In the midst of political shenanigans and national trauma, Wendell Berry’s words advocate earth-solace.

The Peace of Wild Things

When despair for the world grows in me and I wake in the night at the least sound in fear of what my life and my children’s lives may be, I go and lie down where the wood drake rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds. I come into the peace of wild things who do not tax their lives with forethought of grief. I come into the presence of still water. And I feel above me the day-blind stars waiting with their light. For a time I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.

—Wendell Berry

Nature and beautiful gardens are a tonic for such times. Consider a few natural havens, only a day-trip away, for your family’s or friends’ rejuvenation:

Bowman’s Hill Wildlife Preserve, New Hope, PA
Chanticleer Gardens, Wayne, PA
Mt. Cuba Center, Wilmington, DE
Winterthur, Wilmington, DE

—Mary Lou Weaver Houser
GREEN SPACE
Tree Trauma

Two insect invasions are threatening two native tree populations in the mid-Atlantic:

- **Eastern hemlocks** (*Tsuga canadensis*), Pennsylvania’s state tree, a.k.a. the “redwood of the east,” subject to demise from woolly adelgid
- **Green ash** (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*), in jeopardy by emerald ash borer

Tree advocates agonize over “to treat or not to treat.”

Twice this past month, I had difficult decisions to fell stately trees damaged by non-native insects.

The first loss was our 30-year-old towering hemlock tree anchoring a rear corner of our city backyard. Scott Weaver had planted it near the gate. Evergreen hemlocks drape gracefully and shield landscapes from heat. They also hide composters and trash cans!

But our hemlock fell prey to the small woolly adelgid insect whose white cottony masses coat the delicate needles and sap life from the tree. Feeding causes needles to dry up and drop. Dieback of major limbs can occur within two years and progresses from the bottom of the tree up. Heavy infestations can kill trees in four years.

Treatments range from foliar sprays to systemic insecticides; but for long-term treatment, research is favoring biological control with natural predators and pathogens from Asia. Costly annual treatments versus tree removal vary according to the context. We also acknowledged that our hemlock had outgrown its small yard niche.

The second decision was not mine to make—the removal of the green ash tree at the rear of the Wolf Museum property, whose high canopy shaded shrubs and smaller trees.

The emerald ash borer, also a non-native insect from Asia, is decimating the green ash population.

The tree-age injection treatment is recommended for saving homeowner specimens. But many cities are resorting to removal of all ash trees, a visually and emotionally devastating loss. In these cases, tree replacement is essential.

—Mary Lou Weaver Houser
**Alex Lake**

Parents: Gary Lake and Lorna Stoltzfus  
Current city: Denver, Colorado  
High school: LMH, 2005  
College: Goshen, 2009  
Post-college: Joined PULSE after college, working at Union Project. Later got a Master’s in accounting from Chatham University and earned CPA in 2015.  
Spouse: Katie Childs, 2014

Katie and I moved to Denver this summer. We’ve been loving visiting new places and trails as well as meeting new folks and old friends.

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**Dan Lehman**

Parents: Sheryl and Wayne Lehman  
Current city: Boulder, Colorado  
High school: LMH, 2007  
College: Tyler School of Art, 2013. Along the way, I took a year off to live and work in Boulder and added a fifth year at Tyler to build out my design portfolio.  

I moved back to Boulder in 2013 and have been working as a contracting and full-time graphic designer.  

Two things have left an impression on me. First, travel well may be the best thing to spend money on and, second, life in a general sense is quite malleable.

*A recent photo from this summer: finding new places to put up my hammock has become a regular thing.*

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**Matt Bauman**

Parents: Dave Bauman and Sue Stoesz  
Current city: Chicago, IL  
High school: LMH, 2002  
College: Goshen College, 2006  
Currently: Finishing bioengineering PhD at University of Pittsburgh  
Soon-to-be: Joining the full-time staff at the Data Science and Public Policy Center at the University of Chicago  
Spouse: Charity Grimes Bauman, 2013

Charity and I just moved from Pittsburgh to Chicago for me to join the University of Chicago’s Data Science for Social Good summer fellowship, where I worked on helping two communities connect social workers with individuals at risk of cycling through ERs and the criminal justice system. I’ll be joining the year-round program later this year as I wrap up my PhD. Charity connected with a school gardening organization, The Kitchen Community, where she helps teachers incorporate vegetable gardens into their curriculum in over 110 Chicago public schools.

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**CMCL Fledglings: Where are they now?** is an ongoing series of snapshots of young adults who grew up at CMCL. Carol Spicher is organizing an email and Facebook effort to reach out to all for updates. Contact her at carol.spicher@gmail.com for the list of questions to guide your fledgling report.
EmmaKate Martin
Parents: Ruth and Wayne Martin
Current city: Philadelphia
High school: Penn Manor, 2009

I am living in Philadelphia and working with the Parks & Recreation Department. I lead garden lessons with kids at Rec Centers and support the 36 gardens our program runs. I also volunteer with a community group, Stadium Stompers, that is fighting Temple University’s proposal to build a football stadium in the middle of a North Philly neighborhood.

Nick Martin
Parents: Wayne and Ruth Martin
Current City: Lancaster!
High school: Penn Manor, 2007
Current: Grassroots social justice organizer

This year I spent January through May working for the Bernie Sanders presidential campaign in Kansas, Utah and Pennsylvania. Now I’m part of a small team organizing millennials into a long-term force that opposes Donald Trump and after the election commits to building a democracy that works for all.

Enjoying the snapshots of CMCL fledglings? Curious about the journeys of retirees at CMCL? Reach out to retirees and collect and organize the information for publication in the Parrot newsletter. Email Beth at b.oberholtzer@comcast.net to volunteer.

CMCL women 2016
Sunday, October 23
2:00–4:00 p.m.
Warren Rohrer: The Language of Mark Making
Exhibit at Allentown Art Museum

Saturday, November 12
8:00 a.m.–12 noon
Women’s Regional Assembly
Stumptown Mennonite Church

Friday, December 16
7:00–9:00 p.m.
Holiday Book Gathering
Julia Schrock Rosenfeld’s home

CMCL online
Between Sundays
Go to www.cmcl.wordpress.com and join others who are following CMCL’s newsletter blog, Between Sundays.

CMCL Website
Go to www.communitymennonite.org for general information, downloadable church documents in PDF format, up-to-date calendars, posts of recent sermons and much more.

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