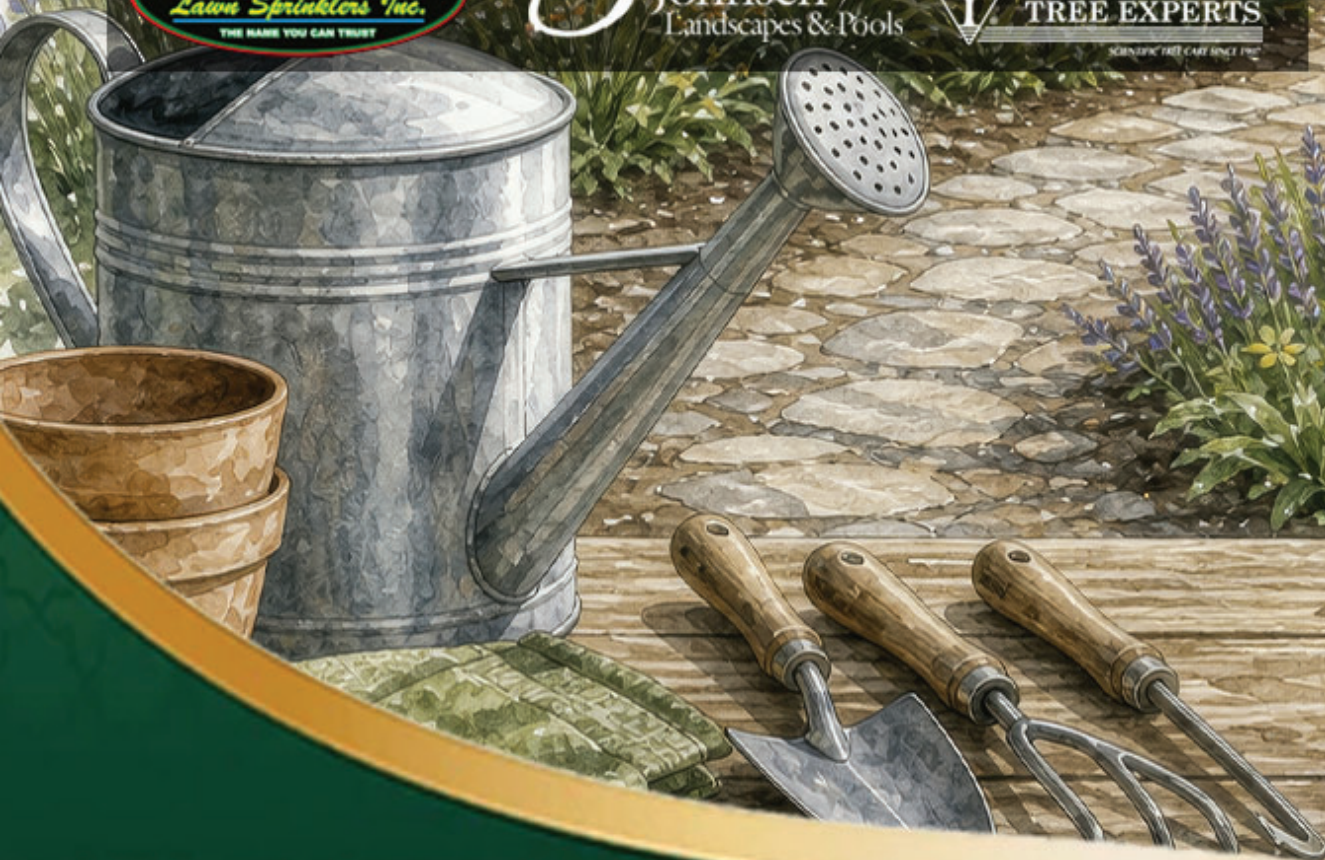


Westchester Garden & Landscape Show



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Event Program Guide

 **8 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.:**
Sign In, Vendors, Coffee

 **8:15 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.:**
Plant Health Care Field Walk

Speakers: Trevor Hall, Bartlett Tree Experts & Don Gabel, former Director of Plant Health at NYBG

Location: Starts in Conservatory Plaza

Join the experts for a lively discussion and field walk on tree and shrub health issues they find in the Lasdon Public Gardens collections. Topics include improving plant health by cutting girdling roots, proper planting depth, pruning for tree structure. IPM best management practices for pests and diseases for hemlock wooly adelgid, beech leaf disease, fruit orchard care, needle casts and anything else we find along the way!

CREDITS: NYS DEC: 0.5 (cat.3a,2); ISA, LA-HSW 1hr; ISA and NY-CNLP (pending)

 **9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.:**
Morning Plenary Panel Discussion

From the Ground Up: Bridging Tradition and Climate Innovation in Westchester's Landscapes

Speakers: Bram Gunther, PlanItWild

David M. Lowrey, North Castle Landscaping & Tree Service Inc

Rebecca Cittadini, Ecological Restorations LLC

Max Buckland, Three Birch Gardens

Tom Lewis, Trillium Invasive Species Management

Nelson Munoz, Cultural Lawns LLC

Trevor Hall, Bartlett Tree Experts

Location: Conservatory Tent

Description: How do we preserve the timeless aesthetic of Westchester's classic backyards while adapting to a rapidly shifting climate? Our opening plenary brings together a diverse panel of the region's leading green-industry minds. We will pair seasoned NYSTLA landscapers who have spent decades mastering our local soils with newer businesses pioneering climate-forward business models—from native-only designs to battery-powered, zero-emission crews. Join us for a candid conversation about what it takes to stay resilient, how shifting weather patterns are changing the services you need, best IPM practices, and how old-school wisdom and modern sustainability are teaming up to build the future of our local environment.

 **10:45 a.m. - 11:45 p.m.: Concurrent Sessions**

1. Best Management Practices for Westchester's Most Difficult Invasive Plants

Speaker: Tom Lewis, Trillium ISM and Budd Veverka, Mianus River Gorge Preserve

Location: Conservatory Tent and Walking Tour

Description: Join ecological restoration experts from the Lower Hudson Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (LHPRISM) for an educational field walk tackling Westchester's most persistent invasive plants. Explore real-world infestations—from porcelain berry and mugwort and mile-a-minute—while evaluating site-specific management strategies on the ground. Discover environmentally responsible control techniques, including mechanical removal, strategic timing, chemical (for licensed pesticide applicators) and non-chemical practices designed to prevent re-infestation and boost native biodiversity. Perfect for landscape professionals and dedicated homeowners seeking practical, actionable solutions to reclaim landscapes and safeguard local habitats.

CREDITS: NYS DEC: 0.75 (cat 3a,2); LA-HSW 1hr; ISA and NY-CNLP (pending)

2. Creating a Pollinator Victory Garden

Speaker: Kim Eierman, EcoBeneficial

Location: Main House Living Room

Description: Countless pollinator species have suffered dramatic declines in recent years. It's a serious problem for all of us since pollinators are responsible for the reproduction of 80% of all flowering plants, and at least 30% of the food that we eat. Unfortunately, most of our landscapes offer little in the way of appropriate habitat and forage for these essential animals. With simple strategies, you can attract and support not just bees, but an array of pollinators that have different requirements. Learn best practices for pollinators from the author of The Pollinator Victory Garden: Win the War on Pollinator Decline with Ecological Gardening.

CREDITS: LA-HSW 1hr, ISA, NY-CNLP (pending)

3. Caring for Trees in Turf

Speaker: Kathleen Strahan, CCE Westchester

Location: Conservatory Tent

Description: Often tree and turf cultural needs are conflicting in the landscape causing one or the other to suffer. Catch up on cultural tactics that can be used to keep both

trees and turf healthy. Health plants reduce the need for fertilizer and pesticide use.

This talk will cover the idea of right plant, right place and how best management practices with mulch, watering techniques and fertilizing can help keep your overall landscape free from stress. Cornell Cooperative Extension is at the forefront of insects and diseases commonly seen in Westchester County often popping up when trees are planted and cared for improperly. This talk will demystify causal agents, symptoms and conventional treatments through an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) lens.

CREDITS: NYS DEC: 0.5 (cat.3a,2); ISA, LA-HSW 1hr; ISA and NY-CNLP (pending)

 12:15 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.:

VENDOR SHOWCASE / LUNCH BREAK

Location: Conservatory Plaza, Conservatory, Tent

Description: Take a break, enjoy some local food from our selection of food trucks, and take in the scenery of Lasdon's Conservatory Plaza.

 1:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.: *Concurrent Sessions*

1. Unlock Your Yard's Full Potential with the Wildr App

Speaker: Bram Gunther, Wildr Places, Plan It Wild

Location: Main House Living Room

Description: Are you ready to transform ordinary lawns into thriving, biodiverse havens? Join us for an engaging, hands-on workshop exploring the Wildr App by Plan it Wild—a science-backed platform designed to empower both homeowners and landscape professionals to measure, manage, and restore outdoor spaces.

Every rewilding journey starts with a baseline. In this interactive session, you will discover how to evaluate any property's ecological health using the Wildr Score™, a free 5-minute assessment rooted in science. Developed alongside leading academic advisors, the Wildr algorithm evaluates four core pillars: ecosystem services, native plant diversity, wildlife presence, and sustainable land management practices.

Whether you are a homeowner seeking to bring pollinators to your yard or a landscape professional aiming to offer data-driven ecological restoration to clients, this workshop provides practical tools, actionable rewilding insights and a clear roadmap to restore local biodiversity—one yard at a time.

CREDITS: ISA, NY-CNLP (pending)

2. Treating Trees for Invasive Pests and Diseases

Speaker: Don Gabel and Michael Formichelli

Location: Main House Living Room

Description: Our trees are constantly under attack from aggressive invasive threats—from Beech Leaf Disease and Hemlock Woolly Adelgid to Emerald Ash Borer and the Spotted Lanternfly. Protecting trees today requires more than just reactive care; it demands a proactive, science-backed approach. This presentation will cover practical strategies for protecting your trees, cover key symptoms of common regional threats, how tree risk assessments work, and the latest treatment techniques available to safeguard your landscape.

CREDITS: NYS-DEC 1.0 (cat 3a, 2); LA-HSW 1hr; ISA and NY-CNLP (pending)

 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.: *Concurrent Sessions*

1. Beneath the Surface: Airspading and Root Invigoration Demonstration

Speaker: Trevor Hall, Bartlett Tree Experts

Location: Arboretum Location TBD

Description: Join certified arborists for an interactive field demonstration on non-invasive root care and soil health. Perfect for homeowners and landscape professionals, this event reveals how compressed-air technology safely decompacts soil without harming delicate root systems. LIVE AIRSPADING: Watch high-velocity air safely expose roots and remediate buried root collars.

ROOT INVIGORATION: Discover how mixing compost, biochar, and mycorrhizae into decompacted soil boosts tree vitality.

EXPERT INSIGHTS: Diagnose stem-girdling roots and protect mature trees during landscaping projects.

Whether a Homeowner or Landscape Professional, you will leave with practical strategies to alleviate soil compaction and preserve tree health from the ground up.

CREDITS: ISA, NY-CNLP (pending)

2. Tour Horticulture Research at Lasdon Public Gardens: Roses, Hemlocks, Chestnuts and Oaks

Speaker: Jess Schuler, Lasdon Public Gardens

Location: Starts in Conservatory Plaza

Description: The foundation of the Lasdon Public Gardens living collections started with plant research and interests of the late Dr. Craig Hibben, Chairman of Research at the Brooklyn Botanical Gardens Research Center at Kitchawan. Still present today are the yellow magnolias in the Magnolia Collection, the entire Lilac Collection, and the Chestnut Orchard. Research partnerships have developed over time with organizations like the American Chestnut Foundation, SUNY ESF, The US Forest Service, The Urban Forestry Program at UMASS Amherst, and American Rose Trials for Sustainability.

This walking tour will cover the 4 key research collections present at Lasdon Public Gardens today that are asking

important questions to complex horticultural concerns including pests, diseases, and climate change for Roses, Hemlocks, Chestnuts and Oaks.

CREDITS: NYS DEC: 0.75 (cat.3a,2); ISA, NY-CNL

3. What does the Birds & Bees Protection Act mean for soil insect management in turfgrass?

Speaker: Kyle Wickings, Cornell University

Location: Conservatory Tent

Description: As New York phases out neonicotinoid insecticides under the Birds & Bees Protection Act, turfgrass managers face a shifting landscape for pest control. This session explores the law's timelines, major affected pests, and key exemptions. While also delving into recent research from the Wickings Lab on viable alternative management tools. Learn why biological and biocontrol products often fail in the field—and how to maximize their success. Finally, we will examine alternative systemic insecticides, application timing, and innovative cultural strategies like aerification to monitor and manage white grubs without neonicotinoids.

CREDITS: NYS DEC: .75 (cat 3a,2); ISA, NY-CNL (pending)

3:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.: Dedication and Memorial Tree Planting for Joe Tinelli

Speaker: Amy MacKenzie, NYS DEC Region 3 Forester

Location: Arboretum Location TBD

Description: The Westchester Garden & Landscape Show was a vision of Joe Tinelli who always strived for providing the best education opportunities for the members of NYSTLA. Partnering with Lasdon Public Gardens brings new programs to Northern Westchester and an opportunity to expand our reach across the county. This memorial tree is dedicated to Joe's 40 years of commitment to the board and membership of NYSTLA.

In addition to being a memorial tree, this will be a planting demonstration that will cover proper planting depth of either a containerized or balled and burlap tree, soil amendments, staking, proper mulching techniques and watering. We will also add this tree to the 25 million tree tracker for New York State.

4:00 p.m.: Event Concludes

WESTCHESTER GARDEN & LANDSCAPE SHOW

Ongoing Activities

8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Vendor Showcase speak to your local arborist, shop plants and services from local nurseries, purchase tools and gardening supplies, and more!

Bartlett Tree Experts tree giveaways while supplies last

Valley View Greenhouses seasonal plants

Katonah Nursery garden design, installation and plants

Toolnut for all your tool needs

Mill River Supply for all your gardening supply needs

Community Partners from pollinators to native plants, invasive species management and gardening within a watershed.

Cornell Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners

Ecobeneficial - Pollinator Victory Garden book sales and signing

Healthy Yards - sustainable gardening tips

Activities

A Plant Story: From Fern to Flower (Conservatory)

Evolution: 250 years of Military Gear (Veterans Museum)

Explore 30 gardens and collections
Family Friendly Activities in the Welcome Center

September is *Parks for Pollinators Bioblitz Month*. Join LPG Educators for themed activities and scavenger hunt collect observations for the bioblitz.



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