



# Leaflet

A MASSACHUSETTS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY PUBLICATION



## Letter from the Interim President

Dear Members,

### The New Possibilities keep expanding!

I am very excited to introduce to you the new Director of Programs and Education, Allison Dush, and the new Garden Education Instructor, Lise Lorimer.

Many of you came to know and enjoyed working with Director of Education, Katie Folts. For five years, Katie ran everything from the education components of the Flower Show, to workshops, symposia, the Plantmobile and classes year-round. Katie generously provided us three months notice that she would be stepping down at the end of June, and together we successfully recruited Allison and Lise to grow the Education department at Mass Hort.

Allison Dush joins us from Lauritzen Gardens in Omaha, Nebraska where she served as Manager of Education. She will be building on Katie's successful education programs and providing her own creative energy into programs, classes and activities to meet our vision of providing a unique horticultural experience, through the continued demonstration of educational leadership, innovation, and excellence in gardening.

Lise Lorimer has joined us as the part time, year-round Garden Education Instructor. Lise is booking and running the Plantmobile and developing and providing additional education resources to youth in the gardens and throughout the year. With experience at Queens Botanical Garden and Brooklyn Botanic Garden, it is wonderful to have her expertise in horticulture join the education team. She joins Melissa Page, longtime educator and gardener, in Weezie's Garden for Children every other weekend.

Welcome Allison and Lise! May your days at Mass Hort be filled with challenge, collaboration and beauty.

In the gardens, our upcoming special Second Saturday program rapidly approaches – Power of Pollinators. Special programs throughout the day for adults and children will explore various gardening methods and exceptional plants that benefit and attract pollinators.

## Upcoming Classes & Events:

### The Art of Planting Design

Wednesdays  
July 10 - 24  
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

### Power of Pollinators

Saturday, July 13  
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

### Evening Garden Tour

Thursday, July 18  
7 - 8 p.m.

### Free Fun Friday

Friday, July 26  
10 a.m - 4 p.m.

### Illustrate and Eat It, Too

Thursdays  
July 25 - August 22  
9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

### Small Fruit Culture for the Home Garden

Saturday, August 3  
10 a.m. - noon

### Great Gatherings

Saturday, August 10  
10 a.m - 4 p.m.

### Arts on the Green

Thursday, August 15  
5 - 7:30 p.m.

### Summer Stroll - Garden Tour

Thursday, August 22  
11:00 am - 12:30 pm

### Northeast Region Perennial Plant Symposium

Tuesday, August 27  
9:00 am - 3:00 pm

I hope to meet you in the gardens, especially on Wednesday evenings when we are open to 8:00 p.m. It is my favorite time of day at The Gardens at Elm Bank and a wonderful time for me to be able to engage with our guests.

Suzanne Maas  
Interim Director and President

---

## Summer Children's and Family Programs Expand!

This summer, drop in for family programs in Weezie's Garden for Children at The Gardens at Elm Bank. Mass Hort offers many programs designed to delight and teach visitors about the natural world.

Now through August, each Wednesday, starting at 11 am, explore the wildlife and plants growing in the garden with garden educator, Kathi Gariepy, who uses stories, puppets, and activities during **Caterpillar Club**. Each Thursday at 11 am, Dover Town Library will bring their **Super Awesome Fun Time**, or a special story time will be led by Mass Hort Staff. All ages are welcome!



Additionally, Mass Hort educators lead seasonally-themed programs each Friday to Sunday, now through Columbus Day Weekend. Starting at 11 am, educators guide hands-on activities to help visitors of every age connect to the science of the garden. Themes include pollination, backyard birding, and the plant life cycle.

Come, learn, and grow in the gardens!

---

## War Gardens: A Journey Through Conflict in Search of Calm

by Lalage Snow  
Quercus Publishing, London, 2018

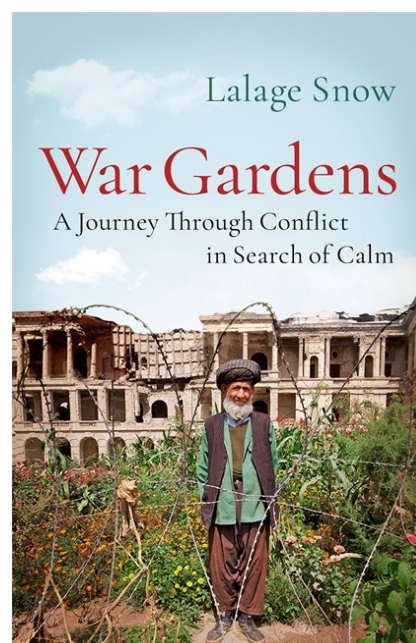
*Reviewed by Patrice Todisco*

I read a lot of artfully designed and elegantly photographed garden and landscape books. Many highlight the accomplishments of individuals who, driven by passion, create beautiful gardens and landscapes that are historically significant and serve both private and public functions.

The gardeners portrayed in *War Gardens: A Journey Through Conflict in Search of Calm* are similarly passionate. Yet they differ in one critical regard, they garden in some of the harshest, most erratic, war ravaged countries in the world. Their stories are both challenging and uplifting and invite the reader to consider the relevance of gardening in an environment defined by uncertainty. Despite the odds, they persevere.

[Read on](#)

---



## Upcoming Education Programs

Our summer classes are filling up! Details for each class are listed in our [digital course catalog](#). A few highlights are:



**The Art of Planting Design** on Wednesdays, July 10 – 24, from 10 am – 2 pm Returning this summer is landscape designer and instructor, Maria von Brincken. She will lead a three-session class using principles similar to the Kondo method of tidying your home, Maria will lead you through a process of decluttering your garden! Find the plants you love and that thrive in your garden; then, design your garden with planting combinations that will flower in sequence. Pre-registration is required. \$250/member, \$300/general admission

Stroll through the garden afterhours with David Fiske, Mass Hort's Garden Curator. During this **Evening Garden Tour** David will point out unique specimens such as the early perennials and woody plant, show you how to identify plants and understand their growing conditions. This is a great way to see the gardens through a different eye. Thursday, July 18 at 7 pm. \$5/member, \$15/general admission.

Saturday August 3, 10 am - noon. Wine maker and fruit farm operator **J. Stephen Casscles** will give an overview on **Small Fruit Culture for the Garden Home**. He'll discuss how to successfully grow botanically attractive and tasty fruits in your own home garden or small farm. Whether they be blueberries, brambles, strawberries, or currants; each can be fun and rewarding. \$25/member, \$35/general admission

Find upcoming highlights [here](#).

---

## Volunteer Opportunities

Be a part of the beauty and excitement in the gardens this summer! Volunteer with us at one of our upcoming special events or get your hands in the dirt in the gardens. It's a great way to meet new people, enjoy the many benefits of being outdoors, and learn through service to your community.

Here are the ways to get involved:

Join in on the fun and volunteer as a special event volunteer at Free Fun Friday on July 26! Greet our guests, promote Mass Hort membership and volunteerism, and help guests find their way for a delightful stroll through the gardens. Sign up [here](#).

Check out our summer garden volunteer schedule here and volunteer when your schedule allows! Sign up [here](#).

Work with kids to help them explore the plant world through activities at one of our upcoming special Saturday events. We need volunteers at our **Power of Pollinators** event on Saturday, July 13, and at our **Great Gatherings** event on Saturday, August 10. Check out the sign up [here](#).

Your time and support are so valuable to our organization and so appreciated by our small staff, especially at this busy time of the season. Thank you for your help!

If you have any questions about volunteering, please contact Amy Rodrigues, Volunteer Engagement Manager, at [arodrigues@masshort.org](mailto:arodrigues@masshort.org) or 617-933-4934.

---

## Summer Planting Works Great!

By R. Wayne Mezitt  
Trustee Chair

With the Summer Solstice, the longest days of the year are with us, and living outdoors is such a pleasure. Summer is also a great time to add the right plants to our gardens. The oft-held misperception that it is safe to plant trees, shrubs and perennials only at certain times of year carries over from our grandparents' day when most plants were grown locally and often transplanted bare-root. Those "good old days" have thankfully evolved to the much easier and more successful practices we use today.

### [Full Article](#)

---

## 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Arts on the Green

Thursday, August 15, 5 - 7:30 pm

Save the date for this popular annual event!

Wander the gardens, enjoy live music, and stroll through our Art Walk. Support local artists showcasing and selling their work throughout our grounds. There will be activities for kids and tours for all! Bring a picnic, and chairs or blanket. Food, wine and beer will be sold. This is a FREE event for all!

Music by: *What's Goin' On*  
jazz and blues



This event is generously sponsored by: [Murphy Insurance](#)

### CALL TO ARTISTS

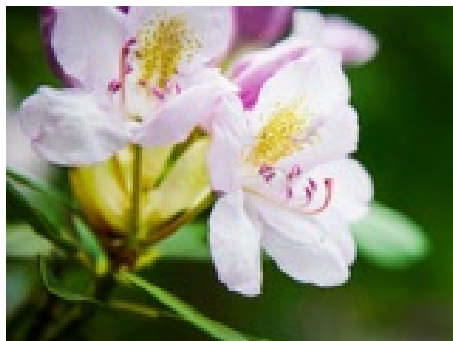
If you are interested in being one of the showcased artists on our Art Walk, please complete the [Artist application](#) and return it as soon as possible to reserve your space. For more information, visit [www.masshort.org/arts-on-the-green/](http://www.masshort.org/arts-on-the-green/), email Amy Rodrigues at [arodrigues@masshort.org](mailto:arodrigues@masshort.org) or call 617-933-4934.

---

## Power of Pollinators

Saturday, July 13, 10 am - 4:00 pm

Enjoy an array of activities in the garden that will help the whole family learn about the many different pollinators that call our backyards home, the importance they serve, and more. There will be activities, games and presentations to help adults incorporate pollinator friendly plants into their landscape.



Build a bee hotels, learn about the life cycle of butterflies, see what a bee sees, and more. Adults can learn about selecting garden plants that attract pollinators with Jeff Stevens from Stonegate Gardens. Hannah Traggis, senior horticulturist at Elm Bank, will be demonstrating how to make salves from beeswax and herbs. Amir Gonsavari will be on site to discuss how to attract hummingbirds to your garden.

Bring a picnic to enjoy a special day at The Gardens at Elm Bank.

If you are interested in volunteering for this event, contact: [education@masshort.org](mailto:education@masshort.org).

---

### From the Stacks:

By Maureen T. O'Brien,



*I used to visit and revisit it a dozen times a day,  
and stand in deep contemplation over my vegetable progeny  
with a love that nobody could share or conceive of  
who had never taken part in the process of creation.  
It was one of the most bewitching sights in the world  
to observe a hill of beans thrusting aside the soil,  
or a rose of early peas just peeping forth  
sufficiently to trace a line of delicate green.*

*Mosses to an Old Manse*, Preface, 1846  
— Nathaniel Hawthorne (1804-1864)

Who knew that vegetable gardening could be so romantic! Hawthorne knew because Henry David Thoreau planted an heirloom vegetable garden as a wedding present for the Hawthorne and his bride when they moved into the Old Manse in 1842. You can see a recreation of that garden today in [Concord](#). Take inspiration from one of America's beloved writers and plant a vegetable garden to feed your soul and body through meditation, exercise and dining!

[Read on](#)

---



## Struttin' with the Peacocks

*By Neal Sanders,  
Leaflet Contributor*

One of the pleasures of being married to a serious gardener who also happens to be a Master floral design judge is that you get to tag along to the darnest things.

The Newport Flower Show is held annually toward the end of June. It's a wonderful event, held for a worthy cause (the Preservation Society of Newport County), and held in a jaw-dropping setting (Rosecliff, an oceanfront estate owned and maintained by the aforementioned Preservation Society). I've been to the show several times and even [once helped to build an exhibit](#) there.

[Read on](#)

---



## July Horticultural Hints

*by Betty Sanders,  
Lifetime Master Gardener*

**Don't overwater.** We have had a very wet spring and summer – meaning the need for irrigation has been nearly non-existent. If you have an automatic system, save water, water bills and your plants by adding a rain gauge that overrides any automatic watering. Grass, perennials, shrubs and trees are all happier when they don't get water when it's not needed.

**Think beyond the usual suspects.** We have lots of blooms in the garden in July, but some you may not think of first include a number of woody natives. Swamp azaleas (*Rhododendron viscosum*) blooms in early July when other rhodies are passed. Oxydendron (Sourwood tree) surprises in mid-July with white flower panicles that stay on into winter. And, in late July, summersweet (*clethra*) blankets itself in fragrant flowers loved by the bees and butterflies. All of these plants also tolerate at least some shade, making them adaptable and valuable additions to New England garden.

[Read on](#)

---

## Announcing this Year's Presenters at the Northeast Region Perennial Plant Symposium

The Northeast Region Perennial Plant Symposium will be held Tuesday, August 27, 9 am – 3 pm at The Gardens at Elm Bank.

Presented by Massachusetts Horticultural Society & the Perennial Plant Association, the symposium is open to all levels of gardeners and professionals.

This year's symposium includes four presentations:



### **Selecting Sustainable Roses**

*Mike & Angelina Chute of RoseSolutions*

### **Cutting Edge Perennials, No Bandages Provided!**

*Stephanie Cohen, Author, Gardener, and Perennial Diva*

### **Beyond Black-eyed Susan's and Border Phlox: Exceptional Native Perennials for Creative Gardening**

*William Cullina, Author, Lecturer*

### **For Us and Them: Perennial Edible Plants for Pollinators and Ourselves**

*Dan Jaffe, Landscape Consultant*

Pre-registration required

Early Bird: \$99

After August 18: \$125

[Register Here](#)

---

Connect with us



[www.MassHort.org](http://www.MassHort.org) - 617-933-4900