








**2015 New England Regional
Accreditation Course in Organic Land Care
February 9-12, 2015
Snow date February 13th**

Speaker Biographies

	<p>Jenna Messier is the Director of the NOFA Organic Land Care Program. She has a B.S. in Agriculture from the Ohio State University and is currently in the EMBA Program at the University of New Haven. Jenna worked on organic farms and in residential landscaping on Martha's Vineyard for 10 years. She loves getting off of the computer and into her urban garden, where she raises pears, strawberries and colorful butterfly gardens on .1 acre.</p>
	<p>Julie Snell is a founding principal at TEND landscape inc., a landscape architectural and horticultural consulting firm in Philadelphia focusing on sustainable practices in landscape design, specification, installation and stewardship. Prior to forming TEND, Julie gained expertise in landscape management of high-profile public spaces through her 14 years as a project manager with the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society (PHS). Julie became an AOLCP in 2012 and quickly formed a partnership with the NOFA OLC Program to bring the 4-day Accreditation Course to Philadelphia.</p>
	<p>Heather Crawford attended Occidental College majoring in Biology, with a Marine Biology emphasis, and earned her M.S. in Biological Oceanography/Coastal Resources Management from University of Connecticut. She spent 14 years with the Connecticut Sea Grant Extension Program developing and presenting programs on coastal ecosystems and land use impacts on water sources before leaving to concentrate on raising a family and creating a sustainable landscape on their three-acre farm.</p>
	<p>Dr. Robert Rafka began his training in chemistry at Syracuse University and he holds a doctorate degree in carbohydrate chemistry from Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario. Bob now teaches physics at Fitch High School in CT. Bob was a member of the URI Master Gardener class of 1998 and reached MG Hall of Fame status in 2011. Because of his chemical background, he quickly became involved with projects that were related to soil, plant nutrition, and compost.</p>
	<p>Peter Schmidt, co-founder of NY based Compostwerks LLC is an ISA Certified Arborist, Soil Foodweb Advisor and a NOFA Accredited Organic Land Care Professional. Through his 31 year journey in the green industry, Peter has completely transitioned his plant and soil management practices to 100% organic. His company provides a comprehensive range of compost tea equipment & supplies, OMRI listed organic materials, sprayers, mycorrhizal inoculants and compost top dressing equipment. Compostwerks provides consulting and support to businesses that wish to offer sustainable land care services</p>



Michael Nadeau - After 45 years in the landscape and tree trade, Mike sold his portion of Plantscapes Organics, Inc. to his brother and long-time partner Dan, and founded Michael Nadeau Wholistic Land Care Consulting, LLC. As one of the founding members of the NOFA Organic Land Care Program back in 1999, Mike has been blessed to work with the most knowledgeable and dedicated people in organic land care to develop this program. He is grateful to CT NOFA for providing a place where he can pass along his love of caring for the land.



Dr. Kirby C. Stafford III is Chief Entomologist (Head) of the Department of Entomology at The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station and the State Entomologist. His research area is the ecology and control of the blacklegged tick with a recent focus on natural, biological, and integrated tick control. He received his Ph.D. in medical-veterinary entomology from Texas A&M University, a Master of Science degree in entomology at Kansas State University, and a Bachelor of Science degree in entomology at Colorado State University. Dr. Stafford's Tick Management Handbook has been a popular general guide to ticks, tick-associated diseases, and tick management options.



Chip Osborne is a professional horticulturist with over 35 years of experience in various aspects of the green industry. As a turf professional, his focus has been for many years on developing a successful natural turf management program for athletic fields, public parks, and municipal properties. He is the founder of Osborne Organics, a consulting firm, that specializes in educational training and support to industry professionals as well as municipalities, school districts, and facilities managers.



Nancy DuBrule-Clemente is the owner of Natureworks Horticultural Services in Northford, Conn. Since its founding in 1983, Natureworks' has only used and sold organic fertilizers and pest control products. A graduate of the Rackliffe Hicks School of the University of Connecticut in Floriculture, Nancy is a past president of CT NOFA. She is the coauthor of *A Country Garden for your Backyard*, 1995, and author of *Succession of Bloom in the Perennial Garden*, 2004.



Dan Dalton is an experienced Arborist, landscape manager, and educator. He is an arborist with Almstead Tree and Shrub Care Company and an Adjunct Professor in the Horticulture Program in Naugatuck Valley Community College. Dan is an AOLCP and has taught at a number of NOFA workshops and accreditation courses. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry at Syracuse University.



Meg McGrath is an Associate Professor in the Department of Plant Pathology and Plant-Microbe Biology at Cornell University. She has been working since 1988 at the Long Island Horticultural Research and Extension Center. Her extension/research program includes diagnosis and organic management of diseases affecting vegetable crops. Research topics being addressed include evaluating resistant varieties, other cultural practices, and fungicides approved for organic production.



Sam Billings graduated from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst in 2011 with a Bachelor's Degree in Plant & Soil Sciences and a concentration in Sustainable Food & Farming. During his time there, he was a part of the core group that founded the UMass Permaculture Initiative. He received his Permaculture Design Certificate in 2009 after a three week intensive program at Sirius Ecovillage and has since taken a Permaculture Teacher Training Course with Dave Jacke. For the past three years, Sam has been working for a private estate in Stamford, Connecticut where he has designed and implemented a 2-acre garden using permaculture techniques.



Frank H. Crandall, III Owns and operates Frank Crandall Horticultural Solutions, LLC; offering design work, garden maintenance, and pruning for clients in Southern RI and Eastern Connecticut. Additionally, Frank performs small business consultations, hosts GEM Business Seminars and Leadership Workshops, speaks throughout New England, and in 2011 published his second book: "The Essential Horticultural Business Handbook" and 2013 his third book, "Creating a More Peaceful, Happy and Successful Life!". Frank has been an Accredited Organic Land Care Professional since 2005.



Trevor Smith is the lead designer at Arlington, Massachusetts based Land Escapes Design Inc, an ecological landscape design/build company specializing in native plant design, living walls, green roofs, rain harvesting, permeable pavements and urban farming. Trevor is a Massachusetts Certified Horticulturist (MCH), Accredited Organic Land Care Professional (AOLCP) and LEED Green Associate (through USGBC). He is currently the President of the Ecological Landscaping Association and holds certifications as a Green Living Technologies (GLT) Living Roof and Wall Installer.