

MAY/JUNE 2009

Vol. 28, No. 3

ARBORETUM

news



Minnesota Landscape
ARBORETUM

www.arboretum.umn.edu

ARBORETUM NEWS
gets new look for
summer (see pg.2)

Mandarin Lights Photo by David Hansen

Azalea Lights Are Signature Bloom of Arboretum

If one plant has become synonymous with the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum it is the Lights Series Azaleas, a northern-hardy plant first introduced by the University of Minnesota in 1978. Beginning in early May, the Arboretum lights up with the exotic colors of deciduous azaleas and the air is filled with their sweet and zesty fragrance. The bloom can last into early June if the temperatures do not get too warm. Look for varieties including Golden Lights, Spicy, Northern Lights, Lilac Lights, Rosy Lights, White Lights and others. There are gardens devoted to showcasing these lovely azaleas but also some unexpected places at the Arboretum to seek them out. You'll see examples of plant breeding and research, too.

Stan Hokanson
Assistant Professor of
Horticulture

Dave Stevenson
Curator of Plant
Collections

The Woodland Azalea Garden located adjacent to the Home Demonstration Garden is where the Arboretum showcases the Lights Series Azaleas. In addition, there are some often undiscovered azalea flower shows to be found along Three-Mile Drive. The Bailey Shrub Walk has a large bed that

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DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Photo by Mary Meyer

SPRINGTIME IN MINNESOTA

Dear Friends,

Springtime in Minnesota! What could be better? We look forward to seeing you at the Arboretum where you can enjoy a beautiful display of spring flowers, including our extensive and fragrant lilac and crabapple collections.

Mary H. Meyer
Interim Director

Opening June 6 is our not-to-be-missed 2009 Summer Exhibition, *Waterosity: Go Green with a Splash!* This exhibit celebrates the fun, creative, and responsible use of water. The exhibit includes 10 artistic interpretations, including our own 'iris pond monster,' dancing fountains, and a 23-foot long 'Take-Back-the Tap' walk-through water bottle. We will also demonstrate timely educational information on harvesting rainwater on your property, gardening with drought tolerant plants, the latest U of M information on low maintenance lawns, and irrigation tips for your yard and garden.

Also this summer, we hope to see you

at two very special events. **Gala in the Gardens: Azalea Lights**, June 17, will be an elegant dinner party with a live auction, unique menu, and entertainment. One week later, June 24, **Toast & Taste in the Gardens** will feature fresh cuisine from Minnesota's best specialty restaurants, local breweries, and wineries. What could be better than an evening outside in the beautiful gardens?

Returning to the topic of water in the U.S., we have a very high standard for clean, inexpensive drinking water. Yet our use of bottled water represents a luxurious convenience that has long-term negative environmental consequences. At the Arboretum this summer, we will lead by example as we **discontinue sales of bottled water** in the restaurant. As an alternative, starting June 1, we will offer visitors the choice of purchasing an inexpensive, reusable USA-made plastic water bottle, or a free

cup that can be composted. Both can be filled with clean, filtered tap water. Since last July, Arboretum employees have been suggesting and implementing sustainability solutions for our buildings as well as outside in our gardens and natural areas. But sustainability is not an easy, quick fix. It requires long-term dedication and hard work. The Arboretum's goal is to be a responsible steward of all our natural resources, as well as an educational resource for gardeners and other botanical gardens. Sustainability requires a concerted, ongoing effort. We appreciate your help with this goal.

Thank you for your comments, suggestions, and faithful support of the Arboretum!

Mary H. Meyer
Interim Director and Professor

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NATURE

Photo by Julia Bohnen

SIGHTS AND SOUNDS HERALD NEW SEASON AT WOOD DUCK POND

As the last remnants of winter's powdery white disappear from the hillsides surrounding Wood Duck pond, the woods come alive with a patchwork of flowering Dutchman's breeches, bloodroots and violets. The sound of new birdlife echoes over the water.

**Matt
Schuth**
Wildlife
Manager

The Canada geese with their constant honking dominate the scene as they struggle for territorial rights. Belying the size of the small, stubby tailed bird, the haunting ten noted 'cuck cow' of the pied billed grebe resonates over the pond. A fish eater and diver, this bird is often seen floating with only its head above water. By expelling air from its body and feathers it can submerge as

deep as 20 feet. Grebes have a strange eating habit in that they consume their own feathers (up to 50 percent of their stomach contents). This ball of feathers protects the stomach walls from sharp fish bones and slows their passage, allowing them more time to dissolve.

The wood ducks have arrived. Watching a male wood duck in the sunlight with its sparkling greens and purples and brilliant reds and browns makes it seem as if one is viewing it through a kaleidoscope. Ornithologist James Granlund said the beauty of a male wood duck makes it appear "as if it was constructed in an artist's studio." Around the edge of the pond, females search for nesting boxes that will provide safe havens for their anticipated fluffy brood of ducklings. The ear-piercing 'hoo-eeek' call of the female lets us know that a new season has arrived.

A common summer resident is the yellow warbler. The male with its breast of red striped lightning bolts sings from the willow and dogwood thickets where the female securely tucks her nest of spider webs and cattail down. The parasitic cowbird is here looking for an unattended nest where she can deposit her egg in hopes that the offspring will be raised by unsuspecting foster parents.

Often, yellow warblers identify the alien egg and build a new nest on top of the old one. The record is a tenement of 10 nests constructed by a warbler attempting to thwart a parasitic cowbird.

These are just a few examples of the vivid sights and sounds of nature at Wood Duck pond. Let's protect this pristine gem for future generations to enjoy.

"Birds of Lake, Pond and Marsh" a book by John Eastman describes 41 common water and wetland birds from diving ducks to wood warblers – and the plants and animals associated with their native surroundings. The book is available in the Gift Store for \$18.95.

Resources for bird-watching at Andersen Horticultural Library, include field guides and wonderfully illustrated volumes on Minnesota birds, including Jim Gilbert's "Minnesota Nature notes : exploring the changes in our backyards, fields, lakes and woods--week by week, season by season." Also, available at the Gift Store.

ARBORETUM NEWS GETS NEW LOOK FOR SUMMER

Dear Member,

The Arboretum is pleased to partner with ECM Publishers, Inc. in bringing you the summer issues of the Arboretum News. The company is generously sponsoring the printing costs of the May/June and July/August Arboretum News.

Not only does the use of recycled newsprint support the Arboretum's sustainability and "green" commitment for the Waterosity summer exhibition, this sponsorship enables us to include more horticultural content, feature larger images and improve readability with larger type.

Sincerely,

Marta Carlisano
Editor

WHAT'S UP WITH THAT?!

Freckles, streaks, stipples, and stripes. What makes these rose petals so nice?

During petal development of some roses there comes a critical point in time where cells undergo a significant milestone. Some cells have genes turned on that result in anthocyanin (a group of pigments that generally appear red, pink, or purple) production, while other cells have this pathway blocked leading to no or limited anthocyanin production. As the cells present during this milestone event continue to multiply to form petal tissue, all the subsequent tissue derived from each cell should share that cell's ability to either produce or not produce anthocyanin pigment. If this milestone

occurs in a cultivar later in development (like in University of Minnesota breeding selection Rosa 120 and many of Dr. Griffith Buck's cultivars including 'Spanish Rhapsody', 'Freckles', and 'Dorcas') there will be many small regions of darker color typically called stipples. If the milestone occurs early in development, it results in larger regions of divergent color that are typically called stripes. Dark stripes or stipples



Photo by David Zlesak

particularly contrast well on petals having a white or yellow background.

SUMMER ANNUALS MAKING WAVES

The spring celebration of Sky Color Reflections on Water with shades, tints and tones of blue and violet and water movement hues of white and silver continues into summer. As part of

Duane Otto

Landscape
Gardener

Watersity: Go Green With a Splash, the Arboretum's summer exhibition, more than 25,000 annuals will be showcased in subtle wave patterns in gardens throughout the Arboretum.

Mary L. Griggs Annual Garden

The 99 different species and cultivars of annual flowers totaling 6,686 individual plants in nine beds of annuals will be laid out in different wave patterns with

one bed appearing as a small pond scene. Plants of interest include a dwarf white flowering seed-grown canna (*Canna* 'Tropical White'); a sky-blue bog sage (*Salvia uliginosa*); summer Snow-on-the-Mountain (*Euphorbia* 'Summer Icicle'), an upright-growing plant with small white flowers and pure white bracts with contrasting white-green foliage; a unique fruit from the Andes, *Solanum* 'Naranjilla', that has large attractive purple foliage; 4'-tall fountain grass with dark purple foliage (*Pennisetum* 'Picnic'); Abyssinian Gladiolus (*Acidanthera murielae*), a sweet-scented plant with star flowers and a mahogany center; and two variegated foliage ornamental peppers (*Capsicum* 'Calico' and *C.* 'Purple Flash').

Other Plantings

The Highway 5 entrance planting will contain a mixture of verbena (*Verbena rigida* 'Polaris'), petunias (*Petunia* 'Primetime Mid B' and *P.* 'Merlin Blue Morn'), flowering tobacco (*Nicotiana* 'Domino White') and dusty miller (*Senecio* 'Silver Dust').

The Gatehouse will have morning glory (*Ipomoea* 'Heavenly Blue') and hyacinth bean (*Dolichos* 'Moon Shadow') growing upon it.

Look for the special exhibit "Cutting Edge on Lawns" as part of the main Watersity exhibit in the island bed in front of the Oswald Visitor Center. It will have a gardener's Idea Shed filled with

continued on page 4

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR MEMBER BENEFITS

Will you be traveling this year?

Chances are you'll find yourself in a city with a beautiful botanic garden eager to open its gates to you – free of charge – when you present your current Minnesota Landscape Arboretum membership card.

As a participant in the American Horticultural Society's Reciprocal Gardens program, we're able to extend to our members free admission and other benefits at 200 other gardens, arboreta and conservatories in the U.S., Canada, the Cayman and Virgin Islands.

We urge you to take advantage of this valuable member benefit. Contact Member Services at 952-443-1440 for a printed brochure, or visit our website at <http://www.arboretum.umn.edu/benefitsmembership.aspx> for a link to AHS' current list of participating gardens.

Dive in to Watersity before everyone else!

Members are invited to attend a preview of this summer's exhibition, Watersity, before it opens to the public. It all happens – just for you – Friday evening, June 5. Drop by anytime between 5 and 8 p.m. to tour the entire exhibit and meet the artists who designed many of the installations.

Join!

Support the gardens,
education and research programs

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

- Free admission year round
- Bi-monthly newsletter
- Savings on classes, facility rental, brunches, travel tours
- Discounts in the Gift Store, Summerhouse & Applehouse
- Invitations to special 'members only' events, exhibition previews
- Coupons for free tram tours, guided walks, café beverages
- Free admission at 200 other gardens in U.S. and Canada

How to Join

On line: www.arboretum.umn.edu
On site: Bring completed form to Arboretum
By phone: 952-443-1440

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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Is this a Gift? Please provide the following information on the gift giver:

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BASIC CATEGORIES

- \$35 **Individual**
Admission/benefits for 1 adult *
- \$55 **Duo / Family**
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- \$75 **Family & Friends**
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interactive displays about wise watering practices, a demonstration plot of new, water-efficient grass varieties currently on the market as well as potential lawn grasses of the future from on-going University of Minnesota research.

Be sure to check out the colorful sidewalk bed, the flagpole bed, the front terrace and the Morgan Terrace, all surrounding the Snyder Building in Sky Color Reflection on Water hues. Many more water hue annuals are highlighted in the Flower and Vegetable Garden, the Annual Cutting Garden, the Patio Container Garden and other areas of the Home Demonstration Gardens.

The Oswald Visitor Center and Snyder Building Terraces and other formal areas will be highlighted with large containers and moss baskets overflowing with lush growing plants in water hues.

This year's display features about 350 annual varieties with a total of well over 25,000 plants expected to peak in late July and August.

Waterosity Summer Exhibition Opens June 6



What's bubbling up? Fresh thinking about people, plants and water.

Waterosity: Go Green with a Splash kicks off

summer at the Arboretum with thought-provoking, playful and practical how-to exhibits that celebrate this most precious resource – water.

Intriguing Art in the Gardens

Ten outdoor art installations, winners of a juried competition, offer viewpoints from micro to macro, including tiny

pond organisms sculpted in human scale, dancing frogs and a tracing of the water's flow across the land. Children can crawl through a jumbo water bottle to learn about the impact of disposable bottles, and search for the Iris Pond Monster.

Harvest Your Rain

Rethink how to handle rain water at your home. Check out the new green roof, rain gardens and rain barrels in the Margot picnic area.

Cutting Edge on Lawns

See examples of low-input varieties and lawn grasses of the future. Discover water-wise gardening ideas for your backyard or patio.

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Azalea Lights cont. from cover

includes both azaleas and evergreen rhododendrons. The "Pine All'ee," that runs between The Hedge Collection and the Ornamental Grass Collection contain a large number of azaleas used in current breeding activities. Look right instead of left when passing the hedges, and you can easily miss the show. Finally, some granddaddy azaleas still remain from the early years of the breeding program. You will spot them just past the Ornamental Grass Collection sign, at the bottom of the hill.

In 1957, the first azalea cross was made at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. Al Johnson crossed mollis azalea (*Rhododendron x kosterianum*) with roselshell azalea (*R. prinophyllum*). The cross resulted in the first named cultivar of the "Lights" azalea series, R. 'Northern Lights'. Since that time, thirteen additional 'Lights' azaleas have been released.

The initial objective of the azalea

breeding project was to develop cold hardy deciduous azaleas for USDA Zone 4. Before the mid 1980s, the exotic colors provided by the 'Lights' azaleas had not been available on woody plants in northern gardens. Over the years a collection of reliably cold hardy azaleas cultivars and germplasm has been assembled here to use in the breeding program. This allows the program to focus on new objectives which include increased disease resistance, more reliable flower fragrance, smaller size and most importantly, later season flowering types.

The most recent releases from the program include Tri-Lights, released in 2000. Tri-Lights produces large numbers of pink and white marbled flowers with a yellow/orange speckled blot on a 5' x 6.5' plant, typically in the first or second week of June. In 2001 the project released Candy Lights, a fragrant, pink-flowered cultivar that generally flowers in the last week of May

and grows to a narrower, vase form, 6' x 4.5'. Also in 2001 the project released Lilac Lights, a mounded 4' x 6' plant that is covered with lilac purple flowers in the third week of May.

For future introductions, the breeding project is also looking at some plants with bright tropical blend flowers. Watch for hardy double-flowered types as the quest continues to release a reliably cold hardy, true red-flowered cultivar.

Commemorating this signature bloom, the Lights Series Azaleas are the new namesake of the Arboretum's Gala in the Gardens: Azalea Lights fundraising event June 17. Visit arboretum.umn.edu/gala.aspx for information.

To learn more about azaleas, stop by the Gift Store and purchase "American Azaleas" by L. Clarence Towe, \$29.95.

INVESTING IN THE ARBORETUM'S MISSION

The Minnesota Landscape Arboretum strives to be a resource for horticultural and environmental information, a center for research and public education and a place to inspire and delight visitors with quality plants in well-designed and maintained displays, collections, model landscapes and conservation areas.

The Arboretum's mission defines our beliefs and contains several lofty goals. For over 50 years at the Arboretum and 100 years at the Horticultural Research Center, we have been driven to discover and dedicated to serving the community.

And we have achieved results. For example, there was a time when having fresh fruit grown in Minnesota seemed a laughable notion. In response, the University of Minnesota directed resources and funds to develop winter-hardy fruit varieties. As a result of that foresight, we can now enjoy over 20 delicious varieties of home-grown apples.

For more than a century, we have demonstrated that transforming a dream into a reality is possible. However, making it happen requires investment. As a member of the Arboretum, you are an investor and your membership matters. Contributions for memberships support the research, public education and outreach, and uniquely beautiful gardens and landscapes that make the Arboretum such a treasure in the community.

Making a charitable donation, large or small, is one of the most common ways to support the Arboretum, but there are many ways to deepen your relationship. When you take a class at

the Learning Center, you are supporting the Arboretum's mission, making it possible to continue providing engaging, innovative and critical educational opportunities. When your group chooses to rent a room and hold a meeting at "nature's meeting place," it is an investment that introduces new people to the Arboretum and supports the budget. Inviting friends to share a meal in the restaurant, participating in one of the Arboretum travel trips and encouraging people to consider having a wedding in the Rose Garden are other important ways for you to strengthen your support of the Arboretum.

At the Arboretum, we are grateful for and value your ongoing support. Together we can fulfill the Arboretum's mission to be the premier place in our community to connect plants and people through discovery, education, and inspiration.



Photo by Julia Bohnen

ROOF GROWS "GREEN"

One of the Margot picnic shelters will soon take on a green glow. Thanks to the Minnesota Green Roof Council, Roofers Local 96 union, Sheet Metal Workers Union, Carpenters Union and a grant funded by the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District.

The other picnic shelters will demonstrate best practices for rain barrels and rain gardens.

"The installation will be in two parts with waterproofing and drainage finished by Mother's Day," says Chris Wegscheid, Cermak Rhoades Architects, and Green Roof Council board member, who serves as general project manager. "Phase 2 will begin in June and involves installing the growing medium, soil irrigation and planting."

Wegscheid notes that the sloped roof of the shelter will give visitors excellent visibility of its progress. He estimates it will take two years for the mix of drought-hardy plants.

Paper or Paperless?

Do you prefer to read Arboretum News online as a way to be good stewards of our natural resources? To subscribe to Arboretum News electronically, email Membership at coone006@umn.edu or call 952-442-1440.

SUMMER PROGRAMS & EVENTS

ARBORETUM
PRESENTS
WATEROSITY SUMMER
EXHIBITION

The Minnesota Landscape Arboretum is proud to announce its 2009 summer exhibition, Waterosity: Go Green with a Splash, opening June 6 and continuing through Oct. 4.

What's bubbling up? Fresh thinking about people, plants and water. Bringing together the voices of artists, scientists and horticulturalists, Waterosity will celebrate this most precious resource through thought-provoking and playful installations and exhibits. Here's a look at what's on tap:

Harvest Your Rain

Rethink how handle rain water at your home by checking out the Arboretum's new green roof.

The Cutting Edge on Lawns

See lawn grasses of the future and take home information on water-wise living and landscaping.

Intriguing Art in the Garden

Ten winning artworks will be erected outdoors in Arboretum gardens and natural areas, including human-size frog puppets, dancing water fountains, a jumbo disposable water bottle

The Long Zoom**Watercolors by Jeanne Long and Sandra Muzzy**

*Through June 28 (extended)
Reedy Gallery, Oswald Visitor Center
Two friends of the Arboretum take opposite, but complementary, approaches as they explore the Arboretum through the seasons. Jeanne Long takes the long view, capturing the Arboretum's beauty in award-winning landscapes – some you'll surely recognize.*

Sandra Muzzy zooms in close to examine the small details of the life that's hidden within those scenes: feathers, nests, stones, flowers, tiny critters – the artist admiring the "artistry" of Mother Nature.

Please note that this exhibit has been extended through June 28.

Seeing Our Nature: Photographs of Earth, Water, and Flotsam By Peter L. Johnson

*July 1-September 27 (new dates)
In the Reedy Gallery*

For Members Only**Meet-the-Artists Reception and Presentation**

*Sunday, July 12, 2-4 p.m., MacMillan Auditorium (new date)
Bring a guest and join Peter L. Johnson as he describes his quest for truth, beauty, and a deeper connection with Nature. His presentation will include tales from the search for, and creation of, the images; the progression of the vision of the Soul of Our Nature series; Q & A; and a photographic tip or two. Free to members and their guests. Reservations required. Please call 952-443-1422 by Wednesday, July 8 to leave your name, member ID, and number in your party.*

Friday, May 1**Arboretum Highlights Walking Tour**

*Tues.-Fri., 10:30 a.m., Sat.-Sun., 1 p.m.,
May 1-Oct. 18, free, meet in the Great Hall,
Oswald Visitor Center*

Join an Arboretum guide for a lively, free guided tour of seasonal bloom highlights in the Walking Area Gardens that also conveys the essence of the Arboretum's mission and work.

Saturday, May 2**The Romance of Roses: Low Maintenance Rose Growing Workshop**

8:45 a.m.-3 p.m., Arboretum Learning Center, Tree Room, \$45 members, \$55 non-members, Gourmet box lunch & take home roses included

Whether you want to add a few roses here and there in your home landscape, or are ready to take the plunge and add an entire rose garden, you will leave this workshop ready for action. This workshop is about winter hardy roses that are easy to grow, and require less chemicals and winter protection than the harder to grow hybrid tea or floribunda roses you see in flower shops. Instructors include two rose hybridizers and a plant pathologist, who will share their knowledge in both lecture and hands-on sessions that will prepare you for success. Bring your morning coffee; a gourmet box lunch is included. Get started with two small take-home rose plants.

Container Gardening (Gardening School)

10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., MacMillan Auditorium, Room B/D, \$30 member/\$40 non-member

Create colorful designs by breaking from convention and make unexpected combinations of color, texture, height, form, seasonal interest, and color progression for your containers. Class is lecture and demonstrations. Duane Otto is a Landscape Gardener at the Arboretum and has been designing the Arboretum's annual gardens and planters since 1989. Shirley Mah Kooyman is a botanist and the Arboretum Plant Specialist.

Mother's Day Treats

9-11 a.m., Marion Andrus Learning Center, Harvest Kitchen, \$30 member/\$40 non-member

Celebrate Mother's Day with some delicious home baked treats. Join Kris James, baker extraordinaire, and create several varieties of both savory and sweet scones and mini quick breads. Participants will also prepare flavored butters to accompany the goodies.

Saturday May 2 & Sunday, May 3

Bare roots sale, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Every Saturday & Sunday, May 2-31**Weekend Family Fun: Blooming Baskets**

Noon-4 p.m., May 2-31, free, Marion Andrus Learning Center

Delight in the ever changing array of colorful spring flowers at the Arboretum and the arrival of migrant birds. Take a bee's eye view inside blossoms and reveal flower secrets with our scope-on-a-rope. Weave your own May basket and plant a miniature spring garden.

Sunday, May 3**12th Annual Bud Break 5K Run**

Check in and race-day registration at 8 a.m. Bud Break race, 9 a.m. Bud Break walk, 9:05 a.m.

Daffodil Dash Run/Walk, 10 a.m.

To register and pay race entry fee, call 952-443-1423.

Bud Break is sponsored by Ridgeview Medical Center and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota.

**To register for classes:
Call 952-443-1422 or visit
www.arboretum.umn.edu/learn.aspx**

May 7, 14

Frogging Rendezvous

Thurs., 7:30-9 p.m., \$5, Spring Peeper Meadow parking lot
Meet the frogs at Spring Peeper Meadow in a raucous celebration of spring. Find out what type of frogs call this wetland home and listen to their distinctive calls in the chorus. Practice your own frog calls and spot frogs from the boardwalk. Walks will be led by Arboretum staff. Bring a strong

flashlight.

Saturday, May 9

IPM: Controlling Plant Pests Safely (Gardening School)

10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Snyder Classroom 2, \$30 member/\$40 non-member

Learn the principles of IPM (Integrated Pest Management) by understanding pesticide use, biological and non chemical use, chemical approaches, insect identification, and preventive measures that every gardener can and should do. Dan Miller, Integrated Pest Management Specialist and Shirley Mah Kooyman, botanist and the Arboretum's Plant Specialist.

Welcome Spring! Wildflower Walk

10:30-11:30 a.m., Ordway parking lot
These one-hour leisurely rambles focus on what's in bloom in the woods and the stories behind the plants. Experience the ephemeral beauty of hepatica, rue-anemone, and Dutchman's breeches. Enjoy the unique opportunity to meet the staff who tend our natural areas. This is your chance to talk plants with people who are passionate about them.

Sunday, May 10

Annual Mother's Day Brunch

Three seatings, 10 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., Sun., May 10, reservations required
Adults and children 8 and older: \$18.95 members/\$21.95 non-members; children ages 4 to 7, \$8.95; children three and under are free. To make reservations call 612-624-7173.

Menu will feature: Silver dollar buns, mini muffins, Danish pastry, wild cherry chicken pasta salad, fresh fruit, potatoes au gratin, herbed chicken breast with roasted red pepper cream sauce, scrambled eggs, dijon rosemary crusted pork loin, assorted desserts.

Tues. & Thurs., May 12-Oct. 1

Wow! Spot

Tues. & Thurs., May 12-Oct. 1, 1-2:30 p.m., free, check with front desk for garden location

Visit a garden at peak beauty. The location changes through the season as new gardens burst into bloom. Gardens featured include the lady's slipper orchids, peonies and perennials, rose, fruit and vegetable garden, Japanese garden and fall color.

Wednesday, May 13

Auxiliary Quarterly Meeting

10 a.m., Snyder Auditorium & Tea Room, \$12

Business meeting from 10-11:30 a.m. in Snyder Auditorium
Lunch and guest speaker in the Snyder Tea Room and Lobby

Warbler Watch Birding Walk

8:30-10:30 a.m., \$5, Ordway parking lot
If you are already longing for summer, wander the Arboretum with a staff naturalist who has been a birder for decades and knows all the best out-of-the way trails and hidden corners for birdwatching. Learn more about our Minnesota neighbors (and passers through), and deepen your appreciation of the beauty and song they bring to us.

Moss Hanging Basket Workshop

9:30 a.m. - noon, \$40 member /\$50 non-member, includes materials. Dress for planting. Bring a box to take your hanging basket home. Meet in the Headhouse located in the Maintenance Area near the Pine Collection along the 3-Mile Drive.

Design and take home your own moss-lined basket. Workshop covers specialty plants, soils, fertilizing, and watering techniques. Duane Otto designs and maintains the hanging baskets seen throughout the Arboretum's gardens.



Friday, May 15

Eat Yourself Healthy Dinner/ Demonstration Option

6:30- 9 p.m., Arboretum Learning Center, Harvest Kitchen

\$50 members/ \$60 non-members, must be over 21 years of age

Join us the evening prior to the Eat Yourself Healthy Retreat and celebrate the first local foods of the season, with delicious spring dishes prepared by Jenny Breen, Arboretum resident chef and instructor. Jenny will prepare an evening meal demonstration style, you will eat your way through three courses of her original recipes, each paired with a wine tasting. Jenny is known for her ability to creatively use in-season local ingredients, so the menu will be dictated by availability, and that will depend on when spring finally arrives here in Minnesota!

Saturday, May 16

Warbler Watch Birding Walk

8:30-10:30 a.m., meet in Ordway parking lot, see May 13 for details.

To register for classes:
Call 952-443-1422 or visit
www.arboretum.umn.edu/learn.aspx

Auxiliary Spring Plant Sale

Sat., May 9, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Sun., May 10, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Arboretum Picnic Shelters A, B, C

Don't miss one of Minnesota's largest specialty plant sales. Choose perennials for sun or shade, shrubs, trees, grasses, roses, vegetables, hard-to-find varieties, University of Minnesota plant introductions, and much more. Find the complete listing of plants for sale at arboretum.umn.edu/auxiliary.aspx. The list will also be available for \$1 at the Gatehouse and Reception Desk at the Oswald Visitor Center. If you prefer to have the list mailed to you, send \$2 to: Plant List, 1605 Fairway Lane, Minneapolis, MN 55426. Sale proceeds benefit the Arboretum.

Eat Yourself Healthy: A Spring Retreat at the Arboretum

Deliciously Changing Your World One Meal at a Time

9a.m. - 1p.m., \$40 members/\$50 non-members

Delve into the colors and scents of spring blossoms the moment you enter Arboretum Drive, then join us in the MacMillan Auditorium to learn ways you can contribute to a better world – one meal at a time. At this morning retreat, you will hear from local experts why the everyday act of eating well is not only easy and delicious, but also the best approach for you and your family, Minnesota's economy, and the planet we share. You will cap off the morning with a fresh spring luncheon designed by Lucia Watson and prepared under the direction of her staff.

Scheduled to coincide with the arrival of the first local produce, the retreat will feature:

Chef Lucia Watson, renowned chef and founder of Lucia's Restaurant in Minneapolis, will share tips on how to get started (or expand your effort) shopping for locally produced foods and recommend a variety of local growers, producers, and places to shop.

Carolyn Denton, licensed nutritionist, will present research on how food choices can help keep you healthy, prevent disease, and help manage chronic illness.

JoAnne Berkenkamp, program director for Local Foods at the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy, will explain why purchasing locally produced food helps improve Minnesota's economy and helps repair damage to the earth.

Cap off the morning with a delicious meal that showcases the benefits of eating healthy, locally grown food.

Irises: Rainbow Colors for the Garden (Gardening School)

10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Snyder Classroom 2, \$30 member/\$40 non-member

The wide selection of colors makes the iris a versatile perennial for the garden. Learn how to use them in your garden by understanding plant care, plant division, disease and pest problems and how to incorporate them with other perennials. Bill Dougherty and Barbara Sautner are both former presidents of the Iris Society of Minnesota. Bill is an American Iris Society garden judge. Together Bill and Barbara are owners of Summer Chase Gardens in the Twin Cities.

Thursday, May 21

Plein Air Painting with Oil Pastels

Thursday, May 21, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m., \$60 member/\$70 non-member, all levels, limited to 15 participants

Gain painting skills for painting outdoors with an easy medium. For a list of supplies, call the instructor at 952-934-2263. Lunch on your own. Andrea Altman, an award-winning artist, has exhibited at local and national galleries and juried art shows. Participation in a fine art workshop includes an invitation to participate in the December student exhibit/sale.

Saturday, May 23

Saturdays in Bloom

9-11 a.m., May 23, July 18, Aug 15, Sept 19, Marion Andrus Learning Center \$25 member/\$35 non-member

Bring the Arboretum home, literally and beautifully! Using exclusive Arboretum spring flowers and foliage, you'll create a stylized arrangement in a low container or a nature-inspired vase. A professional floral designer will demonstrate design principles for both. Check our website for July 18, Aug 15 and Sept 19 themes.

Saturday, May 30

Lady's Slipper & More Wildflower Walk

10:30-11:30 a.m., \$5, Ordway parking lot
These one-hour leisurely rambles focus on what's in bloom in the woods and the stories behind the plants. Experience the ephemeral beauty of hepatica, rue-anemone, and Dutchman's breeches. Enjoy the unique opportunity to meet the staff who tend our natural areas. This is your chance to talk plants with people who are passionate about them.



JUNE EVENTS & EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Thursday, June 4

Full Moon in June – Painting by Moonlight in Oils

5:45-10 p.m., \$70 member/\$85-non-member, includes light supper
For all skill levels, especially beginners, limited to 12 participants, meet on front terrace of Snyder Building

Join us within the outdoor corridors of the Lilac Collection, bathed in silver light, and try your hand at painting the romance of a spring night. Rick Kochenash is a well-known painter and art teacher, who has exhibited and taught at the Arboretum. Participation includes an invitation to participate in the December student exhibit/sale.

Friday, June 5

Waterosity Preview

Arboretum members are invited to preview the summer exhibition, Waterosity, Friday evening from 5-8 p.m. Drop by and tour the entire exhibit and meet the artists who designed many of the installations.

Saturday, June 6

Gardening with Herbs (Gardening School)

10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Snyder Classroom 2, \$30 member/\$40 non-member
Herbs have been used for centuries in many cultures for fragrance, medicine, flavoring food, and garden designs. Learn which annual and perennial herbs are suitable for Minnesota, how to grow them in your garden, sources for purchase, and more. Shirley Mah Kooyman is a botanist, teacher, and the Arboretum plant specialist.

Pruning Evergreens Workshop

1:30 - 3:30 p.m., Snyder Classroom 1, \$35 member/\$45 non-member
Spring is one of the best seasons to prune your evergreens. Learn proper techniques for trimming your evergreens and the correct tools to use. Bring pruning shears to class. Jeffrey Johnson is a horticulturist in charge of maintaining the woody tree and shrub collections at the Arboretum.

To register for classes:
Call 952-443-1422 or visit
www.arboretum.umn.edu/learn.aspx

Saturdays, June 6 – Oct. 3**Go Green With a Splash Walk**

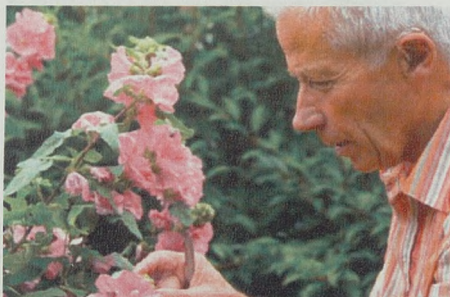
10:30-11:30 a.m., free, Great Hall, Oswald Visitor Center
Learn how to Go Green With a Splash in this free one-hour walking tour of Waterosity that features a Harvest Your Rain Demonstration, the Cutting Edge on Lawn and selected art designs. See the latest thinking on green roofs, rain gardens and barrels, porous paving, water-lean lawns and more.

Every Saturday & Sunday, June 6-28**Weekend Family Fun: Boggy Beauty**

Noon-4 p.m., free, Marion Andrus Learning Center
Discover the places to spot Minnesota's state flower, the pink and white lady's slipper, in bloom. Experiment in the Water Works Plant Lab and discover how these and other amazing plants survive in soggy, boggy soils. Cook up dirt dessert, fly trap soup, and mud pies in the Dirt Diner and create a piece of original orchid art to take home.

Tuesdays, June 9 – August 11 & Wednesdays, June 10 – August 12**Pea Pods for Preschoolers - Summer, 2009 Series**

Choose from Tues., 9:30 - 11 a.m. (section 1) or noon -1:30 p.m. (section 2) or Wed., 9:30-11 a.m., (section 3), 3-5 years old, \$90 child of member/\$108 child of non-member. Price includes admission for one adult partner. Choose the 9 sessions most convenient for you. Together, you and your preschooler can discover the enchantment of the garden and our connections to the plant world. Weekly themes are designed to delight the early learner through planting, art, sensory and discovery zones, snack, action and music, story time and adventures in the garden- all at your own pace.



June 9, 10
June 16, 17
June 23, 24

June 30, July 1
July 7, 8

July 14, 15
July 21, 22

July 28, 29
August 4, 5

August 11, 12

Wednesday, June 10**Nesting Time Birding Walk**

8:30-10:30 a.m., \$5, Ordway parking lot
Wander the Arboretum with a staff naturalist who has been a birder for decades and knows all the best out-of-the-way trails and hidden corners for bird watching. Learn more about our winged Minnesota neighbors and deepen your appreciation for their beauty and song.

June 11-Aug. 27, Thursday evenings

The Green and Blue Express will provide family friendly tram tours. Tickets are \$2.50 per person and tram tours leave at 5:30 and 6:45 p.m.

Saturday, June 13**Caring for Roses: Mulching**

8 a.m.-noon, Wilson Rose Garden, Free
Members of the Minnesota Rose Society and Arboretum gardeners will demonstrate various horticultural techniques involved in caring for roses on select Saturdays throughout the year. This demo focuses on how to mulch roses.

Botanist Talk & Book Signing

June 18, 6-9 p.m.

The public is invited to a program and book signing featuring Welby Smith, botanist at the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and author of the newly-released *Trees and Shrubs of Minnesota*, sponsored by Friends of Andersen

Inch by Inch
Teeny Tiny World
Soggy, Boggy, Froggy
Pea Pod Babies
Cattails and Dragonflies
Puddlicious
Dance Like Plants
Berries for Birds
Herbal Nose
Poppers
Friends in the Garden Party

Herb Symposium

9 a.m.-3 p.m., Snyder Auditorium, \$55 member /\$65 non-member, includes lunch and handouts
Join the Minnesota Herb Society and the Arboretum for a day of herbal learning from using herbs for cooking, crafts, healing, and more. The symposium is designed for herb enthusiasts of every level. To receive a brochure, call 952-443-1422.

Photography Symposium

9 a.m.-2 p.m., \$30 member/\$40 non-member, includes gourmet box lunch, MacMillan Auditorium
Spend the day with fellow hobbyists and professional photographers, who will share their tips and techniques for improving your photographic skills. Presenters include John Pennoyer, whose expertise is photographing animals in a natural setting; Dan Marshall, people in gardens and natural areas; and John Gregor, nature, gardens, travel and architecture. Be sure to bring your camera and come early and/or stay late to practice your techniques in the Arboretum's inspiring 1000-acre setting. Participation in a photography workshop includes an invitation to participate in the December student exhibit/sale.

Daylilies: The Genus Hemerocallis (Gardening School)

10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Snyder Classroom 2, \$30 member/\$40 non-member
Daylilies are among the most reliable perennials in the garden. Learn about culture, care, new and old cultivars, colors, varying sizes, Minnesota hardy ones, and sources for purchase. Steve Horan is on the Board of the Hemerocallis Society of Minnesota.

He grows 700 daylilies in his garden in Woodbury.

Horticultural Library (FAHL) and the U of M Press. Wine reception at 6 p.m., followed by dinner at 7 p.m., and Welby Smith's presentation and book signing at 8 p.m. \$20 for FAHL, \$28 non-members. Become a Friends member: visit www.arboreum.umn.edu/friendsofthelibrary.aspx or call 952-443-1405.

Ladyslippers & More Wildflower Walk
10:30-11:30 a.m., \$5, Ordway parking lot,
see May 30 for details

Are You Thirsty?

12:30-1:15 p.m., free, *In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre, Trex Deck/ Sensory Garden*
Learn how much water there is in the world to drink, where it comes from and where it goes. Explore a myriad of questions contained in a cup of water – one of the planet's most precious and necessary shared resources.

Wednesday, June 17

Gala in the Gardens: Azalea Lights

6-9 p.m., Arboretum gardens
Join the Arboretum in this elegant summer tradition that starts with a reception in the gardens, then dining al fresco with signature drink and wine pairings, music, live auction and more. Reservations are required. \$175 per person, with special sponsor and patron pricing available. Proceeds benefit the Arboretum. See page 11 for more details.

Elmer L. Andersen 100th Birthday Celebration

Visit Andersen Horticultural Library to celebrate the 100th birthday of namesake and benefactor, the late Governor Elmer L. Andersen. Stop by the library for treats, give-aways and to learn more about Gov. Andersen.

Thursday, June 18

Summer Foods for the Solstice

6:30-9 p.m., Marion Andrus Learning Center, \$45 member/\$55 non-member
Dine on delightful summer dishes made with the first foods of summer and learn about some of the rituals and traditions associated with the solstice. Arboretum chef instructor Beth Dooley will be your host. Menu will include: vegetable skewers on the grill; strawberry and hazelnut salad with local rhubarb vinaigrette; seared tenderloin with cilantro and mint and blueberry lemon cobbler. Demo class with dinner and wine tastings served.

To register for classes:
Call 952-443-1422 or visit
www.arboretum.umn.edu/learn.aspx

Friday, June 19

Arboretum Shoot-Out

Friday-Sunday, June 19-June 21, \$10 member/\$20 non-member, includes contest entry fee, all levels, hands-on
Join amateur and professional photographers and take all the time you want photographing the Arboretum during this three-day shoot-out. When you've finished shooting, select one favorite image from your efforts, and upload it to the Arboretum's website by 8 p.m., Sun., June 21, to enter the people's choice contest. The top three images in the following categories will prevail as the Shoot-Out Best:

Images captured using a point and shoot digital camera

- Adult
- Youth (age 12-18)
- Child (under 12)

Images captured using a single reflex digital camera

- Adult
- Youth
- Child

An entry packet with rules and guidelines will be mailed to participants prior to the event.

Saturday, June 20

Nesting Time Birding Walk

8:30-10:30 a.m., Wed., \$5, Ordway parking lot, see June 10 for details

The Moonlight Garden: Creating a Luminous Landscape (Gardening School)

10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Snyder Classroom 2, \$30 member/\$40 non-member
Gain additional appreciation and enjoyment from your garden long after the sun has set. An evening moonlight garden is more than white flowers. Learn how texture, form, color, and variegation of leaves can add a special shimmer to the evening garden and help brighten a dark corner of the garden. Shirley Mah Kooyman is a botanist and the Arboretum plant specialist.

Saturday & Sunday, June 20 & 21

Summer Solstice Paint-Out

10 a.m.-4 p.m., both days, juried exhibit: 6-8 p.m. Sunday
\$10 member/\$20 non-member, includes juried exhibit entry fee, all skill levels

Bring a friend and your plein-air painting gear and head out to the gardens and grounds to draw, sketch and paint. At the end of the day Sunday, select one painting or drawing and enter it in a juried exhibit. Winners will be announced Sunday at the Arboretum, then posted later on the Arboretum website. Pre-registration required. An entry packet with rules and guidelines will be mailed to participants prior to the event. Participation in this event includes an invitation to participate in the December student exhibit sale.

Nesting Time Birding Walk

8:30-10:30 a.m., \$5, Ordway parking lot, see June 10 for details

Hoigaard's

Sunday, June 21

Take a Hike or Bike with Dad!

Hoigaard's will be at the Arboretum Father's Day, Sun., June 21, to demonstrate the use of Nordic walking poles at 1 and 3 p.m. They'll bring 30 pairs of poles to use, free of charge. Check in at the Information Desk in the Oswald Visitor Center to find out where the demonstrations are located. First come, first served. Does Dad prefer wheels? Bring the bikes and get a free check-up here at Hoigaard's bike maintenance clinic. Bicycle experts will offer tips for safe riding and keeping your bike in tune.

This is another in a series of Arboretum Outdoors! with Hoigaard's.

Wednesday, June 24

Toast & Taste in the Garden

7-9 p.m., Arboretum gardens
A reprise of last year's "green" after-hours evening in the garden. Taste in-season, fresh local cuisine from 18 of the best specialty restaurants in town. Toast to Minnesota wines and local brews, all in the unparalleled gardens of the Arboretum. New this year will be a beer garden and wine bar. There will be

GREEN ADVENTURES AWAIT — REGISTER NOW FOR SUMMER 2009 DAY CAMPS!

New this year—register on-line!
Check out www.arboretum.umn.edu/camps.aspx for more info.

live music, cooking demos and much more.

Reservations are required. \$60 member/\$80 non-member (exclusive pre-party reception pricing is \$100 to \$135). Proceeds benefit the Arboretum. For ticket information call 952-443-1400, extension 7046, or check the website at www.arboretum.umn.edu.

Saturday, June 27

Lilies: The Genus Lilium (Gardening School)

10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Snyder Classroom 2, \$30 member/\$40 non-member
Learn about lily history, culture, care, propagation techniques, sources, and which lilies do well in Minnesota. Dennis Drews is owner of Oak Valley Farms in Elk River. He has been involved with lilies for over a decade and was former bulb chairman for the North Star Lily Society.

Summer Meadows Wildflower Walk

10:30-11:30 a.m., \$5, Ordway parking lot, see May 30 for details

Sunday, June 28

Stonescaping: The Building Blocks of Your Landscape

1-3:30 p.m., Azalea Classroom, \$20 member/\$30 non-member
Stone is often overused, ill placed, or improperly selected for a particular setting in the home landscape. Learn how to build the 'skeleton' of your garden in its many forms, including stone walls and fences to complement the home and garden. Daniel Dix is owner of WoodSpirit Gardens located in Backus..

EDUCATION AT THE ARBORETUM

See calendar dates for details

June 9 – Aug. 11

Pea Pods for Preschoolers

9:30-11 a.m. or noon-1:30 p.m., Tuesdays
Age: 3 – 5 years
\$90 child of member/\$108 child of non-member

FOR THE LOVE OF FOOD

Cooking classes sponsored by:



Friday, May 15

Eat Yourself Healthy Dinner/Demo

6:30-9 p.m., Arboretum Learning Center, Harvest Kitchen
\$50 member/\$60 non-member

CONFERENCE

Saturday, May 16

Eat Yourself Healthy: A Spring Retreat at the Arboretum

9 a.m. – 1 p.m., MacMillan Auditorium
\$40 member/\$50 non-member

SATURDAYS IN THE KITCHEN

Saturday, May 9

Mother's Day Treats

9-11 a.m., Marion Andrus Learning Center, Harvest Kitchen, \$30 member/\$40 non-member

SATURDAYS IN BLOOM

Saturday, May 23

Saturdays in Bloom

9 a.m.-11 a.m., Marion Andrus Learning Center
\$25 member/\$35 non-member

MAY/JUNE GARDENING SCHOOL

Saturday, May 2

Container Gardening

10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., MacMillan Auditorium,
\$30 member/\$40 non-member

Saturday, May 9

IPM: Controlling Plant Pests Safely

10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Snyder Classroom 2
\$30 member/\$40 non-member

Saturday, May 16

Irises: Rainbow Colors for the Garden

10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Snyder Classroom 2
\$30 member/\$40 non-member

Saturday, June 6

Gardening with Herbs

10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Snyder Classroom 2
\$30 member/\$40 non-member

Saturday, June 13

Daylilies: The Genus Hemerocallis

10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Snyder Classroom 2
\$30 member/\$40 non-member

Saturday, June 20

The Moonlight Garden: Creating a Luminous Landscape

10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Snyder Classroom 2,
\$30 member/\$40 non-member

Saturday, June 27

Lilies: The Genus Lilium

10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Snyder Classroom 2
\$30 member/\$40 non-member

HORTICULTURE

Wednesday, May 13

Moss Hanging Basket Workshop

9:30 a.m. – noon, \$40 member/ \$50 non-member. Fee includes all materials. Dress for planting. Bring a box to take your hanging basket home. Meet at Head house on 3-Mile Drive.

Saturday, June 6

Pruning Evergreens Workshop

1:30-3:30 p.m., \$35 member/\$45 non-member. Snyder Classroom 1

Saturday, June 13

Herb Symposium

9 a.m.-3 p.m., \$55 member /\$65 non-member. Snyder Auditorium

Sunday, June 28

Stonescaping: The Building Blocks of Your Landscape

1-3:30 p.m., \$20 member/\$30 non-member. Azalea Classroom

FINE ARTS & PHOTOGRAPHY

Thursday, May 21

Plein Air Painting with Oil Pastels

10 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
\$60 member/\$70 non-member. Teaching Classroom. All levels. Hands-on. Limit: 15

Thursday, June 4

Full Moon in June – Painting by Moonlight in Oils

5:45-10 p.m., \$70 /\$85, includes light supper. For all levels, especially beginning. Hands-on. Limit:12. Meet at the front terrace of the Snyder Building

Saturday, June 13

Photography Symposium

9 a.m.-2 p.m., \$30 members/\$40 non-members, includes gourmet box lunch. All experience levels, MacMillan Auditorium

Friday – Sunday, June 19-21

Arboretum Shoot-Out!

\$10 member/\$20 non-member, includes contest entry fee
All levels. Hands-on

To register for classes:

Call 952-443-1422 or visit

www.arboretum.umn.edu/learn.aspx

Saturday and Sunday, June 20 and 21
Summer Solstice Paint-Out
Paint-out: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. both days
Juried exhibit: 6-8 p.m. on Sunday
\$10 member/\$20 non-member, includes
juried exhibit entry fee. All levels. Hands-on

DROP IN & EXPLORE

May 2-31
Blooming Baskets
Noon-4 p.m., Marion Andrus Learning
Center

Saturday, May 16
Warbler Watch Birding Walk
8:30-10:30 a.m., \$5, Ordway parking lot

Wednesday, May 27
Warbler Watch Birding Walk
8:30-10:30 a.m., \$5, Ordway parking lot

Late Spring Migrants' Birding Walk
8:30-10:30 a.m., \$5, Ordway parking lot

Saturday, May 30
Lady's Slipper & More Wildflower Walk
10:30-11:30 a.m., \$5, Ordway parking lot

Saturdays & Sundays, June 6-28
Boggy Beauty
Noon-4 p.m., free, Marion Andrus Learning
Center

Saturdays, June 6-28
Go Green With a Splash Walk
10:30-11:30 a.m., free, Great Hall, Oswald
Visitor Center

DRIVE GREEN! CAR RAFFLE

Win a Ford Fusion
 Support the Arboretum when you buy a raffle ticket for \$100 and you could drive away in a new Ford Fusion. Performance, reliability, satisfaction and sleek design rated the Ford Fusion as one of the best cars in 2009 by Consumer Reports.

Raffle ticket sales will kick off later this month in the Great Hall through July 12, with the drawing at the Arboretum on Sunday, July 12, during the Waterosity: Go Green with a Splash Party weekend. Stop at the Information Desk or visit arboretum.umn.edu for details.

Wednesday, June 10
Nesting Time Birding Walk
8:30-10:30 a.m., \$5, Ordway parking lot

Saturday, June 13
Lady's Slipper & More Wildflower Walk
10:30-11:30 a.m., \$5, Ordway parking lot

Saturday, June 21
Nesting Time Birding Walk
8:30-10:30 a.m., \$5, Ordway parking lot

Wednesday, June 24
Nesting Time Birding Walk
8:30-10:30 a.m., \$5, Ordway parking lot

Thursdays, June 11-Aug. 27
The Green and Blue Express will provide
family friendly tram tours. \$2.50 per person.
Tours depart at 5:30 and 6:45 p.m.

Lady's Slipper & More Wildflower Walk
10:30-11:30 a.m., \$5, Ordway parking lot

2009 HERB OF THE YEAR

Laurus nobilis (sweet bay or bay laurel)

Beginning in 1995
 with fennel as the first Herb of the Year, the IHA (International Herb Association) has selected an herb each year to promote and to educate the public about herbs. *Laurus nobilis*, sweet bay or bay laurel, has been designated as the 2009 Herb of the Year.

The leaves are used in cooking because they emit a pungent, aromatic fragrance when broken. They impart a nice flavor and are used in soups, stews, pickling mixes, marinades and casseroles. The leaves don't soften no matter how long they are cooked so be sure to remove the pieces before serving or choking can occur if a piece should lodge in the throat.

**Shirley Mah
 Kooyman**

Plant Specialist

To learn more about herbs, join the Arboretum plant specialist Sat., June 6, for "Gardening with Herbs" and Sat., June 13, for the Herb Symposium. Contact 952-443-1422 for more information.



Photo by William Ciesla, Forest Health Management International, Bugwood.org

INVASIVE PLANT ALERT

(*Euphorbia esula*)

Leafy spurge is a long-lived, deep-rooted perennial weed that normally grows 2 to 3 feet tall and can easily be identified in June when it produces showy light-green or yellowish flower bracts. All parts of the plant contain a milky juice called latex.

Leafy spurge is a serious rangeland pest in the northern Great Plains. In Minnesota, besides being a problem in agricultural areas, it can also displace native vegetation in natural areas and can rapidly invade disturbed environments such as roadsides.

On the Arboretum grounds we have several patches of leafy spurge we are controlling. The largest patch of about 2 acres is near Highway 5 on the North Star Trail. We released biological control insects (*Aphthona* sp. flea beetles) that feed on the roots, but we are also burning this area in the spring and applying herbicides in the fall. For homeowners with small patches of leafy spurge, cutting or mowing and digging out the roots will help control it. For more management information, contact your local extension office or the Minnesota Department of Agriculture.

Dan Miller
Plant Health
Specialist



Photo by John Gregor

Summer Gardening Tips

As you prepare your summer gardens, here are a few important tips to remember.

Pruning

Renewal prune spring flowering shrubs (old wood bloomers) after bloom to maximize flowering this year and next year. Removal of up to 1/3 of the oldest stems will be the most beneficial to rejuvenate the old wood blooming shrubs.

Jeffrey Johnson

Landscape Gardener

Remember the old saying "Do not prune - April, May and June." Do not prune Oak Wilt and Fire Blight susceptible trees: Oak Wilt can infect from early April through mid June.

Fire Blight is a bacterial disease that can spread on pruners and through rain droplets. Wait until warmer, drier weather to prune susceptible plants.

Clean and sterilize pruners frequently. Use rubbing alcohol followed with a light oil.

Planting

Plant trees and shrubs at the correct depth. The first primary (non-adventitious) roots on trees and shrubs should be very close to the surface when done. It is ok to remove some soil over these roots and prune adventitious roots from the stem.

Wait until the threat of frost has past (averages around May 10) before planting your tender annuals.

Apply Pre-emergent's and incorporate

Crabgrass is an unsightly annual. Control crabgrass in turf with a pre-emergent herbicide in late spring. Apply a pre-emergent herbicide after annuals are planted and watered.

Read and follow the instructions on the package carefully. It is the law.

You can learn a lot more about gardening, plants and other horticulture topics by visiting the University of Minnesota's Extension Service Website: <http://www.extension.umn.edu>.

RESOURCES FOR VEGETABLE GARDENERS

If you're looking for ways to save money in this tough economy, search no farther than the backyard! From the White House to the corner bungalow, everyone is grabbing a hoe and planting a home vegetable garden to help stretch family food dollars.

Barb DeGroot
Public Relations

If you lack a "green thumb," the Arboretum can be a great resource for gardening ideas and assistance.

Our Home-Demonstration Model Gardens are teeming with ideas you can replicate on your own, and our horticulture classes help gardeners of all skill levels (see calendar for details). Another resource is the Yard & Garden Help Desk, located in the Oswald Visitor Center and managed by Master Gardeners on Fridays,

Saturdays and Mondays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Or simply call the Yard & Garden information line (952-443-1426) with specific questions.

The Andersen Horticultural Library in the Snyder Building houses an extensive collection of horticultural books and is open to the public every day of the week and its staff are eager to help. (This is a non-lending library.) The Arboretum Gift Store also has an impressive inventory of gardening books and tools.

May is a great month for starting a garden. Here are a few timely tips from Operations Director Pete Moe to help get you started.

For optimum growth, it's wise to prepare your garden soils well. Remove weeds and incorporate 4 to 6 inches of compost, peat moss or well-rotted

manure. Organic matter improves both clay and sandy soils and helps hold moisture and provide plant nutrients.

Check your seed catalogs and packets for details on planting dates and plant spacing. Cool-season vegetables, including lettuce, radish, spinach and peas, may be grown from seed outdoors in well-prepared soil in late April or early May. Warm-season plants that have been started indoors – peppers, eggplants, cucumbers and tomatoes – can be transplanted in the ground once the danger of frost is gone and the soil is warm – usually the last week in May or the first week in June. Mulch should be generously applied around your vegetable plants to reduce weeds and retain moisture.

Home vegetable gardening is easy – with a little help from the Arboretum! Now, Ready! Set! Grow!

2009 PERENNIAL PLANT OF THE YEAR

Hakonechloa macra 'Aureola'



Photo by Mary Meyer

An ornamental grass, golden variegated Hakone grass or golden variegated Japanese forest grass, *Hakonechloa macra* 'Aureola' (Poaceae, grass family) has been named the 2009 Perennial Plant of the Year by the Perennial Plant Association (PPA). The PPA is a professional organization with members from all areas of the plant industry. Every year since 1990, the PPA has highlighted a perennial with outstanding characteristics that is easy to grown.

Shirley Mah Kooyman
Plant Specialist

The origin of the genus *Hakonechloa* is from "Hakon," an area in Japan and "chloa," Greek for grass. "Aureola" is the diminutive in Latin for "aurea" or golden. *Hakonechloa macra* 'Aureola' grows 12 – 18" tall, 18" – 24" wide with arching green-striped golden leaves. The plant has a bamboo-like appearance with ½" wide leaves.

The literature lists the plant in Hardiness Zones 5 – 9; however, the plant has been grown successfully in Zone 4. At the Arboretum there are clumps as old as 15 years. There are several clumps in the Hosta Glade as well as throughout various gardens at the Arboretum. It appears that hardiness is not the issue with this cultivar, but rather a need for acid soil.

The cultivar grows well in light or partial shade and in moist soil that is acid and organically rich with good drainage. It is a slow grower so there is no fear of it being invasive. Propagation is by division. The plant is low maintenance, not liked by deer and has few insect pests or diseases. Be sure to add it to your garden.

2009 AUXILIARY GARDEN TOURS

This year marks the 25th Anniversary of the Auxiliary Garden Tours. Creative and beautiful gardens within a short distance of the Arboretum have been selected for this year's tours. Dates are Sun., July 12, Tues., July 14 and Wed., July 15. Air conditioned coaches with tour guides will be provided. Sunday tours include brunch; Tuesday and Wednesday tours include lunch. Buffet dining is on the Morgan Terrace of the Snyder Building and will be accompanied by harpist Trudy Harper. Information and registration is available at: www.arboretum.umn.edu/auxiliary.aspx

You may also call 952-443-1400, ext. 7052, to request a registration form. Credit cards are accepted.



NEW SPECIES SIGHTED AT THE ARBORETUM

This past winter, the Arboretum contacted the Minnesota Herpetology Society to tell them about two species of amphibians and one reptile species that had not previously been reported in Carver County. That is according to the maps in the book *Amphibians and Reptiles Native To Minnesota* by Barney Oldfield and John Moriarity. One of the amphibians is the wood frog, which can be heard singing for just two weeks in April at the Bennet-Johnson Prairie pond and Spring Peeper Meadow. The other is the blue spotted salamander. The reptile is the prairie skink, seen along the hillside by the Berens' cabin. This past year marked the first sighting of the Bell's Vireo in the Arboretum. It was spotted several times in May by advanced birders along Three Mile Drive and the Prairie parking lot.

Matt Schuth
Wildlife Manager

The Fatal Pests: Asian Long Horned Beetle and Emerald Ash Borer

Part one of a two-part series

Asian Longhorned Beetle (ALB), *Anoplophora glabripennis*, is a beetle thought to have arrived in wooden packing used in cargo shipped from Asia.

Jeffrey Johnson

Landscape Gardener

Beetle infestations have been discovered in New York, Chicago and Michigan. This beetle feeds on a wide host of trees, including maples, poplars, willows and elms.

The ALB is extremely destructive. Larvae burrow into a tree trunk to feed on its food and water conducting vessels in the xylem and phloem. This causes eventual girdling and structural weakness. Mature beetles then burrow out of the tree leaving 3/16" round holes. Adults emerge from trees late May through October. Infestations are detected by looking for tell-tail exit holes often in larger branches. Sap may ooze from the exit holes with coarse sawdust or 'frass' on the ground or lower branches. Heavy ALB infestations can kill otherwise healthy adult trees.

We have no known chemical or biological control mechanisms for ALB. Natural predators are not effective. When ALB has been detected, cutting down the trees and destroying the wood is believed to have stopped the infestation from spreading.

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), *Agrilus planipennis*, is another exotic pest. It has moved from the site of introduction, ports of call for cargo imported to the U.S. from Asia. It has spread much more rapidly, mainly because of humans moving infested wood.

The EAB is a beetle in the Coleoptera family with many native beetles, such as Junebugs and Ladybugs. The adult females lay eggs in tree crevices. The eggs hatch into larvae that burrow into the ash



HORTICULTURE

Photo by David Cappaert,
Michigan State University, Bugwood

tree, feeding on the cambium just under the bark. The larvae continue feeding for one or two years before pupating into adults that emerge through D-shaped holes. The adults mate and start the cycle over. The feeding of the cambium eventually kills the tree, usually within 2 to 3 years.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has tried to control the spread of these insects by preventing movement of infested wood and nursery stock, and establishing ash clear cut zones around the EAB infestations. Neither of these insects move rapidly or far. However the human movement of wood with larvae or eggs is a much more rapid disperser. In the case of EAB, human assistance, albeit unintended, has likely breached containment efforts. Experts conclude that most of the U.S. will eventually be infested.

No known treatments are effective for large populations of ash trees. The likely scenario, is that high value ash trees may be preventatively protected with systemic insecticides injections.

While our goal to control these pests may seem unreachable, there is something you can do. Educate yourself and be aware of these deadly pests, report any suspected trees or insects (trapped) to the "Arrest the Pest" Hotline: 651-201-6684 (Metro) or 1-888-545-6684 (Toll Free). You can see an excellent video on the Minnesota Department of Agriculture website on EAB, ALB, and Gypsy Moth at <http://www.mda.state.mn.us/plants/pestmanagement/gypsymoth.htm>

An excellent resource for researching invasive plants and insects is the National Invasive Species Information Center - Invasive Species News. You can visit the web site at the

Subscription information page:
<http://feedburner.google.com/fb/a/mailverify?uri=invasivenews>

The listserv subject matter is not just terrestrial plants, but includes animals, insects, diseases, aquatics and more.

AUXILIARY QUARTERLY MEETING

Wed., May 13, 10 a.m., Snyder Auditorium & Tea Room

Business meeting 10-11:30 a.m., Snyder Auditorium

Lunch and guest speaker in the Snyder Tea Room and Lobby

Members and the public are invited to attend lunch and a program with guest speaker Carrol Henderson. His presentation is based on his book, "Landscaping for Wildlife." The information he presents will include how plants can be used to attract songbirds, hummingbirds, and butterflies.

RSVP by mail no later than May 6. The cost is \$12. Make checks payable to the Arboretum Auxiliary. Send payment to Joyce Jecha, 3000 St. Albans Mill Road, #204, Minnetonka, MN 55305.

UPCOMING EVENTS


COME PARTY IN THE GARDEN: TWICE THE FUN IN JUNE



Here Come the Brides

The warm weather has returned, and so have the wedding ceremonies, receptions and photo shoots. The Arboretum hosts more than 80 wedding celebrations each year – in the busy summer season, as many as six a day are going on across the 1,000-acre grounds.

These special events might mean a brief detour for you if some gardens are temporarily closed. Keep in mind that weddings help support the Arboretum's mission. The Arboretum – and the brides and grooms – appreciate your patience and understanding during wedding season.



GALA IN THE GARDENS *Azalea Lights*

Gala in the Gardens: Azalea Lights

Wednesday, June 17, 6-9 p.m. \$175
basic price

Celebrating the colorful and zesty Azalea Lights (formerly Orchid Lights gala), this perennial favorite features cocktails and hors d'oeuvres in the Arboretum's spectacular gardens, dining al fresco, music, live auction and more! This year's event will toast John Andrus, in his centennial year, as Honorary Chair and longtime Arboretum friend and benefactor.

Tickets start at \$175/person with patron sponsor levels ranging from \$10,000 to \$250. Reservations are required. We are pleased to welcome Delta/NWA Airlines as presenting sponsor. Visit arboretum.umn.edu/gala.aspx or call 952-443-1400, ext. 7046 for reservations.

Everyone loves a garden party, especially in June when the flowers are in colorful bloom and the evening air is fragrant and fresh. The Minnesota Landscape Arboretum proudly presents **Gala in the Gardens: Azalea Lights** on June 17 and **Toast & Taste in the Gardens** on June 24. All members and the public are invited to two garden party celebrations, with proceeds benefiting the Arboretum.

 DELTA 

TOAST & TASTE
in the
Gardens

Toast & Taste in the Gardens

Wednesday, June 24, 7-9 p.m. \$60
members, \$80 non-members. Pre-party
patron reception: 6 to 7 p.m., \$100
members, \$135-\$155 non-members

An encore of last year's sold-out after-hours event, sample in-season, fresh, local cuisine from 20 of the Twin Cities top restaurants. Savor tastes from Minnesota wineries and breweries in the unparalleled garden setting of the Arboretum. New this year: cash bar and fresh cooking demos with local chef Brenda Langton from Café Brenda and Spoonriver Restaurant; and Arboretum Learning Center resident chef Jenny Breen of Good Life Catering. Live music completes the picture. Reservations required: \$60 members, \$80 for non-members. An exclusive pre-party reception from 6 to 7 p.m. is \$100 for members and \$135-\$155 for non-members. Visit arboretum.umn.edu/toastandtaste.aspx for reservations. Or call 952-443-1400, extension 7046.



Minnesota Landscape
ARBORETUM

FOUNDATION

3675 Arboretum Drive
Chaska, Minnesota 55318-9613

*A publication for members and
friends of the Arboretum*

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ARBORETUM NEWS

MAY/JUNE 2009

17

CELEBRATING OUR "ROOTS" SALE

May 2-May 3

The second annual bareroot/starter plant hosta and grass sale will take place in the Gift Store from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., May 2 and 3. The sale will feature a wide selection of plants that are economical and easy to transport. These earth-friendly plants have been field grown for two years before being harvested. Their mature root structures are clearly visible. They are packaged and labeled or potted in dairy fiber pots that are ready for planting in your garden. The sale will feature a wide variety of hostas including many new introductions, as well as many varieties of ornamental grasses suited for cold climate growing. Check the website for a complete listing of plant varieties.

SUMMERHOUSE OPENS

May 15

In keeping with tradition, our SummerHouse, located on State Highway 5 and Rolling Acres Road, will open its doors May 15. From 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily, the house will be stocked with University of Minnesota plant introductions including the Honeycrisp tree and many other popular trees, shrubs, perennials, heirloom vegetable plants, herbs and more.

Want to become a member of a CSA (Community Supported Agriculture)? Thanks to a team effort by the Arboretum, Riverbend Farm in Delano and Loon Organics

of Hutchinson you can buy a share and pick up your "box" every week. In addition to the CSA Farms, other local farmers will be supplying home grown fruits and vegetables to the SummerHouse. Also available will be homemade cheese, bakery products and University of Minnesota meats. How about a sausage made with our apples or a breakfast sausage made from the maple syrup tapped from our trees? We will have a great selection of gifts for the garden and home. Stop in at the SummerHouse and take a piece of the Arboretum home with you by purchasing plants, foods and gifts with a local connection.

ORCHIDS FOR MOM

Want something really different for Mom this year? The Arboretum gift store and Orchids Limited have partnered to sell beautiful orchid plants from Friday, May 1 through Mother's Day May 10. A beautiful selection of orchids in a wide variety of colors will be available in the store. The staff will be happy to assist you with your selection and the orchids will be carefully boxed for easy transport home. Mom will appreciate this unique gift that expresses just how special she is.

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opportunity educator and employer. ©2009
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TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

GENERAL INFORMATION

952-443-1400

ANDERSEN HORTICULTURAL LIBRARY

952-443-1405

AUX. INFO. FROG HOLLOW

952-443-1453

AUXILIARY EVENT INFO

952-443-1400, Ext. 7052

BLOOM ALERT

952-443-1400, Ext. 7055

CONTRIBUTIONS

952-443-1432

EDUCATION

952-443-1422

GIFT STORE

952-443-1439

FACILITY RENTALS

952-443-1411

MEMBERSHIP

952-443-1440

MEMORIALS

952-443-1432

YARD & GARDEN HELP DESK

952-443-1426

Fri., 10 a.m.-2 p.m.,

Mon., 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

FAX 952-443-2521

WEBSITE WWW.ARBORETUM.UMN.EDU

REGULAR HOURS

Grounds open 8 a.m. to sunset everyday.

OSWALD VISITOR CENTER, GIFT STORE AND RESTAURANT

Mon. - Sat. 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Sun. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

ANDERSEN HORTICULTURAL LIBRARY

Mon. - Fri. 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Sat. & Sun. 11 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

YARD & GARDEN HELP DESK

Mon. - Fri. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Sat., 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Sun., 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

ADMISSION FEE

Non-Members: \$7

Members, children 15 & under: free

Free Thursday evenings, May-Oct., after 4:30 p.m.