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Grow Native *massachusetts*

Every garden matters ~ Every landscape counts®



September 2026 Newsletter

We're Hosting a FALL Native Plant Market in Lexington!



Have you heard the exciting news?

Fall is arguably the BEST time to plant native plants. In response to overwhelming demand for us to hold a fall native plant sale, we are thrilled to be holding our first ever [Fall Plant Market](#) on **Saturday October 17, 10:00am - 2:00pm.**

We've been calling it our "mega pop-up", because it's akin to our popular Pop-Up Markets, but there will be lots more nurseries present, with a very wide selection of plant species on offer.

No registration or membership required to attend, just come park behind the First Parish Church at 7 **Harrington Rd**, Lexington — and **bring a wagon** for all your plants!

Help Us Celebrate: Native Plants for Cape Cod Life

Cape Cod friends, you asked for Cape-specific programs, addressing—and celebrating—the unique growing conditions of your region, and we answered. On September 22 and 23, we're really excited to host a trio of native plant events on the Outer Cape; attendees will learn about and be introduced to native plants, bring some home, and see how people garden and landscape with them locally. Choose just one, or join all three for a full learning experience!

September 22, 7:00pm, at the **Wellfleet Public Library**: Erin Camire from APCC will present [Why Native Plants: The Ecological Importance of Native Species on Cape Cod](#)

September 23, 8:00am-12:00pm, **Wellfleet Farmers Market**: Come to our [Native Plant Pop-Up at Wellfleet Farmers Market](#)! Buy native plants from local, independent growers. We'll be joined by Butterfly Effect Farm, Tree Talk Natives, Association to Preserve Cape Cod, all of whom will have their plants to sell. We'll also be joined by Pollinator Pathway Cape Cod. Come along, talk about your garden and spaces, and bring home native plants.

September 23, 2:00pm: Join local **Wellfleet ecological landscaper Alex Kent** from Kent Land Design for a workshop! [Gardening for Life in Wellfleet](#) will be a tour of a Wellfleet home garden designed, planted and maintained by Alex. We'll discuss planning, planting, and ongoing management, along with how to work with your unique Cape Cod landscape and find inspiration in its challenges and harsh conditions. This workshop has a small registration fee and a limited number of participants.



[Learn More & Sign Up](#)

More Upcoming Programs You Won't Want to Miss...



NATIVE PLANT POP-UP MARKETS

[Pop-Up at Pittsfield Farmers Market](#)

When: September 12 | 9:00am - 1:00pm

Where: Pittsfield Common, 100 First Street, Pittsfield, MA

[Pop-Up at Newton Farmers Market](#)

When: September 15 | 1:30 - 6:00pm

Where: Cold Spring Park, 1189 Beacon St, Newton, MA

Get native plants from local growers, and bring them all your plant and garden questions! We will be joined by growers from our native nursery network, including [Helia Native Nursery](#), [Red Trillium Gardens](#), [Beetle Buds Native Gardens](#), [Ward's Nursery](#), [Butterfly Effect Farm](#), [Tree Talk Natives](#), [BOLD Meadows](#), [Checkerspot Farm](#), and [Hilltop Natives](#). They start much of their stock from seed (often local ecotype), and curate their

inventory with an eye toward species of particular value to pollinators, caterpillars, and other threatened wildlife. All of them are passionate advocates for native plants and creating habitat in our gardens. Come get some great, locally grown native plants!

Also don't forget about our September 23 pop-up at **Wellfleet Farmers Market**, which is part of our [Native Plants for Cape Cod Life](#) celebration!

[View Our Full 2026 Pop-Up Market Schedule](#)

MAPN MONTHLY PRESENTATION

**Healthy Soil Through
Maximum Biodiversity:
Replicable Models for
Resilience**

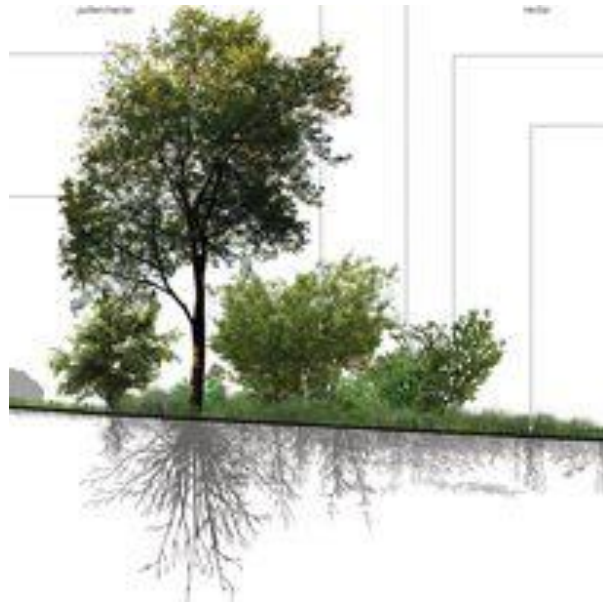
Presenter: Evan Abramson, [Principal,
Landscape Interactions](#)

When: September 29 | 7:00 - 8:15pm

Where: Online via Zoom

Fee: Free

A first of its kind hybrid regional plan and open source design toolkit, this project demonstrates the opportunities that farms and working landscapes provide for building soil health, increasing soil carbon sequestration and restoring regional biodiversity.



[Learn More and Register](#)

**For even more great programs, check out our
[Upcoming Partner Events](#) listings!**

You visit this interactive calendar anytime to catch up on what's going on around the state (and beyond!). You can also [SUBMIT](#) any native plant, ecological landscaping, or habitat creation/restoration events that are not already listed.

Bulletin Board



Quabbin Garlic & Arts Festival

Come out to a really fun [2-day event](#) September 26 and 27, celebrating garlic-flavored food and live music, plus handmade arts and crafts. Stop by the Grow Native MA / Massachusetts Pollinator Network table to say hi and chat about supporting pollinators through ecological gardening!



Community Read: Nature's Best Hope

Kids and Adults alike can join in on [Ayer Library's Community Read](#) of Doug Tallamy's ecological gardening classic, Nature's Best Hope, Saturday September 26 10:00am to noon. Grab a copy at your local library (or bring your own dog-eared volume) and take part in a conversation about how to increase biodiversity in your community!



Vote YES on 6 on November 3

Question 6 dedicates the sales tax we already pay on sporting goods to a new [Nature for All Fund](#) to protect clean drinking water; conserve forests, family farms, and natural wildlife habitat; and create more parks, trails, and greenspaces for all to enjoy.

Photo of the Month



Coastal Barrens Buck Moth

Photo credit: [Tea Montagna](#), CC-BY via iNaturalist.

The pitch pine/ scrub oak plant community that is characteristic of the Cape Cod landscape is home to many rare plants and insects. These are often specialist species that have adapted to thrive in (but are also restricted to) the unique climate and soil conditions of pine-oak barrens. For moths and butterflies, the abundance of specific host species like scrub oak (*Quercus ilicifolia*, see photo) is also vital. In Massachusetts, [nearly half](#) of the state-listed Lepidoptera are dependent on shrub-land dominated habitat. One of these is the [buck moth](#) (*Hemileuca maia*). In New England it is found only in open canopy pine barrens with a dense understory of scrub oak, its larval host. The adults (which do not eat) fly in late September and early October, which is also the start of the hunting season and may be the source of their [common name](#).

Header Photo: *Arctostaphylos uva-ursi* (Bearberry). © [underhillw](#) via iNaturalist.

Donate / Become a Member



We inspire people to action across Massachusetts, on behalf of native plants and the diversity of life they support.

We are passionate about our mission. Please join with us to make it a reality.
