

Dumbarton Oaks
Garden and Landscape Studies

Wild Urban Plants

Peter Del Tredici, Harvard University

Monday, March 30 @ 5:30 pm
in the Music Room
(registration begins @ 5:00 pm)

In this illustrated lecture, Dr. Peter Del Tredici will explore the natural and cultural history of the vegetation that grows spontaneously in our cities—what some might dismiss as weeds. He will focus on the cosmopolitan nature of this flora and its ability to adapt to the stresses of urban life. In the speaker's provocative opinion, the spread of spontaneous vegetation in the modern world is a symptom of massive, on-going environmental degradation rather than its cause. Dr. Del Tredici will also attempt to define an adaptive and pragmatic approach to the issue of spontaneous vegetation that focuses on rebuilding ecological functionality rather than on arguably quixotic attempts to restore past ecosystems.

Peter Del Tredici holds a BA degree in Zoology from the University of California, Berkeley (1968), a MA degree in Biology from the University of Oregon (1969), and a Ph.D. in Biology from Boston University (1991). He has worked at the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University since 1979, as a plant propagator, Editor of *Arnoldia*, Director of Living Collections, and, most recently, Senior Research Scientist. Since 1984, Peter has been the Curator of the famous Larz Anderson collections of bonsai plants, housed at the Arboretum. Dr. Del Tredici is also a Lecturer in the Department of Landscape Architecture at the Harvard Graduate School of Design, where he has been teaching since 1992. He is the winner of the Arthur Hoyt Scott Medal and Award for 1999, presented annually by the Scott Arboretum of Swarthmore College "in recognition of outstanding national contributions to the science and art of gardening."

Dr. Del Tredici has worked on numerous aspects of both botany and horticulture over the past thirty-four years. His interests are wide ranging and include such subjects as symbiotic nitrogen fixation, new plant introductions from China, the root systems of woody plants, the natural and cultural history of the Ginkgo tree, and most recently spontaneous urban vegetation.

***Reservations are required. Please RSVP by March 27th to:
Landscape@doaks.org or 202-339-6460.***

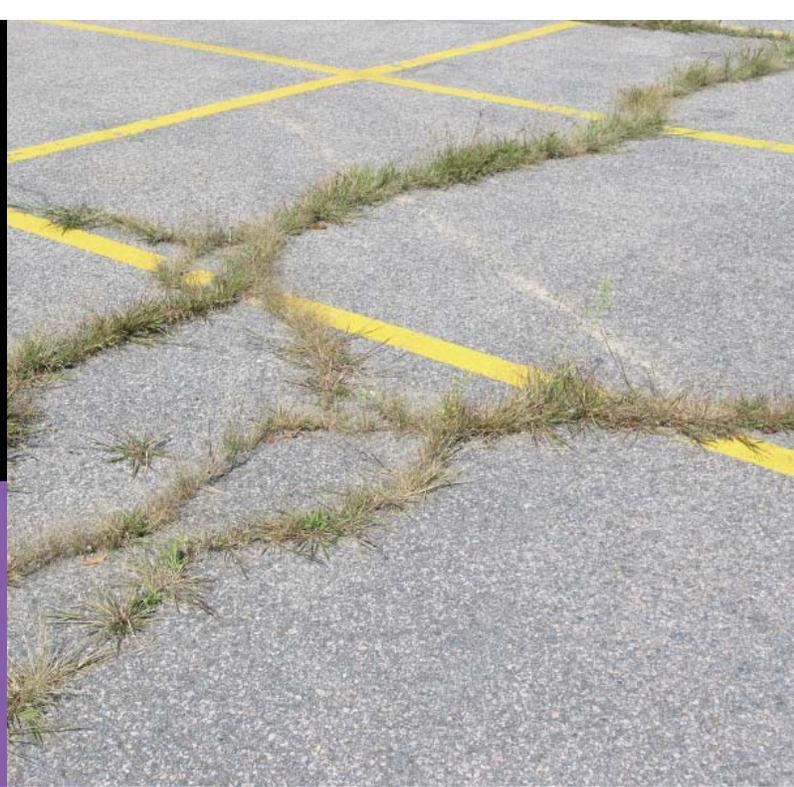
The lecture is open to the public without charge. A light reception to follow; Parking not provided. We cannot guarantee a seat for late arrivals; please arrive by 5:25p.m. to confirm your reservation.

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