



New Directions
in the American Landscape

43 Limekiln Pike, Suite 100
Glenside, PA 19038

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Out There: Field Explorations in Nature and Garden

A series of coordinated lectures and field trips designed to examine nature, culture, and creativity in the practice of Landscape Design.

ASLA and APLD CEU's available



Gardens that Evolve: Directing Natural Succession

Where: Connecticut's Northwest Corner
August 6 & 7, 2008

Meadows and Meadow Inspired Gardens: Making it Work

Where: Pennsylvania's Pocono Area
August 28 & 29, 2008

The Cultural Landscape: People, Nature, and Art

Where: Central New Jersey's Coastal Plain
September 11 & 12, 2008

Created By:



New Directions
in the American Landscape

developed by Larry Weaner

Co-Sponsored by:

New England Wild Flower Society headquartered at Garden in the Woods

The Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center

The Walkabout at the Laurita Winery

Aton Forest

About NDAL

New Directions in the American Landscape, NDAL, is a Pennsylvania-based not-for-profit organization that has provided leading-edge educational workshops since 1990. NDAL's forums explore issues and techniques relating to the design, implementation, and management of landscapes based on natural models, in a cultural context.

Since 1992, NDAL has partnered with the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania and the Connecticut College Arboretum on an annual symposium for landscape professionals. This two-day program has developed a dedicated following within the professional landscape community and has featured many of the leading figures of contemporary landscape design.

Other NDAL programs have been co-sponsored by numerous horticultural and ecological organizations across the U.S., including the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, the Atlanta Botanic Garden, The National Wildlife Federation, the Morton Arboretum in Chicago, Illinois, and the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center in Austin, Texas.

For more information, visit our website at www.NDAL.org.

Advisory Board

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Fee Per Person: \$ 595 for 1 program
\$1,130 for 2 programs
\$1,665 for 3 programs

Includes lunch, informational materials, and tour transportation.

Directions and schedule will be sent with confirmation.

Registration will be refunded only when notification is received no later than 7 working days prior to event.

For More Information: Phone: (215) 886-1492 Fax: (215) 886-9028 or Email: info@lweanerdesign.com

Hotel Accommodations: **NJ:** The Dancer Farm Bed and Breakfast, New Egypt, NJ (866) 326-2376
PA: Hampton Inn, Easton, PA (610) 250-6500
CT: Interlaken Inn, Lakeville, CT (800) 222-2909 or
Inn at Ironmasters, Lakeville, CT (860) 435-9844

**Mention
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REGISTRATION FORM

Make checks payable to: NDAL
Fax registration forms to: 215-886-9028
or mail to: NDAL 43 Limekiln Pike, Suite 100, Glenside, PA 19038

Name(s) _____

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Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

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I will be attending the program offer in: New Jersey Pennsylvania Connecticut

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PRESENTER BIOS

John Anderson has been the executive director of Aton Forest since 2001. He began working as Frank Egler's Research Associate at Aton Forest in 1981 and co-authored several of his papers. In 1992, he was named the Aton Forest Fellow, a position supported by a trust established by Dr. Egler to ensure that research and conservation activities continued at Aton Forest. He has served on the Norfolk Conservation and Inland Wetlands Agency, the town's Open Space Committee and the Norfolk GIS work group, and serves on the boards of the Connecticut Conservation Association and the Connecticut Chapter of the American Chestnut Foundation.

Glenn Dreyer is the Charles and Sarah P. Becker '27 director of the Connecticut College Arboretum in New London. He is also an adjunct associate professor of botany at Connecticut College and serves on the Connecticut Urban Forest Council and the Connecticut Tree Protection Examining Board. His interests span the fields of ecology and horticulture and he is the author of the book, *Connecticut's Notable Trees*, and editor of *Greening Connecticut Cities and Towns: Managing Public Trees and Community Forests*.

Larry Weaner has been principal of Larry Weaner Landscape Design Associates, Inc. since 1982. His projects have been featured in national and international publications and have been included in garden tours sponsored by the Association of Professional Landscape Designers, The American Horticulture Society and The Garden Conservancy. He is a past Board Member and Environmental Committee Chair for the Association of Professional Landscape Designers and founded the New Directions in the American Landscape (NDAL) educational series in 1990.

Tom Wessels is an ecologist and founding director of the master's degree program in Conservation Biology at Antioch University New England. He is former chair of the Robert and Patricia Switzer Foundation that fosters environmental leadership through graduate fellowships and organizational grants. He serves as an ecological consultant to the Rain Forest Alliance's Smart Wood Green Certification Program. In that capacity, Tom helped draft green certification assessment guidelines for forest operations in the northeastern United States and adjacent Canada. Tom has conducted landscape-level workshops throughout the United States for over 30 years. His books include: *Reading the Forested Landscape*, *The Granite Landscape*, *Untamed Vermont*, and *The Myth of Progress: Toward a Sustainable Future*.

Ian Caton has been designing native landscapes with Larry Weaner Landscape Design since 2001. He has an extensive knowledge of native plants, natural communities and their incorporation in the human environment. He has a long-running relationship with Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve, where he serves on the education committee. Past speaking engagements have included Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve, the New York Botanical Gardens, and the prestigious Mad Gardeners' Conference in northwest Connecticut.

William Sweeney has worked professionally with the Pennsylvania Department of Natural Resources since 1993. He has served as the Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center Program Supervisor since 1999, and previously worked in the landscape design/build industry. Bill is a lifelong Biophilic and works tirelessly to promote the conservation and preservation of natural resources. He has particular expertise in invasive species, old growth forests, native plants, and Ivory Billed woodpeckers.

Phillip Larsen, RLA has been practicing landscape architecture since 1978. He is the principal of Larsen Design Associates, an ecologically-based landscape design and land planning firm which he founded in 1994. Phil was previously a partner in Wells, Larsen and Appel, where he received the New Jersey ASLA Design Award for his work on the Merrill Lynch Corporate Campus. He also taught landscape design at Temple University, where he directed the publication of a book on landscape at the New Jersey estate of Gustave Stickley, one of the founders of the Arts and Crafts Movement.

Brian Carey, RLA is the founding partner of AC/BC Associates. He is responsible for the development of architecture and landscape design for Grounds for Sculpture, an art park located on the former New Jersey state fairgrounds. Grounds for Sculpture is listed on "New Jersey's 150 Best Buildings and Places" by the New Jersey chapter of the American Institute of Architects. Other works include green roof projects and private gardens in New York City and New Jersey. Brian Carey consults on sculpture park projects in England, Spain, Belgium, and Bulgaria. He is on the board of directors for the Metro Hort Group and on the Horticulture Committee of the Queens Botanical Garden in Queens, NY.

Raymond Shea/Randy Johnson are the founders and principals of Laurita Winery, a 250-acre property containing vineyards, a winery, planted and managed natural areas, horseback riding, Standard Bred racing facilities, and an historic remnant farmstead. They are innovators in expanding the definition of agriculture in New Jersey and have included significant ecological and philanthropic aspects in the Winery's program.

E. Pierre Morenon teaches archaeology and anthropology at Rhode Island College in Providence, Rhode Island. He has studied indigenous land use practices around Narragansett Bay for thirty years, from its ancient shell middens to its upland hunting encampments and coastal farming villages. His research also includes archaeological studies of modern urban community gardens, as well as Victorian landscapes at the State Home and School for Dependent and Neglected Children.

Gardens that Evolve: *Directing Natural Succession*

Where: Northwest Corner of Connecticut

August 6 & 7, 2008

How do "initial floristic composition", "disturbance", and "succession" relate to garden design? While landscape practitioners rarely consider these and other ecological processes, the potential benefits of "process influenced" garden design are profound. This series of lectures and tours will illustrate an innovative approach to garden creation that works *with*, instead of fights *against*, the dynamic natural forces that alter plant compositions over time.

DAY 1 – 9:00AM to 4:30PM

Convening Location: Aton Forest Norfolk, CT

Frank Egler at Aton Forest (Lecture 1.5 hrs.)

Glenn Dreyer and John Anderson

Ecologist Frank Egler spent sixty years at Aton Forest, introducing plants, manipulating existing vegetation, and meticulously recording the results of his actions. The innovative nature and unprecedented time span of his work makes the study of this 1100-acre property a uniquely enlightening experience. In this lecture, Glenn and John will contrast archival photographs and documents with contemporary images to illustrate the effects of Dr. Egler's pioneering work.

Woodchuck Hill at Aton Forest (Tour 1.5 hrs.)

Glenn Dreyer and John Anderson

This seven-acre shrub land has not been mown since the 1940's, yet it has never succeeded to forest. We will study the innovative techniques that Frank Egler employed to arrest succession and foster the magnificent mosaic of native shrubs and herbaceous plants that currently exist on the site.

The Experimental Fields and Gardens at Aton Forest

(Tour 1 hr.)

Glenn Dreyer and John Anderson

Is this a landscape garden, an ecological restoration, or a research plot? Dr. Egler considered it to be all of the above. Consequently, he introduced a wide variety of plants into the naturally occurring vegetation, meticulously cataloging the successes and failures of each. During this part of our tour, we will compare the documentation of Egler's plantings with the current vegetative composition, learning how introduced and naturally occurring plants interact over time.

The Successional Forests at Aton Forest (Tour 2 hrs.)

Glenn Dreyer and John Anderson

Traversing the woodlands at Aton will reveal differing plant compositions in similar ecological conditions. In many cases, these are remnants of Egler's experiments in woodland management. For the remainder of our tour, we will examine these variations and compare them with unmanaged control areas.

DAY 2 – 9:00AM to 4:30PM

Convening Location: Interlaken Inn, Lakeville, CT

The Reality of Succession and Vegetation Change (Lecture 1 hr.)

Tom Wessels

Ecologist Tom Wessels will present an overview of succession theory and alternatives to the concept of "climax community". He will also discuss how ecosystem complexity and stability increase as the processes of succession unfold, a concept that has important ramifications for sustainability in designed landscapes.

Bartholomew's Cobble and Schenob Brook (Tour 2.5 hrs.)

Tom Wessels

Tom, renowned for his ability to interpret natural and cultural landscapes, will use this intense variety of habitats to analyze each stage of succession, from meadow to old field to ancient forest. The tour will also visit remnants of historic land use, where Tom will interpret their impact on the current landscape. The tour will conclude at a scenic bluff, where views of a beaver-created wetland provide a panoramic illustration of the processes he previously discussed.

Twin Maples Farm (Tour 2.5 hrs.)

Larry Weaner

This scenic hilltop estate contains a dynamic and evolving interplay of meadow, thicket, and woods. Our tour will include 40 acres of planted meadow, extensive areas of managed woodlands and shrublands, and a variety of habitat-based native gardens. During our visit we will go behind the scenes to investigate the techniques that transformed over 50 acres of newly cleared fields and invasive choked woodlands to the panoramic yet intricate landscape that exists today.



Meadows and Meadow Inspired Gardens:
Making it Work

Where: Pocono Area, Pennsylvania

August 28 & 29, 2008

What does it take to establish a native meadow, and what are the pitfalls that commonly cause them to fail? In this program, we will closely examine naturally-occurring meadows and grasslands, seeded meadows, and meadow-inspired gardens to determine the key elements needed to consistently succeed in establishing these highly prized plantings.

DAY 1 – 9:00AM to 4:30PM

Convening Location: Hampton Inn, Easton, PA

Naturally Occurring Meadows (Lecture 2 hrs.)

William Sweeney and Larry Weaner

In this presentation we will discuss where, how and why meadows occur naturally in the Eastern United States, and under what conditions they persist over time. Techniques for managing the dynamic dance between native plants, exotic species, and wildlife will also be explored.

The Meadows and Grasslands at Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center (Tour 3 hrs.)

William Sweeney

These meadows and grasslands exhibit a plethora of habitat types, successional stages, and land-use histories, making this an ideal laboratory to study the various natural and cultural models for meadow creation.

Henry's Woods at Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center (Tour 1 hr.)

William Sweeney

We would be remiss if we did not visit one of the richest woodlands in Lehigh County. Although it is not directly related to meadow habitats, it includes a mature Oak-Hemlock Forest containing many rare forest bird species and woodland herbs.

DAY 2 – 9:00AM to 4:30PM

Convening Location: Hampton Inn, Easton, PA

Refined Meadow Technique: Brains over Brawn
(Lecture 1.5 hrs.)

Larry Weaner

Larry will present a detailed and practical look at the process of creating a meadow, including site analysis, site preparation, planting, and long term management. He will also discuss the importance of imparting realistic expectations to your clients.

Meadow Composition: Plants in Context (Lecture 1.5 hr.)

Ian Caton

Ian will discuss the best plants for use in meadow plantings for a wide variety of scales and settings, including crucial information on the habitat requirements of each species. He will also discuss the fine points of seed mix formulation, as well as describe the best cultivars and selections for use in meadow gardens.

Anatomy of a Meadow (Tour 3 hrs.)

Larry Weaner and Ian Caton

This 165-acre property consists of 35 acres of meadows planted seven to ten years ago. In addition, over two acres of meadow-inspired gardens, including many cultivars and selections of native plants, encircle the house, terraces, and pool area. In this tour, we will closely examine how habitat, aesthetics, and reduced maintenance can all be achieved by combining ecological restoration and fine garden design.



The Cultural Landscape: People, Nature, and Art

Where: New Jersey's Central Coastal Plain

September 11 & 12, 2008

Virtually all landscapes, from wild to planted, have been influenced by human activity. In this series, we will provide a wide-ranging study of historic land use practices, their effects on contemporary landscapes, and how they can influence the practice of landscape design in today's ecologically-oriented professional environment.

DAY 1 – 9:00AM to 4:30PM

Convening Location: Laurita Winery, New Egypt, NJ

Conducting the Landscape: Native American Land Use Practice (Lecture 1 hr.)

E. Pierre Morenon

Recent research reveals that indigenous communities did not simply hunt, gather, and maintain small garden plots within nature, but actively manipulated landscapes on a variety of scales. In the northeastern United States they did this for thousands of years; plants, habitats and humans were co-dependent. Nature was their garden. As landscape practitioners, we now grow or restore the same species, yet may not appreciate their inherent human dependencies. This presentation will explore long connections that could be useful to designers planting or restoring native landscapes.

Landscape Design and the New Agriculture: Crops, Ecology, and Gardens (Lecture 2 hrs.)

Larry Weaner, Raymond Shea, Randy Johnson

For eastern agriculture to be economically viable, additional sources of income are often required. In this joint presentation, the principals of Laurita Winery and their landscape design team will discuss how ecological restoration, native plantings, rain gardens, and historic restoration is being dovetailed with the agricultural mission of the vineyard.

Laurita Winery Property (Tour 3 hrs.)

Phillip Larsen, RLA and Larry Weaner

The tour will include visits to a variety of planted meadows and managed woodlands where innovative planting and managed woodlands where innovative planting and invasive plant control methods have been employed. We will also examine a number of constructed elements that express the agricultural heritage and ecological mission of the property, including a trail system with boardwalks and wildlife observation decks, a dual irrigation/wildlife pond, an historic farmstead complex, and extensive native plantings and rain gardens associated with the new winery building.

DAY 2 – 9:00AM to 4:30PM

Convening Location: Laurita Winery, New Egypt, NJ

Landscapes of the Arts and Crafts Movement (Lecture 1 hr.)

Phillip Larsen, RLA

The New Jersey estate of Gustave Stickley, one of the founders of the Arts and Crafts movement, was an early example of function, aesthetics, and self sufficiency. Mr. Larsen, author of a landscape study of the Stickley estate, will illustrate the principals that underlie this unique property. He will also depict contemporary examples of garden design in an Arts and Crafts setting.

The Making of Grounds for Sculpture (Lecture 1 hr.)

Brian Carey, RLA

In 1992, Mr. Carey created the original plans for the Grounds for Sculpture, which provides a contemplative setting for the work of over 130 sculptors and environmental artists. Built on an historic 19th century fairground, the landscape recognizes a unique combination of history and modernity. Using current and archival images, Mr. Carey will provide us with a behind-the-scenes look at the creation and continuing evolution of this fascinating landscape.

The Grounds for Sculpture (Tour 4 hrs.)

Brian Carey, RLA

Mr. Carey will follow his background presentation with an extensive tour of the Grounds for Sculpture, pointing out the rationales, challenges, and improvisational decisions that contributed to the creation of this landscape. His tour will include all aspects of the grounds, including areas which are in development, where he will offer insight into his design process.

