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landscaping
association

biodiversity • conservation • lawn care
maintenance • meadows • rain gardens
pest management • restoration
soil • trees • urban landscaping
water quality & recycling • wildlife habitats

**Sneak
preview** ELA
Conference &
Eco-Marketplace
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When the January Newsletter hits your inbox, ELA's Conference & Eco-Marketplace will be less than eight weeks away. To whet your appetite, this issue gives you a glimpse at what you'll find March 7 and 8 at [Coming Full Circle: Origins and Destinations](#).

[Conservation and Landscaping Professionals Working Together in Ecologically Sensitive Areas](#)



by Theresa Sprague

As the landscape paradigm continues to shift towards sustainable/regenerative design, ecological function, and land management vs. landscaping, it becomes clearer that collaboration between the conservation and landscape communities is essential. In my neck of the woods

(Southeastern Massachusetts and Cape Cod), where land within ecologically sensitive areas such as wetlands, coastal banks, marshes, vernal pools, etc. has been developed at a mind-boggling rate, the need for collaboration is unquestionable.

[\[click to continue\]](#)

[Planning for Resilient and Sustainable Communities](#)

by Jack Ahern, PhD

An original method for planning resilient and sustainable cities is presented here. The method builds on established planning methods and models. The method has five themes: (1) goal-oriented and exosystem-services-based, (2) strategic, (3) scenario-driven, (4) transdisciplinary, and (5) adaptive. Each of these five themes is discussed in the following sections. [\[click to continue\]](#)

[Resource-based Invasive Plant Management](#)

by Julie Richburg

As regional ecologist for [The Trustees of Reservations](#), I work with my colleagues to ensure that the natural resources of our properties (including rare species) are protected from threats such as erosion, non-native invasive plants, and inappropriate use. With more than 40 properties within my region totaling nearly 10,000 acres, we must prioritize what gets done. Non-



native invasive plants are found on nearly every property in

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Massachusetts, at least at some level, and are often regarded as one of the greatest threats to the native habitats and species on our properties. So where do we start? [\[click to continue\]](#)

[Exhibitor Profile: Groundscapes Express, an Evolving Business](#)

by Nick Novick



John Engwer had been running his own Wrentham, Massachusetts-based landscaping business for about twenty years when an idea occurred to him while looking through one of the trade magazines. One of those hydraulic mulch-blowing trucks would sure make it easier to service the growing number of client properties that needing mulching; much easier than continuing to spread it all by shovel and wheelbarrow. But, it wouldn't make economic sense to purchase a \$150,000 piece of equipment that would only be used for a couple of months out of the year. [\[click to continue\]](#)

John presents a Roundtable discussion: [Sustainable Practices for Ecosystem Restoration](#) on Thursday, January 19 at Wellesley College.

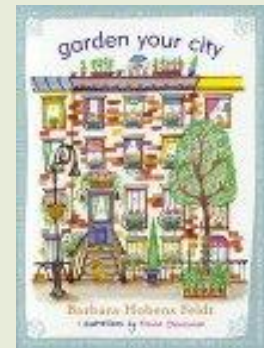
Book Review: Garden Your City

Written by Barbara Hobens Feldt

Published by Taylor Trade Publishing, 2005

Reviewed by Maureen Sundberg

Barbara Hobens Feldt's enthusiasm for urban gardening is evident in every page of Garden Your City. Feldt sees gardening possibilities everywhere - tiny fire escapes and curbside planters, rooftops and parks. And she offers practical advice to ensure that the urban gardener has a successful and productive gardening experience. [\[click to continue\]](#)



[Boxwood Blight Found in Massachusetts](#)

Information provided by [UMass Extension, Nursery, and Urban Forestry](#).

In December 2011, the UMass Extension Plant Diagnostic Lab working with samples collected by MA Dept. of Agricultural Resources (MDAR) inspectors positively identified boxwood blight (*Cylindrocladium pseudonaviculatum*) in Massachusetts. Beginning in early December, MDAR inspectors performed trace forward surveys of nurseries and garden centers identified by USDA APHIS PPQ as having received boxwood plants from nurseries in CT known to have some boxwood blight infected plants. [\[click to continue\]](#)

Award Winning Project

ELA Members Making a Difference

A landscape design project documented by Amanda Sloan in the July 2012 issue of the ELA Newsletter has become an award winning project.

Sloan's article, "[Donation of Materials, Passion, and Time = A Beautiful and Functional Rain Garden at a Public Housing Residence](#)," describes the cooperative effort that led to completion of the Manton Heights Rain Garden. The rain garden project won a Merit Award in Communications from the Rhode Island Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects. The award was announced December 9.

Designed by Gates, Leighton, and Associates, the rain garden employed staff from Groundwork Providence, adults from Groundwork's Sustainable Urban Landscaping Job Training Program, the city forester, instructors from the University of Rhode Island (URI) Outreach Center, as well as landscape architects from Gates, Leighton & Associates. Located at the Manton Heights Housing Project in Providence, RI, the rain garden project enhanced the landscape aesthetics while correcting persistent problems caused by stormwater.

January Gleanings

[2012 Winter Lawn Care Conference](#). Sturbridge Host Hotel, Sturbridge, MA; January 18 (snow date January 19).

[Designing the Outdoor Living Space, Part I](#). Roaring Brook Nature Center, 70 Gracey Road, Canton, CT; January 22.

[NJ Plants - Nursery, Landscape & Garden Center Trade Show](#). NJ Convention Center, Edison, NJ, January 24 & 25.

[Creating Opportunity: Surfing the Wave of Change with Resilience: Rhode Island Nursery and Landscape Association Winter Meeting and Trade Show](#). Crowne Plaza Warwick, 801 Greenwich Avenue, Warwick, RI; January 24 & 25, 8am - 5pm.

[Ecolandscape 2012](#), Ag History Museum & Event Center, 1962 Hays Lane, Woodland, CA; 7am - 5:30pm.

[Designing the Outdoor Living Space, Part II](#). Roaring Brook Nature Center, 70 Gracey Road, Canton, CT; January 29.

Creating Beautiful Gardens Filled with Life: [Grow Native Massachusetts Lecture Series](#). Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway, Cambridge, MA; February 1, 7-8:30pm.

[Fourth Annual Designing with Native Plants Symposium](#). Cinemapolis, 120 East Green St, Ithaca, NY; February 10 & 11, 8am - 4:30pm.

[Third Rhode Island Compost Conference and Trade Show](#), organized by the Environment Council of Rhode Island's Compost Initiative, ECORI.org, and the Greater Providence Urban Agriculture Task Force. Hope Artiste Village, Main St, Pawtucket, RI; Monday, February 27, 2012, 9am - 3pm.

the Meadow project



Creating Living Landscapes

With 48 million acres of lawn in the US, our film Urban & Suburban Meadows, aims to help people just say "NO" to thirsty, pesticide-ridden, energy-consuming lawns. The film has been stalled due to lack of funding. The Meadow Project is doing a "Kickstarter" fund-raiser so we can finish the film by Earth Day. Fellow ELA members and friends, help make this a reality by supporting with your dollars and also forward this to your contacts. Thank you! Catherine Zimmerman [Click here for more information.](#)

Do you excel at *landscaping*, but struggle with the "*business stuff*" and *profitability*?

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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