

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

September 2018



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

## From the Editor

With autumn just a few days away, I'm looking forward to the change of season. Bees still hum around the late-blooming flowers, but soon blossoms will yield to seed heads and color-tinted leaves. If you want to stretch summer a little longer, join ELA for [Planning for Pollinators - Appropriate and Aesthetic Solutions](#) on September 28 in Maine then in November dive into autumn at the [Season's End Summit: The Sensory Garden](#), which promises to engage all of our senses in landscapes designed for four seasons. Be sure to take advantage of early bird discounts.

Articles this month look toward autumn and give us a preview of presentations at upcoming events. You'll also find lots in the ELA News as the growing season winds down and the season for reflection and education winds up. Enjoy the articles, and we'll hope to see you at an ELA event soon. *MPS*



### The Garden in Every Sense and Season by Tovah Martin

Tovah Martin explores the garden with every sense throughout the four seasons and shares her findings in her newest book. Autumn offers a feast for the seasons from the heady scent of ripened grapes and the hum and thrum of insects rushing to store provisions for the winter. [Read the article.](#)

Ms. Martin speaks at [ELA's Season's End Summit: The Sensory Garden](#) on November 7. Registration discounts available through September 30.



### Growing in the Off-Season - Native Perennials from Seed

by Ellen Sousa

Must be easy to spread yourself around when you're a plant that produces lots of seeds, right? Unfortunately, it's an ironic fact of gardening life that whatever you are trying to grow takes some effort, whereas the plants you don't want appear without help. [Read the article.](#)

Ms. Sousa speaks at [ELA's Season's End Summit: The Sensory Garden](#) on November 7. Registration discounts available through September 30.



## Spending Time in Nature - The Benefits Are Real

by Donald A. Rakow

Belief in the benefits to humans of spending time in nature has precedents that stretch back thousands of years. Recent studies explore the myriad ways that spending time in nature contributes to human wellbeing. [Read the article.](#)

Dr. Rakow presents "Time in Nature = A Healthier You" at ELA's [Mid-Atlantic Conference](#) on November 15 at Winterthur Museum and Gardens.



## Lessons Learned from the First Year of a School Garden

by Missy Fabel

A lot happens during every school year, but spring of 2017 at Horace Greeley High School in Chappaqua, New York was busier than usual as student and parent volunteers planted 3,000 native plant plugs and created a new courtyard garden. After one year, the garden is bursting with life. [Read the article.](#)



## Moving the Ball Forward: Making Green the Standard

by CJ Lammers

The holistic principles of "alternative" medicine have made inroads into Western medical practices. What if we treated land the same way and made green design, green energy, and green streets the norm in New England? [Read the article.](#)

## ELA News

### Be Sure You Are in the ELA Directory

Make sure you are sharing your business with the greater community! If you have a Company or Professional Membership with ELA, confirm that your information is complete and correct in the Membership Directory and Find an Eco-Pro. Find your listing here:

<https://www.ecolandscaping.org/member-directory/>. To make changes to your profile, you will need to be logged in as a member.

### New ELA Staff Position Announced

It is my pleasure to welcome Maureen Sundberg in her new role as ELA's Executive Assistant, a part-time position. Supporting both the Executive Director and the ELA Trustees, Maureen will provide administrative and educational program assistance. Maureen has already begun working on projects and making significant contributions. As ELA continues to grow in terms of membership and programming, we look forward to the capacity building that this new position represents. Maureen will continue her role as the ELA Newsletter Editor.

## Upcoming Events

ELA has a long list of events scheduled between now and the end of the year. Look for one near you. Live too far away to attend in person? Check the list of new offerings available starting this month in the [Focus on Sustainability](#) webinar series.

### Planning for Pollinators - Appropriate and Aesthetic Solutions

Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens hosts this half-day program at its 295-acre shore-land property. The day will be alive with planting ideas that will lure bees and butterflies to the garden for a feast and safe harbor. The program on September 28 includes a guided walk through the gardens. [Find out more.](#)

### Season's End Summit - The Sensory Garden: Elements to Enrich Every Landscape

Held at the Community Harvest Project Barn in North Grafton, MA the Summit provides an opportunity to look back at the waning season and gain inspiration for the season ahead. This year's Summit focuses on landscape design elements that tantalize all of the senses. Registration discounts available before September 30. [Find out more.](#)

### ELA Mid-Atlantic Conference

#### Examining Nature as Medicine: Designing Landscapes that Improve Quality of Life

Join ELA at Winterthur Museum and Gardens on November 15 as we explore the intersection of ecological landscape design and human health. Presentations will share research into the health effects of time spent in nature and look at landscapes designed to be healthy and restorative spaces [Find out more.](#)

[Sponsorships available for the Mid-Atlantic Conference!](#)

[Put your company in front of ecologically-focused landscape professionals.](#)

### 2018 Ecological Plant Conference in New York

Brooklyn Botanic Garden in Brooklyn, NY hosts the 3rd annual Ecological Plant Conference on December 7. This year, five plant masters provide details on cultivation, propagation, behavior, and ecological function of their top five plants, from ground covers to trees. [Find out more.](#)

[Sponsors of the Ecological Plant Conference introduce their products to](#)

[Landscape Architects and Designers to help achieve their stewardship goals.](#)



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## Gleanings

### Rhododendron? Hydrangea? America Doesn't Know Anymore

The United States has a growing case of "plant blindness," the term botanists use to describe the ability to identify basic plants. Even some biologists struggle. [Read more in The Wall Street Journal.](#)



### Should Rivers Have Rights?

Inspired by indigenous views of nature, a movement to grant a form of legal "personhood" to rivers is gaining some ground - a key step, advocates say, in reversing centuries of damage inflicted upon the world's waterways. [Read more in YaleEnvironment360.](#)



### **An Invasive New Tick Is Spreading in the U.S.**

The Asian long-horned tick, *Haemaphysalis longicornis*, arrived in the U.S. last summer and is spreading rapidly along the Eastern Seaboard. It's been found in seven states, including within the heavily populated suburbs of New York City. [Read more in The New York Times.](#)



### **Opossums: Unsung Heroes in the Fight Against Ticks and Lyme Disease**

With the huge rise in deer tick populations and the spread of Lyme and other tick-borne diseases, many friends of wildlife are welcoming opossums into their yards. [Read more from National Wildlife Federation.](#)



### **Hundreds of Reindeer Carcasses Become Laboratory for Plant Diversity**

When over 300 reindeer die on a mountain plateau in Norway, Norwegian researchers turn the site of the die-off into a field laboratory to study seed dispersal as well as nutrient and microbe redistribution. [Read more in the New York Times.](#)



### **Climate Opinion Maps 2018**

Yale Program on Climate Change Communication recently released new maps charting American's climate change beliefs, risk perceptions, and policy support by state and county. [Find out more.](#)



### **As Greenland Warms, Nature's Seasonal Clock Is Thrown Out of Kilter**

For millennia, ecosystems in Greenland and throughout the Arctic have been regulated by seasonal changes that govern the greening of vegetation and the migration and reproduction of animals. A rapidly warming climate and disappearing sea ice are upending that finely tuned balance. [Read more in YaleEnvironment360.](#)



### **Demand for Goats Is Growing Like Weeds**

In western states, goats are dispatched to reduce vegetation on overgrown patches of land and help create firebreaks to prevent fires from jumping from wildlands to homes and businesses. [Read the article in Sierra.](#)



### **Imagine a Day Without Water**

What happens when there is no water? No water to make coffee, run laundry, fight fires, water crops, or a myriad of other daily tasks. Join this 4<sup>th</sup> annual day of water awareness and education. [Find out more.](#)



### **New Guide to Transit Design**

The American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) and education offers a new guide to transit design offering research and best practices for creating sustainable transportation at all levels. [Find out more in The Dirt.](#)



### **Landscape Performance Series**

Browse a searchable database of over 100 exemplary built projects with quantified environmental, economic, and social benefits. [Find out more about the Landscape Performance Series.](#)



### **Update on Annual Bluegrass Weevil & Mole Cricket**

UMass Extension Turf Program recently released information on two turf pests: annual bluegrass weevil and mole cricket. [Read more at UMass Extension.](#)





## Climate Videos

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation has produced six short videos highlight efforts toward sustainable shoreline design to achieve climate resilience. [View here.](#)



## Youth Leadership Program

This program offers employment opportunities for youth ages 15-18 in the Emerald Necklace Parks of Massachusetts. [Find more information and an application.](#)



## Opportunities to Present

### RootSkills Conference

The Grassroots Fund seeks organizers, educators, nonprofits, and sustainable businesses to facilitate workshops for the RootSkills Conference December 7-8 in Worcester, MA. RootSkills aims to connect community organizers, students, businesses, and nonprofits working to address social justice challenges and improve community health, community resilience, and the environment across New England. [Additional information here.](#)



**Enjoy all the ELA Membership Benefits - including free and discounted events.**  
[Become a Member!](#)

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

### September

- September 17-19 - [Eastern Native Grass Symposium](#); Erie, PA.
- September 18 **ELA Webinar**→[Capturing Carbon with Trees](#); 12:30-1:30pm EDT.
- September 20 **ELA Eco-tour**→[Urban Horticulture, Squared](#); Philadelphia, PA; 4:30-6:30pm.
- September 21 - [Designing a Carbon Neutral New York](#); New York, NY; 8:30am-5:00pm.
- September 22 **ELA Eco-tour & Workshop**→[Meadow Building](#); Alford, MA; 10:00am-12:30pm.
- September 22 - [Invasive Plant Identification and Management](#); Waltham, MA; 9:00am-1:00pm.
- September 22 - [Symbiotic Earth: How Lynn Margulis rocked the boat & started a scientific revolution](#); Cambridge, MA; 1:00-5:00pm.
- September 24-November 3 - [Backyard Woods Program](#); webinars & field walks in Vermont.
- September 24-28 - [Green Roofs for Healthy Cities - Cities Alive 2018](#); Brooklyn, NY.
- September 25, Oct 9&23 - [Green Lifestyle Course](#); Newton, MA; 7:30-9:00pm.
- September 26 **ELA Webinar**→[Landscaping for Plant Diversity](#); 12:30-1:30pm EDT.
- September 27-28 - [NH Invasives Academy](#); Rye, NH.
- September 27, Oct 11&25 - [Green Lifestyle Course](#); Newton, MA; 7:30-9:00pm.
- September 28 **ELA Class**→[Planning for Pollinators - Appropriate and Aesthetic Solutions](#); Boothbay, ME; 11:00am-5:00pm.
- September 28-29 - [Connecticut River Source to Sea Cleanup](#); locations and times vary.
- September 29-October 2 - [American Rainwater Catchment System Association Annual Conference and Expo](#); Atlanta, GA.

### October

- October 1 - [Landscape Portfolio Lecture Series - Change and Continuity](#); Bronx, NY. 6:30-7:30pm.
- October 4 - [Invasive Plant Symposium](#); Storrs, CT.
- October 4 - [MA Green Careers Conference](#); Westborough, MA;
- October 9 **ELA Webinar**→[Supporting Local Ecology: Native Plants for the Small Home Garden](#); 12:30-1:30pm EDT.
- October 9-12 - [NOFA Organic Land Care Program](#); Portland, ME.
- October 9-12 - [Yale Sustainability Leadership Forum](#); New Haven, CT. Discounts before August 31.
- October 10 - [Imagine a Day Without Water](#).
- October 11 **ELA Webinar**→[Managing Land for Pollinators and Conservation Biocontrol](#); 12:30-1:30pm EDT.
- October 12-14 - [Northern Woodlands Conference](#); Fairlee, VT.

October 15 - [Landscape Portfolio Lecture Series - Giving Voice to the Land](#); NYBG, Bronx, NY. 6:30-7:30pm.  
October 17 - [Southeast New York Stormwater Conference](#); Beacon, NY.  
October 17 - [Landscaping for Bird Diversity](#); Waltham, MA; 5:30-7:30pm.  
October 17 **ELA Webinar**→[Designing a Patchwork Ecology in Urban Ecosystems](#); 4:30-5:30pm EDT.  
October 18 - **ELA Class**→[Sustainable Site Design Basics](#); Framingham, MA; 9:00am-5:00pm.  
October 18 **ELA Eco-tour**→[Groundcovers - Ecological Solutions in Place of Mulch](#); Framingham, MA; 10:00am-12:00pm.  
October 18 - **ELA Class**→[Advanced Design Workshop with Roy Diblik](#); Boylston, MA; 9:00am-4:30pm.  
October 19-22 - [ASLA Annual Meeting & Expo](#); Philadelphia, PA.  
October 29 - [Going Native with The Wild Seed Project](#); Scarborough, ME; 6:00-8:00pm.  
October 29-December 13 - [UMass Extension's Green School](#); Milford, MA; twice weekly, 9:00am-3:30pm. Early registration discounts end September 24.  
October 30 - [Massachusetts Arborists Association Safety Saves & Demo Day](#); Wellesley, MA; 12:00-5:00pm.  
October 31 **ELA Webinar**→[Keeping Carbon in the Ground: A Scientific Exploration of Climate Change and Soil Health](#); 12:30-1:30pm EDT.

### November

November 1-3 - [New England Environmental Education Alliance Conference](#); Fairlee, VT.  
November 7 **ELA Season's End Summit**→[The Sensory Garden - Elements to Enrich Every Landscape](#); Community Harvest Project Barn; North Grafton, MA; 8:00am-4:30pm.  
November 7-8 - [Northeast Greenhouse Conference & Expo](#); Boxborough, MA.  
November 8 **ELA Webinar**→[Sustainable Landscape Applications, Applied Ecology, Ecological Services, and Biomimicry](#); 12:30-1:30pm EDT.  
November 8,15,29;December 6,13 **ELA Class**→[Residential Landscape Design](#); Framingham, MA; 4:00pm  
November 13-15 - [Storm Water Solutions Conference & Exhibition](#); Chicago, IL.  
November 15 **ELA Conference**→[Mid-Atlantic Conference: Winterthur](#); Winterthur, DE; 8:00am-5:00pm.  
November 28 **ELA Class**→[Low Maintenance Gardening](#); Framingham, MA; 10:00am-12:00pm.  
November 28 - [Cultivating a New Garden Ethic](#); NYBG, Bronx, NY; 10:00am-12:30pm.  
November 30 **ELA Class**→[Meadows 1-2-3](#); Framingham, MA; 10:00am-4:00pm.

### December

December 4 **ELA Webinar**→[Backyard Carbon Sequestration - How You Can Help](#); 1:30-2:30pm.  
December 7 **ELA Conference**→[2018 Ecological Plant Conference](#); Brooklyn, NY; 8:00am-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](mailto:ela.info@comcast.net). Maureen Sundberg, ELA Newsletter Editor

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