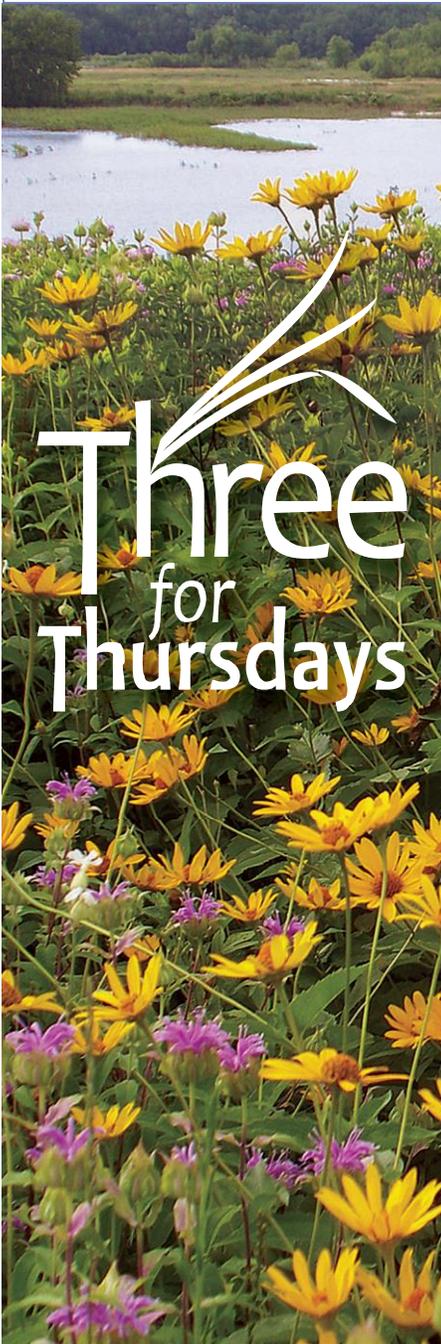


NATURAL LAND INSTITUTE

Conserving Land
in Northern Illinois



Three
for
Thursdays

The Dilution Effect...biodiversity & human health Or... *The Bloodsucking Consequences of Biodiversity Decline*

There is a hypothesis out there called the 'Dilution Effect' which proposes the idea that diverse communities inhibit the spread of parasites and diseases. We often tout the human health aspect of preserving nature through stormwater retention, cleaning our drinking water and purifying our air, however it looks as if biodiversity may have significantly other human health benefits. A recent study implies that biodiversity loss may have a kind of snowball effect, contributing to disease outbreaks in the species that remain, and also that biodiversity conservation may reduce the risk of human disease outbreaks, including parasites. You can read more here:

<http://conservationmagazine.org/2015/06/the-blood-sucking-consequences-of-biodiversity-decline/>

Sustaining Life...How our Health Depends on Biodiversity

a book edited by Eric Chivian & Aaron Burnstein

This book goes beyond ecosystem services and medicines from nature and explores the relationship of human health to biodiversity. There is also a program at The Harvard Center for Health and Global Environment that focuses on preserving biodiversity through the lens of human health. The roles that individual species, and the ecosystems they make up, play in providing food, fuel and unique medicinal compounds; air, water and soil purification services; and natural regulation of infectious disease, to name a few, are critical to our health and survival. I'd like to have a conversation about how NLI can be marketed more effectively to the regional human health community. See more at:

<http://www.chgeharvard.org/category/biodiversity-and-human-health#sthash.O80eNiYo.dpuf>

...and Why Physicians Must Protect the Global Environment

Dr. Eric Chivian, Director of the Center for Health and the Global Environment, named by Time Magazine in 2008 as "one of the most influential people in the world" and a recipient of the 1985 Nobel Peace Prize, explains why physicians are in a unique position to teach us all more about the human health dimensions of a changing environment. Here's a link to an 18 minute video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gSNkQubN09c#t=358>

(Warning: It's a little political on climate change, and some really interesting information on bears and hibernation...let me know what you think!)

Happy Reading/Listening! Kerry

July 23, 2015



320 S. Third Street, Rockford, Illinois 61104 • Phone: 815/964-6666
E-mail: info@naturalland.org • www.NaturalLand.org