

# ARAIYS NEWS

SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2019



## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Ahhh, Sweet Summertime!

Our core mission at Araiys Design is to connect people to the beauty of their natural surroundings while protecting and enhancing our sensitive coastal environment. We are inspired to blur the lines between architecture and landscape so that our clients can fully experience and connect to the *Genius loci* or sense of place of the east end environment that we love so dearly. We know that this connection is best facilitated by a thoughtful dialog between our clients and our design team. The two projects featured below are representative of ways in which we implement our core principals.

We wish you and your family all the best in this summertime season.

-Steven Nieroda, RLA, Senior Associate



Butterfly Weed planted on green roof

## GREEN ROOF ON THE OCEAN - engaging landscape

A current project under construction features several green roofs situated around the main residence that serve as extensions to interior rooms. These green roofs are thoughtfully designed to stitch the architecture seamlessly into the surrounding dune ecology. The green roof shown on the right is part of the the pool terrace that extends off of the main living area and overlooks a primary dune with the Atlantic Ocean in the background. The newly planted green roof features a native plant palette of dune grass (*Ammophila breviligulata*), Sea Lavender (*Limonium latifolium*), and Butterfly Weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*).



## RAIN GARDENS - revitalizing Lake Agawam

Earlier this year, our office became part of a joint effort between a private client and the Village of Southampton to help address groundwater contamination through the installation of a large rain garden situated on the west side of Lake Agawam. The rain garden, which spans over 150' along Pond Lane, is designed to intercept groundwater contaminated with runoff from fertilizers and lawn chemicals before it has a chance to reach the lake. Our firm carefully selected native plants, such as switch grass (*Panicum virgatum*) and Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*), for their ability to thrive in wetlands and uptake contaminants and nutrients. We are happy to report that since our spring installation, the garden is already fully functioning and serving as a habitat for our native fauna including a nesting snapping turtle (*Chelydra serpentina*).



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### PLANTS OF THE SEASON

#### Native Plants Of The Season



Common Name: Butterfly Weed  
Scientific Name: *Asclepias tuberosa*

*Asclepias tuberosa* is a bushy perennial which typically grows to 1-3' tall. It has long and hairy stems with lance shaped leaves. Large clusters of crowned orange flowers are blooming in midsummer which is attractive to butterflies, birds and humming birds. Flowers are followed by gray green seed pods with silky hairs. Butterfly weed is a sun loving plant and adapts well to dry and poor soil. It is not favored by deer. It mingles well with *Liatris aspera*, *Rudbeckia hirta*, *Schizachyrium scoparium*, and *Echinacea purpurea*. Butterfly weed are great choics for meadow, wildlife gardens or accent plantings.



Common Name:: Beach Grass  
Scientific Name: *Ammophila breviligulata*

*Ammophila breviligulata*, also known as Beach Grass, is native to eastern North America. It is a erect and stiff perennial grass which can reach 3-4' tall in blooming and 3-4 feet wide. It has ascending and stiff leaves develops from the base of the culm. The inner face of the leaves are pale blue and the other side is medium to dark green. Elongated and wiry flower spikes appears in August to October. *Ammophila breviligulata* thrives in full sun and sandy soil. It also tolerates wind. This plants has extensive root system and spreads 6-10' feet annually by rhizomes , which making it efficient planting on sand dunes to control soil erosion.

#### Ornamental Plants Of the Season



Common Name: Autumn Moor Grass  
Scientific Name: *Sesleria autumnalis*

*Sesleria autumnalis*, also called autumn moor grass, is a cool season ornamental grass. This grass has evergreen arching foliage and develops an attractive bronze tints in autumn. Spike-like flowers appears in spring or summer and gives away to silvery inflorescence in autumn. It typically reaches 2' tall in blooming. This species prefers in sunny or part shaded conditions with average and well-drained soil. It is not palatable to deer. *Sesleria autumnalis* works great in meadow, perennial borders, or mass planting.



Common Name: Phenomenal Lavender  
Scientific Name: *Lavandula x intermedia* 'Phenomenal'

Lavender Phenomenal is a dense mounded and bushy shrub with fragrant silvery green foliage. It grows to 24-30" tall and wide. Long spikes of lavender purple flowers blooms in midsummer, attractive to bees and butterflies. It thrives in full sun and prefers well-drained soil. Lavender Phenomenal is tolerant of extreme heat and humidity. Also, it has exceptional winter survivability, as its foliage does not have the winter dieback problems that other lavender varieties typically demonstrate. This plant is a great selection for perennial small hedges, bordering or mass planting.