

Growing On: Managing Healthy Urban Landscapes

Part One, October 28, 8:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Topic and Speaker Descriptions

Pesticides & Pollinators: Understanding the Risks, Choosing Solutions:

(Starts at 1:30 in recording.)

Pesticides are widely used in urban landscapes and natural areas but can cause harm to pollinators and other invertebrates. This webinar includes foundational information on pesticides and how they impact ecosystems. Learn how to understand and assess the risks associated with pesticide use, how our regulatory systems address risk, and steps for choosing appropriate pest management strategies while conserving pollinators.

Sharon Selvaggio and Emily May of Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation.

Ms. Selvaggio has decades of experience in public lands management and is a licensed Pesticide Consultant in Oregon. She holds an M.S. from University of California - Berkeley in Energy and Resources.

Ms. May earned an M.S. in Entomology and Ecology/Evolutionary Biology from Michigan State University and has experience in supporting crop pollinators through habitat creation and protecting bees and other beneficial insects from pesticides.

Thoughts on Managing Tree in Changing Northwest Cities:

(Starts at 1:37:20 in recording.)

Cities in the Pacific Northwest have made important strides in diversifying their urban forests and managing greenspace. As urban plant professionals, how might we continue to advance resiliency, adaptability, and functioning of our diverse urban forest matrix?

Impacts from insects, diseases, invasive species, and climate change require thoughtful, long-term strategies. Clay shares observations on gaps and possibilities in our management of trees in urban spaces and on public lands in cities.

Clay Antieau M.S., Ph.C. is a Horticulturist and Botanist offering unique abilities and perspectives in restoration, environmental education, and science communication. He has been employed with Seattle Public Utilities since 2000 and is a long-time Instructor and Advisor with the University of Washington's Professional and Continuing Education Certificate Program in Wetland Science and Management. He is a Fellow, Past-President, and past Chapter Chair of the Washington Native Plant Society; and Past-President of the Northwest Chapter of the Society for Ecological Restoration.

Why Be Lawn When You Can BEE LAWN? (Starts at 2:26:40 in recording.)

Growing concerns about the threat to bees and other pollinators due to pesticide misuse, habitat loss, and other factors have some cities beginning to incentivize the removal and replacement of traditional lawn with pollinator-friendly eco-turf alternatives. The focus of this presentation will be on how, using IPM strategy, many species of perennial and annual plants can work well to replace a lawn, suppress unwanted weeds, and promote pollinator pathways within a community. This can strengthen pollinator numbers and health as well as eliminate traditional lawn maintenance and reduce pesticide inputs.

Joel Ferreira

Joel has worked in landscape maintenance for over 13 years, starting with residential work and moving on to the public sector with SDOT Urban Forestry, University of Washington's Bothell campus and currently with Seattle City Light's Vegetation Management Division. He became a Master Gardener and Certified Professional Horticulturalist in 2019.

Contacts and Resources

Pesticides and Pollinators: Understanding the Risk, Choosing Solutions

Sharon Selvaggio (sharon.selvaggio@xerces.org)

Emily May (emily.may@xerces.org)

Aimee Code (aimee.code@xerces.org)

Resources:

[Xerces Publication Library](#)

Identification and Management:

- [Pacific Northwest Pest Management Handbooks](#)
- [GardenHotline.org](#)
- [King County noxious weeds](#)
- [WSU insect diagnostic lab](#), [plant diagnostic lab](#), [plant pathology lab](#), [turfgrass diagnostic lab](#)
- [BugGuide.net](#)
- [Master Gardeners of King County](#)
- [King County Native Plant Guide](#)

Pesticide Toxicity and Risks:

- [Bee Precaution Pesticide Ratings tool](#) (UC IPM)
- [How to Reduce Bee Poisoning from Pesticides](#) publication and app (PNW Extension)
- [A Pesticide Decision Making Guide to Protect Pollinators in Landscape, Ornamental, and Turf Management](#) (Cornell University)

- [Organic Pesticides: Minimizing Risks to Pollinators and Beneficial Insects](#) (Xerces)
- [Fungicide Impacts on Pollinators](#) (Xerces)
- [How Neonicotinoids Can Kill Bees](#) (Xerces)

Protecting Pollinators:

- [Smarter Pest Management: Pollinator Protection for Towns and Cities](#)
- [Smarter Pest Management: Protecting Pollinators at Home](#)
- [Guidance to Protect Habitat from Pesticide Contamination](#)

Managing Urban Forests in the Northwest

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Why Be Lawn When You Can BEE LAWN?

Joel Ferreiro Joel.Ferreiro@seattle.gov

Mapping Lawns and Ecological Effects:

<https://www.isprs.org/proceedings/XXXVI/8-W27/milesi.pdf>

Greenacres blog -- EPA web archive: <https://archive.epa.gov/greenacres/web/html/wo8.html>

Carbon Sequestration in Plant Roots:

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3321694/>

University of Zurich -- Steep Slope Cultivation:

<https://www.media.uzh.ch/en/Press-Releases/2019/Steep-Slopes.html>

Lawns To Legumes Program -- Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources:

<https://bwsr.state.mn.us/l2l>

Bee Lawn How To Guide:

<https://bwsr.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/2019-08/DIY%20Bee%20Lawn%208.27.pdf>

Xerces Society Pollinator Meadow How To:

https://www.xerces.org/sites/default/files/2018-05/15-020_02_XercesSoc_Establishing-Pollinator-Meadows-from-Seed_web.pdf

West Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District Meadowscaping Handbook download:

https://wmswcd.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Meadowscaping_Publication_Complete_LR.2.pdf