Culture and ecology exist in a dynamic relationship: culture shapes ecology and vice versa. Our 2020 conference will explore this feedback loop as it pertains to landscape design and management. From historical as well as contemporary perspectives, our presenters will consider the complex, sometimes overlooked ways in which culture and ecology interact and what this means for how ecology-based design can be most effective.

**January 9–10, 2020**
**Pennsylvania:**
Goodhart Hall
Bryn Mawr College
Bryn Mawr, PA

**January 16–17, 2020**
**Connecticut:**
Cummings Arts Center
Connecticut College Arboretum
New London, CT

CEUs Available
Day 1

Registration and Continental Breakfast – 8:15 a.m.
Program begins at 9 a.m.

Then and Now: Historic Landscape Practices as Innovative Contemporary Approaches (1½ hrs) – Larry Weaner
Pre-industrial landscape practitioners did not use heavy equipment, herbicides, or inorganic fertilizers, items that many now seek to avoid. They did, however, employ skills honed over millennia that displayed a sophisticated understanding of nature and its response to human activity. This presentation explores the surprisingly relevant practices of Native Americans, pre-industrial Europeans, and others to contemporary landscape approaches.

Historical Ecology: Revealing and Incorporating a Site’s Story into Design (1 ¼ hrs) – Michael Gaige
Every landscape has a story that can be teased out using both field evidence and archival resources. This session explores case studies that demonstrate how revealing site history can inform our design interventions.

It All Starts with a Seed: Banking & Growing for Habitat Restoration (1 hr) – Michael Piantedosi
The Native Plant Trust (formerly New England Wildflower Society) collaborates with regional partners to bank native seeds, in addition to growing these species for restoration projects. Learn how their work enables restoration initiatives and critically advances what we know about the germination requirements for our native flora.

Restoring a Disturbed Woodland: Bell’s Woods at Chanticleer (1 ¼ hrs) – Przemek Walczak
Contemporary urban and suburban woodlands face fragmentation, soil degradation, invasive plants, and the need to manage stormwater runoff. Learn how a unique combination of techniques at Chanticleer Garden transformed degraded woods into a beautiful landscape celebrating woodland flora native to eastern North America.

Designing for Habitat Across Scales (1 ¼ hrs)
Anne Lacouture Penniman
Native habitats are disappearing at an alarming rate. Learn how designed landscapes—from the smallest garden to multi-acre sites—can help counter these losses while still satisfying aesthetic goals.

Evening reception immediately following the program with complimentary wine, beer, and hors d’oeuvres.

Day 2

Registration and Continental Breakfast – 8 a.m.
Program begins at 8:30 a.m.

Invisible Layers in the American Landscape (1 ¼ hrs)
Abra Lee
The creative gifts of African Americans to landscape design and ornamental horticulture are rarely acknowledged and when they are, they’re often relegated to an agricultural narrative. This presentation reveals the rich 400-year legacy of how African American culture has shaped both the American landscape and our horticultural traditions.

Managing Landscapes and ‘Great Expectations’ of Clients (1 ¼ hrs) – Grace Herman & Jesse Forrester
Complex designed native landscapes have become more mainstream in recent years, but public understanding of native landscape stewardship lags behind. This session explores strategies to achieve buy-in and help clients realize long term success through effective management.

Glyphosate: Why Is It So Controversial? (1 hr)
Jason Ferrel (PA only) / Stephen Enloe (CT only)
The world’s most commonly used herbicide, glyphosate, faces growing concerns about potential impacts to human health and the environment. This presentation offers context for contemporary debates and explores the status of scientific research so that practitioners can draw their own informed conclusions.

An Organic Landscape Case Study: Growing at Glenstone (1 ¼ hrs) – Matt Partain
In 2018, Glenstone, a contemporary art museum, opened its nearly 300-acre campus in Potomac, Maryland. Created over 15 years, the pastoral landscape was installed and managed entirely without synthetic herbicides. Join us for a behind-the-scenes look at this acclaimed design and learn what it takes to create and manage a large-scale native landscape organically.

Learning from the Past: Virtuous Fire, Regenerative Cutting (1 ¼ hrs) – William Bryant Logan
Many ecologists feel that historic landscape management practices like fire and even coppicing could be among our most important restoration tools, despite the cultural hurdles that currently exist. Explore the history of these practices and how they have shaped the ecosystems of eastern North America. Consider how we can mimic these powerful techniques today to create more diverse, stable, and resilient landscapes.
Regular Rate (per person):
$345 if received online or postmarked by Dec. 16, 2019
$370 if received online or postmarked after Dec. 16, 2019

Student Rate (with student ID):
$195 if received online or postmarked by Dec. 16, 2019
$220 if received online or postmarked after Dec. 16, 2019

Registration includes continental breakfast, lunch, break refreshments, and evening reception.

Student Scholarship – Free Conference Admission
Students and recent graduates are invited to apply for scholarships granting free admission to the conference. Two scholarships will be awarded for the Pennsylvania conference and two for Connecticut. The scholarships honor Darrell Morrison, FASLA, Senior Honorary Faculty Associate, University of Wisconsin—Madison Department of Planning and Landscape Architecture, and Glenn Dreyer, Connecticut College Arboretum Director Emeritus. For application information, visit NDAL.org.

Eligibility: Current students or students who graduated in 2019 may apply. Application deadline: Dec. 2, 2019. Applicants will be notified by Dec. 6 to allow anyone not selected time to register for early-bird admission.
Stephen Enloe, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor in the Agronomy Department and Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants at the University of Florida. His research and extension programs focus on invasive plant biology, ecology, and management. (CT only)

Jason Ferrell, Ph.D., is a Professor at the University of Florida and Director of the University's Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants. He has published more than 100 scientific journal articles related to plant biology and herbicide use. He serves as editor of the Journal of Aquatic Plant Management. (PA only)

Jesse Forrester is a landscape architect with Jonathan Alderson Landscape Architects. He has managed the design and construction administration of residential and institutional projects, including the Ann B. Barhsinger Cancer Center in Lancaster, PA, the Meadow Garden at Longwood Gardens, and the Reading Hospital Healing Garden.

Michael Gaige is an independent consulting ecologist based in upstate New York. His work explores the intersection of nature, culture, and history at the landscape level. He collaborates with organizations, private landowners, and design teams on park and landscape projects.

Grace Herman is a landscape architect at Jonathan Alderson Landscape Architects, where she works on projects for public gardens, parks, commercial campuses, and private estates. She also teaches a planting design course at Jefferson University in Philadelphia.

Abra Lee is owner of Conquer the Soil, a brand at the intersection of plants and pop culture. She is a 2019–2020 Fellow at Longwood Gardens and has more than two decades of experience in horticulture, including as a municipal arborist and landscape manager for international airports in Atlanta and Houston.

William Bryant Logan is a certified arborist and author of Sprout Lands: Tending the Endless Gift of Trees (2019), Air (2012), Dirt: The Ecstatic Skin of the Earth (2007), and Oak: The Frame of Civilization (2006). He is a regular contributor to the New York Times and has received numerous awards from Garden Writers of America. He founded Urban Arborists based in Brooklyn and is a recipient of multiple International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) awards.

Matt Partain is the Grounds Superintendent at Glenstone, a contemporary art museum in Potomac, MD. He previously served as the Grounds Manager at Berea College in Berea, KY, the Grounds Superintendent at The Greenbrier in Sulphur Springs, WV, and was a Grounds Team Leader at both The Biltmore Company and Walt Disney World.

Anne Lacouture Penniman is a landscape architect with 30 years of experience in both public and private work. Since founding Anne Penniman Associates in 1991, she has implemented designs that range in scale from private gardens to public park master plans. She is a member of the state of Connecticut Board of Landscape Architects.

Michael Piantedosi is the Director of Conservation at Native Plant Trust (formerly New England Wildflower Society). He previously managed the Trust’s New England Plant Conservation Program, Seeds of Success-East, and its regional seedbank. He began his career in botany as a researcher in cyanobacteria and freshwater plant communities at the University of New Hampshire.

Przemek Walczak has served as a horticulturist at Chanticleer Garden in Wayne, PA for over two decades. He began his horticultural career as a dendrologist at The Center for the Preservation of Historic Landscapes in Poland. He is a co-author of The Art of Gardening: Design Inspiration and Innovative Planting Techniques from Chanticleer (2015).


Comments from 2019 Conference Attendees

“It was a great mix of social and ecological information. Inspiring as a designer.”

“You put people back in the landscape! I have never been more satisfied with a performance than I was this year. Keep up the excellent work.”

“I feel re-energized and ready to go after I attend every year.”