

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

October 2019



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

### From the Editor

Do you have an idea for a program ELA should present? Heard a speaker ELA should host? Know a great venue demonstrating ecological principles? As a member-driven organization, ELA encourages your input and wants to hear from you. An easy way to give your 2 cents is at Virtual Coffee on the third Wednesday of the month (see details in ELA News below). Join us sometime! The slow rain of leaves has begun along with fall cleanup and preparations for winter. It's also a time to strategize controls for weeds, diseases, and pests, and this issue of the newsletter offers different perspectives on these timely topics. *MPS*



### Commonly Encountered Invertebrate Lawn and Garden Pests

by Bruce Wenning

There are many garden pests out there. Here we focus on several of the more commonly encountered pests in the garden, providing details for accurate identification and information about options for control. [Read the article.](#)



### Advances in Organic Weed and Pest Control - Fall Treatments

by Joe Magazzi

Get the latest on organic treatments for lawns in autumn. No aspects of organics have come further in the last couple of years than organic weed and pest control - with major advances in technology and knowledge available to growers, designers, and applicators. [Read the article.](#)



## Getting the Buzz from Pollinators in Mt. Cuba Center's Trial Garden

by Sam Hoadley

Mt. Cuba Center's mission is to inspire an appreciation for the beauty of native plants and a commitment to the native habitats that protect them. Over the past several years the Mt. Cuba Center Trial Garden has become an influencer to the nursery industry and to native plant enthusiasts. Learn about their trials, designed to identify the top performing species and cultivars within the genus that are best suited for the Mid-Atlantic region. [Read the article.](#)

Join Sam at ELA's Mid-Atlantic Conference: [The Plant Pollinator](#)

[Partnership](#) on November 14, 2019 for an in-depth discussion about pollinators, previous trial results, and a sneak peek at the most recent observations in the Mt. Cuba Center Trial Garden.

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## Pray for the Prey of the Praying Mantis

by Bud Reaves

Mantises are one of the most ferocious predators in the animal kingdom. Able to capture and kill prey much larger than themselves, they have adapted into efficient, ruthless hunters and are valuable in the control of insect pests; however, exotic mantises may do more harm than good where they become too numerous. [Read the article.](#)

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## Member Question

### Weed or Habitat?

Contributors Leslie Duthie and Ellen Sousa

ELA invited a couple of members to identify the "weeds" they like to leave in the landscape for their habitat value. [Read the article.](#)

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## Conference Session Review

### A Chickadee's Guide to Gardening:

### How to Create Habitat for Birds in Urban Settings

by Melanie Kenney

As humans continue to shape and dominate the landscape, conservationists, land managers, homeowners, landscape professionals, and researchers need information about how wildlife interact with and make use of resources available in urban, suburban, and agricultural green spaces. Dr. Desirée Narango presented an exciting new set of research findings focusing on how songbirds navigate, feed, and reproduce in urban and suburban green spaces, using the Carolina chickadee as a model insect eater. [Read the article.](#)

Dr. Narango's webinar on this topic is available free to ELA members

in Season 7 of the Focus on Sustainability series via the Member Page.

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## Eco-Answers from the Pros

### Help with Bishops Weed

Help!! I have bishops weed all over my yard. I don't use pesticides, and I'm afraid to use vinegar because I don't want to kill any surrounding plants. I live in Litchfield hills in the northwest corner of Connecticut. I'm looking forward to spring but dreading seeing the bishops weed. I hope you can offer some suggestions. [Read the Pros' advice.](#)

ELA members have spent hundreds of hours learning the best ecological solutions to problems in the landscape. You can benefit from all that accumulated knowledge by posing a question to our experts. If you are stumped by a problem in your landscape or are looking for a second opinion, ask ELA's Eco-Pros. Send your question to [ela\\_new@verizon.net](mailto:ela_new@verizon.net).



## Long Island Natives Native Plant Nursery ~ Wholesale & Retail

One of the most comprehensive native plant producers in New York, [Long Island Natives](#) is dedicated to growing a wide variety of native plant species, representing the local flora of the Northeastern US.

[Long Island Natives](#) specializes in growing container trees for use in conservation efforts for parks departments, municipalities, habitat restoration, re-vegetation, and native gardeners. Our nursery uses local seed sources whenever possible to produce plants that are genetically adapted to our local climate.



Bunchberry *Cornus canadensis*

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## ELA News

### Share Your Input at Virtual Coffee

Don't have time to volunteer, but have ideas for programs ELA should offer? Call in to Volunteers' Virtual Coffee on the third Wednesday of the month any time between 12:30 and 1:00 to share your ideas (next call October 16). To receive the call-in number, email: [ela\\_new@verizon.net](mailto:ela_new@verizon.net).



### Jump Into Fall Conferences

ELA has three terrific regional events lined up for the next couple of months. Join us for one...or more!

~~In Massachusetts, The Season's End Summit convenes in North Grafton to take a fresh look at design fundamentals with [Taking Landscapes to the Next Level: Stepping Back and Thinking Big](#).

~~In the Mid-Atlantic, we collaborate with Delaware Center for Horticulture to present [The Plant Pollinator Partnership](#).

~~In New York, the [2019 Ecological Plant Conference](#) invites five plant masters to share their perspectives on plants for resilient designs.



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

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## Gleanings

### Fall Colors Begin in the Spring

Find out the science behind nature's colorful autumn display. [Get the scoop from the Forest Service.](#)



### Seven Simple Actions to Help Birds

Bird populations are under pressure on many fronts. Cornell Lab of Ornithology offers a few simple steps you can take to support birds. [Read more at cornell.edu.](#)



### Invasive Snake Worms Jump into Rhode Island

Though their appearance is similar to earthworms, snake worms don't just crawl, they slither and jump. Native to Korea and Japan, the worms have been in the U.S. for several decades, but are now being discovered by general gardeners. [Read more at ecori.org.](#)



### Questions Arise along with a Forest Rising from the Desert

Israel's Yatir Forest has been hailed as a green refuge in the Negev that is helping fight climate change. But some Israeli ecologists now contend that it has wiped out important desert ecosystems and shows that forestation projects are not always an unalloyed environmental good. [Read more at YaleEnvironment360.](#)



### COGdesign Accepting New Project Applications

Boston-based COGdesign is accepting applications for community projects that will benefit from pro bono assistance with landscape design. [Find out more at COGdesign.org.](#)



### Wild & Scenic Film Festival Returns

Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay holds another Wild & Scenic Film Festival on January 23, 2020 at four locations. Early bird tickets available until November 21. [Find out more at Allianceforthebay.org.](#)



### UMass Garden Calendars Available for 2020

A perennial favorite, the UMass Garden Calendar for 2020 is available for purchase. The calendar features beautiful photos, gardening tips, plenty of room for notes, and more. [Find out more at UMass.edu.](#)



### Tick Topics

If the UMass TickTalk webinars did not answer your questions this year, complete a 2-minute survey to propose the topic(s) you'd like to hear about. Find the survey [here](#). All webinars were recorded and are [archived here](#).



### Request for Proposals

Proposals are now being sought for the 2020 Massachusetts Land Conservation Conference in Worcester, MA. Submissions are invited in the following categories:

- Land Management & Stewardship
- Land Protection Tools & Techniques
- Legal, Tax, & Compliance Matters
- Organizational Management & Fundraising
- Responding to Climate Change
- Urban & Community Conservation

Proposals particularly welcome if addressing:

- agriculture
- diversity & inclusion
- engaging youth
- fundraising
- land trust sustainability
- marketing & outreach
- wildlife & biodiversity

Find more information and submission form at <http://massland.org/conference>.



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[Become a Member!](#)**

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

#### October

- October 17 - [The Impacts and Costs of Invasive Insects](#); Sturbridge, MA; 9:00am-2:30pm.  
October 18-20 - [Bioneers: Seeding the Field, Growing Transformative Solutions](#); San Rafael, CA.  
October 19 - [MACC Fall Conference](#); Devens, MA; 8:00am-4:15pm.  
October 19 - [Conway School Information Session](#); Northampton, MA; 10:00am-1:00pm.  
October 20 - [Going Native: How to Transition Your Garden](#); Waltham, MA; 1:00-4:00pm.  
October 21-24 - [Northeast Organic Farming Association Organic Land Care Program](#); Portland, ME.  
October 22 - [Resilient Landscapes: Redefining the Design/Build/Maintain Paradigm](#); Oak Brook, IL; 7:30am-6:00pm.  
October 23 **ELA Webinar**→[Plants with True Grit](#); 12:30-1:30pm.  
October 23-25 - [With an Eye Towards Nature: A Japanese Garden Design Intensive](#); Portland, OR.  
October 25-November 1, 2019 - [Managing Invasive Plants](#); Mt. Cuba Center, Hockessin, DE; 10:00am-2:30pm.  
October 26 - [Reseeding the City](#); Providence, RI; 9:30am-4:45pm.  
October 26 - [Collecting and Sowing Native Seed](#); Waltham, MA; 10:30am-1:30pm.  
October 29 **ELA Webinar**→[Climate Change and Its Effects on Trees and Their Relationship to Insects](#); 12:30-1:30pm.  
October 29-30 - [Grey to Green DC Metro](#); Silver Springs, MD.  
October 31 - [Invasive Forest and Agricultural Insects of Massachusetts: Present and Future](#); Sturbridge, MA; 9:00am-2:30pm.  
October 31-November 2 - [2019 MassTrails Conference](#); Leominster, MA.

#### November

- November 1 **ELA Class**→[Navigating Public Design](#); Framingham, MA; 10:30am-2:30pm.  
November 3 - [Organic Land Care Seminar](#); South Kingstown, RI; 10:00am-2:00pm.  
November 7 **ELA Conference**→[Season's End Summit: Taking Landscapes to the Next Level](#); North Grafton, MA; 8:30am-4:30pm.  
November 11 **ELA Webinar**→[Reliable Hydrangea Blooms? Choose Natives](#); 2:00-3:00pm ET.  
November 14 **ELA Conference**→[The Plant Pollinator Partnership](#); Wilmington, DE; 8:30am-4:00pm.  
November 14 - [Management of Invasive Forest and Agricultural Insects of Massachusetts](#); Sturbridge, MA; 9:00am-2:30pm.  
November 15 **ELA Class**→[Plant Adaptations](#); Framingham, MA; 12:00-2:00pm.  
November 16 **ELA Class**→[Slow Gardening](#); Framingham, MA; 1:00-3:00pm.  
November 19-29 - [Conservation Conference 2010](#); Baltimore, MD.  
November 21 - [UMass Extension's Fall Wrap-Up](#); Sturbridge, MA; 8:30am-3:30pm.

November 23 [CACIWC Environmental Conference](#); 8:00am-3:30pm.

**December**

December 3 **ELA Webinar**→[Bell's Woodland - Creating a Native Garden from Disturbed Woodland at Chanticleer](#); 12:30-1:30pm.

December 6 **ELA Conference**→[2019 Ecological Plant Conference: Brooklyn Botanic Gardens](#), NY; 8:30am-4:00pm.

December 10 **ELA Webinar**→[The Wet and Wild World of Constructed Wetlands](#); 12:00-1:00pm ET.

Submit events by the 10th of the month for inclusion in the upcoming newsletter.

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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*

[Visit Our Website](#)

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