

**Third Annual Conference Sponsored by
The Native Plant Center at Westchester Community College and
New Directions in the American Landscape**

Westchester Community College, 75 Grasslands Road, Valhalla, NY

Nature in the Suburbs: Ecology for Designers and Planners

Friday, March 17, 2006 (Snow date: Monday, March 20, same time, same place)

Landscape practices that enhance the biodiversity of suburban properties can significantly contribute to the health of our environment, creating havens for people *and* wildlife. Our speakers will make a case for the importance of suburban habitat, and show how to design properties that are attractive to wildlife, yet address the practical needs and aesthetic sensibilities of your clients.

Registration and Continental breakfast 8:30—9 am

Welcome and introduction (9 – 9:15)

Rationale: Creating Habitat in Suburbia (9:15 – 10:15)

Dr. Douglas Tallamy

This presentation will focus on biodiversity: why we need it, why we need to redesign suburbia to save it, why it depends on native plants and what the suburban ecosystem should look like. By designing with native species, we can truly nourish our local biodiversity.

Foundation: Understanding the Ecology of Your Area (10:15 – 11:15)

Dr. Steven Clements

Landscapes that occur naturally develop in specific compositions, patterns and sequences. In this presentation, ecologist Steven Clements will explore these characteristics, and illustrate how native plant communities can serve as design models for landscaped gardens.

15 minute Coffee Break

Application: Ecology and Design -- Panel Discussion (11:30-12:30)

Larry Weaner, Doug Tallamy, Steven Clements Moderator: Brooke Beebe

Larry Weaner will sum up the design implications of the presentations with some practical solutions he has initiated in his own design practice. The speakers will answer questions from the audience.

Lunch with the speakers and Native Plant Center staff will be offered as an option at 1 PM.

Fees:

Conference Fee (includes continental breakfast) \$73 non-member, \$67 NPC member

Conference Fee with lunch \$88 non-member, \$82 NPC member

Continuing Education Units (CEU)

Receipt for Conference will be available at registration desk.

Nature in the Suburbs**Speaker Profiles**

Dr. Douglas Tallamy is a Professor and Chair of the Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology, University of Delaware, where he has conducted research on plant/insect interactions since 1981. Doug received his Masters degree from Rutgers University and his PhD from the University of Maryland. His experience with insect behavior has led to his current interest in how alien plants are reducing food required by birds and other animals for reproduction

Dr. Steven Clemants is Vice President of Science at Brooklyn Botanic Garden where he has worked for the past 16 years. He is also Co-director of the Center for Urban Restoration Ecology, President of Nature Network and Chair of the Invasive Plant Council of New York State. He has been studying the plants of New York for the past 20 years.

Larry Weaner is principal of Larry Weaner Landscape Design, a firm specializing in the design of native landscape gardens. He also is past board member and environmental committee chair of the Association of Professional Landscape Designers and founded the New Directions in the American Landscape conference series.

About the Sponsors

The Native Plant Center was established by the Westchester Community College Foundation on the grounds of the College in 1998 to educate individuals on the importance of wildflowers and native plants of the Northeast. As the first national affiliate of the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center in Austin, Texas, the Center builds on the work begun by the former First Lady to preserve the natural landscape of America. The Center serves as a community resource where information is shared on choosing, growing, and maintaining native plants. This past year, the Center opened the Valhalla campus's second demonstration garden, hosted nationally-known speakers, and held annual events including the highly successful plant sale and the fourth annual art exhibition. Our mission is to educate people about the environmental necessity, economic value and natural beauty of native plants.

New Directions in the American Landscape organizes conferences which educate professionals about native/natural landscaping. NDAL has co-sponsored Landscape Design Symposia with the Connecticut College Arboretum and the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania for 16 years. The NDAL is a not for profit organization.

To register:

Print the following form and mail to:

The Native Plant Center, 75 Grasslands Road, Valhalla, NY 19595

OR

Fax form to The Native Plant Center office at (914) 606-6143

OR

E-mail your registration to wcc.nativeplant@sunywcc.edu BUT call in your credit card number (914) 606-7870 as this is **not** a secure site.

Questions: Leave message and phone number at (914) 606-7870

Name _____

Street _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Day phone _____

E-Mail _____

(Registration confirmation will be e-mailed to you.)

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Conference Fee with lunch \$88 non-member, \$82 NPC member

Please make checks payable to WCC Foundation

_____ I wish to pay by credit card (Visa/MC only)

Card # _____

Exp. Date _____

Card Holder's Name _____

Card Holder's Signature _____

Additional Registrants' Name (s) _____

Address (s) and e-mail _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____