1) Navigating Carex
   a) Key characters
      i) Stems triangular in cross section (usually)
      ii) Leaf sheath is fused
      iii) Three-ranked leaves (from the top, looking down)
      iv) Unisexual flowers – either male or female
      v) Female flower/fruits enclosed in sac-like perigynium
      vi) Perigynium – a modified bract that wraps around the developing nutlet (fruit), enclosing it in a leafy sac
   b) Species are divided into sections based on natural groups that look similar
   c) Flower arrangement is important
      i) Do all spikes look the same or are male/female flowers on separate spikes?
      ii) If male and female flowers on same spike, how are they arranged? Which is at the top?

2) Ground cover, lawn alternative & matrix plantings
   a) Carex pensylvanica
   b) C. appalachica
   c) C. texensis
   d) C. rosea
   e) C. cherokeensis
   f) C. laxiculmis ‘Hobb’ Bunny Blue®
   g) C. plantaginea

3) Bioretention, rain gardens & bioswales
   a) C. muskingumensis
   b) Carex grayi
   c) C. stricta
d) C. amphibola

e) C. vulpinoidea

f) C. squarrosa

g) C. lurida

4) Looking at others

a) C. bromoides

b) C. flaccosperma, C. laxiculmis, C. platyphylla, C. meadii

c) C. woodii, C. tetanic, C. meadii

5) Resources

a) Flora of North America (beta version): http://beta.floranorthamerica.org/wiki/Main_Page

b) Books that cover grasses, progressive planting design, and alternative lawns

c) Hoffman Nursery website at hoffmannursery.com (for reference only—no retail sales and please, no inquiries from those not in the wholesale trade)

d) Retail mail order available through Izel Plants at izelplants.com