

Nancy M. Aten, PLA, ASLA

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www.landscapesofplace.com

## Experience

### **Landscapes of Place, LLC, Milwaukee, WI**

*August 2003 – present*

Principal. Design of environmentally restorative landscapes; ecological landscape restoration and stewardship; conservation planning; design for ecologically-focused visual communication. Work is for a range of clients in both public and private sectors, on projects from five to 5,000 acres.

2016 Hawthorn Award from The Clearing for “giving breadth and bigness” to their work

2014 Wetland Hero Award from Wisconsin Wetlands Association

2012 Visibility Award from the Wisconsin Chapter, American Society of Landscape Architects

2011 American Society of Landscape Architects Honor Award,

*Making a Wild Place in Milwaukee’s Menomonee Valley* (asla.org/2011awards/436.html)

2011 Honorable Mention, Milwaukee Riverkeeper *Art and the Rivers* juried exhibit, MIAD

2006 Leadership Award, I.D.E.A.L Environmental Awards, Keep Greater Milwaukee Beautiful

2003 Solitary Glove Service Award, Institute of Ecology, University of Georgia

2003 ASLA Award of Honor, College of Environment and Design, University of Georgia

#### Selected Teaching:

*Field Study: Botanic & Aesthetic Composition of Native Plant Communities - 162HRT905*

Co-taught New York Botanical Garden’s week-long field course at Black Rock Forest

Guest teaching at Alverno College, Escuela Verde, Friends of Gibraltar Schools;

regular studio critiques at UW-Milwaukee School of Architecture and Urban Planning

#### Selected Publications:

*How I Started a Sustainability Conference,*

Invited Editorial, Landscape Architecture magazine, April 2007

#### Selected Talks:

*Wild Gardening with Art and Purposefulness*

September 2015, keynote, UW Arboretum, Madison, WI Native By Design conference

*A twist for conservation plans: More doing and less planning, Bay Shore Blufflands*

February 2015, Wisconsin Wetlands’ 20th Anniversary Wetland Science Conference

*Landscape Design as Ecological Art*

January 2014, Connecticut College and University of Pennsylvania

*Participatory Restoration*

April 2012, First Unitarian Society of Milwaukee Sunday Forum

*Unsolicited Design: Using Your Voice*

October 2011, The University of Georgia, College of Environment and Design

### **Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design, Milwaukee, WI**

*August 2004 – May 2006*

Adjunct faculty member; created and taught Environmental Literacy as a combination of environmental science, environmental ethics, and applied ecology, 300 level, three credits.

### **The Clearing, Ellison Bay, WI**

*Summer 2003 – August 2004*

Landscape Institute planning committee, speaker. Instructor for Landscape Stewardship course.

### **University of Georgia, College of Environment and Design**

*May 2001 – June 2004*

Co-instructor with Darrel Morrison; Plant Communities of the Southeast,

a three-week field course studying botanic and aesthetic characteristics of native plant communities; sampling and vegetation analysis, writing, sketching, experiential hikes.

### **Conservation Design Forum, Inc., Elmhurst, IL**

*Summer 2001*

Landscape architecture and ecological restoration intern.

### **Cadence Design Systems / Tangent Systems**

*Sept. 1984 – Jan. 2000*

### **Trilogy Systems Corporation, San Jose, CA**

*July 1982 – September 1984*

Senior Member of Consulting Staff. Designed and built visualization software of algorithmic analyses for the electronics industry. Designed collaboratively. Created and taught courses; client demos and presentations. Managed software engineers. Known for responsiveness and quality.

## Boards and Community Organizations

- Door County Land Trust**, Sturgeon Bay, WI *January 1999 – present*  
Board of Directors through 2009; 4000+ additional acres protected during my tenure.  
Continuing on Land Policy Committee.
- Art Committee, **Urban Ecology Center**, Milwaukee, WI *October 2013 – present*  
Chair of the Art Committee responsible for quarterly art shows and other art engagements.
- Center Line Community Forum**, Sturgeon Bay, WI *February 2015 - present*  
Lead for Community Suggestion Box, assist public engagement activities, centerlineforum.org
- Land Cover Science Advisory Committee *November 2014 – present*  
Project is coordinated by the Wisconsin State Cartographer's Office
- Organizing Committee, **Society for Ecological Restoration** *2012 – November 2013*  
Vice-chair, Local Organizing Committee, 5th World Conference on Ecological Restoration
- Midwest Great Lakes Chapter, **Society for Ecological Restoration** *April 2012 – April 2014*  
Board of Directors, Strategic planning committee, Website manager
- Milwaukee Riverkeeper**, Milwaukee, WI *October 2004 – Oct. 2012*  
Board of Directors through 2010; continued on River Advocacy committee through 2012.
- SEEDS**, Athens, GA *August 2000 – June 2003*  
President, Students and Educators for Ecological Design and Sustainability (SEEDS).  
Long-term campus creek rehabilitation project. Developed alternative stormwater management plan, partly adopted by city and university. Planned and directed Sustainable Design + Education Conference, January 2003.

## Education

### Continuing Education:

UWM Field Station, 2004 - present, courses include Vegetation of Wisconsin; Composites: Taxonomy and Evolution; Ecology and Physiology of Plants in Winter; Ecological Geology; Grasses: Identification and Ecology; Sedges: Identification and Ecology  
Riveredge Nature Center, 1998 - 2007. Courses include Prescribed Fire; Ecology; Prairies  
Conway School of Landscape Design, 2005, Design as Ecological Art  
Conway School of Landscape Design, 2002, Reading the Landscape  
The Clearing, 2011, Historic Landscapes Assessment/Recommendations  
The Clearing, 1999, Merging Art and Ecology in Landscape Design

### **University of Georgia, College of Environment and Design**

Athens, Georgia *Master of Landscape Architecture,*  
Emphasis: Ecological Design and Restoration *May 2003, with distinction*  
GRE: Verbal 680 Quantitative 750 Analytical 800  
Electives in botany, ecology, geography, horticulture. ESRI Intro to GIS certificate.  
Thesis: *City Neighborhood and Oak Savanna*, University of Georgia Graduate School, 2003.

### **Stanford University**, Stanford, CA

Fellowships: National Science Foundation, *Master of Science, Electrical Engineering,*  
Stanford EE Department, Tau Beta Pi *June 1982*

### **University of Wisconsin**, Milwaukee, WI

Rank: 5 / 425 in College of Engineering *Bachelor of Science, Electrical Engineering,*  
*May 1981*