ECOLOGY AND THE RESIDENTIAL LANDSCAPE:
AT HOME WITH NATURE
Developed by Larry Weaner

A live, interactive, national webinar series for home gardeners and educators

Cosponsored by
American Horticultural Society (AHS)
Wild Ones - Native Plants, Natural Landscapes

A renowned group of instructors including Douglas Tallamy and Larry Weaner will illustrate landscaping techniques that make our little corners of the world more ecologically sound and enjoyable to experience.

Whether you choose to learn how pollinators, people, and plant communities interact; how to share concepts of ecoliteracy with your children; or how to collect your own seeds, this series will cover an eclectic variety of topics while generally emphasizing the importance of place-based ecological landscapes.

To register, visit ndal.org or click individual sessions below.

Attendees eligible for AHS membership discount!

New Directions in the American Landscape (NDAL)

NDAL has provided educational programming for the advancement of ecology-based landscape practices since 1990. Founded by Landscape Designer Larry Weaner, NDAL has presented programs throughout the US focusing on innovative theory, practical application, and an expansive vision of “Natural Design.” Programs also draw from a variety of disciplines including agriculture, anthropology, history, and fine art.

In 2016, NDAL received the first Regional Impact Award from the Native Plant Trust (formerly the New England Wildflower Society).

For attendee evaluation survey results from our 2019 series of Design Workshops, see our Attendee Reviews page.

"You have made a great contribution to the field through your conferences.

- LESLIE SAUER, FASLA, FOUNDING PRINCIPAL EMERITUS, ANDROPOGON ASSOCIATES, PHILADELPHIA, PA
One hour webinars: $25
Thirty minute webinars: Free

**DESIGNING FOR NATURE AT HOME**
**TWO EXPERTS CONVERSE**
_Instructors: Douglas Tallamy & Larry Weaner, FAPLD_

Interestingly, the most influential person in contemporary garden design today may very well be entomologist Douglas Tallamy. By bringing popular attention to inextricable links between native flora and fauna, Douglas has changed how countless people garden. Nationally acclaimed Landscape Designer Larry Weaner will interview Douglas about the fine points of residential-scale habitat creation. Larry and Douglas will also compare notes on their experiences engaging with landscapes and gardeners through the lenses of their respective disciplines.

**Thursday, May 28th, 2020 | 1:30 - 2:30 PM EST**

**NATIVE MEADOWS**
**LET’S GET REAL**
_Instructor: Larry Weaner, FAPLD_

Wildflower meadows were introduced to the American gardening public in the days of tie dye tee shirts and kaleidoscopic acid trips. Unfortunately, early meadow plantings all too often consisted of only short-lived species not adapted to the site. And just like those acid trips, the colors didn’t last. Alternatively, by using site adapted native perennials, long lived vibrant meadows are quite achievable. In this presentation, plant selection criteria, planting procedures, and management techniques will be illustrated through a series of residential case studies, including some over two decades old.

**Wednesday, June 3rd, 2020 | 1:30 - 2:30 PM EST**

**THE SELF-SUFFICIENT LANDSCAPE**
**BEING YOUR OWN PLANT AND SEED SOURCE**
_Instructor: Ian Caton_

This webinar will explore techniques for collecting, storing, and sowing seeds directly in the landscape, or growing them in trays for future planting. We will then learn how those plants, once established and with a little help from the gardener’s hand, can effectively proliferate and self-colonize into other areas of landscape. This self-contained landscaping approach can afford an inexpensive yet rewarding way to concurrently enjoy gardening and plant ecology.

**Thursday, June 4th, 2020 | 1:30 - 2:30 PM EST**
NATIVE DESIGN, PLANTING, AND MAINTENANCE
BREAKING THE RULES
Instructor: Larry Weaner, FAPLD

Native design success requires a new toolbox, one containing techniques that at times are the opposite of traditional garden practice. Planting native species is the first step in ecological home landscaping. The second is to expand the area we commonly plant them, including lawn and neglected perimeter spaces. In step three we put our “Landscape Design” hats on to provide a coherent artistic overlay for this whole composition. Larry will illustrate these ecology-based techniques, from how we select and arrange plants to the simple act of weeding.

Tuesday, June 9th, 2020 | 1-30 - 2:30 PM EST

FORAGED FLAVORS
MORE THAN JUST “EDIBLE”
Instructor: Tama Matsuoka Wong

Professional forager and wild food purveyor Tama Matsuoka Wong will demonstrate how appreciation for the diverse flavors of wild, uncultivated plants at the nation’s premiere restaurants could transform how gardeners conceive of edible landscapes. She will discuss ethical foraging, “wild farming,” delicious management of invasive exotics, and the untapped flavors of our native flora.

Thursday, June 11th, 2020 | 1-30 - 2:30 PM EST

LIVING IN THE WILD
MY HOME LANDSCAPE
Instructor: Larry Weaner, FAPLD

Experiencing the “wild” does not require visiting a national park or remote natural area. On one-third of an acre, Larry Weaner has spent over three decades experimenting with his gardening based on ecological processes. This presentation will follow the resulting learning curve and examine the ecological, practical, and experiential advantages to loosening the garden reins.

Tuesday, June 16th, 2020 | 1-30 - 2:30 PM EST

CONVERSATIONS WITH AN OWNER-OPERATOR LANDSCAPE GARDENER
Instructors: Douglas Smith, M.D. & Larry Weaner, FAPLD

Since 2003, Douglas and Laurie Smith have been actively procuring plants, planting, and maintaining extensive native gardens at their 9-acre Connecticut property. The landscape includes a wildflower meadow designed by Larry Weaner and Ian Caton. In this session Larry will interview Douglas about the challenges and rewards of being actively involved in his and Laurie’s wild and planted landscape.

Wednesday, June 17th, 2020 | 1-30 - 2:00 PM EST
BRINGING OUR FOOD WASTE “BACK TO EARTH”
THE FIVE EASY STEPS TO HOME COMPOSTING
Instructor: Colleen Falicki

If you have been meaning to keep your food and yard waste from sitting in landfills - where it will release more carbon dioxide and methane into the atmosphere - learn to compost. Back to Earth Compost Crew Founder Colleen Falicki will lay out five simple steps for composting from home. She will also explain other options for households that do not have the yard or garden space to compost on their own.

Thursday, June 18th, 2020 | 1-30 - 2:00 PM EST

DEALING WITH WEEDS, DEER, AND OTHER GARDEN HURDLES
Instructor: Larry Weaner, FAPLD

One picture can tell a thousand lies. Behind many a stunning garden image lies countless hours of weeding, fussing, and re-planting. This presentation will illustrate how a “brains over brawn” gardening approach - one that embraces natural ecological processes of vegetative change - can result in landscapes that are easier to maintain, leaving more time to simply enjoy.

Tuesday, June 23rd, 2020 | 1-30 - 2:00 PM EST

HOW TO NAVIGATE NATURE WITH CHILDREN
Instructor: Scott M. Zgraggen, Ed.D.

According to Richard Louv, author of The Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder (2007), research suggests that we have an innate connection to the natural world around us. There are many problems that can arise when children (and adults) spend too much time indoors, such as depression, obesity, and attention deficit disorder. It seems like a no brainer then to get outside, reduce stress, and tune into nature. However, as any parent knows, it’s hard to get children away from their electronics. This discussion will look at ways that parents can incorporate electronic apps to help their children navigate the natural world around them from identifying animals from sight, tracks, and scat as well as to help reignite the wonder of nature in children of all ages.

Wednesday, June 24th, 2020 | 1-30 - 2:00 PM EST
I really like the mix & diversity of science, sociology, & design. Keep doing what you’re doing.

-2020 ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM ATTENDEE

Colleen Falicki founded Back to Earth Compost Crew in 2017, providing residential curbside compost pickup and commercial compost pickup in the Suburban Philadelphia area. With a lifelong concern for the environment and since having her first child in 2005, she became deeply passionate about leaving the world a better place for her children and their children. She began composting and choosing foods and products more mindfully. Colleen spent the beginning of her career in corporate communications, marketing, and sales. She spent 12 years as a realtor where she prided herself on providing an exceptional experience for every client. Colleen earned her BA Degree in Communications, Radio/TV from Shippensburg University.

Douglas Smith, M.D. graduated from Harvard in 1970, then attended University of Kentucky Medical School, graduating in 1974. He joined the Yale University faculty and eventually became a kidney transplant nephrologist at Yale. Doug briefly moved to the Four Corners faculty of the southwest U.S. where he resided in Farmington, New Mexico and worked primarily at Navajo nephrology clinics in Arizona. In 1995, Doug enrolled in Yale’s Environmental Sciences School, but prior to matriculating he worked with biologists studying mountain lion dispersal in southern Idaho. He then joined the biologists who re-introduced the grey wolf to Yellowstone and Idaho (parts of 1995 and 1996). Ultimately, Doug decided to continue with medicine, his first calling, and he has remained a kidney transplant nephrologist at Yale ever since.

Ian Caton worked for Larry Weaner Landscape Associates (LWLA) from 2001 to 2013, and now serves as a project consultant for the firm. He is also the founding principal of Wood Thrush Native Nursery in Floyd, VA. Highly knowledgeable about native plants and their incorporation into the human environment, Ian has designed and installed landscapes for a wide range of residential, commercial, and public settings. Prior speaking engagements include the Irvine Native Plant Symposium and events at the New York Botanical Garden and Bowman’s Hill Wildflower Preserve. Ian has a B.S. in Ornamental Horticulture and Environmental Design from Delaware Valley College.

Ian Caton

Colleen Falicki

Douglas Smith, M.D.

Iancaton.com
Doug Tallamy is a professor in the Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware, where he has authored 102 research publications and has taught insect related courses for 40 years. Chief among his research goals is to better understand the many ways insects interact with plants and how such interactions determine the diversity of animal communities. His book Bringing Nature Home: How Native Plants Sustain Wildlife in Our Gardens was published by Timber Press in 2007 and was awarded the 2008 Silver Medal by the Garden Writers' Association. The Living Landscape, co-authored with Rick Darke, was published in 2014. Doug's new book Nature's Best Hope released by Timber Press in February 2020, is a New York Times Best Seller. Among his awards are the Garden Club of America Margaret Douglas Medal for Conservation and the Tom Dodd, Jr. Award of Excellence, the 2018 AHS B.Y. Morrison Communication Award and the 2019 Cynthia Westcott Scientific Writing Award.


Tama Matsuoka Wong is a wild food forager and purveyor for some of the nation's top restaurants. After graduating from Harvard Law School and serving more than 25 years as a financial services lawyer in Tokyo, New York and Hong Kong, she returned with her family to Hunterdon County, New Jersey and rediscovered her passion for the natural world. She co-authored the books Foraged Flavor: Finding Fabulous Ingredients in Your Backyard and Farmer's Market and Scraps, Wilt and Weeds: Turning Wasted Food into Plenty. In 2007 Tama was named Steward of the Year by the New Jersey Forest Service.

Scott M. Zgraggen, Ed.D. is Assistant Principal at Springfield Township High School in Erdenheim, Pennsylvania. Prior to his current role, he taught Life Science, Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science, and Physical Science since 1987 at three schools including West High School in Bakersfield, California; Vacaville High School in Vacaville, California; and Springfield Township High School in Erdenheim, Pennsylvania. He has a B.S. in Animal Science from the University of California at Davis, a Masters of Art in Environmental Science Education from Arcadia University, and a Doctorate in Educational Leadership at Arcadia University.