In this series, topics will range from native design and management, to roof gardens, to planning for the recruitment of spontaneous vegetation. Also, join the room - virtually - for our Prairie-side Chat series as Larry Weaner interviews and compares notes with iconic practitioners Piet Oudolf, Gerould Wilhelm, Charles Birnbaum, and Darrel Morrison.

This series is oriented towards landscape architects, designers, restoration ecologists, and horticulturists practicing throughout the U.S.

**CEUs:**
APLD, ASLA, ISA, SER
See CEU updates at ndal.org

Questions? Email info@ndal.org

Registration closes 24 hours prior to each live session.

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

- LESLIE SAUER
FOUNDING PRINCIPAL (RETIRED)
ANDROPOGON ASSOCIATES
PHILADELPHIA, PA
Long-term observation of a plant’s behavior in the wild can yield valuable insight into its likely behavior in a garden. If that insight is applied to other similar species, that value is multiplied. In this presentation Larry and Ian will show how observation and ecologically-informed analysis shaped their understanding of how, where, and why wild indigenous species succeed or fail in cultivated settings. Finally, they will informally discuss some of the pivotal projects, conversations, and realizations that transpired during their long-time landscape collaboration.

Monday, January 4th, 2021 | 1:00 - 4:30 PM EST

Part One | Learning by Seeing - Arthur Joura
What greater purpose does landscaping serve than keeping human beings attached to nature? For designers to achieve such a purpose, it is most desirable for them to study the natural example, and contemplate how it affects all of us. This is true whether the designed environment covers acres or, as in the Bonsai tradition, it can be held in two hands. This program features miniature living landscapes, some depicting real places and some imaginary, but all built upon the foundation of seeing the natural example.

Part Two | Gardens in the Mind’s Eye - Patrick Chassé
Many artists have explored new ways of looking at the world and expanded on traditional ways of expressing their ideas visually. In this presentation, master designer Patrick Chassé will explore how landscape practitioners can find and use “parallel” ideas by other creative artists. He will also illustrate how art can help designers express these ideas to clients in ways that garden plans and renderings cannot equal.

Tuesday, January 5th, 2021 | 1:00 - 4:30 PM EST

From amazing content, to simple/attractive communications, to your spirit of value-in-education, NDAL is just a TOP NOTCH operation.

- JEFF MILLS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
CT CHAPTER OF AMERICAN SOCIETY OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS
Ecologists at universities, professional societies, and other scientific institutions commonly engage in research to better understand how plants operate in the wild. Unfortunately, landscape designers rarely access the resulting data or use it to enhance their projects. In this presentation, ecologist Steven Handel and landscape designer Larry Weaner will present detailed case studies where research data was directly applied to the planted landscape. Examples will vary in scale from restoration to residential, and illustrate the concrete benefits that can be derived when designers seek out information from the highly relevant world of ecological restoration.

Tuesday, January 26th, 2021 | 1:00 - 4:30 PM EST

Part One | A New Jersey Pine Barrens Case Study - Daniela Shebitz, Emile DeVito
Through this presentation, we will discuss how in communities without invasive species, restoring a natural hydrological or fire regime can be enough to foster spontaneous native species regeneration from existing plants and seed banks. We will illustrate how native wetland communities were restored, without planting, on a series of retired cranberry bogs. Atlantic white-cedar (Chamaecyparis thyoides) swamps were used as a reference site, and we found that all sites where natural systems were re-established were recovering strong native plant communities, regardless of the level of previous disturbance and restoration activities.

Part Two | Restoring Floodplains and Releasing the Hidden Seed Legacy - Kelly Gutshall, Justin Spangler
Our seemingly pristine streams and woodlands are teeming with clues of the dramatic alterations that resulted from massive deforestation and a dependence on a water powered industrial past. Before restoring our streams and floodplains, we must understand how this legacy continues to challenge our water resources with issues we are facing today... flood resiliency, water quality, and biodiversity. These challenges also offer opportunities for spontaneous regeneration of threatened and endangered species of plants and harbor animals dependent on these sensitive ecosystems.

Wednesday, February 10th, 2021 | 1:00 - 4:30 PM EST

Individual Sessions: $78 each
The ecology-based landscape movement is slowly changing the way plants are being grown, procured and planted. This includes alterations in species, propagation technique, size, packaging, site layout, and the expanded use of seed. In these presentations a nursery grower, seed producer, and landscape contractor will illustrate what designers and planters need to know about new developments in how to handle plants and seeds before and after arriving at a project site.

Friday, February 12th, 2021 | 1:00 - 4:30 PM EST

Part One | Living With Fire - Eric Knapp
Ecologist Eric Knapp will discuss redesigning the near-home landscape to improve the odds of wildfire survival based on his recent analysis of why some homes burned, and some didn’t during the “Camp Fire” wildfire in Paradise, California. He will demonstrate how designers can use plant selection, plant arrangement, prescribed burning, and other approaches to avoid denuding the landscape in the name of fire safety.

Part Two | The Benefits of Cultural Fire - Margo Robbins
As Co-Founder and Executive Director of the Cultural Fire Management Council (CFMC), co-lead for the Indigenous People’s Burn Network, and Yurok tribal member, Margo Robbins is uniquely positioned to demonstrate the benefits of fire as a land restoration tool, and how controlled burns can help protect communities from wildfire. In this presentation she will show how a community group in northern California brought fire back to the land in a highly positive way.

Tuesday, February 16th, 2021 | 9 AM - 12:30 PM PST / 12 - 3:30 PM EST

What I learned will definitely make a difference in my work and how I move forward with my projects. Thank you!

- ROBIN M., 2020 SUMMER WEBINAR ATTENDEE

Individual Sessions: $78 each
By drawing inspiration from plant communities with similar conditions, we can create green roofs that are ecologically complex, highly resilient, and provide significant ecological benefits. Maintenance requirements, typically high on traditional roof gardens, can also be reduced. This session will use case studies to illustrate ecological, horticultural, and engineering techniques for designing green roofs as high-performing elevated habitat.

Friday, March 5th, 2021 | 1:00 - 4:30 PM EST

Part One | Specifications for Restoration-Scale Projects - Rebecca Kagle, Andrew Korzon

Many ecology-based field techniques run counter to traditional practices and are unfamiliar to even highly experienced contractors. Consequently, highly precise specifications are crucial. This presentation will cover the documentation of field procedures unique to ecological design and restoration such as phased planting, meadow seeding, and weed control procedures. We will also discuss organizational formats for specifications that distinguish between short-term and long-term management and balance the need for both detail and usability.

Part Two | Reconstructing Tallgrass Prairie in Urban and Suburban Spaces: Two Case Studies - Scott Woodbury

Tallgrass prairie reconstruction from seed on damaged urban and suburban soil is a practice poorly understood by most landscape personnel. A seeding specification can lay out a blueprint for planning, site preparation, installation and maintenance, but it is dependent on an engaged and informed team of people, from leaders to weeders. Seeded landscapes are so complex that simple mistakes can be made that result in significant setbacks or failure. This session will focus on how to plan, implement, and manage successful commercial seeded projects.

Wednesday, March 10th, 2021 | 1:00 - 4:30 PM EST
“Prairie-side” Chats

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 Landscape Designer Larry Weaner will allow some of today’s most influential landscape practitioners to more fully explore those tangents. Through a series of guided questions and off-the-cuff discussion, the session will explore 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

$38 each

I almost forgot I was not in the same room with them, eavesdropping on their chat.

- DONNA E., 2020 ATTENDEE
LARRY WEANER CHAT WITH DOUG TALLAMY
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**

$38 each
DAY 1* FOUNDATIONS OF ECOLOGY-BASED DESIGN
Larry Weaner

*Recommended prerequisite for Days 2, 3, & 4

Our opening presentation will examine the vegetative patterns and ecological processes of spontaneous plant communities. Each characteristic will be followed by an example of its direct incorporation into a landscape project. Processes described will include disturbance, competition, vegetative pattern, ecological succession, and ecological stability. Ecological plant traits will include habitat fidelity, growth pattern, spatial and temporal niche, and proliferation strategies.

Thursday, February 4th, 2021 | 1:00 - 4:30 PM EST

DAY 2 THE OPEN LANDSCAPE: MEADOWS, OLD FIELDS, & SHRUBLANDS
Larry Weaner

While meadows are in high demand, effective protocols for designing and implementing them are in short supply. Here we will delve into the nitty gritty of meadow design: site analysis, species selection, seed mix formulation, live plant inclusion, planting and management. The inclusion of shrub thickets and drifts will also be covered, including the arrangement of clonal vs. clump forming species, and the use of shrublands as ecological and visual “connective tissue” between meadow and woods.

Thursday, February 11th, 2021 | 1:00 - 4:30 PM EST

DAY 3 THE CANOPIED LANDSCAPE: WOODLANDS, EDGES, AND HEDGEROWS
Larry Weaner

Establishing woodlands is as much the design of a process as a planting plan. Guided succession can foster the orderly transformation from an open field to a multi-tiered forest through planting, managed natural recruitment, or a combination of the two. Under existing canopy, where few herbaceous species can be established through direct seeding, we will discuss the planting of small “seed source colonies,” and the management strategies that can encourage their proliferation into the larger landscape. Field techniques that are unique to woodlands such as selective height mowing, sunlight manipulation, assisted seed dispersal, and others will also be described in detail.

Thursday, February 18th, 2021 | 1:00 - 4:30 PM EST

DAY 4 THE PLANTS: MEADOWS, SHRUBLANDS, & WOODLANDS
Ian Caton & Larry Weaner

In this session, native plant authority Ian Caton will examine some of the native species that exemplify the ecological characteristics described in the previous sessions, and illustrate how this information can inform the process of selecting and arranging individual plants. He will also present a group of “workhorse species” that combine reliability and weed suppression with attractive aesthetic character. Larry and Ian will then engage attendees in a conversation that explores their shared experiences and answer attendee questions. Larry will conclude by describing the heightened experience that an interactive relationship between people and plants can engender for both designers and their clients.

Thursday, February 25th, 2021 | 1:00 - 4:30 PM EST

4-Day Bundle: $295 | Individual Days: $88
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.

Bill Carter is the President of Prairie Moon Nursery. Originally from northern Illinois, he moved out to Wiscoy Valley Community Land Co-op in the early 1990s to follow his true calling – living off the land. After spending the beginning of his career as a Registered Nurse, Bill took a position in the Prairie Moon seed room in the early years of the business. He now manages Prairie Moon’s network of growers, oversees seed intake, and supervises the Sales and Consulting team.

Ian Caton worked for Larry Weaner Landscape Associates 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. 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.

Patrick Chassé has served on a number of historic landscape boards and committees, including the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, the New York Botanical Garden, and the Beatrix Farrand Society—of which he was a founder. He has taught and lectured at the Landscape Institute, Arnold Arboretum, the Graduate School of Design at Harvard University, and has lectured widely at historical societies, garden clubs, botanical gardens, arboreta and museums in the US, Canada and western Europe. Patrick earned a Master of Landscape Architecture degree from Harvard Graduate School of Design, after a B.S. in biology, graduate studies in botany and ecology and a MEd in environmental education from the University of Maine.

I’ve followed you for many years. Happy and grateful for moving the needle and sharing so much.

- 2019 WORKSHOP ATTENDEE

Photo by Larry Weaner, Landscape Associates
Emile D. DeVito, Ph.D., has been the Manager of Science and Stewardship at the New Jersey Conservation Foundation since 1989. Emile directs field research on NJCF preserves, partnering with faculty and graduate students at nearby universities. He assists in developing and implementing management plans for NJCF’s 25,000+ acres of holdings designed to protect and enhance biological diversity. He received a doctorate in Ecology in 1988 for research on bird communities and vegetation landscapes in New Jersey’s Pine Barrens.

Ethan Dropkin, MLA, landscape designer at Larry Weaner Landscape Associates (LWLA), has an extensive and in-depth understanding of native plants and their effective use in the designed landscape. He has been involved with numerous private gardens and public projects including Riverwalk Park in Tarrytown, NY, and a planting plan for Kingsland Wildflowers in Brooklyn, NY. Prior to joining LWLA, Ethan worked as a designer at Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates, as a horticultural designer and technician for Cornell University, and as a horticulturist for the New York City Parks Department. Ethan has a BA in Secondary Education from the University of Vermont, a MA in Landscape Architecture, and a MPS in Horticulture from Cornell University.

Kelly Gutshall, RLA, ASLA, is President and Landscape Architect at LandStudies, Inc. In the late 80’s, Kelly and her husband Mark co-founded LandStudies, Inc., an ecological restoration design/build firm that has pioneered innovative solutions to floodplain management for watersheds throughout the mid-Atlantic region. Kelly has championed the firm’s science-based approach to planning and design, restoring hundreds of acres of historically altered stream and floodplains and reestablishing the long-lost balance and function of these vital habitats to address some of the most challenging water resource issues of our time: water quality, flooding, and stormwater management.

Steven Handel, is a Distinguished Professor of Ecology at Rutgers University, and formerly Visiting Professor at Harvard University’s Graduate School of Design. He studies the restoration ecology of urban habitats and is the Editor of the journal Ecological Restoration. He received his BA in biology from Columbia University and a PhD in ecology and evolution from Cornell University.

Darrel Morrison and Nancy Aten designing to music at 2014 NDAL Symposium
Laura Hansplant is a landscape architect and principal at Roofmeadow. She has over 20 years of experience in sustainable landscape design, with wide-ranging projects from Toronto to Virginia. Her work consistently emphasizes the integration of ecology, holistic water management, and cultural patterns into vibrant landscapes that work as living systems. Her current designs explore dynamic approaches to planting design for urban landscapes.

Arthur Joura has been the Bonsai Curator at The North Carolina Arboretum, in Asheville, NC, since the inception of the bonsai program in 1992. Joura has studied bonsai with some of the leading bonsai authorities in the United States, and was received as an official student to the Nippon Bonsai Association in Japan. He has taught extensively in the eastern U.S. and has been featured in numerous publications for his work with the Arboretum’s bonsai collection. In his curation of the Arboretum’s bonsai program, Joura constantly seeks to forge connections between the art of bonsai and the Arboretum’s mission to promote appreciation of the flora and culture of the Southern Appalachians.

Rebecca Kagle, associate ASLA, joined Larry Weaner Landscape Associates (LWLA) in 2008. Prior to joining LWLA, Rebecca worked for Wave Hill and Prospect Park in New York City and the Lakeshore Nature Preserve at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, designing and implementing woodland and shoreline restoration projects. At LWLA she has been involved with master plans for residential and public projects. She has also written plant and seed specifications for trail projects in Philadelphia’s Wissahickon Valley Park. Rebecca received a BA from Haverford College, a Masters in Restoration Ecology from the University of Wisconsin, a BA in landscape architecture at Temple University, and received both the PA/DE ASLA Travel Award and an ASLA Merit award for her design work.

Eric Knapp is a research ecologist with the U.S. Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station. For the past 20 years, he has been studying the effects of fire and the consequences of removing fire from formerly fire-dependent ecosystems. The Carr Fire, which in the summer of 2018 burned into his hometown of Redding, opened his eyes to the challenges posed by our flammable environment and inspired him to learn more about how we might better co-exist with this frequently feared but also very vital disturbance mechanism.
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.

Jim MacKenzie is President and co-owner of Octoraro Native Plant Nursery. He holds a BS in Landscape Architecture from Penn State University. He is actively involved with the Pennsylvania Landscape and Nursery Association (PLNA), serving previously on the Board of Directors for 13 years and presently on the Government Relations Committee. From 2003 until 2008 he served as Vice-Chair of the DEP Statewide Water Resources Committee.

Andrew Korzon, PLA, joined Larry Weaner Landscape Associates (LWLA) in 2017 and serves as installation project manager, overseeing implementation of LWLA designs and managing long-term maintenance for residential, commercial, and institutional clients. Prior to joining LWLA, he served as a project manager for the design/build firm LandStudies, Inc. in Lititz, PA. In 2010 he completed his BS in Landscape Architecture from Temple University. Andy is a licensed landscape architect in Pennsylvania and New York.

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.
**PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES CONTINUED**

**Margo Robbins** is the co-founder and Executive Director of the Cultural Fire Management Council (CFMC). She is one of the key planners and organizers of the Cultural Burn Training Exchange (TREX) that takes place on the Yurok Reservation twice a year. She is also a co-lead and advisor for the Indigenous People’s Burn Network. Margo comes from the traditional Yurok village of Morek, and is an enrolled member of the Yurok Tribe. She gathers and prepares traditional food and medicine, is a basket weaver and regalia maker. She is the Indian Education Director for the Klamath-Trinity Joint Unified School district, a mom, and a grandma.

**Dr. Daniela Shebitz** is a restoration ecologist and ethnobotanist currently serving as the Executive Director and Associate Professor for the School of Environmental and Sustainability Sciences at Kean University in Union, NJ. She conducts research with her students in sites ranging from Costa Rica and China to the New Jersey Pine Barrens where she studies the effects of land management on plant diversity, with a specific focus on culturally significant plants. Daniela earned her Ph.D. in Ecosystem Science from The University of Washington, Seatle and her B.S. and M.S. from the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry.

**Justin Spangler, PE**, is Water Resources Engineer at LandStudies, Inc. As a Professional Engineer and Project Manager, Justin specializes in the design and restoration of flood-plains and stream systems for long-term function. His design philosophy employs the application of historical and geomorphic evidence to identify impairments which is used to return aquatic resources to their maximum ecological potential. He manages cutting edge restoration projects that challenge the traditional expectations of ecological restoration.

**Robert Swain LTE, CERP**, founded The Dawson Corporation in 1975 after serving as a combat engineer in Vietnam. He is presently Team Lead for the Mid-Atlantic Group of SumCo Eco-Contracting. For the past 40 years he has applied his degrees in environmental science, horticultural and building science into construction focused on ecological restoration. Mr. Swain is a NJDEP Licensed Tree Expert and a Certified Ecological Restoration Practitioner. He also serves as treasurer on the boards of the Society for Ecological Restoration – Mid-Atlantic chapter, and Native Plant Society of NJ.

**Darrel Morrison and Nancy Aten** designing to music at 2014 NDAL Symposium

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.

Scott Woodbury is manager of the Whitmire Wildflower Garden at Shaw Nature Reserve, and has been developing the garden there for 29 years. Scott teaches native landscape practices for the Native Plant School, Grow Native!, St. Louis Master Gardeners and St. Louis Community College. He is a regular speaker, writer and consultant on native landscaping throughout the region. Scott has worked at various public gardens including Old Westbury Gardens in New York, Longwood Gardens in Pennsylvania, Castello Di Uzzano in Italy, and Tudor Place in Washington, D.C.

Program & registration questions:

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or call Sara Weaner,
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