



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

## March

ELA appreciates our newsletter readers. It's encouraging to know that so many people are looking for information about land care that is grounded in sound ecological principles. As a non-profit, ELA relies on membership income to bring you the newsletter each month. If you aren't an ELA member, please join. We love sharing the newsletter with a large community, but we can't do it without your support.

Not sure if you are a member? Not sure if you've renewed your membership? [Click here](#) to find the current list of the companies and individuals who support ELA through membership. If your name isn't there, please take a moment to [join ELA now](#). To all our current members: Thank You! MS

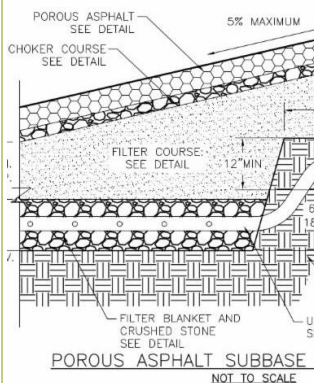


### **Strategies to Protect Vernal Pools in the Built Environment: Raising Awareness**

by Bruce Wenning

There are many types of wetlands in our environment, but all of them are declining. Learn more about the special nature of vernal pools, our smallest wetlands, and the habitat requirements of the species that inhabit them. Then find out how the built environment affects vernal pools and what you can do to minimize disruption and damage.

[Read the article.](#)



### **Permeable Solutions for Sloped Surfaces: A Case Study**

by Kristopher Houle, P.E.

In the face of today's regulatory environment, it is important to consider the many different green infrastructure practice alternatives available for use in urban site design. One alternative whose benefits are clear and well understood is porous asphalt. Design advancements over the last two decades have established its relevance both as a transportation surface and an effective stormwater management strategy.

[Read the article.](#)

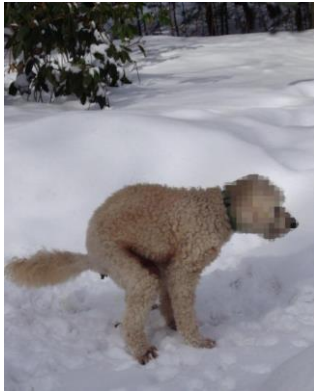


### **A Wild Garden in the Middle of Brooklyn**

by Jenny Blackwell

It's hard to imagine what New York City looked like before settlers arrived and cleared the way for development, but a new one-acre garden in the middle of Brooklyn tries to recreate the ecology of the greater New York City area, Long Island, and coastal areas of New Jersey as it existed for the centuries before Europeans arrived. Brooklyn Botanic Garden curator Uli Lorimer's session at the ELA Conference painted a picture of the garden he envisioned and described the work it took to design, install, and maintain it.

[Read the article.](#)



### The Scoop on Dog Waste

by Maureen Sundberg

As the piles of snow finally melt from lawns and garden beds in spring, we're often confronted with the waste left behind by winter dog walkers. At the least, these surprise packages are a messy annoyance. With an estimated 70 to 80 million dogs in the United States, uncollected dog waste also spells trouble for our personal health, our pets' health, and the health of our waterways.

[Read the article.](#)



### Invasive Plant Removal In Your Future?

**Donate to ELA and Receive an Extractigator as a Gift!**

Support ELA now, and the Extractigator you receive as a thank you gift will help you clear invasive plants this spring and beyond! The Extractigator weed puller helps you use your weight, rather than strength, to remove buckthorn, Scotch broom, honeysuckle, buckthorn, and other invasive plants. [Donate online](#) or [Download donation form now!](#)

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ELA is a 501(c)3 nonprofit and as such your donation may be tax deductible. The tax deduction is limited to the excess of the contribution over the fair market value of the item received in exchange for the donation.

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 Nancy DuBrule Clemente, Northford, CT

## Gleanings

### **NOFA RI Conference - March 29<sup>th</sup>**

The Northeast Organic Farming Association of RI Winter Conference will be held on March 29th. Sessions address soil health, encouraging pollinators through habitat, and practices for food justice among other topics. The speaker lineup includes **Jeff Lowenfels**, author of *Teaming with Microbes* and *Teaming with Nutrients*. Find the full conference schedule on the [NOFA/RI website](#).



### **Speaking and Exhibiting Opportunity**

The [Sustainable Living Festival](#) to be held in Wellesley on May 16<sup>th</sup> is looking for speakers as well as local landscapers to exhibit. Find more information on the festival website.



### **Speaking Opportunity for Members**

The Buzzards Action Committee is looking for ecological landscapers to present at their Earth Day Expo on April 25<sup>th</sup> in Fairhaven, MA. For additional information or to apply, contact Merilee at [mkelly@acushnet.ma.us](mailto:mkelly@acushnet.ma.us).



### **Invasives App**

As you get started in the landscape, be sure you have your invasive species app handy on your phone. Encourage others to be on the lookout, too. [Read about](#) the Outsmart app in an archived issue of the newsletter, [view the promotional video](#), or find out more at: <http://masswoods.net/outsmart>.



### **UMass Landscape Message Returns**

UMass Extension began posting new landscape messages on March 13. You can read the messages on their [website](#), or sign up to receive the [emailed messages](#).



### **Embracing the Shaker Lifestyle & Legacy through Permaculture Design**

Spend a weekend immersed in permaculture design principles while connecting with the legacy of the Shaker lifestyle. In addition to the two-day course, running April through August, special events at Canterbury Shaker Village will introduce the broader community to the permaculture conversation. Refer to the Canterbury Shaker Village website for additional information or to register: <http://www.shakers.org/workshops-events/>.



### **Jens Jensen The Living Green**

#### **A Documentary Film Screening & Panel Discussion**

Join NYBG on Earth Day, Wednesday, April 22, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. for the New York premiere of the award-winning film celebrating Danish-born Jens Jensen (1860-1951), a pioneering conservationist who rose from a street sweeper in Chicago to "dean of landscape architects." Half a century after his death, Jensen is now hailed as a pioneer of sustainable design, an early champion

of native species, and unsung American hero. After the screening, a panel will explore Jensen's work and its relevance to today's urban environmental issues.

Panel participants include: **Darrel Morrison**, FASLA, Professor and Dean Emeritus, College of Environment and Design (University of Georgia), **Bob Grese**, Professor of Landscape Architecture (University of Michigan), and Jensen scholar, **Carey Lundin**, documentary director, co-producer, and **Jensen Wheeler Wolfe**, film narrator and Jensen's great-granddaughter.

The event takes place in Ross Hall, The New York Botanical Garden. Learn more and register at <http://bit.ly/JensJensenNYBG> or call 718.817.8747.



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

March 18 **ELA Event**→[The Orchard Ecosystem](#); Wellesley, MA; 12:30-3:30pm.

March 19 - [Connecticut Association of Wetland Scientists Annual Meeting and Environmental Conference](#); Southbury, CT; 8:15am-4:20pm.

March 19-April 16 - [Environmental Gardening](#); Topsfield, MA; 7:00-9:00pm on Thursdays.

March 21 - [Mass Land Conservation Conference](#); Worcester, MA; 8:00am-4:00pm.

March 25 **ELA Webinar**→[Low-Impact Construction for Living Landscapes](#); 5:30-6:30pm EST.

March 26 - [Pollinator Health for Agriculture and Landscapes](#); UMass Amherst, MA. 8:45am-4:00pm.

March 26 - [Climate Change and the Future of Plant Life](#); Cambridge, MA; 9:00am-4:30pm.

March 27 - [Permaculture Design Charrette](#); West Haven, CT; 9:30am-3:30pm.

March 28 - [Pruning Apple Trees: The Art & Science](#); Newton, MA; 10:00am-1:00pm.

March 28 - [Lahr Symposium - Native Plants: Making Connections](#); Washington DC; 8:30am-2:30pm.

March 28 - [Permaculture Design Workshop](#), CTNOFA; South Wellfleet; 1:30-3:30pm.

March 29 - [NOFA RI Conference](#) , Warren, RI; 8:30am-4:30pm.

March 30 - [The Future of the City: Can Cities Be the Key to a Greener World?](#); Boston, MA; 5:30pm.

April 1 - **ELA Event**→[Green Roofs and Living Walls](#); Framingham, MA; 6:30-7:30pm.

April 1 - [Native Meadows: Let's Get Real](#); Cambridge, MA; 7:00-8:30pm.

April 2 - [The Invasive Plant Issue and Invasive Plant Identification](#); Milford, MA; 9:00am-2:00pm.

April 11 - [Project Native's 5th Film Festival: Day 2](#); Great Barrington, MA.

April 11 - [Growing Plants from Seeds](#); Arnold Arboretum Greenhouse; Jamaica Plain, MA; 9:00am-1:00pm.

April 11 - [Invasive Plants in Massachusetts: What, Why, Where and How](#); Amherst, MA; 10:00am-1:00pm.

April 11 - [Northern Gardening Symposium](#); Randolph, VT; 9:00am-3:00pm.

April 12 - [Project Native's 5th Film Festival: Day 3](#); Great Barrington, MA.

April 16 - [Pursuit of Sustainable Living](#); early registration discounts for exhibitors.

April 18 - [The 100-Square-Foot, 25-Tree, 5-Variety Backyard Apple Orchard Fruiting Wall](#); Marshfield, MA;

April 23 **ELA Event**→[ELA Member Reception](#); SEMPBA Community Center, Plymouth, MA; 5:30-7:30pm.

April 25 - [Earth Day for Buzzards Bay Expo](#); Fairhaven, MA; 10:00am-4:00pm.

April 25 - [Healthy Soil - Testing and Amending Your Garden Soil](#); Dover, MA; 10:00am-12:00pm.

May 6 - [Land Stewardship for Pollinator Conservation](#); Cambridge, MA; 7:00-8:30pm.

May 9 - [Native Pollinator Conservation](#); North Andover, MA; 10:00am-2:00pm.

May 16 - Native Plant Sale, Grow Native Massachusetts; Waltham, MA.

May 31-June 6 - [Trees and Shrubs of Northeastern North America: Identification and Ecology](#); Steuben, ME.

June 5 **ELA Event**→[Sustainable Sites Tour](#) - Rhode Island; 9:30am-3:00pm.

June 22-26 - [APGA Conference: Watering Our Roots to Grow Our Communities](#); Minneapolis, MN.

July 14-28 - [Hydrangeas 2015 International Conference](#); Sandwich, MA; 8:30am-4:30pm.



### Work for Mass Audubon

Mass Audubon is seeking a dynamic individual experienced in community planning, outreach and project management to coordinate our [Shaping the Future of Your Community program](#). This award-winning program helps communities in Massachusetts understand, formulate, adopt, and implement tools for charting a more sustainable future through customized community workshops and direct assistance.

[See the full job description and learn how to apply here.](#)

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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