

## The Landscape Ethic Committee Sustainable Landscape Speakers



[Barbara Eisenstein](#)

Barbara Eisenstein is the Horticultural Outreach and Education Coordinator at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden in Claremont, California. This program, funded through a grant from Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, represents a major effort to inform the general-public, and horticultural and landscape professionals in order to facilitate the increased use of native plants in residential and public landscapes throughout Southern California.

Ms. Eisenstein graduated from Oberlin College with a degree in geology and from Rutgers University with a master's degree in science education. She has been a consultant for non-profit organizations developing environmental outreach materials for the public. Her horticulture background derives from course work at Mount San Antonio College, volunteer work in the Cultivar Garden at Rancho, and her own native plant garden in South Pasadena. She is currently serving on the Natural Resources Commission in South Pasadena.

---



[Arthur Golding](#)

Arthur Golding is the immediate past president and a founding director of the Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council, a nonprofit stakeholder group involved in issues of regional water management and river restoration, and he served as principal author of the Council's 25-year vision statement. He has been involved in efforts to revitalize the LA and San Gabriel River system for over 17 years. He chairs the Council's Landscape Ethic Committee, which aims to change the prevailing attitude to the Southern California landscape, to re-establish a sense of place rooted in our bioregion and its natural systems, and to foster a distinctive Southern California style of sustainable landscape design.

Arthur is an architect and urban designer with over 35 years of experience, a member of the American Institute of Architects and a LEED-accredited design professional. Arthur has designed buildings at Caltech and Loyola Marymount University, and he prepared the master plan for the expansion of Loyola Marymount's campus. In addition to his practice, Arthur is an adjunct faculty member at the USC School of Architecture, where he teaches architectural design and urban design.

He was a principal consultant for the Common Ground plan, an overview open space plan for the double watershed of the San Gabriel and Los Angeles Rivers, prepared for the California Resources Agency and adopted by Los Angeles County and 55 cities. He was a member of multidisciplinary design teams that

prepared a master plan and stream restoration feasibility study for the Arroyo Seco watershed and a watershed management plan for the Ballona Creek watershed.

Arthur studied at Yale, where he received BA and MArch degrees. Prior to founding his own firm, he was the design principal of Pereira Associates in Los Angeles. At Pereira, he designed the American Airlines headquarters near the Dallas/Ft. Worth airport and the 41-story Citicorp tower in San Francisco.

---



[Ellen Mackey](#)

Ellen Mackey is a Senior Ecologist, certified by the Ecological Society of America, and a staff ecologist with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. She has been on assignment to the Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council (LASGRWC) for the past seven years. She continues to spend time in the field, evaluating and mapping riparian habitat. She has contributed to the development of many of Southern California's innovative Habitat Conservation Plans including the *Southwestern Riverside County Multi-Species Reserve Plan* and the *Lake Mathews Habitat Conservation Plan*. She lead the development of an innovative *Fire Management Plan* for the Lake Mathews Reserve that is a cost-effective method to fight-fires, lower risk to fire-fighters and preserve native habitat with endangered species. During her tenure with the LASGRWC and together with Friends of the LA River (FoLAR), she assisted in development of *The Los Angeles River: Guide for Teachers & Group Leaders*, the April 2002 *Avifauna along Portions of the LA River*, and the May 2002 *Survey of Invasive Non-Native Plants* along and within the LA River. Along with Bart O'Brien, she completed editing and finalizing the *Los Angeles River Master Plan Landscaping Guidelines and Plant Palettes* with Los Angeles County Department of Public Works. In 2006, she coauthored the *Care & Maintenance of Southern California Native Plant Gardens* with Bart O'Brien, and Betsey Landis of California Native Plant Society. In 2007, she finalized a grant-funded project to identify locally native plants populations in the San Gabriel River watershed for collection and use in public landscaping projects.

Ms. Mackey is Past Vice-President then President of the Board of Directors of the Theodore Payne Foundation for Wildflowers and Native Plants and the Eco-Home Network, a non-profit organization promoting sustainable urban living in Southern California. Her home has been open to the public as a demonstration conservation home as part of the National Tour of Solar Homes in October for ten years.

---



[Bart O'Brien](#)

Bart O'Brien is a senior staff research associate at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden in Claremont an educational institution dedicated to research, conservation, and horticulture of California native plants. A fifth generation Californian, he is an authority on the native flora of the state and of northern Baja California and is an accomplished collector, grower, photographer, lecturer, and author.

He is co-author of two new books: *California Native Plants for the Garden* (with Carol Bornstein of Santa Barbara Botanic Garden and Dave Fross of Native Sons Nursery) published by Cachuma Press in late 2005; and *Care & Maintenance of Southern California Native Plant Gardens* (with Betsey Landis of California Native Plant Society and Ellen Mackey of Theodore Payne Foundation) published by Metropolitan Water District of Southern California in early 2006. He was named Horticulturist of the Year in 2005 by the Southern California Horticultural Society. He was also recently named one of the top 100 influential people in Southern California by the Los Angeles Times Magazine, *West*.

---



[Bob Perry](#)

Bob Perry is Professor emeritus from the Department of Landscape Architecture at Cal Poly University. Over 25 years of instruction, he taught a variety of courses in planting design, plant ecology and sustainable landscape design. In addition to his coursework Bob has pursued research and consulting activities involving landscape plants in Mediterranean and arid climate regions. He has developed a deep interest in California native plants and is a strong proponent of resource conservation and regionally appropriate landscapes. In 1981 he published a book on water conservation, *Trees and Shrubs for Dry California Landscapes*. Bob completed a second publication, *Landscape Plants for Western Regions* that received an ASLA National Merit Award in 1994. Over the years Bob has been recognized for his writing and water conservation activities in California, and in 1999 was elected as a Fellow in the American Society of Landscape Architects.

Since retiring from teaching, Bob has been designing native landscapes in a variety of public settings, including Harvey Mudd and Pitzer Colleges in Claremont. He was among the first group of consultants to prepare the initial planting palettes and guidelines for the Los Angeles River. He is currently working with Amigos de los Rios and the City of El Monte as the project landscape architect for Rio Vista and Lashbrook parks that incorporates the Los Angeles River Planting Guidelines. He combines his design work with photography and is currently writing another reference book of landscape plants for Mediterranean climates.

---



[Drew Ready](#)

Currently serving as the Sustainable Landscape Program Watershed Coordinator for the Los Angeles and San Gabriel Watershed Council, Drew coordinates sustainable landscape advocacy, outreach and education efforts. He is responsible for organizing an annual series of Sustainable Landscape Design and Maintenance Seminars for landscape architects and designers. Among his other accomplishments at the Watershed Council, he created the [Plant Profiler](#), an online database and website that contains photos and information about native plant ecotypes for landscaping and restoration. Drew has also developed and distributed a series of invasive plant education materials that are used to inspire action from the public on the issue – those can be found at our [WeedWatch](#) website.

Prior to joining the Watershed Council, Drew worked as project manager for the Return of the Natives Restoration Project, the education and outreach arm of the Watershed Institute of California State University Monterey Bay. He managed a large scale native plant nursery and coordinated regional watershed symposia and K-College teacher training events. Along with planning and implementing riparian cleanup and habitat restoration projects with under-represented communities in the city of Salinas, he was instrumental in organizing an annual series of community-based habitat restoration events with the Fort Ord Public Lands Bureau of Land Management.



[Pieter Severynen](#)

Pieter Severynen is a California licensed Landscape Architect and an International Society of Arboriculture Certified Arborist. After studying Subtropical Agriculture in Deventer, the Netherlands, he continued in Landscape Architecture at UC Berkeley, California. During a 20+ year career with the US Dept. of Housing and Urban Development he worked as a land planner for the western states, landscape architect, project and environmental manager, grant administrator and community planning and development representative. Currently he is the Director of Planning and Design for North East Trees, a design-build non-profit environmental organization that restores nature's services in resource challenged communities. He also heads up his own landscape architectural firm, consults on trees, teaches pruning classes and speaks on a variety of issues, including global warming.

---



[Frank Simpson](#)

Building on a foundation of an undergraduate degree in ornamental horticulture, Frank Simpson operated a landscape management and consulting business before making a transition to landscape architecture in 1996.

Since completing a master's degree in landscape architecture (Cal Poly Pomona) with a focus on sustainable design, he has worked with the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy as a project manager overseeing a variety of grant funded projects in the Los Angeles basin.