Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group's 2022 Virtual Symposium
Strategies for Managing Invasive Plants: Assess, Remove, Replace, and Restore

Program Overview

Thursday, November 3, 2022

8:30 Check-in: Please log in no later than 8:50

9:00 Greetings and Orientation

9:10 Keynote Talk: *Invasive Plant Management*
What We Know, What We Do Not Know, and What We Must Know

10:05 BREAK *and view invasive plant videos*

10:15 Morning Session

11:15 Concurrent Sessions 1 & 2

12:30 LUNCH *and view invasive plant videos*

12:50 Leslie J. Mehrhoff Award

1:00 General Remarks

1:10 Concurrent Sessions 3 & 4

2:25 BREAK *and view invasive plant videos*

2:35 Concurrent Sessions 5 & 6

3:50 Closing Remarks

4:00 Adjournment
(NOTE: watch for an email with links to evaluation form and the full symposium recording)

Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group's 2022 Virtual Symposium
Strategies for Managing Invasive Plants: Assess, Remove, Replace, and Restore

Detailed Program

Thursday, November 3, 2022

8:30 Check-in: Please log in no later than 8:50

9:00 Greetings and Orientation: Emmett Varricchio, Victoria Wallace, Rose Hiskes CIPWG Co-Chairs

9:10 Keynote Talk: Bernd Blossey, Cornell University
Invasive Plant Management: What We Know, What We Do Not Know, and What We Must Know

Moderator: Emmett Varricchio, Co-Chair CIPWG

Abstract: Invasive plant control often occurs on public lands and with public funding. But public support for many routine management methods is tenuous and controversies are common. This may involve the target species, or management methods, including chemical or biological means. The reasons underlying many of these controversies are elusive, and mostly speculative. Part of the reason for this tenuous public support may be lack of evidence for the impacts of both the introduced plants, and of the chosen management methods. Impacts are often assumed based on simple presence or abundance on introduced species, but we need to have better evidence for impacts, both of the introduced species and of the methods that managers typically apply. But such evidence is rarely collected or made publicly available if it does exist. I will use examples to illustrate these tensions with work we are conducting on water chestnut, purple loosestrife, invasive Phragmites, Japanese knotweed and garlic mustard using both social (some) and ecological (many) examples. Part of the talk will provide quick updates on the status of biological control of these species and the development of assessment metrics.

Biography: Bernd Blossey was raised in northern Germany before moving to Cornell University in 1992, where he is a professor directing the Ecology and Management of Invasive Plants Program in the Department of Natural Resources. Bernd develops and implements biological weed control programs targeting species including purple loosestrife, garlic mustard, water chestnut, Japanese knotweeds and invasive *Phragmites*. An ever increasing focus of his team are investigations into impacts of multiple "stressors" including invasive and native plants, earthworms, slugs, and deer on a wide range of native organisms. He is intimately involved in different approaches to deer management at Cornell and in the surrounding municipalities to improves conservation values of all lands.

10:15 Morning Session

Moderator: Charlotte Pyle

Online Tools and Apps for Identifying and Reporting Invasive Plants

Speaker: Bryan Connolly, Assistant Professor, Biology, Eastern Connecticut State University

Abstract: This talk will be a summary of different online tools/Apps and resources that can be used to help identify, report, and understand the distribution of invasive plants in Connecticut. The major resources that will be discussed in this talk are Go Botany, iNaturalist, and the Consortium of Northeast Herbaria Portal.

Biography: Bryan Connolly is a botanist and horticulturalist with a PhD from UConn. His research interests include the plants of New England, the nightshade family, the rose family, and CBD Cannabis. He is currently an assistant professor at Eastern Connecticut State University. Professor Connolly was previously a faculty member at Framingham State University in Massachusetts and worked for the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife as the Massachusetts State Botanist.

Requirements for Pesticide Applications on Conservation Lands

Speaker: Diane Jorsey, Supervisor, CT DEEP (Department of Energy and Environmental Protection) Pesticide Program

Abstract: Today's talk will cover pesticide registration and classification; requirements for certification and aquatic permitting; items to consider and deal with prior to pesticide application; and legal requirements associated with pesticide use on conservation and municipal properties.

Biography: Diane Jorsey has been with Connecticut DEEP for almost 30 years and is the Supervisor of the Pesticide Management Program. The Program is responsible for the administration of pesticide and arborist certification and business registration, state registration, aquatic permitting, inspection and enforcement of pesticide laws.

11:15 Concurrent Sessions 1 & 2:

Session 1 – Assessing the Land: Case Studies on What Works

Moderator: Pete Picone

Speakers: Stefan Martin, CT Audubon Society; **David Beers**, CT DEEP, **Jessica Toro** Native Habitat Restoration

A) Managing Invasive Plant Species in a Coastal Environment and Planning for the Future Large Scale Management

Speaker: Stefan Martin, Habitat Steward, CT Audubon Society

Abstract: There are many variables when managing land, but coastal habitats are at the frontline when it comes to climate change and invasive plants. Learn about the important work being done at Milford Point and how The Connecticut Audubon Society is managing this critical habitat for migratory birds and biodiversity.

Biography: Stefan Martin brings a depth of environmental and birding knowledge from a wide variety of experiences to our sanctuary management team. He began his conservation career with Audubon Connecticut (National Audubon) as a part time steward for Audubon Greenwich. He served as seasonal land steward at Stratford Point during a time of much improved habitat management at this spectacular sanctuary immediately prior to coming to Connecticut Audubon. He is a past board member of the Connecticut Ornithological Association and is vice president the Connecticut Butterfly Association. Stefan is well-known and respected in birding and butterfly communities. A certified Master Gardener, Stefan also has extensive knowledge of both native and invasive plant life. His current role involves habitat restoration and enhancement to sanctuary properties with a focus on increasing biodiversity. He also leads guided bird walks and is actively contributing to eBird. Stefan joined the Connecticut Audubon Society staff in 2018.

B) Using Mapping Apps to Track and Map Invasive Plant Removal

Speaker: David Beers, State Service Forester – Western District, Division of Forestry, DEEP CT

Abstract: Instruction and demonstration of how to map features in the field with your phone using the Avenza App. Learn how to layout treatment areas and then track your work progress with your phone. This talk will include creating maps, downloading maps, tracking, waypoints, photo waypoints, locating, gridding, navigating, geofences and route mapping. You will be amazed what you can do with your phone.

Biography: David Beers is the State Service Forester for Western Connecticut, where he provides forestry advice and assistance to private and municipal owners of forestland. Prior to that, he worked as a consulting forester in western Connecticut for 22 years. Since he started offering the phone mapping workshop two years ago, he has seen quite a demand for learning phone mapping.

C) How to Assess Property for Successful Invasive Plant Removal

Speaker: Jessica Toro, Native Habitat Restoration

Abstract: Jessica Toro and Sari Hoy created Native Habitat Restoration to help landowners, conservation organizations and municipal agencies remove invasive plant species from sensitive environments and landscapes, and restore the diversity and function of native habitats. The talk will cover how to assess land and plan for removing invasive plants.

Biography: Jess Toro is Co-Owner of Native Habitat Restoration, a female owned business that works in 4 states. She has designed and implemented many invasive control and restoration efforts over the past 25 years. At Native Habitat Restoration, Jess designs the restoration of floodplain forests, woodlands, and riparian areas as well as specializes in projects to improve rare wetlands and critical habitat for federally listed species. Most projects that Native Habitat Restoration implements focuses invasive species management on federal, state, municipal and private lands throughout the Northeast. Jess is a Conservation Network Coach who facilitates the Conservation Action Planning and Open Standards process for conservation projects around the world. She is trained to incorporate climate change projections into conservation planning.

Session 2 – ***Managing in Your Backyard: Failures and Successes***

Moderator: Todd Mervosh

Speakers: Kathleen Nelson, Mad Gardeners; **Kathleen Connolly**, Speaking of Landscapes, LLC, **Zachary Donais** CT DEEP

A) Managing Mile-a-Minute in One Hundred Backyards: A Case Study

Speaker: Kathleen Nelson, Mad Gardeners

Abstract: It all began when Mile-a-Minute vine (*Polygonum perfoliatum*, aka *Persicaria perfoliata*, AKA MAM) was spotted by biologist Elizabeth Corrigan alongside a highway in Bridgewater CT. Betsy and others began assessing the population and removing the plants. Soon the project grew to involve grant writing and college student interns. For seven years a small crew searched and pulled, mostly in New Milford, Bridgewater, and Roxbury CT, learning a great deal about the personality of MAM, how it spreads, and how to control it. We learned where MAM is easy to control and where it may be impossible. This is our story.

Biography: Kathleen Nelson is a biologist, gardener, former teacher, and former owner of a small perennial plant nursery. Her awareness of invasive plants began in 1988 while walking properties as a member of the New Milford Inland Wetlands Commission. From 2007 – 2013, with help from Betsy Corrigan, Mad Gardeners, Inc, local organizations and many generous individuals, she coordinated a Mile-a-Minute Vine control project in New Milford, Bridgewater, and Roxbury CT. Each year she and a small crew of college student interns pulled pretty much all the MAM on over 100 properties. She and other volunteers continue to manage MAM on local land trust properties.

B) Managing Invasive Plants at Home: Details That Make a Difference

Speaker: Kathleen Connolly, Landscape Designer, Speaking of Landscapes LLC

Abstract: How do homeowners invite invasive plants into their landscapes? And why are they so hard to remove once they've arrived? Details make a difference. Kathy Connolly will offer some of the "fine points" she's learned (usually, the hard way) in working with invasive plants on private and public landscapes.

Biography: Kathleen Connolly is a landscape designer who specializes in naturalized designs, low-impact techniques, and native plants for homeowners, municipalities, and other organizations. A graduate of the Conway School of Landscape Design, she is also a columnist for The Day newspapers and media, which circulates throughout

southeastern Connecticut. She gives talks on land care and horticulture for organizations throughout southern New England. Connolly has a master's degree in landscape planning and design from the Conway School. She completed UConn's advanced master gardener program and is an Accredited Organic Land Care Professional through NOFA. She is on the management committee for The Preserve State Forest in Old Saybrook, CT, her hometown.

C) When is a licensed professional applicator the best option for invasive plant removal?

Speaker: Zachary Donais, CT DEEP

Abstract: There are many things to consider when making a pesticide application, including whether to make the application yourself or hire someone. In this talk, we will go over the reasons to hire a certified applicator and how to make sure they are properly licensed.

Biography: Zachary Donais obtained his bachelor's degree in environmental science and resource economics along with his master's degree in plant science, with a focus on entomology, both from UConn. Zach has been with DEEP pesticide management for 4 years where his focus is enforcement, but he does a little bit in all program areas.

12:30 LUNCH: View invasive plant videos

12:50 Leslie J. Mehrhoff Award: Presented by Jessie Mehrhoff

1:00 General Remarks:

Speaker: Dr. Indrajeet Chaubey, Dean, UConn CAHNR

Biography: Dr. Indrajeet Chaubey was appointed Dean of CAHNR at UConn on March 1, 2019. He also serves as the Director of the Connecticut Cooperative Extension System and the Storrs Experiment Station. He came to UConn from Purdue University where he enjoyed a distinguished career in teaching, research, and administration for more than 12 years. Chaubey was named a fellow by the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers in 2017. He earned his doctoral degree in biosystems engineering from Oklahoma State University and a master's degree from the University of Arkansas. His undergraduate degree is from the University of Allahabad in India.

1:10 Concurrent Sessions 3 & 4

Session 3 – What's Working Around the State

Moderator: Joshua Tracy

Speakers: Peter Picone, CT DEEP; **Charles Stebbins**, CT Audubon & Aspetuck Land Trust; **Joshua Tracy**, So. Central CT Water Authority

A) Management Tactics: Targeting Tree-of-Heaven and Getting Good Results

Speaker: Peter (Pete) Picone, CT DEEP Wildlife Division

Abstract: Invasive non-native Tree-of-Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) can be found growing throughout Connecticut. It is a fast growing invasive tree that outcompetes native flora and is a host plant for the invasive Spotted Lantern Fly. It has the ability to dominate a site once established and can spread through rhizomes/runner and by seed (female trees). I have successfully removed large patches Tree-of-Heaven from the Housatonic River Wildlife Management Area (556 acres) using mechanical (chainsaw/drum-chop mowing) and chemical treatments (Triclopyr-based herbicides). I will discuss the techniques used in managing Tree-of-Heaven and the value of targeting this invasive species to maintain native plant communities.

Biography: Peter (Pete) Picone DEEP Wildlife Biologist, Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, Wildlife Division, Sessions Woods Wildlife Management Area, Burlington, CT. Pete provides technical assistance in

enhancement of wildlife habitat; specializing in the use of native plants and managing invasive non-natives; oversees/directs management of western district state land wildlife management areas in habitat and wildlife management; provides technical assistance to private and municipal land managers; member of the Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group steering committee; member the Board of Directors of Quinnipiac River Watershed Association; member of the CT Envirothon Steering Committee; owner and habitat manager of Charter Oak Tree Farm.

B) Tactics That Work at Smith Richardson Preserve

Speaker: Charles Stebbins, CT Audubon Steward, Audubon Society, Fairfield, CT

Abstract: Connecticut Audubon Steward and Aspetuck Land Trust member Charles Stebbins will share the amazing story of Audubon's Smith Richardson Preserve in Westport. This is one of the few places in Connecticut where visitors can see a significant habitat restoration project while it is in progress.

Biography: Charles Stebbins graduated Yale University (Magna Cum Laude) in 1979, and received an MBA from UPenn/Wharton School in 1984. He worked at JPMorgan Bank for 35 years, first heading the Public Finance Pension practice, then as Managing Director. Prior to this, he worked at Booz Allen Hamilton Consultants honing his project management skills. Charlie has served on the Board of NY and CT Heart Association and the Board of Connecticut Audubon Society. Currently he serves on two boards for the Oak Lawn Cemetery, and on the Memorial Garden Committee for the Greenfield Hill Congregational Church. He is a founding and funding member of Aspetuck Land Trust's Trout Brook Sanctuary.

C) Management Strategies for Treating Invasive Species on Regional Water Property

Speaker: Joshua Tracy Invasive Species Management Technician, South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority Regional Water Authority, CIPWG Member

Abstract: Regional Water Authority's Invasive Species Management Technician, Joshua Tracy, will speak about documenting and treating invasive species on 27,000 acres of watershed property in New Haven County.

Biography: Joshua Tracy earned his B.S. in 2014 from the University of Connecticut on a presidential scholarship in natural resources, concentrating in water resources and climate. From 2018 to present, he has been the invasive species management technician for the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority (RWA), and a licensed forester in the state of Connecticut. From 2014-2017, he worked for Connecticut's DEEP wildlife division trapping and carrying out research on the New England cottontail. From 2017-2018 he worked as a technician for the RWA alongside the forester performing timber harvests and GIS/ cartographic related work.

Session 4 – Limitations: Legal and Practical

Moderator: David Laiuppa

Speakers: Rob Topliff, Manchester Parks & Recreation; **Darcy Winther, Brian Golembiewski, Harry Yamalis**, CT DEEP

A) Disposal of Invasive Plants

Speaker: Rob Topliff, Facilities Manager, Manchester Parks & Recreation

Abstract: Disposal of invasive plants can be complicated depending on the different plant types. Discussion about best practices to prepare for disposal at the town landfill.

Biography: Rob Topliff is the Parks and Recreation Facilities Manager for the Town of Manchester, CT. Rob manages the care and maintenance of 25 parks totaling approximately 685 acres. Over his 29 years in the field Rob has been certified with National Recreation and Parks Association and the Connecticut Recreation and Parks Association as well a member of CT Parks Association, the New England Park Association, and the Tree Warden Association of

Connecticut. In 2021 Rob was a lead contributor to the Town of Manchester's recent Parks and Recreation Master Plan that includes a focus on trails and connectivity and park and facility assessments. In 2014 Rob was featured in Parks and Rec Business Magazine for his work on a smart phone app that featured interactive Manchester trail maps with GPS capabilities.

B) Legal and Practical Limitations Working in Wetland Areas and Dealing with Agencies at Different Levels

Speakers: Darcy Winther, DEEP Inland Wetlands Management Program & **Harry Yamalis**, DEEP Land and Water Resources Division, **Brian Golembiewski**,

Abstract: The local land trust has planned a workday to remove invasives from a popular conservation area. The work will occur in or around wetlands. Do you need a permit and from whom? How do Connecticut's Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Act (IWWA) and Tidal Wetlands Act (TWA) address these types of activities? DEEP staff will examine the IWWA and TWA as they relate to invasive plant control, will look at other potential regulatory programs such as Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and DEEP Coastal Consistency Review, and will discuss DEEP's tidal marsh management and best management practices.

Biography: Darcy Winther, Environmental Analyst, DEEP Inland Wetlands Management Program, Land and Water Resources Division. Since 1996, Darcy has been guiding municipal inland wetlands agencies, professionals, and citizens in the administration of Connecticut's Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Act, and the functions and values of inland wetland and watercourse resources. Darcy's 30+ year career with DEP/DEEP has included positions as a research assistant with the wildlife division, a department legislative assistant, and an environmental analyst with the rivers management program. She has worked with local, state, federal, and nonprofit partners, and is familiar with a variety of regulatory and conservation programs. This diverse background has allowed her to effectively assist municipal inland wetlands agencies as they navigate their regulatory responsibilities. Darcy attended the University of New Hampshire where she earned a degree in zoology with an emphasis on environmental conservation and water resources. She also earned the New England Regional Soil Science Certificate from the University of Massachusetts. Away from DEEP, Darcy continues her environmental advocacy as an outdoor educator at a nature center, teaching children and caring for the center's farm.

Biography: Brian Golembiewski, Supervising Environmental Analyst, LWRD Enforcement Section/DEEP - 31+ year DEEP employee with substantial experience in coastal and inland water resources enforcement and permitting. Trained as a Soil and Wetland Scientist. B.S. in Biological Sciences from UConn.

Biography: Harry Yamalis is an Environmental Analyst 3 with CTDEEP's Land and Water Resources Division. Harry's been with the Department for 22 years and has served as the Coastal Habitat Restoration Coordinator for the majority of that time. For just about as long, Harry also has been a co-chair of the Long Island Sound Study National Estuary Program's Habitat Restoration and Stewardship Workgroup. Harry attended the University of North Carolina at Wilmington where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Marine Biology, followed by a Master of Science degree in Biological Oceanography from the Florida Institute of Technology.

2:25 BREAK: View Videos

2:35 Concurrent Sessions 5 & 6

Session 5 – Control Strategies for Mile-A-Minute, Water Chestnut and Hydrilla

Moderator: Rose Hiskes

Speakers: Carole Cheah, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, **Greg Bugbee**, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, **Aliki Fornier**, CT River Conservancy

A) The Ten-Year Program for Biological Control of Mile-a-Minute Weed in CT

Speaker: Carole Cheah, Research Entomologist, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES)

Abstract: Mile-a-minute weed, *Persicaria perfoliata* (MAM), was initially confirmed and reported from Greenwich in Connecticut in 2000 but has now spread to 64 towns. *Rhinoncomimus latipes*, a small specialist weevil which feeds and reproduces exclusively on MAM, was released between 2009 and 2019 to mitigate MAM impacts through a collaboration between the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station and the University of Connecticut, funded by USDA APHIS PPQ.

Biography: Dr. Carole Cheah is a research entomologist specializing in biological control research, implementation and assessments at the Valley Laboratory, the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station in Windsor, funded by the US Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture and previously, by the USDA Forest Service. Her lifetime research has centered on the biology, behavior, and efficacy of the ladybeetle predator, *Sasajiscymnus* (formerly *Pseudoscymnus*) tsugae, introduced as the first biological control agent for hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA) in the U.S. Carole was educated in England with a Doctorate in biological control, Master's in Applied Entomology from the University of Cambridge and a B.A. (Hons) in Zoology from the University of Oxford. She has conducted research for the past 28 years at the CAES into biological control of hemlock woolly adelgid, a serious introduced pest of the urban and forest hemlocks. She has also worked with biological control releases of a weevil for invasive mile-a-minute weed control in collaboration with the University of Connecticut.

B) Update on Hydrilla Management

Speaker: Greg Bugbee, Associate Agricultural Scientist, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, Department of Environmental Sciences and Forestry

Abstract: Connecticut's lakes and ponds are among the State's most important natural resources. They face and ever-increasing threat from invasive aquatic plants. Since 2004, the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station Invasive Aquatic Plant Program (CAES IAPP) has assessed the severity of this problem through detailed vegetation surveys of nearly 400 waterbodies, multifaceted research on invasive aquatic plant management, and public education through workshops and other forms of outreach. We have documented over 100 native and 14 invasive plant species. Approximately two-thirds of the lakes and ponds contained one or more invasive species including Eurasian watermilfoil, variable watermilfoil, fanwort, curlyleaf pondweed, and minor naiad. New arrivals to the State include hydrilla, water chestnut and Brazilian waterweed. CAES IAPP has recently documented a novel strain of hydrilla throughout the Connecticut River. This presentation will provide an update on these subjects as well as recent findings on the effects of grass carp on vegetation in Connecticut lakes, proposed collaborative efforts to test management options on the Connecticut River hydrilla, control of variable watermilfoil in Bashan Lake with ProcellaCOR, new legislation regarding prenotification for aquatic herbicide applications, and last but not least the formation of an Office of Aquatic Invasive Species at CAES.

Biography: Greg Bugbee is Associate Scientist at the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station in the Department of Environmental Sciences and Forestry where his career has spanned over four decades. He is the principal investigator in the Invasive Aquatic Plant Program and head of the newly formed Office of Aquatic Invasive Species. He has led aquatic plant surveys of nearly 400 Connecticut lakes and ponds and has directed research projects on invasive aquatic plant control statewide. He is the current Past President of the Northeast Aquatic Plant Management Society and has numerous popular and scientific publications. He is the recipient of the Journal of Aquatic Plant Management "Outstanding Paper Award" for his work on controlling curlyleaf pondweed. More recently, he has documented the extensive infestation of a genetically distinct strain of hydrilla the Connecticut River and plays a major role in state and federal research into management options.

C.) Managing Water Chestnut in CT waters

Speaker: Aliki Fornier, Ecology Planner, CT River Conservancy

Abstract: Aliki will discuss her efforts monitoring and removing water chestnut through a "no seed, no spread" approach.

Biography: Aliki Fornier. Originally from Switzerland and Greece, Aliki moved to the United States to pursue her passion in Biology at Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, FL. She graduated in 2017 and moved to the Connecticut River valley that summer to begin working on her career. She started substitute teaching in several school districts while also volunteering as a community scientist on a freshwater mussel restoration project. In March of 2018, Aliki joined the Connecticut River Conservancy and began coordinating the organization's community science programs. She was introduced to the water chestnut project in the summer of 2018 as CRC took the lead on the watershed's collaborative effort. Since then, Aliki has participated in hundreds of water chestnut management efforts and has led numerous implementations for treatment.

Session 6 – Replacement and Restoration: Design; Propagating and Sourcing Native Seed

Moderator: Victoria (Vickie) Wallace, UConn

Speakers: Jim Sirch, Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History; **Anne Rowlands**, Connecticut Gardener Magazine; **Lisa Turoczi**, Earth Tones Native Plant Nursery

A) Propagating Native Plants from Seed

Speaker: Jim Sirch, Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History Education Coordinator

Abstract: Expand your native plantings inexpensively by growing them yourself from seed. Different germination requirements for different kinds of seeds and techniques such as stratification and proper after care will be discussed.

Biography: Jim Sirch is the Education Coordinator at the Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History. Jim was past president and is currently on the board of the Hamden Land Conservation Trust. A certified CT Master Gardener, Jim gives talks throughout the state on gardening for pollinators and growing native plants from seed and is dedicated to helping improve backyard biodiversity. He is a member of the CT Native Plant Working Group, a statewide taskforce encouraging citizens to use local native plants. Jim was featured in the Members Making a Difference section of the Summer 2016 issue of the American Horticultural Society's *American Gardener* magazine. Jim also authors a weekly nature blog called Beyond Your Back Door at www.beyondyourbackdoor.net

B.) Sourcing Native Seeds

Speaker: Anne Rowlands, Connecticut Gardener Magazine

Abstract: Sources and resources to help you locate, purchase, and collect seed of local ecotypes of native plants to be used for conservation, ecological restoration, beautification & wildlife habitat.

Biography: Anne Rowlands, after a 40-year stint as administrator and fundraiser, has come full circle to focus on her passions of ecology, botany, biology, and horticulture. She and her husband Will publish a regional gardening magazine that reflects their intense curiosity and delight in the natural world, while instructing readers in the art and science of living with the land in Southern New England.

C) Designing With Natives – Melding Function and Form

Speaker: Lisa Turoczi, Earth Tones Native Plant Nursery

Abstract: The intrinsic relationship or flora and fauna in an eco-region is of utmost importance when designing landscapes. Anyone in any aspect of the landscape industry should value this and strive to add native plants into their work for the health of our future.

Biography: Lisa Turoczi is co-owner of Earth Tones Native Plant Nursery and Landscapes in Woodbury CT. In 1993 Lisa graduated from SUNY ESF in Syracuse with a degree in Landscape Architecture. Earth Tones offers 400 different types of perennials, grasses, trees, shrubs and ferns from seeds locally sourced. Lisa's projects range from residential, commercial, governmental, and nonprofit environmental organizations.

3:50 Closing Remarks

Speaker: Anne Rowlands, publisher/business manager of Connecticut Gardener Magazine; member of CIPWG planning committee

Abstract: A virtual Invasive Plant Symposium could only happen through the dedication of many people. Hear a quick rundown of what you need to do now that the day is coming to an end.

Biography: Anne Rowlands (see pg. 9, above)

4:00 Adjournment
(NOTE: watch for an email with links to evaluation form and the full symposium recording)

MODERATOR BIOGRAPHIES

Rose Hiskes (Session 5) has a bachelor's degree in Agriculture from the University of Illinois and a Master's in Plant Science from the University of Connecticut. She has worked as a diagnostician at The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station for the last 24 years. She has volunteered for CIPWG for the last 20 years. Her interest in flower gardening has now turned into pollinator gardening. She has received the Arborist Citation from The Connecticut Tree Protective Association for her work protecting and caring for trees in Connecticut

David Laiuppa (Session 4) is an environmental planner with over 20 years of experience working in the private sector, municipal and state government. His primary focus has been wetland ecology and delineations, habitat assessments, sustainability, stormwater inspections, and permitting. David is currently the Environmental Planner and Wetland Agent for the Town of Manchester, CT. In his free time, he enjoys hiking with his family and teaching them about vernal pools.

Todd Mervosh (Session 2) is general manager of TM Agricultural & Ecological Services in Suffield, CT. An Illinois native, he earned a Ph.D. in agronomy/weed science at the University of Illinois in 1994. For the next 20 years, Todd was a scientist at The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station in Windsor. He conducted weed control experiments in several crops and did research on management of invasive plants including oriental bittersweet, Japanese stiltgrass and mile-a-minute weed. In his business since 2015, Todd consults with growers and property managers about effective and ecologically sound plant management strategies, including proper use of herbicides. He provides vegetation control services on a wide range of lands across Connecticut.

Peter (Pete) Picone (Session 1, bio on pg. 5-6)

Charlotte Pyle (Morning Session) likes nature, and for the most part managed to keep a connection to nature and natural resources in her work life. Now retired, she chairs the Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group's Native Plant Alternatives Sub-Committee and is a member of Connecticut's Native Plant Working Group. As a nature writer, she was one of the 2016 Artists-in-Residence at Trail Wood (Audubon's Edwin Way Teale Sanctuary in Hampton, Connecticut). She also writes quarterly columns for the Eastern Connecticut Forest Landowners Association. She holds a doctoral degree in Forest Ecosystems Analysis from the University of Washington.

Joshua Tracy (Session 3, bio on pg. 6)

Emmett Varricchio (Keynote) is a Co-Chair of the Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group (CIPWG). Emmett received a BS in Biology from Central Connecticut State University and has previously worked at the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station helping support the biological control of Mile-a-minute vine. As CIPWG Co-Chair, since 2019, he helps oversee the organization and leads the planning of their biennial Symposium. He created the CT Invasive Plant Management Calendar and his given talks throughout the state of Connecticut on a variety of topics related to invasive plants. While Emmett is currently employed in the Medical Communications field working with Oncology Companies to bring new cancer therapies to market, gaining insights from the top oncology doctors on the newest research, and ensuring the newest data is communicated amongst stakeholder, he remains passionate and involved with many environmental issues.

Victoria (Vickie) Wallace (Session 6) serves as the statewide Extension Educator of Sustainable Landscapes for the University of Connecticut. She is involved with the UConn IPM Program and is the UConn Liaison and a Co-chair of CIPWG. She works closely with landscape professionals, including municipal and school grounds managers who require pesticide-free management programs to maintain their athletic fields and grounds. She evaluates turfgrasses for low input use and oversees a swallow-wort biological control research project. Prior to joining the faculty at UConn, Ms. Wallace worked in the turfgrass seed industry as an agronomist. Ms. Wallace received her B.S. from Penn State University and her M.S. from the University of Rhode Island. She has developed a number of extension documents, including fact sheets about invasive plants and sustainable landscape topics. Ms. Wallace currently serves as chairperson of the New England Sports Turf Managers Assoc. (NESTMA) to develop a template for environmental best practices. She is a past president of the New England Sports Turf Managers' Assoc. and CT Nursery & Landscape Association.

The 2022 CIPWG Symposium Planning Committee

Emmett Varricchio	Cheryl Cappiali	Peter Picone
Rose Hiskes	Donna Ellis	Charlotte Pyle
Victoria Wallace	Grace Jacobsen	Anne Rowlands
Frank Belknap III	Dave Laiuppa	Joshua Tracy
Lisa Brodlie	Todd Mervosh	*__Bold__ denotes Co-Chairs

Thanks also to:

- Juliet Kapsis, Anne Hill, Kate Copeland, Amy Erhart, Karen Zajac, and Harley Erickson from UConn's Events and Conference Services
- Total Webcasting's Joe Feldman and Jonah Havranek
- Kristin Ponak
- Alyssa Siegel-Miles
- Bryan Connolly, who is Assistant Professor at Eastern Connecticut State University, provided identification videos during the virtual symposium.

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Indrajeet Chaubey	indrajeet.chaubey@uconn.edu cahnr.uconn.edu	University of Connecticut College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources Dean
Carole Cheah	carole.cheah@ct.gov	Research Entomologist, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES)
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Thank you to our Partners

- American Society for Landscape Architects, CT Chapter (CTASLA)
- Association of Professional Landscape Designers (APLD), Connecticut Chapter
- Bartlett Arboretum
- Connecticut Association of Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commissions (CACIWC)
- Connecticut Association of Wetland Scientists (CAWS)
- Connecticut College Arboretum
- Connecticut Conservation District, Southwest
- Connecticut Department of Agriculture
- Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CT DEEP)
- Connecticut Envirothon
- Connecticut Federation of Lakes, Inc.
- Connecticut Forest and Park Association (CFPA)
- Connecticut Gardener Magazine
- Connecticut Greenhouse Growers Association (CGGA)
- Connecticut Horticultural Society (CHS)
- Connecticut Nursery and Landscape Association (CNLA)
- Connecticut Outdoor & Environmental Education Association (COEEA)
- Connecticut Training and Technical Assistance Center
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- Farmington River Watershed Association
- Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut, Inc. (FGCCT)
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- Hardy Plant Society of New England, Connecticut Chapter
- Joshua's Trust
- Mad Gardeners, Inc.
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- New Milford Department of Public Works
- Northeast Organic Farming Association (CTNOFA) (AOLCP)
- Norwalk River Watershed Association (NRWA)
- Pomperaug River Watershed Coalition
- Quinnipiac River Watershed Association (QRWA)
- Regional Water Authority
- Rhode Island Nursery and Landscape Association
- Sustainable CT
- Silvio O. Conte National Fish & Wildlife Refuge
- The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station
- The Connecticut Audubon Society
- UConn College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources
- UConn Department of Natural Resources and the Environment
- UConn Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture
- UConn Extension
- UConn Extension Master Gardener Program
- UConn Home and Garden Education Center
- USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- White Memorial Conservation Center
- Wild Ones, Mtn. Laurel (CT) Chapter