



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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Contact: Jeremy Pelletier  
[jeremy@organiclandcare.net](mailto:jeremy@organiclandcare.net)

## ONLINE ORGANIC LAWN CARE CERTIFICATE COURSE FOR LAWN & TURF CARE PROFESSIONALS AND MUNICIPALITIES

Derby and Norwich, CT - Northeast Organic Farming Association of Connecticut's Organic Land Care Program, in collaboration with Three Rivers Community College's Workforce and Community Education Division, invites lawn and turf care professionals to register for the **Online NOFA Organic Lawn Care Certificate Course** starting August 12, 2014. This 9-unit, non-college credit course is a complete introduction to managing grass and lawns organically and will enable lawn care professionals to market and communicate this information to individual clients or municipalities. Landscape architects, environmental educators, and homeowners will also value this information as it relates to the increasing focus on sustainability.

Students will receive instruction in 9 subject areas via pre-recorded lectures and power point presentations which discuss the environmental benefits of organic lawn care and provide technical horticultural instruction from Accredited Organic Land Care Professionals. This course is being administered by Three Rivers Community College and is offered on the Blackboard Learn platform which allows students to take the online course at their own pace.

Beginning with a presentation by Judy Preston of the Long Island Sound Study, students will view *Surf and Turf: Making the Environmental Connections between Landscaping and the Long Island Sound*. Chip Osborne, a national leader in organic turf care and President of Osborne Organics, LLC presents the following units: *Soil Basics for Lawn Care*, *An Introduction to Organic Land Care*, *Fertility and Turfgrass Nutrition*, and *Dealing with Pests in Turf*. Tom Barry, the Grounds Manager and Field Specialist at Greens Farms Academy, shares his professional experience in both *Cultural Practices and Pesticide Free Athletic Field Management on School Grounds*. Frank Crandall, owner of Frank Crandall, Horticultural Solutions, LLC, offers business education in *Profits with Organic Lawn Care*. The course concludes with Bernadette Giblin from Safeground Organic Land Care discussing the *Marketing and Messaging* of organic lawn care as a health benefit to clients and municipalities.

The full course will be offered on an open enrollment basis and the fee is \$150 per student. We invite all those interested in organic lawn and turf care to register. 6 CT DEEP and 4 AOLCP Continuing Education Units are available upon the successful completion of this course.

For more information, visit [organiclandcare.net/lawncertificatecourse](http://organiclandcare.net/lawncertificatecourse) or call the CT NOFA Office at 203-308-2584. To register for the course, visit [www.threerivers.edu/nofa](http://www.threerivers.edu/nofa). The NOFA Organic Land Care Program, a program of CT NOFA, has worked to extend organic agriculture principles and practices to yards, gardens and playing fields since 1999. To search by zip code for a NOFA accredited organic land care professional visit [www.organiclandcare.net/aolcp-search](http://www.organiclandcare.net/aolcp-search).

NOFA Organic Land Care Program  
Jenna Messier • Program Director • [Jenna@organiclandcare.net](mailto:Jenna@organiclandcare.net)  
126 Derby Avenue, Derby, CT 06418 • [ctnofa.org](http://ctnofa.org) • 203-308-2584