

GROW MAINE GREEN EXPO
Wednesday, January 21, 2026
Augusta Civic Center

2 Pesticide Applicator Credits; 5 MELNA MCN/MCSL Credits

7:30 am - 8:30 am Registration *Main Lobby*
Continental Breakfast *Hammond Lumber Auditorium*

8:00 am **Grow Maine Green Expo Opens**

9:00 am - 10:15 am **Keynote Speaker: Rodney Eason** *Hammond Lumber Auditorium*
Director of Horticulture & Landscape
The Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University

“The Arnold Arboretum – A Place for Everyone to Learn Plants”

The Arnold Arboretum is Harvard University's museum of trees and a key Boston City Park within the Olmsted designed Emerald Necklace. Join Rodney Eason as he provides an overview of how a vision started 154 years ago has manifested into a beloved place for all people. He will also provide a glimpse at how the Arnold is preparing for the next 100 years with a goal of bringing more people closer to nature and illustrating the importance of plants and design within our world.

10:15 am - 10:25 am Break, exhibitor viewing *Hammond Lumber Auditorium*

10:40 am - 11:40 am Seminar: **George Grant, PhD** *Hammond Lumber Auditorium*
GGSPRO Technical Services Manager
Griffin Greenhouse Supplies

“Grower Case Studies: The Common, Uncommon, & Complex” **1 PESTICIDE CREDIT**

Grower case studies offer a powerful way to highlight real-world production challenges and the strategies used to overcome them. This session will walk through a broad range of case studies involving both abiotic and biotic problems observed in greenhouse and nursery production, offer practical diagnostic tools, and share up-to-date cultural, chemical, and biological recommendations that can benefit growers of all types and experience levels.

10:40 am - 11:40 am Seminar: **Josh Emerson, WCP** *Andro-Cumb Room*
Safety & Risk Consultant
Clark Insurance
Rose Wess, CSP, CHST, WCP
Safety Management Consultant
MEMIC

“Growing Safety, Reducing Risks: A Workers Compensation Perspective”

In this discussion we will review best practices tailored to the Landscaping and Nursery Industry. Medical Management, Federal Training Requirements, Red Flags & Early Intervention Strategies to help reduce injury costs, improve employee outcomes, and foster a proactive safety culture.

11:30 am – Noon **EXCLUSIVE TRADE SHOW** *Hammond Lumber Auditorium*

Noon-1:20 pm **LUNCH** *Hammond Lumber Auditorium*

12:30 – 1:15 pm	MELNA Recognition Awards Scholarships Presentation of MCN and MCSL Certifications Young Nursery Professional of the Year Award Al Black Award Door Prizes and Raffle Drawing	<i>Hammond Lumber Auditorium</i>
1:20 pm	TRADE SHOW RESUMES	<i>Hammond Lumber Auditorium</i>
1:20- 2:30 pm	MELNA ANNUAL MEETING	<i>Andro-Cumb Room</i>
2:30 – 3:30 pm Seminar:	George Grant, PhD GGSPro Technical Services Manager Griffin Greenhouse Supplies	<i>Andro-Cumb Room</i>
<p>“Soup to Nuts on Water Quality, Fertilizer Choice, & Addressing Nutritional Issues” Regardless of where, when, or how you grow plants, nutrition is always a valuable consideration. Join us as we provide a soup to nuts on the foundational rules that make up the world of plant nutrition: how to read a water test and its importance, making decisions on fertilizer input choice, and identifying common plant nutritional disorders with preventative/corrective solutions in real-life situations.</p>		
2:30 – 3:30 pm Speaker:	Rodney Eason Director of Horticulture & Landscape The Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University	<i>Hammond Lumber Auditorium</i>
<p>“Plants at the Arboretum which More People Should Grow.” Rodney will showcase some of the Arnold Arboretum’s uncommon, underused, or underappreciated plants which he feels more people should use, especially as our climate is becoming more unpredictable.</p>		
3:40 – 4:40 pm Seminar:	Carole Neil, Assistant Horticulturist Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry Sarah Scally, Assistant Horticulturist Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry	<i>Andro-Cumb Room</i>
<p>“Plant Health Programs Update”</p>		1 PESTICIDE CREDIT
<p>Carole and Sarah will review the changes to the invasive plant rules and the status of the major invasive species that threaten Maine nurseries and landscapes.</p>		
4:40 pm	GROW MAINE GREEN EXPO CLOSES	