

SPORE LORE



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A School Habitat Garden on the Prairie

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Habitat Garden at Carrie Busey Elementary School in Savoy, Illinois. Tony McGuigan designed and supervised the installation of this ground-breaking project with Elizabeth Slifer's 4th grade class. Learn outdoors!

I so miss my time on the prairie. I was there ten days ago and already want to return. Speaking at the Champaign County Audubon Society's monthly meeting brought me out to Champaign, Illinois. Creating a Habitat Garden at Carrie Busey Elementary School in Savoy, Illinois will bring me back. "How tall is the oak tree?, Have the insectary shrubs filled out?, Are birds using the dead wood spire as a perch?" and so many more questions that will gnaw at me over the years. I miss my children (the trees, shrubs, wildflowers, and animal habitats) in Savoy.

Here is my Native Plants and Wildlife Gardens post. If nothing else, I hope you get what a pleasure meeting and working with those Illinoisans involved was.

<http://nativeplantwildlifegarden.com/school-habitat-garden-in-illinois-prairie-country/>

And if you like the buffeting sound of a windy day, then here are two videos of my Habitat Garden installation at Carrie Busey Elementary School in Savoy, Illinois:

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The Before — Habitat Garden

We have not been able to archive the video associated with this YouTube page.

The After — Habitat Garden

Any school out there looking for a Habitat Garden? Give me a buzz — I'll give you a flower. Enjoy your precious time on our glorious Planet Earth. And when in doubt, Habitat It!

Tony

Posted by Spore Lore at 6:07 am

Tagged with: American elderberry, Beach plum (*Prunus maritima*), bees, birds, *Bouteloua curtipendula*, Canada Wild Rye, CARRIE BUSEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, chokeberry, conservation, dead tree, dead wood, drought tolerant, ecological landscaping, *Elymus canadensis*, gardening, Habitat Garden, *hypericum prolificum*, Landscape Design, landscaping boulder, little bluestem, native plants, *Panicum virgatum*, Prairie Dropseed, *prunis virginiana*, *sambucus canadensis*, *schizachyrium scoparium*, school habitat garden, school wildlife garden, shrubby St. John's wort, Side-oats Grama, snag, *sporobolus heterolepis*, swamp white oak, Switch Grass, terra cotta flowerpot, wildflower, wildlife garden

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