

Enjoy this issue as you explore principles and practices that support the living landscape.

May 2018



Advocating for ecological landscape practices  
through education, collaboration, and outreach.

## From the Editor

With the return of warm weather, ELA begins its tenth Eco-tour series on June 5 with a guided tour of ferns and native habitat at Norcross Wildlife Sanctuary in Wales, MA. Eco-tours offer visitors a close-up look at ecological landscapes guided by onsite professionals. Take a look at [upcoming tours](#).

You don't need to be out in the landscape to notice the changes taking place in our warming world, especially the effects on local ecosystems. Articles in this month's newsletter present practical approaches to counter the effects of climate change on our landscapes and suggest ways the planned environment can help. From the plants we choose to the ways we combine and layer them in the landscape, we can all take steps toward climate-conscious land care and gardening.

Don't forget the deadline is June 1 to submit photos to [Spotlight on Natives photo contest](#). We've received many beautiful photographs and hope yours will be among them. *MPS*



### Quest for Resilience: Adaptive Strategies for Sustainable Planting Design

Conference Session Review by Cayte McDonough

In the face of climate change, how can we adapt our landscape designs and planting strategies? Laura Hansplant, Landscape Architect and co-owner of Roofmeadow, addressed these issues at the ELA Conference. [Read the article](#).



### Climate-Wise Landscaping: Practical Actions for a Sustainable Future

by Sue Reed and Ginny Stibolt

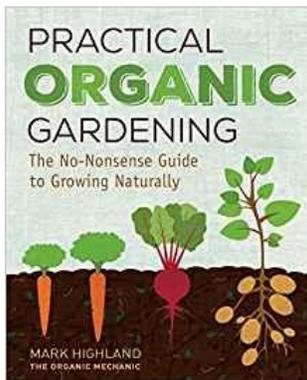
Warmer winters, hotter summers, more extreme storms have already begun to affect landscapes. Faced with predictions about the future effects of climate change ranging from mild to dire, we can take practical steps to increase resilience in the landscapes we build and enjoy. [Read the article](#).



## Hellstrip Plants: Creating Habitat in the Space Between the Sidewalk and the Curb

by Heather McCargo

Hellstrips - the narrow space between sidewalk and street curb - are a prominent urban space ripe for greening. Native plants are up to the task of surviving conditions in these difficult spaces while providing habitat, cooling ground temperatures, absorbing and filtering rainwater, supporting pollinators, and even cheering passersby. [Read the article.](#)



## Book Review: Practical Organic Gardening The No-Nonsense Guide to Growing

Written by Mark Highland

Reviewed by Rie Macchiarolo

Gardeners, farmers, and horticulturalists of all skill levels will find useful in this information packed guide. Organic gardening practices focus on maintaining healthy ecosystems, and this book introduces a holistic framework for approaching the garden. [Read the review.](#)



## Spotted Lanternfly

by Maureen Sundberg

Introduced into the U.S. in 2014, evidence of spotted lanternfly, a non-native, sap-feeding planthopper, has now been found in four states. Although tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) is the preferred host of this insect, it also consumes plants in the *Malus*, *Prunus*, *Vitis*, and *Pinus* genera among others. [Read the article.](#)

## ELA News

### Share Your Passion for Native Plants!

#### Deadline Nears for [Spotlight on Natives](#) Photo Contest

There is still time for you to make your native plant garden a star. Before 5:00pm EST on June 1, send us your most inspiring photographs of individual native plants or of native plants in the garden setting, and you'll be entered to win a one-year ELA membership. Find contest details [here.](#)

Unsure about how to take a great photo? Consider these questions when photographing native plants:

- What can your photograph tell us about the place where the plants are growing and how they're responding to their environment?
- Can your photo provide insight into plants' lives and their interactions with other organisms? How could a leaf that's been nibbled, pollen that's fallen onto a flower petal, or new growth unfurling tell a story or capture a moment in time?
- How do plants that grow together (with other plants of the same or different species) complement each other functionally and visually?
- How can the composition of your photo create mood, emphasize a particular element, or sculpt the empty space between the featured elements?
- What kind of light best suits your subject?
- How would damp weather, early morning light, or late afternoon sun bring out aspects we might not otherwise see?
- What's the best angle to shoot from - both relative to your subject, and relative to the light?
- What's most exciting about your subject, and how can you have the most fun with it?



### You Can Still Include Your Garden on the **Celebrate Native Plants Tour!**

Sign up to showcase your native plant garden on ELA's **Second Annual Celebrating Native Plants Garden Tour**. Whether it's a garden you've nurtured and maintained over decades or just installed, share your inspiration with other native plant enthusiasts and those hoping to learn more.

On **Saturday afternoon June 23**, registered guests will visit gardens around New England to share, discuss, and discover the beauty and ecosystem value of native plants. Take advantage of this opportunity to inspire greater use of native plants.

[Sign up to host visitors.](#) [Sign up to visit gardens.](#)

### Attention Boston Globe Subscribers

Please support ELA with your Globe Grant Dollars. Subscribers receive dollars that they can assign to their chosen Non-Profit. Vouchers were emailed in April. Can't find yours? Go to the [Grant Voucher](#) page on the Globe's website. You'll find instructions there. Organizations need seven vouchers to qualify for free advertising space. Please make us your choice. Thank you!

### Volunteer's Virtual Coffee

Volunteer Coffee is on hiatus until the fall. Look for a notice in the October newsletter and join the volunteer team.



## Gleanings

### Plant Choice Study - Your Participation Requested

Researchers at Colorado State University seek input from Landscape Architects and Landscape Designers on the information they use to make plant choices and their sources for information. The survey will be available from May 1 to June 30, 2018. [Take the survey.](#)



### Native Knowledge: What Ecologists Are Learning from Indigenous People

From Alaska to Australia, scientists are turning to the knowledge of traditional people for a deeper understanding of the natural world. What they are learning is helping them discover more about everything from melting Arctic ice, to protecting fish stocks, to controlling wildfires -

critical information in the face of climate change and accelerating loss of biodiversity. [Read the article in Yale environment360.](#)



### **Gardening for Pollinators**

New England Wildflower Society is offering a free, online course on converting yards into habitat for native insects, birds, and other pollinators. From April 6-August 3, 2018, you can take advantage of self-paced programming through their [Pollinate New England](#) initiative. In addition to the online course, Pollinate New England is offering hands-on workshops, evening lectures, and demonstrations. [Find out more.](#)



### **Campus RainWorks Challenge Winners Announced**

In April the Environmental Protection Agency announced winners and honorable mentions for the sixth annual Campus RainWorks Challenges. Green infrastructure designs were submitted by 87 student teams from across 30 states. [Read more at EPA.](#)



### **Trading Lawns for Meadows**

Though lawns are the point of pride for some homeowners, others are giving up mowing and increasing biodiversity in their yards. [Read more in Bangor Daily News.](#)



### **Tick Time**

Keep on top of tick activity in your area. You can refresh your identification skills and help track tick activity at [Tickencounter.org](#). If you've removed an attached tick, you can send it to the UMass Laboratory of Medical Zoology to be tested for disease-causing pathogens. Go to [Tickreport.com](#).



### **Climate Change Needs Behavior Change**

Nearly two-thirds of global emissions are linked to direct and indirect forms of human consumption, but how do you change patterns of human behavior? Solution Search is looking for creative strategies to help consumers reduce their carbon footprints through behavior change. Have a proven solution to helping people adopt climate-friendly behaviors? Can it be replicated by other communities? Submit your idea and vie for one of two \$25,000 grand prizes. The deadline for submissions is June 1, 2018. [Find out more.](#)



### **Can 'Vaccines' for Crops Help Cut Pesticide Use and Boost Yields**

Emerging plant technologies, such as plant vaccines, gene editing, and manipulation of plant-microbe partnerships, offer enticing the dual benefits of sustainable agriculture and increased yields. [Read the article in Yale environment360.](#)



### **New England Bee Bioblitz - June 22-24**

The UNH Bee Lab is organizing a Bee BioBlitz in Cheshire County, NH. Find details on their [website](#).



### **The Early Bird Meets Its Match**

Though some worms lose the battle with early birds, the common earthworm is winning the long war on New England's native ecological communities. [Read more in ARBlog.](#)



### **The Garlic Mustard Challenge**

Nature Groupie, organizer of outdoor volunteers, announced its fourth annual rally to pull garlic mustard in New England. [Find out more and register your event.](#)



### **Emerald Ash Borer Found in Vermont**

Vermont is the most recent addition to the 31-state quarantine put in place to prevent the spread of non-native emerald ash borer. New rules are in place for transporting wood outside of the state. [Find out more.](#)



### **Survey on Shrub Utilization**

UMass Amherst is conducting a survey of shrubs commonly used in Massachusetts landscapes and those that might be underutilized. [Take the survey.](#)



### **Grants**

#### **Open Space Institute: Community Forest Fund**

The Open Space Institute (OSI) protects scenic, natural, and historic landscapes to provide public enjoyment, to conserve habitat and working lands, and to sustain communities. OSI's Community Forest Fund awards grants in Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont. The focus is on projects that integrate community, economic, and conservation goals. For guidelines and application, go to the [OSI website](#). Deadline Monday, June 18, 2018 5:00pm.



**Enjoy all the ELA Membership Benefits - including free and discounted events.  
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*Bunchberry *Cornus canadensis**

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**Green City Growers:** Green City Growers (GCG) is the Northeast's premier urban farming company, specializing in the installation and maintenance of raised bed gardens, rooftop farms and indoor growing systems, and a certified B Corporation. GCG transforms unused space into thriving urban farms, providing immediate access to nutritious produce while revitalizing city landscapes and inspiring self-sufficiency through garden education programs. GCG's clients include Whole Foods Market, Tishman Speyer, Cushman & Wakefield, Boys and Girls Clubs of Boston, athenahealth, Boston Properties, National Development, and The Red Sox/Fenway Farms. Green City Growers was founded in 2008 and is proud to celebrate 10 years in 2018!

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

- May 16 - [Landscape Pests and Problems Walkabout: Diseases and Weeds](#); Westfield, MA; 5:00-7:00pm.
- May 18 - [Designing with Water in Mind](#); Boothbay, ME; 1:00-4:00pm.
- May 19 - [Grow Native Plant Sale](#); UMass Waltham Field Station, Waltham, MA; 9:00am - 2:30pm.
- May 19 - [Design Ideas for Small Space Gardens](#); Rehoboth, MA; 10:00am-12:00pm.
- May 19-20 - [Southside Community Land Trust Plant Sale](#); Providence, RI.
- May 22 - [Bumble Bee Ecology and Conservation](#) (webinar); 1:00-2:00pm MDT.
- May 26 - [Native Plant Propagation](#); Alford, MA 10:30am-12:00pm.
- May 29 - [Pacific Northwest Bumble Bee Atlas Training](#) (webinar); 10:00am-2:00pm MDT.
- May 31 **ELA Event**→[Deadline to submit your photos to Spotlight on Natives Photo Contest](#); 5:00pm.
- June 5 -[Inspiration for the Summer Garden](#); Rehoboth, MA; 10:00am-12:00pm.
- June 5 - **ELA Eco-tour**→[Ferns and Native Beauty at Norcross Wildlife Sanctuary](#); Wales, MA; 10:00am-12:00pm.

June 6 - [Landscape Pests and Problems Walkabout: Insects and Cultural Problems](#); Sandwich, MA; 5:00-7:00pm.

June 6-9 - [Native Plants in the Landscape](#); Millersville, PA.

June 8 - [Monarch and Milkweed Conservation in the West](#); SLC, UT; 9:00am-3:00pm.

June 9 - [The American Oaks: Diversity, Ecology, and Identification](#); Waltham, MA; 9:30am-1:00pm.

June 10 **ELA Eco-tour**→[Beneficial Bugs at Nasami Farm](#); Framingham, MA; 10:00am-12:00pm.

June 10 **ELA Class**→[Rain Garden Fundamentals](#); Framingham, MA; 1:30-3:00pm.

June 12 [Protecting Biodiversity in a Changing Climate](#); Grafton, MA; 9:30am-4:00pm.

June 14 **ELA Eco-tour**→[Harvard Forest - Reflecting on the Past, Researching the Future](#); Petersham, MA; 10:00am-12:30pm.

June 16 - [Common Gardening Misconceptions and the Reality Behind Them](#); Boothbay, ME; 9:30am-12:30pm.

June 16 - [9th Annual Global Earth Exchange](#); worldwide.

June 20 - [Weed Walkabout](#); Malden, MA; 4:00-6:00pm.

June 22 - [Gardens for the Senses: An Intimate Garden Conversation with Tim Smit](#); Boothbay, ME; 12:00-3:00pm.

June 23 **ELA Eco-tour**→[Celebrating Natives - Garden Tours](#); various sites; 12:00-4:00pm.

July 7 - [Attracting Butterflies & Pollinators](#); Alford, MA 10:30am-12:00pm.

July 10-12 - [One Water Summit 2018](#); Minneapolis, MN (early bird ends April 15).

July 11 - [Slow Flowers](#); Boothbay, ME; 1:00-5:00pm.

July 12 **ELA Eco-tour**→[A Step Back in Time - The Gardens at Naumkeag](#); Stockbridge, MA; 10:00am-12:30pm.

July 12 - [Regional Invasive Species and Climate Change \(RISCC\) Management Symposium](#); Amherst, MA.

July 18-21 - [35th Annual Cullowhee Native Plant Conference](#); Cullowhee, NC.

July 24 **ELA Summer Workshop**→[Novel Approaches to Sustainable Horticulture](#); Framingham, MA; 1:00pm-5:00pm.

August 7 **ELA Class**→[Native Plants for Professionals](#); Framingham, MA; 10:00am-2:30pm.

August 9 **ELA Eco-tour**→[Randall's Island Meadows NYC](#); New York, NY; 10:00am-12:00pm.

August 9 **ELA Eco-tour**→[Randall's Island Meadows NYC](#); New York, NY; 6:00pm-8:00pm.

August 9 - [Landscape and Forest Tree and Shrub Insect Workshop](#); Amherst, MA; 9:00am-3:30pm.

August 11 **Film Screening**→[Five Seasons: The Gardens of Piet Oudolf](#); Boylston, MA; 2:00-4:00pm.

August 28 **ELA Class**→[Native Woody Plant Materials](#); Framingham, MA; 10:00am-3:00pm.

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Mt. Cuba Center is a public garden located in northern Delaware. Our mission is to inspire an appreciation for the beauty and value of native plants and a commitment to support the habitats that sustain them.

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Highstead

Highstead is a regional conservation organization dedicated to conserving the forested landscape of New England through science, sound stewardship, and collaboration with our regional partners.

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### **USDA Forest Service Boston, MA**

This position will provide exposure to the USDA Forest Service, community partners, and program management. The Resource Assistant will be in charge of project organization, mentorship, and team development throughout their term. Major duties will include: trainings; networking sessions for youth leaders; leading/teaching/inspiring summer high school crew members; supervising and monitoring crews; and more. Bachelor's degree required; Experience leading crews preferred; Effective written and oral communication skills; and Ability to work outside in various weather conditions. Stipend: \$14/hour and \$1000 monthly housing allowance; Duration: 6 months; Benefits: \$1,250 for professional development, 6 months of health insurance, and eligibility to receive a 2 year noncompetitive hiring authority. Questions? Email Trecinia Wiggins at: [twiggins@gyfoundation.org](mailto:twiggins@gyfoundation.org) Apply at: <http://serve.gyfoundation.org/boston-urban-connections-resource-assistant/>

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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*

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