

THE BEST NATIVE PLANTS FOR YOUR LANDSCAPE

Where: Saugus Library Community room

When: Thursday May 16th at 6 p.m.

Light refreshments will be served

FREE to the public but donations greatly accepted

Door Prizes and Raffles

The Saugus Tree Committee presents a slide lecture on

Best Native Plants for Your Landscape by *Laura D. Eisener* at the *Saugus Public Library* Thursday



The Best Native Plants For Your Landscape

Native plants can bring a long season of interest to your garden and landscape, provide food for wildlife, habitat for birds and butterflies, and give you a connection to the nature and history of New England! Wouldn't you like to grow a small tree that spurred much of the exploration of the New England coast, and will give you outstanding fall color as well as intrigue your children with its 3 different leaf shapes?

Can you guess what it is? It's Sassafras! How about a trio of perennials that will attract migrating Monarch butterflies in the fall and provide a beautiful bouquet of cut flowers?

I'd suggest Butterfly Weed, New England Aster, and Purple Coneflower. You might not think a bear could make much of a meal on a berry less than 1/4" across, but an evergreen groundcover that formed the basis of a Native American smoking mixture and is a significant part of most New England bears' diets can be a low maintenance lawn alternative in your landscape. This is the beautiful Bearberry, or Kinnikinnick. I'll bet you know this one: How about a shrub that is most known for its tasty blue summer fruit, familiar to birds, bears, Native Americans, early settlers, your ancestors, and your children! Did you ever consider the tall species as a hedge with spectacular red fall color, or the low species as a lawn substitutes, edging plant, or rock garden specimen? Of course this is Blueberry - High bush and Low bush. Some of these plants will be familiar, although you may not have considered all the interesting landscape uses. Others will probably be new to you, since some of them have not become part of most gardeners' vocabulary yet. In this slide illustrated talk we will discuss some of the regions most intriguing native landscape trees, shrubs, and perennials that you can

grow. Come have fun and hopefully get some great ideas for your landscape!

In this slide illustrated lecture we will see many examples of plants that will grow well here in Saugus, with tips for planting and maintaining gardens around the roots of trees.

Laura D. Eisener is a landscape designer from Saugus, MA and teacher in the Landscape Institute of the Boston Architectural College. She is co-author of the Newton Conservators' Almanac and was Massachusetts Editor of People, Places, and Plants Magazine from 2001 until 2009.

