



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
TOWN OF ARLINGTON
51 Grove Street
Arlington, Massachusetts 02476
Telephone (781) 316-3320 Fax (781) 316-3281

Engineering Division

2012 STORMWATER AWARENESS SERIES

SESSION #5 – SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPING

The Town of Arlington Engineering Division is hosting a Stormwater Awareness Series open to residents of the Town of Arlington and the general public.

The series is designed to educate residents on Stormwater and the impacts on runoff, water quality, flood control and prevention, erosion and other stormwater related impacts within the Town of Arlington. Information will be provided by stormwater professionals for the purpose of increasing awareness of these issues within the Town and to provide information for residents to help understand how the surrounding environment affects, and impacts, the local water resources and what can be done to reduce these impacts.

The next presentation is scheduled to be held on December 11th, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. in the Selectmen's Hearing Room, Arlington Town Hall, 2nd floor. The session will include a two-part presentation followed by a question and answer session related to the session topics.

Session #5 - Part 1

(7:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.)

Title: Organic Lawn Therapy

Speaker: Michael Murray

Presented by: Organic Soil Solutions

Session #5 - Part 2

(7:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.)

Title: Sustainable Landscaping

Speaker: Christine Scypinski

Presented by: Waterfield Design Group

Part 1 – Organic Lawn Therapy

Michael Murray, Owner of Organic Soil Solutions is a NOFA Accredited Organic Land Care Professional. His company services provides organic care to over 700 lawns and several towns' public greens. With ten years of practice to draw upon, he will present tips for renovating lawns, promoting organic methods, and discuss the importance of soil health, seeding and cultural practices such as mowing and watering, as well as options for and the proper use of organic fertilizers.

Part 2 – Sustainable Landscaping

Christine Scypinski is a Senior Landscape Architect and LEED Accredited Professional (Leadership in Energy Efficient Design) with the Waterfield Design Group in Winchester Massachusetts and has over 25 years experience in landscape design and site planning. Her site planning work focuses on sustainable use of resources and creation of livable walkable communities. Her work with Waterfield Design has included revitalization projects and streetscapes, multi-use trail systems and linear greenways, parks and playgrounds, schoolyards and outdoor classrooms. She has worked on green roof, raingarden and native plant projects where material reuse / recycling, low maintenance landscapes and rainwater collection were emphasized. Christine is a member the Arlington Land Trust, serves on the Arlington Redevelopment Board and is a member of the Ecological Landscaping Association. She is an organic gardener, composter and rainwater collector at her home in East Arlington. Her interests include permaculture and edible landscapes, creating wildlife habitats, water conservation, low-tech bio-engineering, sustainable energy use and climate change.

Sustainable Landscaping – How Arlington residents could contribute and benefit

- Reduction of stormwater run-off and encouraging infiltration through the use of bio-swales, rain gardens, green roofs and walls, and permeable paving materials;
- Reduction of water use in landscapes through design of water-wise garden techniques, sometimes known as xeriscaping;
- Water conservation techniques through rainwater harvesting and use of gray water from showers and sinks;
- Integrated Pest Management (IPM) techniques for pest control and sustainable cultural practices;
- Creating and enhancing wildlife habitat in urban and managed environments;
- Edible landscapes for wildlife and people;
- Energy-efficient landscape design in the form of proper placement and selection of shade trees, and creation of wind breaks;
- Use of native plants and awareness of the dangers of exotic invasives;
- Lawn alternatives;
- Use of sustainably harvested wood, composite wood products for decking and other landscape projects, as well as use of plastic lumber;
- Recycling of products, such as glass, rubber from tires and other materials to create landscape products such as paving stones, mulch and other materials;
- Soil management techniques, including composting kitchen and yard wastes, to maintain and enhance healthy soil that supports a diversity of soil life;
- Integration and adoption of renewable energy, including solar-powered landscape lighting.