Lawn alternatives, reforestation, habitat creation; these and other responses to new environmental priorities have only recently become prominent. Consequently, design protocols are sparse, and not well tested over time. Conference presenters include designers, growers, and ecologists whose extensive experience with native vegetation and land management can shed light on the real world challenges of environmental design.

CEUs available for landscape architects and designers

sponsored by
Connecticut College Arboretum
Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania
New Directions in the American Landscape (Developed by Larry Weaner)

do-sponsored by
Haverford College Arboretum and the PA/DE Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects

location and dates
PA: Haverford College Arboretum
Haverford, PA (new location)
Thursday, March 11, 2010
Friday, March 12, 2010

CT: Connecticut College
New London, CT
Tuesday, March 16, 2010
Wednesday, March 17, 2010
WHAT YOU DON’T SEE MATTERS
The experimentation, observation, and mistakes that convert experience into expertise

PA: Thursday, March 11, 2010
CT: Tuesday, March 16, 2010
Registration and breakfast 8:15 to 9:00 a.m.

Are All Plants Created Equal? The Unseen Link Between Nursery Culture and Landscape Performance (1¼ hrs.)
Daniel Segal
Native landscapes require tough plants for tough situations. This presentation will discuss how propagation methods, cultural techniques, age, and even place of origin can be included in plant specifications to increase plant survivability in the landscape.

From Native Habitats to Your Landscapes: Domesticating Our Natural Plant Heritage (1¼ hrs.)
Jim Ault
Successfully adapting our native plants to controlled landscapes ultimately depends on understanding their adaptations to natural ecosystems. Utilizing Midwestern ecosystems (woodlands, prairies, etc.) as his sources of germplasm, Jim Ault will discuss how he selects, modifies and utilizes native plants for garden use.

Creating a Natural Areas Management Plan (1¼ hrs.)
Kenneth Thoman
Clear goals and comprehensive site analysis are essential to developing successful management plans for landscapes at any scale. Kenneth Thoman will discuss how New Jersey’s Monmouth County Park System establishes site-specific restoration goals and uses the Floristic Quality Assessment and Plant Stewardship Index to assess their fields, meadows and forests. He will also discuss how these plans can effectively dovetail with efforts to enhance landscape aesthetics.

You Don’t Know a Plant until You’ve Killed It (1¼ hrs.)
Larry Weaner
Beautiful images of mature native gardens don’t tell the whole story. In this presentation Larry Weaner will discuss some of the miscalculations and oversights that were instrumental in developing his current approach to garden creation.

Trials, Tribulations, and Rewards: The Meadow Landscape at Longwood Gardens (1¼ hrs.)
Tom Brightman
Developing the 35-acre meadow at Longwood Gardens was a long but successful process. Join land steward Tom Brightman as he examines the challenges and responses that led to the beautiful and diverse meadow landscape that exists today.

Cocktail hour with hors d’oeuvres (included)

IT’S ABOUT TIME
The profound influence of natural processes and historic land use on today’s landscape

PA: Friday, March 12, 2010
CT: Wednesday, March 17, 2010
Registration and breakfast 8:15 to 9:00 a.m.

Legacy Sediments: Historical and Current Perspectives for Designing in the Floodplain (1¼ hrs.)
Mark Gutshall
Years of milling, damming, and forest clear-cutting caused huge sediment deposits, sometimes as high as twenty feet, in our floodplains, a condition that remains today. This presentation will consider how such a legacy affects planted and bioengineered storm water solutions in contemporary riparian and floodplain landscapes.

Artful Disturbance: Designing for Change (1¼ hrs.)
Bob Brzuszek, ASLA
Like a ship on the sea, vegetation in nature is in constant motion. Disturbance events like hurricanes, droughts, floods, and fires alter the trajectory, yet these devastations can at times yield even greater biodiversity. Bob Brzuszek will explore how thoughtful responses to natural disturbance and the introduction of intentional disturbance can translate into artful garden expressions.

Wilderness in New York: A Historical Portrait (1½ hrs.)
Eric W. Sanderson
The Mannahatta project is a detailed, geographically-referenced vision of Manhattan Island as it might have appeared to Henry Hudson in 1609. Key to the Mannahatta landscape were the Lenape people, who used fire, horticulture and other management techniques to shape the landscape for thousands of years. Eric Sanderson will discuss the juxtaposition of the island and its people then with the city and its people today, providing ideas about alternative approaches to designing landscapes of the future wherever they are located.

Nature & Culture in the Urban Landscape: New York City’s High Line (1¼ hrs.)
Patrick Cullina
New York City’s High Line, a former elevated freight railroad, opened in 2009 to great acclaim as a unique public space. The park features naturalized plantings inspired by the tough, drought-tolerant grasses, wildflowers, shrubs, and trees that self-seeded on the track during over twenty years of disuse. Horticulturist Patrick Cullina will discuss the history, design, operations, and future of this evocative urban landscape in the sky.

From Mannahatta to the High Line & in Between (½ hr)
Bob Brzuszek, ASLA, Patrick Cullina, Mark Gutshall, Eric W. Sanderson
The panel will discuss how landscapes of the past, present and future can feed contemporary practices of landscape design.
A Twenty-One Year Tradition of Breaking with Tradition

With a distinguished group of speakers and an amateurish brochure, the first NDAL Natural Landscape Design conference occurred in 1990. While the brochure quickly changed, the guiding principal of **substance** over **superficiality** has remained constant. Representing a wide range of fields, our presenters have offered theoretical and practical information rarely found in most landscape programs.

For more information visit [www.NDAL.org](http://www.NDAL.org)

“A most thought provoking conference…and I attend a lot!”

“Thank you for doing this. It’s a shot in the arm for next year.”

“A wonderful experience with a broad network of practitioners.”
—past symposium attendees
Jim Ault, Ph.D., is Director of Environmental Horticulture at the Chicago Botanic Garden. He develops new perennial plants from North American native taxa (Baptisia, Echinacea, Monarda, Phlox) through breeding, propagation, and plant exploration. Previously he developed new display plants at Longwood Gardens in Pennsylvania. Ault is the 2009 recipient of the American Horticulture Society’s Luther Burbank Award for plant breeding. He teaches, lectures, and publishes extensively.

Tom Brightman is Land Steward Specialist at Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania. He oversees Longwood’s over 700 acres of natural and perimeter lands and participates in Longwood’s sustainability and environmental education initiatives. He also teaches a land conservation and management course at the University of Pennsylvania. Brightman was previously Easement Manager at the Brandywine Conservancy’s Environmental Management Center in Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania.

Bob Brzuszek, ASLA, is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Landscape Architecture at Mississippi State University. He previously spent fourteen years as Senior Curator of the Crosby Arboretum, Mississippi State University Extension in Picayune, Mississippi. He serves on the Mississippi Urban Forestry Council Advisory Board and is a recent president of the Mississippi Native Plant Society.

Patrick Cullina is the Vice President of Horticulture and Park Operations at the Friends of the High Line, the managing agency of New York City’s High Line. Formerly Vice President of Horticulture and Science Research at Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Cullina possesses unique experience in the nuances of developing and managing urban spaces with complex ecological and cultural needs. A photographer as well as a horticulturist, Cullina has lectured widely on the subjects of horticulture and landscapes.

Mark Gutshall is President and Founder of LandStudies, a recognized leader in environmental restoration and land planning. He has more than 22 years of professional experience designing, permitting, and constructing ecological restoration projects in the Mid-Atlantic region. In addition to his work on “legacy sediments,” he has advocated for regional or watershed-wide natural resource management as an effective way to create partnerships among private, public, regulatory, non-profit, and educational interests. In 1990 he founded Octoraro Native Plant Nurseries, a wholesale source of native woody and herbaceous plants.

Eric W. Sanderson, Ph.D., is a Senior Conservation Ecologist at the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) and Associate Director of WCS’s Living Landscapes Program. He is an expert on species conservation planning and co-author of species conservation guidelines for the International Union for Conservation of Nature’s Species Survival Commission. He recently authored Mannahatta: A Natural History of New York City (Abrams, 2009) and oversaw the related exhibition and website (themannahattaproject.org). In 2009 Sanderson was the New York Prize Fellow in Sustainable Cities and Social Science Research at the Van Alen Institute.

Daniel Segal has almost twenty years of experience in ecological restoration, landscape design and construction, native plant ecology, and nursery propagation and production. Formerly manager of Pinelands Nursery in Columbus, New Jersey, Segal owns The Plantsmen Nursery in Groton, New York, a non-certified organic retail nursery specializing in seedling propagation and plug production. He emphasizes seed and seed-grown plants as the most appropriate method of propagating and using native species.

Kenneth Thoman is the Resource Manager with the Monmouth County Park System based in Lincroft, New Jersey. Thoman is responsible for the Park System’s almost 15,000 acres of forest, fields, and farmland in New Jersey’s Coastal Plain. For over twenty years he has applied ecologically-based evaluation and management strategies designed to balance the agency’s recreational and conservation goals.

Larry Weaner founded Larry Weaner Landscape Design Associates in 1982. In 2008 the firm received the Landscape Design Honors Award from the Perennial Plant Association and the top three international design awards from the Association of Professional Landscape Designers (APLD). He is active as a guest lecturer and is a past APLD Board Member and Environmental Committee Chair. He developed the New Directions in the American Landscape (NDAL) conference series in 1990.