

Flower Power

Yellow Cinquefoil. Blue Bugloss. Pink Clover. Yellow, blue and pink waving among the green grasses of late spring. This is one of my favourite photos. Two acres of natural beauty on an empty lot. Gone now! Gone where? Gone under the mowers, every lovely flower. Nothing left except a sterile green desert. These are Wildflowers but are dubbed as 'weeds' to demonize them. Wildflowers feed the Birds, the Bees, the Animals and the Insects. Medicinally, many are very beneficial. Beauty wise, they all fit the category. Acres upon acres each year fall prey to the mowers.

We are traveling full speed ahead as we race to gobble up the last of the world's gas reserves while putting an end to the natural world by mowing and whipper-snipping it to extinction. How CRAZY is This? One species per day goes extinct, and we add to it in a mad mowing rush toward our own extinction as well. We know this but we feign ignorance. We have been well brain-washed that lawns are ugly if there are weedy Wild Flowers on/in it. Not true. Don't believe it. However, mowing does create a fabulous habitat for Dandelions and Ragweed. I tasted a tender young Dandelion leaf yesterday, and, yes, they're great for a salad. The dog pee may be a bit salty, so wash first. Up close, see the loveliest flower. They, too, have been demonized so we give ourselves permission to poison them. Of course, along with the pesticides from farm fields, it all drips down into the water table.

If you love Butterflies, Bees, Insects, Toads, Frogs and Birds, might I suggest you cut your mowing in half. You can leave a wild area for them somewhere on your property.

Planting your perennials in their own 2' or 3' plots right out on the lawn and mowing around them will give you the most beautiful yard ever, and gradually cut your gas expenditure the more you do, saving gas resources, contributing immensely to saving the environment, and will save you many summer hours of weeding while you sip wine or cold

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