

Sources and Solutions

Essential Native Plant Partnerships

MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2023, 8:30 AM–12:30 PM, VIRTUAL



Whether in a forest, meadow, or yard, ecological restoration takes a big-picture approach and the

cooperation of many people. Discover strategies being used to confront challenges such as invasive species, climate change, and native plant supplies, and how diverse groups are working together to restore natural functions.

8:30–8:45AM: Sign on

8:45–9AM: Welcome

**9–9:45AM: Uli Lorimer
Choice Matters: Native Plants for
an Earth-Friendly Landscape**



Designed spaces are intimately connected with natural plant communities, making our garden decisions critical to overall ecosystem health. Explore the thought process involved in choosing the right plant for the right place to benefit the environment and sustain birds, pollinators, and other wildlife.

Uli Lorimer is Director of Horticulture for the Native Plant Trust and author of The Northeast Native Plant Primer. He has 20 years of experience working with native plants in public gardens, including at Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Wave Hill, and the U.S. National Arboretum.

**9:45–10:30AM: Eve Allen
Strengthening Native Seed and
Plant Material Supply Chains**



Commercial shortages of quality native seeds and plant material of known provenance are compromising efforts to create biodiverse, self-sustaining plant communities that would support wildlife and ensure climate change resiliency. Learn about an integrative network approach that is generating solutions.

Eve Allen is a program director at Ecological Health Network, where she helps to build partnerships to strengthen regional seed and plant material supply chains. A Fulbright grant recipient, she has a Master in City Planning from MIT.

10:30–10:45AM: Break

**10:45–11:15AM: Sefra Alexandra
Ecotypic Education Evolution**



Native plants grown from an area's wild-collected seeds are restoring barren landscapes into useful habitats by rewilding pollinator corridors. Discover the process of mentoring organic farmers and others to create specialty crops of local native seeds that supply nurseries and fill a growing demand.

Sefra Alexandra, aka The Seed Huntress, is coordinator of

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Westchester County Soil and Water Conservation District
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Hilltop Hanover Farm and Environmental Center
Planting Westchester

The Ecotype Project of the Northeast Organic Farming Association of Connecticut. She has a master's degree in agroecological education from Cornell University. Photo credit: Dr. Asong Tambo

**11:15–11:45AM: Max Piana
Bringing Back the Oak**



Forests in cities provide a suite of social and ecological benefits, from mitigating heat island effect and stormwater flooding to providing refuge for people and wildlife. Find out about efforts to sustain these habitats and reestablish native oaks in the region.

Max Piana, Ph.D., is a research ecologist with the U.S. Forest Service. He earned his doctorate in ecology and evolution from Rutgers University and master's in environmental management from Yale University.

**11:45AM–12:15PM: Jessica Alba
Help—and Hope—for Landowners**



Financial and technical support is available for landowners who want to be good stewards of their property. Discover the opportunities offered by the Watershed Agricultural Council in its Management Assistance and Trees for Tribes programs for habitat creation with native plants, tree planting, streamside improvement, invasive plant control, and more.

Jessica Alba is Watershed Forest Stewardship Educator for the Watershed Agricultural Council, East of Hudson Forestry Program.

12:15–12:30PM: Wrap-up

REGISTER BY MARCH 9

\$55 NPC Members/\$80 Non-Members

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PENDING**

SNOW DATE

Friday, March 17; program subject to change