



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

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Everyone loves a good deal, and ELA has a great one for you. October is Membership Month. All new and renewing members will receive a **20% discount** during the month of October. Join ELA or renew your membership on or before October 31st and you'll save money.

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ELA now has rolling membership; your membership will be active for one year from the date of renewal. Enjoy the discount, and enjoy a year of ELA benefits. *MS*



Taking It to the Extremes

by Sandy Vorce

"How do you plan for Climate Change and all the wild weather?" This was a question recently posed by several college students who came to help out at Mass Audubon's Habitat Education Center and Wildlife Sanctuary in Belmont, MA. These students were among the hundreds of volunteers who arrived at Habitat the last week of August to engage in community service as part of their freshman orientation. Volunteers and visitors usually ask about the wildlife on the property, the content of our nature programs, and how we protect and steward the land. However, I was prepared for the climate change questions. Mass Audubon has been addressing climate change for a long time and has a detailed climate change strategy. [Read the article.](#)



Forget the Debate! Let's Get on with Planting Resiliency

by Kevin Staso

If you listen to nightly news reports or read articles in *Nature*, *The Journal of Ecology* or *The American Meteorological Society*, the frequency and severity of drought in the United States seems unavoidable, despite being more predictable. Headlines like "Drought Monitor shows record-breaking expanse of drought across United States" from 2012 and "Extreme Drought Is Causing Land in the Western U.S. To Rise Upward" posted in *Popular Science* August 2014 can portray inevitable doom. The essential question is "What can we do to adapt to these foreseeable conditions?" [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](#).



Choosing a Tree for Habitat Value

I have room for one new tree in my landscape (6 hours of direct sun, well-drained soil, zone 5). What tree would you recommend for the greatest ecological and habitat value? [Read the Pros' Answers](#)



Helping Hydrangea Bloom

A combination of bitterly cold temperatures and high winds last winter has resulted in disappointing hydrangea blooms in parts of New England this summer. Are there sustainable options to safeguard blooms in the midst of extreme weather conditions? [Read the Pros' Answers](#)



ELA Announces Season 2 of Webinar Series "A Focus on Sustainability"

The second season of ELA's collaborative webinar series begins on October 7, 2014. Free to ELA members, Season 2 offers topics from xeriscaping to invasives management to edibles. [Read the article.](#)

Gleanings

Rhody Native™ Program Seeks Volunteers

Join a day of planting at the Napatree Point Conservation Area on Thursday, September 25. Work begins at 9:00am and continues until 4:00pm. Your help and company will be appreciated whether you can spend a couple of hours or the whole day. Bring drinking water, lunch, gloves, hat, sunscreen, and your favorite digging tool. Snacks will be provided. Some extra shovels and digging implements, as well as soil amendments and water for plants, will be provided each team. Contact [Hope Leeson](#) at Rhode Island Natural History Survey (NINHS) (401)874-5807 for details and to sign up. This project is eligible for URI Master Gardener Volunteer Hours.



UMass Soil and Plant Tissue Test Lab to Move

On September 16, the Lab moves from West Experiment Station to a newly renovated space in Paige Laboratory on the UMass Amherst campus. The lab will be closed on the day of the move. Orders sent to the old address will be automatically forwarded to the new address:

UMass Soil and Plant Tissue Testing Lab
203 Paige Laboratory
161 Holdsworth Way
Amherst, MA 01003-9286

Turnaround times may be affected by the move. For questions, contact the lab by phone at 413-545-2311, or by email at soiltest@umass.edu.



SITES Fundamental Webinar Series

This nine-part series, [SITES Fundamentals](#), examines the new SITES v2 Rating System, covering topics that include restoring soils, managing stormwater, and using native and appropriate vegetation. All technical details will be discussed within the context of the rating system.



Soak Up the Rain Demonstration Workshop

Learn how to better manage rainfall at your home or business while you save money and beautify your landscape. Workshops cover rain gardens, cisterns, drywells, porous pavers and other water preserving techniques. Registration is required by September 16. Contact Patty Gambarini, pgambarini@pvpc.org or 413-781-6045. Learn more at soakuptherain.pvpc.org.



Mass Arborists Seek Learning Projects

Instructors of Stockbridge and UMass arboriculture students are looking for out-of-the-ordinary tree management projects near Amherst, MA that could offer unique educational opportunities for current arboriculture students. MAA members should contact Brian Kane, bkane@umass.edu.



Public Meeting on Emerald Ash Borer

On Tuesday, Sept. 23 at 6:30pm, there will be a public meeting to address the implications surrounding the recent discovery of the invasive wood-boring Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) in Suffolk County. Central to this meeting is the issue of establishing a quarantine that would restrict the movement of certain wood products under certain conditions. Attendees will have the opportunity to participate in a question-and-answer session. For more information, see <http://masstreewardens.org/eab-public-meeting-at-arnold-arboretum/>. For background on the Boston EAB find, which occurred at the Arnold Arboretum last July, see <http://arboretum.harvard.edu/emerald-ash-borer-detected-in-the-arboretum/>



Looking for an Eco-Speaker?

Tap into the expertise of ELA members. Many members are available to speak about ecological landscaping topics from wildlife habitats to raingarden installation, native plant selection to invasive pest control. Click to view the complete [ELA Speakers Bureau](#) with the list of speakers and their bios.



URI Launches Online Native Plant Guide

Designed to help property owners find the right native plant for site conditions, this online tool is the result of a three-year collaborative effort among URI Outreach Center, RI Natural History Survey, and a team of reviewers. [Access the guide](#), enter growing conditions and plant requirements, and you are presented with a list of native plants meeting your criteria. Click further for nursery or garden center availability and for photos. Right plant, right place, right function with a couple of clicks.



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

September 19 **ELA EVENT**→[The Trees at Brooklyn Botanic Gardens](#); Brooklyn, NY; 10:00am-noon.

September 19 - [UMass Winter School for Turf Managers](#); applications due for international students

September 20 - [Coastsweep](#), part of [International Coastal Cleanup](#); at coastal sites throughout MA and around the globe.

September 20 - [Soak Up the Rain, Demonstration Workshop](#); Springfield, MA; 8:30am-1:00pm.

September 23 **ELA EVENT**→[Organic Lawns at the Rose Kennedy Greenway](#); Boston, MA; 1:00-3:00pm.

September 23 - [Landscape Pests and Problems Walkabout](#); Boylston, MA; 4:00-6:00pm.

September 26-27 - [Source to Sea Cleanup](#); sites along the Connecticut River.

October 3 **ELA EVENT**→[Native Plants - Native Brews - Native Talent](#); Framingham, MA; 5:30-8:00pm.

October 3-5 - [Canadian Biochar Workshop: Caring for the Earth](#); Golden, British Columbia.

October 7 **ELA Webinar**→[Xeriscaping - The Necessary Wave of the Future](#); 7:30-8:30pm EST.

October 7 - [Invasive Plants 2014: Where Are We Now?](#) Storrs, CT; 8:00am-4:30pm.

October 7-8 - [Growing Sustainable Communities Conference](#); Dubuque, IA.

October 17 - Community Stormwater Solutions; Lemonister, MA; 9:00-11:00am. For more information email mwc@commonwaters.org or phone 978-534-0379.

October 17 - [UMass Winter School for Turf Managers](#); application deadline

October 17 - [Setting a Process in Motion: The Self-Proliferating Landscape](#); Alexandria, VA; 4:00-6:30pm.

October 18 - [Dumbarton Oaks Park Meadows: Site Visit with Larry Weaner](#); Alexandria, VA; 9:00am-noon.

October 22-24 - [PLANET Green Industry Conference](#); Louisville, KY.

October 23 **ELA Webinar**→[Knowing the Enemy: Practical Solutions for Deer and Other Pests](#); 7:30-8:30pm EDT.

October 24 - [4th Annual Food Day](#); throughout the country.

October 29-December 11 - [UMass Extension's Green School](#); Marlborough, MA. Classes meet twice weekly 9:00am-3:30pm.

November 5-6 - [Northeast Greenhouse Conference](#); Springfield, MA.

November 8 - [MA Trails Conference](#); Leominster, MA; 8:00am-5:00pm.

November 12 **ELA EVENT**→[Season's End Summit: Residential Restoration](#); Crane Estate, Ipswich, MA; 8:00am-4:30pm.

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

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

December 10 **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.

January 7 **ELA Webinar**→[Tools and Equipment for the Management of Invasive Species in Natural Areas](#); 1:00-2:00pm EST.

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



State Botanist with Department of Fish and Game

Full-time position with Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, Westborough, MA. Refer to [the posting](#) for salary, duties, and other details. Application deadline October 3rd.

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expectations.

Natural Tree & Lawn Care helps customers overcome the challenges of New England's diverse landscapes by providing professional diagnosis and treatment of trees, shrubs and lawns. We believe in maintaining the environmental integrity of your property by offering natural/organic options, and tailored programs that fit your

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providing a natural appearance to our designs.

Natureworks is a garden center with a retail shop and greenhouse, offering many unusual perennials, shrubs, annuals and more. We provide design consultations and installation and maintenance services by appointment. Our focus is on organic gardening and

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New England Wild Flower Society conserves and promotes the region's native plants to ensure healthy, biologically diverse landscapes. The nation's oldest plant conservation organization and a leader in native plant conservation, horticulture, and education, the Society is headquartered at Garden in the Woods, its renowned native plant botanic garden. <http://newenglandwild.org/>

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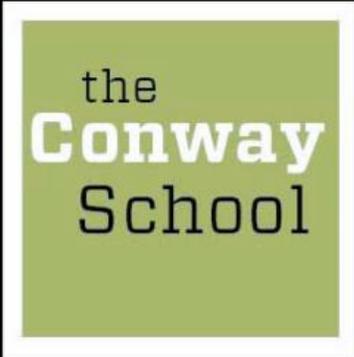
Ross NW Watergardens is a residential landscape design / build firm serving the Portland, OR area. We specialize in landscapes that are truly sustainable, regardless of style. This means utilizing sustainable materials and methods to create gardens that improve with age.

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csl.edu/admissions

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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 Landscaping Association 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!

Forward to a Friend

We hope that you enjoy this edition of the ELA newsletter.

We welcome your comments at ela.info@comcast.net.

Maureen Sundberg, ELA Newsletter Editor