

SEEK GLOBAL INSPIRATION; GARDEN LOCALLY

WINTER SYMPOSIUM

53rd CVNLA SHORT COURSE AND PESTICIDE RECERTIFICATION

FEBRUARY 9, 10, 11, 2022

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11

8:55 AM

ZOOM WEBINAR OPENS

9 AM

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS

9:05 AM

THE RESILIENT PLANTING PARADIGM: STRONGER PLANTING COMMUNITIES AND CHANGING LANDSCAPE GOALS

Laura Hansplant, Principal, Studio Sustena, Philadelphia, PA

Creating resilient, lower maintenance planting requires reimagining our philosophical approach to landscape design. Laura identifies how we can take inspiration from green roof and meadow management principles to inform sustainable planting approaches throughout the built environment. This session uses lessons from the field to illustrate how we can envision a future less focused on weeding and more focused on dynamic plant communities.

Laura Hansplant is the Principal at Studio Sustena (formerly Roofmeadow), a full-service landscape architecture firm that focuses on resilient design on structure and at ground level. Her work integrates social spaces, rainwater systems and plant communities to create meaningful places where each element mutually supports the whole site. Born in Canada, Laura studied at the University of Toronto and the Pennsylvania State University, where she received a Master's in Landscape Architecture with a minor in ecology.

10:05 AM

BREAK

10:10 am

ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE "HANDS-ON"

Vikram Krishnamurthy, Executive Director, Delaware Center for Horticulture, Wilmington, DE

Horticulture and urban greening improve the quality of life for residents and provide many benefits, including opportunities for hands-on action related to climate change. In addition to ecological benefits such as improving air and water quality, supporting pollinators, and local food production, connecting with landscapes improves our mood, strengthens social bonds and can empower neighborhoods to make positive impacts. Join this session to learn how the Delaware Center for Horticulture in Wilmington, DE engages the local community in connecting hands-on experiences with climate change action.

Vikram Krishnamurthy has served as executive director of the Delaware Center for Horticulture (DCH) in Wilmington, Delaware since September 2015, after having previously served DCH as

tree program manager from 2002-2005. His current priorities for the organization include achieving certification for nonprofit standards of excellence, growth and expansion of DCH's award-winning Branches to Chances® job training and placement program, and developing new youth programming to support the national Seed Your Future initiative. Vikram represents DCH on numerous boards and work groups, including the Delaware Recycling Public Advisory Council, Delaware Coastal Zone Permit Act (offsets work group), and Wilmington Neighborhood Conservancy Land Bank. His professional affiliations include DE Alliance for Nonprofit Advancement and the American Public Gardens Association, where he founded the Emerging Professional section and its growing membership in 2011. Vikram got his start in horticulture in the late '90's with Elsie Katz (Landscapes by Design, Manakin-Sabot) and Colesville Nursery in Ashland. Vikram holds an A.A.S. in Horticulture Technology from J. Sergeant Reynolds Community College, and B.S. in Anthropology from James Madison University. Having grown up in Petersburg, he now lives with his wife Kate and their two children (son and daughter) in Wilmington, DE.

11:10 AM

BREAK

11:20 AM

NAVIGATING ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE DESIGN OF PUBLIC PLACES

Neal Beasley, RLA, Timmons Group, Richmond

Land development continues to encroach upon our natural environment, impacting it in arguably disastrous ways. However, development is a fact in our modern world and designers of the landscape, concerned with preserving habitat and green space, sometimes struggle navigating the needs of clients with the responsibilities of preserving and protecting natural habitats. On a micro level, this dichotomy presents challenges as well as opportunities. On a macro level, how do landscaping and arboriculture professionals respond to and address the scientific (and political) challenges of climate change. Beasley looks at various examples and products to add resilience and longevity to developments while protecting and/or creating green spaces that provide habitat, connections to the environment and potentially contribute to addressing the more global perspective on land use.

Neal Beasley is a licensed Landscape Architect in the Commonwealth of Virginia, ISA Certified Arborist and Virginia Certified Horticulturist with significant project management experience both in the field and as a design consultant. Neal brings years of field expertise into the design community through a broad range of planning and design skills. Currently, his focus is on designing sustainable and resilient landscapes navigating challenges and opportunities such as conservation of water resources and plantings without irrigation, the effect of ultra-urban site development yielding forest fragmentation and habitat loss, mitigating impacts from invasive plant species, protecting existing tree canopy and understanding how changes in our climate influence our design decisions.

12:20 PM

LUNCH BREAK

1:15 PM

BIOCHAR APPLICATIONS AND LIFECYCLE IN THE GREEN INDUSTRY

Dr. Chris Fields-Johnson, Mid-Atlantic Technical Advisor, Davey Institute

This presentation will explore some of the foundations and science of biochar, practical applications for using biochar, and the benefits of biochar throughout its full lifecycle in the green industry. Uses for soil compaction resilience, water quality improvement, carbon sequestration, and planting applications will be emphasized.

Dr. Chris Fields-Johnson is the Mid-Atlantic Technical Advisor for the Davey Institute. He provides training, technical support, and consulting for Davey operations in the region from New York City to Atlanta, to Charleston, West Virginia. Chris is a PhD graduate from Virginia Tech in soil science with backgrounds in traditional forestry, wildfire management, land reclamation, and silvopasture. He lives with his wife and two kids in Charlottesville, Virginia where he enjoys running, hiking, kayaking, and cycling.

2 PM

BREAK

2:20 PM

PLANNING FOR RESILIENT FORESTS

Karen E. Firehock, Executive Director, AICP

As the climate continues to be more and more difficult to predict, it's increasingly important to plan for resilient forest systems. Planning for resiliency helps ensure that decisions affecting our trees and forests are made with adaptation in mind. We can address many of our climate challenges by better utilizing trees as *green infrastructure*. Trees can be used as a key strategy for managing stormwater runoff, reducing severity of recurrent flooding and mitigating urban heating. Trees also create more liveable landscapes for both wildlife and people. However, using trees as green infrastructure requires thinking and planning differently. Learn about GIC's tree planning tools to assess if your community is best managing its forests and trending towards a more resilient future!

Ms. Firehock co-founded the national Green Infrastructure Center Inc. in 2007. The center maps, models and creates strategies to conserve or restore natural resources in both wild and urban landscapes. She has directed 50 green infrastructure planning projects, many of which focus on resiliency. Her national book, [Strategic Green Infrastructure Planning: A Multi-scale Approach](#) describes how to craft green infrastructure plans, and her most recent book [Green Infrastructure: Map and Plan the Natural World in GIS](#) details the steps to model natural resources for large landscapes. She has a B.S. in Natural Resources Management from UMD and a M.P. Urban and Environmental Planning from UVA. She is currently adjunct faculty at UVA's School of Architecture, teaching courses in planning and landscape architecture and she is also vice-chair of the Albemarle County Planning Commission. When she has free time, she is usually outdoors paddling down a river, hiking through a forest or digging in her garden.

3:20 PM

BREAK

3:30 PM

TAKING LANDSCAPES TO THE NEXT LEVEL: FROM LEVERAGING ECOSYSTEM SERVICES TO CHANGING CULTURAL NORMS

Kim Eierman, EcoBeneficial, LLC, New York, NY

With increasing development and diminishing natural areas, our landscapes have become the final frontier for environmental improvement. Learn the latest strategies to take any landscape to the next level. Enhancing biodiversity, emulating natural systems, leveraging ecosystem services, mitigating the impacts of climate change, storing more carbon, utilizing informed plant selection techniques, and using cues to care, are some of the strategies Kim Eierman will share.

Kim is the author of the new book, [The Pollinator Victory Garden: Win the War on Pollinator Decline with Ecological Gardening](#).

Kim Eierman is the Founder of EcoBeneficial LLC. She is an environmental horticulturist and ecological landscape designer specializing in native plants. Based in New York, Kim teaches at the New York Botanical Garden, Brooklyn Botanic Garden, The Native Plant Center, Rutgers Home Gardeners School and several other institutions. Kim is an active speaker nationwide on many ecological landscape topics, presenting for industry conferences, "green events," Master Gardener groups, garden clubs, nature centers, Audubon Society chapters, beekeeping groups, and other organizations interested in environmental improvements. Kim also provides horticultural consulting and landscape design to homeowners and commercial clients. In addition to being a Certified Horticulturist through the American Society for Horticultural Science, Kim is an Accredited Organic Landcare Professional, a Steering Committee member of The Native Plant Center, and a member of The Ecological Landscape Alliance and Garden Communicators International.

4:30 PM

ADJOURN

Continuing Education hours can be self-reported for: Master Gardeners, Master Naturalists, Landscape Designers

Continuing Education hours are pending for: CVNLA, VNLA, Virginia Certified Horticulturist, Chesapeake Bay Landscape Professional and Certified Arborists.