



# 2010 MID-SOUTH NATIVE PLANT CONFERENCE

NATIVES & BEYOND:  
SUSTAINABLE PLANTS,  
GARDENS & COMMUNITIES

OCTOBER 8 - 10, 2010



## OUR SPEAKERS



**Peter H. Raven**, a President Emeritus of the Missouri Botanical Garden, is a leading botanist and advocate of conservation and biodiversity. He served as director and president of the Missouri Botanical Garden and George Engelmann Professor of Botany at Washington University in St. Louis from 1971 to 2010. At present, Dr. Raven is a Trustee of the National Geographic Society and Chairman of the Society's Committee for Research and Exploration. During the more than 39 years he headed the Missouri Botanical Garden, he nurtured it to become a world-class center for botanical research, education, and horticulture display.

Dr. Raven realized more than 40 years ago that the rapid growth of the human population, consumption, and the spread of polluting technologies were threatening biological diversity to a degree that had not been realized earlier. He soon became an outspoken advocate of the need for conservation throughout the world based on efforts to attain sustainability and social justice everywhere and was described by TIME magazine as a "Hero for the Planet." In 2001, Dr. Raven received the National Medal of Science, the highest award for scientific accomplishment in the United States. Dr. Raven has written numerous books and publications, both popular and scientific, including *Biology of Plants* (co-authored with Ray Evert and Susan Eichhorn) and *Environment* (co-authored with Linda Berg).



**C. Colston Burrell** is a garden designer, award-winning author, photographer, naturalist, and teacher. He grows hellebore species and hybrids alongside natives and other treasures in his garden in the Blue Ridge Mountains near Charlottesville, Virginia. Cole holds master's degrees in horticulture and landscape architecture from the University of Minnesota. He is a lecturer in the College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture at the University of

Virginia and principal of Native Landscape Design and Restoration.

Cole is the author of many garden books and has twice won the American Horticulture Society book award—in 2007 for *Hellebores: A Comprehensive Guide* and in 1998 for *A Gardener's Encyclopedia of Wildflowers*. Cole is a contributing editor for *Horticulture* and frequently writes for *Landscape Architecture* and *American Gardener*. He lectures internationally on design, plants, and ecology.



**Ann English**, RainScapes Program Planning Specialist with the Montgomery County (MD) Department of Environmental Protection, is also adjunct faculty in the Sustainable Landscape Design Program at George Washington University. Her research interests span a diverse array of sustainable landscape interests including developing sustainable learning

environments, planting design, site level storm water management, low maintenance strategies and ecological design. RainScapes is an innovative Montgomery County initiative that encourages on-site storm water management funded through the County Water Quality Protection Charge.



**Rick Lewandowski** is the director of Mt. Cuba Center in Greenville, Delaware, the former estate of Mr. and Mrs. Lamont du Pont Copeland. Rick has been director since 1999 and is responsible for institutional planning and garden development, including conservation, educational and research programs for the 630-acre property. Prior to working at Mt. Cuba Center, Rick was with the Morris Arboretum of the University of

Pennsylvania for 16 years, the last 8 years as Director of Horticulture and Curator of the Living Collection. Rick participated in several plant exploration trips to China and developed and oversaw horticultural research for the Arboretum. Rick continues to actively explore and study plant habitats throughout the eastern and southeastern U.S. in order to enrich the living collection of Mt. Cuba Center with documented, wild-collected, seed-propagated plants and to conserve plant genetic diversity for future generations. This field work also supports Mt. Cuba Center's mission to promote and develop better native plants for landscape use.



**Felder Rushing** Felder Rushing is a 10th-generation gardener from Jackson, TN. He is a former Extension Service urban horticulture specialist, prolific garden writer, lecturer and radio host. Felder has authored or co-authored 15 gardening books (including several national award winners), written thousands of gardening columns in syndicated newspapers, and has had hundreds of articles and photographs published in regional and national garden magazines, including *Garden Design*, *Horticulture*, *Landscape Architecture*, *Better Homes and Gardens*, *Fine Gardening*, *Organic Gardening*, and *National Geographic*. He currently hosts The Gestalt Gardener, a call-in garden program on NPR affiliate stations.

Felder has served many years as a board member of the American Horticulture Society and national director of the Garden Writers Association. He has twice been president of the Mississippi state native plant society and once took a TV crew to Europe to show how they use OUR native plants in their gardens, both formal and cottage (e.g., goldenrod planted in masses in the formal borders at Versailles). Felder's down-home approach to horticulture will reintroduce you to the simple joys of gardening.



**Don Shadow** is a fourth generation nurseryman who received his degree in Horticulture from the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, TN where he later served nine years on the Board of Trustees for the university. Don is a Past President of the Southern Nursery Association, the International Plant Propagator's Society (Eastern Region), the Tennessee Nurserymen's Association (now TNLA) and a former member of

the American Association of Nurserymen Board of Governors. Don served three terms on the Advisory Council of the United States National Arboretum. In 2008, Don was inducted into the Tennessee Nursery & Landscape Association Hall of Fame and has received many more awards and honors too numerous to mention here. In 2005, Don co-authored *Dogwoods: The Genus Cornus* with Paul Cappiello of Yew Dell Gardens.

# 2010 MID-SOUTH NATIVE PLANT CONFERENCE

## NATIVES & BEYOND: SUSTAINABLE PLANTS, GARDENS & COMMUNITIES

### Friday, October 8, 2010

5 p.m. - 7 p.m. **Early Registration, Casual Reception & Tours of the Dixon Gardens**

7 p.m. - 8 p.m. **How to Get Away with Growing Wildflowers in Town – Felder Rushing**

### Saturday, October 9, 2010

8:00 a.m. **Registration**

8:30 a.m. **Welcome – Dale Skaggs**, Director of Horticulture, Dixon Gallery and Gardens

8:45 a.m. **How Many Plant Species Will Survive the 21st Century: The Role of Gardens – Dr. Peter Raven**

Habitat destruction, global climate change, the rapid spread of invasive aliens, and the selective gathering of individual kinds of plants, factors accelerated by human population growth, increasing levels of consumption, and widespread uses of inappropriate technologies, are projected to drive approximately half of the world's biological species to extinction by the year 2100. How should gardens respond to these unprecedented challenges?

10:00 a.m. **Great Natives for Tough Places – C. Colston Burrell**

Every garden has a challenging site where conventional solutions are more work than reward. This lecture helps gardeners choose the best native plants to thrive in tough site conditions, from wet to compacted soil to hot dry sites and dense shade. Using nature as a model, we explore the adaptations that allow native plants to cope with the toughest conditions Mother Nature can dish out and combine site appropriate plants to fashion beautiful gardens with reduced maintenance.

11:00 a.m. **Break**

11:30 a.m. **Storm Drain Quality and Rain Gardens – Ann English**

As recent droughts have taught, water is a precious commodity which should not be wasted. Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems use Low Impact Development (LID) tools such as bioretention, bioswales, rain gardens, green roofs and permeable pavements to solve the technical water management problems. Landscape architects are working to create aesthetically pleasing environments that mimic natural processes and are valued as much for quality of design as for the ability to reduce runoff. This talk will highlight examples of creative and beautiful storm water applications for a range of land uses, including residential landscapes.

12:30 p.m. **Lunch, Socializing & Shopping**

1:30 p.m. **Nurturing Gardens Inspired by Nature – Rick Lewandowski**

Discover how nature-inspired gardens can be developed with richly layered and diverse plant elements. Rick looks at natural processes and natural habitats to interpret and create gardens designed with harmonious elements, as well as how design principles can be achieved with careful plant selection and placement. Rick also looks at key design principles for naturalistic gardening, drawing on inspiration from the gardens at Mt. Cuba Center along with some of the plants that make the garden so successful.

2:45 p.m. **New and Useful Native Plants for Mid-South Gardens and Landscapes – Don Shadow**

Don has a penchant for finding, evaluating, propagating and marketing native plants with outstanding features: mildew and anthracnose-resistant, columnar growth, leaf variegations or weeping forms of our native trees and shrubs. He will certainly share stories about his rare and wild "collection" of 700 animals representing 60 species he cares for on his property near Winchester, TN.

3:45 p.m. **Program Ends**

### Sunday, October 10, 2010 - Optional Tours

**Tour the Old Growth Forest in Memphis' Overton Park with Naturalist Don Richardson**

Spend Sunday morning strolling this treasure. Learn about its natural history, the canopy, its understory, and view the seasonal wildflowers. Saved from the encroaching expressway system in the 70's, Friends of Overton Park are now introducing legislation to preserve and defend this unique natural resource. See first hand why that is so important. (9 - 10:30 a.m.)

**Visit Gardens OyVey Nursery - A Nursery Inside a Garden**

Possibly the premier native plant garden in the mid-south. Meet Diane Meucci and Wolfgang Marquardt and see how they live with a light footprint on their 5-acre property. Listed as one of the top 30 mail order nurseries by gardenwatchdog.com. Guided tours and nursery open for your shopping pleasure.

**Visit the Gardens of Toot Fineberg-Buchner and Bickie McDonnell**

Visit with each of these enthusiastic gardeners. Both have varied selections of native plants set amongst choice towering trees creating a shady woodland. Though each garden has "exotics", each demonstrates how natives can effectively enhance the home landscape. Take home tips on combinations of woodies, ferns, groundcovers, and other gems to add to your garden.

### PURPOSE OF CONFERENCE

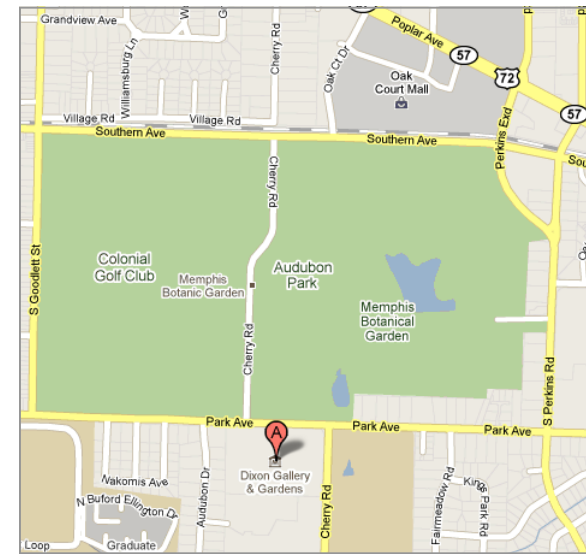
To promote and create awareness of the use of plant choices, horticultural practices, and garden designs that work with nature and have a positive environmental impact.

### MISSION STATEMENT

Growing out of the Memphis Horticultural Society's mission of educating the public in gardening to help to preserve the natural environment, the Mid-South Native Plant Conference shall promote plants and horticultural practices that support a land ethic\* respectful of our ecology and its inherent natural beauty. Our goal is to bring together knowledgeable amateurs and professionals to share the most current approaches to gardening with an awareness of plant choices within the context of natural communities that will sustain the land, water, and air important to all.

\*Aldo Leopold, *Sand County Almanac*

### CONFERENCE LOCATION DIXON GALLERY & GARDENS



### REGISTRATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

### REGISTER EARLY AND SAVE!

- \$100 for registrations postmarked by Sept. 1\*
- \$125 for registrations postmarked after Sept. 1\*

Registration fee includes lunch and refreshment breaks.

**If paying by check**, make check payable to Dixon Gallery & Gardens and mail to:

Mid-South Native Plant Conference  
Dixon Gallery & Gardens  
4339 Park Ave.  
Memphis, TN 38117

**If paying by credit card**, call the Dixon at (901)761-5250.

Reservations for the conference must be made in advance and will be confirmed by mail.

\*When registering for more than one person, please include names and addresses for each person on a separate sheet.

### OPTIONAL SUNDAY TOURS

Please indicate your interest in attending the following:

- Tour the Old Growth Forest in Overton Park**
- Visit Gardens OyVey Nursery**
- Visit the Gardens of Toot Fineberg-Buchner and Bickie McDonnell**

**CONFERENCE VENDORS  
WILL OFFER NATIVE PLANTS AND  
PRODUCTS TO SUPPORT YOUR  
SUSTAINABLE GARDENING**