About the Connecticut College Arboretum...

The Connecticut College Arboretum, located in New London, is a diverse 750 acres which includes the landscaped grounds of the campus as well as the surrounding plant collections, natural areas, and managed landscapes. It is open to the public every day from dawn to dusk, and on Sunday afternoons from May to October, free public guided tours of the various collections are conducted. It also serves the surrounding communities by offering educational opportunities for all ages in environmental awareness, horticulture, botany, and other topics of interest in the natural world. Visit our website to learn more about us.

About SALT...

Smaller American Lawns Toady is a movement originating at Connecticut College and conceived by the late Dr. William Niering, internationally renowned environmentalist and botany professor at Connecticut College. It is aimed at reversing the lawn mania in America by restoring home grounds to more harmonious productive ecologically sound naturalistic landscapes. SALT promotes the practice of designing environmentally sound lawns that encourage biodiversity.

Ask us about Wild Ones. The Mountain Laurel Chapter of Wild Ones is the first chapter of Wild Ones in Connecticut and meets the first Saturday of each month at Connecticut College. Wild Ones promotes naturalistic landscaping and the use of native plants.

DIRECTIONS

FROM I-95 NORTHBOUND: Exit 83, left at light at end of ramp onto Williams Street. Right onto Route 32 North at first traffic light. Left into the college main entrance at second traffic light.

FROM I-95 SOUTHBOUND: Exit 84N at end of Goldstar Bridge (over Thames River) which becomes Route 32 North. Turn left at second traffic light into main college entrance.

FROM I-395 SOUTHBOUND: Left Exit 78 onto connector to Route 32 South. College entrance about 2.5 miles south. Right at traffic light into main college entrance.

“ WHEN WE SEE LAND AS A COMMUNITY TO WHICH WE BELONG, WE MAY BEGIN TO USE IT WITH LOVE AND RESPECT.”

ALDO LEOPOLD

A SALT Seminar for Homeowners
(Smaller American Lawns Today)

Saturday, November 7, 2009
Baustein Humanities Center, Room 210
9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

“Gardeners, I think, dream bigger dreams than emperors.”

MARY CANTWELL

Sponsored by
THE CONNECTICUT COLLEGE ARBORETUM
Many native plants provide food for insects and birds, so when young native trees sprout in an inconvenient place near his home, Dr. Doug Tallamy delays pulling them out. Native species are needed for insects and animals to flourish. He points out that he is not trying to recreate the ancient ecosystem, but that he is trying to create biodiversity. With as many as 33,000 species imperiled in the U.S., it is clear that we must change our approach to gardening and landscaping if we hope to stave off the species in which we live and work with other living things. The first thing we must do is put more plants into our denuded landscapes because plants provide the food that drives all food webs. In his lecture "Bringing Nature Home," Doug will demonstrate how native plants will play a key role in the restoration of our landscapes because only natives provide the co-evolved relationships required by most animals. Doug author of Bringing Nature Home, received his Ph.D. in Entomology from the University of Maryland, and he is Professor and Chair of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware.

Gardening with exotic ornamental vines may be beautiful, but some exotic vines are extremely aggressive. Given their aggressiveness, our native vines deserve another serious look for their decorative potential. In her talk Designing with Native Vines, Laura Eisener will point you to the potential of native vines. Only a few are widely available commercially, but there are others that merit great interest. Laura will show you some examples of North American natives, how they spread, and what kinds of support would be most appropriate for these vines in your landscape. Woody, perennial, and annual vines are all discussed. Laura has had her own landscape design firm since 1984, and specializes in unique residential landscapers. In 2007, the Massachusetts Horticultural Society awarded her a silver medal for noteworthy accomplishments in the horticulture industry. She has a master's degree in landscape architecture from the University of Massachusetts and a bachelor's degree in botany and anthropology from Connecticut College. She has taught in the Landscape Institute of Arnold Arboretum for 25 years, and has been Massachusetts Associate Editor of People, Places, and Plants magazine since 2001.

New and Underused Perennials from Woods, Fields, Wet Lands, and Ten Tubs will be "Perennial Diva" Stephanie Cohen's topic for the day. These underused perennials are the newest and latest native introductions for garden use that were discovered by keen gardeners or growers in their thirst for something new. Others are from labs where genetics rule the roost, and some are just good plants that fell through the cracks because they lacked a press agent! All of these perennials are currently available, although some of them may not be easy to find.

Stephanie has taught at Temple University for over twenty years and was the Director of the Landscape Arboretum at Temple University. Amerlne, Fine Gardening, Green Scene, HGTV Newsletter, Green Scene, and American Nurseryman are just a few publications to which she contributes. Known on QVC TV as the "Perennial Diva," she was also featured on CN8 TV on a gardening segment. Her book, The Perennial Gardener's Design Primer was published by Storey Press in 2005, and was chosen by The Garden Writer's of America as the winner in the best overall book. Stephanie was written about in Greenhouse Grower (2008) as one of the top 25 people in a "Who's Who" in the perennial industry. She is author of Fallscaping (2007), and is currently working on a new book that will be published by Timber Press.

Our plant choices now extend far beyond color and form. In her slide presentation, Native Alternatives to Invasives, Robin Wilkerson will show us plants that won't escape into the natural community and at the same time, will provide valuable nourishment and habitat for birds, mammals, and insects. She will help you discover not only the reasons for going native in your plant selection, but will also introduce you to a choice collection of beautiful and "well behaved" indigenous plants. You will learn about ecologically sound substitutes for old garden standbys such as burning bush or Norway maple. Although she was originally a garden designer, for the last 20 years, Robin's interest in native plants and habitat restoration had led her to a career of teaching and speaking on the topic. She teaches for the Massachusetts, Audubon Society, New England Wild Flower Society, and other adult educational programs. Robin considers birds, butterflies, and a variety of insects to be an integral part of a beautiful garden. She resides in Lincoln, Massachusetts.

For more information, visit our website http://arboretum.connccoll.edu  
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