October 2024



## MSU HORTICULTURE GARDEN NEWS



## IN THIS ISSUE

GARDEN HAPPENINGS PLANT SALE RECIPROCAL GARDEN SPOTLIGHT GET TO KNOW OUR NEW GARDEN CURATOR MEMBERSHIP | WILBIR

## **PLANT SALE**

Our Ninth Annual Houseplant & Succulent Sale is right around the corner. MSU Horticulture Gardens are mostly self-funded. Consider supporting these beautiful gardens to keep them running for many years to come.

Don't miss out on the Houseplant & Succulent Sale!

Friday, November 1, 8am-4pm 1066 Bogue St, East Lansing 48824



## IIIINEWIIII RECIPROCAL GARDEN SPOTLIGHT SEE PG 4

## WEDDING SEASON

As wedding season draws to an end, we are looking toward the 2025 season. If you know someone needing a venue for not just a wedding but a baby shower, bridal shower, birthday celebration or memorial service please reach out to our Venue Manager at <u>gardens@msu.edu</u>.



Houseplant & Succulent Sale Poinsettia Sale (online sales only) Poinsettia Pick Up November 1 November 11 - December 13 December 2-13

## NINTH ANNUAL HOUSEPLANT & SUCCULENT SALE

BY AMY MCCAUSEY, VENUE MANAGER





Don't miss out on our Ninth Annunal Houseplant & Succulent Sale T-shirt! Get yours for free with the puchase of our Early Bird pass. For \$20, you can shop on Thursday night, 4 pm - 7 pm. For \$30 you receive a t-shirt as well. Early Bird tickets are limited, don't wait to get yours!



**Reciprocal Garden Spotlight** 

## HOLDEN FORESTS & GARDENS FACT SHEET

Holden Forests & Gardens is made up of two of the country's most important environmental and cultural institutions — the Holden Arboretum and Cleveland Botanical Garden — whose mission is to connect people with the wonder, beauty, and value of trees and plants, to inspire action for healthy communities. The 12th largest public garden in the country, Holden Forests & Gardens has 20,000 member households and an annual attendance of over 350,000 for whom we strive to provide inspirational and educational visitor experiences to increase appreciation for the natural world.

### ABOUT THE CLEVELAND BOTANICAL GARDEN CAMPUS

Cleveland Botanical Garden is an ever-changing urban oasis that provides enrichment and inspiration through nine acres of exquisite outdoor gardens, the 17,000-square-foot Eleanor Armstrong Smith Glasshouse featuring a spiny desert of Madagascar and a butterfly-filled Costa Rican rainforest, and seasonal exhibitions throughout the year.

#### **LOCATION**

The Cleveland Botanical Garden is located in University Circle at 11030 East Blvd, Cleveland, OH 44106. The phone number is: 216 .7 21 .1600.

#### HOURS

The Garden and Glasshouse are open from 10am to 5pm Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 10am to 8pm on Saturdays and noon to 5pm on Sundays. We are closed on Mondays. We are also closed on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day.

#### **ADMISSION**

Admission is \$20 for adults, \$14 for children, and \$12 on Tuesdays for visitors 65 and older. Free for members and 2 and under. Certain student discounts apply.

#### THE GLASSHOUSE

The Eleanor Armstrong Smith Glasshouse offers a thrilling year-round escape to the fantastic spiny desert of Madagascar and the butterfly-filled rainforest of Costa Rica. The Glasshouse features some of the strangest plants you've ever seen, including "upside down" baobabs, bottle-shaped pachypodiums, a colossal strangler fig and more. The city seems to slip away and you're surrounded by two other-worldly landscapes featuring 350 species of exotic plants. 50 different types of butterflies, birds, reptiles and amphibians flutter, climb and crawl through naturalistic habitats. The Glasshouse is unique among conservatories because it shows how plants, animals, geology and climate interact in delicate balance.

#### THE GARDENS

#### **Perennial Garden**

Alive with color and ideas, this perpetually changing path indulges your senses with a collage of hues and textures, as well as plenty of take-home inspiration. This garden also showcases the latest and greatest introductions of perennials to help you reimagine your own gardens. The border design plays with both classic and unusual perennials that express color harmony, foliage texture and visual rhythm in an exquisite, almost musical composition. It's named in honor of C.K. "Pat" Patrick, co-founder of Cleveland radio station, WCLV-FM.

#### **Restorative Garden**

Large trees like chestnut oak and magnolia provide a sense of enclosure and seclusion as this garden unfolds into three distinct rooms. The first is a quiet respite from the bustle of the nearby Geis Terrace and offers an elegant square lawn and restful reflecting pool. A white-only palette of flowers enhances the serenity here. The second room is a multisensory sampler with both annuals and perennials to see, touch and smell. Brilliant pink oriental lilies perfume the air while the handsome flaking bark of the Korean stewartia cries out to be rubbed. The wall, or third area, is made of native stones, interesting plants in nooks, and cascading water you can hear and touch.



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#### Hershey's Children's Garden

Activate the young explorer at The Hershey Children's Garden. As your child discovers plant and animal life around them, he or she can also learn why caring for the environment is vital. Your child can become immersed in hands-on activities like listening to nature-inspired stories in the treehouse; observing honeybees in their hive; searching for fish, frogs and turtles in the pond and learning about veggie and herb gardens.

#### **Inspiration Gardens**

Meandering through this dedicated section of gardens, you find new ways to incorporate some of the beauty and utility of what you see into your own back yard. Your love of food and cooking is awakened in the Kitchen Garden. And if butterflies make you happy, here's how to attract them. Even some of gardening's challenges — lots of sun and shade — are no sweat when you see nifty ways to adapt to those realities. The cheerful Sun Patio offers great container ideas, while the Small Conifer Garden has outstanding specimen quality coniferous plants and majestic natural boulders.

#### **Japanese Garden**

A haven for reflection, this spiritual garden draws you into a deeper contemplation of the natural world and your place in it. Cross a bridge, stroll through a tea garden and pause beneath a wisteria-covered trellis. You've entered the magical realm of Gan Ryuu Tei (rock stream garden) a Japanese mountainscape rendered in picture-perfect miniature. Ornamental grasses, Austrian pines, Japanese maples, hemlocks and Asiatic lilies fill you with peace and serenity. The Japanese Garden was a gift of Ikebana International, Chapter 20, in 1975 and was designed by David Slawson, who trained under Kinsaku Nakane, one of Japan's renowned garden masters.

#### **Geis Terrace**

From early spring to late fall, garden parties of all kinds converge on the welcoming Geis Terrace. It's a perfect place for an al fresco lunch with family, or an outdoor spot to enjoy a glass of wine with friends.

The centerpiece of this space is the 74 foot-long William E. Conway Family Reflecting pool featuring crowd-pleasing seasonal plant life. Floating atop the pool's inky water you might spot painterly water lilies, majestic lotuses, or uncommonly beautiful mosaic plants native to Central and South America.

#### **Rose Garden**

By turns a paradise of pink and a revelation in red, The Rose Garden hypnotizes you in its romantic spell. Its alluring sights and scents have touched the hearts of the young and the young-at-heart for more than forty years. Classical in style, this garden features dozens of varieties



of roses carefully selected for their ornamental attributes and sweet-smelling fragrances. An octagonal pool, perfectly chosen companion plantings, inviting benches, and cast iron arches complete the picture of bliss.

#### **Topiary Garden**

Bring your imagination on a journey into the abstract world of beautiful and beautifully strange plant forms. No matter the season, living sculptures of evergreen and deciduous plants transport you to an other-worldly landscape where plants suggest lollipops and kids get to crawl through a serpentine shrub tunnel. Notice the "candle forests" of spruces, arborvitaes and falsecypress. The garden was designed in 2002 by architect and landscape designer David Swetland.

#### **Herb Garden**

Your sense of history meets all your other senses when you step inside this grand garden space, maintained by Western Reserve Herb Society members, where the splendor of a formal knot garden — just like you'd see in England — is the setting for herbs of all kinds. Period details abound. About 3,500 plants grow in this garden, spread throughout nine herbally themed sections. Heralded as one of the most significant herb gardens in America, your time spent here will immerse you in the timeless beauty and usefulness of herbs.

#### **Woodland Garden**

Among towering trees and their abundant natural shade, you will find a peaceful escape from our busy city. Butterflies, song birds, wild flowers and more than 30 species of trees are your constant companions in this most informal and expansive retreat. A rippling natural stream runs through this dense woodland. Beech, hemlock, maple, wild cherry, as well as black gum, tulip poplar and ash trees are all around. Trilliums, dutchman's breeches, Jack-in-the pulpit, Virginia blue bells and Solomon's seal are just a few of the many Ohio wildflowers you see along the way.



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#### **ABOUT THE HOLDEN ARBORETUM CAMPUS**

The Holden Arboretum incorporates about 3,500 acres in Lake and Geauga counties, with 200 acres dedicated to cultivated gardens and special collections. Our gardens showcase a wide range of plants from delicate spring ephemerals to grand displays of brightly colored rhododendrons, and each garden has its own story to tell. The arboretum also has miles and miles of trails for beginner and more advanced hikers.

#### LOCATION

The Holden Arboretum is located at 9550 Sperry Rd, Kirtland, OH 44094. Phone number is: 440.946.4400.

#### HOURS

The arboretum is open Tuesdays through Sundays, 9am to 5pm. We are closed on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day.

#### **ADMISSION**

Admission is \$20 for adults, \$14 for children, and \$12 on Tuesdays for visitors 65 and over. Free for members and 2 and under. Certain student discounts apply.

#### THE GARDENS

#### Arlene and Arthur S. Holden Jr. Butterfly Garden

Built in stages starting in the mid-1990s and completed in 2002, the Holden Butterfly Garden is a haven for bees, butterflies and hummingbirds. Located behind the Corning Visitor Center, the garden is often the first stop for visitors exploring the grounds. The two ponds surrounded by a lush garden designed to attract pollinators is filled with summer blooming plants and reaches peak bloom in July and August.

#### **Display Garden**

The nine-acre Display Garden has been a part of the Arboretum landscape for many years, but its current layout was developed in the early 1980s. A four-season garden, planted with a mix of trees, shrubs, perennials, dwarf conifers and bulbs, the garden is home to two of the Arboretum's plant collections – the Arthur S. Holden Sr. Hedge Collection and the lilac collection. The Display Garden's gentle trails take guests around Lotus Pond, where guests may spot waterfowl enjoying the pond, which was dredged in 2015 and replanted with lotus plants - Nelumbo 'Mrs. Perry D. Slocum'. The garden's Lily Pond was added in 1980 and a contains hardy water lilies that can spend the winter on the bottom of the pond. The lilies will bloom from June to September. Each spring the lilac collection fills the garden with color and fragrance. The collection includes about 350 lilac plants, which are all native to Europe and Asia. Visits to the Display Garden should include a stop at the Whitney Bed Memorial on the



west side of the garden. Built in 1998, the Whitney Bed Memorial effectively demonstrates how to use herbaceous perennials for season-long color and texture.

#### Eliot and Linda Paine Rhododendron Discovery Garden

Named in honor of C. W. Eliot Paine and his wife Linda, the 4.5-acre Paine Rhododendron Discovery Garden opened in 2013 after two years of construction and now allows visitors to learn more about this beautiful group of plants as they stroll through three different areas. The first introduces visitors to rhododendrons in their native habitat, the second explores the role Northeast Ohio has played in Rhododendron hybridization and the third helps visitors learn how to successfully use rhododendrons in home landscapes.

#### Helen S. Layer Rhododendron Garden

The rhododendron collection at the Holden Arboretum was started in 1940 by Warren H. Corning. In 1971, contributions made in honor of Helen S. Layer allowed for the creation of a 20-acre garden with rolling hills shaded by oaks and maples. Heath, Hourglass and Sherwin ponds are all located in the garden. The heron statue, which can be found in Sherwin pond, is dedicated to Harold Layer, who helped fund the garden in honor of his late wife, Helen, Designed by Cleveland landscape architects, 250 rhododendrons for the garden were donated by Charles Dexter, one of the first east coast gardeners to start a rhododendron breeding program. Between 1921 and 1943 he raised thousands of plants at his Heritage Plantation on Cape Cod. Today, Holden's collection of rhododendrons includes 52 species, 46 of which can be found in the Layer or Paine gardens.



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#### Henry Norweb Jr. Tree Allée

One of the Arboretum's newest features, the Norweb Tree Allée was dedicated in 2013, honoring the memory of R. Henry Norweb Jr., who led the institution from 1959 until 1983. A modern idea on a classic gardening element, the Norweb Tree Allée is lined by five different species of trees that over time will grow to provide guests with a shaded walkway as they travel between the Display Garden and the Eliot and Linda Paine Rhododendron Discovery Garden. While the trees still have a way to go before they reach full growth, the young trees and accompanying groundcovers provide a pleasant walk along a riparian stream garden.

#### Myrtle S. Holden Wildflower Garden

Located in a native pawpaw patch, the Myrtle S. Holden Wildflower Garden was established in 1968 through the generous donations of the Arthur S. Holden family in memory of Myrtle S. Holden, commemorating her deep love of Ohio's native wildflowers. Developed by former volunteer coordinator, Elizabeth Martin, and naturalist Louis Sturm, the garden was first used to bring in and display the many wildflowers found on Holden's diverse acreage, the Holden Wildflower Garden has evolved into a showcase of Ohio's native flora and a repository for the vanishing flora of the Great Lakes region. The fiveacre garden includes more than 400 native Ohio species displayed in representative habitat plantings modeled after significant plant communities found in Ohio.

#### SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH Ellen Corning Long and T. Dixon Long Center for Plant and Environmental Science

Holden Forests & Gardens research program is housed in a modern science center that contains 15,000 square feet of greenhouse and research facilities. The science center has modern container areas and polyhouses for all aspects of plant growth and propagation. Laboratories include the Reinberger Laboratory, which contains shared facilities for plant chemical analysis, molecular biology and soil ecology research. The Botanical Garden and Arboretum are committed to conducting nationally recognized research in plant and environmental sciences while fostering the next generation of scientists.

#### **Rhododendron Research Station**

The Holden Arboretum's David G. Leach Research Station is a satellite facility maintained for horticultural research on a 30-acre property in Madison, Ohio, about a 40-minute drive east of Holden's Kirtland campus. The land was a gift to Holden from David Leach, who developed it as a rhododendron breeding and evaluation garden. A collection of 2000 mature rhododendron and azalea

hybrids are beautifully displayed in a woodland setting along with over 500 ornamental companion trees and shrubs. These hybrids are the culmination of over 50 years of rhododendron breeding and selection carried out by Dr. Leach, and some of them have been named and introduced into commerce. Although the Station is closed to the public on a daily drive-in basis, the research staff hosts an open-house weekend in May when the gardens are in peak bloom.

#### **EDUCATION**

The Botanical Garden and Arboretum strive to foster a deeper understanding of the natural world and the vital impact of plants on our lives. Our Education staff has created numerous opportunities to further this understanding for children and adults through our formalized pre-K through college programs and through our specialized classes, immersive tours and informative lectures. This year try a class or two to learn more about plants, ecosystems, sustainable gardening practices and the impact plants have on our lives. There are even programs for your artistic, healthful and adventurous side. All of our educational programs inform and teach people about the need to protect, improve and care for the environment, whether from a backyard garden, vacant urban lot or beyond to the world's fragile ecosystems.





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#### **COMMUNITY FORESTRY AND CONSERVATION**

Holden Forests & Gardens seeks to connect people with the wonder, beauty, and value of trees and plants, to inspire action for healthy communities. Work with the community plays a key role in the pursuit of that mission, as the organization works to create outreach programs with impact.

The Community Forestry Program serves as a resource for the community, providing urban forest workshops, youth education and training volunteers to care for trees within the greater community.

That work includes partnering with community leaders

and other advocate organizations, including the City of Cleveland's Office of Sustainability, the Western Reserve Land Conservancy, LAND studio and the Cleveland Neighborhood Progress on the Cleveland Tree Plan.

Holden Forests & Gardens launched People for Trees in 2021, a movement to plant and care for 15,000 trees by 2025 in Northeast Ohio.

With the majority of Ohio's forested land in the hands of property owners with parcels of about 10 acres, providing landowners with the resources they need to care for, manage and utilize their trees is also a key component. The Sherwin Institute of Woodland Management was designed to serve as a resource for property owners.

Through the Great Lakes Basin Forest Health

Collaborative, our Community Forestry team supports a network of partners in tree resistance breeding activities for forest species that are threatened by invasive insects and diseases. We serve as liaison between research facilities, agencies, organizations, and members of the public, providing training and resources to help these groups reach our common goal: sustainable forests.

Celebrating its 20th anniversary in 2016, the Green Corps

program contributes to a plant literate population by providing an urban agriculture experience for area high school students.

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

HF&G member households are 20,000 strong. *Forests & Gardens* magazine is published quarterly.

#### **FUNDING**

HF&G is a nonprofit organization that is funded through ticket sales, memberships, individual contributions, foundation grants, corporate sponsorships, government grants, facility rentals, and retail sales.

#### **HF&G GIFT SHOPS**

The beautiful gift shops located on each campus offer merchandise inspired by collections and special exhibitions, including art books, note cards, jewelry, and scarves. It also features products by local artists and designers created specifically for the shop. GARDEN CAFÉ -

#### AT CLEVELAND BOTANICAL GARDEN

A café serving a limited menu of items including seasonal sandwiches, salads, soups, and coffee; are crafted in-house using local ingredients and products. There is no Garden admission fee in order to visit the café.

#### DIRECTOR AND STAFF

Holden Forests & Gardens' President and CEO is Ed Moydell.

#### **MISSION STATEMENT**

Holden Forests & Gardens connects people with the wonder, beauty, and value of trees and plants, to inspire action for healthy communities.

For more information, please contact Margaret Thresher, Vice President of Public Relations and Marketing at mthresher@holdenfg.org or 216.707.2828.



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## GET TO KNOW OUR NEW GARDEN CURATOR

#### BY MASON MCNAIR, GARDEN CURATOR

Hi everyone! I'm Mason McNair the new Curator of the MSU Horticulture Gardens. I'm from Raleigh, North Carolina and attended NC State University where I received my B.S. in Horticulture. I then worked at Syngenta for ~2 years before moving to Athens, Georgia to pursue my PhD in the Department of Plant Biology at the University of Georgia. During my PhD I worked on Cercis (Redbud) taxonomy by identifying the genes underlying the traits that have been used to define historic species boundaries. I also earned my teaching





certificate and <u>published an article</u> on using iNaturalistto aid in teaching plant taxonomy in the classroom. While at UGA, I found a passion for using technology in the classroom, especially 3D Printing, which led to a postdoctoral fellowship at Clemson University in the Rife Phenomics Lab. While there I began running workshops teaching academics how to implement 3D printing into their research and teaching and developed multiple tools to aid plant science research.

In my role at MSU I have several exciting projects in the works, including developing resources for teaching and outreach using tools like the Cocoa Press Chocolate 3D Printer, the FarmBot automated growing system, and specialty plant collections in the gardens. I've been obsessed with plants since I was little (see this City Pulse article for more). Some of my favorite plants include Cercis

(redbud), Sarracenia and Nepenthes (pitcher plants), Polygala (Milkwort), and Passiflora (passionflower). I hope to turn my passion for plants, teaching, and technology into a cohesive, unifying vision with the help of our incredible staff. I look forward to getting to know everyone!

Outside of work I spend my time with my wife Kristin, our son Miles, and our cats Brie, Kiwi, and Nori. We love exploring new places and have been loving the much cooler weather here in Michigan compared to our previous home in South Carolina. I am also very into nature photography and love botanizing natural areas to photograph all the cool plants I can find. I look forward to serving as the new garden curator and cannot wait to build on this incredible foundation that the MSU Horticulture Gardens provides.

# WILBIR "UNCOVERED"



Wilbir, our garden mascot, underwent some major improvements this spring. Including a new coat of paint to protect the internal metal structure. To show off his cool new color, we are bringing you for this year only, Wilbir "Uncovered".

Since 1989, Wilbir has been a part of the MSU Horticulture Gardens moving places as gardens were built. Inspired by a floral topiary at Mainau Garden, Switzerland and a similar sculpture in Kalamazoo, MI. He is now in his permanent place where each year he is filled with soil, bags of Styrofoam peanuts and is covered in

over 3000 flowers. Wilbir

will return in 2025 with his

display of floral plumage!

<image>

## MSU Horticulture Gardens POINSETTA

SALE NOV 11-DEC 13, 2024 ONLINE ONLY SHOPMSUGARDENS.COM

## GREAT HOLIDAY GIFTS!

- MSU GROWN POINSETTIAS
- HOUSEPLANTS
- SUCCULENTS
- GARDEN T-SHIRTS AND MERCHANDISE