

# Connecticut Horticultural Society NEWSLETTER

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Winter 2023

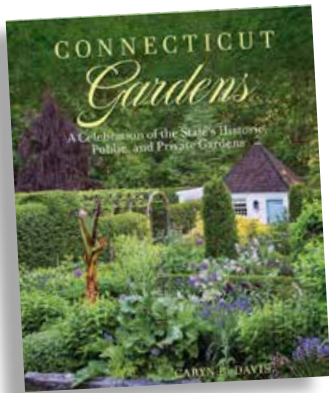
## 2023 Review of Gardening Books

by Karla Dalley, CT Hort member and blogger & Tracey Weiss, CT Hort Communications Director

Go native and do it yourself. That seems to be a common theme among the 11 books our gracious reviewers are reporting in our annual feature this year. And you can, especially when the amazing expert gardeners/authors show you how. You can grow anything if you want to, even tropical plants and fruits.

And of course, there's more. From the beauty of Connecticut Gardens and herbs, birds, and poetry to the politics of it all, there is something for everyone, whether you read it yourself or perhaps purchase one of the books for a friend or family member.

Enjoy the reviews—and keep on digging!



### **Connecticut Gardens: A Celebration of the State's Historic, Public, and Private Gardens**

By Caryn B. Davis

Hardcover: 272 pages

Publisher: Globe Pequot, May, 2023

Reviewer: Janet Leonberger

Garden fans, forget all the weather challenges of 2023 and look ahead with this book! There are enough

gardens featured here to plan curative, near-weekly tours next year throughout Connecticut in the fifteen historic homestead gardens, eleven public gardens and farms, and thirteen private gardens which are included.

The gardens range from the well-known and widely-visited to some well-kept secrets. Beautiful layouts of multi-page color photo spreads were done by Caryn B. Davis. Most of the shots

were taken on shady days, so the colors and textures really stand out. This is her third book; she also did *A Connecticut Christmas* and *Connecticut Waters*. Well-researched descriptions by Chris Lawrie give the background of each garden, its evolution and its creators. His brief history of the roles gardens have filled in history serves as a link to the three types of gardens.

Succinct essays introduce each section and each individual garden. They remind the reader that every garden is unique, with individuals behind them who have shaped not only that garden, but in many cases, the entire horticultural world in various ways. Think Frederick Law Olmstead, Beatrix Farrand, and social leaders such as Horace Bushnell and others. The horticultural heritage in this state gives us much to celebrate and the 13 contemporary garden owners and creators add to that rich heritage with their individual genius and generosity of spirit.

A final section includes addresses and websites for planning visits to the public gardens. Although information for visiting the private gardens is not included, five of them were on the 2023 Garden Conservancy's Open Days schedule.

Active gardeners will want to use the book to plan to see the plants performing in place; armchair gardeners will delight in the sights and spirit of each location; archivists will savor the history and biographical cameos, while amateurs can get the spark to start digging after reading about the personalized gardens which were centered on their creators' passions, such as wood carvings, travel artifacts or favored plants such as tulips, daffodils or lavender. Visits through the pages of this book or in person can help any of us reach our potential or inspire us to try, try again and to find the right balance between what we could create and what we can care for, as Paige Dickey is achieving in her new garden at Church House.

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**Challenged by design?**  
**Ian Caton can help...**  
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#### Membership Dues:

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Senior Family (65+).....	\$75
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Organizations .....	\$80

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## LEADERSHIP LETTER

### *Just Ask A Volunteer*

Dear Members,

Recently I read this quote by Elizabeth Andrew: "Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart."

I am so pleased that we have individuals at CT Hort that have a heart for our mission. We are thankful that for each newsletter there are those that write interesting articles, for each meeting those that welcome our members and guests, and that we have a volunteer that forwards mail to the office, now managed remotely. The volunteers that put out snacks and drinks, volunteers that run the CT Hort Cares Program, the "one man show" Treasurer, Auction volunteers, Board volunteers and our Symposium and Education Committee volunteers keep us informed and educated on how to be good stewards of this earth. The bulb sale last month was put together by volunteers. Our speaker meetings are all planned and arranged by volunteers.

Think about how many people make this organization strong, where can you help?

Just ask a volunteer, and become one yourself!

~ Happy fall all you gardeners!

Gratefully,  
Cheryl

**Thank you to our generous business members and supporters!**

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Ian Caton

# Designing in Challenging Situations: Plants and Techniques that Deliver

with Ian Caton

Thursday, November 16 • 7 pm

Elmwood Community Center, 1106 New Britain Ave., West Hartford and via Zoom (you'll be sent the link on the Sunday before the talk). **ENTRANCE AND PARKING IS OFF BURGUYNE STREET. Set your GPS to Burgoyne Street, West Hartford.**

This lecture is intended to provide Mr. Caton's expertise in understanding how plants behave, the habitats they come from, and how they can be utilized to truly create a low-maintenance landscape—as well as highlighting a suite of plants that he has found to fit well into most any difficult situation.

Ian Caton has been the owner/operator of Wood Thrush Native Plant Nursery (Formerly Enchanters Garden) in Floyd, Virginia since March of 2013. Wood Thrush Native Plants is a nursery specializing in native plants of the Appalachian region including West Virginia, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Tennessee and North Carolina. One of the focuses of the nursery is the introduction of new and rare native plants which are little known or underappreciated in the nursery trade.

Previously Ian Caton had been an employee of Larry Weaner Landscape Associates (a landscape firm specializing in the use and promotion of native plants in landscaping) since 2001. He has an ongoing relationship with the firm and its educational arm: "The New Directions in the Landscape (NDAL)" program.



Join us at 6 pm for a Potluck dinner before Mr. Caton's talk. Bring something to share—sweet or savory—and enjoy a little socializing before the talk.

## Coming up on Zoom (only) this Winter:



**Smart Planting Management  
with Claudia West**

**Thursday, January 18, 2024, 7pm**



## SAVE THE DATE!

**Native Seed Sowing Workshop  
led by Jim Sirch**

*Education Coordinator at Yale  
Peabody Museum of Natural History  
and CT Hort member*

**January 13, 2024**

**Location to come**

*Details coming to your inbox soon!*

**GOAL  
\$8,000**

## 2023-2024 Scholarship Fund



The 2023-2024 season is off and running, and with it, a fresh goal of \$8,000 to provide scholarships to students. We hope you'll consider helping us reach that goal! Go to [cthort.org](http://cthort.org) to learn how to give. *Thank you!*

## 2023 Review of Gardening Books from page 1

Valuable guidance for all as we grab a chair, celebrate splendid Connecticut gardens and plan for 2024! Be sure to encourage your local library to buy a copy because this will be popular.

### The Creative Vegetable Gardener: 60 Ways to Cultivate Joy, Playfulness, and Beauty along with a Bounty of Food

By Kelly Smith Trimble

Paperback: 240 pages

Publisher: Story Publishing, February, 2023

Reviewer: Barb Skomorowski



Author Kelly Smith Trimble puts a new twist on growing your own food in her recent book, *The Creative Vegetable Gardener*. I was impressed by all the organic concepts she was able to pack into her book which suggests the reader think creatively not only about what to plant but also about how you prep the soil, combine plants, design your beds, and follow nature's cues, all the while enjoying and better understanding nature and your gardens. Smith Trimble masterfully approaches complicated botanical and horticultural concepts by paring them down to concise and understandable terms.

This book is an excellent primer for someone just embarking on growing their own food. The breadth of topics that Smith Trimble touches on will expose the novice to a holistic discussion of organic or regenerative gardening. For those who've tended a vegetable garden for years, *The Creative Vegetable Gardener* will invite you to reconsider planting in straight rows in a space designated only for veggies.

Smith Trimble's husband is the photographer and the book is filled with eye-pleasing examples and images. This adds to the comprehension of complex scientific concepts and out-of-the-box garden design ideas. Another nice aspect of this book is that the suggestions made throughout are accessible by every gardener and often involve the re-use or repurposing of existing material, given that Smith Trimble aims to tread lightly on this beautiful planet.

I thoroughly enjoyed *The Creative Vegetable Gardener* and would recommend it to anyone who wants to attempt organic vegetable gardening with new vision.



### Edible Houseplants: Grow Your Own Citrus, Coffee, Vanilla, and 43 Other Tasty Tropical Plants

By Laurelynn G. Martin and Byron E. Martin

Paperback: 160 pages

Publisher: Storey Publishing, September, 2023

Reviewer: Karla Dalley



As someone with two lemons, an orange, two olive plants, a fig and a coffee tree, *Edible Houseplants* was quite interesting to me. But it is a book that was written for every level of grower, from someone who has experience, to someone who has never grown edible houseplants at all.

It begins with a convenient chart: the best fruits for beginners, which plants work best in greenhouses, which plants have the best flavors and which are the most unusual (and therefore a little more difficult to grow), all cross-referenced with the page numbers where you'll find them in the book.

The next section describes the plants themselves. Each plant gets at least a two-page description and some even have a recipe on how to enjoy the fruit. The entry on "Fig," is four pages because there is a half-page section on overwintering instructions for northern gardeners. The entry on "Banana" is also four pages because it gives instructions on how to ripen the bananas, along with instructions for when a few common cultivars will ripen. "Olive" gives the all-important curing instructions since olives cannot be eaten right off the plant.



Not only is the book a wealth of information, but it is beautifully put together. The Contents section is followed by a beautifully illustrated "visual table of contents" where every plant is named and then hand-drawn, beautifully illustrated by Beverly Duncan.

Finally, the book concludes with a section on how to maintain your plants once you have chosen them. This section covers everything from re-potting, containers, pests and diseases and how to manage them, and a troubleshooting guide that is very thorough.

If you have ever had an interest in growing fruits in the home, this is definitely the book for you. Not only will it help you with the more common plants, but it will definitely encourage you to try something more interesting like the vanilla orchid or the peanut butter fruit. And since houseplants of all sorts are still very popular, why not try some edible ones as well?



### **Garden Futures: Designing with Nature**

By Jamaica Kincaid, Gilles Clement, Leo den Dulk, Kris Kozlowski, and Oliver Sukrow

Hardcover: 227 pages

Publisher: Vitra Museum Design, June, 2023

Reviewer: Celeste Yanni

The eye-catching cover of this book houses the rich thought processes of

more than 25 authors who contributed to the exhibit sponsored by the Vitra Design Museum in Weil Am Rhein, Germany in 2023. Titled *Garden Futures: Designing with Nature*, the exhibition summarized in this book, was noteworthy as the first of its kind to trace the history of modern garden design—underscoring opportunities to reflect on commonly held historically and culturally shaped assumptions and project future solutions given changing world conditions.

The encyclopedic text and copious illustrations, spread over 217 pages, transport us from the origins of the concept of gardens through history to their projected future, acknowledging the important influence of time and culture. Divided into four sections, each packed with mixtures of essays, picture essays, interviews, portraits and illustrative case studies by activists, expert practitioners, scientists, researchers, historians, curators and photographers, this book is a compendium to be savored over time—not read in one sitting—and treasured.

Spanning a range of issues from real to theoretical solutions, the contributors address the evolving structure and function of “green spaces” addressing biodiversity, sustainability, nutrition, health, and the influences of colonialism, gender, class and race. Section 1, entitled “Paradise,” lays the groundwork for these discussions defining the Garden of Eden and its “tree of knowledge” as a prototype of “paradise on earth.”

The second section, “Garden Politics,” addresses larger social and political issues impacting on the form that gardening trends have taken. How did our ideals of nature evolve to value/devalue “green space,” non-native plants, native flora, leisure, victory gardens, urban renewal, and even garden decoration and furniture?

Eight case scenarios in the section entitled “Testing Grounds” range from thoughts about colonization, cultural appropriation and indigenous displacement to the preservation of the rain forest and creation of garden spaces in hostile environments. The pioneering company, Weleda, is showcased for its pioneering formulation of herbal cosmetics. Piet Oudolf and Mien Ruys, landscape designers, personify unconventional approaches including the creation of “eco-neighborhoods” and the “democratization” of garden design, respectively.

In the conclusion, “The World as a Garden,” there is a call for a

paradigm shift beginning with re-envisioning the planet as a living organism not a cultivated “human-centric” green space. Though not your typical gardening how-to book, it gives the gardener entre into a larger interrelated world of living beings with equal rights. In these stimulating reflections we hear Mother Nature admonishing us.

### **The 30-Minute Gardener: Cultivate Beauty and Joy by Gardening Every Day**

By Greg Loades; photography by Neil Hepworth

Paperback: 232 pages

Publisher: Timber Press, May 2023

Reviewer: Tracey Weiss

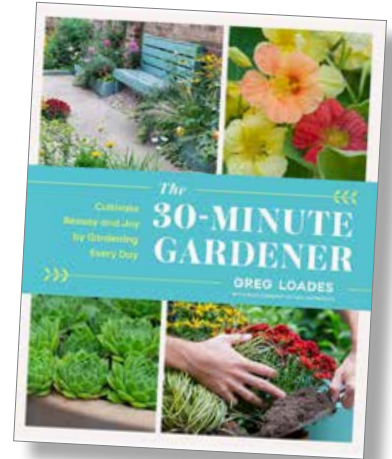
Experienced gardeners know what a calming respite gardening can create. In his book, *The 30-Minute Gardener: Cultivate Beauty and Joy by Gardening Every Day*, author Greg Loades explains how a daily ritual, no matter the weather, can inspire a meditative state of mind.

Maintaining a garden, big or small, is something to feed not only the earth but the emotional spirit, and Mr. Loades provides a clear cut and wonderful way to go about it.

“Half an hour a day is enough time to become attached to a natural world,” he explains in the preface, “and this relationship will help you put problems into fresh context, not to mention inspire you (or me) to create a new garden.”

Starting with the simple process of beginning a garden, Mr. Loades offers encouragement for the new gardener. “Gardening has its pitfalls, but regularly engaging with your growing space by spending a little time each day will shift the focus from expecting a plant to die to expecting it to grow.”

Accompanied by beautiful photographs by Neil Hepworth and an excellent index—always a helpful reference guide in any gardening book—the book offers practical advice for each season, along with some of Mr. Loades’s stories about his experiences. He offers suggestions of what to plant and when, when to cut back, and even the proper way to move a plant, concluding with the chapter, “Where do we go from here?” and some hope that his book will “unlock a way of being in the garden, knowing that the doing will then take care of itself.”





**The Herb Gardening Handbook: A Beginner's Guide to Growing and Harvesting Herbs No Matter Your Space**

By Andrew Perry  
Hardcover: 144 pages  
Hardie Grant Books (U.K.): May, 2023

*Reviewer: Roger Desmond*

The author describes this book as “Not a traditional gardening book. It is a book of imagination and inspiration, with a little practical growing advice sprinkled liberally throughout its pages.” The reader should not be misled; there is a vast trove of applied knowledge and advice within this volume that is relevant to the novice as well as to the most seasoned gardener. Reading this book will teach the reader how to grow and use herbs.

Andrew Perry is a provider of herbs (branded as Urban Herbs), and they are marketed at events including regional markets and BBC Food Shows in the U.K. He also uses social media to promote growing the joy of herbs. In this volume he shares the benefits of a passion for herbs and the reasons for growing your own. Growing herbs is good for your mental and physical health, the environment and for your pocketbook (think of the price of those little packets of herbs from the grocery store!)

In terms of growing techniques, the treatment of each topic is free of jargon and very well illustrated. Topics include plant hardiness or which herbs flourish in each environment, soil types favorable to herbs, drainage, need for sunlight or artificial light, and the decision whether to grow indoors or outside.

The treatment of growing indoors is particularly useful. Step-by-step points to consider when creating the best container, location, and watering strategy for each type of herb help to remove any fears about failure. He advises the gardener to plan for plant growth, for example, by moving plants into larger containers as they grow and careful pruning to preserve plant health.

Beyond the foundation a large section of the book is devoted to suggestions for how to use the herbs you grow beyond cooking. There are several ideas to highlight herbs like golden thyme, winter savory, lime mint and virtually any herb harvested. The cocktail herb garden offers a way of highlighting adult beverages by surrounding bar areas using fresh herbs in small containers. The balcony salad farm offers a way to grow herbs for culinary uses when space is limited. With the easy plans for building a multi-tiered shelf with tools common to most households several herbs can be grown in a small area indoors or out. Indeed, there are numerous other ideas for using the fruits of the garden.

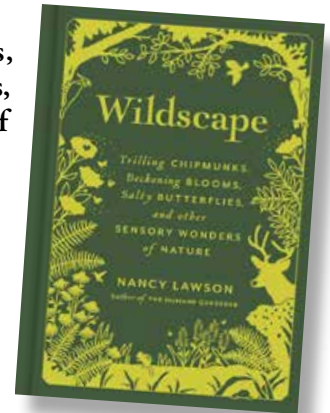
The only caveat to using this book is that things like growing zones and seasonal variations need to be adapted from U.K. outdoor

advice to conditions in the U.S. This will in no way diminish the value of this book as a useful guide to growing herbs. It is a remarkable guide to the universe of flavor.

**Wildscape: Trilling Chipmunks, Beckoning Blooms, Salty Butterflies, and other Sensory Wonders of Nature**

By Nancy Lawson  
Hardcover, 304 pages  
Publisher: Princeton Architectural Press, March, 2023

*Reviewer: Clare Meade*



*Wildscape: Trilling Chipmunks, Beckoning Blooms, Salty Butterflies, and other Sensory Wonders of Nature*, by Nancy

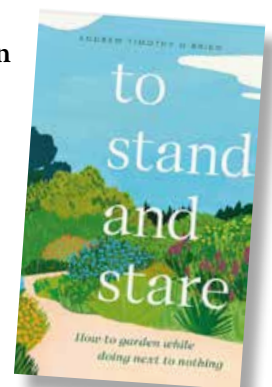
Lawson, is a passionate celebration of nature. Lawson dives deep into aspects of our backyard eco-systems to witness the magic of plants and creatures. Drawing from broad scientific research, the author shows us how animals and plants process and interact with the world through sensory abilities that humans are just beginning to decipher.

The book is organized into five chapters based on the five senses. Each chapter takes the reader through research and facts that tell us how different species use that sense. She augments the research with stories of her local experiences. There are color photographs that illustrate her points and stories.

As a nature lover, I learned fascinating facts in every chapter and enjoyed the scientific research she presents. Her writing is lyrical at times, but this book is not for the average gardener. Lawson spends much time on the minutiae of many research studies and this can drag and overwhelm. The book is most compelling when she connects in a personal way to the eco-scape around her. Great for readers who want extensive information about the organic and scientific connections in the natural world around them.

**To Stand and Stare: How to Garden While Doing Next to Nothing**

By Andrew Timothy O'Brien  
Hardcover: 282 pages  
Publisher: DK, February, 2023  
*Reviewer: Zellene Sandler*



The title of this book is the first line of a poem, “Leisure,” by W.H Davies (1911). “What is this life if, full of care, we have no time to stand and stare?”

As a young girl, I loved this poem so much that I made it into a book, complete with my own illustrations. The idea of just *being* appealed to me. This book is just that, an almost meditative approach to gardening.

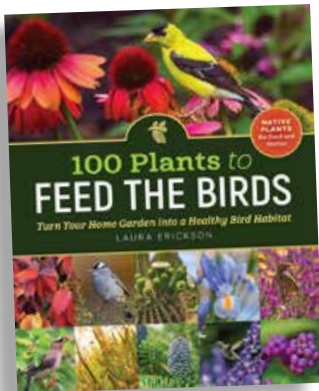
The author takes us through the seasons, weaving botany, philosophy and mindfulness on our journey through the year. As the author says, “a garden is never, as frequently and lazily opined, all about the plants.” The author invites us to think like a plant and encourages us to be when you are out there, at one with plants and wildlife and weather.

This is a book to be read and savored slowly. The prose is elegant. For example, in the chapter on evergreens he writes: “The fundamental lesson of the evergreen is one that binds up strength and humility with resilience and determination, and that is a teacher in whose presence I am content to stand and stare.”

Interspersed with the chapters are two page “how to’s”. One of my favorites is “How to Dig a Hole.” “It’s about making interruptions and taking liberties, sticking a dirty great blade deep into a nurturing friend. And so, it’s really about asking pardon and permission and the understanding that though we might hope for both forgiveness for our actions and blessings upon our labour, we have no right to expect them.” How to water a plant, pick an apple, and of course, how to stand still, are some of these gems.

His parting words sum up his philosophy. “...when our relationship with the rest of nature is marked on our part by rapt attention and respect, the effort that we put into the garden starts to look less like work, and more like conversation. And that is how we garden by doing next to nothing.”

In the final words of Davies poem, “A poor life this, if full of care, we have no time to stand and stare.”



### **100 Plants to Feed the Birds: Turn Your Home Garden into a Healthy Bird Habitat**

By Laura Erickson  
Paperback: 256 pages  
Publisher: Storey Publishing, LLC,  
December, 2022  
*Reviewer: Stephanie Woodlock*

Looking for advice on how to take the next steps beyond a bird feeder

and bath to provide for the birds in your area? If so, *100 Plants to Feed the Birds: Turn Your Home Garden into a Healthy Bird Habitat* by Laura Erickson may be a book to consider adding to your garden reading list this winter.

The first section of the book gives a brief overview of the ingredients essential for creating a healthy, sustaining bird habitat; one that will not only feed the birds the right foods throughout the year, but also provide shelter and allow them to raise their young in a safe and bountiful environment. Covered in this chapter: what to plant, what to eliminate, and how to provide and maintain a healthy water source. The list is not exhaustive. As with many important topics in this book, the reader is directed to sources that provide more in-depth and localized information.

For example, a list of state native plant societies is given at the end of the book.

The second section lists 100 plants arranged by plant type. Each entry gives a description of the plant from a bird-centric perspective. Does it make good habitat? Does it provide food in the form of insects, seeds, flowers or sap? In what season is it most beneficial to the birds and what kind of birds are attracted to what it provides? Additional information is included for each plant such as color, uses, growth habit and cultural requirements. There are beautiful photographs of each plant as well as some of the bird species who make use of its resources. A map is included with each entry showing the plant's geographic distribution.

Many of the plants listed are widely distributed. Where this is the case, guidance is given on regionally appropriate species. Noted also, where required, is a list of species to avoid and where this caution should be applied. Invasives, as we all know, are a huge problem everywhere. And, even among North American natives, some species widely available in garden centers may be regionally inappropriate. For example, big leaf lupine, *Lupinus polyphyllus*, native to the Western US, is considered invasive here in New England where it is displacing the native lupine, *Lupinus perennis*.

Rounding out the book is a list of common North American birds who rely on specific plants for food or nesting sites.

### **Spring Rain: A Life Lived in Gardens**

By Marc Hamer  
Hardcover: 216 pages  
Publisher: Greystone Books, April, 2023  
*Reviewer: Kathy Niver*

Spring Rain is the last of three books written by Marc Hamer. It is easy to read and the author's way of expressing himself is just as delightful as in his previous books, *How to Catch a Mole* and *Seed to Dust*. This book is a memoir from childhood through adulthood. A story of how his personal experiences and environment paved his path in life. How he became a gardener and what gardening taught him. The purity of emotions and responses to the world around him is heartwarming. All gardeners will surely relate to his many antidotes.

There are small seemingly insignificant moments with profound revelations. His evolution in gardening as his relationship with the natural world deepens was especially moving.

I love the charming hand drawings at the start of each chapter. They reinforce the unspoiled way in which the author viewed nature and life. The author finds wonder in all living creatures, slugs included, and respects that they all live their own life in their own way. Are we no different?



## The Vegan Gardener: Using Vegan-organic Techniques for a Planet-friendly, Wildlife-abundant and Productive Garden

By John Walker

Hardcover: 256 pages

Publisher: Lorenz Books, August, 2022

Reviewer: Beth Ann Loveland Sennett

Thomas Christopher, a fellow CT Hort member, conducted a compelling interview with author John Walker on one of his weekly "Growing Greener" gardening broadcasts. I was intrigued, and the interview led me to purchase Walker's book. By way of background, John Walker was trained at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, where he earned his Kew Diploma in Horticulture. In addition to numerous other honors, Walker has won the British Garden Media Guild Environmental Award three times.

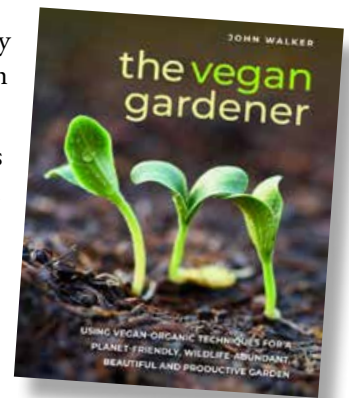
Interestingly, Walker reportedly does not maintain a vegan diet and is not recommending one in this book. As an ecology-minded gardener, he began following organic practices, but when he started work on his impoverished piece of land in north Wales and wanted to minimize "inputs," he had limited materials to work with. Adequate supplies of local animal manure were not available, so he sought other means to improve the soil on his property. Walker made the best of what he had – by making lots of compost. He encouraged beneficial insects, recycled weeds, garden debris, and more. He was able to return health to his soil by using the power of the sun, the water he collected, and the compost made from his own yard, garden, kitchen debris, green wood chips, and just plain resourcefulness and determination. Walker's continuing efforts in Snowdonia, North Wales have been highly successful.

Ultimately, Walker was caring for the land in a kinder and gentler way by avoiding animal products that might have been treated with antibiotics. He was also staying away from manures and bone meals from farm animals that might have been fed foods or maintained in bedding that had been exposed to pesticide and herbicide treatments at some point along the line. Furthermore, he was avoiding use of animal products that were "...derived from the exploitation and...suffering of intensively-farmed animals." Veganic gardening takes organic

gardening one step further by avoiding animal products: "Vegan + Organic = Veganic."

More than an inspiration for others who endeavor to treat animals and the earth more gently, or for those who are seeking greater clarity as to how one can make a noticeable difference for the climate by gardening sustainably on one's own property, John Walker has provided enormously thoughtful resources in this book. From guidance about how to garden without plastics, all about garden tools, how to make-your-own plant tags, to nourishing and sustaining soil, starting to grow food, avoiding non-renewable resources such as peat moss, attracting pollinators aplenty, welcoming insects and spiders, and approaching weed and pest problems, etc., the book is a remarkable resource. Last, Walker devotes many pages to highlights about specific plants for pollinators, flowers for lawns, and to data concerning annuals, biennials, perennials, vines, and bulbs that he particularly treasures.

John Walker's book, *The Vegan Gardener: Using Vegan-organic Techniques for a Planet-friendly, Wildlife-abundant and Productive Garden* is a gardener's treasure. The wealth and depth of information he provides is thoroughly wonderful, his style is engaging, and the photographs are stunning. I heartily recommend it – it's not just a coffee table tome!



## Garden Solutions

Consultations, Design and Planting  
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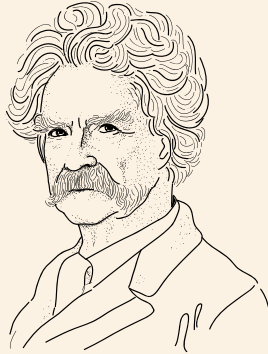
Contact Debbie at 860-944-3170

[www.facebook.com/garden.solutions.debbie](http://www.facebook.com/garden.solutions.debbie)



## CT Hort Cares Grant News

After acts of vandalism in January 2023 led to the loss of many plants in the Mark Twain House Conservatory, CT Hort's Cares Grant program assisted with a \$500 grant to replace them. A team of master gardeners researched to determine what plants would have been there during the time the Clemens family lived there, and replaced them with dozens of period-appropriate plants and pots.



Look for information about our next round of grants in the January newsletter, and in your email inbox to come soon.



## McVane, Bellobuono, Kuzmak, Wieszalis, and Bibisi, Law

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Our partners provide over 150 years of collective experience so don't hesitate to call us for any issue.

**Contact us:**

**[MBKWBLAW.COM](http://MBKWBLAW.COM) 860-956-0043**

**Meet with us at our office:**

**801 Maple Avenue (South end) Hartford, CT 06114**



Doug Tallamy, author

## Nature's Best Hope Book Discussion Part 3

**Tuesday, November 14 • 7 pm**

CT Hort is thrilled to be co-sponsoring this FREE virtual series with Avon Public Library. Please join us for the last piece of this amazing event cycle.

Registration is required!

Join us for a discussion of Nature's Best Hope, with special guest appearances by industry experts, as well as time to share your personal Homegrown National Park success stories.

<https://www.avonctlibrary.info/event/natures-best-hope-virtual-book-discussion/>



# Connecticut Horticultural Society



## 2024 Virtual Symposium

"Gardening Matters: Our Future is Growing"



HEADLINE SPEAKER

**Fergus Garrett**

*Award-winning gardener, plantsman*



**JOHN FORTI**

Garden historian,  
ethnobotanist, author



**JARED ROSENBAUM**

Field botanist, native plant grower,  
restoration practitioner, author,  
musician



**GARY LEWIS**

Botanist, nursery owner,  
gardener, author

**FEBRUARY 3, 2024 - 9AM-4PM EST**  
**DETAILS & REGISTRATION: [CTHORT.ORG](https://CTHORT.ORG)**

Register by January 9, 2024 and the cost to attend is \$75 for members,  
\$90 for non-members, and \$15 for students with valid ID.

Starting January 10, the cost will be \$95 for members, \$115 for  
non-members and \$20 for students with a valid ID.

## Trip to the Philadelphia Flower Show, New York Botanical Garden Orchid Show and Longwood Gardens Orchid Extravaganza

### March 9-11, 2024

*With Special Guest: Nancy DuBrule-Clemente,  
Author & Founder of Natureworks Horticultural Services*

Trip includes deluxe motor coach, two nights hotel accommodations, tax and baggage, two breakfasts, two dinners, flower show admission, orchid show admission, sightseeing per itinerary, all gratuities, and a Friendship Tour director.

**\$945pp double / \$1089pp single**

CT Hort members receive a \$55pp discount

Deadline to reserve your spot/deposit is January 5, 2024

**Contact Barbara at Friendship Tours**

**email [barbara@friendshiptours.net](mailto:barbara@friendshiptours.net) or call 860-243-1630.**



### Congratulation to the 2023-2024 CT Hort Scholarship recipients!

## UConn

Samuel Bushka  
Kathryn Padua  
Matt Schillberg



**Naugatuck Valley  
Community College**  
Miranda Crabb  
June Moulis

Go to <https://cthort.org/support/other-ways-to-give/> for more information about these winners and their studies.



## Welcome New Members!

Debra Benham	Diane Lemelin
Vanessa Bunnell	Mariann Mankowski
Margaret Conable	Mary Mishu
Renee Dackow	Carole Mulready
Emily Dalton	Jean O'Neill
Arjun Dejesus	Karen Owen
Cindy Eadie	Richard Petrucci & Jacques Dion
Dan Fontaine	Anne Pistell
Suzanne Forand	Alexa Roggeveen
Melissa Funaro	Heather Rosenthal
Joanne Gardner	Sheila Sennett
Nathalie Gavrilovic	Martha Shea
Heidi Goldstein	Nita Taylor
Kara Heilemann	Joellen Vasbinder
Amy Hopkins	Susan Vieira
Susanne Jones	Martha Weiss
Brooke Kelly	Leslie Wharton
Susan Kinsman	Susan Wynne
Katelyn Lemek	Debra Climan, Garden Solutions



*Dated Material* 🌿 *Please Rush*

### CT Hort Calendar at a Glance

- Tuesday, Nov. 7** – Board of Directors  
Remote Meeting, 7 pm
- Thurs., Nov. 16** – Speaker presentation:  
*Designing in Challenging  
Situations: Plants &  
Techniques That Deliver*,  
7 pm (In person and  
on Zoom)
- Friday, Dec. 15** – Deadline for our January  
*Newsletter*

Go to [CTHort.org](http://CTHort.org) for information on these  
and all other meetings and programs.

Printed on recycled paper.



## October Roundup



Jane Harris and Tom Christopher



Trish Lyons and Cheryl Marino



Cheryl Whalen and a lot of bulbs!

Our October meeting was busy. We held our annual bulb sale and presented plaques to our annual award winners before Robin Lensi's informative talk.

Trish Lyons accepted the Annual Service Award from Past President Cheryl Marino. She's spent years overseeing the annual spring auction, as well as serving on the board.

Board member Tom Christopher presented Jane Harris with the Gustav A. L. Mehlquist Award for her decades of work planting trees throughout Middletown and her many other accomplishments.

Cheryl Whalen held the fort down at the annual bulb sale. Thanks to Allison Rabinko and Yilin Sun for helping her staff the tables, and to White Flower Farm and Colorblends for their generous donation of bulbs to the sale. Proceeds from the sale—\$1,641—fund CT Hort's scholarships for ag students as well as other programs.

