



25th ANNUAL LAHR SYMPOSIUM NATIVE PLANTS: LANDSCAPE SOLUTIONS

The 25th Lahr Symposium explores the intersection of native plants, horticulture, ecology, and landscape design. This year's program features topics particularly interesting to those who plan to use native plants in the landscape. The daylong program presents the newest developments in native plants entering the marketplace; how to bring the benefits of native plants to every size landscape, from a large public space to a single container; and continues the discussion of how to learn from nature when trying to select plants for even the toughest planting locations.

SPEAKERS

Dr. Allan Armitage is one of the world's foremost horticulturists and a celebrated writer, speaker, and researcher. He has won numerous prestigious awards, including the Medal of Honor from the Garden Club of America, the Award of Merit from the Perennial Plant Association, and the distinguished National Educator Award from the American Horticultural Society. A researcher and professor at the University of Georgia (UGA), he runs The Trial Gardens at UGA, which are renowned for their valuable role in research, teaching, and plant evaluations. He has published 13 books on a variety of garden topics, including the engaging and comprehensive reference, *Native Plants for North American Gardens*.

Cole Burrell has been lecturing locally and internationally on topics of garden design, plants, and ecology for 35 years. His firm, Native Landscape Design and Restoration, specializes in blending nature and culture through artistic design. In 2008, he received the Award of Distinction from the Association of Professional Landscape Designers for his work promoting sustainable gardening practices. He is also a photographer, and author, having written 12 gardening books, and has twice won the American Horticulture Society Book Award. Early in his career, he worked at the National Arboretum as the curator of the Fern Valley Native Plant Collection and began the lecture series that came to be known as the Lahr Symposium.

Dr. Sylvan Kaufman consults, writes, and teaches ecology, botany, and landscape restoration through her business, Sylvan Green Earth Consulting. She serves on the Board of Directors of the Chesapeake Conservation Landscaping Council, which is dedicated to education and the promotion of conservation-based gardening in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Kaufman served as the curator and land manager at Adkins Arboretum; conducted research at Harvard University; and earned degrees in Biology, Ecology, and Evolutionary Biology. She is co-author of the book, *Invasive Plants: Guide to Identification and the Impacts and Control of Common North American Species*.

Scott LaFleur serves as the Botanic Garden Director of the Garden in the Woods, the largest landscaped collection of wildflowers in the Northeast, which serves as the grounds of the headquarters of The New England Wild Flower Society and as a public botanic garden. In the interest of promoting native plants, he has led a revitalization of the Garden, which includes bringing the use of native plants in designed settings to the forefront. His passion for innovation shows in the creative projects underway in the Idea Garden. He advocates for native plants and conservation through public speaking, web-based videos, and writing passionately about ecological gardening.

Carole Ottesen is a garden writer and photographer whose books include *The Native Plant Primer*, *The New American Garden*, *Gardening with Style*, and *Ornamental Grasses—the Amber Wave*. Her writing and photos have appeared in top magazines including, *Horticulture*, *Garden Design*, and *Fine Gardening*, and have earned her three awards from the Garden Writers Association of America. She has created a two-acre organic garden in Maryland that features a natural woodland garden, a moss lawn, ornamental grasses, and perennial borders, composed of a vast array of plants, many native to our region.

Jeremy West is Manager of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service's (NRCS) National Plant Materials Center, located in Beltsville, Maryland. West, a forester by profession, began his career at NRCS as a Resource Conservation and Development Coordinator, managing a range of diverse conservation and community development projects in Southern Maryland. His current position at the National Plant Materials Center focuses on finding innovative, plant-based solutions for a broad range of emerging conservation challenges. A graduate of North Carolina State University and Yale University, West has worked throughout the United States and conducted research in Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Nepal, and Panama.

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**SATURDAY
MARCH 26TH 2011**
PRESENTED BY THE
**U.S. NATIONAL ARBORETUM
IN BELTSVILLE, MARYLAND**



LAHR SYMPOSIUM
U.S. National Arboretum
3501 New York Ave., NE
Washington, DC 20002-1958

Official Business

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Join us in Beltsville! This year the Lahr Symposium and Plant Sale will be held at the Agricultural Research Service's bucolic 6,600-acre campus in Beltsville, MD. See inside for complete details, including maps and directions.

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Schedule of Presentations

8:30 Registration and Early-bird Plant Sale

9:30 Welcome and Introduction

Joan Feely, U.S. National Arboretum

9:40 Mainstreaming Native Plants in the Marketplace

Native plants are far better known today than 10 years ago: Huge strides have been made to show the benefits of native plants for erosion control, insect and bird habitats, water conservation, and pollution abatement. While these are all good reasons to grow native plants, they are not enough for most home gardeners or landscapers. Mainstreaming natives will continue to be an elusive goal for many growers and retailers if natives are not included in the discussion. **Allan Armitage** will illustrate the diversity of native material available to all segments of the industry and suggest that offering natives, if available, makes all natives more appealing, thus creating greater demand and more prominence in today's marketplace.

10:45 Refreshment Break

11:00 Concurrent Sessions — Select one among:

12:00 Lunch and Plant Sale

1:15 Think Outside the Pot!

Scott LaFleur will encourage us to re-think conventional container wisdom by demonstrating how to incorporate native plants into our container gardens. Learn how to create beautiful accent plantings for the landscape and simultaneously provide mini-sustainable habitats that provide food and pollination sources for birds, bees, and butterflies. Whether your space is a small city balcony or a large public garden, you can support local fauna with well-designed containers. Explore design elements, container and plant selection, and cultural requirements, just in time to plan your own container gardens.

2:15 Great Natives for Tough Places

Every garden has a challenging site where conventional solutions are more work than reward. In this lecture, **Cole Burrell** will help gardeners choose the best native plants that thrive in tough site conditions, from wet or compacted soil, to hot dry sites, and dense shade. Using nature as a model, he will explore the adaptations that allow native plants to cope with the toughest conditions Mother Nature can dish out. Burrell will demonstrate how to combine site-appropriate plants to fashion beautiful, reduced-maintenance, and ecologically sound plantings that benefit local and regional ecosystems.

3:30 Adjourn

A. Save the Neighborhood from Invaders - Be a SuperGardener!

Sylvan Kaufman will convince you that being a great gardener requires more than just a green thumb. A great gardener can make important contributions to the environment through informed plant choices and by being vigilant in looking for signs of problem plants, pests, and diseases. Our environment has been adversely altered by the introduction of certain garden plants and the accidental transport of pests and diseases. Learn what resources you can use to identify, control, and avoid invasive species and other threats. Discover amazing alternatives to invasive plants that can make your garden more than just a pretty face – make it a SuperGarden!

B. Plant Materials Center Tour

For nearly 75 years the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service's (NRCS) Plant Materials Program has been developing conservation practices to keep America's agricultural lands healthy and productive. While little known outside NRCS, Plant Materials Centers around the country, are developing wildflower propagation and restoration protocols, selecting native plants to diversify agricultural buffer zones, and seeking vegetative solutions for pollution abatement and storm water management. Plant Materials Centers have been at the forefront of conservation plant research since their establishment in 1939, leading America's efforts to restore agricultural land devastated by the Dust Bowl. Learn about the Plant Materials Program's rich history, research, and results while touring the National Plant Materials Center in Beltsville with manager **Jeremy West**.

C. The Joys of Moss

Starting a moss lawn is unlike most garden projects in that, after you prepare the site, you "invite" the moss into the garden and wait for it to arrive. Once it is established, you will enjoy a patch of luminous green growth that needs little maintenance, provides year-round beauty, and adds character elements such as tranquility and antiquity to your space. Learn what existing conditions make a site hospitable to mosses and then the steps and materials required to enhance the site. **Carole Ottesen** will also guide us in moss maintenance, plant sources, and companion plantings, including many woodland natives.

Directions and Map

Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC) Building #003
10300 Baltimore Blvd, Beltsville, MD 20705

Driving Directions

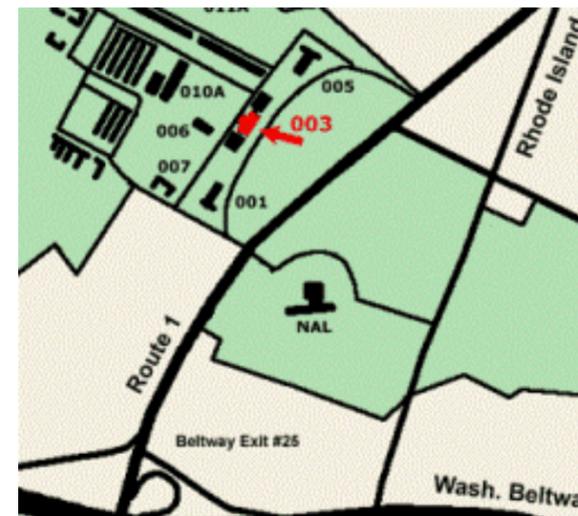
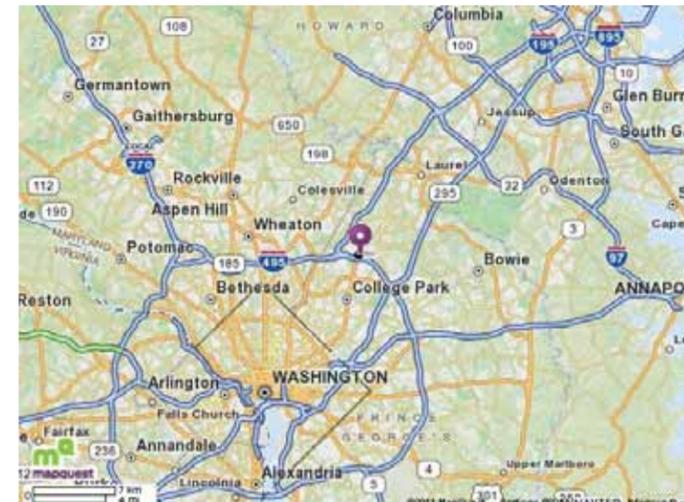
From the Capital Beltway (I-95/I-495), take EXIT 25 onto Route 1 North (Baltimore Avenue). Once on Route 1, take a left at the second light onto South Drive, directly across from the National Agricultural Library. Immediately turn right onto Circle Drive.

Public Transportation

Metro to College Park station and take Bus 86. Get off at Ikea Center Way. Walk 2 blocks north to BARC..

Free Parking

Parking is available along Circle Drive. If these spaces fill look for signs for additional parking.



Registration Form

Registration fee: \$89 (FONA members \$71)
Registration includes lunch.

To register: Register online with credit card or check at www.usna.usda.gov or send this form with check payable to the US National Arboretum:

3501 New York Ave. NE
Washington, DC 20002
Attn: Event Registration

NAME

AFFILIATION

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE

E-MAIL

Please select one concurrent session:

- A. SAVE THE NEIGHBORHOOD: BE A SUPERGARDENER**
- B. PLANT MATERIALS CENTER TOUR**
- C. THE JOYS OF MOSS**

Please check your lunch preference:

- Regular lunch**
- Vegetarian lunch**

All registrations will be confirmed by mail or e-mail. **Sorry, no cancellation refunds will be given after March 16, 2011.**

For more information please call 202-245-5898

Symposium proceeds support the Lahr Internship in the Fern Valley Native Plant Collection

Friends of the National Arboretum

Native Plant Sale

Opens to Lahr registrants at 8:30 am.

Opens to the public at 9:30 am. Closes at 2:00 pm.

Many vendors accept cash and checks only.

A portion of the sale proceeds supports the Fern Valley Native Plant Collection