

Restoration Teamwork Wins the Day: A Stream-Side Case Study

Wednesday, April 4, 2012
1:30 PM – 3:30 PM

Weston Town Hall
Basement Meeting Room
11 Town House Rd, Weston, MA

\$20.00 ELA or MACC Member or \$25 Non-Member



Invasives on left– restored area on right.

Reclaiming a Stream Corridor from Invasives

Winning the invasives war within Wetland Resource Areas and buffer zones protectable under the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act isn't a simple proposition: first, how do you gain Conservation Commission approval to eradicate the invasives all the way to the stream bed? Second, how do you eliminate the bad guys in an ecologically approved way that will ensure results? Third, what do you plant to ensure a fair fight against returning thugs? And finally, what maintenance protocol do you establish to ensure long-term success?

For this residential project, the answers were found in the teamwork of the Weston Conservation Commission and its administrator, Michele Grzenda; the landscape designer, Catherine Wiersema; the arborist, Jonathan Bransfield; and the clients, Julia and Mac Ganson.

We invite you to share in the narrative of this ongoing residential project with the entire team, from its approval in late April 2011, to the last of the planting of the left bank in late August, and its maintenance regimen throughout the fall. In May 2012, the same approach will be applied to the right bank of the stream, completing the project. An Eco-tour is being planned for June to visit the site after the next phase completion.

Registrations are limited - [Use This Link to Register Online Now.](#)

For more information: ela.info@comcast.net or (617) 436-5838

Catherine Wiersema, Landscape Designer is the owner of Boussard Garden Design, specializing in design and installation of residential gardens in the greater Boston area for the past 11 years. Most of her work is located in Weston, where she designs and installs large residential landscapes, rich in native plants and local materials. She has worked on a number of Town approved projects through the years and counts the Ganson project as a favorite and one where she greatly advanced her understanding of the tactical steps required to make such a proposition succeed. Catherine has taught the professional practice course at the Landscape Institute, Harvard University and the Boston Architectural College for 12 years.

Michele Grzenda, Weston Conservation Administrator where she administers the Wetland's Protection Act and helps manage over 2,000 acres of Conservation Land. She has over 15 years of experience blending the fields of environmental regulation, land management and education. Michele is currently the Vice-President of Education for the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions (MACC) and sits on the Stewardship Committee for Sudbury Valley Trustees.

Jonathan Bransfield, Arborist has been a practicing Certified Arborist in Massachusetts since 1991, is a member of the Ecological Landscaping Association, and owner of Bransfield Tree Co. Jonathan has focused on the uses of Certified Organic Materials and Compost Teas to solve tree and shrub problems in residential and wild landscapes. Identifying best and least toxic solutions for the preservation of natural spaces from the destructive forces of invasive species is an ongoing passion for Jonathan.

Julia and Mac Ganson are the property owners and have shown a strong commitment to ecological restoration of the stream banks throughout this project.