Landscape Architects are working on increasingly complex sites with layered site histories and varied foundations. This session explores designed plant communities from eco-modeling of native communities to embracing of spontaneous species. Recent works by Hoerr Schaudt Landscape Architects, P. Clifford Miller Landscape Artistry and Stephen Stimson Associates will be examined.

**Presenters:**

**Joseph Wahler, ASLA**  
Stephen Stimson Associates

Joe Wahler, Principal at Stephen Stimson Associates, has 15 years of experience working on complex projects throughout North America. Joe’s recent projects include private residences in New England, the Mid Atlantic, and Prince Edward Island Canada, a master plan and restoration of Forest Park in Lake Forest Illinois, an anticipated LEED Platinum Headquarters for Parks & People in the Baltimore Maryland’s historic Druid Hill Park, and an Urban Wild on a historic site in Lawrence Massachusetts. Joe received a Masters in Landscape Architecture from The Ohio State University and a Bachelor’s of Science in Ornamental Horticulture from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

**P. Clifford Miller, ASLA**  
P. Clifford Miller Landscape Artistry

Cliff Miller, owner of P. Clifford Miller Landscape Artistry, has 25 years of experience in design, construction and management of landscapes in the Midwest. His background in art and as a naturalist is the basis for P. Clifford Miller Landscape Artistry’s extensive work. He has been featured in many books including, The Natural Habitat Garden by Ken Druse, Midwest Garden Design by Susan McClure, and Inside Out by Page Dickey. In 2006 he worked with the Lake Forest Garden Club to help construct their award winning garden at the venerable Chelsea Flower Shower in London, England.

**Simon Prunty, ASLA**  
Hoerr Schaudt Landscape Architecture

Simon Prunty, Principal at Hoerr Schaudt, has 15 years of experience designing a wide range of project types throughout the United States. Simon’s experience includes collaborations with architect Peter Gluck on the landscape design of a residential property on Lake Michigan; the design for the Four Season’s terrace at Chicago’s Ritz Carlton Deck; and residential gardens throughout the Midwest and East Coast. Simon received a Post Graduate Degree in Landscape Architecture and a Bachelor’s in Landscape Architecture from Leeds Metropolitan University in the U.K.

**Learning Objectives**

1) Learn from a site's story to understand how natural and cultural histories impact their developments.
2) Examine the value of native to spontaneous plant communities to address complex site conditions.
3) Review the challenges of plant establishment on virgin sites to green roofs.
4) Explore the challenges of maintenance and long term resilience of designed plant communities.
Chandler Residence
Lake Forest, Illinois

Description: The restoration of an Oak Savanna through eco-modeling of adjacent protected lands.
Roaring Brook Residence
Harbor Springs, Michigan

Description: Immense natural beauty of a region nestled between high wooded bluffs and the deepest natural harbor in the Great Lakes. Great swaths of land have been protected as preserves by local families. This area has long been known for its resorts and artesian wells. The planting design returns portions of the site to a more naturalized planting style utilizing natives.
Dickson Residence
Lake Forest, Illinois

Description: The creation of a Tall Grass Prairie from inventory of regional remnant examples to replace a high maintenance manicured lawn.
International Fund for Animal Welfare
Yarmouthport, Massachusetts

Description: A new headquarters for IFAW on a Cape Cod brownfield site embraced cues from the natural process that formed the peninsula to remediate contaminated soils on site as a central element of the landscape. The site clean up, remediation and restoration introduced a drought tolerant landscape modeled on local communities that enhanced habitat and connections to surrounding conservation land.
Forest Park Natural Areas Management Plan
Lake Forest, Illinois

Description: The development of a natural areas management plan through the inventory of natural areas within a public park and recommendations to restore these areas to high quality ecosystems.
Forest Park Master Plan and Restoration
Lake Forest, Illinois

Description: A public park along Lake Michigan bordered by ravines, Oak woodlands and coastal bluff originally set aside in the original town plan by Almerin Hotchkiss and later developed by Ossian Cole Simonds, a founder of ASLA and member of the Prairie School of landscape architecture. O.C. Simonds’ promotion of the study of natural systems and use of native plants informed the project’s restoration of degraded natural areas and development of new habitat through introduction of sustainable site technologies.
Trump Tower
Chicago, Illinois

Description: Ecologically and historically significant site along the Chicago River. Design replicates a cross section of a typical Illinois riverbank within the structural confines of a complex, multi-level urban site.
Ferrous Foundry Park
Lawrence, Massachusetts

Description: A site with layered histories located between the Merrimack River and Lawrence’s North Canal. The site was the former location of the Lawrence Experiment Station, now the Senator William X. Wall Experiment Station, recognized as one of the first laboratories in the world dedicated to environmental research. Later occupied by Ferrous Technologies Incorporated of Lawrence until 2001 which resulted in the site being covered with casting sand. Vacant for more than a decade before the development of a public park on the site, a spontaneous plant community was embraced and preserved through the creation of an Urban Wild.
900 North Michigan Avenue
Green Roof
Chicago, Illinois

Description: The City of Chicago has been a leader in encouraging green roofs on downtown buildings. An abstraction of the urban grid shaped the overall design. A resilient planting palette prioritizes simplicity and ease of maintenance.