

Winter Symposium and 48th Annual CVNLA Short Course

In Pursuit of High-Performing Landscapes

Presented by Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, Central Virginia Nursery and Landscape Association,
and Virginia Cooperative Extension

Agenda, Thursday, February 16, 2017

Professional Development credit hours are indicated in green

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| 8:30 am | | Coffee and Registration |
| 8:45 | | Welcome and Opening Remarks |
| 9:00 | 1.0 | <i>The Mushroom Matrix: The Dark Matter that Binds Life</i>
Tradd Cotter, Mycologist
Join mushroom expert Tradd Cotter for a fascinating lecture on native plants and their fungal partners. In order to sustain life on this planet, a complex matrix of organisms has evolved to orchestrate the balance. Plants and fungi have merged and continue to unveil the benefits of collaborating with nature. We have a lot to learn from these relationships, and understanding the respect they have for each other can teach us more than just soil biology. Our native plant communities are communicating through their own internet, reaching out to other organisms to help repair the ecosystems that perpetuate life on this planet. |
| 10:00 | 1.0 | <i>Tree Skin: The Beauty of Tree Bark</i>
Alex Neimiera, Professor of Horticulture, Virginia Tech
Alex Niemiera presents the often overlooked and underappreciated aspects of tree bark. This 12-month per year tree aspect offers a wide array of colors and textures that are at the least interesting and at the most truly beautiful. Alex will present a palette of tree species that have showy bark and other aesthetic features that grace our landscapes. |
| 11:00-11:15 | | Break |
| 11:15 | .75 | <i>The Layered Garden</i>
David Culp, Plantsman, Author, Lecturer and Vice President Sales and Marketing Sunny Border Nurseries
David Culp shows us how to recreate the majestic display of his beloved two-acre Pennsylvania garden, Brandywine Cottage. The presentation contains a basic lesson in layering—how to choose the correct plants by understanding how they grow and change throughout the seasons, how to design a layered garden, and tips on maintaining it. To illustrate how layering works, David takes you on a virtual tour through each part of his celebrated garden. The lecture culminates with his signature plants for all four seasons. |
| 12:15 | | Lunch, Book Sales and Signings |
| 1:15 | 1.0 | <i>Knockout Natives: Choosing Superior Cultivars for Your Landscape</i> |

George Coombs, Research Horticulturist, Mt. Cuba Center

Mt. Cuba Center is a public garden that specializes in plants native to the eastern United States. As part of its mission to inspire and conserve, Mt. Cuba Center conducts native plant research in various forms. Join Research Horticulturist George Coombs as he details how Mt. Cuba selects and evaluates native plants for superior garden performance. This talk will pay special attention to their most recently completed trials on *Heuchera*, *Coreopsis*, *Monarda*, and *Baptisia*.

2:15

1.0 Trends in Horticulture

David Culp

Culp has his finger on the pulse of the nursery and horticulture industry, particularly perennial plants. Hear what he has to say about trends in planting styles, container gardening, green and other trending garden colors, native plants, naturalistic plantings and more

3:00

Break

3:15

1.0 Mycoremediation in the Landscape: Healing Soil, Water, and Ecosystems with Fungi

Tradd Cotter

Many species of fungi sweat powerful enzymes, or “chemical keys,” capable of molecular disassembly of complex molecules such as hydrocarbons, aromatic chlorinated compounds, and pesticides. A few species of fungi are also well adapted to filter, stun, and destroy pathogenic bacteria (such as those from pet and livestock waste). Learn how fungi perform these miraculous tasks and how to develop a living barrier or filtration system that is customized to fit your needs. Cotter will focus on biomass expansion, site engineering, and species of fungi that can be used for mycoremediation projects. He will also discuss using fungi for pest management, habitat restoration, and how to incorporate fungi into “mycoswales” or rain gardens to capture pollutants from site runoff.

4:00

Adjourn

Professional Development Training Hours (TO BE CONFIRMED)

Today’s program provides 5.75 hours of training credit, endorsed by the following organizations

Virginia Nursery and Landscape Association

Virginia Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners

American Society of Landscape Architects (confirmed)

Virginia Society of Landscape Designers

Virginia Nutrient Management Certified Planners

MAC-ISA

(Certified Arborist—3.75 / Municipal Specialist—3.75 / BCMA—Science—2 / BCMA—Practice—1.75)

North Carolina Board of Landscape Contractors (5L)