



ecological
landscaping
association

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

August

July ended with a burst of activity as ELA undertook its first Collaborative Community Action Project at a small neighborhood park in Boston's South End. Boston Natural Areas Network, the Landscape Institute of the Boston Architectural College, Boston Tree Preservation, and ELA partnered to accomplish the extensive community park restoration. If you find yourself in Boston, drop by Dartmouth Green, 29 Dartmouth Street, or [learn more about project](#) on the ELA website. As ELA plans more collaborative community projects, we hope you'll be able to join us! MS.



Utilizing Biological Pest Management: A Sustainable Step toward SITES Compliance at North Creek Nurseries

by Nicole Blevins and Tim McGinty

At North Creek Nurseries, we strive to grow our plants safely and sustainably. Protecting people and the environment has been our priority for the past 25 years. The use of pesticides has always been a sensitive subject for us. It is a concern of many of our customers as well, who use our plants to provide food and habitat for wildlife. [Read the article](#)



Sudden Oak Death

by Janice Alexander

A plant disease commonly known as sudden oak death is killing trees in the coastal forests of western North America and portions of the United Kingdom and is an emerging threat in other areas. The disease is caused by the exotic, quarantine pathogen *Phytophthora ramorum*. While sudden oak death has killed a million tanoak and oak trees in California alone, numerous other species are susceptible to a non-fatal disease caused by the same pathogen. Called Ramorum blight, its hosts include many common garden plants. These plants serve as sources for inoculum that facilitate pathogen spread around the world. [Read the article](#)



Biological Control of Invasive Pests - An Overview

by Maria Bartlett

Richard Casagrande, Professor of Entomology at the University of Rhode Island lectured on August 2, 2012 at Massachusetts Horticulture Society on "Biological Control of Invasives." He covered the efforts underway by scientists in the Northeast to use biological methods to control invasive plants and insects so that chemical pesticides and herbicides do not have to be used. Professor Casagrande provided a research update in August 2013. [Read the article](#)



Reducing Tick-Borne Diseases in New England Using Integrated Pest Management

by Candace Brassard

Public awareness of ticks and the pathogens they may carry has increased in the past 10 years. This article provides information specific to New England on tick species, their biology, and the pathogens they carry. Recommended integrated pest management (IPM) tactics are discussed including landscaping practices, the selection of plants to deter and resist deer browsing, and direct tick control recommendations. [Read the article](#)



Outsmart Invasives

by Julia Sullivan

Anyone with a smartphone can help control invasive species in Massachusetts at the touch of a finger. Learn how by joining the Outsmart Invasive Species Project, a collaborative project among individuals from UMass, MA Department of Conservation and Recreation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Nature Conservancy. The Project focuses on using smartphone technology to stop the spread of non-native plants and insects that jeopardize a healthy environment. [Read the article](#)



Black Swallow-wort *Vincetoxicum nigrum* - the Monarch Menace

by Rebecca Chizzo

If you looked out over the wetland border and onto the Sudbury River in August of 2012, you would have seen a few determined souls cutting and bagging Black swallow-wort pods. It was a hot month, and most people were busy with vacation activities, but some took time to join a local effort to correct the environmental wrong caused by the non-native milkweed relative. Volunteers dug and bagged several large root crowns until it became obvious that without more help only seed pods could be collected. [Read the article](#)



Save the Trees - Stop their Enemies: Updates on ALB and Emerald Ash Borer

by Stacy Kilb

Thirty thousand of something is a difficult number to imagine. It's even more staggering to envision 30,000 trees disappearing, but that is how many hardwood trees have been lost so far to the Asian Longhorned Beetle in the greater Worcester, MA, area. Another foe of trees that was recently discovered in Massachusetts is the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). EAB attacks only one type of tree, the ash, but the arrival of this wood-boring beetle is no less of a threat to the forest ecosystem or to the economic livelihood of firewood producers, loggers, and other forest product specialists....

[Read the article](#)

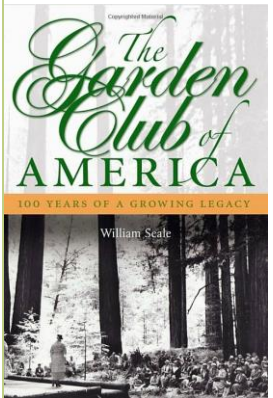




Encouraging Citizen Action to Soak Up the Rain

by Anne Leiby and Cindy Brown

Stormwater runoff is a significant source of water pollution in the United States. As rain falls onto hard surfaces, such as roofs, roads, parking lots, sidewalks, and hard-packed grass, it carries with it a variety of pollutants including bacteria, heavy metals, nutrients, and sediment. These pollutants flow into rivers, lakes, streams and oceans and cause significant environmental degradation of precious water resources. Extreme precipitation events are increasingly common in certain parts of the country so addressing stormwater runoff through a variety of methods, including green infrastructure solutions that incorporate creative, and often beautiful, landscaping solutions, is more important than ever. [Read the article](#)



Book Review: The Garden Club of America - 100 Years of a Growing Legacy

Written by William Seale; Published by The Garden Club of America, 2012
Reviewed by Kathy Sargent-O'Neill

For those curious about the history of one of the plots (Philadelphia) where the seeds of the American gardening and landscape movement were sown, The Garden Club of America - 100 Years of a Growing Legacy by William Seale is a good read. [Read the article](#)

Gleanings

Save the Trees - Spot their Enemies

August is Tree Check Month! Have you checked your trees for invasive wood-boring beetles?

Asian Longhorned Beetle and Emerald Ash Borer are two invasive insects threatening trees throughout Massachusetts. Your help is needed to prevent their spread. Take just 10 minutes this month to check your trees for beetles and signs of damage; [find out how](#). After you've checked your trees, email [Stacy Kilb](#), for a free sticker or a button!



Tick Control of the Future

Last month, engineers at Virginia Military Institute (VMI) unveiled their "tick rover" - a remote controlled device that lures ticks near the path of the vehicle by emitting carbon dioxide through a tube. The device then follows the tube, dragging permethrin insecticide soaked denim over the area where the ticks have congregated. Ticks climb onto the cloth and die. Steps are underway to commercialize the technology. Read about the device and testing and find links to video on the [VMI website](#).



Suburbia Transformed Design Competition

The James Rose Center announces its third biennial design competition and exhibition "Suburbia Transformed 3.0, One Garden at a Time: Exploring the Aesthetics of Landscape Experience in the Age of Sustainability." The goal of Suburbia Transformed 3.0 is to promote and celebrate residential designs that go beyond "green" by explicitly using sustainable strategies, tactics, and technologies to enrich the aesthetic spatial experience of people. The emphasis is on how such sustainable landscapes can be beautiful, inspiring, perhaps profound, and serve as examples for transforming the suburban residential fabric, one garden at a time. This is an international competition for built and visionary (unbuilt) residential landscapes in professional and student categories. Entries are due before February 18, 2014. Details for [Suburbia Transformed 3.0](#) are available after August 15, 2013.



Boston Parks Tour

When you look for the park that was ELA's collaborative Community Action Project, you might also want to explore other green spaces in Boston. New England Landscape Design & History Association (NELDHA) has introduced a self-guided walking tour of the many parks, small and large, found in Boston's South End. You can [download a map](#) of the 2-mile circuit route.



Events to Note

(listings indicate local time unless otherwise noted)

August 15-17, [Boston GreenFest 2013](#), City Hall Plaza, Boston, MA
August 17, [Know the Host Plants, Find the Caterpillars](#), Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve Visitor Center, New Hope, PA
August 17, SWEET Invasives Workday; Sudbury, MA Contact SWEETinvasives@gmail.com.
August 18-21 [2013 International Low Impact Development \(LID\) Symposium](#); Saint Paul, MN
August 21, SWEET Invasives Workday; Sudbury, MA Contact SWEETinvasives@gmail.com.
August 21 & 29, [Stormwater Advocates Training](#); MA Watershed Coalition training for "citizen scientists"; Northampton, MA; August 21, 9:00am-1:00pm & August 29, 5:00-9:00pm.
August 27, [Building Resilient Communities: Low-Impact Development and Green Infrastructure Strategies](#), Webinar 12:00noon-1:00pm.
August 27, [Wetland Habitats: Identification, Monitoring, and Use as Outdoor Classrooms](#), WHC Conservation Academy Webinar, 1:00-2:00pm.
September 1-6, [World Water Week](#), Stockholm International Water Institute; Stockholm, Sweden.
September 6, [Attracting Butterflies and Birds to your Garden](#); Bowman's Hill, New Hope, PA; 1:00pm. Followed by a preview of the native plant sale.
September 7-29, [Fall Native Plant Sale and Lecture](#); Bowman's Hill, New Hope, PA; 10:00am-4:00pm.
September 11, ELA EVENT→ [Garden in the Woods tour and Go Botany plant ID](#); Framingham, MA, 1:00pm-3:00pm.
September 12, ELA EVENT→ [SITES Pilot Project: Oyster Shell Park](#); Norwalk, CT, 10:30am-12:30pm.
September 12, [Wildflower Meadows](#) (pdf); UNH Woodman Farm, Durham, NH, 3:30-5:30pm.
September 12, [Rain Garden Commercial Installations](#) (pdf); UNH Stormwater Center, Durham, NH 6:00-7:30pm.
September 14, [Landscape and Forest Tree and Shrub Disease Workshop](#); UMass Amherst; 9:00am-3:30pm.
September 16, [The Fountain & Gardens of Fletcher Steele](#) (NELDHA Sponsored); North Andover, MA; 9:30am-3:00pm.
September 18, [Combining Green & Grey in Combined Sewer Watersheds](#), Center for Watershed Protection, Webinar; 12:00-2:00pm.
September 18, [Identifying Grasses](#); Bowman's Hill, New Hope, PA; 9:30am-12:00noon.
September 21, [Knowing Native Plants: Amazing Asters](#); Bowman's Hill, New Hope, PA; 10:00am-1:00pm.
September 24, ELA EVENT→[The Rose Kennedy Greenway: Ecological Form and Function](#); Boston, MA; 10:00am-12:00noon.
September 25, [Scouting for Diseases and Weeds of Woody Ornamentals](#); Hathorne, MA; 4:00-6:00pm.
September 28, [Weed Patrol](#); Bowman's Hill, New Hope, PA; 9:30am-12:00noon.
October 23-25 [PLANET 2013 Green Industry Conference](#); Louisville, KY.
October 25-27 [Connecting for Change](#); New Bedford, MA.

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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