as one's own in the midst of abundance.

— Buddha