

SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 2019

8:00 am – 9:00 am

Registration & Native Plant Marketplace & Expo

MORNING SESSION

9:00 am – 9:10 am

Welcome

9:10 am – 9:20 am

Tennessee Valley Certificate in Native Plants Graduation

9:20 am – 10:20 am

Larry Weaner “At Home with Native Plants”

Discover how to use your region’s native flora to achieve landscapes that are diverse, beautiful, and low-maintenance. Through a series of case studies, this presentation explores the dynamic ecological processes that occur in our native woodlands, shrub lands, and meadows, and illustrates their direct application in a variety of residential landscapes. Examples will feature effective solutions to common landscape situations including entrance areas, screen and bank plantings as well as techniques for establishing native wildflower meadows and woodland gardens in various contexts.

10:20 am - 10:50 am

Break – Book Signing & Native Plant Marketplace & Expo

10:50 am – 11:50 am

Larry Weaner “The Self-Sustaining Landscape: Setting a Process in Motion”

Nature has spent millennia perfecting plants’ abilities to reproduce and proliferate on their own, and yet we often go to great effort and expense placing every plant in our designed landscapes. How can we capitalize on plants’ reproductive abilities, and actively encourage planted as well as existing and new species to colonize our landscapes? Join Larry Weaner as he discusses principles and protocols for creating dynamic, ecologically rich landscapes where nature does much of the “planting.” The lecture will include detailed case studies that demonstrate how practical, concrete strategies for assisted plant proliferation can be applied at diverse scales, from the most intimate garden to large multi-acre landscapes.

11:50 am – 1:15 pm

Break for Lunch, Book Signing & Expo

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:20 pm – 2:20 pm

Dwayne Estes, PhD “The Southeastern Grasslands Initiative: Bringing Chicago-Style, Community-Based Conservation to the South to Restore our Forgotten Grasslands”

Grassland loss is the single greatest conservation issue currently facing eastern North American biodiversity. Our precious Southern grasslands are nearly extinct and the species that depend on them are fading fast. Known as “The Prairie Preacher,” Dr. Estes will highlight the historic range of native grasslands in our area and show how we can bring back grasslands in our landscapes, including suggestions for great native grasses, sedges and rushes for our region.

2:20 pm – 3:20 pm

Jenny Cruse-Sanders, PhD “The Role of Botanical Gardens and Partnership in Conserving Biodiversity in the Southeastern U.S.”

So much emphasis has been placed on protecting natural areas when possibly our greatest opportunities for preserving biodiversity is in urban and suburban landscapes. As habitat becomes more fragmented as natural areas shrink, our role as landscape managers becomes more important. Jenny Cruse Sanders has led a major habitat project in Atlanta, the Greater Atlanta Pollinator Partnership, training urban youths in green vocations, and more recently promoting greater native plant availability through nursery and botanic garden partnerships.

3:20 pm – 3:50 pm

Plants of Promise and Door Prizes

3:50 pm – 4:30 pm

Native Plant Marketplace & Expo