

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

June 2018



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

From the Editor

Attention ELA members! Check your email inbox for the ELA ballot and for details about Annual Meeting on July 24. The short meeting will be followed by the 2018 Summer Workshop: [Novel Approaches to Sustainable Horticulture](#). The workshop is open to all, and this issue of the newsletter features an article by Ben Barkan, who will speak to the aesthetics of edibles at the Summer Workshop. So pack a bag lunch on July 24 and meet ELA for an education break at Garden in the Woods.



This month ELA celebrates native plants. June started off with the Spotlight on Natives Photography Contest. Thank you to everyone who submitted a photograph. There were many wonderful entries. Do not miss the article featuring beautiful photographs by our contest winners. We also offer a variety of articles focused on native plants in the landscape. If you are inspired to learn more, visit native plant gardens during the second annual [Celebrate Natives Garden Tours](#) taking place on June 23 at gardens around Massachusetts. *MPS*



Connect with Nature and Grow Your Own Food by Ben Barkan

Edible plants in the garden are beautiful design elements, but using landscapes to grow our own food provides a myriad of benefits - fresh produce to eat and share, exercise without the gym membership, and renewed connections with the soil and seasons. [Read the article.](#)

Ben presents "Incredible Edibles - More Fruit for Your Labor" on July 24 at [ELA's Summer Workshop: Novel Approaches to Sustainable Horticulture](#).



Superfoods in the Insect Garden by Thomas Berger

When choosing plants to support insects in our gardens, we want to make the most of our limited space. Which plants nourish the most species? And which insects need our support most urgently? Thomas Berger follows up on his popular presentation "Food and Shelter to Support Pollinators" at the 2017 Seasons End Summit. [Read the article.](#)

Thomas will present "Pollinator Plants of the Herbaceous Layer" at [Planting for Pollinators - Appropriate and Aesthetic Solutions](#) in September.



Fronds in My Garden

by Leslie Duthie

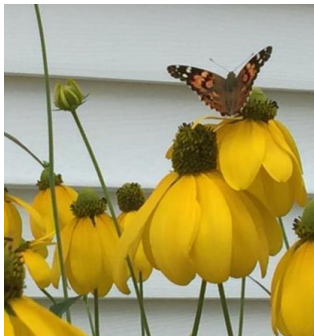
Not just for woodlands and swamps, native ferns lend unusual textures, colors, and forms to the designed garden. Following up on her ELA Eco-tour of Norcross Wildlife Sanctuary, Leslie offers a primer on ferns and suggests species that you might add to a spot in your landscape, whether shady or sunny, damp or dry. [Read the article.](#)



The Case of Ecoparque, Tijuana, Baja California, Mexico

by Melissa Lilian Diaz Salazar and Lina Ojeda Revah

Native plants with ornamental characteristics offer an opportunity to expand green space in Tijuana while requiring less maintenance and water. Native plant communities are featured in this design proposal for Ecoparque. [Read the article.](#)



The Pleasures of Butterfly Gardening

by Cathy Rooney

For those of us who love to garden, whether for necessity, pleasure or both, an added dimension of the challenge and pleasure is to provide flowers that also attract butterflies along with beneficial insects and other pollinators. [Read the article.](#)



Brianne Bishop -
Cornus canadensis

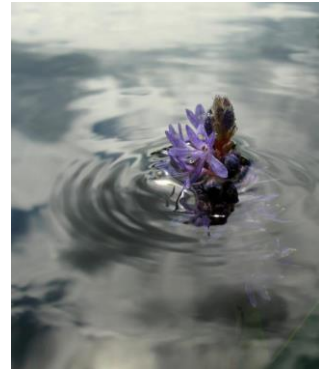
ELA Names Winners of Spotlight on Natives Contest

by Maureen Sundberg

Photographers from across the country submitted over 200 images to ELA's Spotlight on Natives Photography Contest. Each sought to capture the special allure of native plants - the unique structure of trunks, stems, leaves, and blossoms; the mystery of seed pods; the interaction of flora and fauna.

The range of subjects these native plant enthusiasts chose and the approaches they took is stunning. According to Toby Wolf, the team of judges (Toby, Dan Jaffe, and Nanette Masi) was "overwhelmed by the quality of the entries, and grateful for a chance to see so many perspectives on our native flora."

[Read the article.](#)



Debbie Broderick -
Pontederia cordata

ELA News

On June 23 Join the **Celebrate Native Plants Tour!**

You can still register to visit native plant gardens on Saturday, June 23. Discover beautiful landscapes of native plants all around Massachusetts and learn from those who design and maintain the landscapes - for free. [Sign up to visit gardens.](#)

ELA Members Cast Your Votes

Check your email inbox for the ELA ballot, which must be returned by July 15, 2018. The email also includes details about July 24 Annual Meeting and the 2018 Summer Workshop: [Novel Approaches to Sustainable Horticulture](#). We hope you'll pack a bag lunch and meet ELA to check in on the organization and take an education break at Garden in the Woods.

Boston Globe Subscribers

Support ELA with you Globe Grant Dollars. Subscribers receive dollars that they can assigned 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 for instructions. Please make us your choice before July 31. Thank you!



Gleanings

Fire and Rain - Using Biochar to Improve Rain Gardens & Control Stormwater

Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources has initiated a number of projects to address the effects of heavy stormwater events, including the use of biochar in rain garden and urban tree plantings to assist plant growth and absorb water. [Read more in Good Natured.](#)



How the Honeybee Buzz Hurts Wild Bees

While European honeybees, colony collapse disorder, and dwindling populations of managed bees have received widespread attention; the plight of wild pollinators has received less press. The public's lack of understanding about pollinator issues puts native pollinator populations at risk. [Read more in Sierra.](#)



Conservation Conundrum: Is Focusing on a Single Species a Good Strategy?

New research raises questions about the fundamental conservation concept that creating and managing protected areas for a single "umbrella species," generally an appealing representative of a habitat, also benefits other, non-charismatic species sharing the same habitat. [Read more in environment360.](#)



Porous Pavement Saves Seattle's Trees

Flexible porous pavement provides a flexible, walkable surface that allows tree roots to grow without damaging sidewalks while also capturing and infiltrating stormwater. [Watch the video.](#)



Rethinking Runoff: How Stormwater Can Be Harnessed for Better Design

Canal Park in Washington, DC utilizes creative stormwater solutions that engage the community and change perceptions of stormwater while meeting regulatory requirements. [Read more.](#)



Could Herd Immunity Save Trees?

Researchers develop a new approach to tackle the emerald ash borer in the Alleghany National Forest. [Read the article.](#)



Xerces Society + Bee City USA

On June 12, Xerces Society announced that Bee City USA had become part of their organization. Over the last six years, Bee City USA and its sister initiative Bee Campus USA energized local groups to take actions in support of pollinators and pollinator habitat. Their work will continue under Xerces Society. [Read more.](#)



Cutting Trees to Save the Birds

Find out how managing Maine's "baby bird factory" can save eastern songbirds. [Read the article in Sierra.](#)



Planet or Plastic

We made plastic. We depend on it. Now, we're drowning in it. This miracle material has made modern life possible, but more than 40 percent of it is used just once and ends up clogging our waterways. [Read more in National Geographic Magazine.](#)



Massachusetts Turkey Count

MassWildlife seeks help estimating turkey numbers, productivity, and reproductive success. The public is asked to record sightings of turkeys (hens, poults, and males) from June 1 through August 31. [Find out more.](#)



New Hampshire Bat Colony Count

New Hampshire Fish & Game Department asks residents, and others, to count the state's two most common bat species: little brown and big brown bats. The state hopes to find out how bat populations are faring with the occurrence of White Nose Syndrome in New Hampshire. [Find out more.](#) Other states are participating in bat counts as well. Check locally for more information.



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.](#)



Green Industry Survey in Massachusetts

UMass Extension is updating information on the needs and interest of those working in Green Industry. Information collected will be used by researchers and educators to develop industry-focused research create needed programming to support the industry, and provide an overview of the state of the industry. The short survey will also provide insight into the ways the industry is being affected by national and state regulations and public perceptions of issues such as the effects of landscapes and plant production on pollinators. [Take the Survey](#)



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.](#)



Opportunities to Present

New England Environmental Education Alliance Conference

Seeking presenters who represent the diversity of places and spaces in which environmental education occurs in our communities and proposals that exemplify the inclusive nature of environmental education. Deadline June 29, 2018 for the November 1-3 conference. [Find out more.](#)

Southeast New York Stormwater Conference

Proposals for presentations related to stormwater management are sought for the 18th annual Southeast New York Stormwater Conference to be held October 17, 2018 in Beacon, NY. The conference provides an opportunity for municipal workers and stormwater professionals to learn about stormwater management and related subjects from experts working in southeast NY and beyond. Find the list of topics and guidelines for submission [here.](#)

Grants

Food and Agriculture Service Learning Program

Matching grants offered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to a wide range of organizations and institutions support programs that bring together stakeholders from distinct parts of the food system to increase the capacity for food, garden, and nutrition education. Deadline July 9, 2018. [Find out more.](#)

ecoSolution Grants

The Captain Planet Foundation offers grants to support solution-oriented, youth-led projects that result in real environmental outcomes. Grants ranging from \$500-\$2500 are available to educators working with youth in the United States. (International projects are by invitation only.) Deadline July 15, 2018. [Find out more.](#)



Enjoy all the ELA Membership Benefits - including free and discounted events.

[Become a Member!](#)



Bunchberry *Cornus canadensis*

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

- June 16 - [Maine Audubon's Native Plant Sale](#); Falmouth, ME; 10:00am-4:00pm.
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 19 - [Bee Rally](#); Providence, RI; 2:00-4:00pm.
June 20 - [Weed Walkabout](#); Malden, MA; 4:00-6:00pm.
June 20 - [Greenhouse Biological Control Conference](#); Storrs, CT; 8:45am-3:45pm.
June 21 - [Transformation: Landscapes Redefined](#); Boothbay, ME; 9:30am-3:30pm.
June 21 - [Bag It! Is Your Life Too Plastic?](#) (film screening); Northborough, MA; 7:00pm.
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.
June 26 - [The Dynamic Landscape](#); Blue Hill, ME; 7:00-9:00pm.
July 5 - [Doug Tallamy on Bringing Nature Home](#); Rockport, ME; 7:00pm.
July 7 - [Attracting Butterflies & Pollinators](#); Alford, MA 10:30am-12:00pm.
July 9 - [Sustainable Flower Production](#); North Kingstown, RI; 5:30-7:30pm.
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 11 - [Ornamental Tree & Shrub Insect & Cultural Problems Walk](#); Wellesley, MA; 3:00-5:00pm.
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; 8:30am-5:00pm.
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.
July 25 - CNLA 2018 Summer Field Day ([Information](#) - [Registration](#)); Hamden, CT; 8:30am-3:30pm.
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 12-14 - [International Low Impact Development Conference](#); Nashville, TN.

August 28 **ELA Class**→[Native Woody Plant Materials](#); Framingham, MA; 10:00am-3:00pm.
August 30-31 - [The Beth Chatto Symposium: Ecological Planting in the 21st Century](#);
Colchester, Essex, U.K.
September 1 - [Building Meadows & Seedbanks](#); Alford, MA 10:30am-12:00pm.
September 9 -[The Late Season Garden](#); Rehoboth, MA; 10:00am-12:00pm.
September 11 - [Emerald Ash Borer Field Day](#); Easthampton, MA; 8:30am-1:00pm.
September 17-19 - [Eastern Native Grass Symposium](#); Erie, PA.
September 22 **ELA Eco-tour/Workshop**→[Meadow Building](#); Alford, MA; 10:00am-12:30pm.
September 28 **ELA Class**→[Planning for Pollinators - Appropriate and Aesthetic Solutions](#);
Boothbay, ME; 11:00am-5:00pm.

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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. *Maureen Sundberg, ELA Newsletter Editor*

[Visit Our Website](#)

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