

CURRICULUM GUIDE AND OUTLINE FOR LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOLS REQUIRED COURSE I

Suggested reading for Course I ONLY:

Stewards of the Land

The National Gardener (TNG)

Alexander, Rosemary. *The Essential Garden Design Workbook*. Timber Press, 2017.

Chisholm, Linda. *The History of Landscape Design in 100 Gardens*, Timber Press, 2018.

Coronado, Shawna. *The Wellness Garden*. Cool Springs Press, MN, 2017

Darke, Rick and Doug Tallamy. *The Living Landscape: Designing for Beauty and Biodiversity in the Home Garden*, Timber Press

Reed, Sue & Ginny Stibolt, *Climate Wise Landscaping*. New Society Publishing, Gabriola Island, BC, 2018.

Schwartz, Bobbie. *Garden Renovation* Timber Press. 2017.

Tallamy, Doug. *Bringing Nature Home: How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants*, Updated and Expanded (2009)

Newscape, the NGC LDS digital newsletter is published twice yearly. It is posted on www.gardenclub.org

- A. Learning about Your Ecosystem (1 hour) Neighborhoods are environments and our environments include all life, from bacteria, fungus and viruses to the tallest trees. Our environmental conditions include topography, geology (soils especially), climate and man-made structures and alterations to the environment for exploitation (agriculture, mining, landfill for building, altered river courses, etc.) It is vital to learn about our ecosystems before trying to create landscapes which are artificial ecosystems. From a purely practical standpoint, creating a landscape inimical to the prevailing ecosystem will be extremely costly in terms of manpower, inputs (chemical and hardscape) and the damage to the prevailing ecosystem. From an ethical standpoint creating a landscape that supports wildlife is a requirement. From an aesthetic standpoint there is nothing that will delight people more than flowers, birds and butterflies.

B. Space, Design and People (1 hour) - *Stewards of the Land*, Chapter 1

- Spatial structure
- Mass and void
- 3 space-defining components: earth: mounds and grading, plants, structures
- Spatial progression/sequence
- Spatial involvement by people

C. Principles and Elements of Landscape Design (1 hour) *Stewards of the Land*, Chapter 2

- Design theory
- Approach to design
- Evolution of a design (design process)
- Organization of space for use and beauty
- Art elements as building blocks for design principles
- Design principles: balance, contrast, dominance, proportion, rhythm, scale
- Design elements: color, form, light, line, pattern, shape, size, space, texture

D. Developing Your Garden Plan (1 hour) *Stewards of the Land*, Chapter 7 & 16

- Basic steps in planning a landscape • Plot plan
- Spatial use design aka blob diagram
- Easements
- Utility lines
- Topographical features
- Drainage
- Paving
- Structures
- Plantings
- Determine environmental conditions
- Determine views: enhanced or hidden?
- Current and future family needs (list priorities)
- Define short-term and long-term goals

E. Basics of a Site Plan (1 hour) *Stewards of the Land* , Chapter 9

- Methods of simple site measurements
- Common design documents
- Mechanics of delineation simplified
- Symbols of landscape plans
- Computer-aided design (CAD)
- Currently available amateur design software: advantages and pitfalls

F. Color in the Landscape (1 hour) *Stewards of the Land* , Chapter 6

- Color perception in landscape design
- The color wheel & Seasonal color
- Colors and emotional responses
- Color variations in plants, including foliage, flowers, fruits, seeds, bark
- Incorporating hardscape with plantings to tell a color story
- Design unity through color harmony

G. Design for the Environment (1 hour) *Stewards of the Land*, Chapter 10

- Identifying your ecosystem
- Plant ecology: native plants, exotic invasive plants
- Designing with sound site-planning practices
- Designing for pollinators
- Native Plants as host plants are vital
- Creating corridors
- Indigenous materials
- Energy conservation, especially seasonal
- Sound water management: xeriscaping, rain gardens, water barrels
- Maintenance reduction
- Cost-effective design
- Implementation practices

H. Development of Landscape Design: Ancient Times to 1840 (1 hour) Landscape design as influenced by environmental and societal factors... *Stewards of the Land*, Chapter 22

- Mesopotamian design
- Egyptian design
- Medieval enclosures
- Muslim influence in Spain
- Renaissance order
- English Landscape design 1600-1840

I. Xeriscaping: Not Just for the Desert (1 hour)

- Water-wise gardening
- Well-considered landscape design
- Appropriate drought-tolerant plants
- Reduction or elimination of turf
 - ◆ Rainwater capture and/or efficient irrigation
 - ◆ Soil analysis and amendments
 - ◆ Mulches (including organic, inorganic and living)
 - ◆ Maintenance

J. Keynote Speaker: Greg Grant