

John Hart Asher

Principal and Senior Environmental Designer of Blackland Collaborative

Role in project- Senior Environmental Designer

Years with firm: Ecosystem Design Group, LBJWC: 2008 -2020; EDG/Blackland Collaborative: 2020-2023

City of Residences: Austin, TX

**BIO**

John Hart Asher has over 15 years' experience designing and building functional ecosystems within urban conditions. He has conducted basic research in ecological engineering, ecological restoration, and land management, offered workshops to professionals and the general public, and provided fee-supported ecological consulting expertise to clients across Texas.

As part of the consulting team, John Hart works with integrated design teams composed of engineers, architects, landscape architects, and developers to integrate sustainable design, practices, and philosophies into projects. He specializes in translating sustainable design into successful projects that provide varying layers of ecosystem services. His main interest is the application of ecological design, resulting in functional sustainable landscapes within urban ecologies.

A few of his current projects include: Tall grass prairie restoration in an urban riparian corridor, green roof research and implementation, water conservation, soil remediation, sustainable roadsides, and green infrastructure. John Hart also worked on green roof design and implementation for Bercy Chen Studio's Edgeland House, which was featured in Dwell and Texas Architect magazines and has won several awards, including Architizer's A+ Jury and Popular Choice Awards, the 2016 Design Award of Excellence from Green Roofs for Healthy Cities and the Texas Society of Architects 2016 Design Award. Edgeland House was also featured in Phaidon's "Elemental Living: Contemporary Houses in Nature," and most recently was documented in AppleTV's HOME series that explores exemplary and innovative designs. He holds a bachelor's in history from the University of Mississippi and a master's in landscape architecture from The University of Texas at Austin, which awarded him a President's Outstanding Staff Award in April 2018. A dedicated environmental professional who specializes in bridging design concepts and ecological function and demonstrates strong project management skills with the proven ability to design, assess, and investigate landscape restoration installations, performance, and measures. He has carried out research and development of green roof technology with the aim of improving performance and application within semi-arid, sub-tropical climates, and has helped design and build numerous native prairie green roofs all over the state of Texas. In 2019 he also stepped in to serve as host of the nationally syndicated PBS show, Central Texas Gardener.