ECOLOGY-BASED LANDSCAPES:
A VIRTUAL EDUCATION SERIES FOR HOME GARDENERS & EDUCATORS

It is time for native landscapes - and knowledge about how to foster them - to become mainstream. As we spend more time at home, gardeners who understand the ecologies of their home landscapes will be better equipped to make those landscapes both ecologically beneficial and aesthetically beautiful. Schools can similarly benefit, where administrators and educators can weave ecological gardening and landscaping principles into the curriculum. This national, virtual series explores all of these topics, and also includes interviews where Larry Weaner compares notes with iconic practitioners Piet Oudolf, Gerould Wilhelm, Charles Birnbaum, and Darrel Morrison.

January - March, 2021
REGISTER NOW

Click above for Events Library or click individual sessions below.

Attendees eligible for AHS new or gift membership discount!

Questions? Email info@ndal.org

Registration closes 24 hours prior to live session start time.

There is a desperate need for this information to go mainstream and be heard on a daily bases and it needs to be implemented now.

-MICHAEL R.
2020 SUMMER WEBINAR ATTENDEE
What can we do to support birds visiting our homes this spring and beyond? In this workshop we will take an in-depth look at native plants that you can plant to make your home more bird-friendly to our year-round residents and those stopping over on their migration journeys. In this workshop, we will explore the importance of choosing native plants and how to select native plants to attract specific birds to your yard.

**Wednesday, February 17th, 2021 | 1 - 2:15 PM EST**

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For this workshop Patricia and Clayton will share ideas about how the making of a garden helps maintain and transmit cultural heritage. We will explore the twin imperatives to honor and pass on traditional knowledge of garden and farming practices while healing the land and people estranged from their cultural heritage.

**Thursday, March 11th, 2021 | 1 - 2:30 PM EST**

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Wildflower meadows were introduced to the American gardening public in the 1960’s along with tie dye tee shirts and kaleidoscopic acid trips. But just like those 60’s acid trips, the colors never lasted. Alternatively, by planting site-adapted native perennials, managed according to the ecological processes that govern open field vegetation in the wild, long-lived vibrant meadows can be consistently achieved. 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.

**Friday, March 19th, 2021 | 1 - 2:30 PM EST**

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Few home landscapes can provide the stunning vistas of a Yosemite National Park, a vast midwestern prairie, or an ancient Appalachian mountain range. They can however, provide a far more intimate and interactive natural experience than visits to those landscapes ever could. In this session Larry will interweave a series of practical, ecologically-interactive landscape techniques, with the rich experiential rewards that applying those techniques can engender.

**Tuesday, March 23rd, 2021 | 1 - 2:30 PM EST**
In this presentation we’ll learn about Audubon Connecticut’s Schoolyard Habitat Program and how Audubon CT, along with a suite of partners, are inspiring the next generation of conservation leaders. They achieve this by connecting students with nature and restoring much needed native habitat for pollinators and our migrating and year-round birdy friends in Connecticut. Jillian will share resources so no matter where you’re located, you’ll be able to start working on your very own schoolyard habitat moving forward!

Tuesday, January 19th, 2021 | 7 - 8:15 PM EST

Navigating Race & Inclusivity in Community Gardens
Sama Mirghavameddin

Well-meaning people have been organizing since the dawn of the local food movement to create vibrant, urban garden spaces in an effort to build and support their communities. However these efforts, which are often oriented towards the goal of ameliorating social issues such as lack of access to food and green space for marginalized people, sometimes undermine themselves in terms of equity and inclusivity. How can we ensure that our work as community organizers and gardeners is doing more help than harm? Sama will describe some actions (often unconscious) that can potentially turn an inclusive space into an unwelcoming one, and explore what we can do to create a beautifully diverse garden community.

Tuesday, February 2nd, 2021 | 12 - 1:30 PM EST
Frequently, the side tangents that lecturers don’t have time to explore can be as enlightening as the core material that they do cover. In this series of interviews and conversations, landscape designer Larry Weaner will allow some of today’s most thoughtful and influential landscape practitioners to explore those tangents, and reveal some of the underlying influences, encounters, and revelations that have shaped their work.

(PART 1) PIET OUDOLF: INTERVIEWED BY LARRY WEANER

An accurate professional suffix for this session’s guest could be “Piet Oudolf, MADOP” (Most Acclaimed Designer On Planet). Despite being self-taught, Piet has been awarded some of the garden world’s highest honors and designed plantings for some of the world’s most admired contemporary gardens (the Lurie Garden in Chicago, the High Line in New York City, etc., etc., etc.). What are his criteria for selecting and arranging plants? What does he mean by terms like “purposeful abandon” and “emotion” in the garden? And what role does ecology play in his horticultural endeavours? Larry and Piet will explore these and other topics, and compare notes on how they direct the planting and management of their designs in the real-world context of disturbance, deadlines, and weeds.

Thursday, January 7th, 2021 | 9 - 10:30 AM EST

(PART 2) CHARLES BIRNBAUM, FASLA: INTERVIEWED BY LARRY WEANER

After fifteen years as the coordinator of the National Park Service Historic Landscape Initiative, Charles embarked on a visionary path and single handedly founded The Cultural Landscape Foundation (TCLF). TCLF is now the world’s leading cultural landscape advocacy organization, and has brought awareness to, restoration of, and literally saved countless important landscapes worldwide. His many recognitions include The Rome Prize in Historic Preservation and Conservation and the ASLA medal. While “historic landscapes” may be Charles Birnbaum’s obvious calling card, his work to shepherd the practice of Historic Landscape Preservation into the modern era makes him one of our most interesting and far-sighted landscape practitioners.

Thursday, January 14th, 2021 | 1:00 - 2:30 PM EST
Dr. Wilhelm is one of America's foremost botanists. He co-authored the definitive volume, *Flora of the Chicago Region* (2017), developed the widely used “Floristic Quality Assessment” method for plant community analysis, founded the innovative non-profit “Conservation Research Institute,” and performed innovative research on the relationships between cultural practice and landscape ecology. His academic accomplishments are complemented by the many projects he shepherded to fruition as a principal with the pioneer landscape architecture firm Conservation Design Forum in Lisle, Illinois. Dr. Wilhelm's sharp intellect, nonconformist perspectives, and vast field experience are sure to produce a stimulating, enlightening, and even paradigm-altering session.

**Tuesday, February 23rd, 2021 | 1:00 - 2:30 PM EST**

As a longtime leading proponent of native landscape design, Darrell Morrison has had a profound influence on countless landscape architects and designers. His former students from the state Universities of Wisconsin and Georgia, to Columbia University have fanned out across the country to multiply that influence. He has also designed some of America's most notable ecology-based projects including at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Research Center in Austin, Texas, The Brooklyn Botanic Gardens, and the now iconic grasslands at The Storm King Art Center in New Windsor, NY.

**Monday, March 15th, 2021 | 1:00 - 2:30 PM EST**
Truly inspiring. I’ve been interested in a more ecologically sustainable yard/garden and I am thrilled to have found professionals and resources to help me accomplish this.

–BONNIE WEAVER
2020 SUMMER WEBINAR ATTENDEE

**PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES**

**Jillian Bell** is Audubon Connecticut & New York’s Bird Friendly Communities (BFC) Program Coordinator. Jillian has supported over 30 schools in Connecticut in their efforts to green their schoolyards by creating native plant habitats on school grounds, delivering professional development workshops to teaching staff to support them in taking their students outside and integrating their curriculum with the natural world right outside their doors. She is currently leading a virtual workshop series for people interested in adding native plants to their home spaces, be it in a planter or a yard.

**Charles Birnbaum, FASLA, FAAR**, is the president, CEO, and founder of The Cultural Landscape Foundation (TCLF) in Washington, D.C. Prior to creating TCLF, Birnbaum spent fifteen years as the coordinator of the National Park Service Historic Landscape Initiative (HLI) and a decade in private practice in New York City, with a focus on landscape preservation and urban design. Currently Birnbaum serves as Lecturer in Landscape Architecture at the Harvard Graduate School of Design. In 2020 he received the Landezine International Landscape Honour Award as well as the Garden Club of America’s Historic Preservation Medal.

**Clayton Brascoupe** is the founder and director of the Traditional Native American Farming Association in Santa Fe, NM and creator of the Indigenous Sustainable Communities Design Course. He began working on family subsistence garden and commercial farms at age 13. Currently farming with family at Pueblo of Tesuque New Mexico since 1973, Clayton and wife Margaret grow traditional and heirloom crops for food and seed. Clayton is a founding member of and Program Director of the Traditional Native American Farmers Association (TNAFA) a non-profit inter-tribal association of Indigenous farmers, gardeners, educators, and health professionals.

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**Piet Oudolf** has revolutionized the way perennial gardens are designed and viewed in landscapes today. With a new planting style and meticulous attention to the plants, Oudolf has forged the ability to break the rules when his eye finds it necessary to do so. Since 1982, he has lived and worked in Hummelo, in east Netherlands, where he started a perennial nursery with his wife Anja. Some of Oudolf’s most influential works in the United States include the perennial plantings at Battery Park, The Highline perennial plantings, and Goldman Sachs headquarters.

**Patricia Klindienst** is a scholar and writer whose book, *The Earth Knows My Name: Food, Culture, and Sustainability in the Gardens of Ethnic Americans* (2006), won an American Book Award for her stories of urban, suburban, and rural gardeners rarely represented in books about American gardens: Native Americans, immigrants from across Asia and Europe, and ethnic peoples who were here long before our national boundaries were drawn. In their reverent use of natural resources they keep alive a relationship to the land all but lost to mainstream American culture.

**Sama Mirghavami** is a recent UC Berkeley graduate who has been working in student-run food organizations for the last four years. She currently works as the garden specialist at the Edible Schoolyard Project in Berkeley, CA. Her interests lie in food access and activism, ecological restoration, and the political geography of the San Francisco Bay Area.

**Darrel Morrison** is a long-time advocate of designing landscapes with Native Plant communities as inspiration, with a special interest in tallgrass prairies. He taught at the University of Wisconsin-Madison 1969-83, and at the University of Georgia 1983-2005. From 2005 until 2015, he lived and worked in the New York City area, and designed landscapes based on Native Plant communities at the New York Botanical Garden, Brooklyn Botanic Garden and Storm King Art Center. He currently lives in Madison, Wisconsin.

**Piet Oudolf** has revolutionized the way perennial gardens are designed and viewed in landscapes today. With a new planting style and meticulous attention to the plants, Oudolf has forged the ability to break the rules when his eye finds it necessary to do so. Since 1982, he has lived and worked in Hummelo, in east Netherlands, where he started a perennial nursery with his wife Anja. Some of Oudolf’s most influential works in the United States include the perennial plantings at Battery Park, The Highline perennial plantings, and Goldman Sachs headquarters.

Dr. Gerould Wilhelm is a foremost botanist, research taxonomist, and educator, and joined the staff of the Morton Arboretum, in Lisle, Illinois, in 1974. He is an owner of Conservation Design Forum, Inc., the pioneer company devoted to changing water doctrine in the United States. Director of Research for the Conservation Research Institute, Gerould has co-authored with Laura Rericha, *Flora of the Chicago Region: a Floristic and Ecological Synthesis* (2017). Gerould received his undergraduate degree in Marine Biology at Florida State University and his Ph.D. in botany in 1984 at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale.