



"Advocating for responsible stewardship of land and natural resources in landscaping and horticultural practices."

May

You haven't signed up for ELA's Summer Workshop [What Role Do "Nativars" Play in an Ecological Landscape?](#) It's filling up! This half-day exploration of native plant cultivars - nativars - takes place at Garden in the Woods on July 27, 1:00pm, and will look at the growing interest in and demand for native plants and the implications of using Nativars as substitutes for straight species. Come an hour early with your bag lunch so that you can attend ELA's Annual Meeting and network with friends.

As a prelude to the Summer Workshop, the May newsletter features articles on topics surrounding native plants. Our authors look at native plant seed production, native plants in permaculture, and native plants for the shady understory. You can also enjoy photos of one member's award winning project and our Eco-Pros step up to answer another question. MS



Can Permaculture Go (More) Native?

by Dan Jaffe

Native plants dominate healthy habitats, providing food and shelter for wildlife species. Considering the growing interest in edible landscapes for human consumption, native plants could have a greater role in permaculture. [Read the article.](#)



Native Plants for Ecology and Horticulture

by Peggy Olwell

American native plant seed is in short supply, and current production does not meet the growing demand. The National Seed Strategy, launched in August 2015, is working to increase and improve seed production and use. [Read the article.](#)



In the Shade: Gardening with Native Plants from the Woodland Understory

by Heather McCargo

There are many beautiful and resilient plants from the woodland understory of eastern North America that can enliven a shady landscape on your property and change your perception about gardening in the shade. There are woody and herbaceous species with delicate blossoms, an array of fruits and seeds, a variety of leaf shapes and colors, and interesting bark or branching patterns.

[Read the article.](#)



ELA Members Making a Difference

Namcook: A Breezy, Coastal, Summer "Cottage"

The Perennial Plant Association of America awarded ELA member Shawn Mayers of [groundSwell Designs](#) the **2016 Landscape Design Award of Merit**. The award-winning project, located in Narragansett, RI, was recognized by PPA judges for outstanding design and implementation.

[Read the article.](#)

Eco-Answers from the Pros

ELA members have spent hundreds of hours learning the best ecological solutions to problems in the landscape. You can benefit from all that accumulated knowledge by posing a question to our experts. If you are stumped by a problem in your landscape or are looking for a second opinion on a potential solution, ask ELA's Eco-Pros. Send your question to ela_new@verizon.net. And if you need additional help, refer to the listing of [ELA Professionals](#).



Heirloom Apple Tree Source?

We are located in the South Shore area of Massachusetts and are looking for some heirloom apple trees. Do you know of a good source in our area? [Read the Pro's Answer.](#)

ELA News

Do You Offer Ecological Services Like Quiet Landscaping? Let Potential Clients Know!

This is the time of year when ELA fields many requests for links to landscapers offering ecological services of all types. This year has seen an uptick in people across the country looking for services using "quiet" electric equipment. Is this a service you offer? Whether your niche is low-noise, low-emission maintenance, creative use of repurposed materials, or native plant landscapes, take two minutes to be sure your [ELA Member Profile](#) highlights those services.

Your profile includes two spaces for you to write notes about the special services your company offers. Blow your horn and include the services environmentally conscious clients are looking for. Remember that your Company level membership entitles you to feature your company profile in the ELA Newsletter. This is a great way to promote your ecological services. You'll find several companies highlighted in this issue; your company could fill that space next month. Contact [Penny Lewis](#) for additional information.



Support ELA with Every Amazon Purchase...

Whether you're replacing your work gloves, ordering a book, or selecting the perfect Mother's Day gift, shop through [AmazonSmile](#) and support ELA every time you make an Amazon purchase. It's easy. Go to www.smile.amazon.com, enter your account as usual, specify Ecological Landscape Alliance as your preferred charity, and start shopping.



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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE 2016 SEASON

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Responsible, energetic, strong and plant savvy; pay commensurate with ability. Boston area sites, must have car. Part time, hours negotiable. Start immediately. Please contact Colleen. leaningcrow@earthlink.net

Gleanings

Advice to Prevent Landscape Conflicts with DEP Regulations

Monique Allen provides much needed information to help keep landscape projects from running afoul of Massachusetts environmental protection laws in her post "[What You Need to Know about DEP Regulations before Starting a Landscape Project](#)." Allen offers a brief summary of regulations and a link to a downloadable copy of *Navigate State and Local Environmental Regulations Like a Pro!*



Landscape Message Is Back

UMass Extension provides a weekly Landscape Message throughout the growing season. The message summarizes landscape information from sites throughout Massachusetts, including growing degree day accumulation, soil temperature, precipitation amounts, and plant phenology. You can check messages on the [website](#), or join the email list.



Emerald Ash Borer Info Network

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) has been discovered in 25 states and 2 Canadian provinces. [Emerald Ash Border Information Network](#) provides national information and connects to state and province resources.



Project Native Nursery Reopens Under New Ownership

Although [Project Native](#) dissolved over the winter, the nursery has been purchased by Bridget McCracken, owner of [Helia Native Nursery](#). Helia Native Nursery will continue Project Native's work of making native plants available to homeowners and landscapers.



Future Forests Publication Available Online and In Print

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service has published [Future Forests of the Northern United States](#), a look at the profound effects of forest management of anticipated ecological, social, and economic changes over the next 50 years. The report considers forest change in response to many factors including land use change, greenhouse gas emissions, climate change, and forest growth.



Events to Note (listings indicate local time unless otherwise noted)

- May 17 - [New England Natives](#); Providence, RI; 12:00-1:00pm.
- May 18 - [Conway School Information Session](#); Easthampton, MA; 10:30am-2:00pm.
- May 19 - [A Chickadee's Guide to Gardening with Doug Tallamy](#); Orleans, MA; 6:30pm.
- May 19 - [Landscape Pests and Problems Walkabout](#); Jamaica Plain, MA; 5:00-7:00pm.
- May 20 - [Alexander Von Humboldt Symposium: The History, Science, and Poetry of Ecology](#); NYC, NY; 10:00am-12:30pm.
- May 21 - [Pine Fest: A Pine Barrens Multicultural Celebration](#); Myles Standish State Forest, Carver, MA; 10:00am-4:00pm.
- May 21 - [White Grub Biocontrol Workshop \(free\)](#); Storrs, CT; 9:30am-12:00pm.
- May 22 **ELA Event**→[Eco-tour: Invasive Plants - What Are They? And What Can Be Done?](#); Walpole, MA; 1:00-3:00pm.
- May 25 - [Engaging Urban Residents: Innovative Approaches to Promoting Community-Based Stormwater Management](#) - Webinar; 1:00-2:30pm.
- May 26 - [Identifying Freshwater Wetlands in the Landscape 1](#); Amherst, MA; 9:00am-3:30pm.
- May 31&June 14 - [Designing Gardens for Small Spaces](#); Framingham, MA and field sites; 9:00am-12:00pm.
- June 2 - [Identifying Freshwater Wetlands in the Landscape 2](#); Amherst, MA; 9:00am-3:30pm.
- June 2 - [MA Smart Growth Conference](#); Worcester, MA; 8:00am.
- June 5&12 **ELA Event**→[Herbaceous Native Plants for Professionals](#); Framingham, MA; 10:00am-3:00pm.
- June 6 - [Pruning Project: Taming the Early Season Bloomers](#); Boston, MA; 6:30-8:30pm.
- June 9 **ELA Event**→[Eco-tour: Spring Splendor - The Native Plants at Connecticut College Arboretum](#); New London, CT; 10:00am-12:00pm.
- June 9 - [Weed Walkabout](#); Walpole, MA; 4:00-6:00pm.
- June 10,11,17,18,24 - [New England Plant Communities](#); sites around MA; times vary.
- June 15 - [Managing for Native Pollinators](#); Enfield, NH; 9:00am-3:00pm.
- June 15 - [Best Management Practices for Minimizing Turf Pests](#); Milford, MA; 8:30am-12:30pm.
- June 16 - [Hometown Habitat - Film](#); Dennis, MA; 6:00pm.
- June 18 **ELA Event**→[Eco-tour: Recreational Lake Shore Restoration at Lake Massapoag](#); Sharon, MA; 10:00am-12:00pm.
- June 24 - [Balancing Economic Development with Historic Preservation](#); Portland, CT; 8:00am-3:00pm.
- June 25 **ELA Event**→[Eco-tour: Edible Landscape Oasis - Permaculture in Practice](#); Holyoke, MA; 10:00am-12:00pm.
- June 28-29 - [Reduce & Recover: Save Food for People](#); Cambridge, MA. Early Bird rates before April 17.
- July 23 **ELA Event**→[Eco-Tour: Wildlife Haven at Turkey Hill Brook Farm](#); Spencer, MA; 10:00am-12:00pm.
- July 27 **ELA Event**→[What Role Do "Nativars" Play in an Ecological Landscape?](#) Framingham, MA; 1:00pm-5:00pm.

ELA Company Member Profiles



Earth & Turf Products, LLC, is dedicated to producing quality, affordable products incorporating "Simple, well-built" design. E & T topdressers spread topdressing on athletic fields and seedbed areas, infield mix, and salt-sand on sidewalks. E & T Linear Aerators assure maximum turf modification by cutting grooves in the soil. Reciprocating steel fingers brush topdressing into the grooves.

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GreenWeaver Landscapes, LLC is a full service landscape company located in southeastern Pennsylvania specializing in sustainable landscapes for both commercial and residential customers. Because we believe that as professionals, land stewardship is our responsibility, we strive to provide excellent service and care for each property in an environmentally friendly manner.



Stormwater
Mitigation

Landscape Elements LLC provides a full range of landscape architectural services. We create places that enhance communities, safeguard the environment, and protect cultural and historic resources. Services include master planning, site design, streetscape and village enhancements, wetland mitigation, storm water management, and historic landscape preservation. WBE/DBE Certified firm in CT, MA and RI.



Linden L.A.N.D. Group is a residential design/build company based in Shelburne, VT that creates beautiful living landscapes serving the needs of both wildlife and people. Linden combines a modern aesthetic with Vermont's rustic landscape, using native plantings, meadows and woodlands, as well as hardscaping features such as patios, fire pits, and natural stone walls. www.lindenlandgroup.com



New Moon Nursery is a wholesale propagation nursery producing Eastern native perennials, grasses, vines and ferns for landscape professionals, container production, storm water management, and restoration. All plant material in a deep plug. Enrich your world with more Eastern native species, for a wide range of site conditions and ecosystems. Our goal is to provide you with the highest quality plant material, at a fair price. Shipping to the continental US East of the Rockies. <http://www.newmoonnursery.com/>



SumCo Eco-Contracting provides full-service ecological contracting-from dam removal, excavation and wetland soils to revegetation and invasive species control. SumCo's wetland scientists and project engineers team with owners, consultants and regulators to ensure that the ecosystems created or enhanced provide the functions and values of natural systems. SumCo's principals have completed over 300 ecological construction projects since 1999, creating or restoring over 500 acres of resource areas.

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The [New York Botanical Garden](#) is an advocate for the plant kingdom. The Garden pursues its mission through its role as a museum of living plant collections arranged in gardens and landscapes across its National Historic Landmark site; through its comprehensive education programs in horticulture and plant science; and through the wide-ranging research programs of the International Plant Science Center.



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Whether you are located in the area of our upcoming events or in some distant landscape, you are invited to participate in ELA collaborations and discussions by joining the Ecological Landscape Alliance discussion group on LinkedIn. The ELA discussion group is open to both ELA members and non-members from around the world and participation is growing each week. Through these discussions you can share information, get answers to landscape problems, and learn new perspectives on challenging ecological issues. Joining LinkedIn is free and it is easy to join.

[Join the ELA LinkedIn Discussion](#). We look forward to hearing from you soon!

We hope that you enjoy this edition of the ELA newsletter and welcome your comments at ela.info@comcast.net. Maureen Sundberg, ELA Newsletter Editor

Forward to a Friend