



**“Advocating for responsible stewardship
of land and natural resources in
landscaping and horticultural practices.”**

November

November is a wonderful time for reflection before the busy holiday rush and pressure of new year resolutions. Last week's Season's End Summit in Ipswich offered a great opportunity for people working in the landscape to take a break, meet, and reflect with colleagues. If you missed the Summit, you have another chance this month to connect at ELA's second Members' Reception on Thursday evening, November 20th. Our partners at Southeastern Massachusetts Pine Barrens Alliance (SEMPBA) are hosting us at their Community Center in Plymouth, MA. If you are in the area, we hope you'll join us for an evening of camaraderie. [Register in advance](#) so we can have a warm drink waiting for you. *MS*



Transforming a Beachfront Landscape

by Laura Kuhn

At ELA's 2014 Season's End Summit, Laura shared the transformation of a barrier beach landscape from open turf and over-sized driveway to a private and protected retreat. Here she steps us through the landscape restoration. [Read the article.](#)



Keep Winter Gardens Working with Permaculture Strategies

by Lauren Chase Rowell

Lauren was asked to come up with five permaculture suggestions for ways to fill the spaces in our gardens that remain empty after the harvest. Find out how she utilizes the open areas in the annual vegetable, herb, and flower growing spaces that appear after the first frost and then often remain unused until spring planting season. [Read the article.](#)



Composting: Turning Garbage into Gold

by Tara Mitchell

John Engwer, owner of Groundscapes Express, and Butch Goodwin, Operations Manager, led Ecological Landscaping Alliance participants on a tour of Groundscapes' composting facility in Wrentham, MA explaining how compost is made and discussing the many benefits and uses of compost in the landscape. Through knowledge, training, and most importantly, years of experience and trial and error, John and Butch have developed a fine-tuned operation for turning waste into a valuable product. [Read the article.](#)



A Meadow Comes to Stoney Creek: The First Year

by Silvana Valiani

What started out as a routine after dinner dog walk in the spring of 2012 resulted in the implementation of the first Meadowscape to avoid annihilation by the weed police in Silvana's hometown of Stoney Creek, Ontario. She describes the first year with her front-yard meadow. [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 someone with boots on the ground for follow-up help, refer to the listing of [ELA Professionals.](#)



Help with Winter Moth

Winter Moth decimated shrubs and trees in my yard this spring, from blueberry bushes to maple trees. Are there eco-friendly options for control in the fall? Do I have to spray? [Read the Eco-Answers.](#)

Gleanings

Lausanne Jardins

The innovative gardens of Lausanne, Switzerland, installed throughout the city from June through October, can now be viewed on the [Lausanne Jardins website](#). This fifth event features an astounding array of gardens along streets and paths, in alleyways, on roof terraces and bridges, and within courtyards. Part competition, part guerilla gardening, the gardens of Lausanne offer a new look at urban spaces.



Emerald Ash Borer Update

The emerald ash borer appears to have moved on from ash trees to white fringetree (*Chionanthus virginicus*). Read more in an October 10th article in [Entomology Today](#).



The Fields Pond Foundation Grants

Fields Pond Foundation provides grants to community-based nature and land conservation organizations that serve to increase environmental awareness by involving local residents in conservation issues. The Foundation supports nonprofit organizations and local government agencies in the six New England states and New York State. The Foundation's grantmaking priorities include land acquisition for conservation and project grants for trailmaking and other enhancement of public access to lands, rivers, and coastlines. Most grants range between \$2,000 and \$10,000. Grant requests may be submitted throughout the year. Details on the application process are available on the Foundation's website: <http://fieldspond.org/>



MA Recreational Trails Grants

The Recreational Trails Program (RTP), a federally funded grant program created through the National Recreational Trail Fund Act as a part of the Federal Transportation Bill, provides funding

assistance for acquisition, development, rehabilitation, and maintenance of both motorized and non-motorized recreation trails. These federal transportation funds benefit recreational uses including hiking, bicycling, in-line skating, equestrian use, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, snowmobiling, off-road motorcycling, all-terrain vehicle riding, four-wheel driving, or use of other off-road motorized vehicles. Grant Deadline: February 1, 2015. Go to the [RTP website](#) for details or contact Amanda Lewis at 413-586-8706 ext.19, Amanda.lewis@state.ma.us.



UMass Turfgrass Management Internship Fair

The UMass Turf Program will hold its annual Internship Fair on Thursday November 20, 5:00-7:00pm, in the Paige Laboratory Building on the UMass Amherst campus. Paige is a new building that houses offices and labs for faculty in the Stockbridge School of Agriculture. All current freshmen will be required to attend the fair, and invitations will be extended to other turf students in both the two-year and four-year programs. Pizza and refreshments will be provided. This is a great opportunity for turf managers to meet our students and speak to them about internship positions, as well as to re-connect with alumni of the turf program.

If you are able to attend, please RSVP to Dr. Michelle DaCosta (mdacosta@umass.edu, 413-545-2547) by Monday, 11/17/2014. Managers unable to attend the event, may send an electronic file with the pertinent information for the internship(s) they hope to fill. We will make those files available to the students who attend the session.

Location details: Paige Laboratory, 161 Holdsworth Way, Amherst, MA 01003. Parking is available adjacent to the building, and shares a parking lot with Stockbridge Hall. [Click for maps and driving directions.](#)



MA Rolls Out Food Waste Disposal Ban

In October, Massachusetts instituted the first-in-the-nation statewide, commercial food waste ban. The ban is part of the Commonwealth's strategy to reduce solid waste generation by 30% by 2020 and 80% by 2050. A roll-out tour by state officials visited a Hannaford Supermarket, a dining hall at UMass Lowell, a food rescue organization, and a compost facility: ELA member Groundscapes Express in Wrentham. Read more at [Mass.Gov](#).



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

November 17 - [Planning for Resilient Communities](#); Framingham, MA; 7:00-9:00pm.

November 18 - [Pollinator Conservation Short Course](#); Riverhead, NY; 9:00am-4:30pm.

November 19 **ELA Webinar**→[Landscaping at the Water's Edge: An Ecological Approach](#); 1:00-2:00pm EST.

November 20 **ELA Free Event**→[South Shore Members' Reception](#); Plymouth, MA; 5:30-7:30pm.

November 21-23 - [Biodiversity for a Livable Climate - Restoring Ecosystems to Reverse Global Warming](#); Tufts University, Medford, MA.

December 2 - [The Resilient Farm and Homestead](#), Ben Falk; Boston, MA; 6:30-9:00pm.

December 3 - [NOFA Annual Gathering](#); Windsor Locks, CT;

December 5 **ELA Webinar**→[Therapeutic Wellness Gardens](#); 1:00-2:00pm EST.

December 8 **ELA Webinar**→[The Magical Appeal of Moss Landscape Designs](#); 7:30-8:30pm EST.

December 10 **ELA Webinar**→[Creating Outdoor Magic: Designing Natural Play and Learning Spaces](#); 7:30-8:30pm EST.

December 10 - [Greenhouse Vegetable Production - In Containers](#); Sturbridge, MA; 9:30am-3:45pm.

December 10-11 - [Aerated Static Pile Composting & Compost Tea Workshop](#); St. John's University, Queens, NY; 8:00am-5:00pm.

December 11 - [Friends of Fairsted Fall Lecture](#): Dwelling in Landscape, Daniel Bluestone; 7:00pm. RSVP to friendsoffairsted@gmail.com.

January 7 **ELA Webinar**→[Tools and Equipment for the Management of Invasive Species in Natural](#)

Areas; 1:00-2:00pm EST.

January 10 - [NOFA/Mass Winter Conference](#); Worcester State University, Worcester, MA; 7:30am-7:30pm.

January 12 **ELA Event**→[25 Steps to Business Success](#); 3:00-5:00pm EST.

January 14, 21, 28 & February 4 - [Community Training in Ecological Design](#); various NH locations.

January 15-18 - [California Native Plant Society Annual Conference](#); San Jose, CA.

January 15-16 - [Ecological Landscape Symposium - Evolving Strategies for Evolving Landscapes: Beyond the Garden Bed](#); Connecticut College, New London, CT.

January 21 **ELA Event**→[Building the Ecological Landscape: Materials, Technology, and Design](#); Montvale Plaza, Stoneham, MA; 8:00am-5:00pm.

January 21 **ELA Webinar**→[Xeriscape: Whole System Planning and Practice](#); 1:00-2:00pm EST.

February 5-6 - North Atlantic Fire Science Exchange Field Trip & Southeastern MA Regional Conservation Forum; Mashpee and Buzzards Bay, MA. Save the dates.

February 11 **ELA Webinar**→[Edible Native Plants for Your Landscape](#); 7:30-8:30pm EST.

February 25-26 **ELA Event**→[ELA Conference & Eco-Marketplace](#); Springfield, MA.

March 26 - [Pollinator Health for Agriculture and Landscapes](#); UMass Amherst, MA. Save the date.

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Ecological Snow Removal

Seeking company for ecological snow removal in the Cambridge, Massachusetts area. Must not use salt or chemicals for ice. Includes some permeable surfaces adjacent to an historic park and near sensitive ecosystems.

Contact the [ELA office](#) if interested in more information.

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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

