

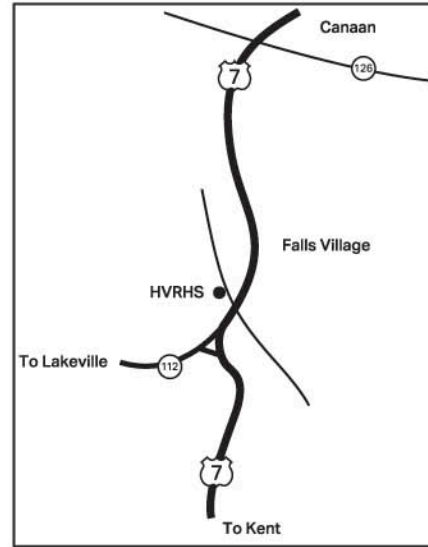
BIOGRAPHIES, CONT'D.

and a touch of humor. She is a NOFA-Accredited Organic Land Care Professional and active member of GWA, The Association of Garden Communicators. www.karenbussolini.com

Donna Ellis is a Senior Extension Educator in the Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture at the University of Connecticut, where she has worked for 28 years. Donna is the UConn Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Program Coordinator and conducts IPM training programs for nurseries and garden centers. She teaches two courses at UConn on agricultural and horticultural plant pests and is involved with educational outreach and applied research programs for insects, weeds, and plant pathogens, with an emphasis on invasive plants and biological control. Donna serves as Co-Chairperson of the Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group (CIPWG), a statewide organization whose mission is to provide invasive plant education. The Working Group convenes biennial symposia on invasive plants.

Tom Wessels is a terrestrial ecologist and professor emeritus at Antioch University New England where he founded the master's degree program in Conservation Biology. He is author of numerous books with his latest being *Granite, Fire, and Fog: The Natural and Cultural History of Acadia*. Tom has conducted ecological and sustainability programs throughout the country for over three decades.

DIRECTIONS



Housatonic Valley Regional High School is at 246 Warren Turnpike in Falls Village, CT 06031. The driveway is located at the traffic light on Route 7 next to the bridge, just north of the intersection with Route 112.

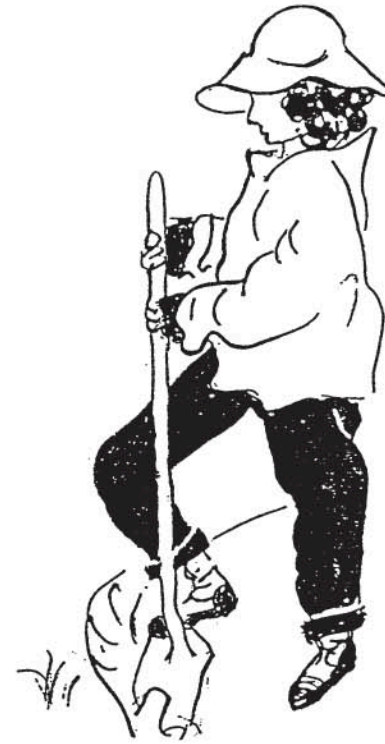
Snow Day – Sunday, March 4, 2018.
To learn if the symposium is postponed due to inclement weather, call one of the following: (860) 355-1547, (860) 927-0081 or (860) 355-3429.

SCIENCE DAY

Mad Gardeners sponsors a day-long program of speakers for high school students at Housatonic Valley Regional High School. We appreciate your help in paying for this program. Donations are optional and tax-deductible. Call (860) 355-1547 if you are interested in attending this year's program on April 20.

For Additional Information Contact:
Kathleen Nelson 860.355.1547
Angela Dimmitt 860.355.3429

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Gardening with Wildlife:

The Balancing Act

Saturday
March 3, 2018

Housatonic Valley Regional HS
Falls Village, Connecticut

Sponsored by
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Gardening with Wildlife:
The Balancing Act
Saturday, March 3, 2018

Recertification Credits Possible:
Please visit www.madgardeners.org
for details and to view photographs
provided by the speakers.

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BIOGRAPHIES

Kathy Diemer has been drawn to nature since childhood. Sharing its wonder and beauty is her greatest joy. From caring for animals to taking long walks through the woods surrounding her home, she maintains a solid connection with the surroundings that continue to inspire her. A self-taught gardener and photographer, Kathy has created a haven for all sorts of wildlife that she portrays on her website: *A Garden For All*; in publications such as *Fine Gardening*, *Horticulture* and *Connecticut Magazine*; and in presentations to local garden clubs and organizations. Kathy's gardens were featured in *The Litchfield County Times* and Stephanie Cohen's book: *The Nonstop Garden*.

Heather Holm is an award-winning author and nationally sought-after speaker spending much of her time passionately educating audiences about the fascinating world of native bees and the native plants that support them. Her first book, *Pollinators of Native Plants*, published in 2014, helped establish her as a knowledgeable resource on the interactions between native bees and native plants. Her latest book, *Bees*, published in 2017, has won four book awards.

Heather currently lives in Minnesota where she is a self-employed author, biologist, and publisher. For the past few years, she has been assisting with native bee research projects. The most recent research project was a two-year study to determine the types of native bees present in cultivated blueberry farms in Minnesota and Wisconsin. The study included developing customized plans to enhance and expand both forage plants and nesting sites for bees within the farms.

Karen Bussolini is a nationally known garden photographer, writer and speaker and an eco-friendly garden coach. Her art background and focus on environmental topics—ecological landscaping, native plants, biodiversity, xeriscaping, organic gardening, planting for wildlife, pollinators and other beneficial insects—inform every aspect of her work. Her slide talks combine beautiful original images, recent scientific findings, personal observations, hands-on experience

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Gardening with Wildlife: *The Balancing Act*

Saturday, March 3, 2018

- 8:30 a.m. **REGISTRATION** plus **“Critters in My Garden: The Home They Love,”** a repeating slideshow created by Kathy Diemer. Photos are from Kathy's backyard except as noted.
- 9:00–9:10 a.m. **INTRODUCTION**
- 9:10–10:10 a.m. **Heather Holm *Attracting Bees and Beneficial Insects with Native Plants***
Most insects have a positive impact in our landscapes. Native plants can be selected to attract specific bees and beneficial insects including predatory and parasitic wasps, beetles, flies, true bugs, and lacewings. Learn about the predator-prey relationships of these flower-visiting beneficial insects and how they help keep problem insect populations in balance. With stunning photographs and videos, Heather will also cover the life cycles, diversity, and nesting habitat of native bees.
- 10:10–10:40 a.m. **COFFEE BREAK, Vendors, Exhibits, and Slideshow**
- 10:45–11:45 a.m. **Karen Bussolini *Designing with Plenty for Pollinators***
News of declining bee populations has prompted gardeners all over the country to take action. Gardeners are uniquely able to support the entire life cycle of pollinators, beneficial insects, birds and other wildlife. Good plant choices and restorative land care practices, coupled with simple awareness of the living world buzzing all around us, have a big impact. Karen's photos highlight high-value plants and wildlife-friendly plantings disguised as gorgeous gardens. After all, we're not just cultivating flowers, we're cultivating habitat.
- 11:45–11:55 a.m. **Q&A with Heather Holm and Karen Bussolini**
- 11:55–1:05 p.m. **BAG LUNCH** (included with registration), **Vendors, Exhibits, and Slideshow**
- 1:10–2:10 p.m. **Donna Ellis *Insects and Mites: What's New in Your Garden?***
Insect and mite pests continue to be a concern in our gardens. Lily leaf beetle, brown marmorated stink bug, and viburnum leaf beetle are a few of the more recent pests attacking perennials, shrubs, and trees in the landscape. Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a sustainable approach to minimize plant pests and encourage beneficials using economically and environmentally sound methods. Donna will talk about identifying some of the newer insect and mite pests in the garden and how IPM methods can be implemented.
- 2:10–3:10 p.m. **Tom Wessels *Ecological Factors that Foster Biodiversity***
This talk will explore factors that foster woodland and woodland edge biodiversity that can also be incorporated into designed landscapes. Specifically it will cover co-evolution and its justification for using native plants that naturally co-associate as well as why enhancing physical structure, physical stability, and low levels of competitive exclusion boost biodiversity. The talk will use many examples from woodland ecosystems and show how they can be incorporated in designed landscapes.

MODERATOR—**Richard Rosiello**

REGISTRATION FORM

Pre-registration by **February 27, 2018** includes lunch. Late and at-door registration is possible if space is available but may not include lunch.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Member(s) registering X \$75 _____

Non-member(s) registering X \$85 _____

Optional \$5 Donation(s) for Science Day _____

Total Enclosed: _____

Make Checks Payable to: MAD GARDENERS

Mail To: Sharon Tingley, Registrar
Mad Gardeners
30 Fairchild Road, Sharon, CT 06069

To register after February 27: call 860-355-1547
or email: knelson151@sbcglobal.net.

**Please DO NOT send membership dues
to the Symposium Registrar**