SALT Seminar for Homeowners
Smaller American Lawns Today!

KILL YOUR LAWN
Saturday, November 14, 2015

Schedule
8:30 a.m.  Registration and breakfast
9:00 a.m.  “Kill Your Lawn” Mark Richardson
10:15 a.m.  Coffee break
10:30 a.m.  “Design without Lawn” Ruth Parnall
11:45 a.m.  Lunch break, Hood Dining Room
12:45 p.m.  “A Myriad of Meadows” Mike Nadeau
2:00 p.m.  Cookie break
2:15 p.m.  “Novel Native Shrubs” Jessica Lubell
4:00 p.m.  CMGA reception, Ernst Common Room

Presented by
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Co-Sponsored by
Connecticut Master Gardener Association Inc.
Wild Ones
About Our Speakers

Keynote speaker, Mark Richardson oversees the New England Wildflower Society’s botanic garden, Garden in the Woods, and its native plant nursery operation, Nasami Farm. In 2013, Mark assisted with the development of the first comprehensive master plan for Garden in the Woods. He studied ornamental horticulture at the University of Rhode Island and helped run a mid-sized ornamental plant nursery before finding his true passion in public horticulture. He led undergraduate programs at Longwood Gardens, overhauled the curriculum of the Professional Gardener Program, and oversaw adult education at Brookside Gardens. He holds a MS from the University of Delaware’s Longwood Graduate Program.

Perhaps described on a business card as “Ecocentrist…Curator of the native landscape,” Ruth Parnall has spent four decades of design restoring lush habitat on every project, especially schoolyards. Retired from active practice, she continues as consulting landscape curator at Manitoga, a National Historic Landmark in Garrison, New York. Ruth has written, lectured, mentored students, and lead workshops on native plants and ecological design, and rendered service to her community on conservation, open space, zoning, and master plan committees, and advocacy for senior services. Ruth has a degree in landscape architecture from the University of Illinois and a MA in botany from Connecticut College, as Bill Niering’s last graduate advisee.

Mike Nadeau is co-founder of Plantscapes Organics, one of the first land care companies in Connecticut to offer organic design, build and maintenance services. Mike is a founding member of the Northeast Organic Farming Association (NOFA)’s Organic Land Care Program. He helped write the nation’s first organic land care standards with a volunteer group of scientists, academics, concerned citizens and land care professionals. He recently founded Wholistic Land Care Consulting, LLC, where he continues to use the skills learned over the years to help guide landowners with the ecological use and care of their land. His passion is to convert as much high maintenance turf to sustainable ecosystems. Mike holds a MS in plant and soil science from the University of Maine and has been a CT Licensed Custom Grounds Supervisor and Certified Arborist for over 40 years.

Jessica Lubell is Associate Professor of Horticulture at the University of Connecticut. She has 15 years of experience working with the Connecticut green industry. She has specific experience with propagation and container production of native shrubs. Jessica has authored or co-authored 16 peer-reviewed publications since 2005. Eight of these were focused on invasive Japanese barberry and four were focused on native shrubs. Jessica completed her PhD and MS from UConn and earned a BA from the University of Rochester.

Smaller American Lawns Today is a movement to reverse lawn mania in America by encouraging homeowners to minimize their impacts on land, air and water by maintaining more ecologically sound, naturalistic landscapes. SALT originated at Connecticut College in 1997 and was conceived by the late Dr. William A. Niering, Arboretum Director, Professor of Botany, author and nationally renowned environmentalist. Since 2002, participants in the annual SALT Seminar for Homeowners learn why to cut back on the size of their lawns and also how to have beautiful, sustainable, and friendly home grounds.

The Connecticut College Arboretum located in New London is a diverse 770 acres, including the landscaped grounds of the campus as well as the surrounding plant collections, natural areas and managed landscapes. Established in 1931, the Native Plant Collection is 25 acres of woody plants and wildflowers indigenous to eastern North America. The Arboretum serves the surrounding communities by offering educational opportunities in environmental awareness, horticulture, botany and other areas of interest in the natural world.

The Connecticut Mountain Laurel Chapter of Wild Ones was established in 2006 in partnership with the Arboretum. Wild Ones is a national organization which promotes the practice of gardening in our communities and around the country to using native plants. The local chapter meets the second Saturday of each month at the College or various fieldtrip destinations.

CMGA is the alumni association for Master Gardeners residing in Connecticut. If you attained your certification in another state, you are welcome to join! The purpose of the association is to keep Master Gardeners connected once they have graduated, to enhance and supplement the MG program, and to share gardening knowledge and expertise.

Thank you for attending the SALT Seminar.