



Sustaining the Living Landscape

The 22nd Annual ELA Conference & Eco-Marketplace
March 9 & 10, 2016 at the UMass Murray D. Lincoln Campus Center, Amherst, MA



ELA's 22nd Annual Conference & Eco-Marketplace March 9 & 10, 2016

Immerse yourself in a two-day exploration of ecological concepts that support living landscapes!

Our 2016 Annual Conference brings together well-known experts for a lively exchange of information and experiences. On Wednesday, choose from two daylong Focus Sessions: An in-depth look at protecting and building soils and an investigation of ways to incorporate permaculture principles into the conventional landscape. Thursday's topics include restoring the urban forest, the best use of native cultivars, designing with plant communities, and the latest in energy efficient technology to light up your landscape. Join us as we look at strategies to create and maintain healthy ecosystems.

Focus Sessions: March 9th

Building and Managing Soils from the Top Down

Soil supports plants, and in turn, plants and organic matter are essential to protecting and building soil. As designers and managers of the land, we need to understand these individual components as well as how they function as part of a larger system. Our speakers will share strategies for remediating compromised soils and stabilizing slopes, discuss plant design and selection for poor soil conditions, and illustrate ways to support the natural cycling of nutrients and water. Join us for a comprehensive look at how our designs and landscape practices can provide maximum protection and restoration of soil.

Permaculture Applied to Conventional Landscapes


As stewards of the land, we need to ask ourselves how we can improve on traditional practices to ensure that the landscapes we create and manage are more resilient against pests, diseases, and climate changes. As resources become scarcer, we need to ask how we can reduce our dependence on inputs and maintenance. Permaculture, based on mimicking natural processes, offers some solutions. Presenters for this session will introduce principles and practices of permaculture, demonstrate how these techniques can be incorporated into conventional landscapes, and show examples of successful application in the traditional landscape settings.

General Information

Online Registration

Visit www.ecolandscaping.org to register online!

Continuing Education Credits

Pesticide credits have been requested from the six New England states, NY and PA. CEU credits have been requested from APLD, ASLA, ISA, LA CES, MAA, MLP, MNLA, , NOFA OLCP, and others.

ELA Bookstore

Open throughout the ELA Conference. Your bookstore purchase helps to support ELA educational programs.

Contact Information

Visit www.ecolandscaping.org for online registration, general information, and conference details.

Attendee information

Penny Lewis at (617) 436-5838

Exhibitor information

Trevor Smith at (617) 308-7063

Wednesday, March 9

Keynote Luncheon, Phil Korman 12:30-2:00pm

Growing Local, Buying Local: Community Support Makes a Difference!

Community support can make a difference! Mr. Korman will discuss how Community Involved In Sustaining Agriculture (CISA) has changed the local farming and food economy. He will show what is unique to Western Massachusetts' Pioneer Valley and what others have done to inspire local farming.

Phil Korman is the Executive Director of Community Involved In Sustaining Agriculture (CISA). Started in 1993, CISA is the longest running "buy local" organization in the nation. Their mission is to strengthen local agriculture by building connections between farmers and the community.

Keynote Dinner, Tradd Cotter 6:30-8:30pm

Mycoremediation: Healing Compromised Ecosystems with Fungi

Many species of fungi sweat powerful enzymes capable of molecular disassembly of complex molecules such as hydrocarbons and pesticides. A few species of fungi are also well adapted to filter, stun and destroy pathogenic bacteria. Learn how fungi perform these tasks and how to develop a filtration system that is customized to fit your needs. Mr. Cotter will focus on biomass expansion, site engineering, and species of fungi that can be used for mycoremediation projects. He will also discuss using fungi for pest management, habitat restoration, and how to incorporate fungi into bioswales to capture pollutants from site runoff.

Tradd Cotter is a microbiologist, professional mycologist, and author of *Organic Mushroom Farming and Mycoremediation*, a best-selling mushroom cultivation guide. In 1996 he founded Mushroom Mountain, focusing his interests on the use of native plants and fungi to create urban ecosystems that are more functional and compatible with the local plant and wildlife communities. He currently maintains more than 200 species of fungi for food production, for mycoremediation of environmental pollutants, and as natural alternatives to chemical pesticides. Mr. Cotter's current research focuses on the development of target-specific mycopesticides that could replace conventional chemical products for agriculture.

On-site Registration

Register at the event: March 9 and 10.

Hotel: Rooms at Hotel UMass are available to participants for \$109 per night. Reservations will be taken no later than February 23, 2016. Register online or call (877) 822-2110 and specify the ELA group promotional code: ELC16C. The discount is NOT available at check-in.

Cancellation Policy

To receive a refund, your request must be received prior to February 28, 2016.

A \$60 handling fee will be deducted. No refunds will be made after that date unless the conference is canceled. For recorded cancellation information, call (617) 436-5838.

Disclaimer

ELA is a facilitation organization. Views expressed or products offered by participating companies or individuals are not necessarily endorsed by ELA or its co-hosts.



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March 9, 2016 Conference Focus Sessions

Building and Managing Soils from the Top Down

8:00am

Registration and Eco-Marketplace open;
Breakfast available for purchase at on-site UMass cafes

9:00am–10:30am

Remediating Urban Soils
Eric "T" Fleisher – F2 Environmental Design

11:00am–12:30pm

Agents of Change: The Role of Plants in Soil Development
Tara Mitchell – MA Dept. of Transportation

12:30pm–2:00pm

LUNCH, KEYNOTE & NETWORKING

Growing Local, Buying Local: Community Support Makes a Difference!

Phil Korman – Community Involved In Sustaining Agriculture

2:00pm–3:30pm

Keeping Soil on Site: Slope Stabilization
Tom Benjamin – Wellnesscapes
Duke Bitsko – Chester Engineers

4:00pm–5:30pm

Closing the Loop: Reusing and Recycling On-site Resources
Eric "T" Fleisher – F2 Environmental Design

Permaculture Applied to Conventional Landscapes

9:00am–10:30am

Permaculture Principles in a Horticultural Setting
Jonathan Bates – Food Forest Farm Permaculture Nursery

11:00am–12:30pm

Applying Permaculture Principles to Water Management
Keith Zaltzberg – Regenerative Design Group

2:00pm–3:30pm

Integrating Edibles into the Designed Landscape
Ellen Sousa – Turkey Hill Brook Farm

4:00pm–5:30pm

Form and Function: Designing with Plant Polycultures
Jonathan Bates – Food Forest Farm Permaculture Nursery

5:30pm

Eco-Marketplace closes for the day

"After Hours"

5:30pm–6:30pm

Hors d'oeuvres, cash bar, and music.
Take a moment to network and energize before dinner and the keynote.

6:30pm–8:30pm

KEYNOTE DINNER

Mycoremediation: Healing Compromised Ecosystems with Fungi

Tradd Cotter is a microbiologist, professional mycologist, published author, and researcher focusing on the use of fungi for remediating polluted environments.

March 10, 2016 Conference Sessions & Idea Exchange

Conference Sessions

7:30am–8:30am

Registration and Eco-Marketplace open;
Breakfast available for purchase at on-site UMass cafes

Landscape Lighting Demonstration
Lukas Sturm – Lumen Studio, Inc.

8:30am–10:00am

Light Up Your Landscape
Lukas Sturm – Lumen Studio, Inc.

Tree Filter Systems for Stormwater Management
Paul Iorio – StormTree

10:30am–12:00pm

Designing with Plant Communities in Mind
Claudia West – North Creek Nurseries

Restoring the Urban Forest
Fiorella Trimble – New York City Parks

12:00pm–1:30pm

Lunch & Networking

1:30pm–3:00pm

What Role Do Native Cultivars Have in an Ecological Landscape?
Keith Nevison – Fellow in the Longwood Gardens Graduate Program in Public Horticulture

Native Shrubs up to the Challenge
Dr. Jessica Lubell – UConn

3:00pm–3:30pm

Coffee & Light Refreshments

4:00pm

Eco-Marketplace closes

3:30pm–5:00pm

Creating an Urban Refuge: Mt. Auburn's Wildlife Action Plan
Paul Kwiatkowski – Mt. Auburn Cemetery

Creating Ecological Landscapes in Maine: Challenges & Opportunities
Arek Galle – BETA Group, Inc.
Emily Goodwin – Back Meadow Farm

Idea Exchange: Jump In!

8:30am–10:00am

Managing Challenging Landscapes: Tips from the Experts

George Carrette – EcoQuiet Lawn Care
Russ Hopping – Trustees of Reservations
Anthony Ruggiero – Greenway Conservancy
Theresa Sprague – BlueFlax Design

ELA Moderator:
Sue Storer – Horticultural Services

10:30am–12:00pm

Cost-effective Landscape Management Strategies

Benjamin Crouch – Land of Plenty Gardens
Nate McCullin – LaFrance Hospitality Company
Mark Richardson – New England Wild Flower Society

ELA Moderator:
Dan Jaffe – New England Wild Flower Society

1:30pm–3:00pm

Battling the Bugs: Strategies for Insect Management

Carl Brodeur – Arborcare with Ropes 'n Saddles
Jennifer Forman Orth, PhD – Mass. Dept. of Agricultural Resources
Joe Magazzi – Green Earth Ag & Turf

ELA Moderator:
Rebecca McMackin – Brooklyn Bridge Park

3:30pm–5:00pm

Buying Quality Nursery Stock: Asking the Right Questions

John Kinchila – Amherst Nurseries
Navé Strauss – New York City Parks

ELA Moderator:
Chris Roddick – Brooklyn Botanic Garden

5:00pm 2016 Conference Concludes



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March 9, 2016 Wednesday Intensive Workshops

9:00am–10:30am

Building and Managing Soils from the Top Down

Remediating Urban Soils

– Eric “T” Fleisher

Most landscapes that we work with in urban, suburban, and even rural environments have a history of severe disturbance and alteration. Often, this includes damage from chemical or industrial use. For over 30 years Mr. Fleisher has been developing protocols for proper data collection, diagnosis, and reporting in order to improve methods of restoring landscapes that have been subject to these conditions. Using Battery Park City, Brooklyn Bridge Park, the Museum of Modern Art, and the campus at Harvard University as models, he will detail the components necessary to successfully build and restore soils in the most challenging urban conditions. His techniques focus on encouraging natural nutrient cycling systems through proper soil building and management practice, and avoiding the use of toxic chemicals and excess nitrogen.

Permaculture Applied to Conventional Landscapes

Permaculture Principles in a Horticultural Setting

– Jonathan Bates

Forty years since its development, permaculture, a design process based on agricultural and ethical principles, is gaining acceptance in mainstream landscaping. Mr. Bates will introduce permaculture as a design system and global movement. He will review the design principles and ethics and present a “Paradise Lot” in Holyoke, MA as a successful permaculture-based landscape. Whether you are a daily practitioner of permaculture or know little about it, this session will inspire you to learn more.

11:00am–12:30pm

Building and Managing Soils from the Top Down

Agents of Change: The Role of Plants in Soil Development

– Tara Mitchell

Traditional landscape practices rely on fertilizers, mulches, and other amendments to create soils that support plant growth. However, plants and fungi have been creating and protecting soils for millions of years on their own. How can we tap into these naturally occurring processes and use them to our advantage in the urbanized landscape? Ms. Mitchell will take a closer look at some of the intricate ways in which plants and fungi build, change, and protect soil in natural systems and how traditional landscape practices alter these processes. Using examples of constructed urban landscapes, she will discuss how plant selection, design decisions, and land care practices may be used to promote the cycles of plant growth and decay necessary for healthy soils and self-sustaining landscapes.

Permaculture Applied to Conventional Landscapes

Applying Permaculture Principles to Water Management

– Keith Zaltzberg

The New England climate is changing. Heavier rainfalls are causing greater inundation, yet higher temperatures and longer-term dry conditions are resulting in dry soils. These new patterns require a rethinking of water management for landscapes. Permaculture offers a design framework and simple strategies for conserving water when and where it is overabundant and dispersing it where and when it is needed. Join Mr. Zaltzberg as he describes this whole-systems approach using integrated earthwork and planting patterns. Citing examples from the New England area, he will review design principles and specifications for choosing, sizing, and managing cisterns and tanks, rain gardens, contour swales, and Keyline systems.

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March 9, 2016 Wednesday Intensive Workshops, *continued*

12:30pm-2:00pm

LUNCH, KEYNOTE, & NETWORKING

Growing Local, Buying Local: Community Support Makes a Difference

– Phil Korman

Community support can make a difference! Mr. Korman will discuss how Community Involved In Sustaining Agriculture (CISA), by engaging the support of the community, has changed the local farming and food economy. He will show what is unique to Western Massachusetts' Pioneer Valley and what others have done to inspire local farming. By looking at how one community has brought about change, we can learn what's possible in the future on a larger scale.

2:00pm–3:30pm

Building and Managing Soils from the Top Down

Keeping Soil on Site: Slope Stabilization

– Tom Benjamin and Duke Bitsko

Working on slopes and near shorelines poses both challenges and opportunities for landscape designers. Repairing and preventing erosion during and after construction is a central concern. Bioengineering is a technique that combines “hard” engineering with the biological attributes of living vegetation. This session explores innovative bioengineering approaches modeled after effective natural systems. These approaches employ multi-tiered reinforcement systems that stabilize even the steepest slopes and most vulnerable shorelines from the start of construction onward. Bioengineering offers significant additional benefits unattainable by strictly hard-armored, conventional engineering approaches, such as improved stormwater management and enhanced habitat and aesthetics. Mr. Benjamin and Mr. Bitsko will present a variety of replicable applications taken from diverse and often high profile sites.

Permaculture Applied to Conventional Landscapes

Integrating Edibles into the Designed Landscape

– Ellen Sousa

Ellen Sousa will discuss the challenges and special considerations for integrating food systems into landscape design. A beautiful and functional garden that feeds people and provides biodiversity requires careful site analysis, plant selection and placement, and optimal soil health. Ms. Sousa will also discuss the ongoing management and maintenance needed to meet client expectations and goals.

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March 9, 2016 Wednesday Intensive Workshops, *continued*

4:00pm–5:30pm

Building and Managing Soils from the Top Down

Closing the Loop: Reusing and Recycling On-site Resources

– Eric “T” Fleisher

Mr. Fleisher will be describing composting processes and the important role compost plays in creating closed loop, natural growing systems within plant communities. Using examples from the systems he developed for Battery Park City, Harvard University, Princeton University, and his own business, F2 Environmental Design, he will discuss various composting techniques, how to analyze and organize the different feed stocks, and how to assess the quality of compost. Mr. Fleisher will also discuss how composting is integral to managing the earth’s resources responsibly.

Permaculture Applied to Conventional Landscapes

Form and Function: Designing with Plant Polycultures

– Jonathan Bates

Polyculture is the permaculture practice of using multiple crops to create biodiversity and to reduce plant susceptibility to disease. Mr. Bates will discuss how to incorporate polycultures into the horticultural landscape. Learn simple guidelines for maximizing ecological functions while meeting cultural needs using polycultures that work well and look good together.

6:30pm–8:30pm

KEYNOTE DINNER

Mycoremediation: Healing Compromised Ecosystems with Fungi

– Tradd Cotter

Many species of fungi sweat powerful enzymes, or “chemical keys”, capable of molecular disassembly of complex molecules such as hydrocarbons, aromatic chlorinated compounds, and pesticides. A few species of fungi are also well adapted to filter, stun and destroy pathogenic bacteria (such as those from pet waste). Learn how fungi perform these miraculous tasks and how to develop a living barrier or filtration system that is customized to fit your needs. Mr. Cotter will focus on biomass expansion, site engineering, and species of fungi that can be used for mycoremediation projects. He will also discuss using fungi for pest management, habitat restoration, and how to incorporate fungi into bioswales or rain gardens to capture pollutants from site runoff.





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March 10, 2016 Thursday Conference Sessions & Idea Exchanges

Conference Sessions

7:30am–8:30am

Landscape Lighting Workshop & Demonstration

– Lukas Sturm

8:30am–10:00am

Light up Your Landscape

– Lukas Sturm

Landscape lighting can do more than make outdoor spaces safer and more inviting. Well-designed lighting systems can reveal hidden aspects of the landscape and, by using new technologies, can improve energy efficiency and preserve dark skies. But are the newest products always the best? How much light is enough? As landscapes mature, should their lighting change too? And how do we weigh the trade-offs between efficiency, quality, cost, and durability? Mr. Sturm will review the latest light sources, including conventional incandescent, discharge lamps, and LED; describe lighting methods that save energy and reduce light pollution; and explore integrated approaches to lighting design.

Tree Filter Systems for Stormwater Management

– Paul Iorio

Tree filter systems integrate common street trees with stormwater collection as a viable and sustainable alternative to traditional “end of pipe” systems in achieving stormwater management and remediation goals. These systems are unique in that they integrate above ground vegetation with subsurface bioremediation to treat and “cleanse” stormwater contaminated with pollutants prior to subsurface infiltration to groundwater and aquifers. Case studies of projects completed in conjunction with the Massachusetts Watershed Council in residential neighborhoods in Leominster, MA will be featured and discussed. Session attendees will come away with a thorough understanding of the mechanics of tree filter systems, their applicability and utility in the residential streetscape, and their costs as compared with conventional non-sustainable practices.

Idea Exchange

Managing Challenging Landscapes: Tips from the Experts

– George Carrette, Russ Hopping, Anthony Ruggiero, Theresa Sprague

All land managers face challenging site conditions and situations from insect infestations to drought. What are the challenges you face? Are you struggling with compacted soil due to excessive use of a site? Experiencing limited budgets? Staying one step ahead of invasive weeds and insects? Are there regulatory requirements that add to these challenges? Bring your questions and join our experts as they share their tips and strategies for managing difficult landscape situations.

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March 10, 2016 Thursday Conference Sessions & Idea Exchanges, *continued*

Conference Sessions

10:30am–12:00pm

Designing with Plant Communities in Mind

– Claudia West

Ecological plantings are gaining popularity, but also face challenges due to environmental conditions and cultural expectations. When these plantings fail, it discourages future ecological landscaping efforts. We won't solve this problem if we continue to design as if it we were painting on canvas, perceiving plants as individual objects in space. It is time for a new approach: a plant community based approach that evolved from the world of ecological science. Join Ms. West as she explains how plants fit together in the wild and how we can use this knowledge to create landscapes that are resilient, beautiful, and diverse. This presentation will provide information that is practical as well as inspiring.

Restoring the Urban Forest

– Fiorella Trimble

New York City has concluded a massive initiative that planted one million trees over eight years. Ms. Trimble will provide a brief overview of the MillionTrees initiative, outline how the New York Parks Department specifies street tree species, and provide details on diversification and the City's procurement plan. She will also discuss how tree species are selected for urban conditions and comment on unique tree species that are being planted more regularly throughout New York City. Participants will be able to use NYC's tree specifying formula for their on urban locations.

Idea Exchange

Cost-effective Landscape Management Strategies

– Benjamin Crouch, Nate McCullin, Mark Richardson

We all have to keep an eye on the bottom line. When faced with limited resources, time, money, and personnel, we need to develop strategies for getting the job done while providing responsible stewardship of the land. Today's panelists will look at plants that are able to thrive with minimal care, ways to reduce vegetation management over the long term, strategies for re-using and recycling materials onsite, and other creative methods of staying within the budget while meeting expectations. Sharing your challenges and success stories will ensure a lively exchange of ideas and strategies.

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March 10, 2016 Thursday Conference Sessions & Idea Exchanges, *continued*

Conference Sessions

1:30pm–3:00pm

What Role Do Native Cultivars Have in an Ecological Landscape?

– Keith Nevison

Recent evidence suggests that some native cultivars (nativars) have enhanced attraction for pollinators over their wild type analogues. Join Mr. Nevison as he discusses research being done at Mount Cuba's Trial Garden in Delaware to assess pollinator preferences between nativars and straight species. He will outline why and when nativars should or should not be used in ecological landscaping, show specific examples of nativars proving useful for conservation, and explain how they fit into a larger native plant community.

Native Shrubs up to the Challenge

– Dr. Jessica Lubell

From invasive insects and new diseases to climate extremes, plants are increasingly facing challenges to their survival. Learn which native shrubs can stand up to those challenges and why, how to site plants properly to maximize landscape utility and minimize maintenance needs, and which native shrubs are best suited to support pollinators.

Idea Exchange

Battling the Bugs: Strategies for Insect Management

– Carl Brodeur, Jennifer Forman Orth, PhD, Joe Magazzi

Are mosquitoes, ticks, and other insects causing you concerns? Are you battling insect pests in the garden and out in the landscape? Do you wonder what steps we can take to avoid insect problems in the future? Join this Idea Exchange team to learn what management strategies they've used as a means of control and to discover what's new in the treatment of existing and soon-to-arrive insects in New England.

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March 10, 2016 Thursday Conference Sessions & Idea Exchanges, *continued*

Conference Sessions

3:30pm–5:00pm

Creating an Urban Refuge: Mt. Auburn's Wildlife Action Plan

– Paul Kwiatkowski

Paul Kwiatkowski will share how, with the creation of its Wildlife Action Plan, Mount Auburn Cemetery was able to create and sustain important ecosystem functions on its 175-acre property in Cambridge, MA and to encourage visitors to reconnect with that landscape. Mr. Kwiatkowski will discuss how they developed and implemented projects ranging from finding the necessary funding and creating a citizen science volunteer program to addressing storm water management concerns and selecting native species for habit creation. The Wildlife Action Plan has inspired staff and visitors alike to push the boundaries of expectation and allowed Mount Auburn to evolve into an urban wildlife refuge.

Creating Ecological Landscapes in Maine: Challenges & Opportunities

– Arek Galle and Emily Goodwin

Creating landscapes in New England presents a variety of challenges, but Landscape Architect Arek Galle and Emily Goodwin, owner of Back Meadow Farms, have found that practicing in the state of Maine has additional challenges: Maine is larger than all the other New England states combined, and it borders only one other US state. Due to its unique location, plants, and materials, designers and contractors must be sourced locally out of necessity. Mr. Galle and Ms. Goodwin will share how these unique conditions present both a challenge and an opportunity for economic sustainability as they discuss a variety of projects: a magnificent estate on the Maine coast, a forgotten farm on a salt pond, a brownfield site reinvented as an intermodal hub, and the revitalization of a historic park on the Kennebec River.

Idea Exchange

Buying Quality Nursery Stock: Asking the Right Questions

– John Kinchila, Navé Strauss

Problems that begin in the nursery and go unaddressed may shorten the lifespan of a plant and compromise a landscape. Consequently, obtaining healthy plants is essential. What steps can we take, either as end buyers or nursery suppliers, to avoid problems? What should consumers look for when inspecting plants at the nursery? How can we successfully establish plants shipped from other states with different climates and soils? What problems face growers and nursery suppliers when they try to meet demand and provide healthy plants? Would buyers' cooperatives or contract growing improve plant availability and quality? Whether you're a supplier or buyer, bring your questions and suggestions to discuss.



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Speaker Biographies

Jonathan Bates has been learning about, thinking about, and teaching ecological design for two decades. He has helped create dozens of thriving farms and gardens in the Connecticut River Valley and beyond. He is the co-designer of his internationally recognized home garden and a contributing author of the award winning book about that garden: *Paradise Lot: Two Plant Geeks, One-Tenth of an Acre, and the Making of an Edible Garden Oasis in the City*. Additionally, he is a landscape design coach for his business Food Forest Farm.

Tom Benjamin, RLA, LEED-AP BD+C, is Principal of Wellnesscapes and has more than 25 years of experience designing for a variety of landscapes, from large-scale solar farms and institutional campuses to commercial and residential developments. He is the recipient of multiple awards for his design work. Mr. Benjamin's work also includes designing for stormwater infiltration systems and for upland, wetland, and coastal restoration. He emphasizes the use of low cost, low maintenance, and low tech solutions. He also teaches sustainable landscape design at the University of Massachusetts and has lectured widely including at the USGBC's Greenbuild Conference and for many design profession groups. He is a Board Member of the Ecological Landscape Alliance.

Duke Bitsko, RLA, is the Director of Interdisciplinary Design at

Chester Engineers located in Salem, Massachusetts. As principal on many of the firm's green infrastructure and restoration projects, he works with ecologists, earth scientists, and engineers to develop cost effective, site-based solutions. His recent projects include New England's largest stormwater treatment wetland and a multi-neighborhood green streetscape for the City of Cambridge. Mr. Bitsko holds BS degrees in Petroleum Engineering and in Geology from Marietta College and an MLA from the University of Pennsylvania.

Carl Brodeur is an ISA and Massachusetts certified arborist and an accredited organic land care professional through the Northeast Organic Farming Association. He is President of Arborcare with Ropes 'n Saddles, Inc. Mr. Brodeur has served on the Boards of the Ecological Landscape Alliance and the Taunton River Watershed Alliance, and currently holds a seat on the Taunton River Stewardship Council. In addition to providing expertise on tree care, Mr. Brodeur also provides general plant and landscape care.

George Carrette is founder and owner of EcoQuiet Lawn Care. His Metrowest lawn care company specializes in using electric and solar powered equipment. In addition to using quieter, non-polluting equipment, Mr. Carrette offers full landscape services, organic lawn care, and pest control. Mr. Carrette attended the Stockbridge School of Agriculture and is an accredited

organic land care professional through the Northeast Organic Farming Association and an American Green Zone Alliance professional.

Benjamin Crouch is the proprietor of Land of Plenty, which specializes in edible and naturalistic landscapes in the Greater Boston area. He was previously the Urban Orchards Director for the Boston-based non-profit EarthWorks' Urban Orchards program.

Tradd Cotter is a microbiologist, professional mycologist, and organic gardener who has been culturing fungal tissue, collecting native fungi in the Southeast, and cultivating both commercially and experimentally for more than 22 years. He is the author of *Organic Mushroom Farming and Mycoremediation*, a best-selling mushroom cultivation guide. In 1996 he founded Mushroom Mountain, refocusing his interests on the use of native plants and fungi to create urban ecosystems that are more functional and compatible with the local plant and wildlife communities. He currently maintains more than 200 species of fungi for food production, for mycoremediation of environmental pollutants, and as natural alternatives to chemical pesticides. Mr. Cotter's current research focuses on the development of target specific mycopesticides and medicinal compounds that could replace conventional chemical products for agriculture as well as have pharmaceutical applications.

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Speaker Biographies

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Eric "T" Fleisher is the Director of Horticulture at Battery Park City Parks Conservancy in Lower Manhattan. A leader in the field of sustainable horticulture, Mr. Fleisher has brought this 37-acre oasis of parkland on the Hudson River to the forefront as the only public garden space in New York City to be maintained completely organically. His methods are based on the development of balanced soil ecology, with an emphasis on composting, water conservation, and the use of nontoxic means of pest and disease control. A frequent lecturer on sustainable practices, Mr. Fleisher also serves as a consultant to Harvard University, the Rose F. Kennedy Greenway Conservancy in Boston, and Bowdoin College, among other organizations. A 2008 Loeb Fellow at Harvard University, Mr. Fleisher is continuing to develop protocols to help landscapes recover from the 20th century's chemical interventions.

Jennifer Forman Orth, PhD, is an invasive plant ecologist currently working as an Environmental Biologist for the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources to address the challenges of invasive pests, weeds, plant diseases, and mosquito control. Her work covers everything from insect and disease surveys to education and outreach about invasive species.

Arek W. Galle, RLA, AICP, is an Associate with BETA Group, Inc. and has more than 20 years of experience in master planning and landscape

architecture. Prior to joining BETA Group, he worked on several large-scale waterfront projects including the Providence River Relocation Project and the I-195 Relocation Project, which resulted in 40 acres of newly designed waterfront land in the heart of the city. Mr. Galle has also worked on the reconstruction of the Portuguese Discovery Monument in Newport, Rhode Island, and he is currently working for the Town of Plymouth, Massachusetts to reshape their waterfront. His work has proven to be successful in transforming client's needs and desires into highly functional, aesthetically pleasing and environmentally responsible landscapes.

Emily Goodwin co-owns Back Meadow Farm, a family owned business in mid-coast Maine providing landscape and development services. Known for their ability to "capture the Maine Coast," Back Meadow Farm offers clients a full range of services, including site planning, design, construction, and installation and maintenance. Most recently they completed a three-year project in Cape Elizabeth that was featured in magazines such as *Maine, Home & Design*, and *DownEast*. Ms. Goodwin's formal education is in sociology and education.

Russ Hopping is the Ecology Program Director for The Trustees of Reservations. He has worked for The Trustees since 1997 overseeing the completion of management plans, guidelines, and policies and providing stewardship for more than 25,000 acres of Trustee land. Mr. Hopping has more than 20 years

of experience restoring and managing natural habitats and resources, including coastal shorebird populations on barrier beaches, fire-adapted habitats, grasslands, rare species habitat, and control of invasive species. He has an MS in Environmental Biology from Antioch New England Graduate School and a BS in Human Ecology from the College of the Atlantic.

Paul Iorio is an engineer with StormTree, a Rhode Island-based design and engineering firm specializing in the integration of plant systems with stormwater management for commercial and residential applications throughout the Northeast. Over the past 20 years, his work has focused on soil and water pollutant removal systems that incorporate the principals of bioremediation and phytoremediation to achieve the removal of pollutants. Mr. Iorio holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in plant, soil and water sciences, and environmental engineering.

Dan Jaffe is the propagator and stock bed grower at New England Wild Flower Society (NEWFS) in Framingham, Massachusetts. He earned a degree in botany from the University of Maine and an advanced certificate in Native Plant Horticulture and Design from NEWFS. After interning at Garden in the Woods, Mr. Jaffe worked for a year as Plant Sales Coordinator at the Garden.

John W. Kinchla founded Amherst Nurseries in 2002, growing trees and shrubs on farms in the Amherst, MA

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area. His nursery practices focus on minimizing environmental impacts and improving plant quality through the use of grow bags and compost growing media. The business serves customers throughout New England and New York state. Mr. Kinchla has been a business owner in the landscape/nursery industry his entire career and holds a BS in Horticulture and an MS in Agricultural Economics from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

Philip Korman is the Executive Director of Community Involved In Sustaining Agriculture (CISA). Started in 1993, CISA is the longest running "buy local" organization in the nation. Its mission is to strengthen local agriculture by building connections between farmers and the community. Mr. Korman has over 25 years of experience in management and raising resources for nonprofits. He holds an MS in public health from University of California, Berkeley.

Paul Kwiatkowski is the staff conservationist and assistant greenhouse manager at Mount Auburn Cemetery, where he has worked for the past 16 years. In addition to contributing to the Cemetery's Master Plan for Sustainability, he works on habitat improvements and conservation initiatives such as invasive plant removal, pollinator habitat creation, rainwater harvesting, native amphibian reintroductions, storm water management, and composting. Mr. Kwiatkowski is a member of the Society for Ecological

Restoration, the Xerces Society, and the Ecological Landscape Alliance. He has a degree in Ecology from Evergreen State College and has continued his training with Soil Foodweb, Inc.

Dr. Jessica Lubell is an Associate Professor of Horticulture at the University of Connecticut. She has 15 years of experience working with the green industry. She has worked closely with growers to expand production of new native shrubs. Dr. Lubell is the 2015 recipient of the New England Nursery Association Young Nursery Professional Award. You can follow her research and outreach work on Facebook at "Native Plant Gal".

Joe Magazzi is co-founder and President of Green Earth Ag & Turf. He has been involved in the research and development of biological products to be used for disease and pest control and for plant growth promotion. His company focuses on organic growing and turf care and promotes the use of organic products. He has a BS in Physiology/Neurobiology and an MS in genetics (with a microbiology focus) from the University of Connecticut, Storrs. His work has been published in multiple scientific journals, trade magazines, and online publications.

Nate McCullin is Horticulturist and Facilities Coordinator at LaFrance Hospitality Company. He has extensive experience in the landscape industry, including residential and golf course landscaping, assisting with nursery operations, and caring for a public garden. His hands-on techniques in

conjunction with a strong horticultural foundation allow him to convey information in a way that both plantsmen and laymen can appreciate. Mr. McCullin has a degree in Landscape Horticulture and Plant Science from the University of Delaware.

Rebecca McMackin is Director of Horticulture at Brooklyn Bridge Park, where she oversees 85 acres of ornamental beds, forest ecosystems, meadows, wetland, green roofs, and turf areas. She is an ISA-certified arborist, a NOFA-accredited land care professional, instructor at the Brooklyn and New York Botanical Gardens, and a Board Member of the Ecological Landscape Alliance, Metro Hort, and the Torrey Botanical Society. Ms. McMackin's work has been published by the New York Times and the Landscape Institute. She also owns Mantis Plant Works, an ecologically obsessed design-build and consulting firm.

Tara Mitchell is a Landscape Architect with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) Highway Division. Her work includes plant design for a variety of site conditions from wetlands to roundabouts, design review, and planting oversight on MassDOT construction projects. Ms. Mitchell also assists with vegetation management, including invasive plant control, reduced mowing, and the use of native seed to improve the ecological functions of roadside rights-of-ways. She received an MLA from Cornell University.

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Keith Nevison is a fellow in the Longwood Gardens Graduate Program in Public Horticulture, a Master of Science partnership program between the University of Delaware and Longwood Gardens. For the past decade, Mr. Nevison has worked in the nursery industry, and with sustainable agriculture and conservation landscaping. He has also served on the board of the Society for Ecological Restoration for the last four years. Mr. Nevison received his BS from Portland State University in Environmental Studies with a minor in Geography.

Mark Richardson oversees the New England Wildflower Society's botanic garden, Garden in the Woods in Framingham, Massachusetts and its native plant nursery operation, Nasami Farm in Whately, Massachusetts. He studied ornamental horticulture at the University of Rhode Island and helped run a mid-sized ornamental plant nursery before finding his true passion in public horticulture. He led undergraduate programs at Longwood Gardens, overhauled the curriculum of the Professional Gardener Program, and oversaw adult education at Brookside Gardens. In 2013, Mr. Richardson assisted with the development of the first comprehensive master plan for Garden in the Woods. He holds an MS from the University of Delaware's Longwood Graduate Program.

Chris Roddick is the Head Arborist and Foreman of Grounds at the

Brooklyn Botanic Garden (BBG). For over 20 years, he has developed the garden's tree care program and established the BBG as a leader in Conservation Arboriculture and veteran tree care. Mr. Roddick consults with landscape architects, designers, and private clients on mature tree preservation, tree risk assessment, and tree protection in construction and development sites. He is the author of the *Tree Care Primer*, a guide to caring for young, mature, and veteran trees.

Anthony Ruggiero joined the Greenway Conservancy in June 2009 as Horticulture Foreman. He is responsible for the oversight of the Horticulture crew, the day-to-day horticultural activities, and the management of the Greenway's Organic Program and Irrigation Systems. Mr. Ruggiero has worked in all areas of the landscape industry, but his passion and specialty is organic land care. Prior to working at the Conservancy, he worked for a number of years for a small land care firm on Cape Cod doing restoration, ecological landscaping, and environmentally friendly plant health care. He holds an Associate's Degree in Turfgrass Management from Stockbridge University, a BS in Plant and Soil Science from UMass Amherst, and is an accredited organic land care professional through the Northeast Organic Farming Association.

Ellen W. Sousa owns Turkey Hill Brook Farm, a native plant nursery and habitat farm in Spencer, Massachusetts and the author of *The Green Garden: A New England Guide to Planning,*

Planting & Maintaining the Eco-friendly Habitat Garden. She provides coaching services to clients to guide them in the design and construction of landscapes that support pollinators and biodiversity. Ms. Sousa is also an overseer and instructor for New England Wild Flower Society.

Theresa Sprague, principal of BlueFlax Design, blends her background in communication and education with more than 20 years of experience in horticulture, landscape planning, and ecological design. BlueFlax Design merges science with the fine art of design to create landscapes that are not only beautiful, but that also restore ecological function and integrity to created spaces that support the needs of both people and wildlife. Ms. Sprague is currently serving her third term as Vice President of the Ecological Landscape Alliance, and holds an MS in Ecological Design from The Conway School of Landscape Design.

Sue Storer is the owner of Horticultural Services and specializes in fine gardening design and maintenance with an ecological focus. Ms. Storer was one of the founding members of the Lawn Care Committee that organized at the Northeast Organic Farming Association Landscapers Forum in 1991 – the initiative that went on to become the Ecological Landscape Alliance (ELA). For more than 23 years, she has been dedicated to promoting sustainable landscape practices and has volunteered countless hours as ELA's President and later as ELA's Treasurer.

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Navé Strauss is a Senior Forester with NYC Parks and an ISA Certified Arborist. He oversees the Tree Procurement Program for NYC Parks which is tasked with providing diverse tree species of high-quality for the Street Tree Planting Program. In addition, he has run the Young Street Tree Pruning Program for the past 4 years and has trained Parks Department staff as well as citizen stewards about proper tree care techniques. Mr. Strauss received a BA in Environmental Studies from St. Lawrence University.

Lukas Sturm has over 15 years of experience as an architectural lighting designer and co-founded Lumen Studio, Inc. in 2012. He is the primary technical principal at Lumen and is responsible for the firm's IT system. Mr. Sturm is a trained Landscape Architect, but has found lighting to be a means of contributing to people's sense of well-being by transforming their understanding of architectural spaces through the use of light. His portfolio includes transportation centers, academic buildings, historical restoration, landscapes, and daylighting-intensive projects. He also has a light art installation at the Museum of Russian Icons in Clinton, Massachusetts, and his work has been recognized at the regional and international levels.

Fiorella Trimble is a Senior Forester with NYC Parks where she has worked for the past 8 years. She supervises the planting of thousands of street

trees throughout New York City in the Bronx, Staten Island, Manhattan, and Queens. Ms. Trimble received a BA in Environmental Studies from St. John's University and a Master's Degree in Environmental Management from Portland State University in Oregon. She has completed many advanced trainings in urban forestry and is a TRAQ and ISA Certified Arborist.

Claudia West is the ecological sales manager at North Creek Nurseries, a wholesale perennial grower in Landenberg, Pennsylvania. Ms. West holds a Master's Degree of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning from the Technical University of Munich, Germany. In her current role, Ms. West works closely with ecological design and restoration professionals, offering consultation services from initial project planning stages to adaptive management strategies after project completion. Her work is centered on the development of stable, layered planting designs and the desire to bring American native plants back into our landscape. Together with co-author Thomas Rainer she recently published her first book: *Planting in a Post-Wild World*, which promotes a new approach to ecological planting design.

Keith Zaltzberg is an environmental planner and permaculture designer with over 15 years of professional and field-based experience. He integrates his knowledge of organic farming and "green-building" into his work creating resilient and productive landscapes.

Working with diverse groups, Mr. Zaltzberg teaches subjects ranging from permaculture to urban agriculture and community planning. He also teaches digital skills for environmental design. Mr. Zaltzberg is a founding partner of Regenerative Design Group and adjunct faculty at the Conway School of Landscape Design, Smith College, and Greenfield Community College.





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Wednesday & Thursday
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