

ARAIYS NEWS

WINTER NEWS LETTER 2018



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Welcome to our Winter Solstice newsletter. Today marks the shortest day of the year in the northern hemisphere. This year the solstice will be followed by a full moon on Saturday referred to as the "Cold Moon." The next time a full moon follows the solstice will be in 2029. If that wasn't enough celestial excitement, the annual Ursids meteor shower is expected to peak a day or two after the solstice where you might see up to 10 "shooting stars" per hour depending on your location. So please go outdoors and enjoy!

One of our guiding lights here at Araiys Design is our passion for sustainable site development and good land stewardship practices. Many of our projects are located adjacent to Tidal and Freshwater Wetlands. These biologically diverse habitats create a transition between terrestrial and open water ecosystems. They are among the most biologically productive environments of our coastal region. This newsletter highlights a recently installed wetland buffer located on Sagaponack Pond in Bridgehampton. Also, we are happy to welcome Jun Wang to the Araiys Design team. Jun graduated from Rutgers University this summer with a Masters Degree in Landscape Architecture. Jun's great attitude, diverse skill set, and eagerness to learn will surely be an asset to our team. Welcome Jun!

We here at Araiys Design wish you and your family all the best this holiday season and a healthy and bright new year.

Steven Nieroda, RLA, ASLA

Project Spotlight: Wetland Buffer on Sagaponack Pond

Wetland buffers function to filter out contaminants from upland development and create coastal resiliency that protect upland development from storm surge and rising sea levels. The wetland buffer is the area from the delineated wetland line to approximately 75 feet upland and provide habitat for coastal wildlife and native plant species. This project on Sagaponack Pond in the Town of Southampton includes a 75 foot buffer of native plant species appropriate for the site conditions. Careful design consideration was given to how the buffer appears as one views out from buildings over the buffer toward the pond. The buffer must also provide view corridors from grade or groundlevel. The plant species chosen are well adapted to salinity levels as well as prevailing winds and sun angles. The plant palette offers 4 seasons of visual interest as well. Some species within this buffer include Shadblow, Winterberry Holly, Bayberry, sedges and grasses, and perennials that bloom at different times throughout the season.



New Staff Member



We are happy to welcome Jun Wang to the Araiys Design team. Jun graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Landscape Architecture from Rutgers University, where he later decided to continue his education, and earned a Master's degree. While at Rutgers, Jun volunteered as an intern at the Rutgers Garden where he assisted in planting design and maintenance. Jun also worked at the prestigious James Rose Center where he assisted in the rehabilitation of historically significant gardens and organized tours for the public. As a native of China, he gained experience in a Landscape Architecture studio in Shanghai where he developed 3-D analysis models and illustrative perspective renderings in support of senior staff. We are confident that Jun's varied work and life experiences will be of great value to our design team and to our clients.

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PLANTS OF THE SEASON

Native Plants Of the Season



Common Name: Bearberry
Scientific Name: *Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*

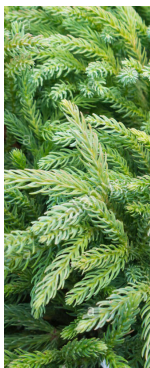
Arctostaphylos uva-ursi, commonly known as bearberry, is a low-growing evergreen shrub with trailing branches spreading to form dense mats. The dark green, leathery leaves turn to burgundy color in winter and remain bushy year-round. Small clusters of white-to-pink flowers appear in mid to late spring. Red berries ripen in the fall, which provides good food source for birds. Bearberry typically grows as low as 6-12" and 3-6' wide. It prefers sandy, dry to medium, and well-drained soils in full sun to partial shade. Bearberry makes an attractive ground cover with year-round interest and effective as shrub borders, rock gardens or native gardens.



Common Name: Compacta Inkberry Holly
Scientific Name: *Ilex glabra* 'compacta'

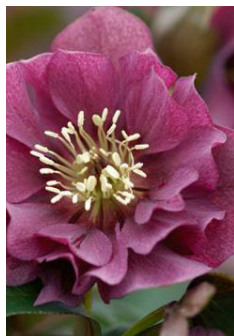
Ilex glabra 'Compacta', also called as Compacta Inkberry Holly, is an upright-rounded, compact evergreen shrub with a oval habit. It has the glossy dark green leaves which remain attractive in winter. The Greenish flowers produce black berries if pollinated which display black berries through winter. Compact Inkberry Holly typically grows 3-4' tall and wide at maturity. It thrives in rich, acidic, medium to wet soils and prefers full sun to partial shade. 'Compacta' is effective being used as hedge, shrub border, accent planting, foundation planting, and woodland garden.

Ornamental Plants Of the Season



Common Name: Dwarf Japanese Cedar
Scientific Name: *Cryptomeria japonica* 'Globosa Nana'

Cryptomeria japonica 'Globosa Nana', also known as Dwarf Japanese Cedar. This evergreen is finely textured, dense, and round in shape. The droopy-look foliage with tight needles are very bright green in the summer and may change slightly in the cold weather becoming a coppery hue. It grows well with regular watering. It is a slow grower to 3-4' tall and 4-8' wide with age. It prefers full sun to part-shade. Its awl shaped foliage gives it a softer look for an evergreen. The deer tend to steer clear of *Cryptomeria*. This eye-catching shrub is effective as foundation evergreen or planted in groups of 3 or 4.



Common Name: Diabolo Ninebark
Scientific Name: *Physocarpus opulifolius* 'Diabolo'

This plant is a perennial blooming February to April. Because of such an early bloom time, the nectar from the flower is an early source of bees out and about the beginning of their season. It prefers partial shade and moist, well-drained soils. *Helleborus* is a tough and hardy perennial. It is deer and rabbit resistant. Its growth habit is mounding and clumping. The foliage is dark green. The blooms are red-pink flowers aging with spots. It grows 1.5' tall and 2.5' wide. It is a wonderful cut flower. *Helleborus* does well in woodland plantings. A delightful addition of fern and hosta plantings.