



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

## October

The Crane Estate in Ipswich, MA harkens back to the opulence of an earlier era and will provide a stunning background for ELA's 2014 [Season's End Summit](#) on November 12th. Attendees will enjoy the educational opportunity offered by the restoration project that returned the Grand Allée and Casino to their early 20th century splendor while they explore restoration issues on both a grand and a residential scale. This month's newsletter also looks at restoration. Two featured speakers at the Summit offer articles: Cindy Brockway gives a preview of the ecological components of the Crane Estate restoration project and Miles Connors views restoration through plant community analysis. We also look at using goats and SITES v2 as tools for restoration. And our Eco-Pros answer another reader question. Enjoy this issue, and we hope to see you at the Summit in November. *MS*



### **Conservation and Preservation in Action: Working Hand in Hand on a National Landmark**

by Lucinda (Cindy) Brockway

This fall, The Trustees of Reservations will complete a five-year restoration of the Crane Estate's Grand Allée and Casino Courtyard in Ipswich, MA. With an eye to sustainability, The Trustees carefully removed and replanted over 700 deteriorating, overgrown trees along a half-mile-long formal vista; reinvigorated an underground, rainwater collection cistern; and restored the Allée's beautiful Italianate (former) swimming pool courtyard. [Read the article.](#)

At [ELA's 2014 Season's End Summit](#), Cindy's presentation will demonstrate how restoration techniques from the TTOR project can be brought down to the residential scale.



### **Adapting Plant Communities: Another Tool for Restoration**

by Miles H. Connors

Considering restoration in the greater context of ecology, one could define ecological restoration as reinstating degraded natural communities to their fundamental or original function. But can we reinstate natural communities in order to restore degraded land and promote long-term sustainability? [Read the article.](#)

Miles will share his invasive plant management knowledge as a panelist in the discussion: **Restoration Success: Mastering the Invasive Plant Challenge** at [ELA's 2014 Season's End Summit](#).



### **7 Reasons You Should Be Using SITES v2**

by Lisa Cowan

Although the Sustainable Sites Initiative (SITES™) Rating System may first appear to be just another green rating system, ELA members should know that SITES can be a valuable resource for ecological site restoration projects (even if you are not going for certification). Here are seven points that will convince you to use SITES v2 rating system on your next project. [Read the article.](#)



### **When Goats Join the Restoration Team**

by Maureen Sundberg

Faced with a two-acre lot of nearly impenetrable thicket of invasive plants blanketed by poison ivy, where do you begin? That was the situation confronting the City of Boston Parks and Recreation Department when they considered how to restore the West Street Urban Wild in the Hyde Park section of Boston. Their answer? Invite a goat herd to join the team.

[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 someone with boots on the ground for follow-up help, refer to the listing of [ELA Professionals](#).



### **Reining in Raspberries for Wildlife**

We have raspberries growing in our field and would like to promote their growth to feed the wild birds and mammals. Can you tell me "best practices" for mowing the field, including the raspberry bushes, to make it healthy for diverse species? Should we mow annually, or every other year, more frequently? I'm in mid-coast Maine and cannot find references that address this topic. [Read the Eco-Answers.](#)

### **Gleanings**

#### **South Shore Member Reception To Be Scheduled Soon!**

ELA is planning a Members' Reception in Plymouth, MA in November. We are planning the meeting with Southeastern MA Pine Barrens Alliance, an ELA partner. Look for an electronic invitation with details soon.

#### **\$100,000 Tree Fund Fellowship**

The Tree Fund, Naperville, IL, seeks proposals for the 2015 TREE Fund Research Fellowship, which offers up to \$100,000 for a multi-year mentored doctoral research project focused on Urban Forest Sustainability. Grant proposals are due November 3, 2014 and should address urban forest sustainability issues relating but not limited to:

- Nursery production practices that enhance survival, structural integrity and post-installation performance
- Young tree care (structural pruning, root care, etc.) to enhance longevity
- Soil biology/soil amelioration
- Sustainable pest and disease management alternatives
- Species diversity to mitigate loss and/or enhance benefits of urban forests
- Mitigating tree loss following construction

Proposals must be submitted online to be considered. To learn more and submit an application visit: [www.treefund.org/grants/research-grants/fellowship](http://www.treefund.org/grants/research-grants/fellowship). For more information, visit [www.treefund.org](http://www.treefund.org).



#### **UMass Garden Calendar Available Now**

The 2015 version of UMass's popular calendar is now available to order. For more information and to place an order, visit the [UMass website](#).



## Citizen Pruner Courses

[Gowanus Canal Conservancy](#) is offering the [TreesNY](#) Citizen Pruner course that includes four in-class sessions and one field outing. Find more information on either organization's website.



## Looking for an Eco-Speaker?

Tap into the expertise of ELA members. Many members are available to speak about ecological landscaping topics from wildlife habitats to raingarden installation, native plant selection to invasive pest control. Click to view the complete [ELA Speakers Bureau](#) with the list of speakers and their bios.



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

October 16 - [Moving Forward: Green Infrastructure Permitting, Policies, and Design](#); Hartford CT; 8:00am-4:15pm.

October 17 - [Community Stormwater Solutions](#); Leominster, MA; 9:00-11:00am. For more information email [mwc@commonwaters.org](mailto:mwc@commonwaters.org) or phone 978-534-0379.

October 17 - [UMass Winter School for Turf Managers](#); application deadline

October 17 - [Setting a Process in Motion: The Self-Proliferating Landscape](#); Alexandria, VA; 4:00-6:30pm.

October 17 - [How to Lead an Invasive Plants Workday](#); Newmarket, NH; 1:00-4:00pm.

October 18 - [2014 Master Challenge Tree Climbing Championship](#); Brooklyn Botanic Garden, NY; 2014; 10:00am. Rain date October 19

October 18 - [Dumbarton Oaks Park Meadows: Site Visit with Larry Weaner](#); Alexandria, VA; 9:00am-noon.

October 18 - [Vermont Tree Stewards Conference](#); Randolph Center, VT; 8:30am-4:00pm.

October 22-24 - [PLANET Green Industry Conference](#); Louisville, KY.

October 23 **ELA Webinar**→[Knowing the Enemy: Practical Solutions for Deer and Other Pests](#); 7:30-8:30pm EDT.

October 24 - [4th Annual Food Day](#); throughout the country.

October 24-25 - [Connecting for Change Conference](#); New Bedford, MA.

October 25-28 - [Permaculture Design Center Course](#); Bryans Road, MD.

October 29 - [Conway School of Landscape Design Open House](#); Conway, MA; 11:00am-2:30pm.

October 29-December 11 - [UMass Extension's Green School](#); Marlborough, MA. Classes meet twice weekly 9:00am-3:30pm. Three tracks: Turf Management, Landscape Management, Arboriculture.

November 1 - [Working Together for Community Solutions: A Workshop to Build Skills in Participatory Leadership](#); Concord, NH; 9:00am-3:00pm.

November 4 - [Landscapes Express Composting Operation](#); Wrentham, MA; 10:00am

November 5-6 - [Northeast Greenhouse Conference](#); Springfield, MA.

November 8 - [MA Trails Conference](#); Leominster, MA; 8:00am-5:00pm.

November 12 **ELA EVENT**→[Season's End Summit: Residential Restoration](#); Crane Estate, Ipswich, MA; 8:00am-4:30pm.

November 14 - [Preservation Seminar](#); Castle Hill, Ipswich, MA; 9:00am-3:30pm.

November 18 - [Pollinator Conservation Short Course](#); Riverhead, NY; 9:00am-4:30pm.

November 19 **ELA Webinar**→[Landscaping at the Water's Edge: An Ecological Approach](#); 1:00-2:00pm EST.

December 3 - [NOFA Annual Gathering](#); Windsor Locks, CT;

December 5 **ELA Webinar**→[Therapeutic Wellness Gardens](#); 1:00-2:00pm EST.

December 10 **ELA Webinar**→[The Magical Appeal of Moss Landscape Designs](#); 7:30-8:30pm EST.

December 10 **ELA Webinar**→[Creating Outdoor Magic: Designing Natural Play and Learning Spaces](#); 7:30-8:30pm EST.

December 10 - [Greenhouse Vegetable Production - In Containers](#); Sturbridge, MA; 9:30am-3:45pm.

January 7 **ELA Webinar**→[Tools and Equipment for the Management of Invasive Species in Natural Areas](#); 1:00-2:00pm EST.

January 12 **ELA Webinar**→25 Steps to Business Success; 3:00-5:00pm EST.

February 11 **ELA Webinar**→[Edible Native Plants for Your Landscape](#); 7:30-8:30pm EST.



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Student Presentations	Nov 21-22, 2014
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Early Application Deadline	Jan 1, 2015

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*Nancy DuBrule Clemente, Northford, CT*



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. We welcome your comments at [ela.info@comcast.net](mailto:ela.info@comcast.net).

Maureen Sundberg, ELA Newsletter Editor