



**“Advocating for responsible stewardship  
of land and natural resources in  
landscaping and horticultural practices.”**

## June

The longest days of summer are upon us. Bees dive in and out of the garden. Like many of us they spend their extra minutes of daylight working in the landscape. During these long days, don't forget to take a moment to smell the flowers and celebrate summer. There are some interesting events coming up; check what's available in your area. Or take a few minutes to enjoy the newsletter. This month's issue follows up on chemical-free invasive plant removal - the topic of last year's ELA Summer Workshop. Two workshop presenters provide their perspectives on working with aggressive non-native plants. We also look at a case when a nursery purchase goes horribly wrong...20 years later. We offer a fact sheet on the emerald ash borer, which continues to spread, and get more answers from our Eco-Pros. Wishing you an invasives free summer. *MS*



### **Stewardship = Presence**

by Michael Bald

Persistent, Relentless, Tenacious...such are the words we deploy to describe our nemesis weeds and invasive species. It's all in the perspective, of course. [Read the article.](#)



### **Mechanical Control of Invasive Shrubs on Oyster River Forest in Durham, NH**

by Gerry Hawkes

In September of 2014, the eight-acre, abandoned West Field on Oyster River Forest was cleared of invasive shrubs by uprooting and shredding. This method offered clear advantages over herbicides and was cost competitive. [Read the article.](#)



### **After a 20-year Dormancy, It Raised Its Ugly Head**

by Penny Lewis

Purchased as an ornamental for a water feature in the late '80s, a single pot of *Houttuynia cordata* has turned a perennial garden into an invasive nightmare. [Read the article.](#)



### **The Emerald Ash Borer: Information about the Ash Tree Killer and other "Boring" Beetles**

by Bruce Wenning

Find out how to recognize the emerald ash borer and distinguish it from some "look alike" bugs and beetles. Learn more about the trees that have been affected by this invasive pest and how to recognize an early infestation. [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](mailto:ela_new@verizon.net). And if you need additional help, refer to the listing of [ELA Professionals](#).



### **Borers in *Amelanchier***

Has anyone had experience with borers in *Amelanchier canadensis*? If yes, how to treat and what's the prognosis for the survival of these trees?

[Read the Pro's Answer.](#)



### **Pond Algae**

I am in search of some barley straw bales to inhibit algae growth in a pond. I have searched high and low but cannot seem to find a seller. Might you know of a source? [Read the Pro's Answer.](#)

### **Plant Identification Challenge**

Can you identify the plant shown at left (a vining groundcover two to three inches tall)? Is it native in your area, or an exotic invasive? [Read the details](#) and send us your response. Winning entry receives an ELA logo Hat.

### **ELA News**

#### **Native vs. Nativar Workshop Coming Up on July 27<sup>th</sup>**

The discussion of native plants and nativars has become almost mainstream. *National Wildlife*, the magazine of National Wildlife Federation recently printed an article with input from Doug Tallamy: [Native, or Not so Much](#). It is a topic worthy of scrutiny as more people turn to native plants for their landscapes. ELA will be discussing the role of nativars in ecological landscapes at the [Summer Workshop](#) on July 27, 1:00pm. A few spaces remain.



## Support ELA with Every Amazon Purchase...

Shopping for a last-minute Father's Day gift? Shop through [AmazonSmile](#) and support ELA with your Amazon purchase. It's easy. Go to [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com), enter your account as usual, specify Ecological Landscape Alliance as your preferred charity, and start shopping.

Happy Fathers Day!



## Do You Offer Ecological Services Like Quiet Landscaping? Let Potential Clients Know!

If you are an ELA Professional and Company member, be sure you've updated your member profile for the Find-an-Eco-Pro listing. Be sure you use the Notes sections to mention the services environmentally conscious clients are looking for like low-noise, low-emission maintenance, creative use of repurposed materials, or native plant landscapes. Take two minutes to be sure your [ELA Member Profile](#) highlights those services.

Remember that your Company level membership entitles you to feature your company profile in the ELA Newsletter. You'll find several companies highlighted in this issue; your company could fill that space next month. Contact [Penny Lewis](#) for additional information.



Enjoy the ELA Newsletter? [Become a Member!](#)

## Gleanings

### Parks and Quality of Life

Urban green spaces directly affect how Americans view their lives. The Trust for Public Land released its fifth annual rankings of the largest cities and their park systems. How well does your city meet the need for parks? Find your ParkScore®: <http://parkscore.tpl.org/>.



### Tips from Perfect Earth Project

- \* Leave those clippings on the lawn and provide 80% of the lawn's nutrient needs.
- \* Clover is a nitrogen fixer that provides your grass with a nitrogen boost every time you mow.
- \* Worried about bees on the lawn? They won't bother you unless you step on them.

Find more earth-friendly tips at [The Perfect Earth Project](#).



### No Chemical Lawn Sign

EcoRI and ConvergenceRI, two online newsletters focused on health and the environment, have produced an alternative lawn sign to combat the "Lawn Chemicals Applied" signs that pop up on lawns throughout the spring and summer. To download a pdf of their Bee Vigilant sign, go to <http://www.ecori.org/bee-vigilant/>.





### **Xerces Society Promotes Roadside Conservation**

Xerces has joined with ICF International to write "Pollinators and Roadsides: Best Management Practices for Managers and Decision Makers," a guide to improving the quality of roadside habitat for pollinators. The entire text is available for download on the [Federal Highway Administration website](#).



### **Plant Something for Pollinators!**

Massachusetts Flower Growers Association and Massachusetts Nursery and Landscape Association are in the midst of a campaign encouraging residents to plant with pollinators in mind. [Plant Something for Pollinators](#) provides information to encourage residents plant at least one pollinator-friendly plant this season as a small step toward improving pollinator populations. Participants can sign a pledge as individuals, schools, business, or organization.



### **Call for Abstracts SER-NE 2016**

The Society for Ecological Restoration (SER) New England Chapter is now accepting abstracts for talks and posters to be considered for inclusion in the October 2016 conference program. The selected talks will be delivered during concurrent sessions on Friday, October 14, 2016. Each oral presenter will have approximately 20 minutes. Selected posters will be presented during a Friday evening "Poster Pub." Refer to the [SER-NE website](#) for additional information.



### **Workshop Proposals for Environmental Conference**

The New England Environmental Education Alliance (NEEEA), and Connecticut Outdoor and Environmental Education Association (COEEA) are partnering to present the 2016 Annual New England Regional Conference in Litchfield, CT. They are seeking proposals for workshops that communicate the theme "Now Is the Time: Mindful Action towards Progress." Presentations must connect through one of four strands: Mindful Action, Environmental Education Impacts, Fueling the Passion, or Generational Engagement. [Online proposals are due by 4:00pm EST on June 20, 2016.](#)



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

June 16 - [Hometown Habitat](#) - Film; Dennis, MA; 6:00pm.

June 18 - [Plants and Pints](#); Framingham, MA; 5:00-8:00pm.

June 22 - [Shady Edibles](#); Framingham, MA; 1:30-3:30pm.

June 24 - [Balancing Economic Development with Historic Preservation](#); Portland, CT; 8:00am-3:00pm. June 24 - [Basic Wetland ID and Delineation](#); Framingham, MA; 9:00am-4:00pm.

June 25 **ELA Event**→[Eco-tour: Edible Landscape Oasis - Permaculture in Practice](#); Holyoke, MA; 10:00am-12:00pm.

June 26 - [Conserving and Gardening for Monarchs](#); Framingham, MA; 10:00am-12:00pm.

June 28 - [Getting Started with Food Donation Workshop](#); Cambridge, MA; 10:00am-12:45pm.

June 28-29 - [Reduce & Recover: Save Food for People](#); Cambridge, MA. Early Bird rates before April 17.

June 29 - [Wetland Delineation for Beginners](#); Middleton, MA; 9:00am-4:00pm

July 11 - [Conservation Biological Control](#); Framingham, MA; 9:00am-4:30pm.

July 13 - [Hydric Soils: How to Know 'Em When You See 'Em](#); Worcester, MA; 9:00am-4:00pm.

July 23 **ELA Event**→[Eco-Tour: Wildlife Haven at Turkey Hill Brook Farm](#); Spencer, MA; 10:00am-12:00pm.

July 27 **ELA Event**→[What Role Do "Nativars" Play in an Ecological Landscape?](#) Framingham, MA; 1:00pm-5:00pm.

July 27 - [Drought-Tolerant Plants for the Dog Days of Summer](#); Cambridge, MA; 6:30-8:30pm.

July 28 - [Down to Earth Summer Conference](#), MNLA/MFGA; Walpole, MA.

August 3 **ELA Event**→[Eco-Tour: YardScaping Ecological Demonstration Gardens](#); Portland, ME; 4:00-6:00pm.

August 9 - [Hydric Soils](#); Framingham, MA; 9:00am-4:00pm.

August 11 **ELA Event**→[Eco-Tour: Landscape Design with Maintenance in Mind](#); Boston, MA; 10:00am-12:00pm.

August 11&18 - [Botanic Inventory Methods](#); Framingham, MA.

August 12-14 - [NOFA Summer Conference](#); Amherst, MA.

August 13-17 - [ISA Annual International Conference & Trade Show](#); Fort Worth, TX.

August 14 - [Fern Identification and Ecology for Conservationists & Gardeners](#); Harvard, MA; 1:00-5:00pm.

August 18 **ELA Event**→[Bird Park Ecological Management = Beautiful and Healthy Ecosystems](#); East Walpole, MA; 10:00am-12:00pm.

September 14 **ELA Event**→[Eco-Tour: Sustainable Eco-Systems for Wildlife](#); Cambridge, MA; 10:00am-12:00pm.

September 20 **ELA Event**→[Reawaking Large Landscapes - Activating the Space](#) - Webinar; 7:00pm EST.

September 23 **ELA Event**→[Inspiration from a Prairie](#); Garden City, NY; 8:30am-3:30pm.

September 29 - [MA Green Careers Conference](#); Worcester, MA; 8:00am.

October 4 **ELA Event**→[Eco-Tour: Ecological Landscape Maintenance Techniques at Mass Audubon](#); Belmont, MA; 3:00-5:00pm.



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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 Landscape Alliance 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!



We hope that you enjoy this edition of the ELA newsletter and welcome your comments at [ela.info@comcast.net](mailto:ela.info@comcast.net). *Maureen Sundberg, ELA Newsletter Editor*

Forward to a Friend