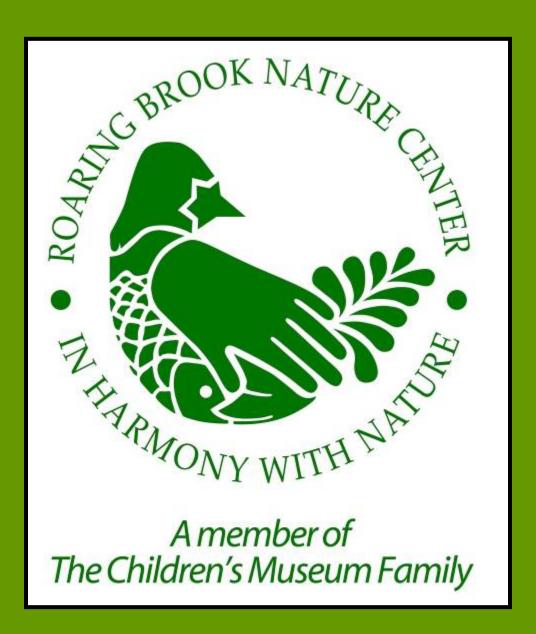
## Saving our wild areas

- one yard at a time

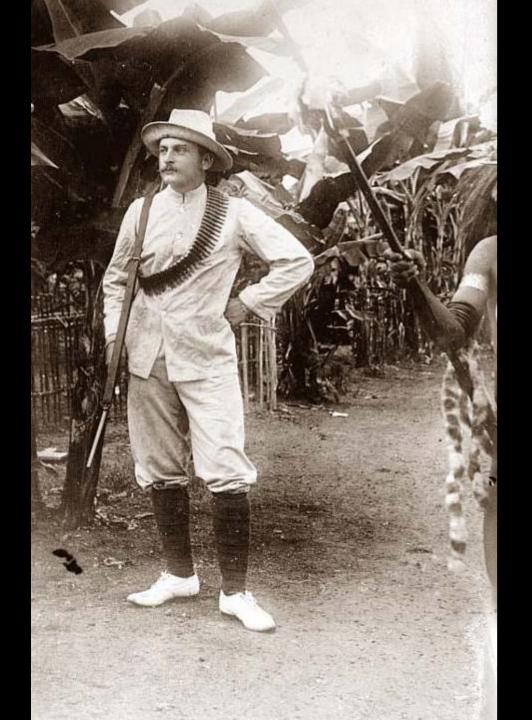


















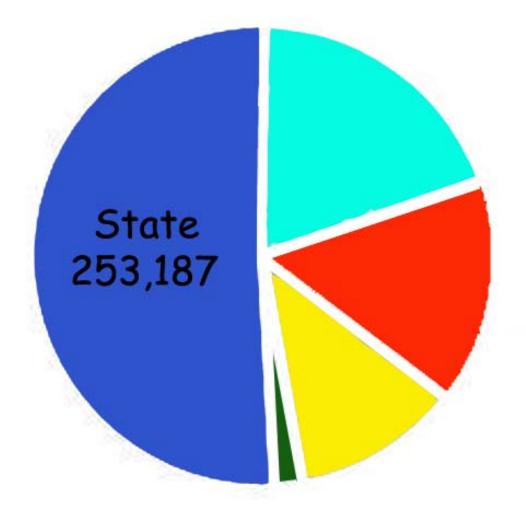








#### Acres of Preserved Land by Ownership



The Connecticut
Green Plan Goal
21% Open Space
by 2023

CEQ - 2008 Report

Federal 10,000

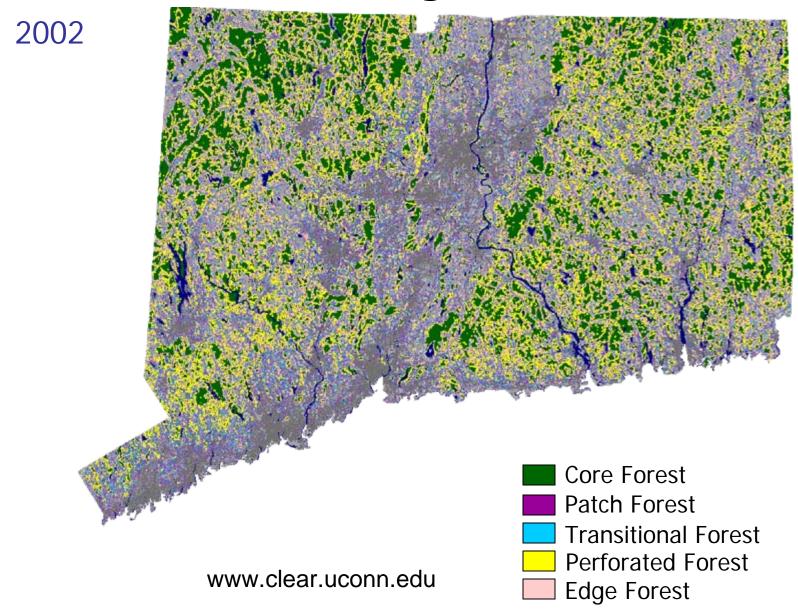
#### Macricostas Preserve Meadow in Washington, CT Steep Rock Land Trust



94 Land Trusts in Connecticut

## Is 21% open space enough?

#### Forest Fragmentation



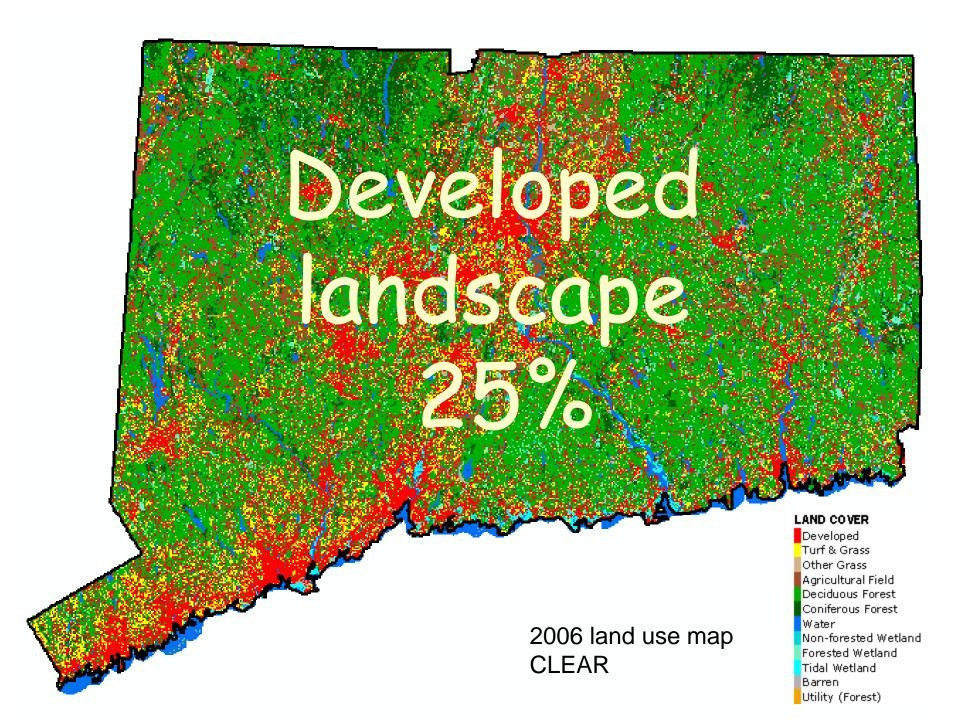
# Connecticut's Endangered, Threatened and Special Concern Species 2004



State of Connecticut
Department of Environmental Protection
2004

#### 600 listed species

- Grassland species
- Thicket species
- Wetland species





France has 13 million gardeners and four times more acres of gardens than nature preserves



# Peacock butterfly on brambles

Caterpillars on nettles





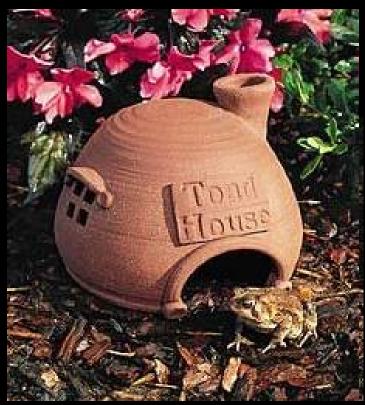
We like the concept of nature





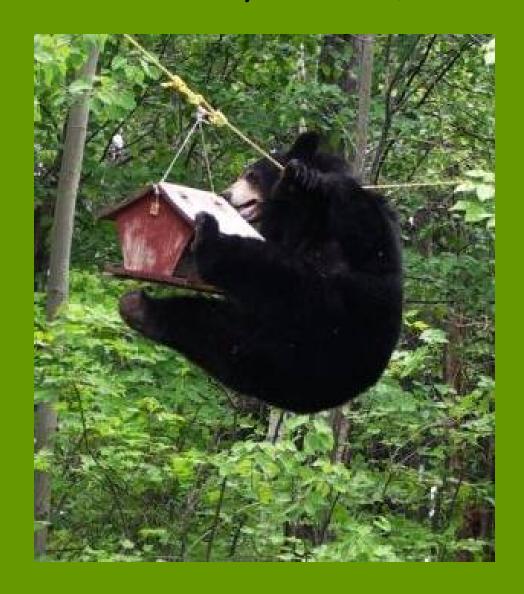








#### Bear feeder?





Bird-proof squirrel feeder?

### Biodiversity



But is this really biodiversity?





#### Butterfly bush

- Nectar source only

#### Milkweeds

- Nectar source for adults
- host plant for caterpillars







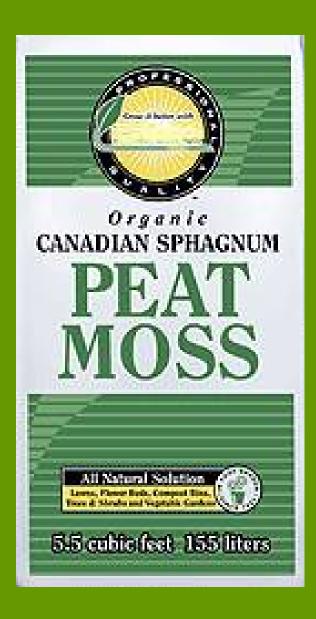
500,000 to 1.2 million tons of birdseed purchased annually in the US











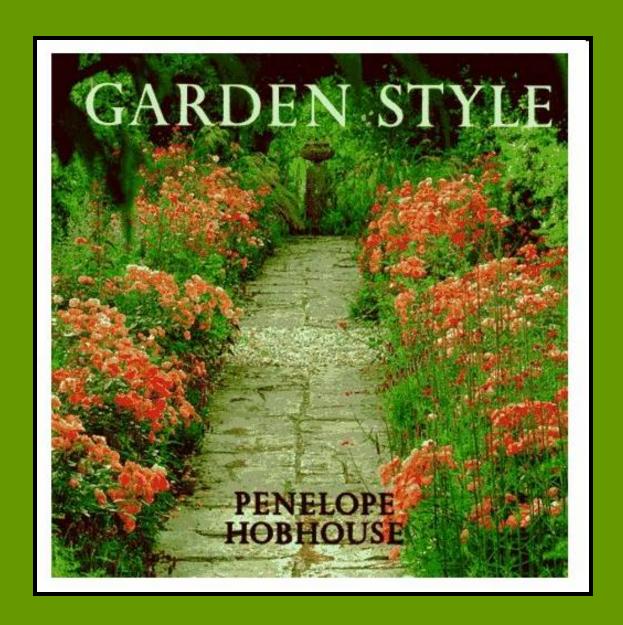












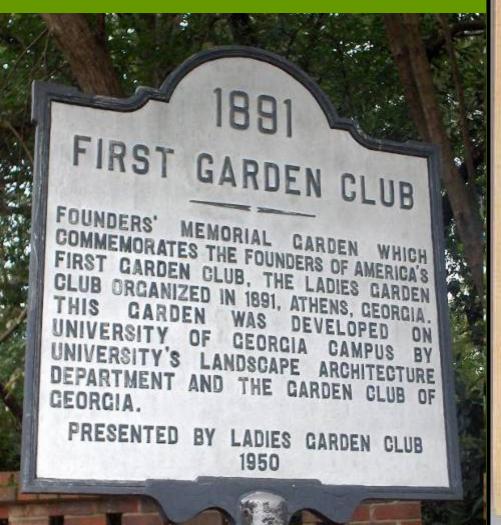


Versailles

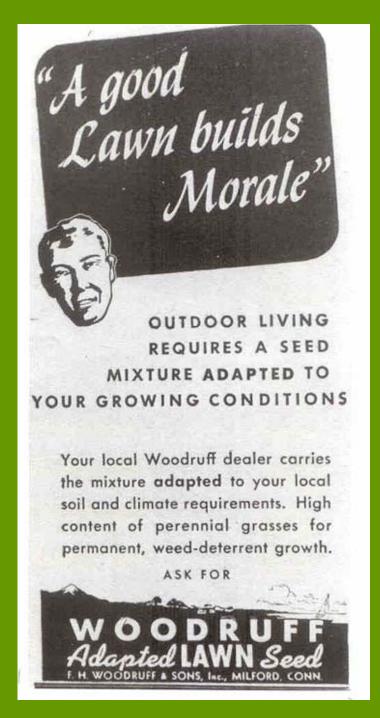


Victorian gardens

# City Beautiful Movement













Lawn is the "Default" Landscape Setting



Source: CLEAR



Source: CLEAR

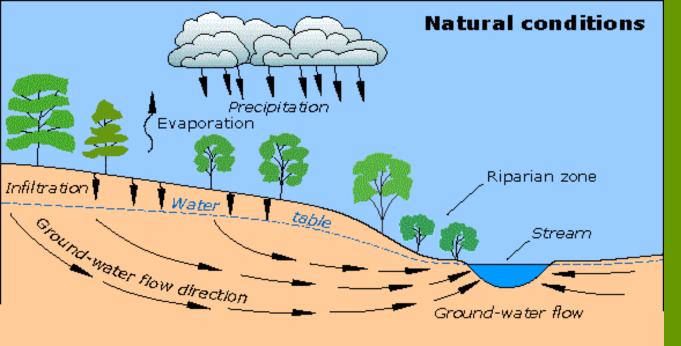




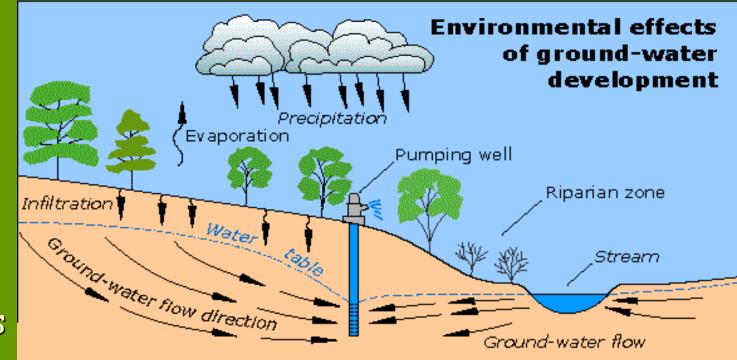




No public water withdrawals from rivers downstream of sewage treatment or industrial outfalls



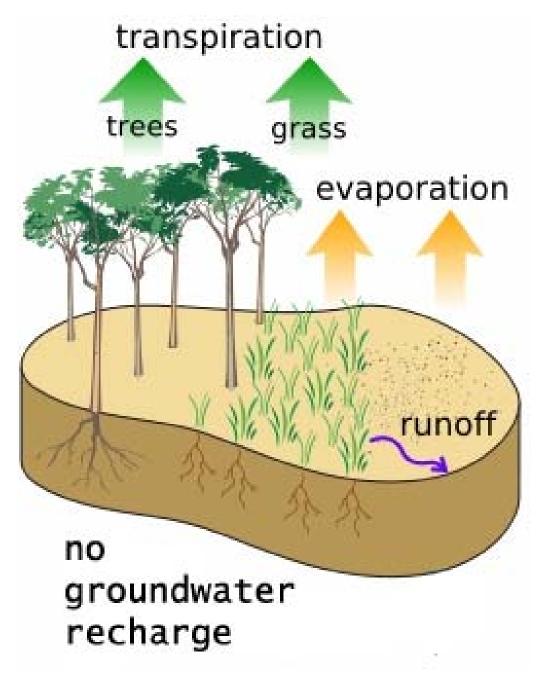
Groundwater flows to streams



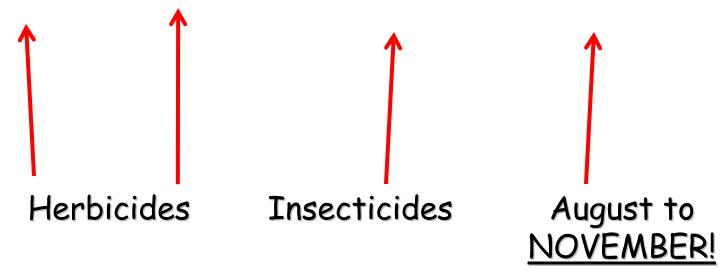
Groundwater diverted from streams







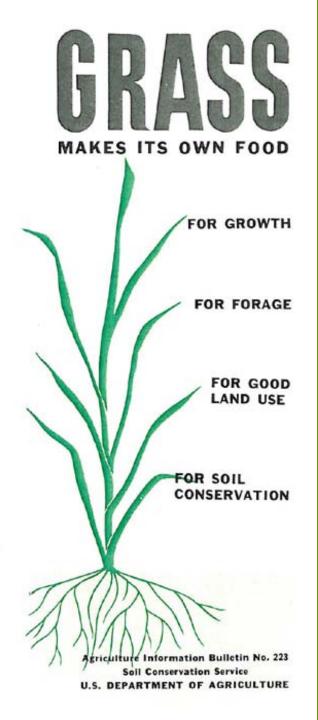


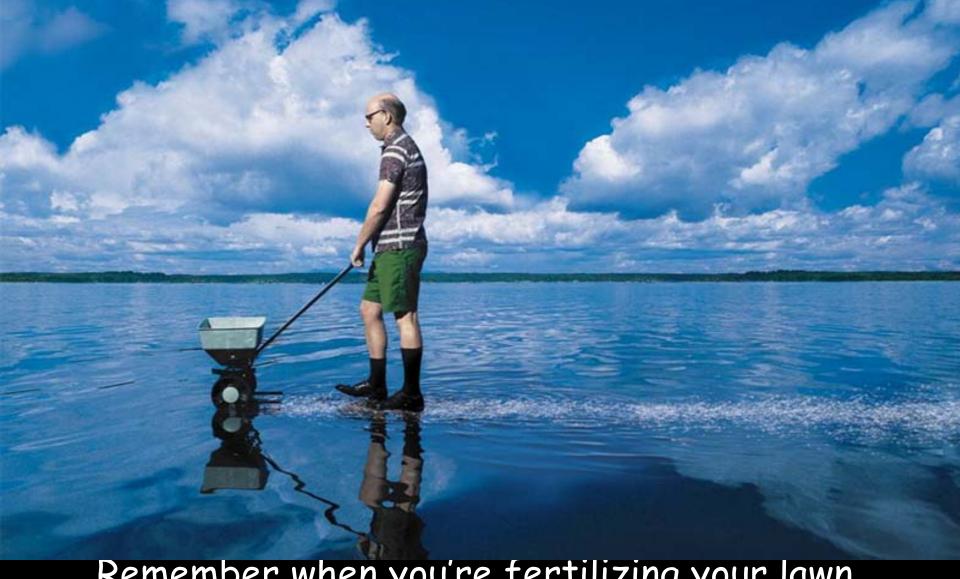




Organic lawn additives





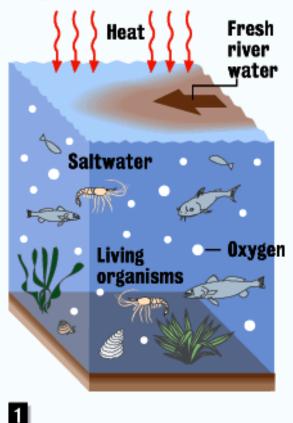


Remember when you're fertilizing your lawn, you're not just fertilizing your lawn

Source: Puget Sound Consortium

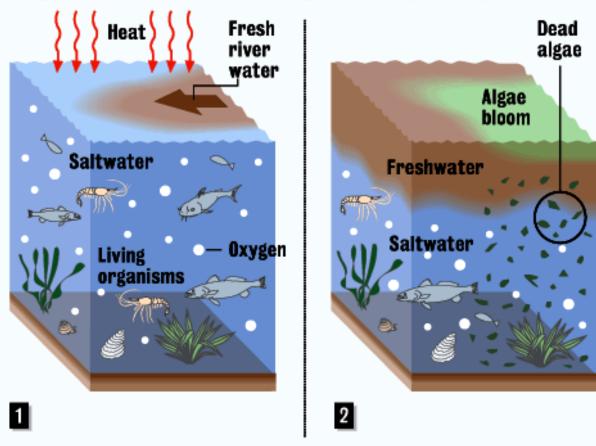


### **HOW THE DEAD ZONE FORMS**



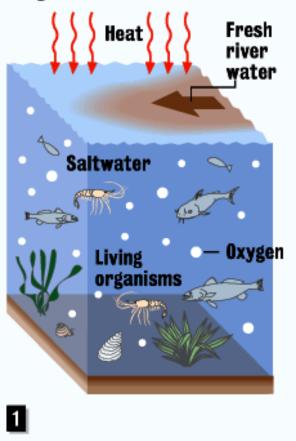
From Dan Swenson, The Times - Picayune

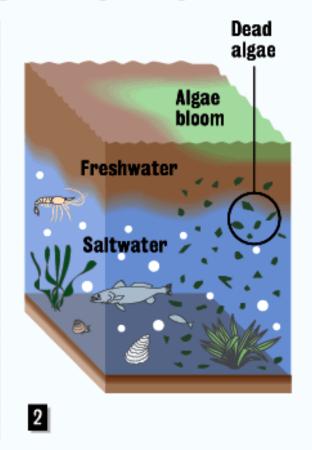
### **HOW THE DEAD ZONE FORMS**

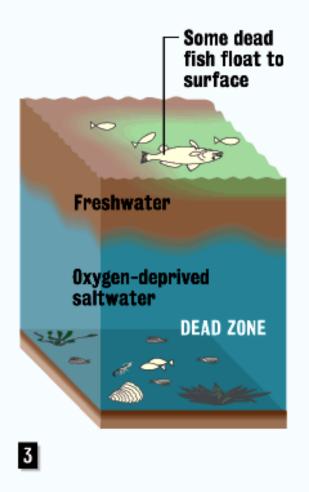


From Dan Swenson, The Times - Picayune

#### **HOW THE DEAD ZONE FORMS**

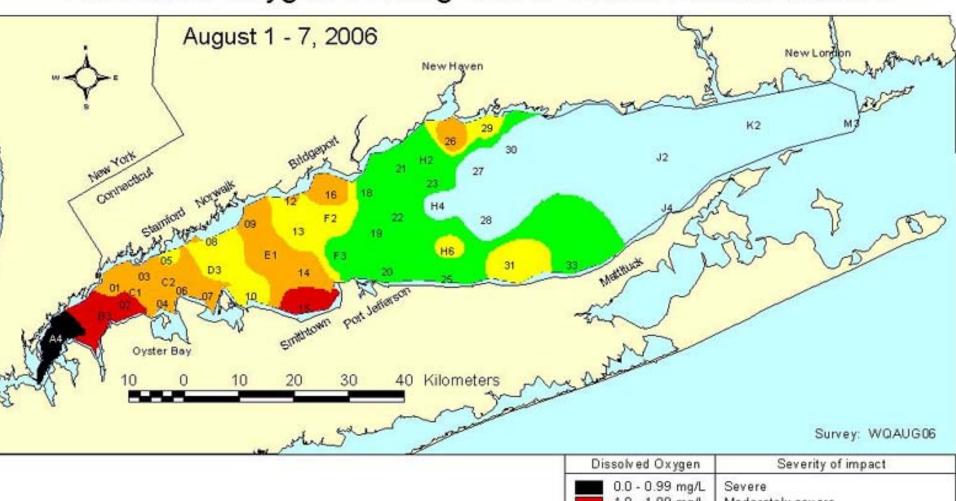






From Dan Swenson, The Times - Picayune

#### Dissolved Oxygen in Long Island Sound Bottom Waters



Dissolved Oxygen	Severity of impact	
0.0 - 0.99 mg/L	Severe	
1.0 - 1.99 mg/L	Moderately severe	
2.0 - 2.99 mg/L	Moderate	
3.0 - 3.49 mg/L	Marginal	
3.5 - 4.79 mg/L	Interim management goal	
4.8 + mg/L	Excellent - Supportive of marine life	



The Black Sea "dead zone" disappeared between 1991 and 2001 after fertilizers became too expensive after the decline of the USSR

More types of pesticides found in urban streams than agricultural streams.

More pounds of pesticides applied in urban areas than agricultural areas.

Source: USGS



## Environmental effects of the most commonly used home/garden pesticides EPA (2001)

Pesticide	Toxic to birds	Toxic to fish & water organisms	Toxic to bees
Insecticides			
Carbaryl		X	Х
Malathion	Х	X	Х
Herbicides			
Benfluralin	Х	X	
2,4-D	Х	X	Х
Dacthal		X	Х
Glyphosate		X	
МСРР		X	
Pendimethalin		X	



Audubon Society estimates that millions of songbirds die annually after consuming pesticides





"If you buy the notion that we have to accept a certain amount of risk from pesticides to safeguard the food supply, that's one thing. But with lawns, people are applying carcinogens simply for the sake of aesthetics.

That's got to change."



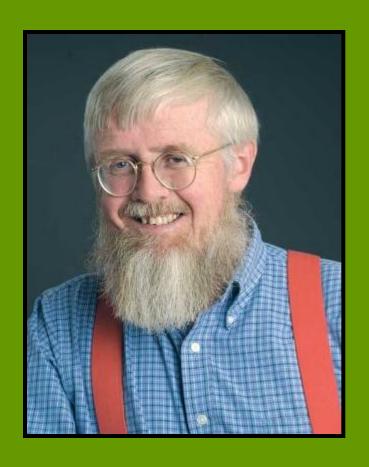
Michael Surgan, Ph.D.
Chief Scientist
NY State Attorney General
Environ. Protection Bureau



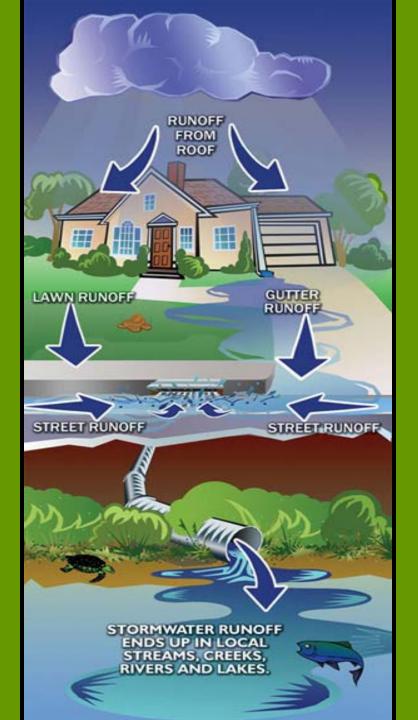
Lawn chemicals are now banned in more than half of Canada and not sold in Home Depot and other major retail chains

"You can tell a good gardener by how little he buys"

- Roger Swain



You can tell how well a garden is designed by how little irrigation it needs

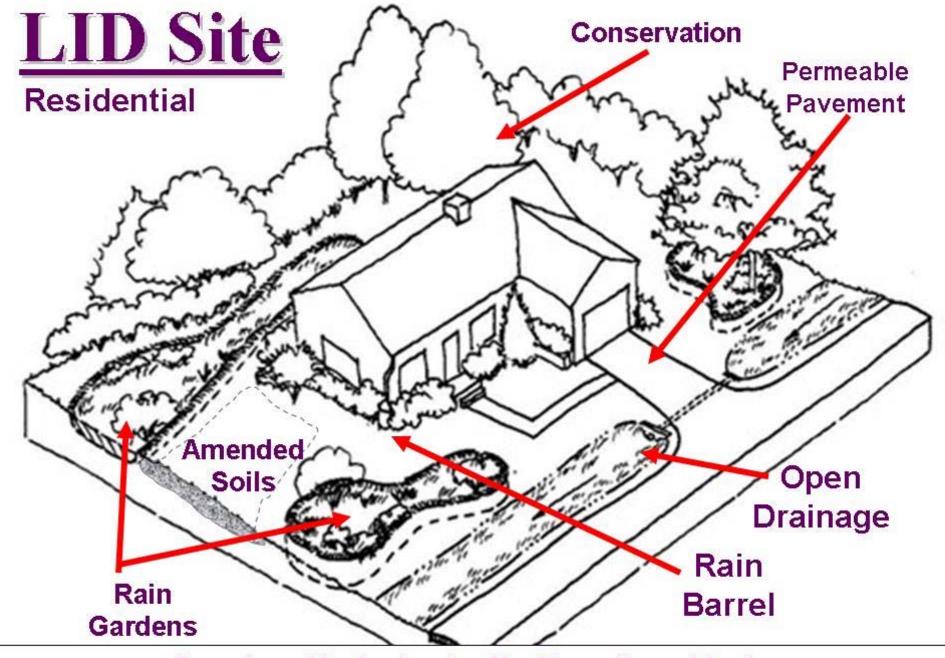


Our yards are designed to shed water as quickly as possible

Graphic: North Carolina Dept. of Environment & Natural Resources



Our urban and suburban streams are either flood or run dry

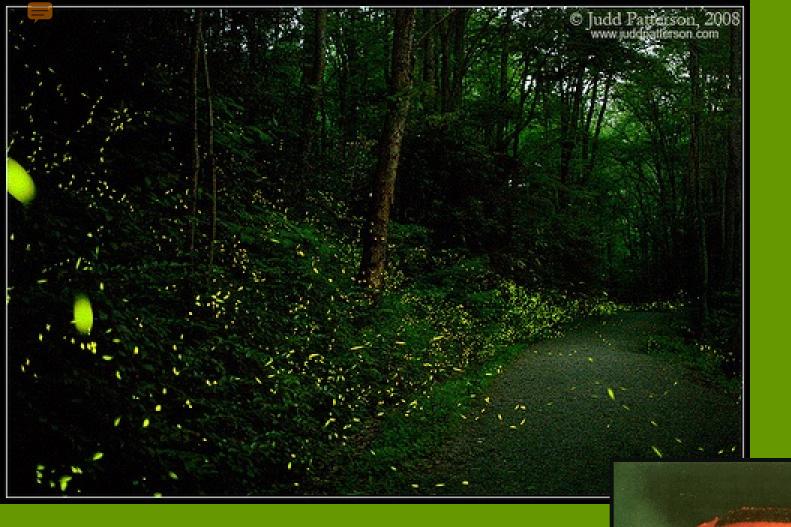


Create a Hydrologically Functional Lot









Fireflies!





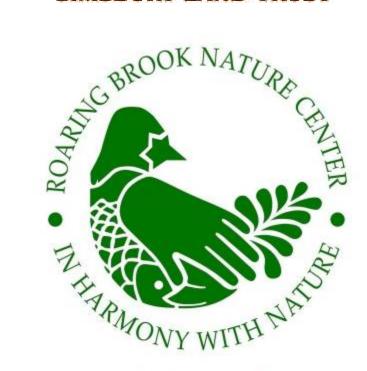




Scotch Broom Cytisus scoparius







A member of The Children's Museum Family Winged euonymus Autumn olive European privet Multiflora rose Bush honeysuckles Common buckthorn Japanese barberry Japanese knotweed Oriental bittersweet Garlic mustard Bittercress ...



American chestnuts

Missing from our landscape



Harvard Forest Fisher Museum diorama

# PAWLING NATURE RESERVE

### THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

REFUGE FOR PLANTS AND WILDLIFE AND A LIVING MUSEUM FOR MAN'S USE

Help us preserve for the future this heritage from the past.





New England
Wildflower Society
Garden in the Woods

Roaring Brook
Nature Center
Native Plant
Bird &
Butterfly
Garden



Blackledge River Nursery - Marlborough, CT (100%)\*

Broken Arrow Nursery - Hamden (35%)

Earth Tones Native Plant Nursery - Woodbury (100%)

Natural Attraction Project - Griswold (50%)

Prides Corner Farms - Lebanon (25%)

Summer Hill Nursery - Madison (40%)

Sunny Border Nurseries - Kensington (25%)

White Flower Farms - Litchfield (20%)

\* % native plants





### Spicebush Swallowtail







### BRINGING NATURE HOME



How Native Plants
Sustain Wildlife
in Our Gardens

DOUGLAS W. TALLAMY



Native woody plants produce 35 times more caterpillar biomass than non-native woody plants





# Caterpillars are baby bird food





### Native plants provide:

- · the right nutrition
- · the right size
- · at the right time





#### Hybridized rose

Native rose

If you were a bee, which flower would you visit?



#### Ultraviolet





How we see a flower How a bee may see a flower

# Variety, not biodiversity

Japanese maple

Chinese tree peony

Sweet woodruff (Europe)

Chamaecyparis (Japan)

Candytuft (Spain)

Daylily (Central Asia)

Clematis (India, Java)



### So what should we plant?



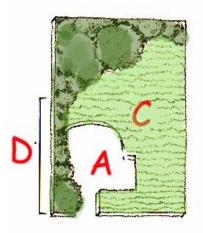


Thickets

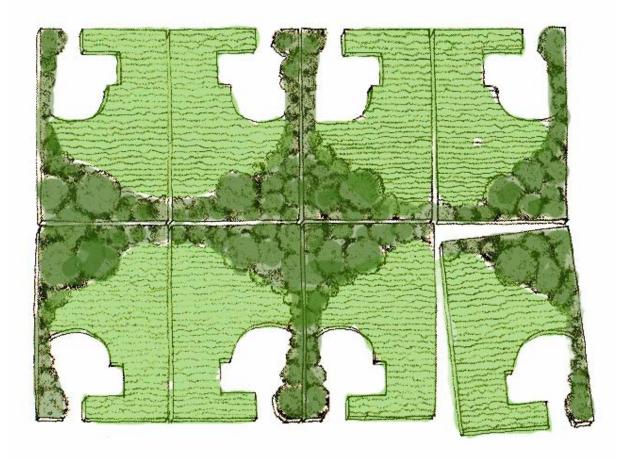


### Meadows

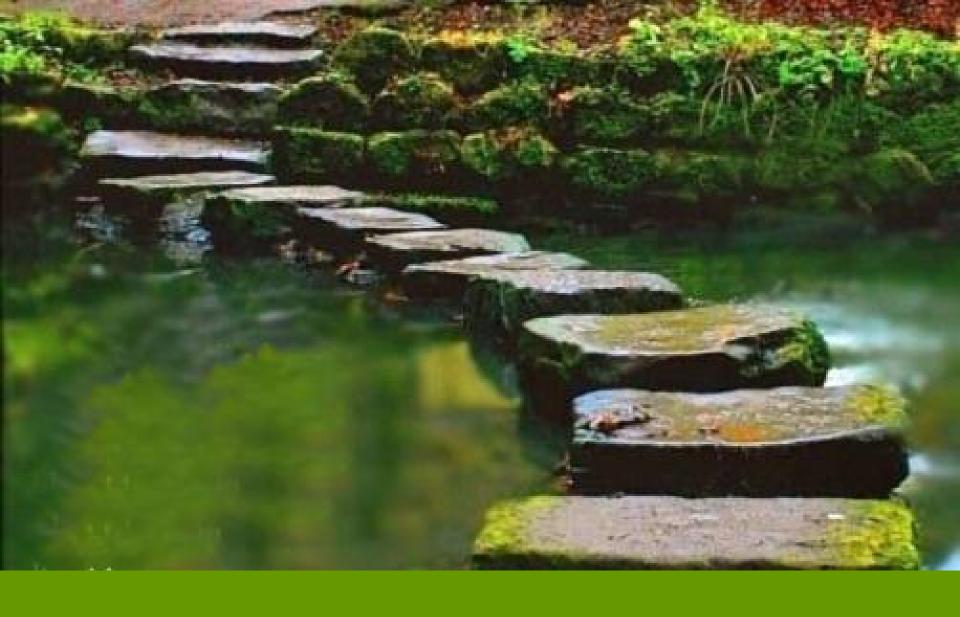




## future suburbia: lawn or terrace



From <u>Noah's Garden</u> By Sara Stein

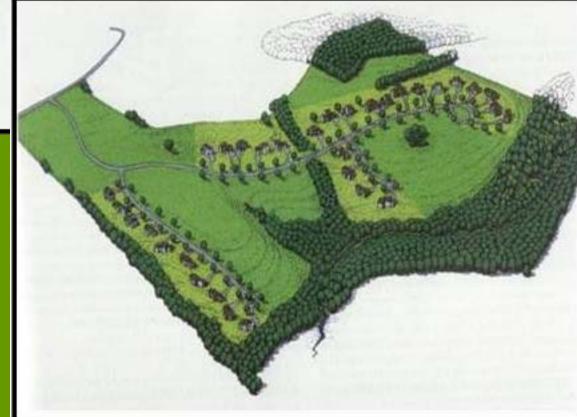


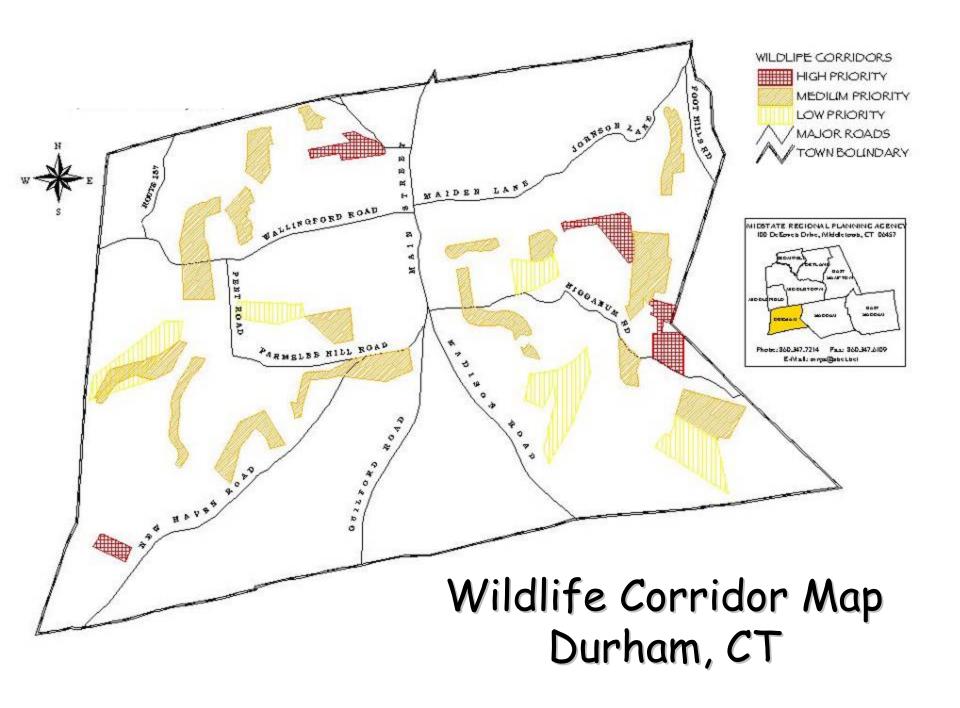
Habitat "stepping stones"

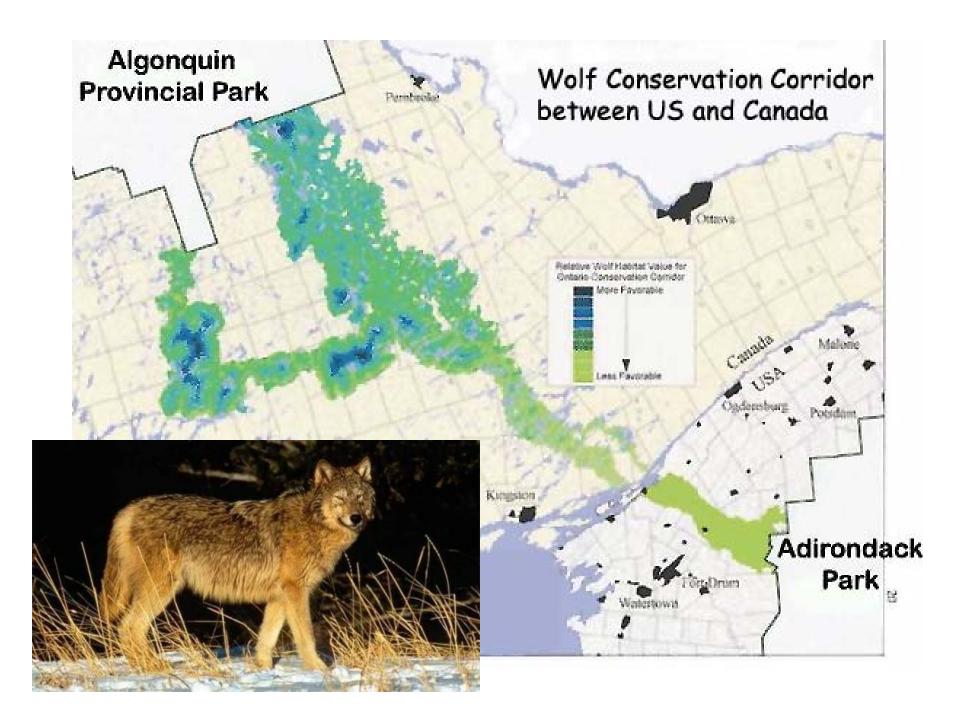


Traditional development

Low Impact Development







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# NOAH'S GARDEN

RESTORING THE



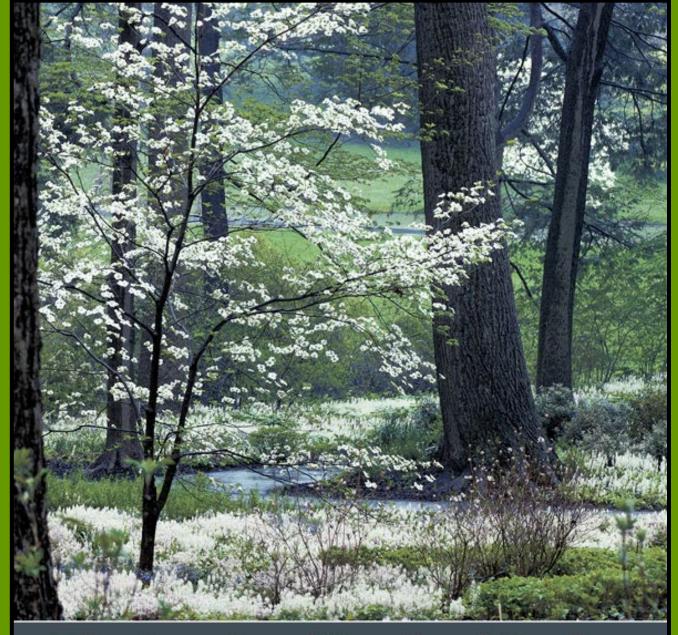
ECOLOGY

OF OUR

OWN BACK YARDS

SARA STEIN

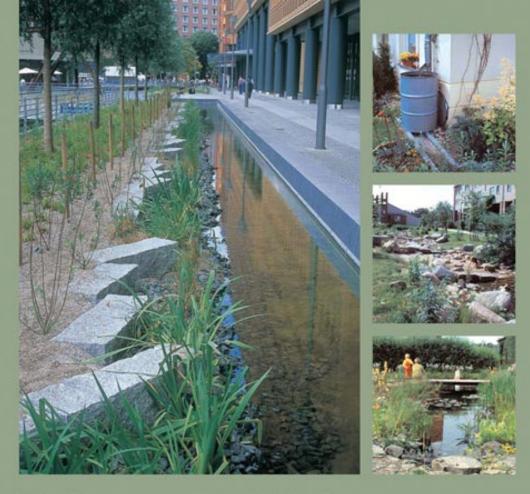
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### The American Woodland Garden

Capturing the Spirit of the Deciduous Forest % Text and photography by Rick Darke

"The American Meadow Garden is a tour de force. If the thought of transforming your boring lawn into an intricate self-sustaining meadow has ever crossed your mind, John Greenlee has all the tools you will need." - SCOTT CALHOUN BEAUTIFUL . SUSTAINABLE . WELL-DESIGNED The American Meadow Garden Creating a Natural Alternative to the Traditional Lawn John Greenlee рнотодкарну ву Saxon Holt

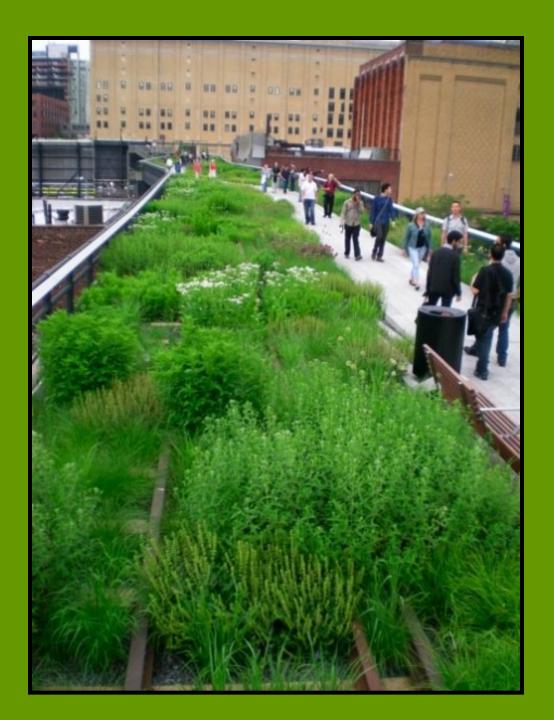


**Nigel Dunnett and Andy Clayden** 

### RAIN GARDENS

Managing water sustainably in the garden and designed landscape





High Line Park New York City



