



**Sixteenth Annual Chapter Meeting
Stony Creek Hotel and Conference Center
April 25 to 27, 2025**

“Engaging Agricultural and Rural Communities in Ecological Restoration”

Please join us for the sixteenth annual meeting of the SER Midwest-Great Lakes Chapter. Our meeting agenda includes:

- ◆ **A keynote presentation by Dr. Laura Jackson of the University of Northern Iowa Tallgrass Prairie Center: *A Lost Cause? Bringing Prairie Back to the Cornbelt.***
- ◆ **A roundtable discussion on restoration and conservation in the Quad Cities region:** Our partners from the Quad Cities region have assembled a group of local restoration and conservation professionals to share their ongoing successes, challenges, and perspectives of restoration and conservation in the Quad Cities area of Illinois and Iowa and to answer your questions.
- ◆ **Three workshops:**
 - **Workshop 1** – *Basics of Native Seed Mix Designs.*
 - **Workshop 2** – *Quality Control Oversight During Construction Monitoring in Ecological Restoration.*
 - **Workshop 3** – *Painting with Soil.*
- ◆ **Four symposia:**
 - **Symposium 1** – *Native Plant Community Planning Establishment and Monitoring in Agricultural Wetland Bank Restoration Projects.*
 - **Symposium 2** – *Growing Resilient: Nature-Based Solutions for Urban, Rural, and Agricultural Communities in a Changing World.*
 - **Symposium 3** – *Agroecology: Working Lands.*
 - **Symposium 4** – *Building a Relationship with Farmers and the Agricultural Community Near Your Restoration or Conservation Project.*
- ◆ **Contributed oral presentation sessions:** We currently have 26 presenters from Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin, Virginia, and Washington who will share their experiences involving prairie, forest, wetland, stream, and urban restoration. Presentation topics include campus restoration efforts, factors affecting hardwood tree planting success on reclaimed coal mines, effects of native and commercial mycorrhizae sources on nursery grown tree seedlings, assessing nutrient removal ability of constructed wetlands, and more!
- ◆ **Dedicated contributed poster session:** We currently have 10 presenters from Georgia, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin, and Virginia who will share their experiences involving prairie, forest, oak-savanna, floodplain wetland, sand urban restoration. Presentation topics include training restoration volunteers, effects of seed mix design and planting time on floral resources, effects of deer repellants on floodplain restoration efforts and more!

Choice of one of eight field trips: 1) *Copperas Creek Restoration & BMP Installation Field Trip; 2) Collinson Ecological Preserve Field Trip; 3) Hahnman Sand Prairie & Keefe Prairie Field Trip; 4) Nahant Marsh – 25 Years of Restoring an Urban Wetland Oasis Field Trip; 5) Niabi Zoo Habitat Restoration Field Trip; 6) Fire on the Bluff: Exploring a Fire-maintained Oak Woodland at Black Hawk State Historic Site Field Trip; 7) Land of the Swamp White Oak – Fire, Cattle, and Floods Field Trip; 8) Ringneck Marsh Wildlife Area Wetland Restoration Field Trip*

Social events: Several social events are scheduled that include sponsorship reception on Friday, lunch on Saturday, and a no-host social on Saturday evening.

Meeting updates will be periodically posted on our Chapter website (<https://chapter.ser.org/midwestgreatlakes/2025-annual-meeting/>).

2025 TENTATIVE MEETING SCHEDULE

Friday April 25

11:00 am – 1:00 pm	Registration
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Concurrent Workshops
3:00 pm – 4:30 pm	Presentation & Roundtable Discussion with Quad Cities Meeting Partners
4:30 pm – 4:45 pm	Break
4:45 pm – 5:45 pm	Business Meeting and Recognition Awards
6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Poster Session and Reception

Saturday April 26

7:00 am – 10:00 am	Registration
8:00 am – 10:00 am	Concurrent Oral Presentations (Session 1)
10:00 am – 10:20 am	Break
10:20 am – 11:20 am	Keynote Presentation
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	Lunch and Student Awards
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Concurrent Symposia
3:00 pm – 3:20 pm	Break
3:20 pm – 5:20 pm	Concurrent Oral Presentations (Session 2)
6:00 pm – whenever	Social Dinner

Sunday April 27

9:00 am – 12:30 PM	Offsite field trips
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Meeting Location and Lodging Information:

Meeting Location – Stoney Creek Hotel and Conference Center, 101 18th Street, Moline, Illinois

Discounted Hotel Blocks – *Must be booked by March 28, 2025th to receive discounted rate.*

Discounted room rates start at \$104 for a Deluxe King or Queen room.

Guest room reservations can be made by calling hotel at 309-743-0101 and selecting option #2 to speak with a front desk agent and mention the Society for Ecological Restoration-Midwest/Great Lakes Chapter to receive the discounted rate. You may also use group code 0425Ecological to reserve a room.

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