

A search engine for private native landscapes open for viewing across the region. Launched April 1, 2022.

Each landscape host decides exactly when their yard is open...a single day, every weekend in April, daily in June, by appointment only, etc. This is ideal for native plant landscapes which are constantly changing. Collectively, the program includes yards open from spring through fall.

All visitors register at <u>stlopenyards.com</u>. Registration will be limited by date and landscape, and upon confirmation of registration, visitors receive the exact landscape addresses.

Each yard includes a knowledgeable owner who is available to tell you more about their native gardens and answer your questions to help inspire you on your own native landscaping journey.



Registration will include a nominal fee of \$5 per adult (children are free) to cover program costs.

All revenue after expenses will be shared with a network of 25 charities which each landowner has chosen such as Casa de Salud, Operation Food Search, Stray Rescue, etc. The charity selected by each owner is included in their online listing. We believe material support to nonprofits serving our region is just as important in building community as the healthy environment these native landscapes help create.

The program is ideal for people that live in or want to see yards in small towns like Elsah, IL and Hermann, MO outside of the St. Louis core that are rarely, if ever, included in single-day events.

Our Open Yards should satisfy a wide array of experience levels, from beginner gardeners to experts. Registrants self-select the 'complexity' of the gardens visited based on the online description.

If you are interested in opening your own landscape through the Open Yards program, simply email us at <a href="mailto:stlopenyards@gmail.com">stlopenyards@gmail.com</a> or call (314) 599-7390. You will then be contacted by a representative of the program with additional detail and answers to your questions.

St. Louis Open Yards is currently an independent effort managed by a program committee staffed by volunteers and led by Mitch Leachman, co-founder and former coordinator of the St. Louis Audubon Society's Bring Conservation Home program.