

# Connecticut Horticultural Society

# NEWSLETTER

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## Pollinator Gardens in Spring

By Dr. Harland Patch

Since the last glaciation some 20,000 years ago eastern North America has become dominated by temperate deciduous forests. The great diversity of these forests, their composition, is dictated by the particulars of soil, rainfall, temperature and the interactions of the biotic community itself. Although skilled gardeners can push the limits of these conditions, they will ultimately lose their battle to have a garden from a different place and a different time.

Anyone who has left their plot unweeded or tried to reclaim a long neglected garden knows the ruthless process. The pansies and roses give way to small weedy patches. The goldenrod forces its way in and then the sumac, walnut, red maple and finally the forest returns. Only extreme conditions of moisture, rock or sand can give hope for a perennial sunny stop.

The fact that this biome dominates the landscape (although it has never been unbroken) means that the deciduous trees, their structures and yearly cycle, shapes communities of animals and the smaller plants that live underneath them. This understanding has profound importance for anyone interested in creating biodiverse gardens.

I have been involved in creating pollinator gardens and other biodiverse habitats for more than 30 years. I have talked to and learned from a great many people. When we think of pollinator gardens our minds inevitably go to the forbs like coneflower, bee-balm and butterfly weed, Brown-eyed Susans, the late blooming asters in with the goldenrod. But this is an incomplete pollinator garden.

Careful examination of eastern bee communities that were sampled by the United States Geological Survey's Native Bee Inventory and Monitoring Lab has shown what many naturalists had suspected; that the June to November bee community is entirely distinct from the group of bees that dominate the early part of the year. From March to about the middle of May depending on the latitude you will find bee communities dominated by mason bees (*Osmia*), cuckoo bees (*Nomada*) and marvelously diverse andrenid bees (*Andrena*). After mid-May the community switches to sweat bees (*Augochlorella*, *Lasioglossum*), other halictid bees (*Halictus*, *Agapostemon*), small carpenter bees (*Ceratina*), the bumble bees (*Bombus*), and a few others. Besides the bumble bees, all these bees are solitary where an individual female will provision brood on her own. In North America 70 percent of bees are solitary and ground nesting the rest will build nests in stems or tubes in solid wood that have been hollowed out by beetles.

There are two bee seasons in the eastern United States. Before mid-May forests are open and bees and other pollinators can fly in and through them. After May the canopy closes, and the forest edge becomes a wall. Light does not reach the forest floor, so the photosynthesizing flowering plants give way to ferns, saprophytic plants, and mushrooms. Anyone who has walked through a dense forest in mid-summer can attest to how few

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See page 3 for information about Dr. Patch's talk on April 18.

**Important information regarding our bylaws.**

**See page 4 for details.**

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Connecticut Horticultural Society  
P.O. Box 330966  
West Hartford, CT 06133-0966  
(860) 529-8713

email: [office@cthort.org](mailto:office@cthort.org)  
website: [www.cthort.org](http://www.cthort.org)

Phone Hours  
Tuesday & Thursday  
11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Tracey Weiss  
CT Hort Director of Communications  
[news@cthort.org](mailto:news@cthort.org)

*All announcements, advertising news  
and articles for publication should be  
sent to: [news@cthort.org](mailto:news@cthort.org).*

Send Membership Information  
& Direct General Questions To:  
Mary Anna Martell  
Office Administrator  
P.O. Box 330966  
West Hartford, CT 06133-0966

Membership Dues:  
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## LEADERSHIP LETTER

# New role at CT Hort, and lots of beauty at Longwood

Dear Members,

Last month I wrote that the Board of Directors were voting on hiring an Executive Director. The vote was unanimously approved. We are posting the position for hire and beginning the interviewing process soon, with the goal to have this person in place for the start of our new speaker season in September.

Recently I went to Longwood Gardens with Friendship Tours—it was my first visit. Although it was cold outside and the majority of my visit was in the Conservatory, I can't wait to go back and explore the estate. The garden strives for the sightseer's visit to be surprised and inspired with its design and maintained excellence. Upon my return home to my own garden, a quick walk around reveals there is much work to be done! I'm antsy to get out and work a bit; however, our property is so soaked it's like walking across a sponge, so the perfection that has inspired me will have to wait. In the meantime, I am enjoying Hellebores and Witch-hazel in their full glory, and Crocus and Snowdrops in bloom.

Wishing you all a productive spring.

Warmly,  
Cheryl



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**The Garden Barn Nursery**

**Garden Solutions**  
**Go Organic LLC**  
**Grace Farms**  
**Mountainview Landscaping LLC**





Dr. Harland Patch

# Ecological Approaches to Garden Design and Management

with Dr. Harland Patch

Thursday, April 18 • 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).

Ecological approaches to garden design and management are hallmarks of 21st century gardening. Until recently most approaches have been adapted for aesthetic reasons or for the ill-defined goal of supporting biodiversity. Much of the interest in ecological gardens comes from concerns about declining biodiversity and degradation of natural spaces. But the processes underlying ecological declines remain poorly understood by gardeners and designers therefore limiting the ability to create a truly sustainable garden aesthetic. Recent advances in pollination science from the landscape level to genetics can greatly inform the creation and management of ecological gardens.

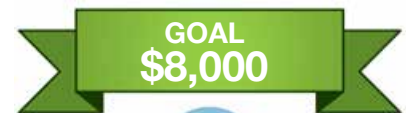
Dr. Harland Patch focuses his research on many aspects of pollinator biology from genes to landscapes. His current research on understanding the biological mechanisms associated with bee nutrition and how nutrition, in turn, affects bee health. Dr. Patch is working with collaborators to understand the underlying factors that contribute to pollinator host plant choice, including the role of annual and perennial cultivars to support pollinator populations. He is scientific advisor and Director of Pollinator Programming at Penn State's Bird and Pollinator Garden, a recently built 4-acre garden based on scientific research.

### SPEAKER FEEDBACK

After you attend a speaker meeting, please take a moment to tell us what you thought of the presenter. Your candid feedback helps us to arrange for speakers that will hold your interest. Take the six-question survey on our website – [cthort.org](http://cthort.org). Click on the survey icon found on any page then chose the speaker you want to rate. Thank you for your feedback.



## 2023-2024 Scholarship Fund

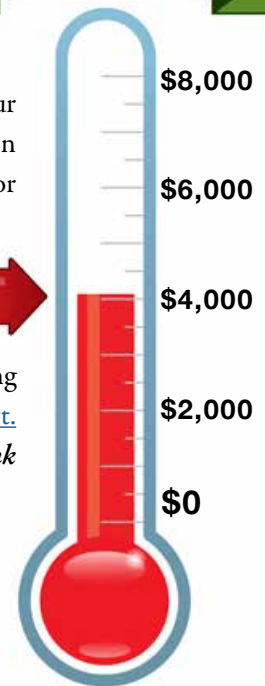


We are almost halfway to our goal for the 2023-2024 season in our quest to raise \$8,000 for student scholarships.

**\$4,039.15**



We hope you'll consider helping us reach that goal! Go to [cthort.org](http://cthort.org) to learn how to give. *Thank you!*



### May 16: In person at Elmwood Community Center and on Zoom

## Roses for New England

Mike & Angelina Chute, landscape design, rose experts, authors

This program will not be recorded.



### June 20: This program will be held at First Church, UCC, 190 Court St., Middletown and on Zoom

## Knockout Natives

Sam Hoadley, horticulturist and landscape designer at Mt. Cuba Center

(See page 5 for more information about our June meeting)

# BYLAWS AMENDMENTS REFLECT CHANGES IN CT HORT AND HOW WE OPERATE

Your vote on June 20 is needed

It's time to amend our bylaws and we need your help, as members, to vote to make those changes on June 20.

Since they were adopted in 1955, the Connecticut Horticultural Society's Constitution and Bylaws have been amended seven times to reflect the strategic vision, direction, mission, and operation of the organization.

The last amendment to our bylaws were in May of 2005, and there have been large changes in the world since then. Technology, the pandemic, and our increasingly busy schedules are some of the factors that have contributed to the way we run our organization. Our constitution and bylaws need to now reflect that.

As a member of CT Hort, your input is key. In order to vote in the changes needed to amend the bylaws, we must have an in-person quorum at our June 20 meeting at First Church Middletown at 190 Court Street in Middletown. We will need a vote of 55 votes to approve these changes, and to reiterate, the votes must be in person. We hope you will join us then for another important reason: our speaker, Sam Hoadley, also promises to offer a great presentation on "Knockout Natives."

**Here are the changes that have been made to the existing constitution and bylaws. The underlined passages indicate the actual change.**

## CONSTITUTION ARTICLE I – NAME

**Change:** *Reference to the organization is more uniquely identified at CT Hort.*

This Society shall be called the Connecticut Horticultural Society and referred to as CT Hort to align with the website [cthort.org](http://cthort.org).

## BYLAWS

**Change:** *Membership categories have been updated to reflect the options currently offered.*

**Article 1.3:** Membership Categories. Membership can include Honorary, Individual, Senior Individual, Family, Senior Family, Sustaining, Garden Club, Business, Business Benefactor and Student. Organizations and Businesses may appoint a single delegate with the right to vote at regular meetings and be eligible to hold office.

**Article 1.3.1:** Honorary Membership. Honorary members shall be elected by the Society upon the recommendation of the Board of Directors. This shall be an exceptional category designated for members who have been active for decades, and have made a significant contribution to the Society.

**Change:** *Term limits have been removed due to difficult nature of finding volunteers to hold these positions.*

**Article 2.3:** Tenure of Officers. The President and Vice President shall serve not more than two consecutive terms, but each may be reelected after an interval of one year. It is considered desirable that each of them shall have previously served as a Director. Positions of Secretary and Treasurer shall not be subject to term limits.

**Change:** *Process has been revised to add the option to vote for Constitution and Bylaw revisions electronically. This is also stated in Article 5.2.*

**Article 3.2:** Number and Election. The Board of Directors shall be members in good standing and shall consist of all duly elected officers and nine other members at large, for a total of fourteen (14) members. The Board of Directors shall be elected at the annual meeting. An election may also be taken through the use of electronic voting that records unique voters and their vote.

continued on page 5

**Your vote is needed in person to pass the needed amendments to our bylaws**

June 20, 7pm

"Knockout Natives" with Sam Hoadley

First Church Middletown, 190 Court Street, Middletown

Enjoy refreshments and giveaways!

## BYLAWS AMENDMENTS

from page 4

**Change:** Process has been revised to add the option to electronically vote to accept the incoming Board of Directors.

**Article 3.8: Meetings.** Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be called by the President or upon written request of three Directors. The Board shall meet a minimum of six times a year. Virtual Board meetings are considered acceptable.

**Change:** The list of Committees has been updated to reflect those currently in existence.

**Article 6.1:** There shall be the following committees of the Society: Program, Finance, Tours, Scholarships and Grants, Hospitality, Auction, Education, Symposium, and others as needed. The members of the committees shall be appointed at the discretion of the committee Chair, except as set forth in Sections 6.3 and 6.5 below.

**Change:** Process has been revised to add the option to vote for Constitution and Bylaw revisions electronically.

**Article 9.1:** This Constitution and Bylaws may be amended only by a two-thirds vote of members present at any regular membership meeting at which a quorum is present, provided the proposed amendment shall have been read at two preceding meetings, and notice that action will be taken has been given to all members in the call for the meeting. This Constitution and Bylaws may also be amended by notifying members of the proposed revisions via electronic communication, providing a link to the revised document, and capturing their unique vote to approve/disapprove the changes.

## THE CONNECTICUT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY ENDOWMENT SPENDING AND INVESTMENT POLICY STATEMENTS

### Spending Policy

The Connecticut Horticultural Society (CT Hort) will use income from its endowment to support the educational and outreach programs of the Society. This support will supplement the income received from dues and other revenue-generating activities. Over time, it is assumed that the budgeted annual support from the endowment will be no more than 4% of the 20 tracking quarter average of the endowment value as of the May 31st immediately preceding the budget year. Anticipated endowment support needs will be communicated to the Connecticut Horticultural Society Investment Advisor at the completion of the annual budget.

### Asset Allocation

Because of the small size of the endowment, it is assumed that CT Hort will use commingled investment vehicles offered by financial institutions, i.e., banks or mutual fund organizations, and will not invest directly in the securities of individual companies. To achieve the Society's real return objective, it is assumed that between 60-70% of assets will be invested in equities and between 30-40% in fixed income securities.



## CT Hort Cares Grant Program Apply by April 15

Applications are being accepted for the CT Hort Cares Grant Program. The program supports community efforts to educate state residents on the importance of plants and the environment.

The grants will be awarded twice in 2024. The maximum amount available per grant is \$500 and anyone who wishes to apply can do so. Applications are being accepted through April 15. Grants will be awarded May 1. There are no restrictions on who can apply, but the grant must be used on a project taking place in the State of Connecticut.

Apply at:

<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/sv/XD7SZgJ>

## GREAT NEWS!

UConn Extension and CT DEEP Wildlife Division have released an updated list of CT businesses that grow and/or sell native trees and shrubs—and for the first time, PERENNIALS are now included!

Access the list at [ipm.cahnrc.uconn.edu/pollinators](http://ipm.cahnrc.uconn.edu/pollinators).



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**860-243-1630 [www.friendshiptours.net](http://www.friendshiptours.net)**

## Nominate someone you know

It's time to recognize someone you know who goes above and beyond

### The 2024-25 Mehlquist Award

In 1987, on its 100th anniversary, the Connecticut Horticultural Society (CT Hort) established the Gustav Mehlquist award to honor our member Dr. Gustav Mehlquist for his extraordinary contribution to horticulture. Dr. Mehlquist, who had been long recognized as one of the leading horticulturists in the United States, was a member of CT Hort, the American Rhododendron Society, The Connecticut Nurseryman's Association and a professor of Plant Science at the University of Connecticut (UConn).

Every year CT Hort seeks nominations for this prestigious award named in honor of Dr. Gustav Mehlquist. If you know a Connecticut resident who deserves to be honored and recognized for their significant and extraordinary contributions in horticulture or the art of gardening, please submit a nomination letter describing the background and qualifications of your nominee to Mary Anna Martell or via email to [office@cthort.org](mailto:office@cthort.org). Or, mail the office: CT Hort Office, P.O. Box 330966, West Hartford, CT 06133-0966

### The 2024-25 CT Hort Service Award

The Connecticut Horticultural Society (CT Hort) exists largely due to the help of many volunteers. They are a source of inspiration, knowledge and encouragement which is valued and enjoyed by all of us. If you've attended lectures, bought a cool plant at the auction, traveled to amazing gardens, participated in workshops, or benefited from any of the offerings CT Hort provides, it was possible because of our amazing volunteers.

Please take a moment to recognize an individual who has enhanced your experience with CT Hort by nominating them as the 2024 Service Award recipient. Nominations should include a brief explanation of why you feel they should be considered and as much background about them as you can. Send nominations to: Mary Anna Martell, CT Hort Office P.O. Box 330966, West Hartford, CT 06133-0966 or email: [office@cthort.org](mailto:office@cthort.org) Subject line: Service Award 2024 Service Award

It only takes a few minutes to thank someone who gives so much of themselves.  
**Nominations must be received by May 30, 2024.**



## Philadelphia Flower Show

"Awe-inspiring" is how one person described the Friendship Tours & The Ship Shop trip with special guest tour director Nancy DuBrule to the Philadelphia Flower Show, which included stops to see the orchid shows at the New York Botanical Gardens and Longwood Gardens.



## Pollinator Gardens in Spring from page 1

bees, butterflies, flies you will find. Spring pollinators are in and around forests, summer and fall pollinators are creatures of sunny meadows.

A pollinator garden that is aware of this ecology will include the flower spring plants necessary to support pollinator nutrition. Although non-native flowers can certainly be suitable, this is mostly for nectar. Butterflies, flies and beetles mostly go to flowers for this rich carbohydrate source. Bees are pollen specialists. They prefer to feed their brood a targeted ration of protein and lipid. And these target ratios are likely found with native plants from the same community, perhaps because of coevolution. Research I have been involved with shows that bumble bees have a 5:1 protein to lipid preference pollen. In choice studies we found that they most preferred to forage on American Senna (*Senna hebecarpa*) which not only has a floral structure for bees the size and shape of bumble bees but has exactly that protein to lipid ration. That means that if you really want a great number of bumble bees plant American Senna. This story seems to be the case for many species of bee.



Oaks and maples are in most of our habitats. They are often described as wind pollinated, and their floral structure and pollen type are consistent with this observation. But bees do use pollen from these trees, particularly when few other things are in bloom.

If I were making a spring garden for bees and space was not limited, I would choose Boxelder, Redbud, Willows for wetter spots, Dogwood, Black Gum, Poison Ivy (a great pollinator plant that supports bees, flies and beetles), blackberry, holly, serviceberry, and sassafras. If you are one of the lucky ones with richer soil you can indulge in spring understory flowers: trilliums, violets, columbine, a true fly plant like Skunk cabbage (*Symplocarpus foetidus*), Spring beauty (*Claytonia virginica*), Round-lobed hepatica (*Hepatica americana*), Yellow trout lily

(*Erythronium americanum*), Dutchman's Breeches (*Dicentra cucullaria*), and Dwarf larkspur (*Delphinium tricorne*).

The point of a biodiverse garden is to sit in it and observe. Observing great trees in a forest is a challenge and we have gone to great lengths- ropes, ladders, platforms- to get students high enough into the tree to observe flowers. They are brave but there is limit. Smaller trees and shrubs afford a better view. If you patiently watch the understory flowers on a warm and sunny day you will notice how unique some of the visiting bees and other pollinators are.



Native plants are not only essential for the nutrition of our native pollinators. The composition of these spring communities also facilitates pollination and seed set. Nearly forty years ago on Amherst Island at the northeast end of Lake Ontario Terence Laverty observed that Mayapple (*Podophyllum peltatum*) which does not produce nectar set more seeds when near lousewort (*Pedicularis canadensis*), which produces copious amounts of nectar. The lousewort is a favorite of nesting bumblebee queens. By carefully removing the flowers of lousewort in an experimental setting Laverty was able to show that it was indeed the "spillover" visitations of the bumblebees onto the mayapple that increased fruit and seed set. Turns out you don't have to invest in nectar production if you have a very attractive neighbor. The lousewort is a classic example of a "magnet" species. This relationship underscores how important it is to think about the ecological context and composition of a landscape.

Conserving pollinators, and encourage them to visit your garden, is never a question of individual species. It is about building up and curating a community. Biodiverse gardens should be aware of ecological interactions, the function of different species, their temporal patterns and the dictates of the dominant community in which they are embedded. If this is understood function can be transformed into something made of wonder and beauty.



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## 2023-24 CONNECTICUT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY MEMBER DISCOUNTS

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**The following nurseries offer CT Hort members a 10% discount. Please present your membership card before your purchase. Discount normally applies to non-sale items.**

**AL'S LANDSCAPING & NURSERY**  
204 Kelsey St., Newington 06111,  
(860)-667-1822, alslandscaping.com

**BETTER STONES**, 200 Tolland St,  
East Hartford 06108, (860) 289-1414,  
betterstones.com

**BIDWELL'S YARD, GARDEN AND  
PET**, 133 Hopmeadow St., (Rte. 10),  
Weatogue 06089, (860) 651-8555,  
simsburygarden.com

**BOSCO'S GARDEN CENTER &  
LANDSCAPING**, 1376 Hopmeadow St.,  
Simsbury 06070, (860) 658-2428,  
boscosgardencenter.com

**BOTTICELLO FARMS**  
209 Hillstown Road, Manchester 06040  
(860) 649-2462, botticellofarms.net

**BROKEN ARROW NURSERY**,  
13 Broken Arrow Road, Hamden 06518,  
(203) 288-1026, brokenarrownursery.com

**BUTLER'S FLORIST & GARDEN  
CENTER**, 416 Park Road, West Hartford  
06110, (860) 561-2148,  
butlerflorestandgarden.com

**CRICKET HILL GARDEN**  
670 Walnut Hill Road, Thomaston 06787,  
(860) 283-1042, treepeony.com

**CROPLEY'S GARDEN CENTER &  
LANDSCAPING**, 1262 Boston Tpk.,  
Bolton 06043, (860) 649-6364,  
cropleysgardencenter.com

**EDMONDSON'S FARM GIFT SHOP  
& FLORIST**, Route 44, Coventry 06238,  
(860) 742-6124, edmundsonsfarm.com

**GO ORGANIC LLC**  
1244 Thompson Road, Thompson 06277,  
(860) 935-5235, <http://goorganicllc.com/>

**GOTTA'S FARM**, 661 Glastonbury Tpk.,  
Portland 06480, (860) 342-1844,  
gottasfarm.com

**HARKEN'S GARDEN CENTER**  
287 Route 5, East Windsor 06088,  
(860) 528-6806, discount applies to  
plant material only,  
harkenslandscapesupply.com

**LARSON'S GARDEN CENTER**  
26 Covey Road, Burlington 06013,  
(860) 404-5747, larsonsgardencenter.com

**MOSCARILLO'S**, 2600 Albany Ave.,  
West Hartford 06117, (860) 236-5487,  
discount applies to plant material only,  
moscarillos.com

**NATUREWORKS**, 518 Forest Road,  
Northford 06472, (203) 484-2748,  
discount applies to plant material only,  
naturework.com

**NE SEED**, 10% CHS members: Mail order  
neseed.com

**O'BRIEN NURSERY**, 40 Wells Road,  
Granby 06035, (860) 653-0163,  
obrienhosta.com

**RIVERSIDE NURSERY & GARDEN  
CENTER**, 56 River Road (Rte. 179),  
Collinsville 06022, (860) 693-2285,  
discount applies to plant material only,  
riversidenursery-ct.com

**SCOTT'S ORCHARD & NURSERY**  
1838 New London Tpk., Glastonbury  
06033, (860) 633-8681,  
scottsorchardandnursery.com

**STONE POST GARDENS** (*seasonal*)  
1185 Randolph Road, Middletown 06457,  
(860) 343-0360, stonepostgardens.com

**THE GARDEN BARN NURSERY**  
228 West Street, Vernon 06066  
(860) 872-7291, [www.gardenbarn.com](http://www.gardenbarn.com)

**TORRISON STONE & GARDEN**  
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(860) 349-0119, [www.torrisonstone.com](http://www.torrisonstone.com)

**WARNER NURSERY & GARDEN  
CENTER**, 76 Riverside Road, Simsbury  
06070, (860) 651-0204,  
warnernursery.com

**WOODLAND GARDENS**  
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(860) 643-8474, woodlandgardens-ct.com



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## 2023-24 CONNECTICUT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY MEMBER DISCOUNTS

### JUST \$12 for a year of 'Horticulture' magazine

That's **67% off** the cover price. *Horticulture* is dedicated to **celebrating the passion of avid gardeners**, who take delight not just in gardens but in garden-making. The engaging writing and brilliant photography help gardeners to **create beautiful and useful spaces**.

**Place your order** by calling 1-877-860-9146 or by mail to Horticulture Magazine, P.O. Box 842, Des Moines, IA 50304-0842.

**To get the discount, be sure to mention Promo Code PCONN24.**



### \$10 DISCOUNT on a NEW or GIFT MEMBERSHIP to *American Horticultural Society*

CT Hort has arranged a **discount on membership** with the American Horticultural Society (AHS). A **new or gift 'single membership' costs only \$25** for a year, rather than the regular rate of \$35.

### NEW MEMBERS ALSO RECEIVE:

**\$10 in Auction Bucks**, redeemable at our **Plant Sales & Auctions**



## Horticultural Happenings & Announcements

Note: Happenings are listed on a space-available basis. To submit an event, send details to [news@cthorg.org](mailto:news@cthorg.org).

Please format the announcement to resemble the entries below. Deadline for the May issue is Wednesday, April 15.

**Connecticut Native Tree, Shrub, and Perennial Availability List Released—UConn Extension and CT DEEP Wildlife Division** have released an updated list of CT businesses that grow and/or sell native trees and shrubs—and for the first time, PERENNIALS are now included! Compiled from a survey of both wholesale and retail businesses, the [Connecticut Native Tree, Shrub, and Perennial Availability List](https://s.uconn.edu/ctnativeavailability) ([s.uconn.edu/ctnativeavailability](https://s.uconn.edu/ctnativeavailability)) identifies nurseries and garden centers that sell CT native trees, shrubs, or perennials. This guide was created to assist municipalities, conservation organizations, homeowners, and landscape architects, designers, and contractors with locating native plants for habitat restoration and wildlife enhancement. Access the list at [ipm.cahn.uconn.edu/pollinators](http://ipm.cahn.uconn.edu/pollinators).

**Sat., April 6, 10 am–noon—Natureworks presents Shrub Pruning Made Easy - How and What to Prune in Spring**, Zion Episcopal Church, 326 Notch Hill Rd., North Branford. Natureworks' own Nancy DuBrule-Clemente is offering a pruning workshop that focuses on summer and fall blooming plants that bloom on current year's wood. These are the plants that are pruned in April. The workshop will also be discussing pruning on all types of hydrangea. The cost is \$25. Go to <https://natureworksgardencenter.com/products/workshop-pruning-made-easy>.

**Sat. April 6, 8:30 am-2:30 pm—Windsor African Violet Society Show & Sale**, Grace Episcopal Church, 311 Broad St., Windsor. The annual judged show's theme is "Culinary Violets; What's in Your Pot." All sizes of African violets and

many other gesneriads will be on display. Designs include cut flower arrangements, underwater arrangements, terrariums, and dish gardens, all using African violets. An education table will provide free information on cultivating and propagating African violets. Plants from Lyndon Lyon Greenhouses will be for sale, as well as cut and rooted leaves. Free admission. Go to <https://instafax.com/wavs/>.

**Sat., April 13, 11 am—Kerry Mendez presents "An Inspirational Guide to Understanding Plants and Gardens with Adrian Bloom," online only.** The one-hour broadcast will be packed with spectacular photographs of Foggy Bottom - a collection of conifers, heathers, perennials, grasses, shrubs, and trees. Adrian will share his journey from transforming an open meadow to a highly acclaimed masterpiece. The cost is \$18.95. Go to <https://pyours.com> to register.

**Sun., April 14, 10 am–5 pm—Opening Day at Native Plant Trust, 180 Hemenway Road, Framingham, MA.** In a place visitors often describe as magical, you'll find a botanic garden just west of Boston that showcases New England native plants in a beautiful natural setting: 45 acres sculpted by retreating glaciers into eskers and steep-sided valleys, with a brook, pond, and wetlands. Admission: \$8-\$18. Go to [nativeplanttrust.org](http://nativeplanttrust.org).

**Fri., April 19, 1-4 pm—Opening Day at Hollister Garden, 300 Nettleton Hollow Rd, Washington.** Enjoy the beauty of the of this classic garden in the English manner, with a loosely formal structure, situated in the Litchfield hills. Admission is \$10. <https://hollisterhousegarden.org/event/opening-day/>.

Visit [cthorg.org](http://cthorg.org) for the MOST CURRENT listings and links.



## AUSTRALIA! March 21-April 5, 2025

Join Friendship Tours as we embark on a spectacular adventure in the Land Down Under. President & Owner of Friendship Tours, Brett Isaacson, along with local expert guides will lead the way on this land tour to explore this amazing continent.

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Friendship Tours / The Ship Shop 860-243-1630 or  
[www.friendshiptours.net/tours/australia-2025](http://www.friendshiptours.net/tours/australia-2025)



## CT Hort Plant Sale & Auction Friday, May 17, 2024

**Bethany Covenant Church, 785 Mill Street (Rt. 372), Berlin, CT  
Doors open to the public at 6:30 p.m., \$5 Admission**

Mark your calendar to attend this lively, fun-filled, and educational event on Friday, May 17. With growing season and Mother's Day fast-approaching, the Auction is a great spot to find just the right plant or gift. The evening begins with a plant sale, while bids are accepted for unusual silent auction items and refreshments are served. Then it's on to the LIVE auction!

Horticulturist Nancy DuBrule-Clemente will once again curate the night's offerings.

Plant donations from private gardens will no longer be accepted due to the spread of Asian jumping worms—an invasive pest that can destroy entire beds in a matter of weeks. Houseplants are acceptable. If you have a specimen that may be of interest, please email the Auction Committee to discuss.

Proceeds from the evening provide scholarships to Plant Science students at the University of Connecticut (since 1959), and Naugatuck Valley Community College (since 2011). In addition, funds in excess of our scholarship commitments will spill over to CT Hort Cares, our civic grants program.

Please come join us! For additional information or questions email [auction@cthort.org](mailto:auction@cthort.org).

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## Hollister House Garden

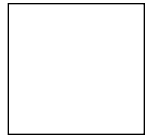
300 Nettleton Hollow Road, Washington, CT




visit learn enjoy

For a calendar of lectures, workshops and special events, please visit:  
[www.hollisterhousegarden.org](http://www.hollisterhousegarden.org)  
**April 19 - October 12**

**Visiting Hours:**  
Wednesdays 1-4 • Fridays 1-4 • Saturdays 10-4  
Admission \$10 (*under 12 free*)



*Dated Material*  *Please Rush*

**CT Hort Calendar at a Glance**

**Tues., April 2** – Board of Directors  
Remote Meeting, 7 pm

**Monday, April 15** – Deadline for our May  
*Newsletter*

**Thurs., April 18** – Speaker presentation:  
*Ecological Approaches  
to Garden Design and  
Management*, 7 pm  
(In person and on Zoom)

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

Printed on recycled paper.



**Welcome New Members!**

- |                    |                                |                  |                             |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| Brianna Arpie      | Susan Eisenhandler             | Anne Jazlowiecki | Mary Powell - St Louis      |
| Susan Bailey       | Robert Eselby                  | Carissa Johnson  | Heli Roy                    |
| Charlene Barnes    | Adele Falco                    | Estela Kennen    | Kyle Smith                  |
| Meredith Beers     | Kathy Fassman                  | Noreen Kepple    | Margaret Steele Koczorowski |
| Kellie Brady       | Deborah Ferry                  | Marie Landry     | Katherine Tracey            |
| Rosamund Brady     | Betsy Fertman                  | Ellie Lieberman  | Lisa Vaughn                 |
| Ann Cicarella      | Kimberly Kelly,<br>Grace Farms | Gail Marken      | Mary Washer                 |
| Kevin Contorno     | Kim Griffith                   | Tracey Masterson | Susan Weglein               |
| Alex Davenport     | Rebecca Hedreen                | Madeline McClure | Barbara Wentzel             |
| Sharon De Kadt     | John Oakley Higgins            | Patricia Meyer   | Thomas Wiedman              |
| Kara Donahue       | Claire Higham                  | Jennifer Mooney  | Woozie Wikfors              |
| Maryellen Donnelly | Mary Hogue                     | June Moulis      | Sandra Woodford             |
| Chandra Dunitz     |                                | Lizbeth O'Connor |                             |