

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Film on Sustainable Landscaping to be shown at W& L's Stackhouse Theatre

There will be a free showing of *Hometown Habitat – Stories of Bringing Nature Home* on Thursday, November 17th at Washington and Lee University's Stackhouse Theatre at 7pm, sponsored jointly by the Rockbridge Area Master Gardeners and the James River Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society.

The narrative thread of the documentary is provided by renowned entomologist, Douglas Tallamy, Ph.D. whose research, books and lectures about the use of non-native plants in landscape sound the alarm about habitat and species loss. Tallamy challenges the notion that humans are here and nature is someplace else. He is a huge proponent of the use of native plants. Why plant natives? Native plants, once established do not require the use of chemicals such as herbicides or pesticides to maintain their beauty. They usually don't require extra watering. Native pollinators and birds actually prefer native plants for nectaring and seed.

For two years, producer/director Catherine Zimmerman and film crew traveled around the county to visit hometown habitat heroes and film their inspiring stories of community commitment to conservation landscaping. Zimmerman shares these success stories and works in-progress that re-awaken and re-define man's relationship with nature.

Rockbridge Master Gardener president Faith Vosburgh says, "This is a film you can't miss, especially in terms of our changing climate."