



ecological
landscaping
association

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

September

This month, ELA joins three other national organizations to roll out a new educational offering: [A Focus on Sustainability](#), a free series of instructional webinars covering ecological practices in the landscape. The Chesapeake Conservation Landscaping Council (CCLC), Midwest Ecological Landscape Alliance (MELA), & EcoLandscape California (ELC) collaborated with ELA to produce the series which begins on September 17 with "Ecology Basics for Landscapers and Designers" presented by [Sylvan Kaufman](#). Four additional webinars cover a range of topics through the end of the year. To register for the free series, you should check [the webinar schedule](#). *MS*



Edible and Landscape-worthy Native Plants of New England

by Ellen Sousa and Russ Cohen

Edible gardening generally brings to mind beds of lettuce, cucumbers, tomatoes, melons, and other foods with origins in distant continents. As natives of often vastly different climates and growing conditions, many of these plants require a lot of time and attention to bring to a successful harvest here in New England. On the other hand, indigenous New England plants (pre-dating European settlement of the USA), have evolved to grow right here in our mostly-acidic soils and changeable seasons, and if sited appropriately, can be a lower-maintenance option for homeowners hoping to diversify their diet and grow more of their own food. [Read the article](#)



This Place We Call Home

by Cayte McDonough

As professionals in the landscaping industry, we make daily decisions about what plants to use whether in built landscapes or restored natural landscapes. By choosing to plant species native to our areas, we help preserve the regional character. Future generations deserve to experience our natural heritage and its inherent beauty. As a bonus, when it comes to long-term maintenance, native plants require very little attention. Having developed and co-evolved over centuries within an ecosystem, they are well adapted to the local climate and conditions. [Read the article](#)



Find the Right Native Plant for Site Conditions

Wet or dry, sunny or shady.... Site conditions can determine whether or not a plant survives beyond a single season. If you're designing with native plants, you'll want to be sure to site plants so that they'll be reliable hosts for the wildlife that relies upon them. Two plant nurseries make their recommendations for native plants suited to two particular sites.

[Read the article](#)



Monarch Memories Last a Lifetime

by Hendrica Regez and Donna VanBuecken

Butterfly gardeners show they care deeply about the environment and their connection to nature. While providing food and shelter for monarchs and other pollinators, they also help to conserve native plants, reduce habitat fragmentation, and increase biodiversity in the landscapes. In turn, these healthy ecosystems directly affect the quality of our food, water, and air - and what could be more important than that? [Read the article](#)



Go Botany! A 21st-Century Approach to Learning About Plants

by Elizabeth Farnsworth

All of us who grow plants, design with plants, or simply admire plants know how to recognize different species. But with over 3,500 species, subspecies, and varieties growing around New England alone, identifying and keeping track of the names of all those plants can be a daunting task, yet one that is hugely rewarding. How can you learn about them all? Now, a new, convenient tool is at your fingertips whether you're on you smartphone, iPad, or laptop: Go Botany! [Read the article](#)

Gleanings

Bees & Pesticides

Several New England towns have reported bee kills after town application of pesticides for mosquitoes. If you have information about a bee kill, in any state, you should report to the EPA. You can file a report through the [National Pesticide Information Center](#). The website also offers state by state contact information for applicable agencies. Questions? Email beekill@epa.gov.



TEDxManhattan Challenge!

Are you involved in changing the way your community eats? Do you know about someone working to impact the kinds of food available to a community or the people growing the food? Consider entering a project in the [TEDxManhattan Challenge!](#) Applications are due by October 1.



Employment Opportunity

The City of Providence, RI, is hiring a new Botanical Center Manager for the Roger Williams Park Botanical Center. Find the details at <http://www.providenceri.com/CityJobs/position.php?id=525>.



UMass Garden Calendar

The popular calendar produced by UMass Extension is available now. In addition to beautiful photos, the calendar offers daily gardening tips and lots of room to keep a record of your own garden's happenings. <http://umassgardencalendar.org>.



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 (yet to be built unbuilt) residential landscapes in professional and student categories. Entries are due before February 18, 2014. Details for Suburbia Transformed 3.0 are available at <http://www.jamesrosecenter.org>.

Events to Note

(listings indicate local time unless otherwise noted)

Sept 7-29 - [Fall Native Plant Sale and Lecture](#); Bowman's Hill, New Hope, PA, 10:00am-4:00pm.

Sept 17 - **ELA EVENT**→[Ecology Basics for Landscapers and Designers](#) , **Webinar**, 7:30-8:30pm.

Sept 18 - [Selected Topics for Tree Care Professionals](#); Pittsfield, MA, 8:30am-12:30pm.

Sept 18 - [Combining Green & Grey in Combined Sewer Watersheds](#), Center for Watershed Protection, **Webinar**, 12:00-2:00pm.

Sept 18 - [Mass Audubon: Building Resilient Communities](#), Whitinsville, MA, 4:30-6:30pm.

Sept 18 - [Identifying Grasses](#); Bowman's Hill, New Hope, PA, 9:30am-12:00noon.

Sept 19 - [Learning from Australia: Conservation & Desalination](#); Santa Cruz, CA, 6:30pm.

Sept 21 - [NEWFS: Wildflowers in Fall](#); Framingham, MA, 9:30am-12:30pm.

Sept 21 - [Knowing Native Plants: Amazing Asters](#); Bowman's Hill, New Hope, PA, 10:00am-1:00pm.

Sept 21-22 - [Compost-Powered Hot Water: Combustion Free Energy](#); Warren, VT.

Sept 24 - **ELA EVENT**→[The Rose Kennedy Greenway: Ecological Form and Function](#); Boston, MA, 10:00am-12:00noon.

Sept 24-27 - [NEWFS: Native Woody Plant Materials](#); Framingham, MA.

Sept 25 - [Scouting for Diseases and Weeds of Woody Ornamentals](#); Hathorne, MA, 4:00-6:00pm.

Sept 25 - [Design a Native Mixed Border Garden](#); Beverly, MA, 7:00-9:00pm.

Sept 27 - **ELA EVENT**→[Sustainable Landscape Design: Working with Builders](#), **Webinar**, 7:30-8:30pm.

Sept 27 & 28 - [2nd Long Island Native Plant Symposium](#); Brookhaven Nat'l Laboratory, Upton, NY.

Sept 28 - [Weed Patrol](#); Bowman's Hill, New Hope, PA; September 28, 9:30am-12:00noon.

Oct 3 - [Design a Native Mixed Border Garden](#); Bristol, RI, 6:30-8:30pm.

Oct 5 - **ELA EVENT**→[Invasive Plant ID: Replacing with Native Plants](#); Newton, MA, 10:00am-

12:00noon.

Oct 6-10 - [5th SER World Conference on Ecological Restoration](#); Madison, WI.

Oct 12 - **ELA EVENT**→[Identify and Control Invasive Plants](#); Newton, MA, 10:00am-12:00noon.

Oct 12-13 - [Introduction to Permaculture](#); Warren, VT.

Oct 13-16 - [USBI North American Biochar Symposium](#); Amherst, MA.

Oct 13-25 - [Permaculture Design Certification](#); Warren, VT.

Oct 17 - [Therapeutic Landscape Collaborations: Successful Evidence-Based Design](#); Lynn, MA, 9:00am-12:30pm.

Oct 19 - **ELA EVENT**→[The High Line - A Guided Walk of New York's Elevated Park](#); NYC, NY, 9:00-11:00am.

Oct 19 - [Weed Patrol](#); Bowman's Hill, New Hope, PA; September 28, 9:30am-12:00noon.

Oct 19 - [Knowing Native Plants: Trees of the Preserve](#); Bowman's Hill, New Hope, PA; September 28, 10:0am-1:00pm.

Oct 24 - [Mass Audubon: Building Resilient Communities](#), Bridgewater, MA, 4:30-6:30pm.

Oct 25-26 - [Tree Steward Training 2013](#); Harvard Forest, Petersham, MA.

Oct 23-25 - [PLANET 2013 Green Industry Conference](#); Louisville, KY.

Oct 25-27 - [Connecting for Change](#); New Bedford, MA.

Oct 26 - [Perimeter Walk](#); Bowman's Hill, New Hope, PA, 10:00am-noon.

Oct 30 - **ELA EVENT**→[Organic Lawns: An Overview of Sustainable Turfgrass Management](#), **Webinar**, 7:30-8:30pm.

Nov 5 - **ELA EVENT**→[Natural Landscapes: ELA Season's End Summit](#); Stoneham, MA, 8:30am-4:30pm.

Nov 16 - [2013 MACC Fall Conference](#); Worcester, MA, 7:30am-3:45pm.



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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