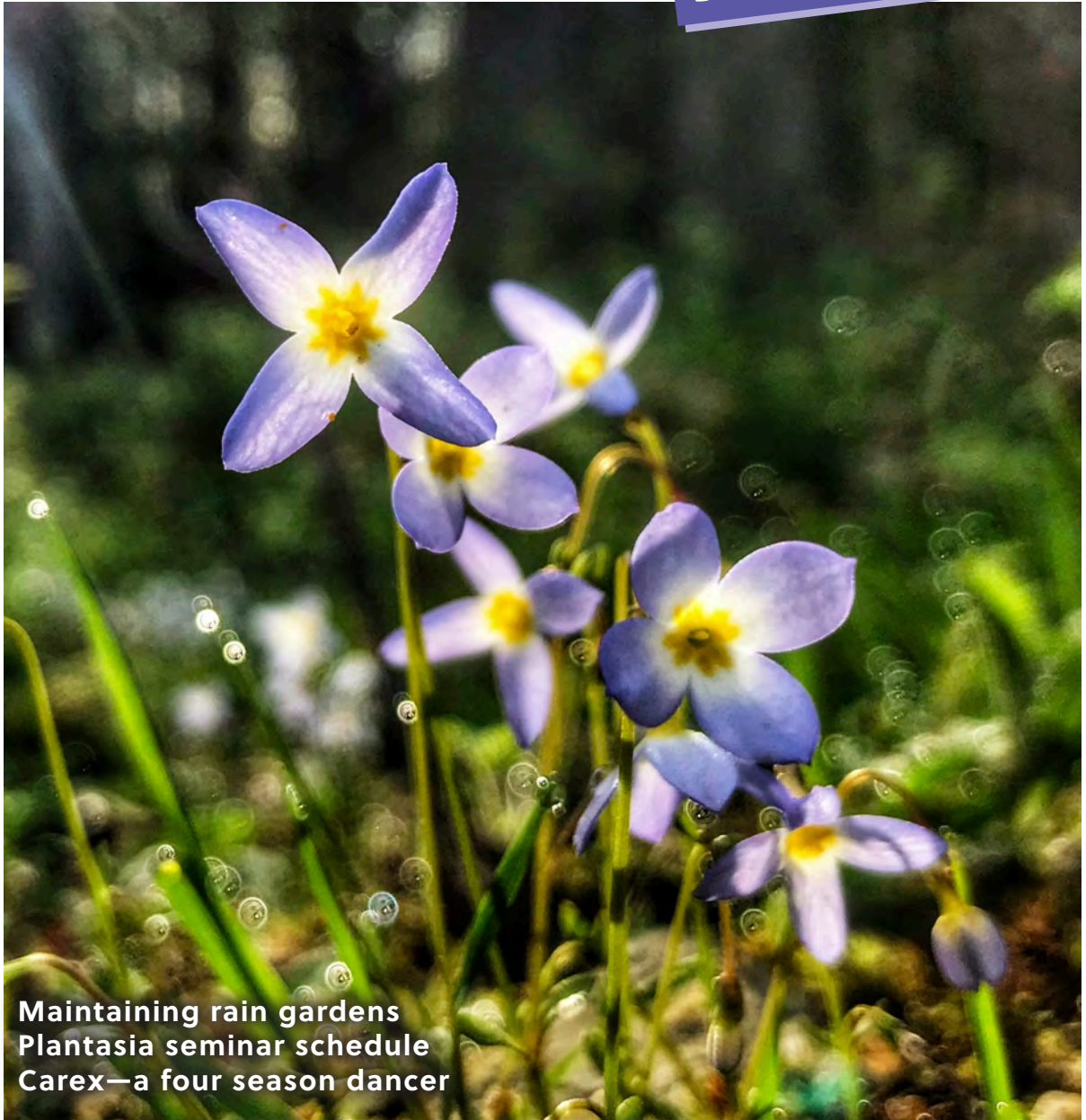


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Journal



Maintaining rain gardens
Plantasia seminar schedule
Carex—a four season dancer

FREE

Volume Twenty-nine, Issue Two
March-April 2023



It's Nearly Here!

Right now, this is totally what we need! Is there anything better than the happy, bouncy joy of being surrounded by growing things? The long road to spring always brings the same question: "What's new this season?" That's a bit of a trick question; for us, every moment in an early spring greenhouse feels new. Every seedling popping out of the soil, any first flower on a basket . . . it's so exciting! Spring gives us all the ability to see everything as new again.

There are indeed new plants this spring, and while some may feel very familiar, they genuinely are improved! Look for petunias that re-flower without cleaning, million bells that resist disease, weigelas that bloom continuously, and more. Sometimes you don't need new, just a bit of something better. So keep your eye out for more robust colors, improved habits, and a hundred other subtle ways your garden will be improved.

The most reliable plant brand "go-to's" will be in the nursery for 2023. Our most popular group by far is the **American Beauties** group, an invaluable partner who's made it easy for anyone to pick out the native plants of our region. Not to mention its commitment to fostering the education of why it's so important to incorporate native plants into your garden. New annual flowers are extensive and include a few breeders you might not have heard of: **Selecta, Ball,** and **Oglesby** are just a few of the names considered the cutting edge for this group. Also, be sure to look for the purple containers of the **FE, First Editions** plants, the best of the newest out there. **David Austin Roses** (OMG, they're always gorgeous). There's **Bushel & Berry, Bloom-ables, Raymond Evison, Goodness Grows,** and the **AAS Selections, Heritage Perennials** . . . oh and **Bloomin Easy** is also putting out some great material! And don't forget the houseplants, amazingly still one of the hottest plant commodities out there right now.

There's so much to look forward to this spring—longer days, warm soil, and good plants. And while you're waiting, be sure to give these guys a Google and make yourself a running list.

We can't wait, see you soon!

Contact me, Kathy, for info on garden rental events, and pretty much anything garden related:

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On the cover: *Houstonia caerulea* (common bluets)
 in Rex, NY, by Bonnie Guckin

Contents

Ear to the ground 5

Maintaining rain gardens..... 8-9

Carex—Aafour season dancer.....12-15

Calendar 20-25

Almanac..... 28

Margot Chiuten..... 30-32

Daffodil time!..... 34

From the garden: Sautéed spinach..... 37

Plantasia seminar schedule 38



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SCAN TO LEARN MORE

Maintaining rain gardens



Story and photos by Kimberly Burkard

WHAT IS A RAIN GARDEN?

A rain garden is a garden of native shrubs and perennials planted in a depression or swale that is designed to temporarily hold and filter rainwater. This is especially helpful if there are many nearby hard, non-porous surfaces such as driveways, roofs, walkways, and patios. Plus, if it is properly situated, rain gardens can also absorb runoff from sloped lawn areas which can suffer poor water absorption and sheet water in rain events. By slowing and absorbing runoff from storms, these gardens help control flooding, erosion, and contamination of nearby waterways by filtering contaminants and sediment. Because the gardens will typically drain within 12–48 hours, they will be dry most of the time and will not encourage the breeding of mosquitoes.

WHY ARE THEY IMPORTANT?

Every time it rains, rainwater collects dirt, fertilizers, chemicals, oil, garbage, and bacteria as it flows along various surfaces. The US EPA estimates that pollutants carried by rainwater make up 70% of all water pollution.

By controlling erosion and filtering pollutants, we can help to keep our lakes, rivers, and drinking water healthy and safe.

INSTALLATION

A rain garden can be installed professionally or by the homeowner and it can be of a variety of sizes. As the focus of this article is the maintenance of rain gardens, a link to a very complete how-to manual prepared by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the University of Wisconsin Extension is included to answer any DIY questions you may have: water.rutgers.edu/Rain_Gardens/RGWebsite/misc/rgmanual-UW.pdf

MAINTENANCE

Maintenance will keep the rain garden functioning properly and prevent flooding, erosion, and other poor drainage issues. NB: once established, rain gardens require little maintenance—but that does not mean **no** maintenance!

ABOVE: Taughan-nock Falls State Park Rain and Pollinator Gardens in summer

- New plantings may need to be watered until established (1–2 years). Water as needed during hot and dry periods .
- As rain gardens feature native plants, pesticides and fertilizers are not required nor are they advised as these gardens are meant to filter out chemicals, fertilizers, and excess nutrients before the runoff reaches waterways.
- Regular weeding and trimming can keep your garden looking sharp as well as functional. When the plantings grow to mature sizes, they will help to suppress weeds and minimize the maintenance effort required. Do not mow, use weed whackers or weed killers.
- Inspect your garden regularly. Replace any dead plants. Always choose native plants suited for the conditions. Native plants need little care once established, can provide habitat support for birds and pollinators, and typically have deep roots that help hold the soil and absorb water. After heavy rains replace any soil, rocks and plants that may have been dislodged.
- Young rain gardens may need some mulch to inhibit weeds and retain moisture. But as the plants mature, this should not be required as the plants will crowd out weeds and provide their own soil coverage/ moisture retention. Of note, not all mulches work in rain gardens as some will float when it rains. Avoid wood chips and stick to shredded hardwood or pine straw mulch.
- If there are paths for water to flow into or out of the garden, make sure they are free of debris and well-functioning. Rain gardens are expected to pond during a rain event but if there are ponding and drainage problems that routinely exceed 24 hours, the garden may not be functioning properly. Seek professional help if you cannot resolve the problem yourself.
- Care for your soil. It should be loose and well-aerated. Hard, compacted soil will prevent infiltration and proper functioning.
- Occasionally watch your garden in a heavy rain. See how the water enters the garden, where it overflows, how any mulch behaves, etc. Add rocks, change flow patterns, swap out mulch, or do whatever else may be required to help your garden operate as intended.
- Remember: right plant, right place. You may find that certain plants just do not work well in your garden and others may be working too well. Adjust your plans and species as needed. Don't continue to buy poorly performing species. And feel free to weed down some of the overly successful plants. Never introduce invasive (i.e., aggressive nonnative) plants to your rain garden.



- Remove any pet waste from rain garden areas. Also avoid using compost in these garden beds.
- Special note: as these gardens feature native plants and no pesticides, they can be havens for overwintering moths, butterflies, fireflies, bumblebees, and more. Skip fall cleanup. Allow the dried plant material to stand until temperatures warm to the 50s F in the spring before cutting out the dead plant material. This also provides winter interest and food for seed-loving birds.

TOP: Taughannock Falls State Park Rain and Pollinator Gardens in summer

BOTTOM: Taughannock Falls State Park Rain and Pollinator Gardens in winter

Kimberly Burkard is the *Upstate Gardeners' Journal* managing editor and chairperson of the Town of Canandaigua's Environmental Conservation Board.



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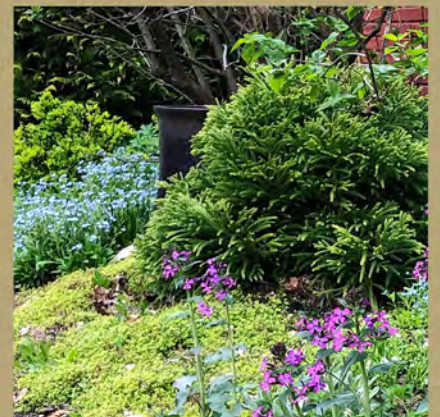
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Carex — a four

Story and photos by Colleen O'Neill Nice

LEFT: *Carex morrowii* 'Ice Dance' enjoys the shade under the tall, boisterous hosta that takes the lead. This sedge is easy to propagate since it spreads by rhizomes and can be divided in spring or summer.

RIGHT: *Arex elata* 'Aurea' in an urn. Its golden color contrasts with the dark green foliage of *Astrantia major* and highlights the fronds of *Dryopteris goldiana*.

In my garden, I lead a troupe of dancers which perform on a seasonal stage. Peonies kick up their delicate skirts of fragrant, showy petals in spring, similar to lively French can-can dancers. Summer erupts with vibrant, vigorous clematis that pirouette like prima ballerinas, twining up obelisks and arbors. By autumn, hydrangeas rhumba about with big billowy blossoms in shades of white, pink, purple and blue. My lead dancers flutter across the garden stage commanding well deserved attention, but it is the back-up dancers that offer a supporting role in every season. I choreograph several species of carex that provide year-round interest by adding texture, color and movement. Commonly referred to as sedge, most varieties are easy to grow and many are drought tolerant. Several evergreen cultivars offer much needed winter interest here in Western New York.

One of the largest genera of vascular plants, sedges can be found worldwide with 500 species native to North America. The New York Flora Atlas (newyork.plantatlas.usf.edu) lists more than 227 sedges with more than 70 species native to WNY. These hardy tufts provide food and refuge for insects and animals while revitalizing natural

landscapes.

Sedges are grass-like plants, but are not true grasses. They may look similar to rushes and ornamental grasses, but after closer inspection, the differences are evident. Sedges have triangular stems that are absent of nodes (joints where the leaves meet the stem). Rushes have cylindrical stalks. Ornamental grasses usually have hollow stems with distinct nodes. This rhyme may be useful when comparing several specimens: "Sedges have edges, and rushes are round, but grasses have nodes from their tips to the ground." The "edges" refer to the sedge's triangular stems. Keep in mind that sedges green-up and bloom early and look pleasing all summer, while many ornamental grasses take an entire season to mature.

Noted for their adaptability to many site conditions, some sedges are suited for moist, boggy areas while others thrive in dry shade. Some have arching or spiked growth habits while others are open and airy. Sedges provide understated support in the garden with their compact or mounding frames. Foliage ranges from fine-textured to coarse blades. Leaf colors include green, blue-green, gold and bronze. Several varieties are edged with



season dancer

complementary bands of white, silver or yellow. They can be grown in containers, rock gardens, perennial beds, woodland borders and in native plant habitats.

Sedges provide gardeners with many choices due to the large number of species and cultivars available. For example, *Carex alata* grows in full sun with plenty of moisture while *C. pennsylvanica* prefers part to full shade in dry soil. Sedges range in height from the six inch *C. eburnea* to the three-foot-tall *C. blanda*. *C. siderosticha* 'Banana Boat' loves wet sites and can tolerate heavy shade. Colorful sedges include the very showy *C. oshimensis* 'Everillo' which glows yellow and 'Eversheen' which shimmers lime green—even through a light dusting of snow.

Numerous sedges are cool-season plants that do much of their growing in spring or fall. They may go dormant during summer heat. Most cool-weather sedges are best planted in the fall and prefer growing in 60 to 75 degree temperatures. They grow well in the northern states and are hardy in zones 4 through 10. These sedges add verticality in winter, tolerate some drought, and can be semi-evergreen.

Both native varieties and hybridized versions of sedge produce tiny seeds that are enjoyed by many birds including ducks, grouse, wild turkeys, and sparrows. Many animals use the foliage to line their nests. Small mammals and caterpillars depend on sedges in spring as a food source. In the fall, clumps create a micro-habitat and provide refuge for beneficial insects. They also provide attractive winter interest, maintaining their colorful foliage. Most are deer-resistant and low maintenance.

In late spring, gently rake out the dead foliage from the previous year or cut the tufts back to about four inches tall. Use sharp, pointed garden scissors to snip out any dead blades. In early summer, sedges can be fertilized with a light-nitrogen plant food.

Sedges will grow in average garden soil, but adding organic matter when planting is beneficial. Most prefer moist, well-drained soil, but some varieties tolerate drought once they are established. Water plants at least once a month in dry shaded areas and twice a month during severe drought conditions. Using mulch helps retain moisture in the soil and prevents dehydration during the hottest summer days.

LEFT: *Carex oshimensis* 'Everillo' dances amongst the star performers including *Darmera peltata* (Umbrella plant), *Stachys macrantha* 'Superba' (Big Betony) and hostas.

RIGHT: Soft tufts of *Carex pennsylvanica*, a native sedge, green up quickly in the spring along my woodland path. The arching foliage turns a caramel color in the fall.

Carex Comparison Chart

NOTE: All Carex listed are cool season grasses.

	<i>Carex alata</i>	<i>Carex elata</i> 'Aurea'	<i>Carex blanda</i>	<i>Carex eburnea</i>	<i>Carex morrowii</i> 'Ice Dance'	<i>Carex oshimensis</i> 'Evergold'
Common Name	Broadwing Sedge	Bowles' Golden Sedge	Eastern Woodland Sedge	Bristle-leaf Sedge	Ice Dance Sedge	Japanese Sedge
Native Range/ Hardiness Zones	Eastern US Zones 4 to 8	England Zones 5 to 9	North America Zones 3 to 9	North America Zones 2 to 8	Japan Zones 5 to 8	Honshu Island, Japan Zones 5 to 9
Height/ Spread	2 to 3' / 18 to 24"	18 to 30" / 18 to 30"	12 to 36" / 12 to 24"	6 to 8" / 6 to 8"	6 to 12" / 1 to 3'	8 to 12" / 12 to 18"
Bloom Time/ Seedheads	May to June Birds Small, scale-like seed-heads	May to June / Seedheads persist into July	March to June Seedheads form green clusters	April to June Ivory-green spikes	Early summer to summer; Brown seed-heads	May Clusters of brown seeds
Habit	Clumps or tussocks	Dense, clump-forming; mounding; evergreen	Dense tufts; evergreen	Clumping; spreads by rhizomes	Clumping; spreads slowly by rhizomes	Mounded clump; spreads slowly by short rhizomes
Leaf	Slender, grass-like green leaves	Brilliant lemon-lime; wide blades curl gracefully	Narrow, sharp, lime green grass-like foliage	Soft, fine foliage; dark green then brown in fall	Slender, 1/2" bright green arching leaves with creamy white margins; semi-evergreen	Narrow, arching variegated foliage; Broad, creamy yellow center with dark green border; evergreen
Exposure	Full sun to part shade	Part shade to full shade	Full sun to full shade	Part shade to full shade	Part shade to full shade	Part shade
Moisture	Moist to wet; may go dormant in hot summers	Average to wet; do not let soil dry out; grows in water 2 to 3" deep	Dry to moist	Dry to moist	Rich, moist; well drained; do not overwater	Medium to wet; well drained
Use	Water gardens, bog gardens, borders along streams and ponds, rain gardens	Borders along streams or ponds; rock gardens, containers, accent plant, rain gardens, bog gardens	Evergreen groundcover, specimen	Ground cover, woodlands, lawn alternative, rock gardens	Ground cover, containers, mass planting, woodlands, borders, water garden, rock gardens	Mass planting, ground cover, woodlands, borders, pond edges, slopes, containers, rock gardens
Propagation	Division	Divide clumps in spring; sow seeds in autumn but may not come true	Division, seed	Division, seed	Divide in spring and early summer; seeds in fall	Sow seeds in cold frame in spring; rhizome division in early summer
Tolerates	Deer, erosion, wet soil	Full sun, wet soils, deer, clay soils	Deer, drought, clay soils, rocky soils, wet soils	Deer, heavy shade rocky soils, drought	Shade, deer, wet soil	Deer, moist soil, dry periods
Attracts	Birds, caterpillars, butterflies	Bees, wildlife	Birds, squirrels, caterpillars	Pollinators birds	Pollinators	Pollinators

<i>Carex oshimensis</i> 'Everillo'	<i>Carex pensylvanica</i>	<i>Carex platyphylla</i>	<i>Carex siderosticha</i> 'Banana Boat'
Japanese Sedge	Pennsylvania Sedge	Broadleaf Sedge, Silver Sedge	Creeping Broad-leaved Sedge
Honshu Island, Japan Zones 5 to 9	Eastern US Zones 4 to 8	Eastern US Zones 3 to 8	Japan, China, Korea Zones 5 to 9
18 to 24"/ 18 to 24"	6 to 12"/ 6 to 12"	8 to 12"/12 to 18"	6 to 12"/12 to 15"
May Brownish flower spikes	May Green scales tinged red	April to June Purple, brown spikes	Late Spring Brownish spikes
Mounded clump; spreads slowly by short rhizomes	Slow, creeping rhizomes	Clumping	Mounding; slowly creeps by rhizomes
Narrow, arching lime green to golden yellow blades; evergreen in mild winters	Deep green, narrow delicate, arching; semi-evergreen	Glossy powder blue, dimpled; 1 to 1.5" wide; evergreen	Bright lemon 1" wide leaves with narrow green margins and stripes
Part shade	Part shade to full shade	Part shade to full shade	Part shade to full shade
Medium to wet; well drained	Dry to moist	Average to moist; fertile	Average to moist; fertile, well drained; keep evenly moist
Mass planting, ground cover, woodlands, borders, stream or pond edges, containers, rock gardens, window boxes	Ground cover, woodlands, rain garden, lawn substitute, mass planting, edging	Woodlands, butterfly, pollinator, border, mass planting, ground cover	Woodlands, ponds, slopes, containers, edging, groundcover, accent plant
Sow seeds in cold frame in spring; rhizome division in early summer	Division; may not grow well from seed	Division, seed	Division in spring
Deer, moist soil, dry periods	Heavy shade, dry soil, wet soil, deer & rabbits	Deer, drought, dry soil	Heavy shade, wet sites, deer
Pollinators	Birds	Butterflies, pollinators, small mammals, song-birds supports various Satyr larvae	Butterflies



Propagation of many sedges is easy and can be done by division in early spring. Interesting and hard-to-find varieties can be propagated from seeds available at Everwilde Farms (everwilde.com) or Prairie Moon Nursery (prairiemoon.com).

Amanda's Native Garden (amandasnativeplants.com) in Dansville, New York, just south of Rochester, offers mail order and pickup. Check the Choose Natives website (choosenatives.com) for additional native plant nurseries by state. Pollen Nation (pollennation.com) has been a great source for several sedges that I could not find locally. For a wealth of information about carex, visit Hoffman Nursery's website (hoffmannursery.com). This wholesale nursery specializes in ornamental and native sedges and grasses.

Colleen O'Neill Nice is a horticulturalist who is passionate about plant propagation and enjoys nurturing her garden in Clarence, NY.

ABOVE: Nestled between impatiens, painted ferns, and *Begonia grandis*, *Carex oshimensis* 'Eversheen' adds texture and movement to a shady spot in my garden.

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REGULAR CLUB MEETINGS

African Violet & Gesneriad Society of WNY meets the third Tuesday of the month, March–December, at 7pm, Greenfield Health & Rehab Facility, 5949 Broadway, Lancaster. judyoneil1945@gmail.com.

Alden Garden Club meets the second Wednesday of the month (except July & August) at 7pm, Alden Community Center, West Main Street, Alden. New members and guests welcome. Plant sale each May. 716-937-7924.

Amara Garden Club meets the second Wednesday of the month (except January) at Ebenezer United Church of Christ, 630 Main Street, West Seneca. Visitors welcome. 716-844-8543, singtoo@aol.com.

Amherst Garden Club meets the fourth Wednesday of the month (except December, March, July & August) at 10am, St. John's Lutheran Church, Main Street, Williamsville. New members and guests welcome. 716-836-5397.

Bowmansville Garden Club meets the first Monday of the month (except June, July, August & December) at 7pm, Bowmansville Fire Hall, 36 Main Street, Bowmansville. New members and guests welcome. For more information, 716-361-8325.

Buffalo Area Daylily Society. East Aurora Senior Center, 101 King Street, East Aurora. Friendly group who get together to enjoy daylilies. Plant Sales, May & August. Open Gardens, June–August. Facebook.

Buffalo Bonsai Society meets every second Saturday at 1pm at ECC North Campus, STEM Bldg, 6205 Main St, Williamsville, NY 14221. Two exceptions on the third Saturday: 4/15 and 9/16. buffalobonsaisociety.com.

East Aurora Garden Club meets at noon on the second Monday of each month, except January. Club meets at Nativity Lutheran Church, 970 E. Main Street, East Aurora, NY (just west of the 400 Expressway exit). The club's objective is to stimulate, create interest and promote education on horticulture, the art of gardening, flower arranging and environmental conservation; and to promote the beautification of surrounding areas. For more information about the club or membership call 716-912-1589.

Federated Garden Clubs NYS—District 8
Nancy Kalieta, director, nancyk212@aol.com.
gardenclubsofwny.com.

Forest Stream Garden Club meets the third Thursday of the month (September–May) at 7pm, Presbyterian Village, 214 Village Park Drive, Williamsville and other locations. Summer garden teas & tours. Ongoing projects include beautification of the Williamsville Meeting House, garden therapy at a local nursing home, youth gardening, and Victorian Christmas decorating. eileen.s@markzon.com

Friends of Kenan Herb Club meets the third Monday of the month at 5:30pm at the Taylor Theater. New members are always welcome.

Garden Club of the Tonawanda meets the third Thursday of the month at 7pm, Tonawanda City Hall, Community Room.

Garden Friends of Clarence meets the second Wednesday of the month at 7pm, September–June, Town Park Clubhouse, 10405 Main Street, Clarence. gardenfriendsofclarence@hotmail.com.

Hamburg Garden Club meets the second Wednesday of the month at 10am, VFW Post 1419, 2985 Lakeview Rd, Hamburg, NY. June plant sale. Summer garden tours. Guests are welcome. Contact lonabutler4@gmail.com.

Kenmore Garden Club meets the second Tuesday of the month (except July, August, & December) at 10am, Kenmore United Methodist Church, 32 Landers Road, Kenmore. Activities include guest speakers, floral designs and community service. New members and guests welcome. Songnbird@aol.com.

Ken-Sheriton Garden Club meets the second Tuesday of the month (except January) at 7pm, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 576 Delaware Road, Kenmore. Monthly programs, artistic design and horticulture displays. New members and guests welcome. 716-833-8799, dstierheim@gmail.com.

Lancaster Garden Club meets the second Wednesday of the month (except January, July, & August) at 7pm, St. John Lutheran Church, 55 Pleasant Avenue, Lancaster. All are welcome. Meetings are currently on hold. 716-685-4881.

Lewiston Garden Club meets the fourth Monday of the month. See website for meeting information, lewistongardenfest.com/garden-club.html or contact at PO Box 32, Lewiston, NY 14092.

Niagara Frontier Koi and Pond Club meets the second Friday of the month at 7pm, Zion United Church, 15 Koening Circle, Tonawanda.

Niagara Frontier Orchid Society (NFOS) meets the first Tuesday following the first Sunday (dates sometimes vary due to holidays, etc.), September–June, Botanical Gardens, 2655 South Park Avenue, Buffalo. niagarafntierorchids.org.

Orchard Park Garden Club meets the first Thursday of the month except July and December at 11:30am at St. John's Lutheran Church, 4536 South Buffalo St., Orchard Park. Contact Diana Szczepanski at 716-674-8970 for membership information. Guests are always welcome.

Ransomville Garden Club meets the third Wednesday or Saturday of the month at 5:45pm, Ransomville Community Library, 3733 Ransomville Road, Ransomville. Meetings are open to all. Community gardening projects, educational presentations, June plant sale. bbonnie2313@gmail.com.

Silver Creek-Hanover Garden Club meets the second Saturday of the month at 11am, Silver Creek Senior Center, 1823 Lake Road (Rte. 5), Silver Creek. edlorrie@yahoo.com, Facebook.

South Towns Gardeners meets the second Friday of the month (except January) at 9:30am, West Seneca Senior Center. New members welcome.

Town and Country Garden Club of LeRoy meets the second Wednesday of the month (except February) at 6:30pm, First Presbyterian Church, 7 Clay Street, LeRoy. New members and guests are welcome. 585-768-2712, ritawallace005@gmail.com, Facebook.

Western New York Herb Study Group meets the second Wednesday of the month at 7pm, Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens, 2655 South Park Avenue, Buffalo.

Western New York Honey Producers, Inc. Cornell Cooperative Extension of Erie County, 21 South Grove Street, East Aurora. wnyhpa.org.

Western New York Hosta Society. East Aurora Senior Center, 101 King Street, East Aurora. Meetings with speakers, newsletter, sales. Hosta teas first Saturday of July, August, September. h8staman@aol.com, wnyhosta.com.

Western New York Hosta Society Breakfast Meetings, a friendly get-together, first Saturday (winter months only) at 10am, Forestview Restaurant, Depew. wnyhosta.com.

Western NY Iris Society meets at the Julia B Reinstein Library, 1030 Lossos Road, Cheektowaga, NY at 1:30 pm on first Sunday of each month.

Western New York Rose Society meets the third Wednesday of each month at 7pm. St. Stephens-Bethlehem United Church of Christ, 750 Wehrle Drive, Wmsvl. Check the Facebook page or website for meeting content, wnyrosesociety.net.

Youngstown Garden Club meets the second Wednesday of every month at 7pm, First Presbyterian Church, 100 Church Street, Youngstown.

FREQUENT HOSTS

BECBG: Buffalo & Erie County Botanical Gardens, 2655 South Park Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14218. 716/827-1584; buffalogardens.com.

REIN: Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve, 93 Honorine Drive, Depew, NY 14043. 716-683-5959; reinsteinwoods.org.

CLASSES / EVENTS

F- Indicates activities especially appropriate for children and families.

S- Indicates plant sales/swaps.

T- Indicates garden tours.

O- Indicates online event.

January 1–March 31: 2023 Winter Birding Challenge. This Winter Birding Challenge provides participants with 30 tasks to complete. These tasks range in difficulty; some will be completed in a day, and some will take all winter. Buffalo Audubon Society. Register at outsidechronicles.com/winterbird

OS January–April 15: The Great Plant Sale Online. Order online only and pick up May 19–20. **BECBG**

March 8–April 30: Animals in Art Exhibit. Included with Admission. **BECBG**

March 11–April 6: Flock of All Colors Exhibit. Included with Admission. **BECBG**

O March 14: Start Your 2023 Food Garden, 10am–12pm. Join to this online class to learn how to grow a healthy and productive garden this year. In this class you'll learn: How to plan your garden seeds or seedlings, seed germination test, planting times for Allegany County. Free. Allegany County CCE, 5435A County Rd. 48, Belmont, NY 14813. 585-268-7644; allegany.cce.cornell.edu.

S March 16–19: Plantasia, Thr 10am–8pm, Fri & Sat 10am–9pm, Sun 10am–5pm. Fairgrounds Event Center and Artisan Hall, 5820 South Park Avenue, Hamburg, NY 14075. \$10/general, \$8/Seniors, Free/Children 12 & Under. plantasiany.com

March 18–April 16: Spring Flower Exhibit. Included with Admission. **BECBG**

T March 18: March Migrations, 10am. Woodland ponds and wetlands are important habitat for migrating wildlife. Join them on this guided walk to search for migrating ducks, geese, and salamanders. Registration required. **REIN**

March 18: Woods Walk: Sweet Taste of Spring, 1pm. Learn about the maple syrup making process and taste some homemade product, as we check the preserve for signs of trees awakening. No registration required. **REIN**

March 19: Spring Soiree, 10am–3pm. Talk with Horticulture staff, and stroll through the fragrant Botanical Gardens to see the bright, blooming bulbs with a glass of bubbly. \$40/person **BECBG**

March 23: Intro to Birding in Your Backyard, 6–7pm.

Do you want to see more birds in your backyard? This workshop will help you identify some of the birds that are most likely to be seen in our area and discuss ways to attract birds into your space. \$45/person, \$40.50/member. **BECBG**

March 18: Spring Symphony, 10am. Listen to the sounds of spring and learn to identify animals by the sounds they make. Registration required. **REIN**

March 25: Rain Gardens. Landscaping Horticulture Series. 10:30am–12:30pm. Landscaping Horticulture Series. \$25/person, \$22.50/members. **BECBG**

T April 1: April Fool's Day Walk, 10am. Explore some of the ways nature can "fool" us. Registration required. **REIN**

T April 1: Woods Walk: Nature Guide's Choice, 11am. Join a guided nature walk through the woods. No registration required. **REIN**

F April 5: Birding for Kids, 11am. Learn tips and tricks for spotting birds in the woods and try out binoculars on a guided walk. Registration required. **REIN**

F April 6: Adventures in Astronomy, 8pm. Enjoy a night under the stars learning about spring constellations and the legends behind them. For kids ages 8–15. Registration required. **REIN**

F April 7: Busy Beavers, 10:30am. Celebrate International Beaver Day by learning about these amazing rodents, which are also our official New York State mammal. Registration required. **REIN**

F April 7–8: Botanical Bunny Days, 10am–3pm. Take in the sights and smells of the gorgeous blooming bulbs and say hello to the Botanical Bunny. All visitors with an e-ticket are welcome to take photos with our fuzzy friend. Also included with admission on these two days will be a fun scavenger hunt to find golden eggs and carrots. Included with admission. **BECBG**

April 8: Natural Egg Dyeing, 10am and 11:30am. Discover how spices, fruits, vegetables, and other natural materials can create rich natural colors and patterns as you dye your own eggs. Two sessions available. Registration required. **REIN**

T April 12: Senior Stroll, 10am. Experience nature at your own pace and enjoy a leisurely hour-long guided walk through the woods. For adults only. Registration required. Repeats May 10. **REIN**

F April 12: Wild Wednesday, 4:30pm. Together, kids and their caregivers can enjoy a fun, hour-long outdoor activity. For children in grades K–5. Registration required. Repeats May 10. **REIN**

T April 15: Lavocat's Open House, 10am–3pm. Come see what's "growing on" at Lavocat's Family Greenhouse & Nursery. Get a backstage tour on how a commercial greenhouse grow annuals & perennials, have a Q&A with expert landscapers, learn about their Design Services, and ask questions about pond installations & care with Waterscapes of WNY. Scavenger hunt for kids. Refreshments from one of WNY's quality vendors. Tours are 11:30, 12:30, & 1:30. Lavocat's Family Greenhouse & Nursery, 8441 County Rd., East Amherst, NY 14051.

April 15: Great Grasses and Lawn Care, 10:30am–12:30pm. Landscaping Horticulture Series. \$25/person, \$22.50/members. **BECBG**

F April 15: Stories in the Woods, 10:30am. Enjoy hearing a nature story, followed by a guided walk in the woods. For children ages 3–7. Registration required. **REIN**

T April 12: Woods Walk: What's Up and at 'Em, 1pm. It's the middle of spring; have things—plant or animal—started making their way back in the woods yet? No registration required. **REIN**

April 22: World Tour of Garden Design, 10:30am–12:30pm. Landscaping Horticulture Series. \$25/person, \$22.50/members. **BECBG**

April 22: Earth Day Celebration, 10am–3pm. Celebrate our Earth this year surrounded by exotic plant life at the Botanical Gardens. **BECBG**

April 22: Earth Day Fair, 10am–1pm. Celebrate Earth Day at this open-house event designed to connect you to local resources. Learn about incentives to help you save energy and how to buy electricity from renewable sources; explore electric cars and sustainable food choices, and more. No registration required. **REIN**

T April 22: Aliens!, 2pm. Are there visitors from outer space in Reinstein Woods? No—just plants and animals that have been introduced from other parts of the world. Join a guided tour to meet some of these invasive species. Registration required; call 716-683-5959

T April 28: Tree Trek, 3–4pm. Celebrate Arbor Day weekend by visiting some of the trees in their collection. \$25/person, \$22.50/member. **BECBG**

April 28: Name that Tree, 6:30pm. What better way to celebrate Arbor Day than by taking a hike in the woods and identifying common trees? Join them to learn the tricks to tree identification and to learn fun tree facts along the way. Registration required. **REIN**

F April 29: Educators Take Action!, 9:30–11:30am. Join the Niagara River Greenway Commission for a clean-up along the Niagara River. Learn tips for leading and funding stewardship projects with students such as trash clean-up, invasive species removal, native planting, and more. Friends and family members are welcome as well. Register online. **REIN**

April 29: Vernal Vegetation, 10:30am. Join a naturalist on a walk through the woods as we observe and learn the stories of flora that accompany spring. Registration required. **REIN**

April 29: Backyard Ecology, 10:30am–12:30pm. Backyard Gardening Horticulture Series. \$25/person, \$22.50/members. **BECBG**

F May 6: Family Spring Planting Workshop, 10–11am. Celebrate spring with this new all ages gardening workshop. All participants will create a small mixed container with annuals and a decorative plant stake while learning all about spring and the beginning of our gardening season. \$25/person, \$22.50/member. **BECBG**

F May 6: Earth Day in May/I Love My Park Day. Keep the Earth Day spirit alive by caring for Reinstein Woods' trails on I Love My Park Day. Small groups will venture out to work on projects throughout the day. Scouts and other organizations are welcome, but please note that large groups will be split into multiple parties that may have different start times. Online registration will open in March. **REIN**

May 6: Woods Walk: Woods in Spring, 11am. The woods are springing back to life after the long winter! Let's see which trees, plants, and wildflowers are bursting open and what the animals are up to as the days begin getting longer and warmer. No registration required. **REIN**

May 11: Stop Drop, an Toad!, 6:30pm. Listen for and get an up-close look at frogs and toads that live at Reinstein Woods. Registration required. **REIN**

May 13: Educator Workshop: Day in the Life of the Watershed, 9am–12pm. This water quality field study will model how to lead the "Day in the Life" event with students. Participants will be eligible to borrow water quality testing kits from Reinstein Woods throughout the school year. For educators of students in grades 7–12. Register online. **REIN**

F May 13: Intro to Field Journaling, 2pm. Learn how to

set up your own nature field journal and take a walk around the woods while making observations. For adults and children ages 14 and older. \$5 fee/free for Friends members. Registration required.

SAVE THE DATE ...

May 20: Plant and Seed Exchange, 10am–2pm. University Presbyterian Church, 3330 Main Street at Niagara Falls Boulevard, Buffalo, NY 14214. Sponsor Samuel P. Capen Garden Walk, capengardenwalk@gmail.com.

S June 3: Herb and Plant Sale, 10am–3pm. The sale will be held on the Kenan lawn at 433 Locust St., Lockport, NY 14094, Friends of Kenan Herb Club.

June 3: Small Space and Urban Gardening. Backyard Gardening Horticulture Series. **BECBG**

June 10: Creative Containers and Raised Beds. Backyard Gardening Horticulture Series. **BECBG**

June 15: Herb Container Garden. **BECBG**

June 17: Herbs & Medicinal Plants. Backyard Gardening Horticulture Series. **BECBG**

June 17–18: Lewiston GardenFest 2023, 10am–5pm. lewistongardenfest.com

June 24: Vegetables & Organic Gardening. Backyard Gardening Horticulture Series. **BECBG**

July 8: Tough Plants for Tough Sites. Backyard Gardening Horticulture Series. **BECBG**

T July 21, 22, 23: Lancaster Garden Walk 2023, Friday 8:45–11pm, Sat & Sun 10am–4:30pm.

T July 21–22: Ken-Ton Garden Tour-Night Lights, 8:30–11pm. kentongardentour.com

T July 22–23: Ken-Ton Garden Tour-Day Tour, 10am–4pm. kentongardentour.comurban gardens. Free. gardensbuffaloniagara.com.

ITHACA

REGULAR CLUB MEETINGS

Adirondack Chapter, North American Rock Garden Society (ACNARGS) plans to meet in person in the fall of 2022 on the third Saturday of September and October, and the second Saturday of November at 1pm. Meetings are open to all. Check the current newsletter on the website for meeting location: acnargs.org or Facebook.com/acnargs.

Auraca Herbarists, an herb study group, usually meets the second Tuesday of the month at noon, Cornell Botanic Gardens, Ithaca. Brownbag lunch at noon followed by the program and herb of the month. Field trips during the growing season. All are welcome. Contact: Pat Curran, pc21@cornell.edu.

Elmira Garden Club meets the first Thursday of the month, April–December, at 6pm, 426 Fulton Street, Elmira. Annual plant sale, workshops, monthly meetings, local garden tours and community gardening services. Karen Coletta, 607-731-8320, Facebook.

Finger Lakes Native Plant Society meetings are usually on the 3rd Tuesday of the month Sept–May. flnps.org, info@flnps.org.

Windsor NY Garden Group meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 10am, members' homes or Windsor Community House, 107 Main Street, Windsor. windsorgardengroup.suerambo.com.

Calendar

ITHACA cont.

FREQUENT HOST

FLLT: Finger Lakes Land Trust, 202 East Court St. Ithaca, NY 14850. 607-275-9487, flt.org.

CLASSES / EVENTS

F- Indicates activities especially appropriate for children and families.

S- Indicates plant sales/swaps.

T- Indicates garden tours.

O- Indicates online event.

O March 16: Current and Emerging Threats to Our Forests by Invasive Insects and Diseases, 7:30–8:30pm. Non-native, invasive forest pests have emerged as the most important economic and ecological threat to our eastern forests. **FLLT**

March 22, 29: Beautification Brigade Orientation, 7–8:30pm. The Beautification Brigade takes care of public flower plantings in Ithaca. Have fun, learn gardening techniques, and help keep Ithaca gorgeous. No experience required. Free. CCE Tompkins County, 615 Willow Avenue, Ithaca, NY 14850. 607-272-2292, ccetompkins.org.

O April 4: Harmful Algal Blooms in the Finger Lakes. **FLLT**

April 30: Opening Day Party, 12–5pm. Refreshments, live music, and many goodies for the garden. Rain, snow, or shine! The Magic Garden, 9494 Burdick Rd, Interlaken, NY 14847. magicgardenplants.com

ROCHESTER

REGULAR CLUB MEETINGS

7th District Federated Garden Clubs New York State, Inc. meets the first Wednesday of the month. 7thdistrictfgcnys.org.

African Violet and Gesneriad Society of Rochester meets the first Wednesday of the month (except in summer), 7–9pm, Messiah Church, 4301 Mount Read Blvd., Rochester. All are welcome. *Meetings are on hold until further notice.* Stacey Davis, 585-426-5665, stacey.davis@rit.edu, avgsr.org.

Big Springs Garden Club of Caledonia-Mumford meets the second Monday evening of the month, September–November, January–May. New members and guests welcome. 585-314-6292, mdolan3@rochester.rr.com, Facebook.

Bloomfield Garden Club meets the third Thursday of the month at 11:45am, Veterans Park, 6910 Routes 5 & 20, Bloomfield. Visitors and prospective new members welcome. Marlene Moran, 585-924-8035, Facebook.

Bonsai Society of Upstate New York meets the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Brighton Town Park Lodge, Buckland Park, 1341 Westfall Road, Rochester. 585-334-2595, Facebook, bonsaisocietyofupstateny.org.

Canandaigua Botanical Society meets for in-person botanical events. See website for event schedule. canandaiguabotanicalsociety.blogspot.com

Conesus Lake Garden Club meets the third Wednesday of the month (April–December) at 7pm, Chip Holt Nature Center, Vitale Park, Lakeville. Welcoming new members. Contact Dottie Connolly, 585-703-1748.

Country Gardeners of Webster Do you like to dig in the dirt, smell the roses, learn about the birds and bees, take a walk in the park, eat, drink, and be merry, or live in Webster? Then the Country Gardeners of Webster would love to have you join them! They meet the second Monday of the month. Contact Elaine at 585-350-8270 to try this fun-loving club out.

Creative Gardeners of Penfield meets the second Monday of the month (except July & August) at 9:15am, Penfield United Methodist Church, 1795 Baird Road, Penfield. Visitors welcome. Contact 585-385-2065 or 09green17@gmail.com if interested in attending a meeting.

Fairport Garden Club Member club of Federated Garden Clubs of NY State. Meets 3rd Thursday evening of the month (except January & August), members' homes. Educational topics through speakers, workshops or local tours. Accepting new members. fairportgc@gmail.com, fairportgardenclub.com.

Finger Lakes Daylily Society members garden in west-central NY, covering an area from Batavia to Syracuse and the Southern Tier. Meetings are held in Rochester or the Canandaigua area. There are generally four regular Saturday meetings held in February, March, May, and September. Visitors and prospective new members are welcome to attend. Contact Deb Lawrence for information, binxers1@yahoo.com.

Friends of Ellwanger Garden meets all season long on Tuesday mornings. To volunteer at the garden, please contact Cindy Boyer at 585-546-7029, x12 or cboyer@landmarksociety.org.

Garden Club of Brockport meets the second Wednesday of every month at 7pm, Jubilee Church, 3565 Lake Road, Brockport. Learn gardening tips from knowledgeable speakers, make garden ornaments through our hands-on classes and explore beautiful local gardens. For more info call or email Kathy, 585-431-0509 or katy5950@gmail.com.

Garden Club of Mendon meets the third Tuesday of the month, 10am–1pm, Mendon Community Center, 167 North Main Street, Honeoye Falls. Work on community gardens and gather new ideas in a casual, social environment. 585-624-8182, joanheaney70@gmail.com.

Garden Path of Penfield meets the third Wednesday of the month, September–May at 7pm, Penfield Community Center, 1985 Baird Road, Penfield. Members enjoy all aspects of gardening; new members welcome. gardenpathofpenfield@gmail.com.

Gates Garden Club meets the second Thursday of the month (except July & August) at 6:30pm, Gates Town Annex, 1605 Buffalo Road, Rochester. New members and guests welcome. 585 247-1248, scece6@yahoo.com.

Genesee Region Orchid Society (GROS) meets the first Monday following the first Sunday of the month. Meetings in December, January, and February will be virtual. It is likely that meetings from March–May will be in person at the JCC. Please see the website for information, geneseeorchid.org.

Genesee Valley Hosta Society meets the second Thursday of the month, April–October, at Eli Fagan American Legion Post, 260 Middle Road, Henrietta. 585-889-7678, sebuckner@frontiernet.net, geneseevalleyhosta.com.

Greater Rochester Iris Society (GRIS) meets Sundays at 2pm, dates vary. St. John's Episcopal Church Hall, 11 Episcopal Ave. Honeoye Falls, NY. Public welcome. 585-266-0302, thehutchings@mac.com.

Greater Rochester Perennial Society (GRPS) meets the first Thursday of each month at 7pm, Twelve Corners Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall, 1200

South Winton Road, Rochester, except in summer when it tours members' gardens. Lectures being held virtually and garden tours are being scheduled. See website or Facebook for updates. cap704@frontiernet.net, Facebook, rochesterperennial.com.

Greater Rochester Rose Society meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7pm on Zoom Jan., Feb., and Mar. Email j.chorder@gmail.com for meeting link. Questions: 585-694-8430. Facebook: Greater Rochester Rose Society.

Henrietta Garden Club meets the second Wednesday, except May–Aug and Dec, at 6:30pm in the lower level of the Henrietta Town Hall, 475 Calkins Rd. Guests are welcome for a free visit. Handicap accessible. *The March 8 meeting will feature "Vermicomposting - Make Compost in your Kitchen!" with Pat Wartinger, Chair of Sustainability Committee. The April 12 meeting will feature Master Gardener John Nelson with "Attracting Pollinators to your Garden."* sites.google.com/site/henriettagardenclub or call 585-747-6780.

Holley Garden Club meets the second Thursday of the month at 7pm, Holley Presbyterian Church. 585-638-6973.

Hubbard Springs Garden Club of Chili meets the third Monday of the month at 6:30pm at the Chili Community Center, 3237 Chili Ave., Rochester. dtoogood@rochester.rr.com.

Ikebana International Rochester Chapter 53 meets the third Thursday of each month (except December and February) at 10am, First Baptist Church, Hubbell Hall, 175 Allens Creek Road, Rochester. 585-301-6727, 585-402-1772, rochesterikebana@gmail.com, ikebanarochester.org.

Kendall Garden Club meets the first Wednesday of the month at 7pm, Kendall Town Hall. 585-370-8964.

Klemwood Garden Club of Webster meets the second Monday of the month at 7pm (except January & February) in members' homes or local libraries. Accepting new members. 585-671-1961.

Lakeview Garden Club (Greece) meets the second Wednesday of the month (except January & February) at 7pm, meeting location varies depending on activity. Meetings may include a speaker, project or visits to local garden-related sites. New members always welcome. Joanne Ristuccia, ristai234@gmail.com.

Newark Garden Club meets the first Friday of the month at 1pm, Park Presbyterian Church, Newark. Guests are welcome.

Pittsford Garden Club Pittsford Garden Club meets the third Tuesday of the month at 10:30am at the Spiegel Center on Lincoln Avenue in the Village of Pittsford. The club usually meets in Room 18, but ask at the desk. Masks are required at all times in the building unless requirements change. New members are always welcomed. May 21 plant sale, location TBD. Look for signs in the village.

Rochester Dahlia Society meets the second Saturday of the month (except August & September) at 12:30pm, Trinity Reformed Church, 909 Landing Road North, Rochester. Visitors welcome. Meetings currently on hold. See website for up-to-date information concerning meetings & shows. 585-865-2291, Facebook, rochesterdahlias.org.

Rochester Herb Society meets the first Tuesday of each month (excluding January, February & July) at 12pm, Potter Memorial Building, 53 West Church Street, Fairport. Summer garden tours. New members welcome. rochesterherbsociety.com.

Rochester Permaculture Center meets monthly to discuss topics such as edible landscapes, gardening, farming, renewable energy, green building, rainwater harvesting, composting, local food, forest gardening, herbalism, green living, etc. Meeting location and details: meetup.com/rochesterpermaculture.

Seabreeze Bloomers Garden Club meets the fourth Wednesday of the month (except January) at 7pm, location varies depending on activity. Meetings may include a speaker, project or visit to local garden-related site. Monthly newsletter. New members welcome. Meetings are currently cancelled; contact Bonnie Arnold with any questions. Bonnie Arnold, 585-230-5356, bonniearnold@frontiernet.net.

Stafford Garden Club meets the third Wednesday of the month (except December & January) at 7pm, Stafford Town Hall, 8903 Morganville Road (Route 237), Stafford. Plant auction in May. All are welcome. 585-343-4494.

Victor Garden Club meets the second Wednesday of the month (except January & February) at 6:30/6:45pm. New members welcome. Meeting and location details: victorgardenclubny2.com, 585-330-3240.

Williamson Garden Club. On-going community projects and free monthly lectures to educate the community about gardening. Open to all. 315-524-4204, grow14589@gmail.com, grow-thewilliamsongardenclub.blogspot.com.

FREQUENT HOSTS

BGC: Broccolo Garden Center, 2755 Penfield Road, Fairport 14450. 585-424-4476; broccolotreeandlawn.com.

CCE/GC: Cornell Cooperative Extension, Genesee County, 420 East Main Street, Batavia, NY 14020. 585-343-3040, ext. 132; genesee.cce.cornell.edu.

CCE/MON: Cornell Cooperative Extension, Monroe County, 2449 St. Paul Blvd., Rochester, NY 14617. 585-753-2550; monroe.cce.cornell.edu.

CCE/ONT: Cornell Cooperative Extension, Ontario County, 480 North Main Street, Canandaigua, NY 14424. 585/394-3977; cceontario.org.

CUMNG: Cumming Nature Center, 6472 Gulick Road, Naples NY 14512. 585/374-6160, rsmc.org.

FRUIT: Fruition Seeds, 7921 Hickory Bottom Road, Naples, NY 14512. petra@fruitionseeds.com, fruitionseeds.com

GCVM: Genesee Country Village & Museum, 1410 Flint Hill Road, Mumfords, NY 14511. 585-538-6822; gcv.org.

GLT: Genesee Land Trust, 46 Prince Street, Suite LL005, Rochester, NY 14607. 585-256-2130; info@geneseeandtrust.org; geneseeandtrust.org.

RPM: Rochester Public Market, 280 North Union Street, Rochester, NY. 585-428-6907; cityofrochester.gov/flowercitydays.

CLASSES / EVENTS

F- Indicates activities especially appropriate for children and families.

S- Indicates plant sales/swaps.

T- Indicates garden tours.

O- Indicates online event.

O March 14: Virtual Battery Operated Tools Workshop, 4–5:30pm. Guiding you through the transition from gas to battery powered landscaping equipment. 2 CNLP. Free. **CCE/MON**

March 18, 19, 25, 26: Maple Sugar Festival, 10am–3pm. Gather family and friends to enjoy an outdoor exploration of the history of maple sugaring in New York State. See website for details and tickets. **GCVM**

March 18, 19, 25, 26: Maple Sugaring Weekends, Pancake breakfast 9am–1pm, Trail demonstrations 10am–2pm. Join them for our 45th annual Maple Sugaring Weekends during the last two weekends in March. Enjoy a locally-sourced pancake breakfast before heading outside for tapping and boiling demonstrations on the trail. See website for pricing and tickets. **CUMNG**

March 18: Pruning Ornamental Trees and Shrubs, 9–10:30am. Join us for an introduction to basic pruning from Master Gardener Pat Lamb to learn when, why, and how to prune ornamental landscape trees and shrubs. \$5/general. CCE Wayne County, 1581 Route 88 North, Newark, NY 14513. 315-331-8415, ccewayne.org.

O March 20: Attracting Pollinators to Your Garden, 7–8pm. This presentation will discuss the wide range of pollinators active in our gardens and what gardeners can do to make their yard more attractive to pollinators. **CCE/MON**

March 20: Cut Flower Series Integrated Weed Management, 6:30–8pm. Bryan Brown will cover keys to identifying common weeds in cut flower production, differences between species in their biology such as their life cycle and timing of emergence, particular traits of weed species that can be targeted by management efforts. Also, he will discuss weed management basics such as hoeing, mulching, and herbicides, and how they fit within the IPM pyramid, which focuses on prevention of weed seed production and depletion of perennial storage reserves. \$15/general. **CCE/ONT**

March 21: Composting, 7–8pm. A presentation on what composting is, how to get started and maintain a compost pile at home, and the usefulness of amending your soil with compost. Registration required. **CCE/MON**

March 23: Rochester's Olmsted Parks, 3–4pm. An introduction to the life and accomplishments of Frederick Law Olmsted, the pioneer of the modern urban park. Free. **CCE/MON**

March 23, 30, April 6, 13, 20, 27, 6:30–8:30pm. The S2S Program provides beginner and novice gardeners with the tools they need to successfully grow tomatoes, herbs, and greens on a limited budget. All are welcome! Features online classes, in-person workdays, and cooking demonstrations provided by CCE Livingston's Nutrition Educator. Free. CCE Livingston County, 158 Main Street Mt. Morris, NY 14510. 585-658-3250, ccelivingstoncounty.org.

March 25: Fruit Tree Pruning, 10–12pm. The time to prune fruit trees is late winter to early spring. Home fruit growers who are not sure how to properly prune, find this to be a daunting task. Proper pruning will lead to better yields and higher quality fruit. Take the guess work out of pruning. \$20/general. **CCE/ONT**

March 27: Marketing Your Cut Flower Operation, 6:30–8pm. Marketing your cut flower operation can sometimes be overwhelming. During this workshop, learn fun and easy ways to market your operation. \$15/general. **CCE/ONT**

March 29: Beyond Honeybees: The Role of Wild and Native Bees as Pollinators, 7–8pm. Join Master Gardener, Jill Scheltz to learn about how and why the attention became so focused on honeybees, how that attention has turned to include the plight of all pollinators and explore some of the amazing, little-known bees that haven't gotten much popular press. Free. **CCE/ONT**

March 30: Create a Habitat in Your Yard, 6–8pm. Natural habitat in this country, and the world, is disappearing at a rapid rate. Wildlife doesn't just randomly appear in a given area. It is there because of favorable habitat. The right conditions will invite a host of birds, butterflies, and other species to

your yard. If you are wondering, your property really matters. If you want to discover how to make your yard more valuable to bees, butterflies, birds, and beneficial insects this program is for you. \$10/general. Registration required. **CCE/GC**

March 31–April 2: Genesee Region Orchid Society Orchid Show & Sale, Fri 1–5pm, Sat 10am–5pm, Sun 10am–4pm. RMSC Eisenhart Auditorium, 657 East Avenue, Rochester, NY 14607. \$10/general, \$5/Students w/ ID, Children under \$5 are free. Details at website: geneseeorchid.org/annual-orchid-show.

Every weekend in April & May: Free Daffodil U-Pick & Garden Store, 10am–2pm. **FRUIT**

April 1: Hyper Tufa Garden Containers, 10–11:30 am. Make beautiful garden containers that will last for years with the wonderful Hyper Tufa technique. Each student creates their own pot to take home. Ages 14+. \$35/person. Repeats May 6. **BGC**

April 1: Gardening Class Series: Kickstarting and Expanding Your Garden, 10am–12pm. Learn from an expert historic gardener, Emily Conable, on how to extend and expand your garden. During this class you will use division to propagate plants, practice hardwood cuttings, and learn how to force earlier blooms. The class includes a garden tour and cuttings from our historic gardens to bring home. \$50/general, \$45/members. **GCVM**

F April 1: 19th-Century Egg Dyeing Class for Families, 10am–12pm. Families are invited to join us for this fun and creative day – we will be learning about methods of egg dyeing in the 19th century, play egg-themed games on the Village green, and more. \$28/general, \$25/members. **GCVM**

April 3: Gardener's Favorites, 2–3pm. Join us as we will discuss some of the most popular vegetables from planting to harvest and how to grow them, their strengths and weaknesses, as well as ways of incorporating them into your seeding plan to maximize your harvest and your hard work. Free. **CCE/MON**

O April 6: Garden Talk: Starting a Compost Pile, 12–12:45pm. Making your own compost can be a fun and rewarding activity. Learn the basics so you can easily make your own compost using items from your kitchen, yard, and gardens. Free. Register to attend in-person or for your Zoom link. Held at CCE Genesee office. **CCE/GC**

April 15: Framed Flower Art, 10–11:30 am. Create an 8" X 10" glass framed piece of art with artsy and fun flowers. Learn how to layer natural dried cuttings to make a beautiful wall hanging. Bring any embellishments like script, verses, or other additions to make it unique and personal. Ages 18+. \$35/person. **BGC**

April 15: Sowing in Soil Blocks, 2:15–4pm. Hands-on. Sliding scale. **FRUIT**

April 16, 30: City of Rochester Community Garage Sales and Superfleas, 7am–1pm. This event offers dozens of garage sales with bargains on everything from furniture to clothing; collectibles to jewelry, artwork to trinkets. **RPM**

April 22: Tried and True Techniques, 10–11:30 am. Learn tried and true techniques Laurie Broccolo has perfected for trees, shrubs, and perennials. See what tools are required, what time of year is best, and what to do in tough situations. \$25/person. **BGC**

F April 22: Seed Starting with Kids!, 2:15–4pm. Hands-on with painting pots and planting peas. Sliding scale. **FRUIT**

April 22: Mile-a-Month Earth Day: Geology of Seth Green, 10am–2:30pm. What better way to celebrate Earth Day than to learn about the geology of a special portion of the Genesee River. Details and registration at website. **GLT**

Calendar

ROCHESTER cont.

April 23: Geology of Corbett's Glen, 1–4pm. Join Tyler Lucero, an environmental science educator, for a Geological Tour at Corbett's Glen. The landscape of Corbett's Glen—with its picturesque falls and gullies—is a text from which the area's primordial story can be read. Details and registration at website. **GLT**

T April 23 & 30, May 7 & 14: Durand Eastman Park Arboretum Tours, 2–4pm. The Monroe Co. Coop. Ext. in conjunction with Monroe Co. Parks will lead spring public tours of the historic Durand Eastman Park Arboretum. The routes will traverse moderate hills and wooded trails so dress accordingly. There is no charge but donations to support the Extension's Master Gardener Program will be accepted. Meet at the kiosk on Zoo Rd. (off Lakeshore) next to the park maintenance center.

April 25: Basics of Organic Composting, 6–7pm. Composting is more than recycling yard waste or kitchen scraps, it's a way of creating a healthy environment for all organisms. Participants will learn good composting practices to help increase sustainability and production in their garden. **CCE/MON**

April 28: Arbor Day Community Ceremony & Celebration, 11am–1pm. Join them to celebrate Arbor Day in Highland! **CCE/MON**

April 29: Wooden Birdhouse, 10–11:30 am. Decorate a wooden birdhouse with live plants for use in your garden or in your house. All materials including birdhouse, moss, plastic liner, plants, and glue provided. Afterwards, paint or stain your birdhouse to protect it. Ages 18+. \$40/person. **BGC**

April 29: Native Gardening for Wildlife & Pollinators, 10am–12pm. Are you interested in making your garden more ecologically friendly? Join Ellen Folts from Amanda's Native Garden to learn more about using native plants to attract and support native wildlife and pollinators. This class will cover how to plan your native garden and offer individualized advice for plants that could thrive on your site. Each participant will take home 2 native plants as part of their class fee. \$25/general. **CUMNG**

April 29, 30, May 6, 7: Fruition Seeds' Tree Weekends, 10am–2pm. Hardy + disease-resistant apples, pears, pawpaws, cherries, peaches, plums, chestnuts, walnuts, grapes & more. **FRUIT**

April 29, 30, May 6, 7: 10 Steps for Planting a Fruit Tree & Intro to Organic Orcharding, 2:15–4pm. Sliding scale. **FRUIT**

O May 4: Garden Talk: Houseplants 101, 12–1pm. Houseplants are a great way to decorate and connect with nature indoors. Becoming a proud plant parent isn't as hard as you think. Program will go over basic houseplant care, including choosing the right plant, light, watering, fertilizer, when to repot, and more. Free. Register to attend in-person or register for your Zoom. Held at CCE Genesee office. **CCE/GC**

S May 5, 6, 7: Spring Wildflower Celebration, 10am–4pm. Annual spring event. Beautiful native plants for sale, demonstrations, and guided tours of the property so you can see native plants in both a garden setting and in the wild. Bring the kids to enjoy our coloring pages and hands on planting stations. Amanda's Native Garden, 8030 Story Road, Dansville, NY, amandasnativeplants.com.

May 12–21: Lilac Festival. See festival events listed here: rochesterevents.com/lilac-festival

S May 12–21: Monroe Co CCE Master Gardeners Volunteers Tent/Highland Lilac Festival, 10:30am–7pm. Located in the vicinity of the Lilac Adventure Zone children's playground, 249 Highland Avenue, Rochester, NY. Featuring a variety of lilacs and specialty items for sale. Plus an opportunity to "Ask a Master Gardener."

S May 13: 2023 Native Plant Sale Fundraiser, 9am–1pm. Join Genesee Land Trust, Amanda's Garden and other local nurseries for our annual Native Plant Sale. Kick off your garden while supporting a great cause. Sale at Brighton Town Hall, 2300 Elmwood Avenue, Rochester, NY, 14618. **GLT**

S May 13: Webster Arboretum 23rd Annual Plant Sale, 8am–12pm. Perennials from standard to uncommon, annuals, dwarf conifers, geraniums, herbs, dahlias, tomatoes various garden club offerings and more. Arrive early for the best selection. 1700 Schlegel Road, Webster, NY 14580

May 13, 14, 20, 21: Ellwanger Open Garden Days, 12–3pm. Stroll through this historic perennial garden, tucked away among pear trees and boxwood-lined paths. \$5/person donation suggested. 625 Mt Hope Ave, Rochester, NY 14620.

May 14, 21: Fruition Seeds Free Farm Tour & Tastings, 2:15–4pm. **FRUIT**

S May 14, 21, 26, 28, 29, June 4, 11: Flower City Days at the Market, 8am–2pm. This is a paradise for novice and experienced gardeners who want to cultivate gorgeous ornamental and/or veggie gardens. These legendary horticultural sales are Market and community favorites, full of annuals and perennials, hanging baskets, succulents, gardening accessories and much more. **RPM**

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SAVE THE DATE ...

- S May 13: Genesee Land Trust Native Plant Sale, 9am–1pm.** Brighton Town Hall, 2300 Elmwood Ave. Large selection of native plants at great prices to support local land conservation. Geneseelandtrust.org.
- S May 20: The Bloomfield Garden Club's 49th Annual Plant Sale, 9am–1pm.** Bloomfield Historical Academy Building, 8 South Ave, Bloomfield, NY 14469.
- S May 20: Spring Garden Gala, 10am–1pm.** CCE Genesee office. **CCE/GC**
- S May 20: Annual Henrietta Garden Club Plant Sale, 9am–3pm.** Tinker Nature Park, 1525 Calkins Rd.
- May 20, 21, May 27, 28, June 3, 4: Tree Peony Festival of Flowers.** RSVP required. Linwood Gardens, 1912 York Road, West Linwood, NY 14486. linwoodgardens.org \$10/person.
- May 22: Bulbs! CCE/MON**
- May 27: Make Your Own Concrete Garden Stone, 2:15–4pm.** Hands-on. Sliding Scale. **FRUIT**
- May 28: Market in the Park. CCE/MON**
- June 3 & 4: Ellwanger Open Garden Days: Peony and Rose Weekend, 12–3pm.** 625 Mt Hope Ave, Rochester, NY 14620.
- S June 10: CCE Monroe Co Master Gardener Volunteers Plant Sale, 9am–2pm.** 2449 St Paul Blvd, Rochester NY 14617.
- June 26: Shady Characters. CCE/MON**

SYRACUSE

REGULAR CLUB MEETINGS

- African Violet & Gesneriad Society of Syracuse** meets the second Thursday of the month, September–December and March–May. Pitcher Hill Community Church, 605 Baily Rd., North Syracuse. 315-492-2562. jimviolets@verizon.net
- Baldwinsville Women's Garden Club** meets the first Thursday of each month except January at St Marks' Lutheran Church in Baldwinsville at 7pm. The club plants the village flower barrels, raises money for the village flower hanging baskets, maintains the Pointe Garden, donates Arbor Day trees to schools, and gets involved in village improvement projects. Perennial sale yearly on Memorial Saturday morning in the village. See more information at Facebook, Women's Garden Club of Baldwinsville.
- Bonsai Club of CNY (BCCNY)** usually meets the second Wednesday of the month at 7pm, Pitcher Hill Community Church, 605 Bailey Road, North

Syracuse. 315-436-0135, lnewell1@gmail.com, cnybonsai.com.

- Central New York Orchid Society** meets the first Sunday of the month, September–May, St. Augustine's Church, 7333 O'Brien Road, Baldwinsville. Dates may vary due to holidays. 315-633-2437, cnyos.org.
- Fairmount Garden Club** meets the third Thursday of the month (March–November) at 6:30pm, Camillus Senior Center, 25 First Street, Camillus. Speakers & community projects. All are welcome. *Mar 16, Covered Dish Meeting and Maple Syrup information. Apr. 20, Lecture from Gladiolus Society.* tooley.susan@yahoo.com.
- Federated Garden Clubs NYS–District 6.** 315-481-4005, dlist6fss@gmail.com.
- Gardening Friends Club** meets the third Tuesday of the month, March–December, at 6:30pm, Wesleyan Church, 4591 US Route 11, Pulaski. 315-298-1276, Facebook: Gardening Friends of Pulaski, NY, VicLaDeeDa@frontiernet.net.
- Gardeners in Thyme** (a women's herb club) meets the second Thursday of the month at 7pm, Beaver Lake Nature Center, Baldwinsville. 315-635-6481, hbaker@twcny.rr.com.
- Habitat Gardening in CNY (HGNY)** meets the last Sunday of most months at 2pm. Liverpool Public Library, 310 Tulip Street, Liverpool. HGNY is a chapter of Wild Ones: Native Plants, Natural Landscapes; wildones.org. Free and open to the public. hgny.org and ourhabitatgarden.org. Subscribe to the free e-newsletter by emailing info@hgny.org.
- Home Garden Club of Syracuse** usually meets the first Tuesday morning of the month. Members are active in educating the community about gardening, horticulture & floral design and involved with several civic projects in the Syracuse area. New members welcome. homegardenclubofsyracuse@gmail.com, homegardenclubofsyracuse.org.
- Koi and Water Garden Society of Central New York** usually meets the third Monday of each month at 7pm. See website for meeting locations. 315-458-3199, cnykoi.com.
- Men and Women's Garden Club of Syracuse** meets the third Thursday of the month at 7:30pm, Reformed Church of Syracuse, 1228 Teall Avenue, Syracuse. Meetings feature guest speakers on a variety of gardening and related topics. Members maintain gardens at Rosemond Gifford Zoo & Ronald McDonald House. Annual spring & fall flower shows. 315-699-7942, Facebook.
- Southern Hills Garden Club** meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month, February–November. Meetings will take place at the LaFayette Firehouse, 2444 US Route 11, LaFayette NY 13084 and start at 7pm, unless

otherwise stated. Occasional off site meetings typically have an earlier start time. *Mar. 21, 7pm. Meeting at the LaFayette Firehouse, 2444 US Route 11, LaFayette NY 13084. Jackie Crane from Little York Plantation will present "Landscape." Apr. 18, 7pm. Michael Warren Thomas will present "Invasive Plants and How to Foster Monarch Butterflies". The meeting will be held at the LaFayette Firehouse, 2444 US Route 11, LaFayette, NY 13084. May 16, 6pm. Southern Hills Garden Club will meet at Plumpton Farms, 3990 Coxe Road, Jamesville NY 13078. The topic will be "Container Planting". Bring your own containers, soil will be provided. Plants will be available for purchase. Guests are welcome and membership is open to anyone interested in gardening. For information regarding meetings or membership, contact Cathy Nagel, 315-677-9342 or CEN42085@aol.com.*

Syracuse Rose Society meets the second Thursday of the month (except December) at 7pm, Reformed Church of Syracuse, 1228 Teall Avenue, Syracuse. Enter from Melrose Avenue. Club members maintain the E. M. Mills Memorial Rose Garden, Thornden Park, Syracuse. Public welcome. syracuserosesociety.org.

CLASSES / EVENTS

F- Indicates activities especially appropriate for children and families.

S- Indicates plant sales/swaps.

T- Indicates garden tours.

O- Indicates online event.

O March 15: CommuniTree Steward Event: Tree Fungus, 6–7pm. Online event. CCE Onondaga County, Suite 170, 100 South Salina Street, Syracuse. 315-424-9485, cceonondaga.org.

S May 6–7: African Violet and Gesneriad Society of Syracuse Annual Show and Sale, Sat, Sale 10am–6pm, Show 1–6pm. Sun, Show/Sale 10am–4pm. Beaver Lake Nature Center, Baldwinsville, NY. Parking fee applies. Contact dcoleman5@twcny.rr.com.

S May 20: Annual Onondaga CCE Master Gardener Plant Sale, 9am–12pm. Immanuel United Methodist Church, 303 Kasson Rd, Camillus, NY 13031. Perennials, herbs, ferns, grasses, and native plants. Cash or personal checks only.

Get your club or event listed here for free! Send your submissions to kim@upstategardenersjournal.com. Deadline for Calendar Listings for the next issue (May-June 2023) is, April 12, 2023.



Rochester Dahlia Society Dahlia Lovers:

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What to do in the garden in March and April

The following are some general ideas for early spring gardening. Keep in mind you have to take the weather conditions into account. Wait until the soil is above 50 degrees to try any planting.

WINTER DAMAGE

Clean up and remove leaves and winter debris, which are loaded with phosphorus, from paved surfaces and drainage sewer openings. This helps preserve drainage water quality and reduce algae buildup in our waterways.

The salt residue in soils near a road, sidewalk, or driveway that has been covered with salt laden snow can be diluted by thoroughly soaking the area a few times with a hose. This is only necessary if we don't have heavy rains.

Snow, wind and ice can cause damage to trees and shrubs. Prune out any damaged branches.

Plants that have "heaved" from the freezing and thawing action of the soil should be replanted as soon as the soil is workable. A layer of leaves will help protect the exposed root mass if the soil is still frozen.

PRUNING

Early spring is the time for pruning many shrubs. The exceptions to this are ones that bloom in the spring like forsythia and lilac. These should be pruned after flowering.

Prune trees with the exception of maple and birch, which bleed. They should be pruned only after their leaves have fully emerged. Never "top" a tree. This produces a weak tree with an unnatural shape.

When pruning, be careful not to cut flush to the trunk. Cut outside the branch collar (swelling in bark around the area where the branch meets the tree). For more information on proper pruning techniques contact your local CCE or check out their web information at cce.cornell.edu

Cut back and prune roses when forsythia blooms. Cut back dead or crossing canes to about one quarter of an inch above an outward facing bud.

Complete any pruning of other shrubs before new growth starts.

PERENNIALS

Cut back grasses and other perennials that have been left up for winter interest. Ideally this should be done before the new growth gets more than a few inches high so you don't damage the new growth while cutting back the old.

Sow coriander, orach, baby's breath, poppy, phlox, and cornflower seeds directly into garden beds.

Pull emerging weeds by hand so as not to disturb emerging perennials and bulbs. This also prevents new weeds from growing from disturbed soil.

Wait until the soil is workable to divide perennials. This means it should be above 50 degrees and dry enough not to stay in a clump when squeezed in your hand.

VEGETABLES

Take the time to plan your vegetable garden taking care to use rotation. Do not plant members of the same plant family (tomatoes and peppers for example) in the same spot as last year.

Indoors, sow tomatoes, eggplant, and peppers. Be sure they will get adequate light.

Direct seed cool season vegetables and flowers when soil is suitable.

HOUSEPLANTS

Houseplants come to life with the increase in hours of sunlight. This is a good time to resume feeding. Natural fertilizers are preferable to synthetic ones.

Give houseplants a good shower in the sink or tub to clean off dust buildup from the winter months. For plants too large to move, give the leaves a sponge bath.

Prune off any dead or yellowing leaves and branches.

Any plants that have outgrown their pots can be repotted. If you want the plant to con-

tinue increasing in size just repot it in a larger container. If you want to keep the plant in the same size container the roots can be trimmed back.

GENERAL

Apply horticultural oil to trees and shrubs that have had past problems with piercing and sucking insects such as mites, aphids, scale, whitefly and adelgids. Carefully follow the application directions for temperature and weather conditions. If applied at the wrong time they are not effective. Follow product label instructions closely.

Plant bare-root shrubs and roses while they are still dormant, about 4 weeks before the last expected frost.

Take the time to enjoy forced branches indoors. Examples are forsythias, weigelia, and pussywillows.

Mulch can change soil temperature. Consider using black plastic to warm the soil for heat-loving vegetable plants like peppers.

Check stored tubers and bulbs. Discard those that are diseased or decayed.

In April remove evergreen boughs from the crowns of your perennials.

Fertilize your spring bulbs when the leaves first appear.

—Carol Ann Harlos & Lyn Chimera,
Master Gardeners, Erie County

Sautéed spinach

By Cathy Monrad

INGREDIENTS

10 ounces baby spinach leaves or 3 bunches of spinach cleaned with stems removed and roughly chopped
2 tablespoons olive oil
3 large garlic cloves, peel and smashed
1/4 teaspoon kosher salt plus 2 pinches
Juice from half of a lemon

DIRECTIONS

1. In a large skillet, heat the olive oil over medium high heat
2. Add whole garlic cloves. Stir occasionally, until lightly browned, about 1 to 2 minutes.

3. Add the spinach leaves and immediately cover pan with lid to avoid oil spatter.
4. Cook covered for 1 minute. Uncover and stir to ensure spinach cooks evenly. Re-cover and cook another minute.
5. Remove lid. Stir and cook 30 seconds more, until the spinach is completely wilted but still bright green. Stir in kosher salt and lemon juice. Remove from heat.
6. Taste and add more salt if desired. Immediately add to a serving bowl and serve warm.





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Dreaming and building: Margot Chiuten and Chiuten Trowbridge Landscape Architects

By Michelle Sutton

ABOVE: Aerial view of the Buffalo Waterfront Lakeside Complex at Outer Harbor, one of the most fulfilling projects Margot has worked on to date. Photo used with permission of Buffalo Waterfront Lakeside Complex (buffalowaterfront.com/venue/lakeside-at-outer-harbor).

Margot Chiuten of Chiuten Trowbridge Landscape Architects (ctlandarch.com) grew up in the Bronx around limited green space. She was drawn to nature through hiking, backpacking, and rock climbing in high school, and through mountain biking on greenways in New York City. She went to college where she knew the natural beauty would be exceptional—at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York.

“I could see myself living there afterwards,” she says. “Ithaca had what I liked about big cities, but in a college town setting. It was the kind of place I envisioned when I was growing up.”

Chiuten started out college as a biology major, but by her junior year, she knew she needed to make a big change. She took a year off from school, volunteering for

Habitat for Humanity and doing gardening work for a friend’s mom who knew Peter Trowbridge of the Cornell University landscape architecture (LA) department.

“My friend’s mom had an intuition that LA could be a good fit for me, so she set up a meeting for Peter and me, which was pivotal. The smaller class sizes, studio time, and emphasis on collaborative group work appealed to me,” Chiuten says. “My time in the program was super exciting, and at some point I knew I wanted to work with Peter. I really liked that his approach combined the highest-level design expertise with practical knowledge of construction so that he could oversee the actualization of the design concepts. Dreaming and building, both.”

While in the LA program, Chiuten was hired by what became the Ithaca Children’s Garden after she did a

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”



community design studio project for them through school.

Trowbridge & Wolf LLP also hired Chiuten first as an intern doing mostly computer-aided design (CAD) work and eventually, after she earned her certification, they hired her as an LA. In fact, her work there had expanded so much that she had to take a day off work to go to her Cornell graduation. The practice expanded and ultimately, she was promoted to senior LA with Trowbridge Wolf Michaels Landscape Architects LLP.

BUFFALO OUTER HARBOR

One of the most exciting projects Chiuten worked on was the ongoing development of the Buffalo Outer Harbor, something she was 15 years into when Trowbridge Wolf Michaels Landscape Architects LLP was bought by an engineering firm. “The Buffalo Outer Harbor project was very hard to give up, because I’d invested so much in it and could see many phases of implementation of a 20-million-dollar project come to fruition,” she says.

One of the most memorable Outer Harbor projects Chiuten worked on was the in-city Lakeside Complex Bike Park, which has three mountain bike tracks of varying difficulty, beautiful landscaping and native habitat restoration, expansive views of Lake Erie, food trucks, and a lawn for events. Chiuten took her son, Keane (11) to mountain bike there, which was meaningful for her on multiple levels. “That was pretty darn cool,” she says.

OTHER WORK

Besides the multi-phase work she did on the Outer Harbor, Chiuten has designed more than 120 projects for 30 higher educational institutions; numerous streetscapes and Complete Streets projects; and several infrastructure reclamation projects that transformed aging and disused structures into pedestrian spaces.

Chiuten and Trowbridge’s longtime collaboration continues in a new form. In December of 2021, they signed the papers to establish Chiuten Trowbridge Landscape Architects, and shortly thereafter they brought on landscape architect Ryan Wright, who had been their

colleague in earlier times. Chiuten would like to grow her new firm so that it can take on projects as substantial as the Buffalo Outer Harbor had been. “I like the challenge of bigger projects, and I’ve always flourished being part of a team,” she says.

WHERE TO NOW

What excites Chiuten most about her field right now? “Landscape Architecture is moving toward more native landscapes, toward addressing whole ecosystems. Everything is about resiliency now. I’m very interested in bringing back native species at all levels; the challenge is, how do we make native and natural landscape design legible to people, while also adjusting the viewer’s sense of aesthetics? How do we address the preconceived notions people may have about how a native or natural planting or meadow is going to look?” To aid her practice, Chiuten is cultivating a meadow jointly with her neighbor and taking copious notes on what works and what doesn’t.

Another area of interest and practice for her is designing for resiliency to extreme weather events. Working on the Buffalo Outer Harbor, she learned about the very specific phenomenon of *seiche* events. According to the National Ocean Service,

Seiches are typically caused when strong winds and rapid changes in atmospheric pressure push water from one end of a body of water to the other. When the wind stops, the water rebounds to the other side of the enclosed area. The water then continues to oscillate back and forth for hours or even days.

Lake Erie is known for seiches, especially when strong winds blow from southwest to northeast. In 1844, a 22-foot seiche breached a 14-foot-high sea wall killing 78 people and damming the ice to the extent that Niagara Falls temporarily stopped flowing. As recently as 2008, strong winds created waves 12 to 16 feet high in Lake Erie, leading to flooding near Buffalo, New York.

ABOVE: Keane (11) tries out the Lakeside Complex Bike Park on the Buffalo Waterfront. Photo courtesy Margot Chiuten



ABOVE: (from left) Shawna, Margot, Keane, Graem, and Emerson. Photo Courtesy Margot Chiuten

Combined with intense rain events, seiches cause damaging flooding events on the Buffalo Outer Harbor waterfront, so local building codes have changed to require homes and other structures be elevated. Chiuten worked on extensive plans for using topography, structures, and plant selection to better

prepare the landscape for seiches. She says, “The next phase was going out to bid as I was leaving my former employer; it was in an area repeatedly hammered by seiche events.” She laments not being able to see those plans through to implementation.

Much of Chiuten Trowbridge’s current work is focused on higher education projects. A post-COVID world, combined with changing student demographics, is creating increased pressure on colleges and universities to attract and retain student populations. One result is that many campuses are more focused on their outdoor spaces than ever. The desire to improve overall campus appearance is now bolstered by a need to create outdoor spaces for learning, gathering, and informal social interaction. An underlying focus is to support student mental health and

well-being, whether through athletics and recreational sports, or through contemplative places for respite and healing.

AT HOME

Life bubbles over for Chiuten, her wife, Shawna Black (chair of the Tompkins County Legislature), and their three kids. The eldest, Graem (18) is in the process of deciding where to go to college; Chiuten says that of the three kids, her eldest is the most sensitive to landscape aesthetics. Right now Graem is favoring Colgate or Smith in part because the campuses are so beautiful. She wants to study environmental science; she is also a rower and is looking for a good crew program to call home. “I’ll be happy for Graem to have that camaraderie and structure of being part of the crew team,” Chiuten says.

Chiuten and Black’s younger kids, Emerson (14) and Keane (11), are athletic like their big sister, but they are focused on travel hockey. Their league competition takes them to various cities including Pittsburgh, Boston, Washington DC, Philadelphia, and even Tampa, Florida. This exposure has opened their eyes to urban living, increased opportunities, and excitement. “I see them living in cities,” Chiuten says.

Michelle Sutton is a horticulturist, writer, and editor.

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Seasonal stakeout



Daffodil time!

By Kimberly Burkard

Bill Whitney, lovingly called by some “Daffodil Man” and “Keeper of the Kettle,” has a special project for you to check out this spring. Since 2018 Whitney has voluntarily to restore a “kettle” in Rochester’s historic Mount Hope Cemetery to what it was in the 1840s. With no more than a grub hoe, wheelbarrow, and lots of careful attention, the work has been taking shape. As part of that, thousands of spring bulbs have been added—20,000 naturalizing daffodils plus some special varieties have gone in already. To round out the spring-through-fall appeal, alliums, grape hyacinths, fall-blooming crocuses, azaleas, rhododendrons, and blooming perennials have also been added. Supplies have mostly come as donations and Whitney has recently started a nonprofit, The Daffodil Project at Mount Hope Inc, to help with the work.

Best time to see the daffodils? Peak bloom time will be from around April 25 to May 8—note that weather can change these timings from year to year. This year is the first annual daffodil celebration taking place April 29 and 30.

To see the daffodils, enter the Mount Hope Avenue cemetery entrance across from the Distillery Restaurant. Take an immediate right turn. Parking is possible on both sides of this section of road. Go to the top of the small hill and take a left at the traffic circle next to the pond and fountain to see the daffodils.

LEFT: Bill Whitney

CENTER & RIGHT: Views of the “kettle” in Rochester’s Mount Hope Cemetery.

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See you at the seed swap! (& other harbingers of spring)

Story and photo by Petra Page-Mann



ABOVE: Attendees of a 2022 seed swap mull over various cucumber, melon, and squash seeds.

The fact of a seed—nothing new and nonetheless miraculous. All autumn and across the long winter we’ve watched squirrels move acorns, munching as they go, new oaks soon sprouting from this dance and happenstance—millions of years unfurling.

Since their earliest existence on planet Earth, 400 million years ago, seed-bearing plants have gifted the world with lush, delectable diversity, as fluid and free as water and air—becoming and abundant everywhere they land.

As robins sing and snows melt, let us remember that we, too, are harbingers of spring both in vision as well as the material world. For 10,000-plus years our ancestors have shared, swapped, sowed, and grown alongside seed. Only recently have we left this “to the professionals,” as Will Bonsall says, as seed moved from a commons (can you imagine “owning” air?) to a commodity. Rowen White, Mohawk mother, seedkeeper, and storyteller, reminds us that, “150 years ago seed companies didn’t exist. If we do our work well, they won’t need to exist in 150 years.”

Friends, we are the seeds. We are the ones we’ve been waiting for. Like tucking our children into bed each night, let’s not leave our relationship with seed “up to professionals.” This can look like a thousand different things: planting a seed in the soil, giving thanks with a song, or sharing a bouquet of flowers on the doorstep of a friend. One of my favorites, ever and always, is “swapping seeds” in community with friends old and new, in gatherings both large and small.

SEE YOU AT THE SEED SWAP!

In the spirit of nourishing community seed networks beyond commercial seed systems, let’s swap seeds together this spring:

Rochester Seed Swap, March 31, 5-7pm, Edgerton Stardust Ballroom, 41 Backus St, Rochester, NY 14608

Fruition Seed Swap + Potluck, April 12, 5-7pm, Fruition Seeds, 7921 Hickory Bottom Rd, Naples, NY 14512

Trumansburg Seed Swap, May 3, 4-7pm, Farmer’s Market, Rte 96 and Rte 227, Trumansburg, NY 14886

Finger Lakes Seed + Transplant Swap, May 12, 5-7pm, Geneva Welcome Center, 35 Lake Front Dr, Geneva, NY 14456

As we sow seeds this season for the first, fiftieth, and five thousandth time, let us remember there is no one way to be or do anything in this world, so let us resist the illusion of perfection. Like each of us, each seed and each garden is unique in the world and they invite us to trust ourselves, our community across species, and the process unfolding. Explore! Experiment! Play! Learn! Share! Repeat. *Here’s to the seeds growing us even before we grow them!*

Raised in the Finger Lakes, Petra Page-Mann co-founded Fruition Seeds in 2012, sharing organic seeds, knowledge, and inspiration to surround us all with beauty and abundance for generations to come. Find seeds and resources at 7921 Hickory Bottom Road in Naples.

Note from the editor: If you are having a seed swap this spring that is not on this list, please send an email to us at kim@upstategardenersjournal.com for inclusion in our magazine calendar or a shout out on our social media. Thanks!

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CEO/Founder Sirius Change LLC, CEO/Co-Founder Hinge Neighbors Inc. pictured with husband, pediatrician Sandy Mayer



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Plantasia seminar schedule 2023

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THURSDAY MARCH 16, 2023

- 11 am: Let's Twist Again Floral Designs**—*Dorothy Julius, Along Gardens Path*
- Noon: Pruning in the Garden**—*Steve Sypniewski, Lifetime CNLP, Buffalo State College*
- 1 pm: Perennials for the Shade**—*Lyn Chimera, Lessons in Nature*
- 2 pm: Designing Your City Garden**—*Brad White, Niagara County Community College*
- 3 pm: Have You Seen These Creatures in Your Garden**—*Carol Harlos, Master Gardener*
- 4 pm: Native Edible Plants in the Landscape**—*Ken Parker, Lifetime CNLP, The English Gardener*

FRIDAY MARCH 17, 2023

- 11 am: House Plants 101**—*Johanna Dominguez, Put A Plant On It*
- Noon: Landscape Design Ideas: Enhance Your Landscape**—*Mike Frank, Chevalier Outdoor Living*
- 1 pm: Gardening for Butterflies, Birds and Bees (and Still Have a Well-Groomed Garden)**—*Sally Cunningham, CNLP, AAA/Great Travel, Author*
- 2 pm: Water Features and Tropical Plants**—*Clark Janson, CNLP, The Barefoot Gardener*
- 3 pm: Using Reclaimed Hardscape Materials**—*Scott Smith, Experienced Brick & Stone*
- 4 pm: Installation of Patios and Walkways**—*Jordan Simone, Russell's Tree & Shrub Farm*

SATURDAY MARCH 18, 2023

- 11 am: Invasive Insect: Box Tree Moth**—*Sharon Bachman, Erie County Cooperative Extension*
- Noon: Creating a Natural Garden**—*Lyn Chimera, Lessons in Nature*
- 1 pm: Sally's Top Twenty Tips for a Better Yard and Garden? (And what to do to fix what the storms damaged)**—*Sally Cunningham, CNLP, AAA/Great Travel, Author*
- 2 pm: Ancient Trees and Old Growth Forests**—*David Clark, CNLP, Horticulture Instructor*
- 3 pm: House Plant Care and Propagation**—*Julie Hughes, McKinley High School Horticulture Teacher*
- 4 pm: New Shrubs and Trees for 2023**—*Tim Zimmerman, CNLP, Robert Baker Company*
- 5 pm: Composting 101**—*Joshua Poodry, Farmer Pirates Compost*

SUNDAY MARCH 19, 2023

- 11 am: Care of Your Old and New Garden Tools**—*Tom Mitchell, Niagara County Community College*
- Noon: Trees With Year Round Interest**—*Tom Draves, Draves Tree Service*
- 1 pm: Home Cultivation of Cannabis Cultivation 101**—*Melissa Moore, Niagara County Community College*
- 2 pm: Tough Plants for Tough Sites**—*David Clark, CNLP, Horticulture Instructor*
- 3 pm: Growing Up Gardening**—*Kristy Schmitt, CNLP, Tripi's Landscaping*

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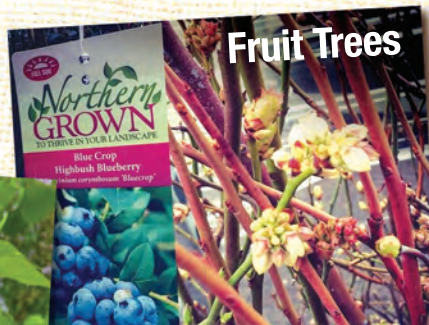
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