



ecological
landscaping
association

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

The Ecological Landscaper

January 2011

January Newsletter

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Save the
Date!

Staying Ahead
of the Curve

The 17th
Annual ELA
Conference &
Eco-Marketplace

March 3, 2011

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Designing Gardens with Flora of the American East

Book Review by Risa Edelstein

If you've read Doug Tallamy's book, *Bringing Nature Home* and were hungry for more, Carolyn Summers' *Designing Gardens with Flora of the American East* (Rutgers University Press, 2010) is a great follow up. Chock full of interesting facts and figures, Summers approaches design through the lens of ecology making the book unique in its approach and very relevant to anyone creating native gardens for a living.

[Read more.](#)



DESIGNING
GARDENS
with FLORA
of the AMERICAN
EAST

CAROLYN SUMMERS

If You Plant It, They Will Come... Monarchs (and Milkweed)

By Louise Barteau



There is a special feeling that comes from planting a tree and watching a bird land in it for the first time. Or planting milkweed for monarch butterflies and watching the first monarch fly across the backyard and lay her eggs on it.

[Read more.](#)

Van Berkum Nursery: ELA Members Making a Difference

By Leslie van Berkum

One goal at Van Berkum Nursery is to provide perennials that we feel will help gardeners create more sustainable landscapes. We currently maintain three lines of native plants and one group of really tough perennials that stand the test of time.

[Read more.](#)



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Using a Biological and Ecological Compass to Solve Soil Problems

By Jerry Brunetti



"My approach is to utilize a biological and ecological compass to ascertain what methodologies to production or solving a problem are best. . . . Is it soil compaction? Inadequate calcium? A dearth of biodiversity? In essence one has to audit the "vital force" of the landscape.

[Read more.](#)

Eco-Marketplace Exhibitor Sneak Preview

To Stay Ahead of the Curve be sure to visit the great line-up of exhibitors at the 2011 [ELA Conference and Eco-Marketplace](#).

Admission to the [Eco-Marketplace](#) is included with your conference session registration and showcases the latest in ecological services, products, and technologies. The Eco-Marketplace also features a variety of interactive exhibits.



Here is a sampling of the great organizations exhibiting at the 2011 Eco-Marketplace:

Cavicchio Greenhouses
Compostwerks!
EcoDepot
Groundscapes Express
Harrington's Organic Land Care
Ocean Organics
Planter's Choice
Progressive Asset Management
Project Native
Sudbury Nurseries West
The Great American Rain Barrel Co

Welcome to Our New Newsletter Editor

It is a pleasure to introduce, Maureen Sundberg, our new editor for the *Ecological Landscaper*. Maureen brings to this position an extensive background in writing and editing for both business and non-profit organizations. She is in her fourth year serving on the ELA Board of Directors where she has contributed to many ELA initiatives and serves as a valued member of the ELA Conference committee. Maureen is also an avid gardener with a passionate commitment to sustainability. Please join me in welcoming Maureen as our newsletter editor!

ELA Call For Volunteers

As the Ecological Landscaping Association (ELA) begins its 19th year, we continue to expand the educational and outreach programs that we will be offering. It is an exciting time to be involved in ELA, and we invite you to share your time and ideas to advance the ELA educational mission.

We are actively recruiting individuals to assist on committees or to serve on our Board of Directors. Our committees work in many areas, including:

- **Conference planning**
- **Roundtable development**
- **Eco-tour scheduling**

- **Newsletter article writing**
- **Community outreach expansion**
- **Financial planning and analysis**
- **Membership expansion**
- **Website development & expansion**

Please add your talents, experience, and energy to help ELA grow in 2011. Volunteer today!
For more information, email [Penny Lewis, ELA Executive Director](mailto:Penny.Lewis@ela.org) or call (617) 436-5838.

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

The Ecological Landscaper.

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

Penny Lewis, Executive Director
Ecological Landscaping Association