



May 24, 2006

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Dear Anthony,

I'm just wrapping up details from our recent Harding Land Trust annual meeting, and thinking back several years to when you were our guest speaker.

Your presentation on environmental stewardship of our land certainly was both informative and effective. I've noticed that quite a few homeowners are incorporating some of the techniques you suggested into their own landscaping — most noticeably in letting areas of their properties grow up into meadows rather than maintaining huge areas of closely-cropped lawn.

I've also heard more knowledgeable talk about using native plant species in landscaping. Even our public meetings have been affected, as board members speak seem to be increasingly well informed about the benefits of incorporating vegetative techniques to mitigate storm water runoff in new developments.

As you know, many public officials heard your presentation and left the meeting with such enthusiasm for reduced mowing on township property that we got into a little trouble later that year when residents complained about the shaggy appearance of our showpiece public park! Now, after some fine tuning and adjusting, the long grass areas shifted to less frequented sections of the park. Some of the DPW workers spend less time on their mowers but our successful open space preservation program keeps them busy with other projects.

Back to Nature is a pioneer in environmental stewardship and education. We look forward to working with you on future projects.

Sincerely,

Penny Hinkle  
Executive Director

