**Grow Maine Green Expo**  
**Wednesday, January 23, 2019**  
**Augusta Civic Center**

7:30 am - 8:30 am  
Registration & Continental Breakfast  
*Main Lobby*

8:00 am  
Grow Maine Green Expo Trade Show Floor Opens

9:00 am - 10:15 am  
William Cullina  
*North Wing, 2nd floor*  
Executive Director, Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens

**Keynote - “Sugar, Sex, and Poison: Shocking Plant Secrets Caught on Camera”**

As we all know, plants are at the base of both the human and non-human food chain. Everything eats them directly or indirectly, which may or may not be a good thing as far as plants are concerned. Because they do not move around, it is easy to forget that plants are not helpless. They have evolved an incredible arsenal of chemicals, camouflage, spines, hairs, and waxes to discourage herbivores. On the other hand, they spend a huge amount of their energy on pollen, nectar, edible fruits, and sugary root exudates designed to attract and nourish animals, insects, fungi and bacteria so they can perform services such as pollination, seed dispersal, defense, and nutrient acquisition. It is a carefully balanced natural economy and community based on the products of photosynthesis that is amazing in its complexity and efficiency. Strengthening this natural economy through sound horticultural and agricultural practices is in essence what the organic movement is all about. In this talk, Bill Cullina will show how this world of pollen, poisons, pigments, pheromones, sugars and sex translates to sound organic practices we all can benefit from.

10:15 am - 10:30 am  
Break, exhibitor viewing  
*Paul Poulin Auditorium*

10:15 am - 10:30 am  
Rope Climbing Demonstration by Melissa Levangie  
*Paul Poulin Auditorium*

10:30 am - 11:45 am  
Nicholas DiBenedetto, CLP, MCLP  
*Penobscot Room*  
Co-Owner, ND Landscape, Inc.

**Seminar – “The Golden Trilogy - Taking Your Company to the Next Level”**

The landscape management market is a tough discipline in order to find success and not just survive there must be a sound strategy to execute success. Concentrating on three specific areas and balancing them throughout the process is essential. Your customers must perceive a high level of value, your employees must have a clear understanding of their jobs and be proud of the work and be happy. And your P&L must show double-digit profits. Easier said than done but Nick DiBenedetto a 38 year veteran will show you a roadmap to help you find the way.

11:45 am  
Kevin Smith, PhD  
*Androscoggins-Aroostook-Cumberland Room*  
Supervisory Plant Physiologist, USDA Forest Service

**Seminar – “Tree Structure and Wood Decay”**

The words “decay” and “rot” can inspire fear and urgent action for the teeth in our mouth and wooden beams in the barn. Should that be the same for decay in living trees? The presentation will explore what tree decay is, what causes it, and what may be an appropriate level of concern.

11:45 am – Noon  
Break, exhibitor viewing  
*Paul Poulin Auditorium*
Noon to 1:30 pm       Lunch       North Wing, 2nd floor

12:30 pm – 1:20 pm       MAA Recognition Awards
                         MELNA Recognition Awards

1:30 pm       TRADE SHOW RESUMES, exhibitor viewing, CASH BAR       Paul Poulin Auditorium

1:30 pm – 2:15 pm       MELNA Annual Business Meeting       Lincoln-Oxford Room

1:30 pm – 2:15 pm       MAA Annual Business Meeting       Androscoggin-Aroostook-Cumberland Room

2:30 pm – 3:30 pm       Aaron Bergdahl       Androscoggin-Aroostook-Cumberland Room
Forest Pathologist, Maine Forest Service
Thomas Schmeelk
Forest Entomologist, Maine Forest Service

Seminar – “Oak Health Issues in Maine”
Oak wilt has not been found in Maine, but represents a significant threat to Maine’s oak resources. An overview of the oak wilt disease complex will be covered including the present known distribution of the disease, life cycle, symptoms and signs and disease management. Additionally, the most significant insects affecting oak health in Maine will also be covered including life cycles, current distribution trends and management options.

3:15 pm – 4:00 pm       Fruit & Drinks on Trade Show Floor       Paul Poulin Auditorium

3:30 pm - Rope Climbing Demonstration by Melissa Levangie       Paul Poulin Auditorium

4:00 pm       Trade Show Floor Closes       Paul Poulin Auditorium

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm       Gary Fish       Androscoggin-Aroostook-Cumberland Room
Maine State Horticulturist

Seminar – “Weeds, Weeds, and Quarantines”
Gary will talk about:

- The Industrial Hemp Program and its growth over the past three years;
- Emerald Ash Borer monitoring, management, and slowing the spread.
- Concerns regarding weeds like Japanese stilt grass, Asiatic bittersweet and garlic mustard in pots and rootballs; and
- New and updated quarantines for emerald ash borer, gypsy moth and hemlock woolly adelgid.

5:00 pm       Grow Maine Green Expo Ends

Pesticide Applicator Credits; ISA CEU’s; SAF Credits; MELNA Certification CEU’s; CTSP