

*What is it about  
the lawn?*



Without meaning to we adopted landscaping habits that are harmful to health

The good news: *It isn't hard to change to healthier landscaping practices!*

Lawns were created historically as public displays of great wealth and power

Now, they are traditional symbols of respectability

Unfortunately, they

- consume valuable resources (land, water, labor)
- add a lot of toxins to soil, water, and air
- destroy food and shelter for the rest of nature
- can only “look pretty”
- can’t add anything back to the balance of nature

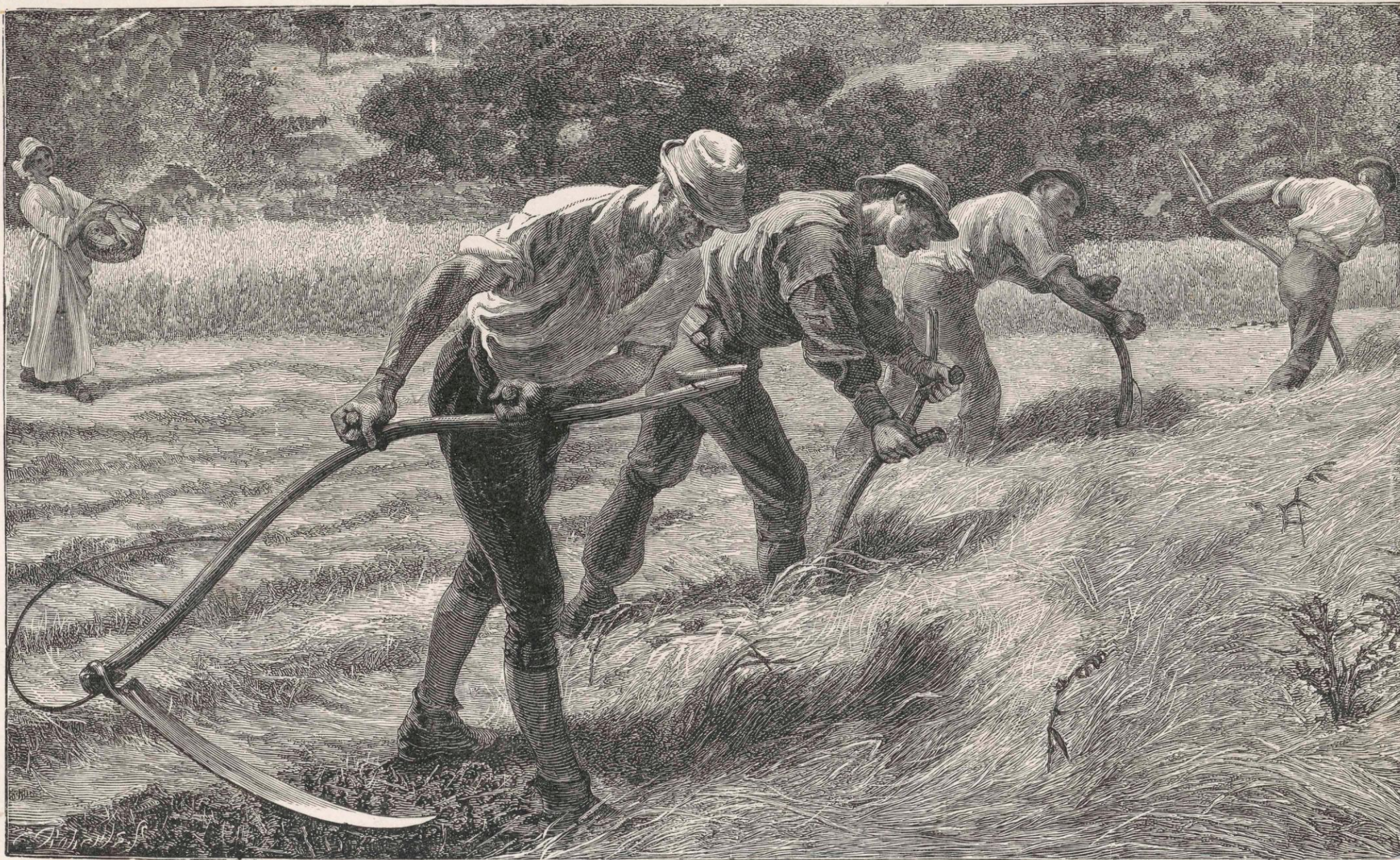




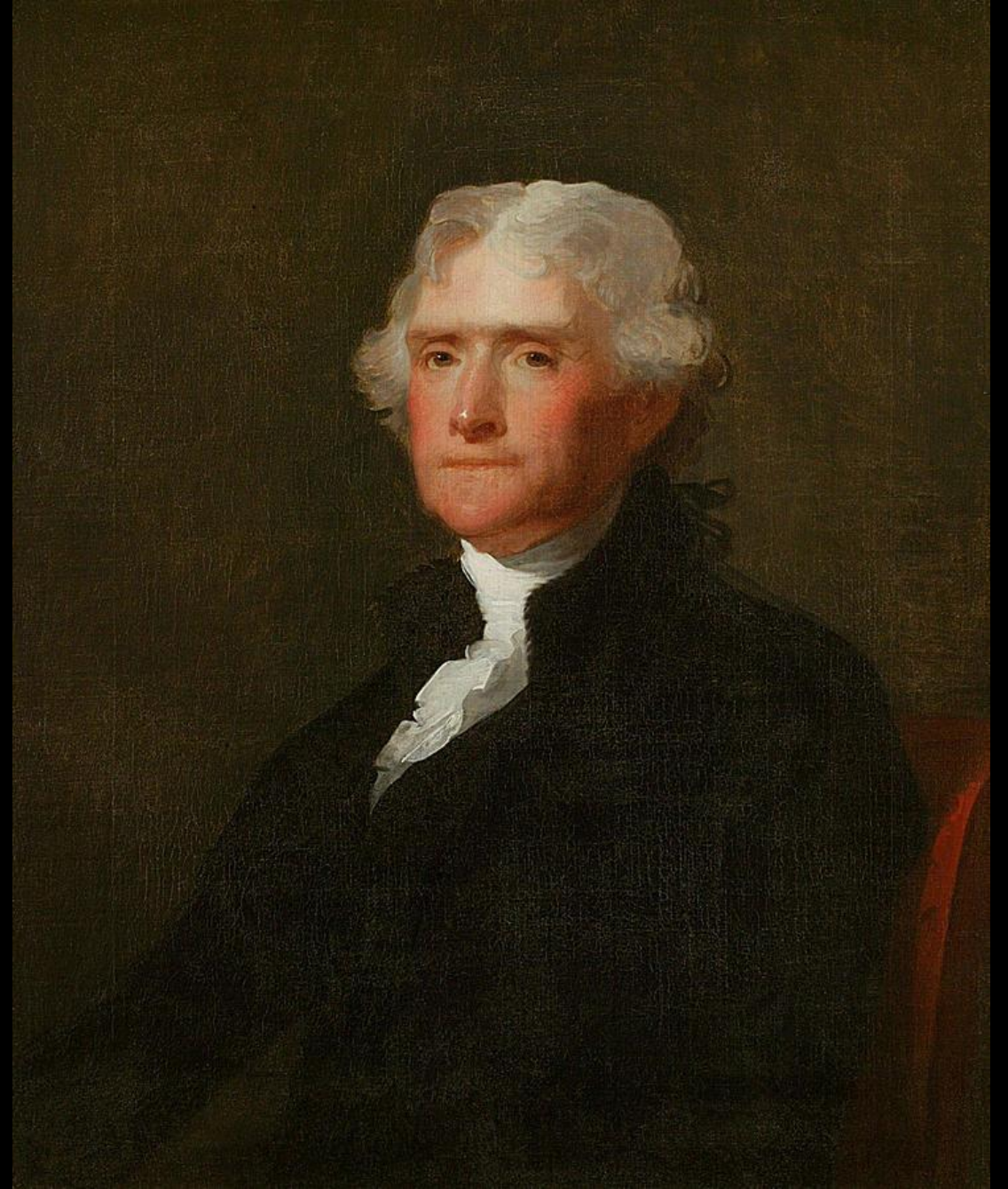




Charlecote House, Warwickshire







Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of Versailles 1784-1789



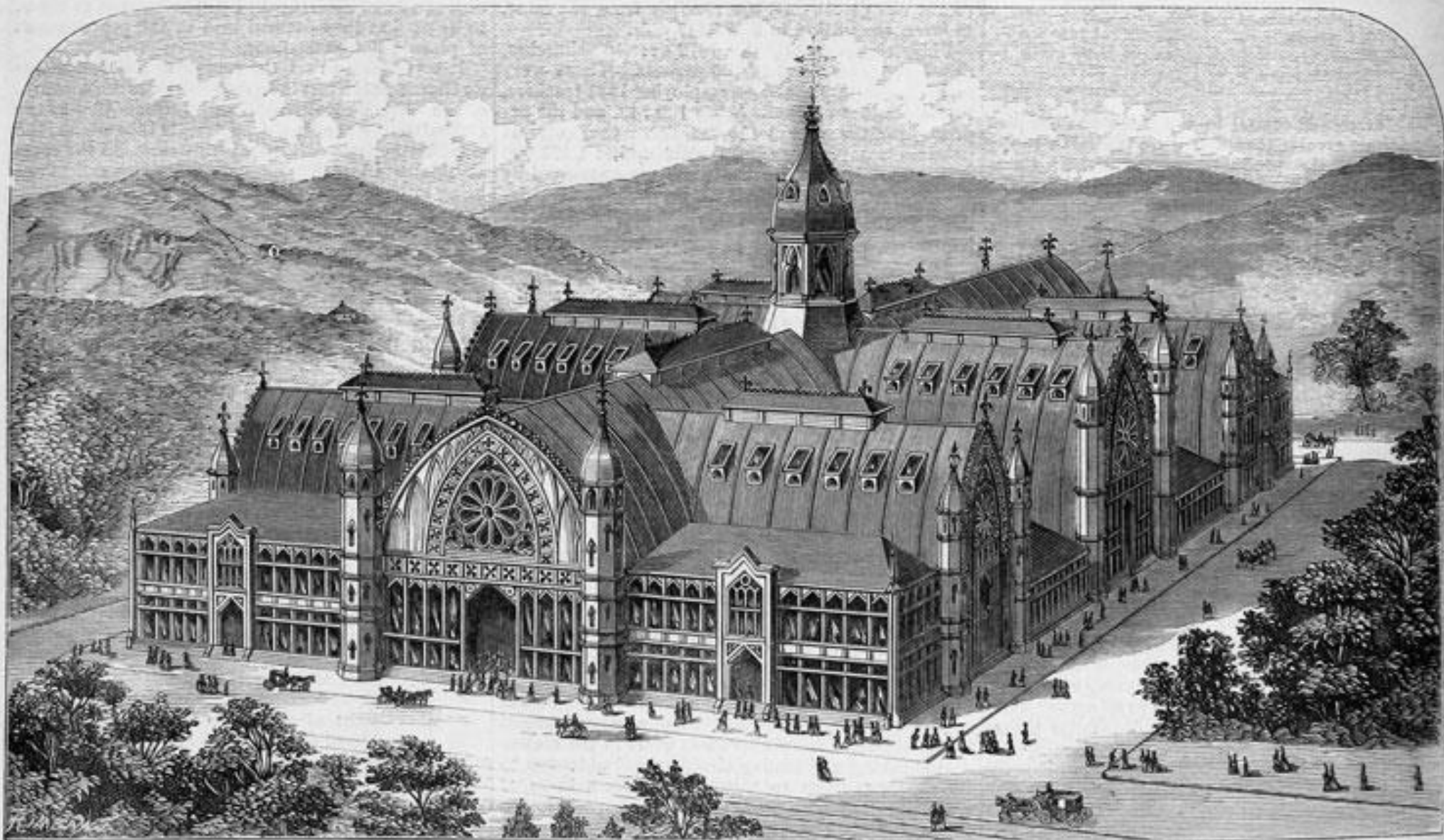




Guy Griffiths  
2014



THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF 1876.



THE AGRICULTURAL HALL.









Chamber pot

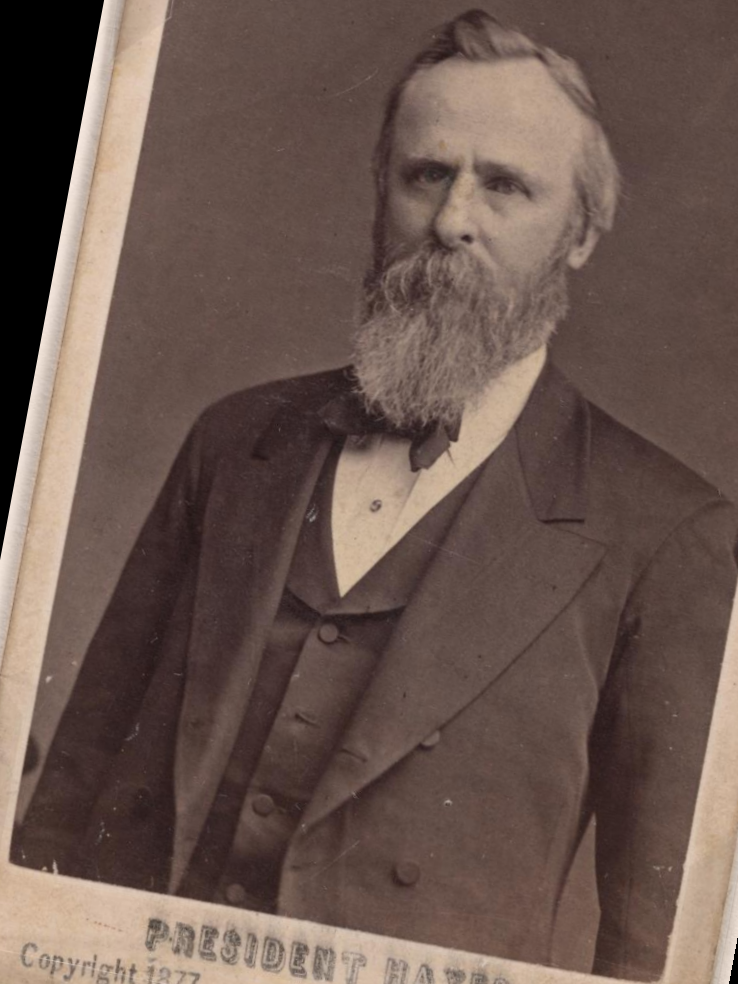


Tilden, S.J.



SCRIBNER GIFT

*Mora* 707 BROADWAY, N. Y.



PRESIDENT HAYES.

Copyright 1877

by M. B. Brady.

# Would you want to live 1876?











**more water for lawns than the 7 thirstiest crops combined**



As much as **50**  
**percent**

of the  
**water**

we use outdoors is

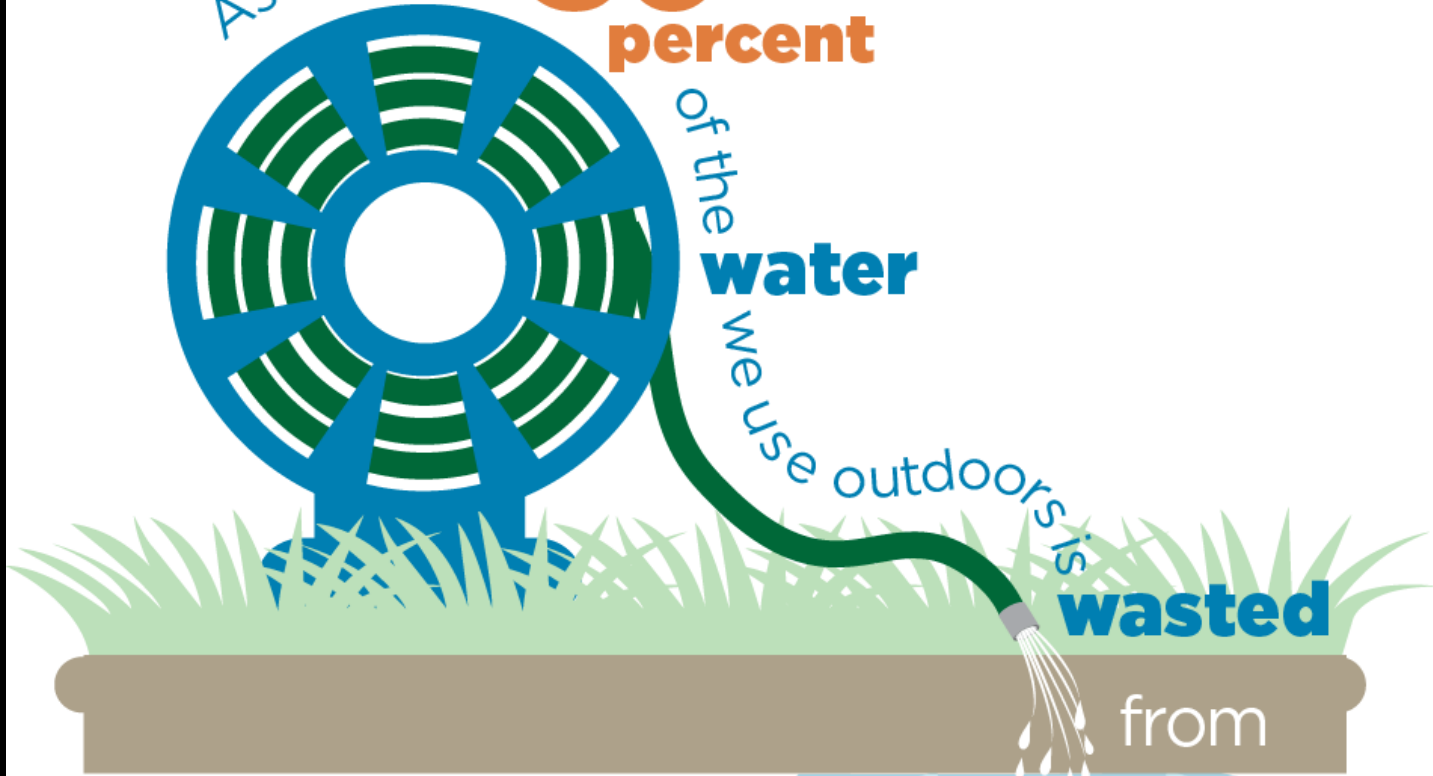
**wasted**

from

**inefficient**

watering methods and systems.

**Curb your water waste!**



Residential lawn services apply 2 X *chemicals* on turfgrass as farmers put on agricultural fields



from City of Wilmington, NC





*Lawn  
Equipment  
is Highly  
Polluting*

*5% nationally*



*harsh*



*don't "belong" here*

# “Pretty” imports vs. the “Natives”

- “Invasives” dominate and drive out “native” plants
- “Non-natives” or “exotics” don’t support our wildlife, and require extra care
- “Native” plants have been here for *thousands* of years
- Natives are adapted to local conditions, requiring less care
- Natives provide food for wildlife

Oak trees support 534 species of *Lepidoptera* (moths and butterflies), far more than any other native tree or plant.

Birds and other animals eat the insects.

A wide range of animals eat the acorns.

CREDIT: KEVIN SHI



***What can you do to help?***



Our lawns transformed  
can be *habitat* ...

... and collectively we control  
*a lot of property!*



July 2021



May 2022



June 2022

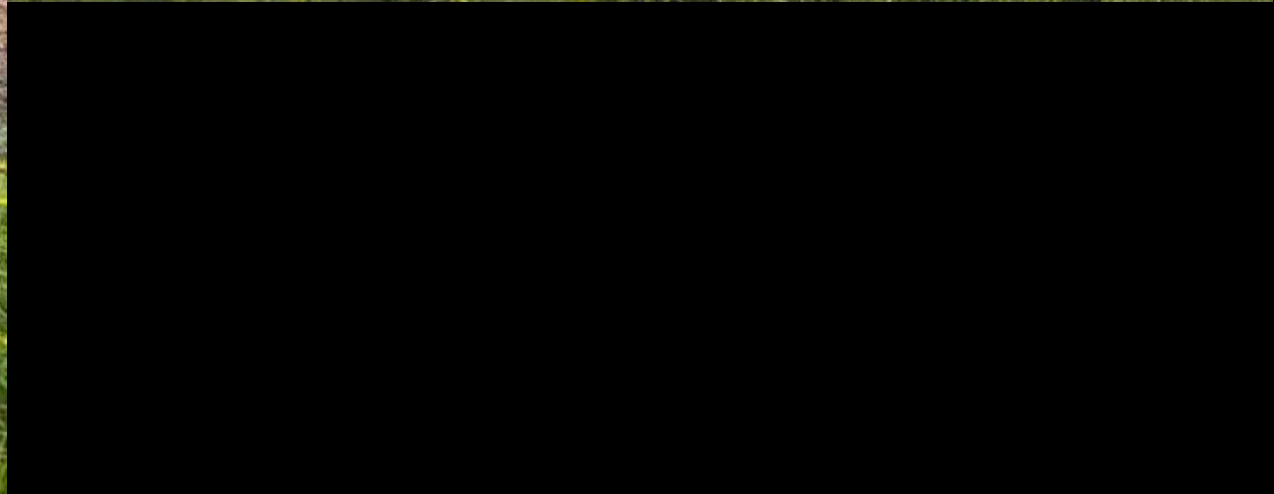
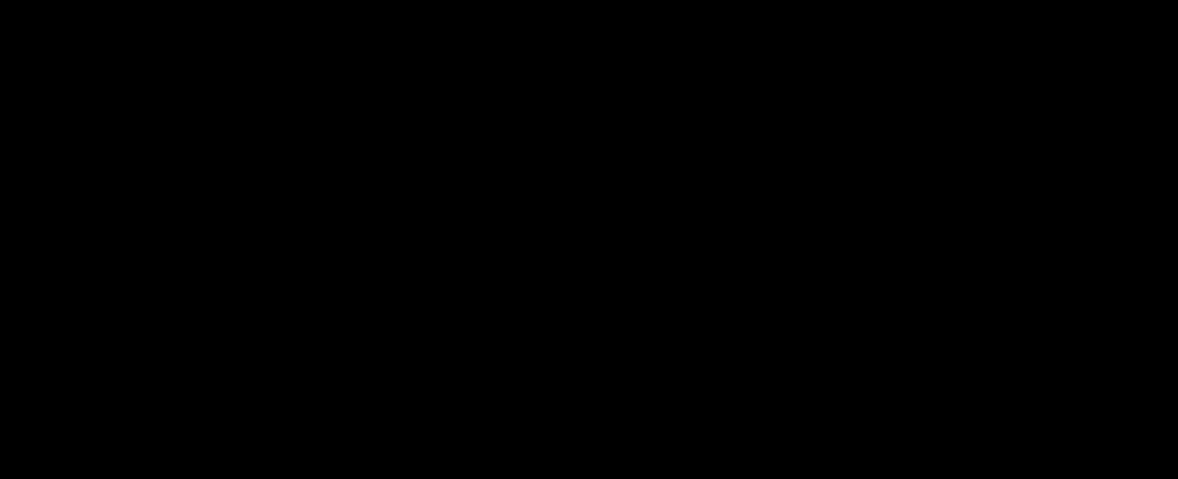


August 2023  
(drought)



Benjamin Vogt,  
unlawning America  
one step at a time







urban shade



# *Resources*

Homegrown National Park

<https://homegrownnationalpark.org/>

Piedmont Master Gardeners

<https://piedmontmastergardeners.org>

Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia:

<https://mgnv.org>

[creationcare@episcopalvirginia.org](mailto:creationcare@episcopalvirginia.org)