



Sustaining the Living Landscape

The 24th Annual ELA Conference & Eco-Marketplace
March 7 & 8, 2018 at the UMass Murray D. Lincoln Campus Center, Amherst, MA



ELA's 24th Annual Conference & Eco-Marketplace

March 7 & 8, 2018

Looking for New Ideas? Solutions? Inspiration?

Immerse yourself in ELA's two-day conference! From the practical to the inspirational, join us as we explore a range of topics, from designing and maintaining landscapes for maximum carbon capture to looking at the intuitive side of design.

New in 2018: Food for Thought

New this year, ELA offers a ticketed breakfast, Food for Thought, where you can nourish your body while you challenge your mind – all before the first session begins. Register for the Food for Thought breakfast on Wednesday and/or Thursday and engage with experts on your favorite topics. Stick with one topic, or graze the offerings. Topics will be posted on tables and experts will be ready to keep the conversation flowing.

Intensive Sessions: March 7th


- ▶ Designing for Carbon Sequestration
- ▶ Ecological Methods of Maximizing Landscape Productivity and Potential

General Information

Online Registration

Visit www.ecolandscaping.org to register online!

Continuing Education Credits

CEU credits have been requested from APLD, ASLA, ISA, LA CES, MAA, MLP, MNLA,  NOFA OLCP, and others.

ELA Bookstore

Open throughout the ELA Conference. Your bookstore purchase helps to support ELA educational programs.

Contact Information

Visit www.ecolandscaping.org for online registration, general information, and conference details.

Attendee information

Penny Lewis at (617) 436-5838

Exhibitor information

Trevor Smith at (617) 308-7063

On-site Registration

Register at the event: March 7 and 8.

Wednesday, March 7

Keynote Dinner, Darrel Morrison 6:30-8:30pm

Landscape Design as Ecological Art

The natural landscape can teach us many lessons on how to design landscapes that are ecologically sound, experientially rich, "of the place", and dynamic. Mr. Morrison will look at patterns and processes in the natural landscape and then at designed landscapes where those patterns and processes provide both information and inspiration. Among the examples will be designed landscapes at Storm King Art Center in Mountainville, New York; The Old Stone Mill landscape at the New York Botanical Garden; the Native Flora Garden Extension at Brooklyn Botanical Garden; and the Stella Niagara Preserve at Lewiston, New York.

Professor Morrison, FASLA, is an ecologically-based landscape architect who merges science with art as a basis for landscape design and management. Mr. Morrison has been teaching Landscape Architecture since 1969 at various universities including University of Wisconsin, the University of Georgia, and Columbia University. He is most well-known for designing prairie-inspired gardens using native plants. His works include the UW-Madison Arboretum Native Plants Garden, the New York Botanical Garden Native Plant Garden, and the Brooklyn Botanic Garden Native Flora Garden Expansion. He was the senior landscape designer for the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center in Texas. He was inducted as a Fellow in the American Society of Landscape Architects in 1981, and has received numerous national and regional awards for his lifetime of teaching and achievement.

Hotel: Rooms at Hotel UMass are available to participants for \$115 per night. Reservations will be taken no later than February 25, 2018. Register online or call (877) 822-2110 and specify the ELA group promotional code: ELC18C. The discount is NOT available at check-in.

Cancellation Policy

To receive a refund, your request must be received prior to February 25, 2018. A \$60 handling fee will be deducted. No refunds

will be made after that date unless the conference is canceled. For recorded cancellation information, call (617) 436-5838.

Disclaimer

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March 7, 2018

Designing for Carbon Sequestration

8:00am

Registration and Food for Thought
Ticketed Breakfast with Moderated Table Topics

9:00am–10:30am

Designing and Maintaining Landscapes to Maximize Carbon Storage Potential
M.L. Altobelli

11:00am–12:30pm

Keeping Carbon in the Ground: A Scientific Exploration of Climate Change and Soil Health
Kristen DeAngelis, PhD

12:30pm–2:00pm

Lunch & Networking

2:00pm–3:30pm

Backyard Carbon Sequestration
Adrian Ayres Fisher

4:00pm–5:30pm

Carbon Mitigation Through Soil & Plant Management
Eric Toensmeier

Ecological Methods of Maximizing Landscape Productivity and Potential

9:00am–10:30am

Managing Land for Pollinators and Conservation Biocontrol
Emily May

11:00am–12:30pm

Farming on the Wild Side: Regenerative Production Practices Based on Multifunctional Perennial Plantings
John Hayden

2:00pm–3:30pm

Capturing Carbon with Trees
Christopher Woodall, PhD and David Bloniarz, PhD

4:00pm–5:30pm

Landscaping for Plant Diversity
Randi Eckel, PhD

5:30pm

Eco-Marketplace closes for the day

"After Hours"

5:30pm–6:30pm

Hors d'oeuvres, cash bar, and music.
Take a moment to network and energize before dinner and the keynote.

6:30pm–8:30pm

Keynote with Darrel Morrison

March 8, 2018

General Sessions & Idea Exchanges

7:30am

Registration and Food for Thought
Ticketed Breakfast with Moderated Table Topics

8:30am–10:00am

Quest for Resilience: Adaptive Strategies for Sustainable Planting Design
Laura Hansplant

The Challenges of Restoring Urban Native Habitat
Steven N. Handel, PhD

10:30am–12:00pm

Nature Integration - The Future of Design
Rebecca Lindenmeyr

Designing a Patchwork Ecology in Urban Ecosystems
David Seiter

12:00pm–1:30pm

Lunch & Networking

1:30pm–3:00pm

Design Inspired by Music
Darrel Morrison

Beyond the War on Invasive Species: A Permaculture Approach to Ecosystem Restoration
Tao Orion

3:00pm–3:30pm

Coffee & Light Refreshments

4:00pm

Eco-Marketplace closes

3:30pm–5:00pm

Authentic, Whole, and Alive: Design Lessons from Wild Landscapes
Toby Wolf

Why Mulch if You Can Plant!
Mark Richardson and Dan Jaffe

Idea Exchanges

8:30am–10:00am

Understanding and Sowing Native Seeds
Heather McCargo

10:30am–12:00pm

John Hayden, The Farm Between

Panelists:
Joe Elkinton, PhD, University of Massachusetts
Lisa Tewksbury, PhD, University of Rhode Island
Roy Van Driesche, PhD, University of Massachusetts

ELA Moderator:
Ronit Bendavid-Val, Brooklyn Botanic Garden

1:30pm–3:00pm

The Ecological Garden

Panelists:
Jack Ahern, PhD, University of Massachusetts Amherst
John Hayden, The Farm Between
Lauri Johnson, Lauri Johnson Landscape Design
Laura Kuhn, Laura Kuhn Design Consultation

ELA Moderator:
Mark Highland, Organic Mechanics

3:30pm–5:00pm

Tour of UMass Design Building
with Lauren Stimson

Designed by Stephen Stimson Associates, the landscape of the UMass Design Building is a model of ecological design. Communities of native trees, shrubs, ferns, and herbaceous plantings – a nod to the familiar plant communities of the region – surround the building. A series of bioswales runs through the landscape, holistically integrating the stormwater management with the architecture of the building. On the third floor of the building is a rooftop garden of collected indigenous New England alpine species, including black spruce, yellow birch, sheep laurel, bearberry, and reindeer lichen.



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March 7, 2018 Intensive Sessions

DESIGNING FOR CARBON SEQUESTRATION

9:00am-10:30am

Designing and Maintaining Landscapes to Maximize Carbon Storage Potential

– M.L. Altobelli

The managed landscape has huge potential to help with carbon sequestration. Easy-to-overlook, urban and suburban landscapes can be managed for both human satisfaction and ecosystem stabilization. Join Ms. Altobelli as she explores how, through observation, experimentation, and practical applications, you can learn to manage carbon in order to increase the health of the soil, and therefore the health of plants and the planet.

2:00pm-3:30pm

Backyard Carbon Sequestration

– Adrian Ayres Fisher

Landscapers and gardeners have long known that soil is not simply the stuff that props up plants. But not everyone knows that organic and native plant gardening practices can help mitigate climate change by building and protecting soil health. This presentation will review the characteristics of healthy soil, how plants and soil life work together to store carbon below ground, and how gardeners and landscapers can make a difference in the fight against climate change.

11:00am-12:30pm

Keeping Carbon in the Ground: A Scientific Exploration of Climate Change and Soil Health

– Kristen DeAngelis, PhD

Soils rich in carbon are healthy soils. However, climate change and poor management practices can degrade soil carbon stores and, consequently, the soil itself. Dr. DeAngelis will explain why keeping carbon in the ground is important, and how carbon sequestration factors into maintaining healthy soils. She will also discuss the changes that were observed over a 26-year period in a long-term climate change field experiment in which soils were heated 5 degrees C above ambient temperatures. Along with a look at the science, Dr. DeAngelis will suggest ways in which we can make changes in our practices to increase carbon storage in the soil.

4:00pm-5:30pm

Carbon Mitigation Through Soil & Plant Management

– Eric Toensmeier

Climate change mitigation may be the great challenge for humanity in the 21st century. Land management plays an important role in reducing emissions and sequestering excess atmospheric CO₂. This presentation will review the process of sequestration in soils and biomass, and introduce a range of mitigation practices suited to farms and landscapes in the Northeast.

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March 7, 2018 Intensive Sessions, *continued*

ECOLOGICAL METHODS OF MAXIMIZING LANDSCAPE PRODUCTIVITY AND POTENTIAL

9:00am–10:30am

Managing Land for Pollinators and Conservation Biocontrol

– Emily May

Conservation biological control is a science-based pest management strategy that seeks to integrate beneficial insects back into the landscape for natural pest control, ultimately reducing, and in some cases eliminating, the need for pesticides. Join Ms. May, Pollinator Conservation Specialist for the Xerces Society, for an overview on conservation biological control and beneficial predators and parasitoids that attack insect pests. Participants will learn how different management practices can impact pollinators and other beneficial insects and how to assess and create habitat for beneficial insects.

11:00am–12:30pm

Farming on the Wild Side: Regenerative Production Practices Based on Multifunctional Perennial Plantings

– John Hayden

This session will emphasize the ecology and the positive benefits of regenerative farming practices (carbon sequestration, water quality improvement, wildlife and pollinator habitat), and the plants that make for an economically viable system. Mr. Hayden will explain how his family's farm has evolved over the years, how their edible landscape and conservation plant nursery fits into the model, and how they apply biodiversity in their farm-scape to get the results that conventional growers attain using fertilizers and pesticides. He will cover how multi-functional perennial plants like elderberry, aronia, willow, and dogwoods are an important part of the farm income and ecology. Ideas for creating nesting and food habitat for pollinators, insectaries for beneficial insects, and bird habitat for biological control of pests will also be shared.

2:00pm–3:30pm

Capturing Carbon with Trees

– Christopher Woodall, PhD and David Bloniarz, PhD

This two-part presentation will focus on carbon sequestration and the ecosystem services that are provided by trees.

In **Part one**, Dr. Woodall will look at how forested rural area carbon assessment is done in the US. He will discuss how these assessments suggest that forests currently offset over 10% of carbon dioxide associated with fossil fuel emissions every year. Because forests and trees in developed landscapes sequester atmospheric carbon dioxide through growth and expansion, their preservation could play an important role in the ability of the US to reach net zero emissions.

Part two will examine the importance and value of trees in developed areas and how they play a critical role in making cities healthier for residents and more resilient to climate change pressures. Dr. Bloniarz will provide examples of several completed i-Tree (a software analysis and reporting tool developed by the US Forest Service) studies and discuss how trees address carbon sequestration, stormwater interception and energy usage. An overview of how users of i-Tree software can easily calculate the structure, function and value of trees in developed landscapes will also be presented.

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March 7, 2018 Intensive Sessions, *continued*

Landscaping for Plant Diversity

– Randi Eckel, PhD

What is the role of diversity in the garden and what do we gain by increasing diversity in our gardens, fields, and forests? Despite the wealth of native plant species at our fingertips, we rely too heavily on too few species. By using the great diversity of plants that are native to a region, we can beautify the landscape, minimize inputs, support wildlife, and do away with the ecological deserts created in seas of mulch and functionally sterile lawns.

6:30pm–8:30pm

KEYNOTE DINNER

Landscape Design as Ecological Art

Darrel Morrison





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March 8, 2018 General Sessions & Idea Exchanges

8:30am–10:00am

Quest for Resilience: Adaptive Strategies for Sustainable Planting Design

- Laura Hansplant

What do changing weather patterns mean with regard to how we design the landscape? In this session, Ms. Hansplant will examine the concept of resilience with regard to landscape design. Using a series of case studies and practical examples, she will discuss how we can replicate plant community dynamics and structure to foster robust and adaptable landscapes. She will also emphasize the importance of cultural expectations and their implications for ecologically-based planting design.

The Challenges of Restoring Urban Native Habitat

- Steven N. Handel, PhD

Patches of native habitat in urban and other degraded areas provide important ecological services. A design team developed and tested a series of plantings that attempted to restore ecological connections between fragmented and degraded remnant habitats in large, urban areas. Old landfills were planted with woodland patches of various sizes to determine how quickly mutualisms, including seed dispersal and pollination, occurred. Focusing on Brooklyn Bridge Park in New York and Orange County Great Park in California, where complex habitat was integrated with civic needs, Dr. Handel will explore how these types of ecological solutions can be applied to many urban designs.

Idea Exchange

Understanding and Sowing Native Seeds

- Heather McCargo

The seeds of wild plants have a different set of requirements than those of garden and vegetable species. In this talk and demonstration, Ms. McCargo will describe the reproductive life cycle of different types of native plants and explain how we can change our practices to help support wild plant reproduction, and by extension, pollinators and other wildlife. Heather will discuss native seed sowing and demonstrate simple outdoor propagation techniques that anyone can do. Growing native plants from seed is a way to interact with our native flora and is an inexpensive means of producing a lot of plants.

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March 8, 2018 General Sessions & Idea Exchanges, *continued*

10:30am–12:00pm

Nature Integration - The Future of Design

– Rebecca Lindenmeyr

Learn how a fundamental shift in demographics, social consciousness, and science is changing how nature is integrated into the design of our buildings and landscapes and how that will affect the future of the green industry. Ms. Lindenmeyr will focus on the challenges of transforming how we approach design as well as our relationships with our employees and our clients. She will discuss how to maximize the opportunities that will be coming over the next 5-10 years, and provide an overview of Nature Attention Restoration Theory, biophilic design (including common features such as green walls and creating views of complex nature), WELL certified Buildings, forest bathing, and biomimicry.

Designing a Patchwork Ecology in Urban Ecosystems

– David Seiter

Mr. Seiter will investigate the role of wild plants in the urban ecosystem by profiling a cross section of weeds. By comparing the principles of urban ecology with those of aesthetic design, Mr. Seiter challenges contemporary concepts and cultural perceptions about the value of weeds. His intent is to stimulate a discourse between ecologists, landscape architects, and policy-makers that explores societal perceptions of weeds and questions the stigmas that surround them.

Idea Exchange

What's on the Horizon for Bio-Controls?

Whether you work on the large or small scale, you've probably noticed that our plants are under attack from an increasing number of invasive, non-native pests. Like it or not, these problematic species are here to stay. Join our panelist to learn what bio-controls have been introduced, how well they are working (or not), what's on the horizon, and what's still unknown.

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March 8, 2018 General Sessions & Idea Exchanges, *continued*

1:30pm–3:00pm

Design Inspired by Music

– Darrel Morrison

In this presentation, Professor Morrison will develop a conceptual landscape design for a real site in Amherst which is “assigned” to him on the spot, and for which he has not previously done a design. Then, using music he has selected as being useful for evoking landscape form and patterns, he will, using chalk pastels, create a “first draft” of a design for the site. This will be followed by a discussion of the sequence of steps in refining the landscape design.

Beyond the War on Invasive Species: A Permaculture Approach to Ecosystem Restoration

– Tao Orion

This presentation will focus on developing a systems-based understanding of invasive species as a foundation for holistically managing their populations. Invasive species are often viewed as the drivers of ecosystem change, and the practice of landscape management often focuses on their removal to improve ecosystem function and enhance biodiversity. A more holistic view of invasive species places them within a larger social, economic, and ecological context as symptoms, rather than causes, of changing ecosystems. Factors including climate change, historic changes in land use and management, and even our modern concept of nature and wilderness contribute to the status of ecosystems we live in today, many of which are declining in health and productivity. Landscapers and land managers have an important role to play in accounting for and mitigating these forces as they make plans for increasing biodiversity, beauty, and ecosystem function over the long term.

Idea Exchange

The Ecological Garden

Our panelist will focus on elements that contribute to the ecological health of our gardens and landscapes. Topics will include soil management techniques, developing native plant communities, and maintenance practices that encourage ecological connections. Bring your questions or share your solutions to common challenges.

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March 8, 2018 General Sessions & Idea Exchanges, *continued*

3:30pm–5:00pm

Authentic, Whole, and Alive: Design Lessons from Wild Landscapes

–Toby Wolf

What if designed landscapes could inspire, challenge, and delight us in some of the same ways that wild places do? Mr. Wolf will explore the experiential qualities that we value in natural landscapes and look at the elements that give rise to those qualities. Using examples from his designs for public spaces and private homes, he will demonstrate how designers and horticulturalists can bring a sense of wildness into the designed landscape, whether urban or suburban, large or small, planted or paved.

Why Mulch if You Can Plant!

– Mark Richardson and Dan Jaffe

Why are we so attached to mulch? Yes, it is helpful in suppressing weeds and preventing soil erosion, but it's costly, time-consuming, difficult to spread, and frankly, drab and boring. You know what works better than mulch? Plants! Mr. Jaffe and Mr. Richardson will discuss a variety of native plants, from mat-forming herbaceous perennials to low-growing shrubs, which can be used to eliminate the need for yearly applications of mulch in our landscapes. These plants not only provide ecosystem services, but also make our landscapes less costly to maintain and more attractive.





The 24th Annual ELA Conference & Eco-Marketplace

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

Wednesday & Thursday
March 7 & 8, 2018

Early Registration, Member or Group Discounts are valid through **February 25th. Sign up today!**

Discounts available for ELA members and groups of three or more. Only one discount per person applies. Become an ELA member on this form and receive an immediate member discount.

*****Visit www.ecolandscaping.org to register online or to download the registration form for mailing*****

Enter Name as it should appear on Conference Name Badge.	Company/Organization Affiliation	ELA member (Yes/No)
Name:		
Email:	Contact Address:	
Home Phone:	Business Phone:	

NOTE: Group discount is the same as the member pricing when three or more register as a group. Complete one form per group member.

Offerings	Member Before 2/25	Member After 2/25	Non-Member Before 2/25	Non-Member After 2/25	Amount Due
3/7 Breakfast with Eco-Experts	\$ 20	\$ 25	\$ 20	\$ 25	\$
3/7 Sessions	\$145	\$200	\$170	\$235	\$
3/7 Sessions with Keynote Dinner	\$195	\$270	\$230	\$320	\$
3/7 Keynote Dinner Only	\$ 85	\$115	\$100	\$135	\$
3/8 Breakfast with Eco-Experts	\$ 20	\$ 25	\$ 20	\$ 25	\$
3/8 Sessions Only	\$145	\$200	\$170	\$235	\$
3/7 and 3/8 Sessions Only	\$230	\$320	\$270	\$375	\$
3/8 Sessions with Keynote Dinner on 3/7	\$195	\$270	\$230	\$320	\$
3/7 and 3/8 Sessions with 3/7 Keynote Dinner	\$280	\$390	\$330	\$460	\$

Full-Time Student Registration *No other discounts apply. Enclose a copy of student ID with registration & present ID at conference.*

Full-Time Student, 3/7 Sessions – \$85	\$
Full-Time Student, 3/8 Sessions – \$85	\$
Full-Time Student, Keynote Dinner 3/7 Only – \$60	\$

ELA Membership—Join or Renew *ELA is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization; membership fees and donations are tax-deductible*

Join or Renew ELA membership at Company Level – \$250	\$
Join or Renew ELA membership at Professional Level – \$100	\$
GRAND TOTAL ENCLOSED	\$

Members Only

Do include me in the online "Find an Eco-Pro" Directory (place check in box)	
Do include me in the Membership Networking Directory (place check in box)	

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FOR INFORMATION, call (617) 436-5838 or visit www.ecolandscaping.org.

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO ELA and return with this form to: ELA Conference, P.O. Box 3, Sandown, NH 03873.

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CONSENT, WAIVER OF LIABILITY, AND RELEASE: When you enter the ELA Conference, you will be entering an area where photography, video, and audio recording may occur. By registering and attending the event, you:

1. Consent to the use of photography, audio recording, video recording and its/their release, publication, exhibition, or reproduction for news, webcasts, promotional purposes, telecasts, advertising, inclusion on websites, or any other purpose by ELA and its affiliates and representatives without payment/royalties or inspection/approval of materials;
2. Waive any claims you may have arising out of such activities; and
3. You release ELA, its officers and employees, and each and all persons involved from any liability connected with the taking, recording, digitizing, or publication of photographs, computer images, video and/or sound recordings.

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Speaker Biographies

Jack Ahern, PhD is a professor of landscape architecture and urban planning at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. His work is focused on urban landscapes and enhancing ecosystem services in urban areas. He is currently focusing on new theories of “novel urban ecosystems” to better understand how “new nature” in contemporary cities can be understood, classified, designed, and managed for beauty and ecological functions.

M.L. Altobelli is the owner of Greenery in Motion, specializing in fine garden design, installation and management. She has over 30 years of experience with developing healthy soils that grow highly productive flower and vegetable gardens. Using an integrated approach, she combines farm and vegetable production with aesthetics and the support of natural systems. Through participation with her local agricultural commission and local training programs, she shares her extensive knowledge, introducing new gardeners to the concepts of plant diversity, integrating edibles, and soil and plant health. Ms. Altobelli’s natural curiosity and practical outlook drive her fascination with soil biology and her desire to discover what can be done to improve garden soils for the sake of the plants and the animals and humans that depend upon them. She and her sister own Woody End Farm where they raise ducks and goats, grow custom plants, and tend a variety of Hugelkulture beds. Ms. Altobelli is a founding member of ELA and has a BS in Animal Science.

Ronit Bendavid-Val (ELA Moderator) Ms. Bendavid-Val has spent nearly two decades working in public parks and gardens in the New York City area. She is currently the Director of Gardens & Grounds at Brooklyn Botanic Garden and previously served as the Vice President of Horticulture & Operations at the High Line. Prior to that, she spent 15 years involved with horticultural work for New York City Department of Parks and Recreation, including four years as Director of Citywide Horticulture. Ms. Bendavid-Val believes in sustainable and environmentally sound practices in both horticulture and agriculture and seeks to incorporate those practices into her work.

David Bloniarz, PhD is an urban forester with an extensive background in urban forest management and landscape design. He holds a master’s degree in landscape architecture and a doctorate in urban forestry from UMass Amherst. He is a researcher with the Urban Natural Resources Institute, an initiative of the USDA Forest Service Northern Research Station, located at UMass/Amherst. The Institute’s primary focus is the development of new tools and technologies for use by planners, managers, and researchers. Dr. Bloniarz’s work involves technology transfer initiatives related to urban natural resource structure, function, and value, including the i-Tree software suite of ecosystem modeling and analysis tools.

Kristen DeAngelis, PhD, is an Assistant Professor of Microbiology at the University of Massachusetts

Amherst. She has trained in soil microbiology and soil ecology at the University of California Berkeley and the Lawrence Berkeley National Lab, and has worked on tropical rainforest, temperate forest, and grassland soils.

Randi Eckel, PhD has been studying native plants for over 30 years and founded the mail-order native plant nursery Toadshade Wildflower Farm in 1996 to further public awareness and availability of native plants. A life-long naturalist, lover of nature, and confirmed plant and ecology nerd, she specializes in the interactions between plants and other living things. She is known for her lively and engaging lectures and workshops on growing and propagating native plants, and offers interesting, nuanced information on the complex issues facing native plants and native plant communities.

Joe Elkinton, PhD is a professor of entomology in the Department of Environmental Conservation at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. His laboratory conducts research on population dynamics and biological control of invasive forest insects. His early work focused on the gypsy moth and on how small mammal predators and viral and fungal pathogens affected the population of that insect. More recent projects focus on the population dynamics of browntail moth, hemlock woolly adelgid, and winter moth. He is currently involved with efforts to introduce predatory beetles to control hemlock woolly adelgid and a tachinid parasitoid to control winter moth.

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Speaker Biographies

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Adrian Ayres Fisher, a Chicago-area native, is Sustainability Coordinator at Triton College in River Grove, Illinois. Among other duties, she is in charge of two large rain gardens and a small prairie area that is certified as a Monarch Waystation. She is active in Chicago Wilderness initiatives, the West Cook Chapter of Wild Ones, and volunteers with the Plants of Concern rare-plant-monitoring program in Cook County Forest Preserves. She has trained and volunteered as a University of Illinois Extension Master Gardener and was the native plant buyer for an independent nursery. Her backyard pollinator reserve has been included in local garden walks. Ms. Ayres blogs at www.ecologicalgardening.net and is a featured writer at Resilience.org.

Steven N. Handel, PhD, Hon. ASLA is a Distinguished Professor of Ecology and Evolution at Rutgers University where he studies the potential to restore native plant communities, adding sustainable ecological services, biodiversity, and amenities to the landscape. His research explores pollination, seed dispersal, population growth, and problems of urban and heavily degraded lands. Previously, he was Director of the Marsh Botanic Garden at Yale University, a Visiting Professor at Stockholm University, and Research Scholar at Macquarie University in Sydney, Australia. He is the Editor of the professional journal *Ecological Restoration* and an Aldo Leopold Leadership Fellow of the Ecological Society of America. He

was elected an Honorary Member of the American Society of Landscape Architects and also received the Society for Ecological Restoration's highest research honor, the Theodore M. Sperry Award. Dr. Handel received his BA from Columbia College in Biology and MS and PhD degrees from Cornell University in the Field of Ecology and Evolution.

Laura Hansplant is a landscape architect and co-owner at Roofmeadow. Previously with Andropogon Associates, she has over 20 years' experience in sustainable landscape design. She has worked on projects in a variety of locations ranging from Toronto to Virginia. Her current work explores dynamic approaches to planting design for urban landscapes.

John Hayden and his wife Nancy are co-owners of The Farm Between in Jeffersonville, VT. The farm is a certified organic nursery and fruit farm, and grows multi-functional perennial plantings without the use of pesticides or synthetic fertilizers. Over the past 25 years he and his wife have developed a biologically diverse, ecologically based, economically viable business model. Mr. Hyden did his MS research on apple pest ecology, and has over 35 years of experience in sustainable agriculture as a college educator, extension agent, international consultant, and practicing farmer.

Mark Highland (ELA Moderator) Mr. Highland received his BS degree in Environmental Horticulture at the

University of Florida and his MS degree studies in the Longwood Graduate Program where he focused on compost and potting soil. After the Longwood Graduate Program, he founded The Organic Mechanic Soil Company, LLC in 2006. Mark has served as a consultant for the Environmental Protection Agency and the Institute for Local Self-Reliance. He recently received the Young Professional Award from the Perennial Plant Association.

Dan Jaffe is the propagator and stock bed grower at New England Wild Flower Society (NEWFS) in Framingham, Massachusetts. He earned a degree in botany from the University of Maine and an advanced certificate in Native Plant Horticulture and Design from NEWFS. After interning at Garden in the Woods, Mr. Jaffe worked for a year as Plant Sales Coordinator at the Garden. In addition to many years of experience in horticulture, he has boundless enthusiasm for native plants.

Lauri Johnson has over 15 years of experience creating and caring for landscapes throughout the greater Boston area. She has a degree in Biology and Environmental Science and studied landscape design and horticulture at the Landscape Institute at Harvard University, the Arnold Arboretum, and the New England Wildflower Society. She believes strongly in continued education and keeps abreast of new research, best ecological practices, and landscaping trends.

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Sustaining the Living Landscape

The 24th Annual ELA Conference & Eco-Marketplace
March 7 & 8, 2018 at the UMass Murray D. Lincoln Campus Center, Amherst, MA



Speaker Biographies

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Laura Kuhn is a self-taught landscape designer who started her own design business, Laura Kuhn Design Consultation, in 2000. She creates custom artistic and wild spaces for private clients in the New England region and beyond, and offers design and construction services for a variety of private landscapes. Ms. Kuhn's certifications include MCH, MCLP, and NOFA AOLCP. She has served as Advocacy Chair for the Association of Professional Landscape Designers.

Rebecca Lindenmeyr is one of the Northeast's leading green industry professionals exploring the intersection between nature and human living spaces. She trained as an environmental scientist and worked with EPA for nine years before shifting to sustainable design in 2001. Ms. Lindenmeyr is a VT Certified Horticulturist, a Professional Designer, and a WELL Building AP. For 14 years she co-owned Linden L.A.N.D. Group in Shelburne VT, an ecological landscape design/build company, with her husband. She now manages the Gardeners Supply Company flagship store in Williston, VT, where she keeps an eye on emerging trends in the garden and landscape industries.

Emily May is a Pollinator Conservation Specialist for the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation. She received an MS in Entomology from Michigan State University, and has studied pollinator habitat restoration, bee nesting habits, and the effects of pest management practices on wild

bee communities. Her work with Xerces since 2015 has focused on supporting crop pollinators through habitat creation and by mitigating pesticide risk to bees and other beneficial insects. Ms. May is based in CT and provides technical assistance for pollinator projects in VT, MA, and NH.

Heather McCargo is the founder and Director of the Wild Seed Project. She has over 30 years of expertise in plant propagation, landscape design, and conservation. She was the head plant propagator for the New England Wildflower Society, worked at several landscape architecture/planning firms specializing in ecological design, and has been a contributor to several research projects with USAID, National Gardening Association, and Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association. She has an MA from the Conway School of Landscape Design and a BA in plant ecology from Hampshire College. Ms. McCargo lectures nationally and is widely published in journals and magazines.

Darrel Morrison, FASLA, is an ecologically-based landscape architect who merges science with art as a basis for landscape design and management. Mr. Morrison has been teaching Landscape Architecture since 1969 at various universities including University of Wisconsin, the University of Georgia, and Columbia University. He is most well-known for designing prairie-inspired gardens using native plants. His works include the UW-Madison Arboretum Native Plants Garden, the New York Botanical Garden Native Plant Garden, and

the Brooklyn Botanic Garden Native Flora Garden Expansion. He was the senior landscape designer for the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center in Texas. He was inducted as a Fellow in the American Society of Landscape Architects in 1981, and has received numerous national and regional awards for his lifetime of teaching and achievement.

Tao Orion is the author of *Beyond the War on Invasive Species: A Permaculture Approach to Ecosystem Restoration*. She teaches permaculture design at Oregon State University and at Aprovecho, a 40-acre nonprofit sustainable-living educational organization. She consults on holistic farm, forest, and restoration planning through Resilience Permaculture Design, LLC. She holds a degree in agroecology and sustainable agriculture from UC Santa Cruz. Ms. Orion has a keen interest in integrating the disciplines of organic agriculture, sustainable land-use planning, ethnobotany, and ecosystem restoration in order to create beneficial social, economic, and ecological outcomes. When she is not teaching or writing, she grows organic fruits, vegetables, seeds, nuts, and animals on her southern Willamette Valley homestead, Viriditas Farm.

Mark Richardson oversees the New England Wildflower Society's botanic garden, Garden in the Woods, and its native plant nursery operation, Nasami Farm, in Whately, Massachusetts. He studied ornamental horticulture

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at University of Rhode Island and helped run a mid-sized ornamental plant nursery before finding his true passion in public horticulture. He led undergraduate programs at Longwood Gardens, overhauled the curriculum of the Professional Gardener Program, and oversaw adult education at Brookside Gardens. In 2013, Mr. Richardson assisted with the development of the first comprehensive master plan for Garden in the Woods. He holds an MS from the University of Delaware's Longwood Graduate Program.

David Seiter is design director and founding principal of Future Green Studio, a design build firm specializing in landscape urbanism and ecology. David's design portfolio encompasses award-winning private and public-use projects. He is author of the book *Spontaneous Urban Plants: Weeds in NYC*, a book about the overlooked ecological value of weeds in the urban landscape. Additionally, he founded the website spontaneousurbanplants.org which won a 2015 National Honor Award in Research from the American Society of Landscape Architects. Mr. Seiter holds an MLA from the University of Pennsylvania and is a licensed Landscape Architect in New Jersey, Maryland, and Virginia.

Lisa Tewksbury, PhD is a Research Associate in the Department of Plant Sciences and Entomology at The University of Rhode Island (URI) and manages the URI Biological Control Lab. She has a bachelor's degree in plant

science from URI, a master's degree in entomology from the University of Delaware, and a PhD from URI.

Eric Toensmeier is the award-winning author of *Paradise Lot* and *Perennial Vegetables*, and the co-author of *Edible Forest Gardens*. He is an appointed lecturer at Yale University, a Senior Fellow with Project Drawdown, and an international trainer, presenting in English and Spanish in North and Central America as well as in the Caribbean. He has studied permaculture and useful plants of the world for over two decades. He managed an urban farm project for five years, ran a seed company, and co-developed a farm business training curriculum that is now used in eight US states and three Canadian provinces. Mr. Toensmeier's most recent book is *The Carbon Farming Solution*.

Roy Van Driesche, PhD is an entomologist at University of Massachusetts Amherst where he specializes in biological controls for invasive species. Currently, his work, which includes research on the emerald ash borer, focuses on the impact of invasive pests on natural communities and the process of using introduced predators to lower pest population densities. Topics of interest include parasitoid biology, assessment of nontarget impacts of biological control agents, and ecological restoration of invader-damaged ecosystems, communities or species.

Toby Wolf is the founder of Wolf Landscape Architecture which designs

public and private landscapes that foster meaningful encounters with the natural world. His current projects include work for the Boston Public Garden, Rose Kennedy Greenway, the Prudential Center, Brooklyn Botanic Garden, as well as for private residences. Mr. Wolf has degrees from both the University of Pennsylvania and Cornell University, has taught at Rhode Island School of Design, the Landscape Institute in Cambridge, State University of NY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, and Cornell University. He is also a frequent lecturer and guest critic at the Conway School. Mr. Wolf is Vice President of the Ecological Landscape Alliance.

Christopher Woodall, PhD, is the Project Leader of the US Forest Service's Center for Research on Ecosystem Change. The Center, which works in concert with dozens of state, local, industry, and university partners, gathers data in order to develop tools and techniques to better maintain forests in the northern region of the US. His work focuses on forest inventory analysis and research. Dr. Woodall has worked on various national and regional forest inventory programs, and has been involved with research and coordination activities for the US Forest Service and other federal agencies.