

Lauren Jansen Simpson

Creator: St. Julian's Crossing-wildlife habitat

Email: stjuliandcrossing@gmail.com

iNaturalist: laurenjansensimpson

Facebook: St. Julian's Crossing-wildlife habitat

Instagram: st_julians_crossing

(website coming fall/winter 2019)

CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES & COMMUNITY SERVICE

I educate about pollinators, their conservation, and the urban wildscapes supporting them—my passion outside of teaching legal writing at the University of Houston Law Center.

PRESENTATIONS, WORKSHOPS, & CLASSES

- *How I Came to Love the Syrphid Fly—from the Journal of a Citizen Scientist*, Texas Pollinator Powwow, April 2016, May 2017
- [*From Wasteland to Wildscape: How We Transformed a Traditional Urban Landscape into a Pollinator Paradise*](#), 18th annual Wildscapes Workshop (Houston Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas, co-sponsored by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department), September 2016
- *How I Came to Love the Syrphid Fly—from the Journal of a Citizen Scientist*, Texas Gulf Coast Master Naturalist Chapter meeting, August 2016.
- *Wildscaping for Your Home or Business*, North Shepherd Community Alliance, November 2016
- *Easy Tips for Gardening for Wildlife in your Own Backyard*, Oak Forest Homeowners' Association and Oak Forest Community of Gardeners, March 2017
- Presentation on wildscaping and community outreach for pollinators, Texas Campaign for the Environment, May 2017
- *Easy Tips for Gardening for Wildlife in your Own Backyard*, Keep Friendswood Beautiful, October 2017
- *Easy Tips for Gardening for Wildlife in your Own Backyard*, Beauty's Community Garden, February 2018
- Presentation on pollinators and their conservation, plus development of testing questions on pollinators for competition, Texas Envirothon, April 2018
- Presentation for tweens on saving pollinators by gardening with native plants at home, at the Clear Lake City-County Freeman Branch Library, summer 2017, June 2018
- [*Supporting Pollinators and Pleasing Neighbors: How to Transform Your Garden into a Beautiful Pollinator Paradise Using Native Plants*](#), Planting for Pollinators workshop (Katy Prairie Conservancy and the Houston Audubon Society), June 2018

- Brief presentation to volunteers about pollinator conservation, Heights Hike and Bike Trail Cleanup, June 2018
- [*A Love Affair with Pollinators*](#): *Confessions of a Citizen Scientist*, meeting of the Houston Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas, June 2018
- *Easy Tips for Gardening for Wildlife in your Own Backyard*, Jersey Village Gardening Club, September 2018
- *Easy Tips for Gardening for Wildlife in your Own Backyard*, IHS Markit, November 2018
- *Easy Tips for Gardening for Wildlife in your Own Backyard*, Galveston Bay Oasis, January 2019
- *The Importance of Pollination Gardens*, Garden Club of Houston, February 2019
- *Pollinators Eat Local, Too!*, organized by *Edible Houston* magazine and hosted by Wabash Feed & Garden Store, March 2019
- *Supporting Pollinators in Your Home Garden*, Garden Oaks Civic Club, May 2019
- *Transforming Landscapes for Pollinators*, Clear Lake Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas, May 2019
- [*Hold the Phone!: Tips for Photographing Native Plants and Wildlife with Your Smartphone*](#), Houston Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas, May 2019
- Presentation on wildscaping and community outreach for pollinators, Texas Campaign for the Environment, June 2019
- *Supporting Pollinators in Your Home Garden*, class at The Woodlands Township Landscaping Solutions event, September 2019
- *Why and How to Garden for Wildlife in Your Own Backyard*, Buchanan's Native Plants, September 2019
- The Woodlands Township Sustainable Gardening Class: class on pollinators and their challenges, creation of pleasing and wildlife-supportive suburban gardens, and local covenants and restrictions affecting wildscaping, October 2019 (scheduled)
- Guest speaker on pollinators, Houston Botanic Garden annual luncheon, November 2019 (scheduled)
- *Why and How to of Garden for Wildlife in Your Own Backyard*, Wharton Garden Club, January 2020 (scheduled)
- *Why and How to of Garden for Wildlife in Your Own Backyard*, Texas Master Naturalist Coastal Prairie Chapter, January 2020 (scheduled)
- *Creating a Pollinator Paradise that Your Neighbors will Love*, Garden Club of Jackson (MS), February 2020 (scheduled)
- Presentation on wildscaping in urban neighborhoods for the inaugural Wild Gardening Festival, to be held at the National Butterfly Center (NABA), April 2020 (scheduled)
- *Creating a Pollinator Paradise that Your Neighbors will Love*, part of the 2020 Theresa and Les Reeves Lecture Series at the Stephen F. Austin State University Gardens, May 2020 (scheduled)
- *Hold the Phone!: Tips for Photographing Plants and Pollinators with Your Smartphone*, for the Garden and Nature Series class at the Hermann Park McGovern Centennial Gardens in Houston, May 2020 (scheduled)

- Pollinator conservation and urban wildscaping presentation, Sugarland Garden Club, September 2020 (scheduled)

INTERVIEWS

- [*UHLC Assistant Clinical Professor Simpson Gives Lessons in Nature's Law*](#), University of Houston Law Center online story, December 2015
- [*Oak Forest Resident Spreading the Love to Nature Community*](#), *The Leader*, February 2017
- Interview with Houston Audubon Society's Bird-Friendly Communities program, resulting in [four videos](#), summer 2017
- Briefcase Radio [segment](#) with Dean Leonard Baynes on pollinators and local ordinances affecting wildscaping, January 2018
- [*DIY or Pay: Landscaping Tricks for a Beautiful Yard*](#), interview by KPRC consumer reporter, Amy Davis, on tips for successful gardening, aired May 17, 2018
- [*Creating A Garden That Supports Pollinators*](#), Houston Matters, July 2018
- [*Houston-area Pollinators Abuzz over Native Plants in an Oak Forest Garden*](#), Houston Chronicle, September 2018
- [*Protecting Pollinators*](#), University of Houston Law Center *Briefcase Magazine*, Vol. 26, No. 2, September 2018
- [*Our Pollinators Eat Local, Too!*](#), *Edible Houston*, February 2019
- [*Oak Forest Couple Creates Pollinators' Paradise*](#), *The Leader*, July 2019

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Educational activity on composting and on planting herbs for Cub Scouts Pack 40 Bear's Den, March 2016
- Educational visit at home gardens for Forest West Garden Club, April 2017
- Educational table on native bees and their conservation, Garden Oaks' Spring Fling on Sue Barnett event, April 2017
- Educational event for Bug Badge, focusing on butterflies and how to support them, for Girl Scout Brownie Troop 1220088, April 2017
- Educational visit at home gardens for Garden Oaks Gardening Club, June 2017
- [*Supporting Pollinators after a Freeze: Embracing Imperfection in the Garden*](#), educational article for *The Lazy Gardener*, February 7, 2017 edition
- Educational visit at home gardens for West University Garden Club, April 2018
- Educational visit as part of tour of Houston native-plant and pollinator gardens organized by Garden Club of Houston, May 2018
- [*Gardening for Wildlife as a Citizen Scientist*](#), educational article for *The Lazy Gardener*, June 11, 2018 edition
- Educational visit and wildscaping presentation at home gardens for Shepherd Park Plaza Gardening Club, January 2019

- Educational event for Bug Badge, focusing on butterflies and how to support them, for Girl Scout Brownie Troop 122291, April 2019
- “Open gardens” community event at home gardens, May 2019
- Educational visit at home gardens for the Fort Bend Master Gardeners Chapter, May 2019
- Breakfast educational presentation on pollinator conservation to Solos Supporting Solos (Houston), September 2019 (postponed)
- Educational visit and pollinator activities at home gardens for Oak Forest children’s play group, October 2019 (scheduled)
- Educational visit at home gardens for the Crestwood Garden Club, April 2020 (scheduled)
- Educational event on pollinators for Girl Scout Troop 122292, May 2020 (scheduled)

COMMITTEE AND ADVISORY SERVICE

- Native Plant Society of Texas (NPSOT)—Houston Chapter, 2017 Wildscapes Workshop working group member, 2017
- NPSOT, Native Landscape Certification Program Level 4 Subcommittee, member, charged with creating curriculum for companion course on native-plant advocacy, 2018-2019
- Member of advisory group for City of Houston Parks and Recreation Department’s Natural Resources Manager, 2018-2019

EDUCATIONAL COMMUNITY

Creator and administrator of Facebook educational community entitled “[St. Julian’s Crossing-wildlife habitat](#),” which is devoted to education about pollinators, their conservation, and the habitats that support them, summer 2015-present

WILDLIFE SUPPORT

Maintain our home gardens as a [Certified Wildlife Habitat](#) (National Wildlife Federation), [Monarch Waystation](#) (Monarch Watch, Waystation No. 10925), and [Certified Butterfly Garden](#) (North American Butterfly Association), for benefit of pollinators and other wildlife. Gardens have welcomed 48 species of butterfly, at least 20 species of syrphid fly, and around 30 species each of bee and wasp—among other pollinators.

DATA COMPILATION

- iNaturalist: periodic cataloging and identifying invertebrate species in home gardens to share on iNaturalist for scientific use

- Monarch study participant: Collected data on Monarch activity at home gardens as part of Sam Houston State University study on *Ophryocystis elektroscirrha* parasite in Monarch populations in Texas east of the Brazos River, 2016-2017
- BioBlitz volunteer (Big Thicket National Preserve): Participated in data-collection event sponsored by the National Park Service and National Geographic Society to record biodiversity in national parks, October 2016

OTHER VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

- Participate in community activities through Oak Forest Community of Gardeners
- Share seeds, seedlings, and gardening and wildscaping knowledge with local residents

NATURALIST MEMBERSHIPS

- Native Plant Society of Texas—Houston Chapter
- North American Butterfly Association (Butterfly Enthusiasts of Southeast Texas chapter)

CERTIFICATIONS AND COURSES TAKEN

- Level 1 (2017) and Level 2 (2018), [Native Landscape Certification Program](#) of the Native Plant Society of Texas
- Monarch Conservation Workshop: “Train the Trainer,” sponsored by National Wildlife Federation (and other organizations), January 2019