

Morris Arboretum Education Dept.  
100 E. Northwestern Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19118



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# New Directions in the American Landscape



25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
PROGRAM

Assessing &  
Reassessing  
Ecological  
Design

25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY PROGRAM



New Directions in the  
American Landscape  
Assessing & Reassessing Ecological Design

Practices that were new and innovative in 1990, when this conference series began, may be commonplace today...or even wrong. In this two-day program, influential practitioners, both established and emerging, will examine some of the dead ends and fruitful paths traveled by ecological design over the last 25 years, and the changes that these experiences suggest going forward.

CEUs available

For more information about the conference, visit [lds.morrisarboretum.org](http://lds.morrisarboretum.org)

## sponsored *by*

New Directions in the American Landscape  
(developed by Larry Weaner Landscape Associates, Inc.)

Connecticut College Arboretum

Morris Arboretum of the  
University of Pennsylvania

## co-sponsored *by*

Temple University Department of  
Landscape Architecture & Horticulture  
with the Ambler Campus and Arboretum

PA/DE Chapter of the American  
Society of Landscape Architects

## dates & locations

**CT:** Connecticut College  
New London, CT

**Thursday, January 9 –  
Friday, January 10, 2014**

**PA:** Temple University Ambler Campus  
Ambler, PA

**Thursday, January 16 –  
Friday, January 17, 2014**

## THE SELF PERPETUATING GARDEN

An ecologist does not consider a plant successful in the landscape merely because it survived. To be successful ecologically speaking, a plant must reproduce and increase its population.

*Setting Processes in Motion: Assisted Plant Proliferation in the Designed Landscape (1 hr)*

**Larry Weaner**

We go to great effort and expense installing every plant in our landscapes, yet nature spent millennia perfecting plants' abilities to self-reproduce. How can we capitalize on this, and encourage planted, existing, and new species to colonize our landscapes? Learn about protocols for creating ecologically rich, dynamic landscapes where nature does much of the "planting."

*Enabling Native Wildflowers to Succeed...Ecologically Speaking (1 hr)*

**Carol Gracie**

Encouraging a plant to proliferate in the garden means understanding that plant's reproductive strategies and the specific conditions it needs to reproduce in the wild. To illustrate these phenomena, naturalist, author, and photographer Carol Gracie will discuss in depth representative species from each major category of sexual and asexual reproduction.

*Panel: Real World Applications (½ hr)*

**Carol Gracie and Larry Weaner**

**Moderated by Glenn Dreyer (CT only), Jenna Webster (PA only)**

## OBSERVATIONS FROM THE FIELD

*If plant communities change over time, then understanding them means observing them over time.*

*Boots on the Ground: Planting and Managing Indigenous Landscapes in the Real World (¾ hr)*

**James Grimes (PA only), Nick Novick (CT only)**

When a landscape does not unfold as intended, the contractor who installed and maintains that landscape may understand best what went wrong and why, particularly if his or her experience with indigenous plantings is extensive. Our presenters have this experience in spades and will provide insight into the field ramifications of design decisions they have encountered.

*Post-Sandy Lessons in Management & Vegetation Performance (¾ hr)*

**Rebecca McMackin**

Following Super Storm Sandy, a consortium of coastal parks began sharing information about the storm's effects on over 500 commonly specified plants and the management strategies developed in response. This presentation will examine preliminary results and offer important practical information on what can be done when planning for and responding to landscape disturbance.

## CLOSING SESSIONS

*Sustainability in Full Measure: Toward Social Justice in Landscape Design (1 hr)*

**Kurt Culbertson, FASLA**

Social reform is not new to the design profession and represents an opportunity for true innovation in the field. But to make real progress we must bring the same rigor and research to social issues that we are bringing to environmental concerns. Using two award-winning projects as case studies, Kurt Culbertson of Design Workshop will explore processes and outcomes that tackle contemporary problems of social justice.

*Ecological Planting Design: Where have we come from? What have we achieved? What have we learned? (1 hr)*

**Carol Franklin, FASLA, RLA**

Ecological designers started in a horticultural wasteland (our presenter was hissed at her first ASLA conference presentation). Today's practitioners have grown increasingly sophisticated with their planting designs, incorporating diverse disciplines and expertise. Some have pioneered strong and compelling designs, others have begun with good intent but have created weed patches. How can we work with inevitable entropy and what have we learned from our many, many mistakes?

*Complimentary reception with music, beer, wine, and hors d'oeuvres.*

## REGISTRATION

### Fees (per person)

Early Bird: \$320 if received online or postmarked by Dec. 16, 2013.  
\$345 if received online or postmarked after Dec. 16, 2013.

### Student Rate (with student ID)

Early Bird: \$190 if received online or postmarked by Dec. 16, 2013.  
\$215 if received online or postmarked after Dec. 16, 2013.

Registration includes continental breakfast, lunch, break refreshments, and the reception.

### CT Registrations

**Phone:** (860) 439-5020 **Fax:** (860) 439-5482  
**Mail:** send completed form on adjacent page and check (payable to Connecticut College) to:  
Connecticut College Arboretum  
Campus Box 5201, 270 Mohegan Avenue,  
New London, CT 06320-4196

### PA Registrations

**Online:** [online.morrisarboretum.org/LDS](http://online.morrisarboretum.org/LDS)  
**Phone:** (215) 247-5777, ext. 125  
**Mail:** send completed form on adjacent page and check (payable to Morris Arboretum) to:  
Morris Arboretum, Education Department  
100 E. Northwestern Avenue,  
Philadelphia, PA 19118

*"All speakers were truly excellent and provided unique but complementary perspectives."*

*– 2013 conference attendee*

### Accommodations

**For CT:** Springhill Suites, (860) 439-0151. Mention *Landscape Symposium*. Register by 12/26/13 for discounted rate.

**For PA:** Hilton Garden Inn, Ft. Washington, (215) 646-4637. Mention *Landscape Design Symposium*. Register by 12/16/13 for discounted rate.

### **MAKING MEADOWS: MULTIPLE APPROACHES**

*A seeded meadow can yield colorful wildflowers and grasses if one understands the ecology of an open field...or a tangle of unwanted weeds if one does not.*

#### *The Literal Native Approach (1 hr)*

##### **Marc Pastorek**

Marc Pastorek has been creating meadows for 15 years, including helping to develop the innovative, restoration-based Crosby Arboretum in Picayune, Mississippi. He will share his practical techniques for establishing seeded meadows based on the plants, soils, and natural processes of his region and discuss his use of seed collected from local ecotypes.

#### *The Novel Ecosystem Approach (1 hr)*

##### **Nigel Dunnett, Ph.D. (PA only), James Hitchmough, Ph.D. (CT only)**

When conditions no longer exist to support historic plant communities, some designers are turning to designed “novel ecosystems” featuring native and non-native species. Presenters from Britain’s University of Sheffield will discuss how they are using this approach in urban and suburban settings to create ecologically informed, highly aesthetic meadows from seed, including at the recent London Olympics. Beyond use with meadows, this eco-horticultural direction has important implications for designers working within the urban and suburban milieu.

### **PLANT COMMUNITY-BASED LANDSCAPE DESIGN**

*The ever-shifting patterns of plants in the wild express the attempt of these species to succeed efficiently in their environment. People usually perceive the visual expression of this efficiency, when healthy and in balance, as beautiful.*

#### *Adapting the Science (1 hr)*

##### **Travis Beck**

Native plant communities offer sensible models for designed plantings, as they suggest proven combinations and demonstrate ecological coherence. Travis Beck, author of the recent landmark

*Principles of Ecological Landscape Design* (2013), will examine both classical and cutting edge science on plant communities and discuss how these perspectives can apply to designed and managed landscapes.

#### *Artful Interpretations (1 hr)*

##### **Thomas Rainer**

Join landscape architect Thomas Rainer to learn how an understanding of naturally occurring plant communities can reshape traditional landscape design aesthetics and offer new ways of looking at the native versus exotic debate. Specific strategies for adapting wild plant communities to a variety of urban and suburban settings will be explained, demonstrating ways to achieve a new level of aesthetic richness and ecological functionality in our designed landscapes.

### **CLOSING SESSION**

#### *Indigenous Design: Reflections by a Mentor and a Mentee (2 hrs)*

##### **Darrel Morrison, FASLA and Nancy Aten**

In this interactive presentation embodying the passing of knowledge and experience, Darrel Morrison, an icon of the native design movement, will partner with former student Nancy Aten, an accomplished landscape architect in her own right, to reflect on the art and science of indigenous landscape design. The presentation will include a unique improvisational component illustrating how awareness of the natural world can inform the design process.

*“This is the most interesting symposium  
I have attended. Thank You!”*

*– 2013 conference attendee*

## **REGISTRATION**

### *For mail-in or fax-in registrations*

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Company (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Check one: ☐ Early Bird Regular Rate \$320    ☐ Regular Rate \$345  
☐ Early Bird Student Rate \$190    ☐ Student Rate \$215

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Please do not include me on attendees list.

☐ I hereby authorize use of my credit card.    ☐ Visa    ☐ MasterCard

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Name as it appears on credit card

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ CVC Number \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT PAID \$ \_\_\_\_\_

***Registration will be refunded only if notification is received no later than seven (7) working days prior to the event.***

***A confirmation email will be sent when you register.***



## SPEAKERS

**Nancy Aten** owns Landscapes of Place, a landscape architecture firm specializing in ecological design and restoration. In 2011, her Wisconsin-based firm received an ASLA Honor Award. She serves on the local organizing committee for the World Conference on Ecological Restoration and has presented at state ASLA meetings, Society of Ecological Restoration (SER) events, and the Wild Ones conference.

**Travis Beck** is Director of Horticulture at Mt. Cuba Center in northern Delaware and author of *Principles of Ecological Landscape Design* (Island Press, 2013). He is a registered landscape architect and LEED Accredited Professional. He previously served as Landscape and Gardens Project Manager at the New York Botanical Garden.

**Kurt Culbertson**, FASLA is Chairman and CEO of Design Workshop, an international planning, urban design, and landscape architecture firm. He has played a leadership role in development of Design Workshop's Legacy Design® approach and recently received awards from the American Society of Landscape Architects, American Planning Association, and Urban Land Institute. He is a Fellow of ASLA, a Fellow of the Institute for Urban Design, and Chair-elect to the ASLA Council of Fellows.

**Nigel Dunnett**, Ph.D. is Professor of Planting Design and Vegetation Technology and Director of The Green Roof Centre at Britain's University of Sheffield. He is the co-author of noted books on green roofs, living walls, and rain gardens, and he co-authored *The Dynamic Landscape: Ecology, Design and Management of Urban Naturalistic Vegetation* (Routledge, 2003) with James Hitchmough.

**Carol Franklin**, FASLA, RLA is a founding principal of Andropogon Associates, Ltd. and a nationally recognized expert in the design and development of sustainable landscapes, with more than four decades of work nationally and internationally. She has taught in the Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning and Department of Historical Preservation at the University of Pennsylvania. She recently co-authored *Metropolitan Paradise: The Struggle for Nature in the City – Philadelphia's Wissahickon Valley, 1620-2020*.

**Carol Gracie** is the author and photographer of *Spring Wildflowers of the Northeast: A Natural History* (Princeton, 2012) and co-author and photographer of *Wildflowers in the Field and Forest: A Field Guide to the Northeastern United States* (Oxford, 2006). She has 25 years of experience working in tropical rainforests but now focuses on her first love—flora of the northeast. She is currently working on a book about native summer wildflowers.

**James Grimes** has extensive experience in native landscape construction, restoration, and management. He has operated James C. Grimes Land Design, a design-build and management firm, for over 30 years and Fort Pond Native Plants, a garden center in Montauk, New York, for nearly 20 years.

**James Hitchmough**, Ph.D. is Professor of Horticultural Ecology at Britain's University of Sheffield. He is co-author of *The Dynamic Landscape: Design, Ecology and Management of Naturalistic Urban Planting* with Nigel Dunnett (Routledge, 2003), co-author of *Plant User Handbook: A Guide to Effective Specifying* (Wiley-Blackwell, 2003), and author of *Urban Landscape Management* (1994).

**Rebecca McMackin** is Director of Horticulture at Brooklyn Bridge Park, where she oversees 85 acres of ornamental beds, forest ecosystems, meadows, wetland, green roofs, and turf areas. She is an ISA-certified arborist; instructor at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden; and board member of the Ecological Landscaping Association, Metro Hort, and the Torrey Botanical Society. She also owns Mantis Plant Works, a design-build and consulting firm.

**Darrell Morrison**, FASLA is a longtime advocate of native plants and native plant communities in landscape design and restoration. He taught at the University of Wisconsin and was Dean of the University of Georgia College of Environmental Design; he currently teaches at Columbia University. Designs include the expanded Native Flora Garden at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, The Old Stone Mill landscape at the New York Botanical Garden, and meadows at Storm King Art Center in Mountainville, New York.

**Nick Novick**, owner of Small Planet Landscaping, has been doing what he can to subvert the dominant landscaping paradigm in eastern Massachusetts since 1998. Working with native plantings, caring for home orchards, and controlling invasive plants comprise his current land-care efforts. Former board member of the Ecological Landscaping Association, he serves as ELA's representative on the Massachusetts Invasive Plant Advisory Group.

**Marc Pastorek** owns Meadowmakers in Covington, Louisiana, a design, build, and management firm with over 15 years of experience creating and restoring native meadows of the gulf coast. He was past president of the Cajun Prairie Society and continues to contribute to their restoration and management projects.

**Thomas Rainer**, a registered landscape architect, has designed landscapes for the U.S. Capitol grounds, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial, and The New York Botanical Garden, as well as over 100 gardens from Maine to Florida. He works for Rhodside and Harwell and teaches at George Washington University. He blogs regularly at the award winning site Grounded Design and is writing a book for Timber Press about designed plant communities.

**Larry Weaner** has been creating native landscapes since 1977. He founded Larry Weaner Landscape Associates in 1982 and has gained a national reputation for combining ecological restoration with garden design traditions. He has received awards from the Association of Professional Landscape Designers and is an active guest lecturer and instructor for organizations nationwide. In 1990 he developed the *New Directions in the American Landscape* conference series.