

There will be four Member Meetings in 2025:



**January 13, 2025, 7:00pm “Working to End Single Use Plastic Pollution”**

**Kim Cameron Beyond Plastics**

Kim holds a Ph.D. in Plant Physiology (2001) and has taught biology courses at SUNY Cortland and worked as a research scientist at Cornell University. She is the owner of CNY Tutoring, LLC, a tutoring service that helps students in high school and college obtain their educational goals. Kim is also actively engaged in her community servicing on the Climate Smart Community Committee, the Tully Free Library Board, and the Song Lake Property Owners Association. As an environmentalist, parent, and grandparent, Kim is passionate about educating communities about climate change and the significant threat of plastics in our environment.

She is pleased to have become part of the Beyond Plastics Volunteer Speakers Bureau after completing coursework with Judith Enck, Beyond Plastics founder, through Bennington College in 2022. In her free time, Kim loves to hike, camp, canoe, and enjoy the outdoors. She and her husband have recently purchased a small trailer that allowed them to spend six weeks traveling around the United States observing the effects of climate change.



**February 10, 2025 10:00am Topic to be announced.**

Amanda Hyman is the newly appointed Director of Finch Greenhouse at Western Michigan University. This is a state-of-the-art greenhouse facility which provides faculty, staff, graduate and undergraduate students the opportunity to conduct plant, plant-insect and related research in a controlled environment. Amanda is a graduate of MSU with a BA in Landscape Horticulture and a

Master Gardener.



**March 10, 2025 10:00AM**

**“Simplify to Keep On Growing” Janet Macunovich Gardening A to Z**

Janet Macunovich and Steven Nikkila have 30 years experience as professional gardeners and trainers. They have been popular presenters for all of us because they share what they’ve learned in thousands of gardens about practicality, beauty, fun and simplicity. They offer tried-and-true ideas and tools that they’ve developed or received from others. Janet will cover how she has modified her gardening approach as she has grown older both with new beds as well as existing beds to continue to create 4 season interest.



**April 14, 2025 7:00pm “Neonicotinoids -The Devasting Impact on Pollinators” Dan Raichel and Nick Haddad**

Dan Raichel Director, Pollinators and Pesticides Nature, Natural Resources Defense Council

Daniel Raichel focuses on protecting our nation’s bee populations from the ever-growing threats to their health and existence—in particular, the use of bee-toxic pesticides. Before joining the Nature Program, Raichel was co-director of NRDC’s Community Fracking Defense Project and an advocate for the cleanup of industrial pollution in the New York region. Raichel holds a bachelor’s degree in English from Cornell University and a J.D. from Columbia Law School. He works out of the Chicago office.

He has lead efforts to restrict the largest uses of neonic pesticides with recent successful passage of laws in New York and Vermont to restrict usage. Neonicotinoids may become the most ecologically destructive since DDT.



Nick Haddad MSU Senior Terrestrial Ecologist working at W.K. Kellogg Biological Station.

Co-author of research article published in PLOS ONE June 2024 titled *“Insecticides, more than herbicides, land use, and climate, are*

*associated with declines in butterfly species richness and abundance in the American Midwest.”*

Nick oversees the Haddad Lab at the station which studies the application of ecological principles to the conservation of biodiversity - from individual rare animals, to all species living within a community, to species effects on ecosystems and people. We focus on strategies like habitat corridors that are intended to overcome the negative effects of habitat loss and fragmentation, and the effects of land use intensity in diversified agricultural landscapes that increase ecosystem services such as pollination.