



Annual Meeting 2020

Welcome to the 2020 Annual Meeting of the Garden Club of Virginia

Beginning with **A Message from the President**, continuing through **Presentations** that range from host **James River Garden Club** accomplishments to the **2020-2022 Slate of Officers**, information is organized visually to facilitate navigation through the GCV 2020 Annual Meeting in the order of your choice.



A Message from the President

Greetings,

May 2020

Welcome to the Garden Club of Virginia's 2020 Annual Meeting webpage. Take your time and stroll through events and experiences we have shared together during the past two years. You will find the work of extraordinary women, each sharing talents to further the mission and purpose of the Garden Club of Virginia.

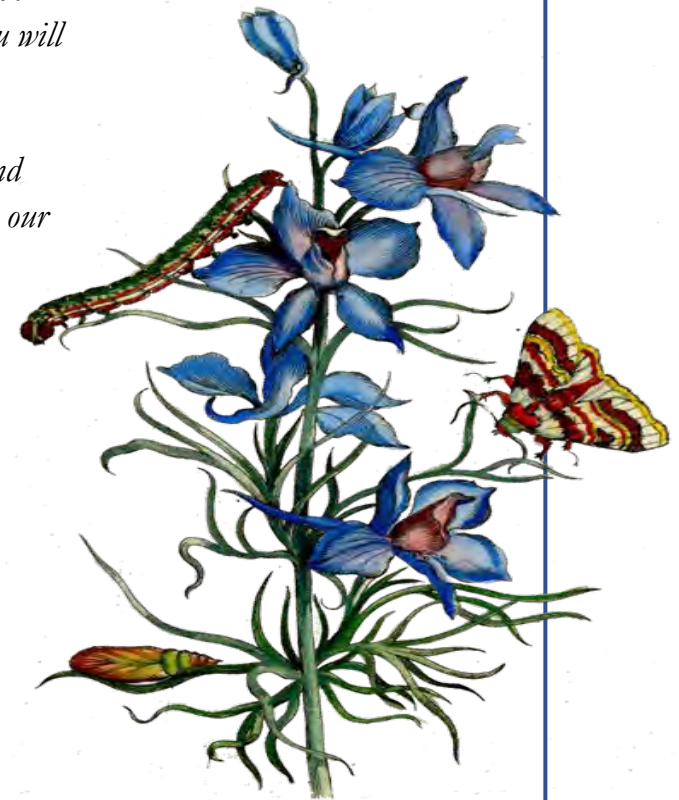
As you explore the topics, you will see GCV in action. You will hear from our Committee Chairmen; you will be introduced to Award recipients; you will be inspired by our latest restoration work; you will learn from our Fellows; you will revisit our conservation efforts; and you will be moved by the beauty of photography and design.

Our work across the Commonwealth is noteworthy. We have joined with member clubs, community partners, and Virginia State Parks to preserve and protect the landscape of Virginia. We have planned for an important milestone, our 100th birthday. And we have replaced disappointment with creativity and grace.

I am proud of the efforts and accomplishments of our 3500 members. Virginia State Parks, the Virginia State Senate and House of Delegates, and the Garden Club of America all acknowledge the impact we have made across the Commonwealth. As you see, I am not alone in recognizing the value of the Garden Club of Virginia.

I look forward to the future as we continue to protect Virginia's natural resources, preserve historic landscapes, and inspire others to join us in this mission. To our members, I extend my deepest gratitude for the privilege of serving as the 50th President of the Garden Club of Virginia.

Jean





National Association of State Park Directors

P.O. Box 91567 Raleigh, NC 27675
(919) 218-9222 info@stateparks.org
www.stateparks.org



August 12, 2019

The Garden Club of Virginia
Kent Valentine House
12 East Franklin Street
Richmond, VA 23219

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Lawia Ledford
NORTH CAROLINA (RET.)

RE: NASPD 2019 Awards Recognition

Dear Garden Club of Virginia,

On behalf of the National Association of State Park Directors (NASPD), I am honored to inform you that The Garden Club of Virginia has been selected to receive the President's Award for a Statewide Organization.

The Garden Club of Virginia has successfully partnered with countless partners for over 83 years. Your efforts truly exemplify the steadfast perseverance to navigate how the public uses parks and how that has changed. These efforts truly exemplify your mission and vision in coordination with Virginia State Parks. Well done!

The President's award will be presented at the annual conference September 2-5, 2019 in Rogers, Arkansas. A reception and dinner will be held at Castle Bridges Museum of Modern Art on Thursday, September 5, 2019 to celebrate your exemplary contributions. We would be delighted if you were able to attend the reception and banquet. Please kindly RSVP to me at 515-725-8485 or at todd.coffelt@dnr.iowa.gov. If you would like to make lodging arrangements, you can contact the Marriott Hotel at 1-479-254-8400.

Again, please accept my congratulations. We hope to see you at the conference.

Sincerely,

Todd A. Coffelt

Todd A. Coffelt, Chair
NASPD Awards Committee

cc: Linda Lanterman, President, NASPD

Virginia State Parks





SENATE OF VIRGINIA

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 82

Commending the Garden Club of Virginia.

Patrons—Obenshain, Dunnivant, Lewis, Mason and Reeves;
Delegates: Avoli, Cole, M., Delaney, Fowler, Freitas, Krizek, Morefield,
Orrock, Rasoul, Ware and Wilt

Agreed to by the Senate, January 23, 2020
Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 27, 2020

WH AS, the Garden Club of Virginia, founded on May 13, 1920, will observe the 100th anniversary of its founding in 2020; and

WH AS, in the past century, the Garden Club of Virginia has grown from eight to 47 member clubs, presenting cities, towns, and rural areas across the Commonwealth; and

WH AS, since 1920, initiatives sponsored by the Garden Club of Virginia have contributed to the interpretation of historic properties, the protection of scenic viewsheds, and the conservation of natural resources in Virginia; and

WH AS, since 1929, proceeds from its annual Historic Garden Week in Virginia have supported the restoration and preservation of the gardens and landscapes of more than 50 historic landmarks throughout the Commonwealth, giving prominence to Virginia's unique and distinguished history; and

WH AS, Historic Garden Week in April attracts more than 26,000 visitors to Virginia throughout the world, bringing significant economic benefit to the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, in 1929, the Garden Club of Virginia advocated for the establishment of state parks in Virginia, and today, the organization continues to partner with Virginia State Parks to support programs and land stewardship throughout the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the Garden Club of Virginia inspires Virginia's citizens to uphold the club's mission "to celebrate the beauty of the land, to conserve the gifts of nature, and to challenge future generations to build on this heritage"; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Garden Club of Virginia for its service to the Commonwealth on the occasion of its 100th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Garden Club of Virginia as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for its significant contributions to the beauty of Virginia's landscape.

Susan Clarke Schaar
Susan Clarke Schaar
Clerk of the Senate

Senate Joint Resolution



Pictured left to right: Senator Jennifer McClellan; Lynn McCashin GCV Executive Director; Jean Gilpin, GCV President; Senator Siobhan Dunnivant; and Senator Mark Obenshain.



THE GARDEN CLUB of AMERICA
14 EAST 60th STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10022-1096
212.753.8287/GC-AMERICA.ORG

April 27, 2020

Mrs. Thomas T. Gilpin (Jean)
President
Garden Club of Virginia
12 E. Franklin Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219
Via email: jergilpin@gmail.com

Dear Jean,

On behalf of The Garden Club of America, please accept my hearty congratulations on the centennial of the Garden Club of Virginia's founding.

Garden Club of Virginia's commitment to environmental stewardship and garden preservation serves as an inspiration to us all. Since its founding in May 1920, Garden Club of Virginia has been a leader in efforts to protect our environment and the beauty of our land. Our organizations have a great deal in common, and we consider Garden Club of Virginia an ally in a wide array of initiatives, including garden education and conservation. We are so appreciative of the ten clubs and nearly 1,000 club members who enjoy membership in both of our organizations.

In these unprecedented and unpredictable times, our organizations are exceptionally important, serving as a refuge and creative outlet to our club members and an inspiration to countless others. I know that you are deeply sorry that the plans for your centennial celebrations, so long in the making, have had to be altered. However, I am confident that your remarkable organization, with such a long and rich history, will emerge from this crisis stronger and more vibrant than ever before.

Attached you will find a Club Anniversary Certificate in honor of Garden Club of Virginia's centennial. The Garden Club of America awards these certificates to mark important milestones in the history of our member clubs, and this is a special one just for you. The citation on your certificate reads:

*In appreciation of a century of promoting gardening and civic planting,
aiding in the restoration and preservation of historic gardens, and
encouraging conservation of natural resources.*

It will be my pleasure to have the original certificate framed and delivered to Garden Club of Virginia headquarters as soon as it is possible.

We know that your second century holds the promise of great success and accomplishment. Once again, congratulations on this momentous occasion from all of us in the GCA!

With all best wishes,

Debbie Edwards
GCA President

Garden Club of America



THE GARDEN CLUB of AMERICA

is proud to honor

*Garden Club
of Virginia*

on its

100TH ANNIVERSARY

May 11, 2020

*In appreciation of a century of promoting
gardening and civic planting, aiding
in the restoration and preservation of
historic gardens, and encouraging
conservation of natural resources.*

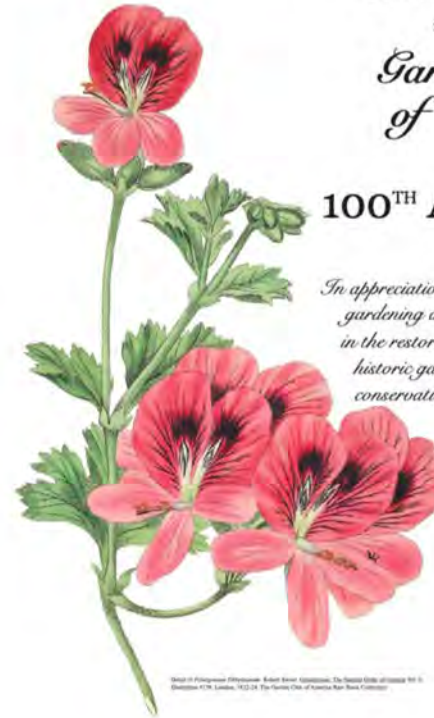
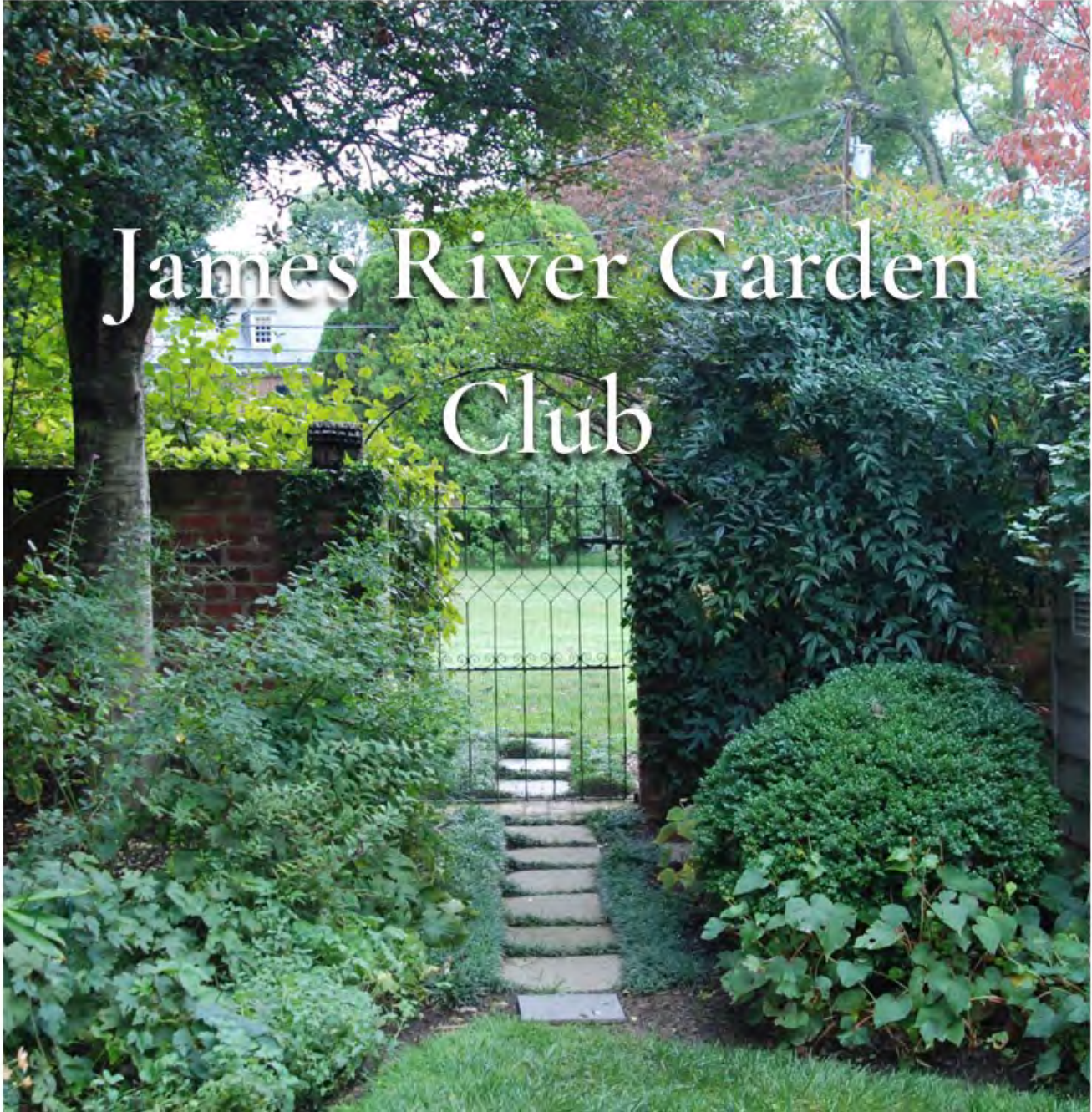


Image of Impatiens Fritschiana - Rusty Spotted Impatiens - The Garden Club of America 100th Anniversary 2020. ©2020 The Garden Club of America. All Rights Reserved.

2020 Presentations



James River Garden
Club

The James River Garden Club

The James River Garden Club was founded in 1915 by Juanita Massie Patterson (Mrs. Malvern C. Patterson) with the mission “to promote interest in gardens, their design and management, to cooperate in the protection of wildflowers, trees and native plants, and to encourage civic planting.” Planting one of the community’s first “victory gardens” and the publication of a booklet on food conservation with proceeds donated to the Red Cross established a path of service for James River membership that has not diminished through the years since.

In 1920, Mrs. Patterson called 8 garden clubs together from around the state for the purpose of creating a federation of garden clubs, the beginning of the Garden Club of Virginia of which Mrs. Patterson became the first President.

JRGC early conservation and beautification efforts led to improved roadways and beautification projects around the state. Members hosted radio talk shows to encourage conservation of natural resources, they plowed and planted community gardens, and they planted Richmond's city flower, the iris, at historic sites in and around the Richmond area.

The club was instrumental in the creation of Historic Garden Week in Virginia, an idea born from the success of a garden tour in 1928 to support Kenmore. James River Garden Club members Mrs. William R. Massie and Mrs. Andrew Christian chaired the first Historic Garden Week in 1929.

Conservation and beautification efforts grew throughout the decades as members learned about air and water pollution, city planning, roadside development, outdoor recreation and historic garden restorations. Educational and charitable objectives included commitments to Lewis Ginter, Children's Hospital, Maymont's Flower and Garden Show, the White House of the Confederacy and Richmond Renaissance. Club members established Richmond's first recycling program.

In 2010, a consortium of the Boxwood, James River, Three Chopt and Tuckahoe Garden Clubs founded the Capital Trees project to “transform Richmond into a greener, more beautiful, more livable city.” Capital Trees is now a viable stand-alone corporation, recently hiring its first Executive Director and obtaining many substantial grants to supplement its funding from private sources. The success of the cookbook continues to finance an array of charitable programs, projects, and related gatherings, from Daffodil Shows to Zone meetings. It funded the club’s \$50,000 Centennial gift to Hollywood Cemetery. This landmark contribution has underwritten stone terraces, walkways and landscaping to enhance and beautify the cemetery’s connection to the James River.

From jamesrivergardenclub.org. Please visit the JRGC website for more information.



Capital Trees Sponsorship and Volunteer Project

Capital Trees is an urban greening organization which works with public and private partners to identify, create, environmentally restore and beautify public urban green spaces to improve and promote community. Capital Trees traces its roots to the advocacy, determination and dedication of members from James River, Boxwood, Three Chopt and Tuckahoe Garden Clubs as well as the Garden Club of Virginia.

Since Capital Trees' origin in 2010, its partners have included the City of Richmond, corporate citizens, local foundations and numerous generous individuals who together have invested more than \$2 million dollars in projects to restore, enhance and activate green spaces in Richmond's urban core.

The rehabilitation of 5.5 acres jointly owned by the City of Richmond and CSX has been and remains Capital Trees' signature and most significant project to date. In 2015, Capital Trees was granted permission to renovate and create an open green space on land adjacent to the James River and Kanawha Canal to create a linear park between the floodwall at 17th Street and Great Shiplock Park at Pear Street. This public land has important historic, environmental, social and economic attributes and sits within the footprint of the 2012 Richmond Riverfront Master Plan. It now serves as a riparian buffer using native trees, shrubs and perennials and includes storm water mitigation amenities. This project has had two phases, the Low Line Gardens, a horticultural restoration on three acres of the land which was completed in 2016; and the Low Line Green which will include continuation of the horticultural restoration of the Low Line Gardens, the addition of a larger plaza/outdoor classroom and significant further environmental remediation of the site.

Other Capital Tree projects include a streetscape renovation on the 14th Street corridor and the renovation of Great Shiplock Park in partnership with the Virginia Capital Trail Foundation. Capital Trees spearheads the funding for the design work using professional designers, engineers, landscape architects and professional installers. Of equal importance is a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Richmond that Capital Trees is responsible for maintaining all its projects on City-owned land ensuring the ongoing health and success of these projects. The James River Garden Club, in partnership with Boxwood, Three Chopt, and Tuckahoe Garden Clubs, continues to play an important role in supporting Capital Trees both financially and through the hands-on volunteer efforts of Club members.



Queen Bee Initiative

The James River Garden Club (JRGC) Queen Bee Challenge was implemented in the Fall of 2016 and is still thriving. The Queen of England is a staunch supporter of ecological gardening and living sustainably. Thanks to her leadership, the Royal Gardens are environmentally friendly and pesticide free. Buckingham Palace's green waste is composted and diverted from landfills. The royal family are staunch believers that we need to support wildlife and co-exist with nature; they use their unique position to champion action for a sustainable future.

In the spirit of the royal family and the Queen of England, the Conservation Committee of James River Garden Club challenged our membership to step up and be Queen Bees - leaders in conservation starting in our own homes and gardens. At each monthly meeting, we challenge our members to adopt a new habit to benefit the environment. We believe our collective and concrete actions can have a ripple effect in our community.

Our monthly challenges have included transitioning to healthy, pesticide free lawns; composting; reducing, reusing, recycling; legislative activism; planting for pollinators; substituting organic alternatives for chemical pesticides; scooping the poop; mitigating stormwater and conserving water.

We educate our members at each meeting about one of these eco topics and then distribute handouts with additional information and links to other resources. With these takeaways, members can compile their own conservation resource file and share what they've learned with others. We have offered monthly "pop-up tours" to supplement our challenges which have included visits to Richmond's wastewater treatment plant and a backyard composting demonstration in collaboration with community partner, Compost RVA. We also created a Facebook community - "Queen Bee Challenge" - where we post photos and stories of what we've done, as well as share links to relevant articles.

Our Queen Bee Challenge has been enthusiastically embraced by our club, other GCV clubs in the state and been featured and commended by the GCA.



Hollywood Cemetery Projects

The James River Garden Club (JRGC) has supported and collaborated with Hollywood Cemetery on a number of projects over the years. Hollywood Cemetery, designed in 1847 by noted architect John Notman of Philadelphia, is known as a garden cemetery, a landscape style that became popular in the 19th century. Located on the banks of the James River and one of Richmond's most visited places, the cemetery spans 135 acres of valleys and hills which are covered with heritage roses, stately trees, and other blooms that live up to the name of a garden cemetery. In 2017, Hollywood was named a recognized Arboretum as a tribute to its substantial focus on woody plants.

In 2010, the JRGC undertook the design of a Tree and Rose Map for Hollywood in celebration of the Garden Club of America (GCA) Centennial. Each GCA Club was challenged to undertake a "tree project" to commemorate this important milestone. The map continues to be a favorite tool for visitors to Hollywood Cemetery.

New river overlooks planned for Hollywood Cemetery

By NED OLIVER Richmond Times-Dispatch Nov 4, 2015



Crosses frame a view of the Robert E. Lee Bridge from Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond, VA Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2015.



Hollywood Cemetery — already a destination for great river views — is kicking off plans to build three stone overlooks above the James River.

"It's going to be a beautiful spot where you can really come and sit and enjoy the spectacular view," said Kelly Jones Wilbanks, the executive director of Friends of Hollywood Cemetery.

She said construction of the first overlook is scheduled to begin with a groundbreaking Friday, and work should be complete this spring.

The structure will include landscaping and "ample seating," she said. It's being designed by Van Yahres Studio of BCWH Architects.

Hollywood estimates all three overlooks will cost \$400,000, and the cemetery is raising funds for the project.

Hollywood has already received a \$25,000 grant from the Dominion Foundation's Environmental Stewardship Grant Program.

The James River Garden Club donated an additional \$50,000.

"We are so grateful to these organizations for supporting this worthwhile project," Wilbanks said. "When completed, we think the overlook will provide greater opportunities for the public to connect with the James River and to enjoy all the green space Hollywood provides."



Historic Trees, Rose Bushes, and A New Map

The James River Garden Club of Richmond has informed the Cemetery of its interest in publishing a new map and guide to Hollywood trees and historic roses. Hollywood's stately trees authenticate the age and historical relevance of the Cemetery and are some of the most magnificent trees in the Richmond area.

The new publication will replace Hollywood Cemetery's Historic Tree and Rose Tour Map. Unlike the current brochure that includes all noteworthy trees in the Cemetery, the new fold-out map will feature 25 trees as well as each of the Cemetery's more than one dozen historic rose bushes.

The Club voted recently to move ahead with the project according to immediate past Club President Evie Scott. "Everyone is very enthusiastic. We want it to be very educational and informative, but simpler." The pamphlet will contain descriptive information about each tree and rose bush and be well suited for the casual visitor as well as the trained horticulturist and arborist. Scott expressed optimism that the pamphlet could be available by fall.

Each member club in the Garden Club of America has been tasked with undertaking a special project to commemorate G.C.A.'s 100th anniversary in 2013. The James River Club has selected the Hollywood tree and rose map as its project. "We are simply delighted with the Club's choice for a project," David Gilliam, Cemetery General Manager, said recently. "Our old map and guide became out of date the moment Hurricane Isabel ravaged the Cemetery in September 2003."

Isabel felled an unprecedented number of stately trees in the Richmond area. In the wake of its winds and cyclonic activity in Hollywood, Isabel left over 80 monarch and historic trees uprooted or too damaged to save.

Currently, the Cemetery is home to approximately 100 monarch and historic trees. The Cemetery's principal arborist, Van Yahres Tree Company of Charlottesville, defines a monarch tree as one measuring 35 inches in diameter at breast height, a long-lived species, in good condition, structurally superior, and in a prominent location. An historic tree is one deemed noteworthy for its species and located along the blue line historic route. The new pamphlet will include monarch and historic trees, as well as a number of trees that are neither monarch nor historic but considered especially beautiful and unique.

Monarch and historic trees, as well as other important trees in the Cemetery, are part of a faithful evaluation and arbor care program that includes regularly scheduled inspection, trimming, repairing,



Above and opposite: Black Gum, *Nyssa sylvatica*, 45" diameter at breast height. One of the monarch trees that will be highlighted in the new fold-out map. With its brilliant red fall color and horizontal branching, the Black Gum is often considered Virginia's most beautiful native tree. This particular example, located on the hillside above Clark Springs Avenue, is so notable that it was featured in *Remarkable Trees of Virginia*, published in 2008.

Habitat: Mid to eastern US
Shape: Horizontal branching
Special Interest: Scarlet color in fall



The JRGC marked its own centennial in 2015 by sponsoring and working on the Hollywood Overlook Project. The overlooks are two stone terrace additions on either side of the Palmer Chapel which is situated on an elevated position overlooking the James River, the Kanawha canal and the downtown Richmond skyline. The Cemetery asked the JRGC to help develop and review proposed paving and planting plans for the site. The overlook terraces were designed to provide greater opportunities for the public to connect with the James River, to enjoy Hollywood's green spaces and provide a lovely, reflective area for visitors to enjoy. The project blended with JRGC's interests by incorporating conservation, education, historic tourism and civic planting and beautification to benefit the community.

Hollywood Overlook

Anna Julia Cooper School Garden Project



Anna Julia Cooper is an independent, faith-based school providing full tuition scholarships to 4th - 8th grade students of limited resources in Richmond's East End. Several James River Garden Club (JRGC) members are active volunteers at the school and recognized an opportunity to work with AJC students to increase their awareness of the benefits of gardening, recycling and composting. These members developed a plan for the JRGC to partner with Anna Julia Cooper on projects which would meet the school's beautification needs, reduce their environmental footprint and allow the middle schoolers to participate in hands on gardening activities.

The projects were launched in the fall of 2017 with some basic plantings in front of the school. The partnership then expanded to include the addition of raised flower and vegetable beds and multiple recycling/compost programs. The JRGC planned the spaces to be relatively low maintenance, pollinator friendly, and to be visually appealing to the children while also providing an outdoor learning garden. An after-school garden club was established and included student activities such as planting, weeding and observing birds and pollinators in the planted beds. Students even set up a web cam on the school roof to watch the garden activity as well as nesting birds. Vegetables grown were consumed by the students which was a big hit!



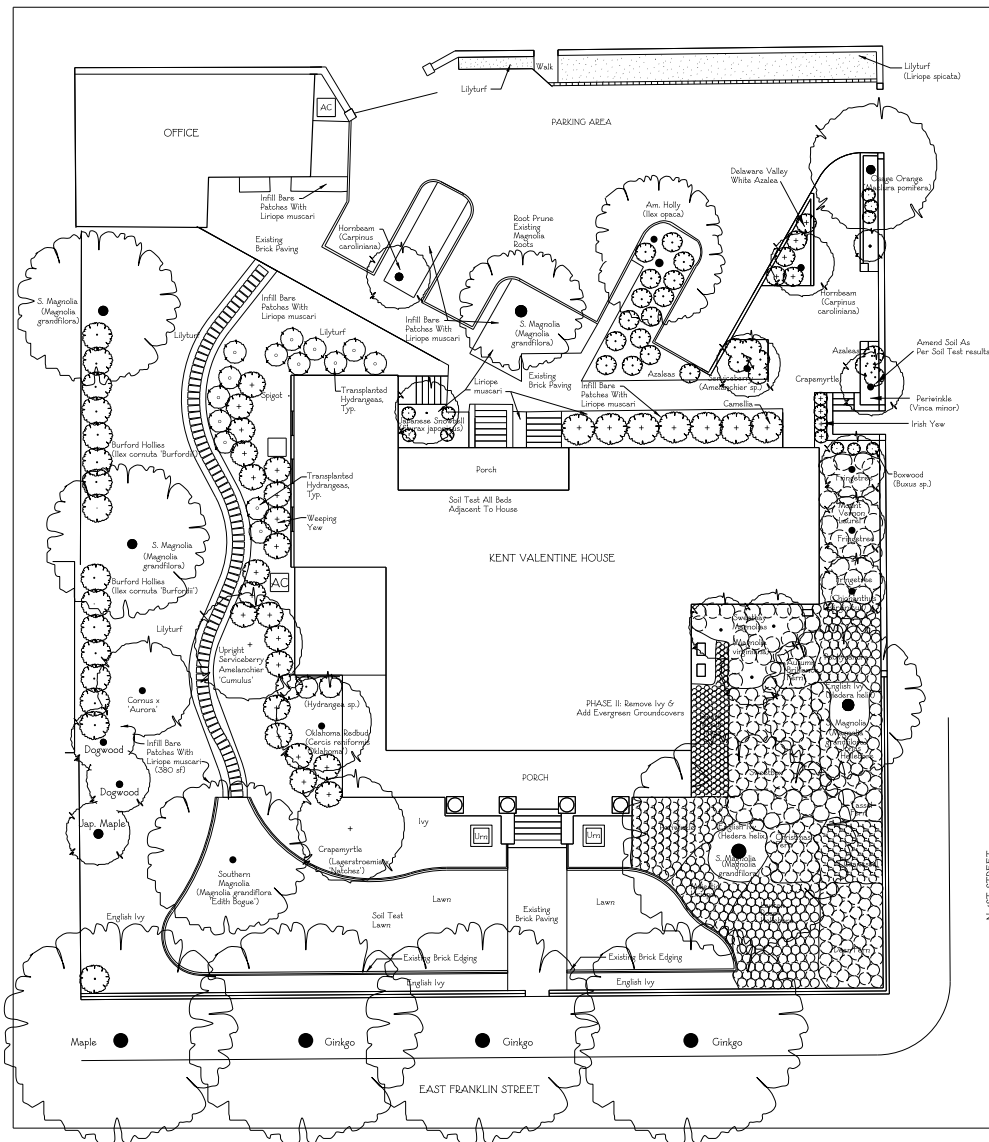


Kent-Valentine
House



Kent-Valentine House

Exterior and Interior Refurbishments



PLANT LIST

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	QTY	SIZE/ROOT	COMMENTS
<i>Amelanchier canadensis</i>	Upright Serviceberry	1	12-24" Cal.	
<i>Camellia japonica</i> 'April Rain'	Camellia	6	2-4"	Malting
<i>Camellia</i> 'Winter Rose'	Camellia	4	2-4"	Transplant
<i>Hydrangea</i> sp.	Hydrangea	14		Existing
<i>Hydrangea</i> sp.	Natchez Crape Myrtle	1	12-14"/B&B	Specimen
<i>Photodendron</i> 'Delaware Valley White'	Delaware Valley White Azalea	2	2-7" Cal.	Malting
<i>Taxus canadensis</i> 'Robusta'	Weeping Yew	4	4-5"/B&B	Malting
<i>Taxus canadensis</i> 'Repandens'	Weeping Yew	25	24-30"/Cont.	Malting

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	QTY	SIZE/ROOT	COMMENTS
<i>Platycodon grandiflorus</i>	Blue Bell	45	3.00"/Cont.	24" On Center
<i>Dracaena arborescens</i> 'Brilliance'	Azulena Brilliance Fern	31	3.00"/Cont.	30" On Center
<i>Ceratium ingersollii</i> 'Variegata'	Cranesbill	64	3.00"/Cont.	18" On Center
<i>Helleborus</i> 'Jenny'	Jonas Hellebore	35	3.00"/Cont.	24" On Center
<i>Helleborus hybridus</i> 'Pine Knot Strain'	Lenten Rose Hellebore	125	3.00"/Cont.	18" On Center
<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Yellow Pencil	2500	1.00"/1st	6" On Center
<i>Chrysopsis japonicus</i> 'Nana'	Dwarf Mondo Grass	2050	1.00"/1st	6" On Center
<i>Pachysandra terminalis</i> 'Vernon Street'	Periwinkle	65	2.5"/2nd	24" On Center
<i>Polyalthia acrochloides</i>	Christmas Fern	21	3.00"/Cont.	24" On Center
<i>Polystichum polypodioides</i>	Tassel Fern	18	3.00"/Cont.	24" On Center
<i>Thalictrum flavum</i> 'Mount Vernon'	Mount Vernon Laurel	25	3" Cal.	36" On Center
<i>Sarcococca hookeriana</i> 'Humilis'	Sweetbox	63	4"/1st	24" On Center
<i>Vincetoxicum</i>	Periwinkle	72	1.00"/2nd	18" On Center

NOTES

- 1) Prior To Plant Installation, Note Location Of Soil Test Results To Ensure Proposer Location - Amend Soil As Per Soil Test Results.
- 2) Do Not Transfer Daffodil Bulbs To Planting Bed Until After Proposed Soil Amending As Per Soil Test Results.

LEGEND

- EXISTING DECIDUOUS TREE OR SHRUB
- EXISTING EVERGREEN TREE OR SHRUB
- PROPOSED EVERGREEN TREE OR SHRUB
- PROPOSED DECIDUOUS TREE OR SHRUB

PLANTING PLAN

Kent-Valentine House
Headquarters of
The Garden Club of Virginia
Richmond, Virginia

1/8"=1'-0"
October 2018
JTM WBE

THE GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA
RILEY & ASSOCIATES LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS
410 East Water Street, Suite 303, Charlottesville, VA 22902

P-1

The transformation of the landscape around the Kent Valentine House last fall was fascinating to watch. Will Rieley, the GCV's landscape architect, worked on a plan to refresh a lovely but tired yard. Plants were removed, moved and added so that the KVH would look its best for the Centennial celebration in May 2020.

Along the west side of the house, hydrangeas needing more shade were shifted further back in the same bed and were replaced by Weeping Yew and an upright Serviceberry. Azaleas were pruned or replaced in the parking area. The line of sasanqua camellias along the back foundation of the house was removed, replanted or replaced after the soil was tested and amended. Four Irish Yew line up in the rectangular planter to the left of the elevator entry door. A Natchez Crape Myrtle replaced the declining pink crape in the front ivy border. The area under the twin magnolias along 1st Street was planted with a patchwork of groundcovers and spreading perennials to see what will work best in the deep, dry shade: Christmas, Autumn Brilliance, Tassel and Deer ferns, Lenten Rose and Jonas Hellebores, Cranesbill, Sweetbox, Mt. Vernon Laurel, Periwinkle, Pachysandra, Dwarf Mondo Grass and Majestic Liriope.

Our mild winter encouraged everything to flourish as you can see in the photos. The Margaret Bemiss dogwood (Aurora) thrives, and we are thrilled with how well the Green Arrow daffodils bloomed in the large urns out front.

Contributed by Jody Branch

PLANT LIST

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	QTY	SIZE/ROOT	COMMENTS
Amelanchier 'Cumulus'	Upright Serviceberry	1	1.5-2" Cal.	
Camellia japonica 'April Kiss'	Camellia	6	3 Gal	Matching
Camellia 'Winter Rose'	Camellia	4	Existing	Transplant
Hydrangea sp.	Hydrangea	14	Existing	Transplant
Lagerstroemia x 'Natchez'	Natchez Crape myrtle	1	12-14'/B&B	Specimen
Rhododendron 'Delaware Valley White'	Delaware Valley White Azalea	6	5-7 Gal	Matching
Taxus baccata 'Fastigiata'	Upright Yew	4	4-5'/B&B	Matching
Taxus baccata 'Repandens'	Weeping Yew	25	24-30"/Cont	

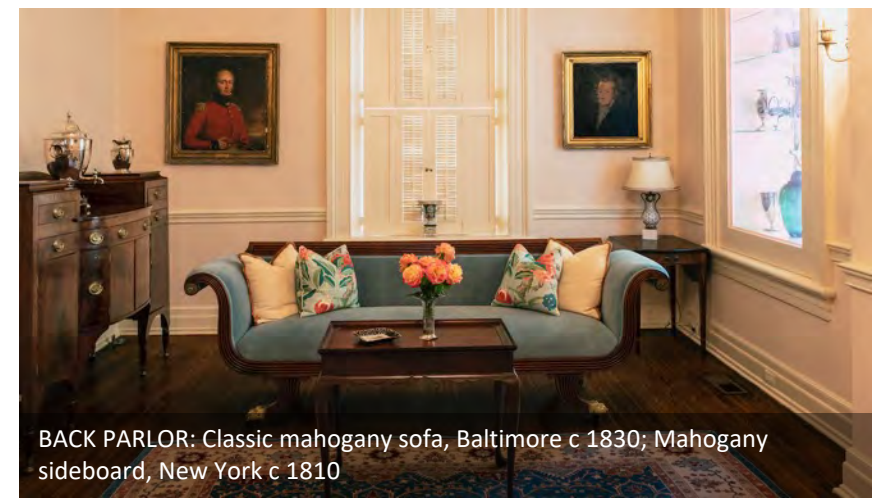
BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	QTY	SIZE/ROOT	COMMENTS
Blechnum spicant	Deer Fern	45	3 Qt/Cont	24" On Center
Dryopteris erythrosora 'Brilliance'	Autumn Brilliance Fern	31	3 Qt/Cont	30" On Center
Geranium 'Ingwersen's Variety'	Cranesbill	64	3 Qt/Cont	15" On Center
Helleborus 'Jonas'	Jonas Hellebore	33	3 Qt/Cont	24" On Center
Helleborus hybridus 'Pine Knot Strain'	Lenten Rose Hellebore	125	3 Qt/Cont	18" On Center
Liriope muscari 'Majestic'	Majestic Liriope	2,100	Pint/Pot	6" On Center
Ophiopogon japonicus 'Nana'	Dwarf Mondo Grass	200	Pint/Pot	8" On Center
Pachysandra terminalis 'Green Sheen'	Pachysandra	65	2.5"/Pot	18" On Center
Polystichum acrostichoides	Christmas Fern	21	3 Qt/Cont	24" On Center
Polystichum polyblepharum	Tassel Fern	18	3 Qt/Cont	32" On Center
Prunus laurocerasus 'Mount Vernon'	Mount Vernon Laurel	25	3 Gal	36" On Center
Sarcococca hookeriana 'Humilis'	Sweetbox	63	4"/Pot	24" On Center
Vinca minor	Periwinkle	72	Pint/Pot	18" On Center







EAST PARLOR: Detail of Renaissance Revival carved, gessoed and gilded overmantel mirror BEFORE and AFTER (below)



BACK PARLOR: Classic mahogany sofa, Baltimore c 1830; Mahogany sideboard, New York c 1810



DINING ROOM: Queen Anne mahogany banquet table, English, late 18th century; 8 Chippendale ribbon back mahogany chairs.



EAST PARLOR: Hepplewhite mahogany, camelback sofas with a pair of Hepplewhite style Pembroke tables.
Interior photos courtesy of Ben Greenberg



View from GOTHIC PARLOR through to EAST PARLOR: Classic mahogany sofa, New York c 1820, with convex mahogany veneer



Sunroom furniture in the Chippendale style, mid 20th century



Welcome to GCV
Three Rivers Garden
Club

Welcome 48th GCV Member Club

Organized February 2016, Three Rivers Garden Club was mentored by the Ashland Garden Club. Three Rivers derives its name from the York, Pamunkey and James Rivers that flow through New Kent and Charles City counties.

Three Rivers Garden Club members have hosted speakers featuring conservation, beautification, restoration, gardening and flower arranging.

They have participated in community beautification projects and have taken field trips to visit gardens around the state.

GCV President Jean Gilpin welcomed Three Rivers members to the Kent-Valentine House in 2019 when they attended the biennial meeting of the Ashland, Brunswick and Petersburg Garden Clubs as guests.



President Julia Boyd



Three Rivers assisted Ashland with HGW tours in 2016 and 2017. The following year, they co-hosted a tour in New Kent County. Throughout the mentorship, Ashland and Three Rivers have held numerous joint club meetings.





GARDEN CLUB
OF VIRGINIA

*Historic
Garden Week*

Impact

\$518





2013

Our first survey of visitors to Historic Garden Week was done in 2013 by **Virginia Tourism Corporation**. They had an initial interest in surveying the cultural tourist. We wanted to know who are our visitors and where do they come from. We used email addresses from online ticket buyers to survey. 438 people completed the survey online for a 46% response and completion rate.

Demographics

74% Respondents (Visitors) were from Virginia and surrounding states. The rest were from 30 other states and countries. Visitors are mostly female, have a declared income of \$100,000 or more, and average ages are between 55-70. Typically, they travel with a spouse or partner/date/friend. 93% are empty nesters. 80% of these visitors said that HGW was the primary reason for the day trip or overnight.

Many visitors are repeat attendees having attended more than 3 tours over a 10-year period. What they like best are tours of gardens followed by tours of homes. History-related tours are popular. They like the lunches offered on the tours as well as the food and wine tastings. Tours of art galleries, flower arranging demonstrations and shopping are also very attractive to these visitors.

An average day spending per person was \$131 and spending for an overnight was \$1,200.



2014

In 2014, the GCV wanted a deeper understanding of the broader economic impact of HGW. Generously underwritten by Bartlett Tree Experts, we were able to do a more robust survey and engaged Chmura Analytics & Economics to conduct the more in-depth survey. They calculated the direct impact of the spending and the ripple effects of the spending like the landscaper buying mulch, the homeowner buying paint, a café buying food.

Visitor Spending \$3.2 million

Face to face interviews of 540 people at 7 tour locations; 374 online interviews; 33 job equivalents; \$2 million direct spending; \$1.2 million indirect and induced spending.

Event preparation \$6.9 million

Homeowners from two years of tours were asked about preparation costs and amount of time spent preparing. 124 homeowners responded. Homeowner hours: 401 per property. Total hours from all sources: 65,737 hours spent preparing for HGW. 82 job equivalents; \$4.2 million direct spending; \$2.7 million indirect and induced spending

Survey of Restoration Properties

Properties said funded projects were crucial to their budgets, gardens or landscapes. They would not be able to do or complete the projects without the GCV funding. They also stressed the importance of the relationship with the GCV as valuable to their organizations. Exposure in the Guidebook and on the website were valuable to them as well.

2014 Total Impact \$11 million



2019

In commemoration of the GCV Centennial, we updated the HGW economic impact study with Chmura again thanks to funding by Bartlett Tree Experts. Instead of recreating the data gathering, Chmura used the existing data plus annual income and expense reporting from Historic Garden Week, Restoration and State Parks funding

Visitor Spending \$3.9 million

37 job equivalents; \$2.1 million direct spending

Event preparation \$7.5 million

86 job equivalents; \$4.4 million direct impact

Restoration and State Parks \$1.1 million

7 job equivalents; \$6 million direct impact

2019 Total Impact \$12.5 million

130 job equivalents; \$7.1 million direct impact

\$518 million Impact since 1969

A close-up photograph of two light pink camellia flowers in full bloom, surrounded by lush green leaves. The flowers have multiple layers of petals, creating a ruffled appearance. The background is filled with more green foliage, creating a dense and vibrant scene.

Restoration Projects



Reveley Garden

College of William & Mary



Poplar Forest



Stratford Hall



Point of Honor

Photos courtesy of LuAnn Hunt, City of Lynchburg

A photograph of a tree worker in a yellow helmet and safety vest working on a large tree trunk. The worker is positioned in the middle ground, surrounded by dense green foliage. The tree trunk is thick and textured. In the background, a brick building is partially visible through the branches. The overall scene is bright and natural.

Bartlett Workdays

In celebration of the GCV Centennial, Bartlett Tree Experts provided crews and equipment for workdays at eight restoration properties, to include assessing the property's needs, pruning and debris removal. A three-year tree and shrub plan was created and presented to each site.





Christ Church Lancaster County



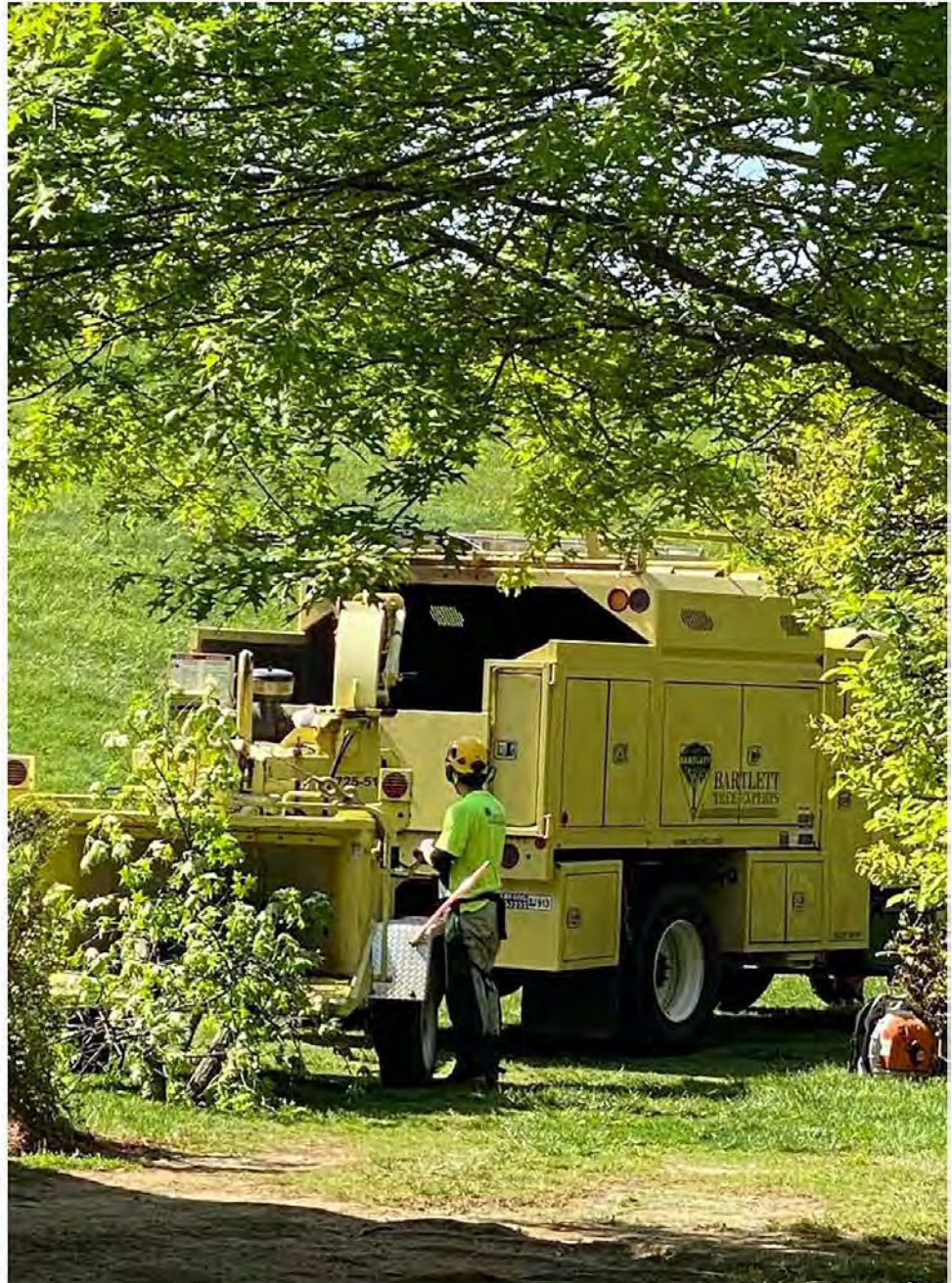
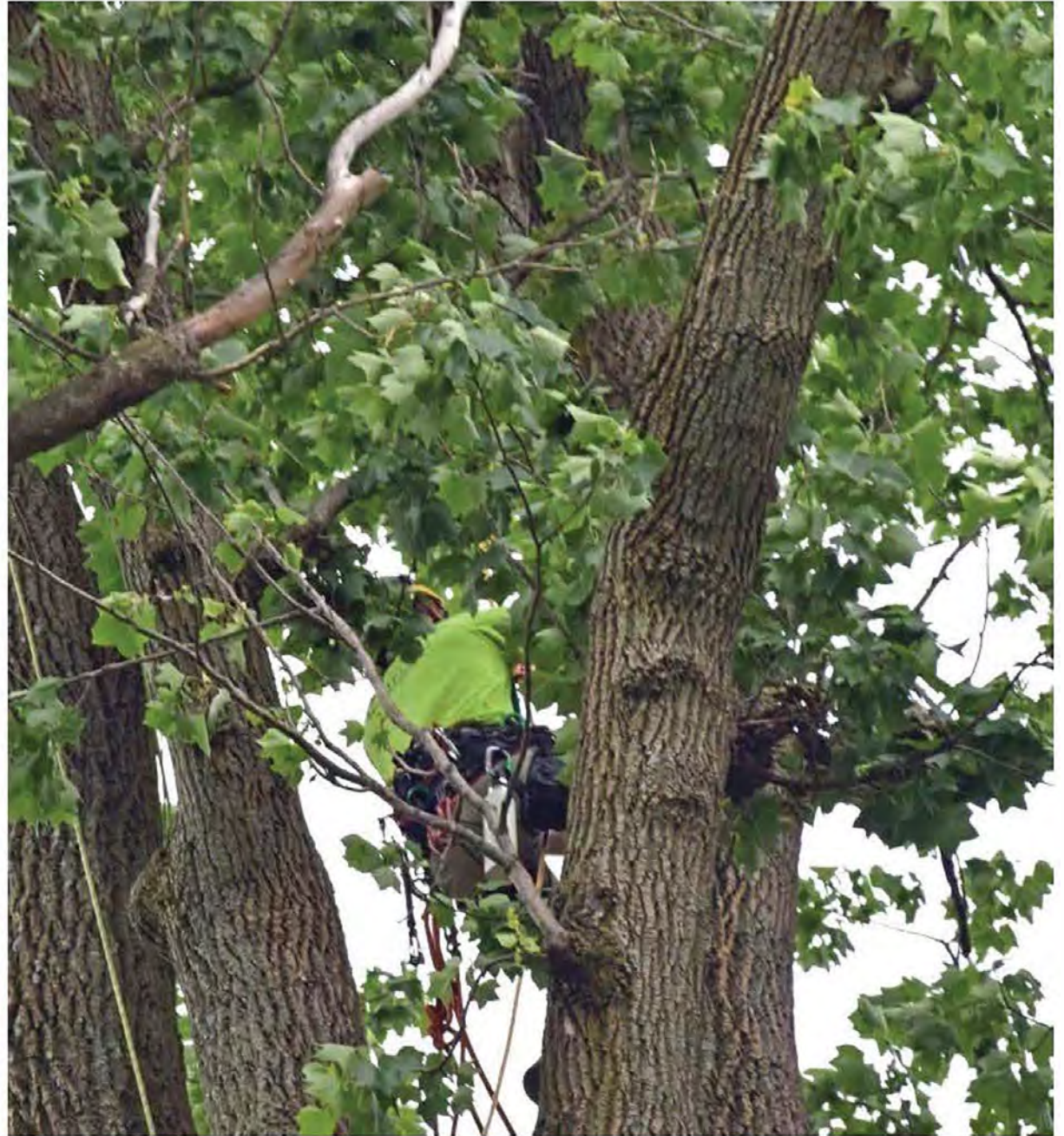


Photo credit Rory Sansone, Hollins' multimedia specialist



Kenmore

Photos courtesy Jessica Burger



Historic Portsmouth Courthouse



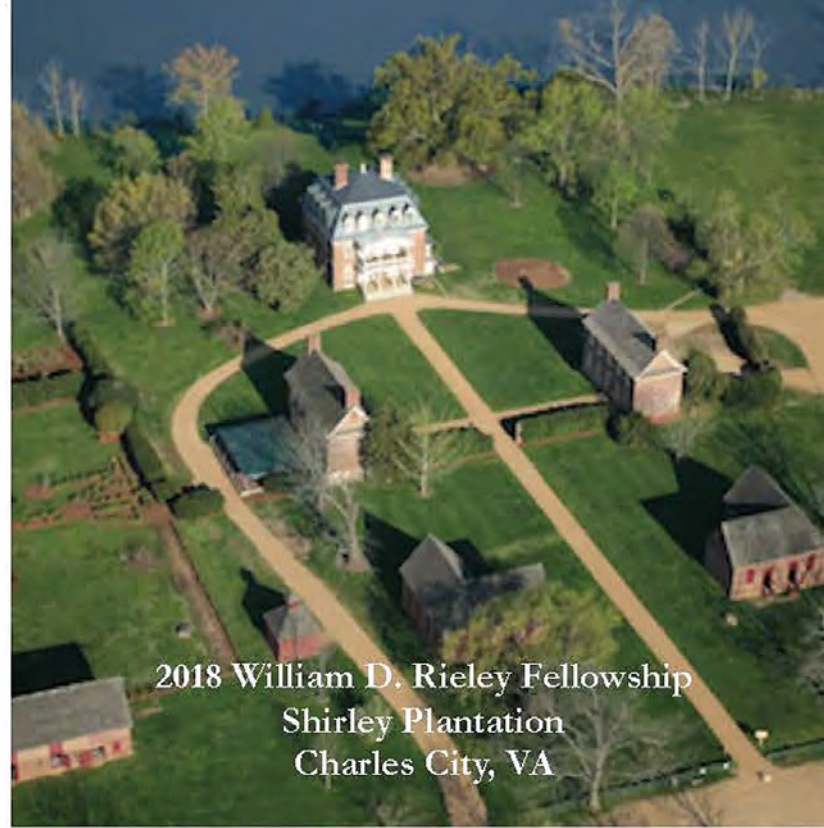




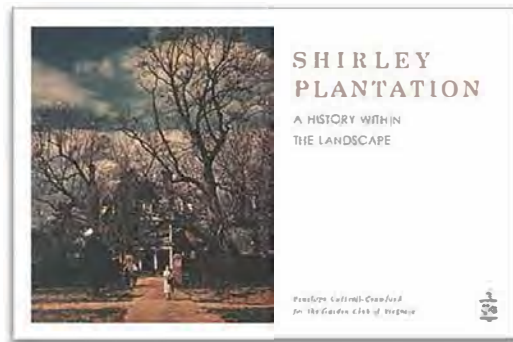
Wilton

Restoration Fellowships





Mary Fesak (left), 2018 Rudy J. Favretti Fellow and Penelope Cottrell-Crawford, 2018 William D. Rieley Fellow



Visit gcvfellowship.org/archives for library of final reports.



Dania Khlaifat,
2019 Rudy J. Favretti Fellow

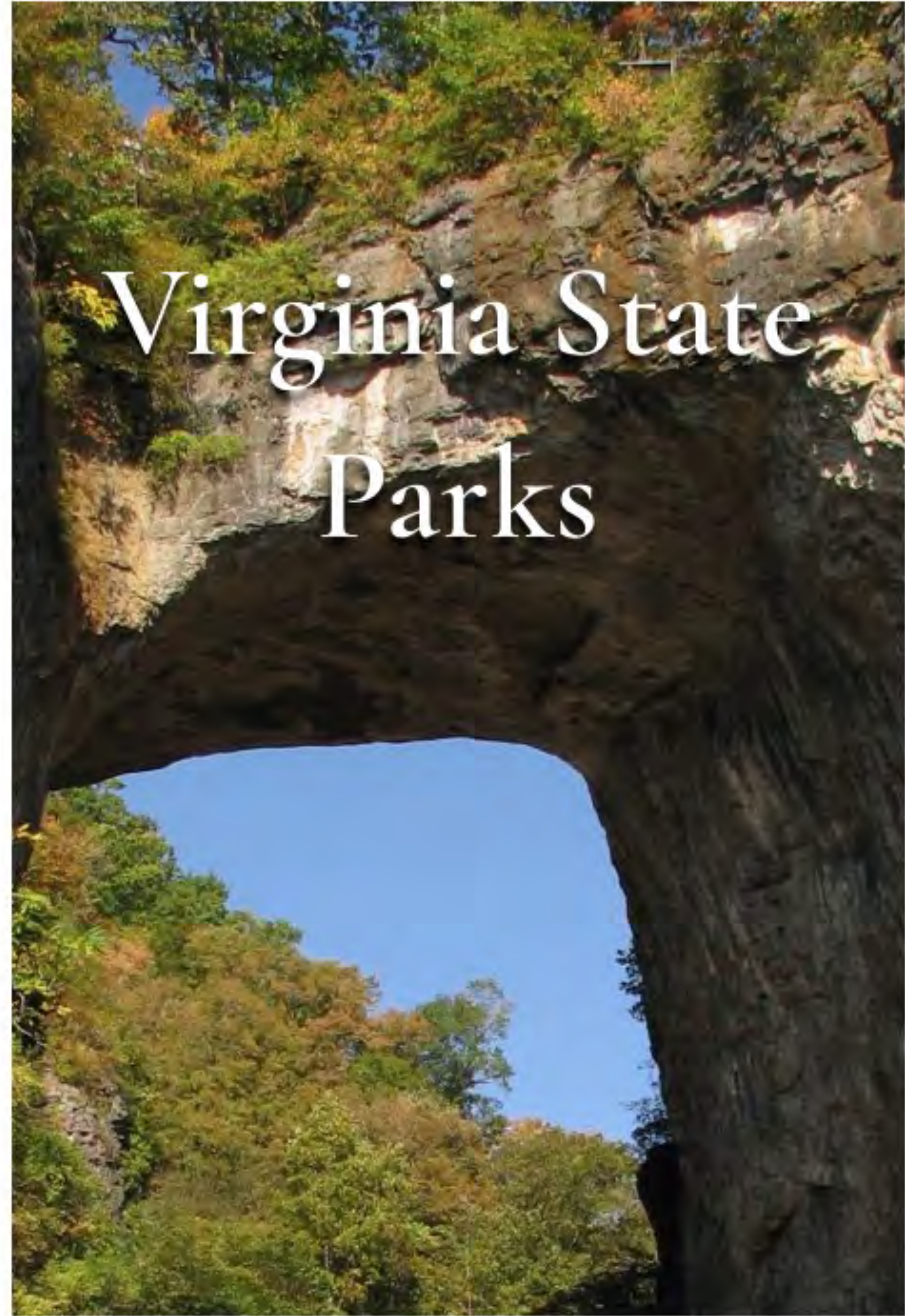
The plantation property known as Farmington was patented in 1744. In 1785 George Divers, a friend of Thomas Jefferson, purchased the property. He built the original portion of the Georgian style house and later, in 1803-04 added two Jefferson designed additions, one octagonal wing on the east side and a two-story wing with dependences on the south side. Farming and horticulture cemented the friendship between Jefferson and Divers. There was much discussion about what, how and when to plant and there is much information to be gleaned from the correspondence between the two. And Jefferson, in fact, transcribed Divers planting instructions into his *Garden Book*.



Hayden Hammons,
2019 William D. Rieley Fellow

Mount Airy offers the rare opportunity to study a site that has been held by the same family since the mid-1600s. This historic house, built in the mid-1700s by John Tayloe II, sits high on a ridge with a wide view of the Rappahannock River Valley. Similar to the layout of Mount Vernon, the two-story main block is flanked by curving one-story passageways that connect to two-story dependencies set forward at each end. These create a three-sided enclosure with a semi-circular forecourt.

2019 final reports are in progress.



Virginia State
Parks

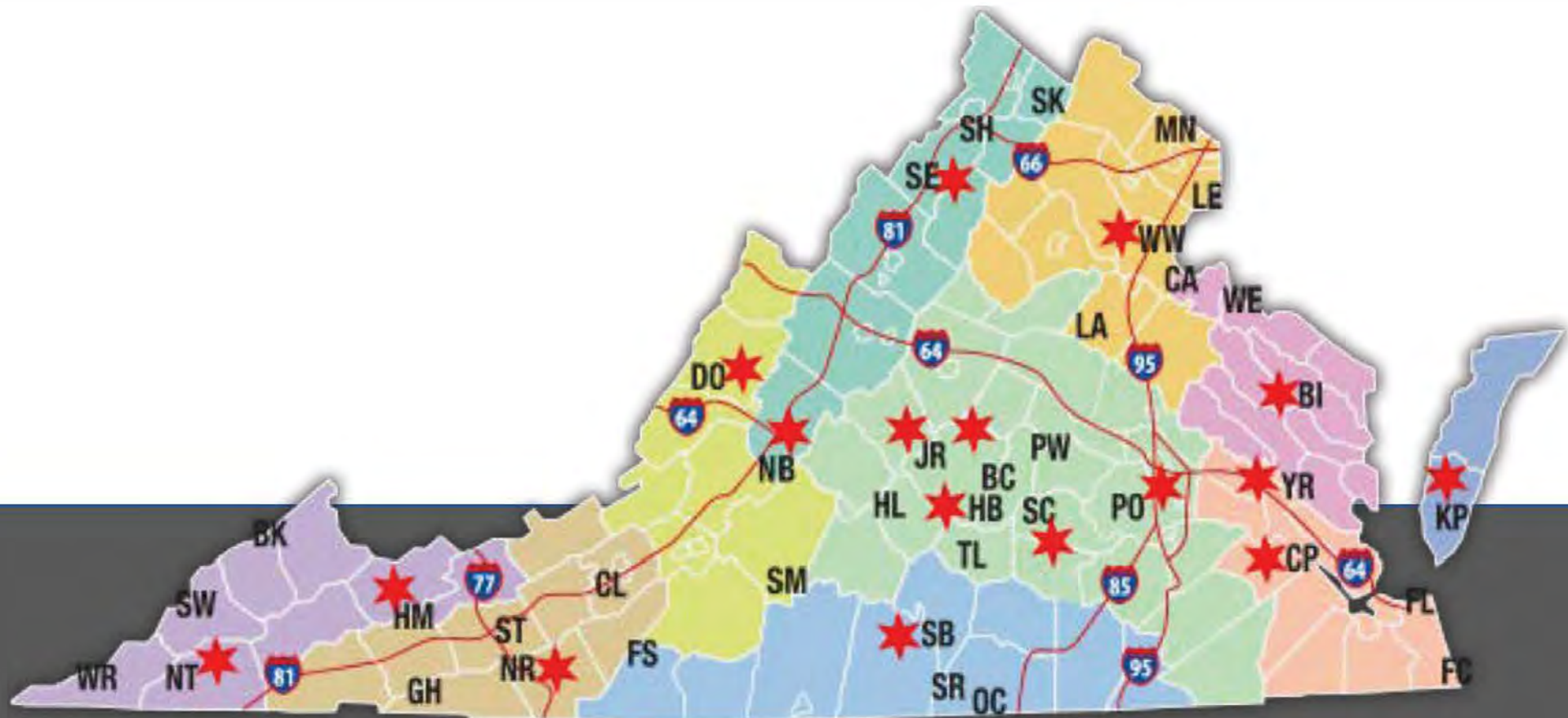
Virginia
State
Parks



GARDEN CLUB
OF VIRGINIA

Centennial

1920-2020



VA State Parks

\$500,000

Centennial Gift Statewide Impact



Funded Projects



Belle Isle

“The Garden Club of Virginia Centennial Grants have allowed Belle Isle State Park to achieve so much. We revived our open air hay wagon, created new pollinator habitat throughout the park, opened an educational visitor center exhibit focusing on the history and culture of the Northern Neck of Virginia, and completely rehabilitated the gardens and grounds of the historic Belle Isle Manor House. These projects have also provided us the opportunity to connect with our community in new ways - with volunteers logging more than 1,300 hours to support these efforts. Thank you for making all of this possible.”

Katie Shepard, Park Manager

Bear Creek Lake



“As most of you know in recent years Virginia State Parks have very little operating budget. Most of our discretionary funding must be put towards critical maintenance needs. The grants provided by the GCV have allowed us to beautify our parks for the park guests as well as provide critical pollinator habitat for the ecosystem.”

Joey Dayton, Park Manager



Caledon



“

... encouraging the public to use refillable bottles in lieu of thin plastic single use bottles.”



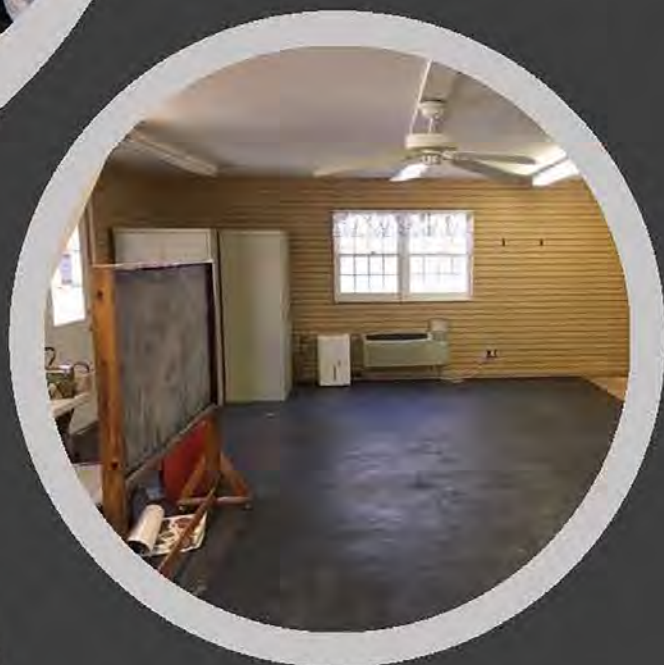
Wildlife Observation Area

The Field In Front Of You Has Been Allowed To Remain In It's Natural State To Provide Food And Cover For Wildlife. Various Plants And Structures Have Been Introduced To Enhance The Use Of The Fields By Many Species Of Wildlife. This Type Of Backyard Habitat Can Be Constructed On Almost Any Backyard Or Vacant Lot.



“ .. to redo our visitor center exhibits that had been in place for decades and were in need of a complete overhaul .”

Chippokes Plantation



“The Garden Club's generosity has undoubtedly helped improve Chippokes Plantation's visitor experience, and we are very thankful for their contributions.”

Austin Monnett, Assistant Park Manager



“ .. to turn our current classroom building into a discovery center, going from a bare room with metal cabinets and tables, to an interactive space, where we will house live animals, have an interpreter more available to interact with the public, and upgrade it for presentations and workshops.”



Claytor Lake

“

Claytor Lake State Park staff are excited by this opportunity that was provided by the Garden Club of Virginia. We look forward to beautifying multiple day use areas of the park, enriching the cabin setting for overnight guests, and educating visitors of the practice of utilizing native flora for landscaping, gardening, and attracting pollinators at home and within their own communities and neighborhoods.”

Kenny Strum, Chief Ranger

Douthat

“The night sky, like our forests, wildlife, soils, and water is a natural resource that must be protected for future generations to experience and enjoy. The opportunity to see the night skies in their natural state is decreasing, which is why we must protect the areas where dark sky viewing conditions exist.”

With the funding from the GCV grant, Douthat State Park was able to purchase dark sky friendly lighting for the following areas: Beaver Dam Campground, Whispering Pines Campground, Lakeside Campground, 3 park residences, and 32 park cabins and 3 lodges.

Lights were purchased from a mirco vendor in Staunton, Va. All of the lights purchased with the funds have been installed. We are finalizing aspects of our IDA Dark Sky Park application and hope to become certified in the near future.”

Katie Gibson, Chief Ranger of Visitor Experience





Fairy Stone

“

We were part of the very first round of grants and I worked closely with three different garden club chapters: The Martinsville Garden Club, The Garden Study Club, and The Garden Club of Danville. That grant helped us create a huge pollinator waystation that added to our programming as well as beautifying the area near the park office.”

Andrew Philpot, Park Manager



Before



After

“ Holliday Lake

The new electrical outlet and underwater fish lights greatly enhanced our flagship interpretive program: Beneath the Surface. Since 2018, over 2,000 people have participated in this unique visual experience. We can now 'shed more light' on the underwater nightlife of Holliday Lake.”

Evan Spears, Park Interpreter



Hungry Mother

Parker's Discovery Area



Native Plant and Pollinator Garden

James River

“

We are very happy with the progress and we hope you are happy with it too. Words cannot express our gratitude for the grant and making our park a special place to visit.”

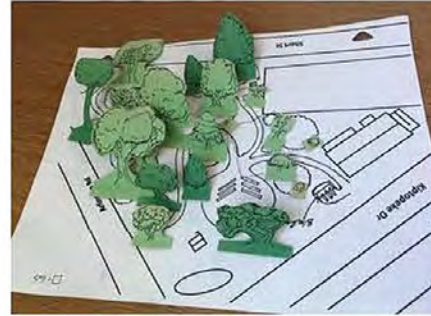
*Marty Liebschwer
Chief Ranger Visitor Experience*

“

Kiptopeke State Park, in partnership with the Garden Club of Virginia through the Centennial Grant, has achieved tremendous work at Big Water Visitor Center. Without your support and the hard work of our park staff and volunteers, Big Water Visitor Center would still be an empty restaurant waiting to be turned into its true purpose. Big Water Visitor Center will provide our community and visiting park guests with a facility that truly showcases and embodies the cultural, historical, and environmental story of the Virginia Eastern Shore.”

Josh Mazzatenta, Chief Ranger

Kiptopeke



Big Water Visitor Center

**THANK YOU
GARDEN CLUB
OF VIRGINIA**



"Thank you so much for making this all possible. Our plaza is now a meeting place, resting place, educational tool, and attractive addition to the visitor experience at Mason Neck State Park, just as we wished."



“ Mason Neck

Our work is complete on the projects that the Garden Club of Virginia allowed us to accomplish with their generous grants. The outside of the visitor center looks great with the new sidewalk, plant beds, rain barrels, and dry creek beds. We have the custom benches installed, as well as new signage, a lattice screen, and a permanent fence for our pollinator garden. Our iconic eagle statue is also outside of our visitor center, thanks to the Mason Neck State Park Friends Group.

As we hoped, the new plaza provides park guests a place to gather, meet friends, and take photographs. There is now a clear path to the visitor center, rather than the administrative offices, and the new signage gives clear directions to the various entrances. Our new landscaping also provides educational opportunities for our visitors in many ways, like having name tags beside plants."

Gray Reinhard, Park Manager



Natural Tunnel

“

On behalf of the Cove Ridge Foundation, I am pleased to share updates on the project at Natural Tunnel State Park. On April 14, the Cove Ridge Foundation will be voting on matching funds for the grant amount awarded from the Garden Club of Virginia. If matched, this project will have \$10,000 to improve the interpretive exhibits at the Visitor Center. The Foundation along with park staff are working on community resources to assist and be a part of this opportunity. With one of the themes being the railroad, Norfolk Southern and CSX are both on our list to contact in the coming months. As for the project itself, interpretive staff has started a sign and display inventory (pictured). We have started tagging signs that will be kept in the new exhibit. From there, we can figure out what is being told and what is left out of the story of Natural Tunnel. In the coming months, the majority of the work for this project will focus around generating signage and displays. Park staff will also meet in June to discuss the construction of the new exhibits and a timeline. Both members of the Foundation and park staff are very exciting about the opportunity to bring this much needed project to fruition.”

*Rachel Toward Blevins
Chief Ranger of Visitor Experience*

This is the third side of triangular display. Will continue the timeline of park beyond the railroad to when it opened as a state park.

Plan: Build train car starting at wall and ending at second pillar. Entrance to the inside of the car will be to the right of the wall. Space inside will be the walk-through exhibit. Remove benches to create more walking room near exhibit.



“ Natural Bridge

Natural Bridge State Park considers itself a "gateway" to nature. We have thousands of visitors that come to see the natural wonder that may not think of the importance of the natural world around them. Through the Garden Club of Virginia grant we have been able to demonstrate through our Interactive Classroom and exhibits the value of land management for pollinators, awareness of a watershed through a touch screen monitor, and the value of biodiversity with our wildlife exhibit. Students from all over Virginia and surrounding states visit the park on field trips and park guests from every state in America and countries around the world visit here. You have made a mark on lives that will forever make a difference. Thank you so much for your support.”

Jim Jones, Park Manager

New River Trail

“

New River Trail State Park is working to tell the story of its region's history. A history rich in natural, cultural and historical significance.

Our museum floor plans have people entering its doors to the natural history of our area, including information on its mining and natural histories. The New River runs along most of the park's rail-to-trail, giving guests picturesque views of the surrounding area, curved out from this beautiful river.

Patrons then move into our railroad history and Baldwin-Felts detective agency rooms highlighting the history of these companies in our region.

Our final room focuses on the people of this region and their contributions to our growing nation, region and local communities.

We have begun placing items in our displays we've purchased and are working on an exhibit plan. Historical data has been researched for developing exhibit layouts. We have some of our timeline historical signs already on site and posted along the trail. These historical signs will continue on-going until we finish them all. ”

Sam Sweeney, Park Manager





**Pocahontas State Park
CCC Group Cabin Stabilization Project**

S:

Thanks to Volunteers.



... and the generous support of our sponsors



Pocahontas

“

The Garden Club of Virginia's grants were instrumental in allowing us to purchase materials that our volunteers used to stabilize 9 buildings last year with more to come this year in our Civilian Conservation Corps group cabin area. Youth groups using these cabins will no longer have to deal with leaky roofs and pests, but can concentrate on helping youth gain an appreciation of our environment, teamwork, and other life skills. Without your financial support these cabins wouldn't provide the quality learning environment for today's youth as they have over the last 80+ years. Thank you."

David Dieter

CCC Cabin Stabilization Project Leader



Sailor's Creek Battlefield

“

Our hope is that by summer we will be able to start using the garden for pollinator programs. It will be a great tool to use in teaching children about pollinators and how they can become stewards of the environment.”

Sandie Ingersoll, Office Manager

Future Site of:
River's Way Natural Playground and Outdoor Classroom
 A collaborative project between Friends of Seven Bends State Park, Friends of the North Fork of the Shenandoah River, The Garden Club of Virginia, and Seven Bends State Park, partially funded with a grant from the Garden Club of Virginia 2020 Centennial Project

We need your help to make this project come to life!
 Please consider becoming a sponsor, donor, partner or volunteer in this community project. Contact Friends of Seven Bends State Park at 540-459-8550 for more information.

project vision and design assistance provided by:

EXISTING FEATURES LEGEND

- PARK ENTRANCE - HOLLINGSWORTH ACRES
- NORTH FORK OF THE SHENANDOAH RIVER
- WALKWAY FACILITY
- PARKING
- HARD CARRY WOOD UNLOAD

PROPOSED ELEMENTS LEGEND

- RETIRED CLASSROOM
- PANEL ISLAND FEATURES
- DRIFT PLAY
- TRAMPOLINE BRIDGE - ROPE PLAY FEATURE
- "HOLLINGSWORTH BROOD" STUMP JUMP
- FENCE
- PAPER BRIDGE
- FENCE LINE
- PUBLIC RESTROOM / NO

EXISTING FEATURES

- "LANDSLIDE" BOAT PLAY STRUCTURE
- CLIMBING POINT - BOULDER PLAY AREA
- "WATERHOLE" CAMP SCENE
- ACTIVITY AREA (TABLES AND CHAIRS)

PROPOSED FEATURES

- "ICE BALANCE" FEATURE
- WOODEN BOX TOWER CLIMBING STRUCTURE
- "HOLLINGSWORTH BRID" "SHORT CUT"
- ACCESSIBLE "ROPE" SHORT CUT
- "WATERHOLE" BOAT PLAY VIEW

SEVEN BENDS STATE PARK NATURE AREA PLAYScape AND OUTDOOR CLASSROOM
 DESIGN STUDY, PLAN VIEW AND EXAMPLE IMAGES
 HOLLINGSWORTH ROAD ENTRANCE
 REID/DODD/CPL, WILLIAMS
 DATE: 8/17/2018

SHEET 1 OF 2

Seven Bends

Funding received March 2020 “...we have been soliciting vendors for construction quotes. The Friends of Seven Bends and I continue to make plans.”

Thomas M. Stevens, Chief Ranger

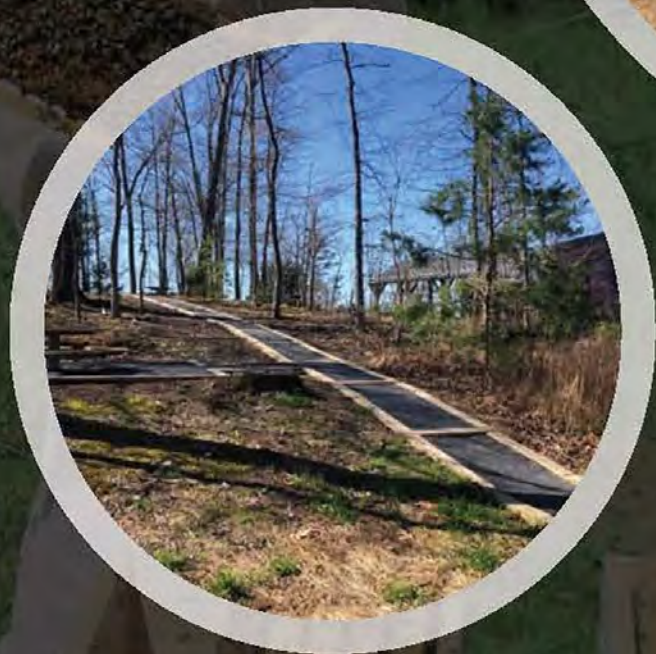
"...turned an unused field into a pollinator meadow with trails, benches, signage, beehives and interpretive opportunities."

Shenandoah River

“

...funding to improve the native plant garden area in front of the Visitor Center building. Additional plants were purchased and planted with volunteer labor, lighting was improved on the walkway, trails were hardened and lined with timbers and the small picnic area was greatly improved and refreshed.”

Sam Jensen, Chief Ranger





Sky Meadows

“
Thanks to the Garden Club of Virginia’s Centennial Project, Sky Meadows State Park opened the Children’s Discovery Area in 2017, creating a unique avenue for children and families to connect to the park’s pastoral landscape in a natural, safe environment. The project has also made possible an entire rehabilitation of the park’s Backcountry trails, ensuring trails are environmentally sustainable and provide quality hiking experiences for the park’s 175,000+ annual visitors.”

Kevin Bowman, Park Manager



Smith Mountain Lake

“

It has been a huge hit with school groups coming out to the park. We have significantly increased the number of water quality programs in the Discovery Center using the Wet Lab.

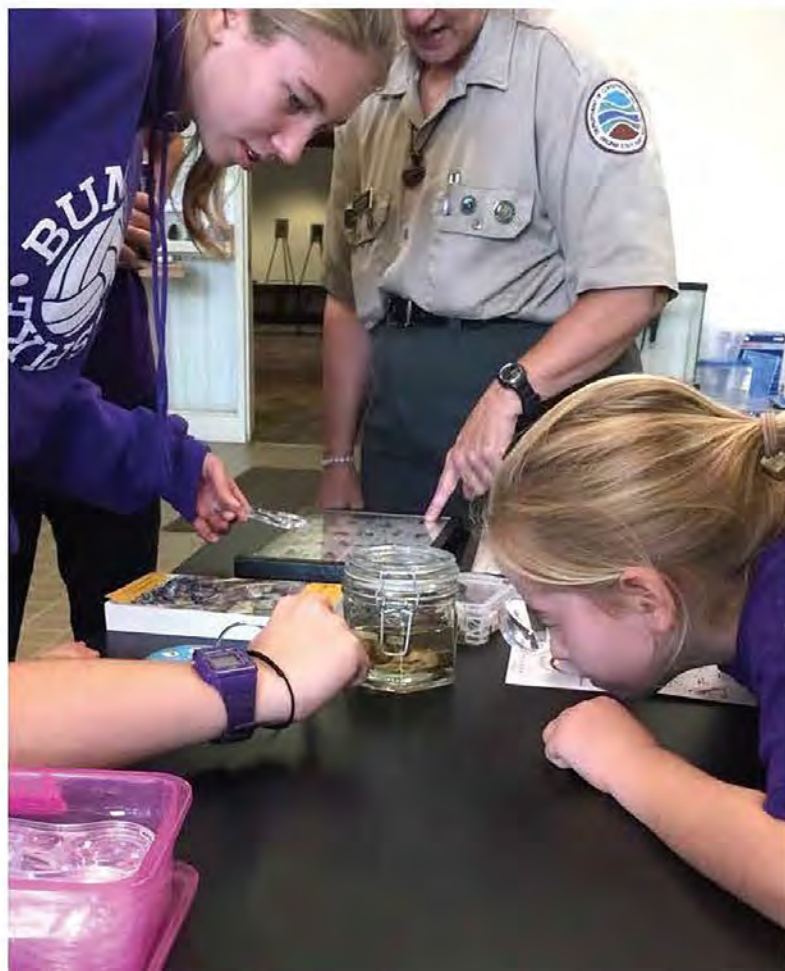
Sean Dixon, Assistant Park Manager

“I will start by saying thanks for the time, dedication and donations you all have provided us! It has been put to great use. We use the wet lab as a place for school groups to learn SOL based material as well as offer general public programs.

Most of our programs offered are based on water ecology and present Smith Mountain Lake as a healthy body of water, and what makes it that way. One program example is we use water samples collected on the boat from a nearby creek and tap water to take pH samples of and compare the results. We then discuss the healthy pH level for aquatic plants, microorganisms and other creatures that inhabit these water ways. Participants can use the available microscopes to see if they can ID any microorganisms from samples collected. The objective is to leave guest with an understanding of Smith Mountain Lake’s water quality and what effects it.

We offered 15 educational programs last year for school groups to use the wet lab which totaled 412 participants.”

Jared N. Vandergriff, Chief Ranger



Staunton River

“Our project was native landscaping around the rental cabins at Staunton River. Beds were built around cabins 1-5, and native plants were planted in the beds. One thing that we had always struggled with there was how to landscape the cabin area, and this project allowed us to really beautify the historic cabins, while at the same time increasing opportunities for pollinators.”

Adam Layman, former Park Manager





Staunton River Battlefield

“

We greatly appreciate the grant from the Garden Club of Virginia. The funds were used at Mulberry Hill plantation, a historic home dating to the mid 1700's. We restored mulberry trees to the property and built a raised bed garden that will showcase the plants used by Native American, enslaved Africans, and European colonists. This will help us show visitors the important role plants played in the history of our country.”

David Gunnells, Park Manager

Westmoreland

“

We greatly appreciate the efforts of the Garden Club and hope to work with you more in the future.”

*Michael Such
Chief Ranger Visitor Services*



Michael J. Such
Secretary of Natural Resources

Robert Alford
Chairman of the Board of Conservation and Recreation

Paul E. Gorman
Director

Richard J. Smith
Deputy Director

William L. Smith
Deputy Director

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

To whom it may concern at the Garden Club of Virginia,

The Garden Club of Virginia drastically increased the capability and quality of environmental education programming at Westmoreland State Park through Centennial Grant Funds donated to renovate the Discovery Center, which re-opened in May 2019. Interpretive program attendance doubled in 2019, reaching 20,760 people, many of whom attended programs on field trips utilizing the Discovery Center. Westmoreland State Park would like to thank the Garden Club in their involvement in building materials, history exhibits, and conservationists through quality educational programming at Westmoreland State Park, as well as for the Garden Club of Virginia's continuing involvement with Virginia State Parks.

With sincere appreciation,

Michael Such
Chief Ranger Visitor Services
Westmoreland State Park
145 Cliff Road, Montross, VA 22520
804-493-8821 FAX 804-493-8329



Widewater

“

The funds provided by the Garden Club of Virginia will help us purchase the native plants and supplies needed to complete this project. Not only will it be an aesthetically pleasing view upon entering the park, it help us educate our visitors on the importance of planting native at home.”

Paul Anderson, Park Manager



York River

Landscaping, accessibility, turtle habitat, pollinator meadow



Building fences and restoring gardens at Chippokes Plantation

Filling potholes at Hungry Mother



Building tent pads at Grayson Highlands

Building picnic pads at Bear Creek Lake

Youth Conservation Corps

YCC Testimonials

Parent of 2nd year YCC Member-SW Museum and Grayson Highlands

My daughter loves this program, which is why she returned for a second year and plans to apply again in the future. I saw the program as a way to get her to step outside her comfort zone, to meet and interact with new people and gain confidence in being more independent as she moves towards adulthood. She saw it as an exciting adventure where she could make new friends, learn new skills, and spend three weeks in nature. Her experience at YCC met both our expectations, and so much more. She came home with a new-found confidence in herself, and an appreciation for hard work and a job well done. She learned the benefits of working as a team, in a way that she would never be able to experience in a classroom environment, and her enjoyment of being out in nature solidified to a love of being outside and in the mountains in particular. I would (and have on many occasions) recommend this program to anyone who has high school aged children.

YCC Crew Member-Sky Meadows

My experience was exceptional. I have previously been to Virginia Tech for their Youth Conservation Camp and it gave me a great education that I could then bring with me to Youth Conservation Corps. I loved being able to not only study Conservation, as I love to do, but apply it to a real world problem. My leaders were lovely to work with and were united in making decisions for the crew. I am also very glad to have gotten the chance to work with the fine women and men at Sky Meadows - who were so happy to have us and knew how to make a rainy day just as happy as a sunny day. Thank you for every life you have changed with this program. I know my life has been changed for the better.

YCC Crew Member-Fairy Stone

Was one of the best experiences of my life! I really enjoyed this program and the amazing park staff I got to work with!

YCC Testimonials (continued)

YCC Crew Member-Natural Bridge

My time at Natural Bridge was everything I signed up for. The work, the weekend trips, the house chores, the bonds and memories I made with the crew. Putting in hard work and physically seeing all that we did, was fulfilling. Knowing that I was involved in something that will bring other people joy was a good feeling. We were able to communicate well with each other and the park staff. Everyone, including the team leaders, got along alright which only made it better. Being a part of YCC changed my point of view on multiple things, for the good, and ultimately opened my eyes to a broader spectrum of the world. Living in a house with people from different backgrounds and sharing stories has that affect. It makes me want to join again.

YCC Crew Member-Chippokes

My experience at YCC was one of the best weeks of my life, i gained a lot of knowledge and made new friends who i still keep in touch with till now. The work wasn't easy but the experience is a must have. I gained enormous amounts of confidence and leadership skills. I would definitely apply to join next year.

YCC Crew Member-Mason Neck

Honestly, YCC was the most amazing experience of my life. I met so many new people that I still keep in touch with. I came home feeling like an entirely different person, a happier person. Being away from the real world and being forced to get out of my phone changed me for the better. The work was hard, but it was worth it. I can't wait to do it again!

Making a Difference

"I have been fortunate to work at three different parks during the GCV Centennial Project and at each park, we received grant money from the Garden Club of Virginia to support projects we never would have funded or completed without your assistance.

*At **Fairy Stone State Park**, we were part of the very first round of grants and I worked closely with three different garden club chapters: The Martinsville Garden Club, The Garden Study Club, and The Garden Club of Danville. That grant helped us create a huge pollinator waystation that added to our programming as well as beautifying the area near the park office.*

*At **James River State Park**, The Rivanna Garden Club handled the project themselves without much assistance from the park (other than our Volunteer Coordinator and a couple of volunteer groups). They built a small pollinator garden at the Discovery Center there that accomplished similar goals as the Fairy Stone project by beautifying the area and adding a space to conduct pollinator programming. As I understand it, they were successful in their application this year to improve on the previous efforts. Unfortunately, I don't have a good growing season photo of the garden but hopefully, someone from the park sends one to you.*

*Before I arrived at **Hungry Mother State Park**, they built Parker's Discovery area with a GCV grant, which is still thriving today! Before we had to close all the playgrounds due to the COVID-19 pandemic we saw frequent visitors to this natural play area.*

We were also successful this year in our application to refurbish some of our Discovery Center displays at Hungry Mother State Park. We had no plan to tackle this project without the Garden Club of Virginia's support, and trust me, some of those displays were in dire need of replacement. We haven't been able to start tackling our project yet due to the pandemic, but as soon as we are able we will start the much-needed work.

Long story short, without the support and generosity of the Garden Club of Virginia and many of the local chapters we never would have accomplished the projects that your grants funded. When I sit back and think about everything we accomplished together, all the pollinator habitats we created, all of the educational opportunities, and the overall improvement of the visitor experience in our parks I am overwhelmed by the generosity of the Garden Club of Virginia and all the people the volunteered their time to make these ideas become reality.

Thank you for all you have done, and I look forward to working with you again in the future."

Andrew Philpot
Park Manager, Hungry Mother State Park



Preserving
Our
Environment



Back to Nature

Natural Bridge September 24-25, 2019



Legislative Day 2020



61st Annual Conservation Forum

Trees: Canopy of Conservation



GARDEN CLUB
OF VIRGINIA

60th Annual
Conservation
Forum

The Real Dirt
on Pesticides:



Pollinators
Food and
Our Health

Butts, Bottles and Balloons

The basics of marine debris and what you can do to help stop it!

Katie Register
Clean Virginia Waterways
of Longwood University
www.longwood.edu/cleanva



Christina Trapani
Eco Maniac Company
Christina Trapani Consulting
www.EcoManiacCompany.com



<http://www.buckcountytouristimes.com/>

DEADLIEST OCEAN TRASH

TO:



1 Fishing gear

2 Plastic bags & utensils

3 Balloons

4 Cigarette butts

5 Bottle caps



Ocean Conservancy

The count is in. GCV members refuse to use **1,131+** single use plastic items.

Here are their suggested alternatives.



GARDEN CLUB
OF VIRGINIA

Refuse to Use SINGLE USE PLASTIC

Members added these items
to the list of Refuse to Use



Plastic Shopping Bags

cloth, paper, collapsible containers, nylon, canvas, mesh, tote basket, insulated carrier, plastic Trader Joe plastic coated bags

Plastic Produce Bags

Mesh, reusable, nylon, boxes, no bag, compostable, basket, cloth, reuse plastic shopping bags, used onion bags, brown paper bags

Plastic Bottles

refillable containers, metal, reusable, stainless, glass, paper cups, hydro flasks, waxed paper cartons, aluminum, Swell, Yeti, Tervis, etc.

Plastic Cups

glass, paper, metal, hydro flask, compostable, reusable plastic

Plastic Straws

metal, paper, glass, bamboo, biodegradable, silicone, do not use straw

Plastic Cutlery

metal, reusable wooden, stainless, silver, bamboo, rental cutlery for large parties, wash and reuse plastic, chopsticks, put cutlery in purse, camping set, compostable

Plastic 6-Pack Rings

do not purchase, cut them apart, boxed cans, buy larger containers, buy individual containers, cardboard

Plastic Takeout Containers

ask for paper, bring reusable, compostable, recyclable, Tupperware, glass containers with snap lids, wash and reuse, cardboard, personal takeout containers, aluminum, Pyrex, biodegradable, napkin, foil wrap

Plastic Wrap

use containers with lids, wax paper, reusable covers, bees wrap



umbrella shields

lawn leaf bags – use paper

shampoo and shaving – use bar form

coffee lids

coffee cups – bring your own

dog waste disposal – use bamboo

Styrofoam

plastic shower curtains

liquid soap containers – use bar soap

laundry detergent in plastic – use boxed

Tupperware – use glass

plastic plant pots

dry cleaning bags

plastic toothbrushes – use electric or bamboo

plastic storage containers

plastic beach toys and flotation devices

plastic sandwich bags

plastic plates – use bamboo

plastic chairs

plastic toys – use wooden ones

Healthy Yard Challenge

TELL:	Pesticides kill pollinators. Round up and other chemicals can affect your health.
DO:	Adopt alternatives
EASY ACTION:	Spray with dish soap and water. Neem Oil for certain bugs. SAFER brand products are organic.
SHARE:	Plants that repel insects: marigolds, borals, citronella. Exhibit pollinator plants at your club meetings.

Clean Recycling

TELL:	China is refusing our dirty recycling. The Great Pacific Garbage Patch is the size of Texas and Montana combined. 1/3 of all recycling in the US has been deemed contaminated. Dirty recycling is more expensive and inefficient.
DO:	Call Earth911 for local recycling options.
EASY ACTION:	RINSE, sort, separate, REPEAT. Avoid the "Oops" Sticker!
SHARE:	Recyclable rules for your community.

GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA
RESOLUTION TO LAUNCH A POLLINATOR PROTECTION INITIATIVE IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
JULY 2019

WHEREAS, the mission of the Garden Club of Virginia is to celebrate the beauty of the land, to conserve the gifts of nature, and to challenge future generations to build on this heritage; and

WHEREAS, the Garden Club of Virginia is made up of over 3,500 individual members of 47 clubs in the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the Garden Club of Virginia hereby mobilizes these members and clubs across the Commonwealth to protect and assist pollinators, responsible for the reproduction of nearly 90% of the world's flowering plant species, by providing them with a healthy habitat, rich in a variety of native plants and free to nearly free of pesticides; and

WHEREAS, increasing the amount of native vegetation in Virginia can protect water quality and quantity, increase carbon dioxide absorption, enhance wildlife habitat, and improve aesthetics and quality of life; and,

WHEREAS, thanks to European honey bees and the many species of native and introduced pollinators in the Commonwealth of Virginia and around the world, we have diverse dietary choices rich in fruits, nuts, and vegetables; and

WHEREAS, local native plants support more wildlife species than non-native plants, and native plants host specific insects and are essential for pollinators and the local and migratory birds, mammals, and invertebrates that rely on these insects to survive; and

WHEREAS, our native pollinators are in a population decline because of habitat loss, poor nutrition, pesticides, insecticides, fungicides, herbicides, parasites, diseases, and climate change; and

WHEREAS, an ideal pollinator-friendly habitat provides diverse and abundant nectar and pollen from native plants blooming in succession throughout the growing season; provides undisturbed spaces such as leaf and brush piles, unmown fields or field margins, fallen trees and other dead wood for nesting and overwintering; provides water for drinking, nest-building, and butterfly puddling; is free to nearly free of pesticides, as many pesticides can harm pollinators and/or their habitat; and is comprised of mostly native wildflowers, grasses, vines, shrubs, and trees, since many wild pollinators prefer or depend on the native plants with which they co-adapted; and provides connectivity between habitat areas to support pollinator movement and resilience; and

WHEREAS, pollinator-friendly communities can benefit local and regional economies through healthier ecosystems, increased vegetable and fruit crop yields, and increased demand for pollinator-friendly plant materials from local growers; and

WHEREAS, supporting pollinators across the entire Commonwealth of Virginia fosters an understanding of environmental awareness and sustainability; and

WHEREAS, the Garden Club of Virginia hereby supports the ideals of protecting and assisting pollinators in the Commonwealth of Virginia by improving the landscape and environment through, but not limited to, the following efforts, which collectively seek to protect our natural resources for the benefit of our Commonwealth:

- Encourages member clubs to initiate pollinator protection programs in their communities by planting pollinator-friendly gardens, trees, shrubs, and other native species in concert with their local city governments or through their own programs;
- Encourages member clubs to work with their local government to become a Bee City USA, an initiative of the Xerces Society;
- Encourages our members to plant their own pollinator-friendly gardens and consider joining the Million Pollinator Garden Challenge, part of the National Pollinator Garden Network;
- Encourages our members to utilize their local native plant list, which can be found on the Virginia Native Plant Society and the Plant Virginia Natives websites;
- Encourages our members to use pesticides, herbicides and fungicides only when no other method is feasible or effective and to encourage others in their communities to do the same;
- Encourages our members to purchase the VDOT *Protect Pollinators* license plate to fund VDOT's efforts to plant pollinator beds along Virginia highways;
- Encourages our members and member clubs to engage in any other efforts they can think of to support pollinators; and

WHEREAS, by mobilizing our over 3,500 members in 47 clubs across the state, thus providing connectivity between habitat areas to support pollinator movement and resilience, we will be creating a statewide pollinator network;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Garden Club of Virginia will launch a Pollinator Protection Initiative to improve the outlook for our local pollinators.

ADOPTED by the Garden Club of Virginia Board of Directors on this twentieth day of July, 2019.

Note: The Garden Club of Virginia wishes to acknowledge Bee City USA, the Xerces Society, the National Pollinator Garden Network, the Virginia Native Plants Society, Plant Virginia Natives and VDOT in the creation of this document.



Growing and Showing



Horticulture Field Day



'Androcles' 4-W-W

'Zoe's Pink' 3 W-P

Lilies in Bloom, Back to Nature, Daffodil Day



Fall Symposium

GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA

RICHMOND 2018



Elements of
Beauty

September 25 & 26

SCIENCE MUSEUM OF VIRGINIA
2500 W. BROAD ST. RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

Flower Arranging School

HOLLY HEIDER CHAPPLE



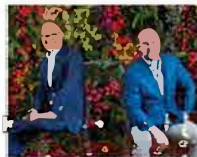
LOCATED IN THE DOME THEATER

Holly Heider Chapple, a visionary in the floral design and education industry, maintains a home-based farm studio, allowing her gardens to be both inspiration and a source for top-quality garden-grown materials. A mother of seven, this charismatic lady has been featured in numerous magazines including *Martha Stewart*, *Southern Living*, *Washingtonian*, and *Virginia Living*. Holly's presentation, *Flowers for the Home from the Home*, will focus on seasonal designs for your home using materials available from your own garden. Based in Loudoun County, Holly is known for arranging without a basis. She will share her unique techniques that make this possible.

\$90 pp includes a Continental breakfast and a plated lunch in a bistro setting. An additional \$10 pp includes two glasses of wine.

Authors of "Florists to the Field"

GREG CAMPBELL AND ERICK NEW



LOCATED IN THE RF&P FORUM

Co-owners of *Garden District*, the shop in Memphis, Tennessee, they've run since 1995. Greg and Erick will regale us with exploits from their recently released book. A partnership of boundless creativity, they never let reality get in the way of a great idea. *Florist to the Field* is one of the floral design team's most ambitious endeavors and a testimony to their work. Presentation includes a lecture and a demonstration of several arrangements followed by a Q & A. The arrangements will be raffed off, and their book will be available for purchase and signing afterwards.

\$40 pp

Rethinking Conservation in the Garden



LOCATED IN THE RF&P FORUM

Presented by Eva Clarke of the James River Garden Club, Nancy Dickerson Knewstep of the Princess Anne and the Williamsburg Garden Clubs, and Meg French of the Virginia Beach Garden Club.

No charge

Where noted, ticketed events include the cost of a sit-down lunch in a bistro atmosphere with servers, wine bars and a menu that features six entrees with vegetarian and gluten-free options. Pre-register before September 21.

Chip Callaway, Highlights a 40-year

CHIP CALLAWAY



LOCATED IN THE RF&P FORUM

Paul Faulkner "Chip" Callaway, an interior landscape architect based in Historic Fisher downtown Greensboro, has created over a gardens in the United States and abroad rare estates to courtyards. Master storyteller and "charming" according to one client, his presentation *Great and Small - Highlights of a 40-Year* Co-tales of resurrecting and restoring gardens fr-

well as creating brand new ones, and doing both with a nod toward m-

\$50 pp includes a plated lunch in a bistro setting. An additional \$10 pp includes two glasses c

Novice Flower Arranging

ANNIE VANDERWARKER, LAURA FRANCIS, SUSAN WIGHT & TORY



LOCATED IN THE RF&P FORUM

Learn from GCV Flower Show Judges during flower arranging event especially for the beg- arranger. Numerous topics will be covered st mechanics and supplies; choosing, preparing conditioning plant materials; "how to" tape, as well as the Principles and Elements of Des will focus on the basics and culminates in an arrangement using oasis you can take home your own clippers and work basket, if you hc

\$80 pp

The Legacy of Restoring Historic Ga

WILL RIELEY



LOCATED IN THE DISCOVERY ROOM

Will Rieley taught at UVA for 20 years and has landscape architd to the Garden Club of Virg His talk will focus on an exciting new garden p at Stratford Hall, the "Home of the Lees of Virg of the GCV's second restoration project using Historic Garden Week. In addition, Restorator Chair, Anne Baldwin, will offer updates on othe

No charge



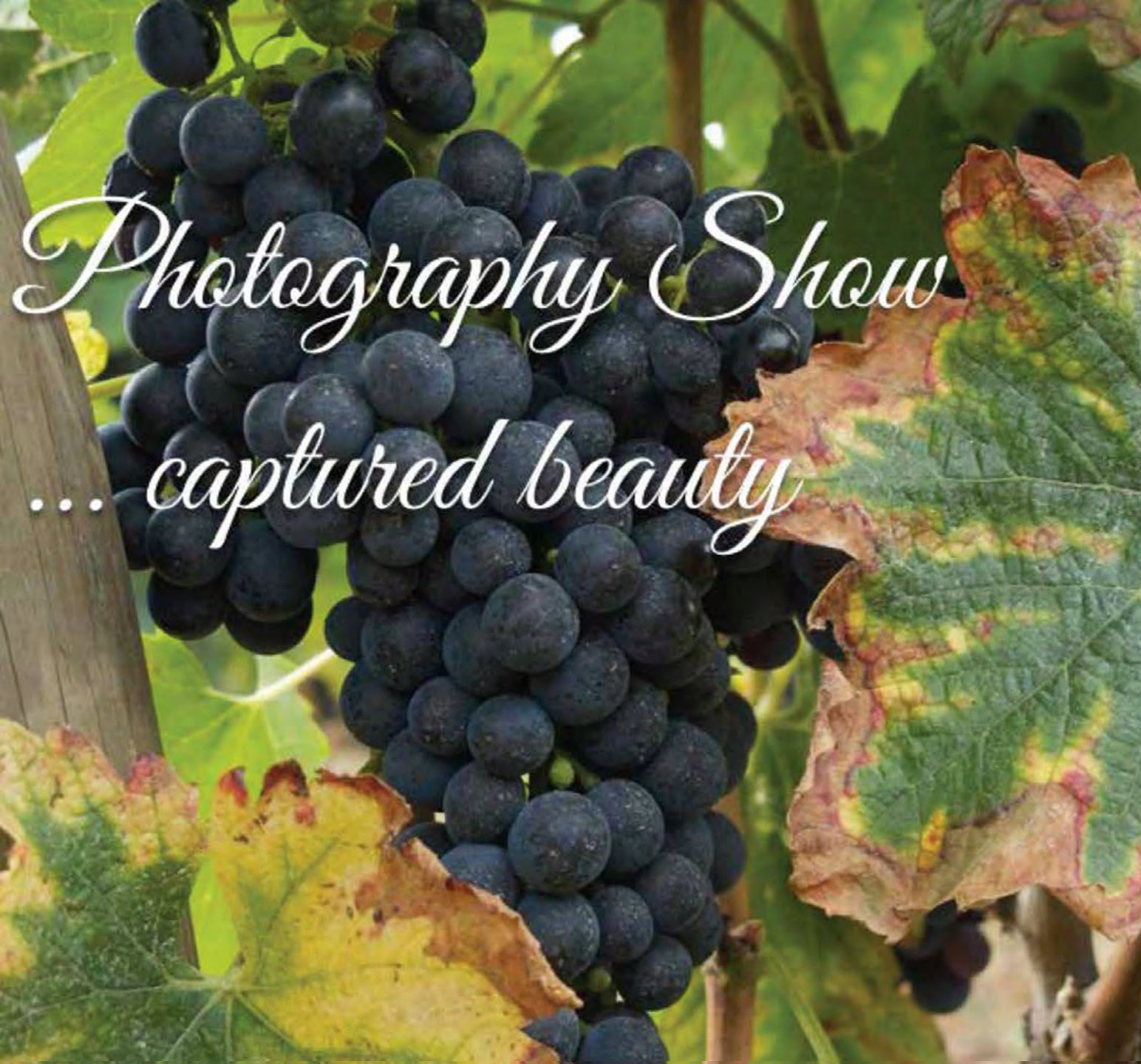
Fall Symposium

Boutiques

While enjoying two days in Richmond, have fun visiting our vendors!

- Abbi Custis • The Arranger's Market • The Classic Baby • Charbellem by Sabre
- India Hicks • Down the Garden Path • Janice Cain Stationery • JOT
- Lucy Dicks • Meg Coder Designs • Nest Antiques, Art & Gifts • Rose & Harpe
- Sara Campbell • Susan's Jewelry • Walter Orchids • Walton Street Stationer

Visit GCVSymposium.org for the most current vendor list



Photography Show
... captured beauty



Artistic Show
... creative beauty



Horticulture Show
... natural beauty



Movement



Creativity



Still Life



Texture

Photography

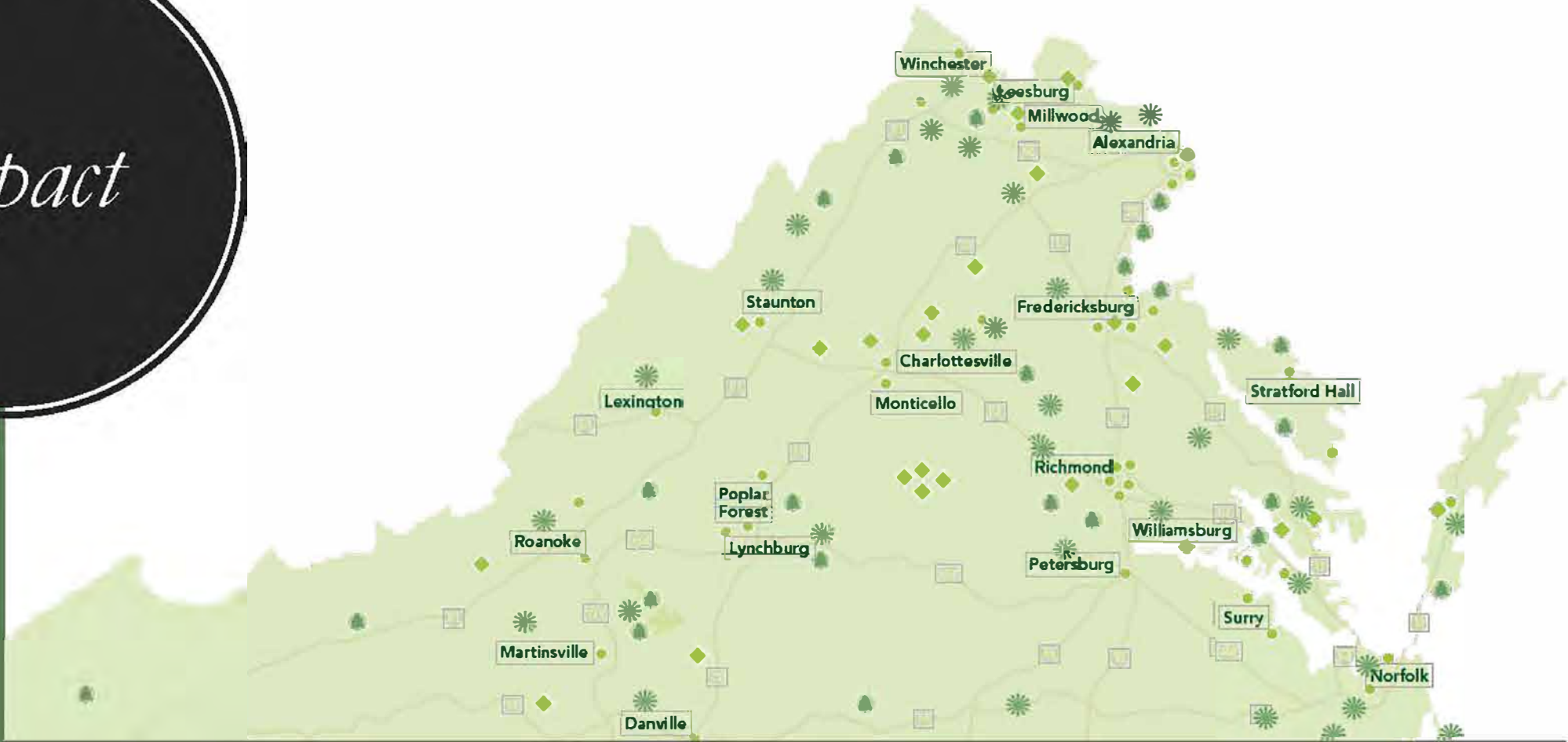
Artistic Design





Impact

- ☀ Member Clubs
- 🌲 State Parks Projects
- Restoration Projects
- ◆ Restoration Fellowships



Protecting the environment,
beautifying public spaces,
preserving historic gardens,
sharing flowers ...






Blue Ridge
Conservation



Providing opportunities for children





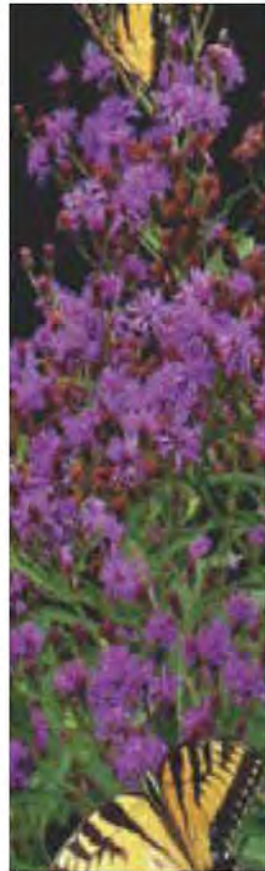
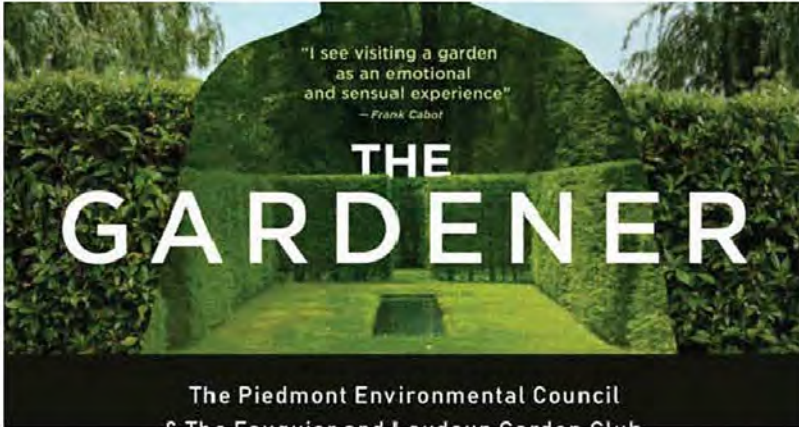
Sunday, October 13, 2019, 4:00 p.m.

The Warrenton Garden Club is pleased to host Dr. Doug Tallamy, professor in the Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware, for our annual Conservation Forum.

A recent UN report predicts that as many as 1 million species will disappear from planet earth because of human activities. Many of these are insects and nearly all species at risk rely on insects. Insects have already declined 45% since 1974. The most alarming part of this statistic is that we don't seem to care, despite the fact that a world without insects is a world without humans!

So how do we build beautiful landscapes that support the pollinators, herbivores, detritivores, predators and parasitoids that run the ecosystems we depend on? Dr. Tallamy will remind us of the many essential roles insects play, and describe the simple changes we must make in our landscapes and our attitudes to keep insects on the ground, in the air and yes, on our plants.

Dr. Tallamy has authored 88 research publications and has taught for 36 years. His book *Bringing Nature Home: How Native Plants Sustain Wildlife in Our Gardens* was awarded the 2008 Silver Medal by the Garden Writers' Association. *The Living Landscape*, co-authored with Rick Darke, was published in 2014. Among his awards are The Garden Club of America Margaret Douglas Medal for Conservation and the Tom Dieck Jr. Award of Excellence.



AND THE GARDEN CLUB OF THE NORTHERN NECK INVITE YOU TO JOIN US FOR A SYMPOSIUM ON:

**Pesticides:
Your Health,
Your Food,
Your Water,
Your Environment**

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19
9:30AM - 12:30PM
CHRISTCHURCH SCHOOL
MARSTON HALL

ALL ARE INVITED AND
NO RESERVATION IS NEEDED

FOR MORE INFORMATION



Hosting forums, symposia, lectures and films ...



GREGOR LERSCH

MEET THE MASTER

SEPTEMBER 1, 2019 | 9:30AM-4PM

HOPE FLOWER FARM, WATERFORD VIRGINIA



Making a Difference in Communities



Member Clubs

Alexandria	The Garden Club of Alexandria The Hunting Creek Garden Club	Middle Peninsula	The Garden Club of the Middle Peninsula
Ashland	The Ashland Garden Club	Newport News-Hampton	The Hampton Roads Garden Club
Charlottesville	Albemarle Garden Club The Charlottesville Garden Club Rivanna Garden Club	Norfolk	The Huntington Garden Club Harborfront Garden Club The Garden Club of Norfolk
Chatham	Chatham Garden Club	Northern Neck	The Garden Club of the Northern Neck
Danville	The Garden Club of Danville Gabriella Garden Club	Orange	Dolley Madison Garden Club
Eastern Shore	The Garden Club of the Eastern Shore	Petersburg	The Petersburg Garden Club
Fairfax	The Garden Club of Fairfax	Portsmouth	The Elizabeth River Garden Club
Fauquier and Loudoun Counties	Fauquier and Loudoun Garden Club	Richmond	The Boxwood Garden Club The James River Garden Club Three Chopt Garden Club The Tuckahoe Garden Club of Westhampton
Franklin	The Franklin Garden Club	Roanoke	The Mill Mountain Garden Club Roanoke Valley Garden Club
Fredericksburg	The Rappahannock Valley Garden Club	Staunton	The Augusta Garden Club
Front Royal	The Garden Club of Warren County	Suffolk	The Nansemond River Garden Club
Gloucester	The Garden Club of Gloucester	Virginia Beach	The Princess Anne Garden Club The Virginia Beach Garden Club
Harrisonburg	The Spotswood Garden Club	Warrenton	The Warrenton Garden Club
Lawrenceville	The Brunswick Garden Club	Williamsburg	The Williamsburg Garden Club
Leesburg	Leesburg Garden Club	Winchester	The Little Garden Club of Winchester Winchester-Clarke Garden Club
Lexington	The Blue Ridge Garden Club		
Lynchburg	Hillside Garden Club The Lynchburg Garden Club		
Martinsville	The Garden Study Club The Martinsville Garden Club Study Club		

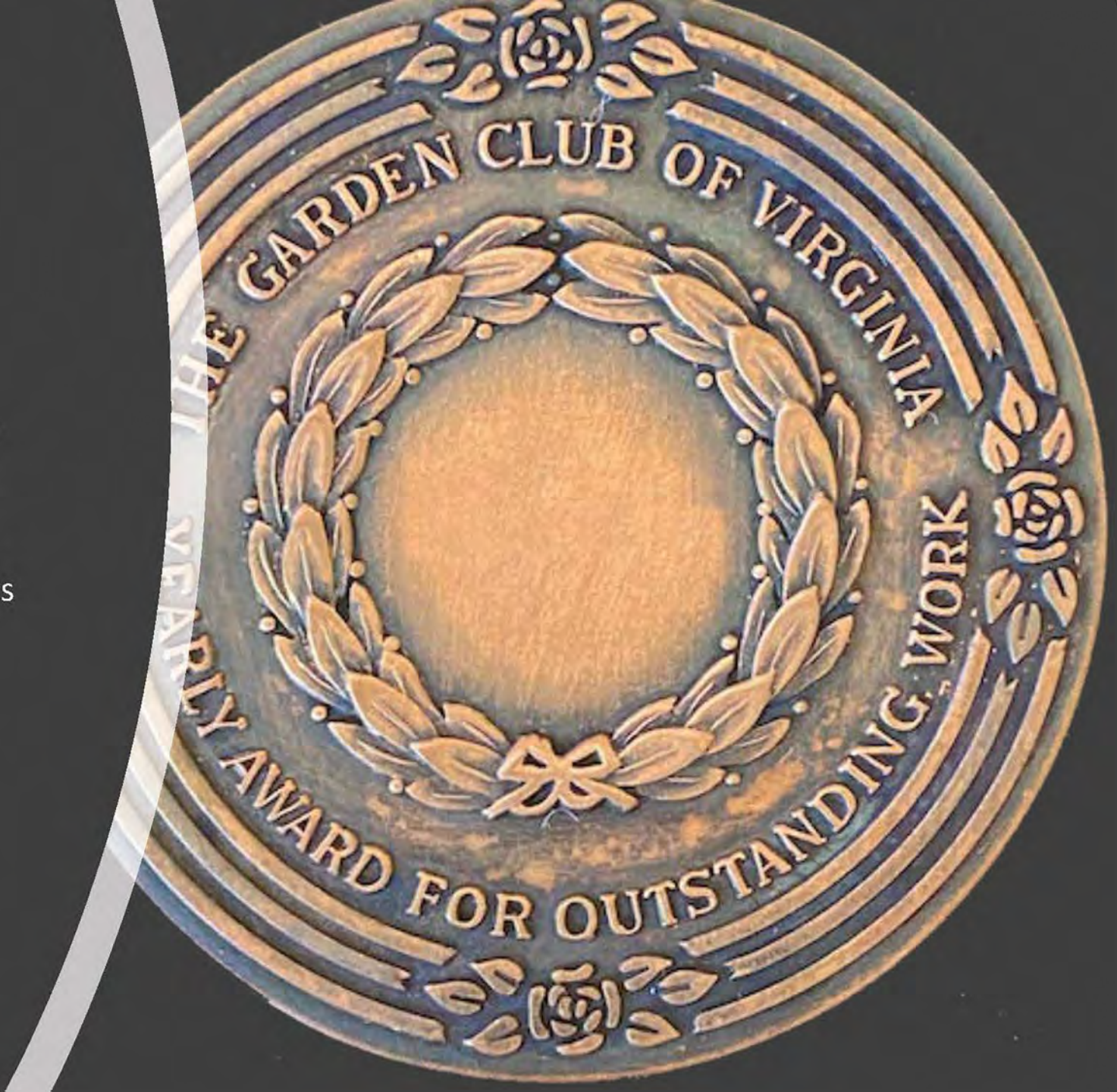
A close-up photograph of a bumblebee on a branch of purple flowers. The text "Annual Awards" is overlaid in the center.

Annual Awards

Massie Medal for Distinguished Achievement

The oldest and most prestigious award given by the Garden Club of Virginia, the Massie Medal was inaugurated in 1928 by Susanne Williams Massie during her presidency and was given by her until her death in 1952. Since that time it has been given by the club in her memory.

The Massie Medal will be awarded at the October 2020 Board of Governors meeting.





de Lacy Gray Medal for Conservation

The de Lacy Gray Medal will be presented to each recipient at the October 2020 Board of Governors meeting.

*Contributed by Heidi James
GCV Conservation Awards Chairman 2018-2020*



Anna Galusha Aquino is a member of Richmond's Boxwood Garden Club. She attained degrees from UVA in Environmental Sciences and VT in Horticulture, and a Master of Landscape Architecture from Harvard's GSD in 1991. To her thinking the best times happen outside, and her interests lie in birds and bugs and trying to create great places in which people live and work, motives inspiring her design business and her volunteer projects at schools and parks. Anna enjoyed seven years teaching at GWU's landscape design program in Richmond. She works with the James River Invasive Plant Task Force, helping set policy, remove invasives and plant natives. With Boxwood, Anna designed and implemented their donation of a garden surrounding the playground at Peter Paul in Richmond, an organization that provides after school and seniors programming, winning GCV's 2019 Common Wealth Award. Richmond's Tree Commissioner, a Boxwood member, asked Anna to design the Monument Avenue West street tree median planting in 2001. In 2017 Anna joined Capital Trees' Projects Committee, and in 2019 she joined the Board of Trustees and was asked to chair the Projects Committee and is helping to manage Capital Trees' public landscapes in sustainable and environmentally thoughtful ways.



Meg Turner was proposed by the James River Garden Club, of which she is a member. She graduated from UVA Law School and worked as an attorney before opening her own landscape design firm. Over the past decade, Meg has been an effective leader in conservation efforts around the Commonwealth. She has worked to create beneficial green spaces in urban areas, to eradicate invasive plants, to improve the health of the James River, and to educate Virginians on the benefits of conservation. She has been a leader for Capital Trees and currently serves as its Chairman. Her legal background has been an asset in securing key agreements with the City of Richmond and other entities that helped make Capital Trees a reality. As Chairman of Capital Trees, Meg is currently developing the Low Line Green, an outdoor event space with environmental significance. It will feature bio-retention gardens to treat the stormwater runoff from I-95. Meg serves as a board member of the Virginia Urban Forest Council and is a volunteer with the James River Park System's Invasive Plant Task Force. Meg has given her time and expertise to environmentally focused organizations for many years.

Bessie Boccock Carter Conservation Award

Weir Garden at the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley The Little Garden Club of Winchester

Stone weirs – low, dam-like structures – will regulate water flow during periods of extreme precipitation and will provide educational opportunities on the importance of storm water management.

Among the many visitors to the museum are thousands of school children who enjoy the site annually free of charge. When cleared of invasive plants, a garden of wildflowers and a grassy meadow will be established among the weirs, serving not just as a storm water management and teaching tool but also as a naturally managed wildlife habitat, inspiring future generations to conserve our waterways.

Along with this project, the Little Garden Club has sponsored the museum's entranceway wildflower meadow and will continue to serve as an ambassador for conservation awareness in the Winchester community. The Weir Garden is a significant component of a trail system on the museum's grounds, which will become Virginia's largest public art park when it opens in 2020. Collaborations at the community and state level will encourage exploration of the relationship between art, nature, conservation and the environment.



2020 Horticulture Award of Merit Recipients



Karen Cogar Abramson
The Hunting Creek Garden Club

Karen describes herself as a 'dirt gardener' whose love of digging and sense of design, color and texture are informed by years of work as a graphic designer and painter. She has won the Gold Ribbon for Best in Show at three national daffodil conventions and is an ardent proponent of plant societies. Karen has been an ADS Daffodil Judge since 2005 and generously shares her talents and expertise about growing daffodils and roses, as well as staging specimens for shows and writing schedules. Her fellow members admire her exotic specimens and the many prestigious leadership roles Karen has held in her club, as well as the Washington Daffodil Society and the American Daffodil Society.



Jane Hammond
Dolley Madison Garden Club

Jane began her adventures in horticulture as a young girl, when she convinced her parents to add a greenhouse to their garage. Her continued interest and education led to a very successful, sustainable food farm and leadership in the Charlottesville Food Hub providing nutritious food to many. She has created teaching workshops to share this expertise with area clubs. An active grower and shower in GCV Horticulture shows, North American Lily Society, American Daffodil Society and GCA, Jane has garnered many awards for her excellent work. You will recognize her lovely photograph on the 2020 Daffodil Show materials.



Phyllis Ripper
Rivanna Garden Club

Phyllis combines her passion for horticulture with her keen interest in conservation and community service. She designed and managed the creation of a fantastic garden at the Blue Ridge Juvenile Detention Center, which received the 2015 GCV Common Wealth Award and has been of benefit to so many. Her husband helped plant and maintain hundreds of trees and shrubs on their farm to enhance the land and to serve as riparian buffers. Phyllis generously shares a large variety of conifer and boxwood greens in support of her club's wreath-making for Christmas market each year. Her talents also serve to maintain the club's 50+ year old lilac collection, many of which moved from the previous keeper's home.



Common Wealth Award
Nominees

Common Wealth Award Nominations

The Common Wealth Award Committee is happy to announce four finalists for the 2020 Common Wealth Award. This award, established by the Garden Club of Virginia in 1979, provides an annual grant/grants to fund community projects of member clubs in the areas of conservation, beautification, horticulture, preservation or education. The two-word name, Common Wealth, signifies the “wealth” that is “common” to all Virginians.

Garden Club of Virginia member clubs will vote on the projects prior to the Board of Governors meeting in October, at which time the winner(s) will be announced.

Contributed by Karla MacKimmie, Common Wealth Award Committee Chairman



A Trail to the River at Fort Christanna Submitted by the Brunswick Garden Club

At its creation in 1714, Fort Christanna was “the most western outpost of the British Empire.” The fort was built by Governor of the Colony of Virginia, Alexander Spotswood, to open the frontier for settlement, to protect ragged tribes of displaced Native Americans and to become a trading center to profit the colony. It occupied an area on a cliff overlooking the Meherrin River in what is now Brunswick County, Virginia. The Brunswick County Board in 1991 charged a committee with designing and developing a park on the site, and a weedy field has been reborn as a pleasant natural park. Around the three-and a-half acre pentagonal fort area is a walking trail with corner blockhouses identified. Informational signage, at the welcoming kiosk area and around the park, gives an insight into the history of the place as well as a “learning circle” for school tours. All are made from natural materials and disturbed ground areas are covered with landscaping cloth and crusher run rocks to protect the site for future archeology.



From one corner of the fort there is a path to the river that cries out to be developed. About 100 yards long, it follows a gentle slope and then goes more steeply to rocks at the river’s edge. The Virginia Office of Tourism has designated this as a potential canoe dock. The trail would be widened, made wheelchair accessible the length of the path, with a terrace for viewing the river. From there to the river, the slope would be made easier by rustic steps. Natural materials would be used entirely as well as the landscape cloth and crusher run rocks. Along the way, labels would identify native wildflowers and trees. This project would be completed in two phases.



Mill Mountain Wildflower Garden: The Next Fifty Years and Beyond Enhancing the Visitor Experience Through Educational Signage Submitted by Mill Mountain Garden Club

High atop Mill Mountain, in the middle of Roanoke’s most visited urban park and surrounded by ten miles of hiking, biking, and walking trails is the Mill Mountain Wildflower Garden. As the primary caretakers, Mill Mountain Garden Club members tend this beloved, iconic 2.5-acre garden weekly. To celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the garden, the club is on track for the largest and most ambitious fundraising campaign in club history. Important club seed money initiated the campaign. Additional funds have been raised from foundations, grants, generous club members*, friends, families, and creative fundraisers. Building is underway to restore critical features of the garden including the pond, accessible pathways, improved entrances, and landscaping with more native plantings. To complete this significant restoration project, the Common Wealth Award will provide funds for enhancing the educational experience of the visitor in the garden while highlighting the vital mission of conservation. Along the “Discovery Trail” path four permanent, colorful, and informative signs will showcase and identify Virginia native plants, wildflowers, trees, insects, and pollinators. Signage will also emphasize the importance of planting natives in the garden and feature other takeaways on the nexus of nature, climate science, and health.



*Mill Mountain Garden Club is nearing completion of the campaign with the expectation of 100% member participation



Rappahannock Valley Garden Trail Submitted by the Rappahannock Valley Garden Club

The Fredericksburg region is rich in tourism from the Colonial period to the present. The goal of the proposed Rappahannock Valley Garden Trail is to encourage visitors and residents to explore the public gardens in the Fredericksburg area. Some of the included gardens are well known, others tucked away. While their styles vary, all are educational. Included in the trail are three GCV Restoration sites (Kenmore, Mary Washington House and Belmont), a Tree USA campus with noteworthy gardens (University of Mary Washington), a garden designed by renowned landscape architect, Ellen Biddle Shipman (Chatham), Downtown Greens community garden, the Cossey Botanical Park and Arboretum and the Native Plant demonstration garden at Cedell Brooks Park in King George, VA. In addition, the Rappahannock Valley Garden Club's annual Historic Garden Week tour will be promoted.

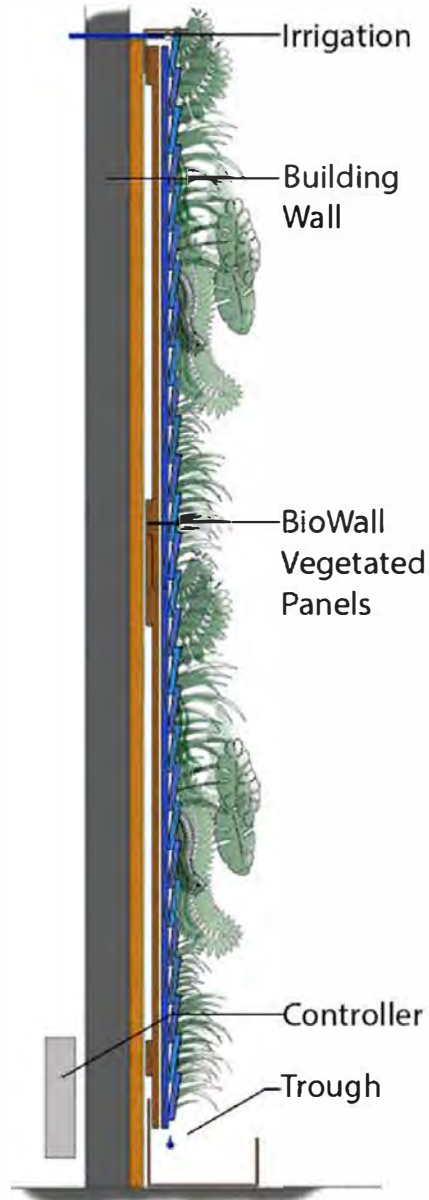
The Fredericksburg Tourism Office supports the garden trail and offers to host and maintain the online brochure which will be linked from their website. The paper brochure will be available at their office and tourist destinations throughout the region.



Living Green Wall at Brock Environmental Center's Classroom Annex Submitted by the Virginia Beach Garden Club

The Virginia Beach Garden Club is supporting a "green wall" located in the Virginia Beach Public School's Classroom Annex affiliated with the Brock Environmental Center. Virginia Beach City Public Schools and the Chesapeake Bay Foundation are partnering on a new Environmental Studies Program. Virginia Beach high school students will participate in the program, focusing on environmental science, green building practices, and sustainable approaches to real world issues such as sea level rise and degraded waterways. Construction begins on the Classroom annex in January 2020 and the "green wall" will be included in the classroom.

Green walls include greenery, a growing medium and a water delivery system. An interior living green wall not only provides environmental health benefits associated with the outdoors but also helps students combat attention fatigue by connecting students to "outdoor nature" within the indoor environment. Additionally, green walls reduce energy costs, cooling the air in the warmer summer months and providing extra insulation during the colder months. The extra layer of air between the plants and the wall absorbs acoustic energy and reduces noise. The green wall is an example of a sustainability practice that can be modeled in future homes and workplaces.





2020-2022 Slate of Officers

President Missy Buckingham, The Boxwood Garden Club

First Vice President Debbie Lewis, The Garden Study Club

Second Vice President Kris Carbone, The Garden Club of Danville

Recording Secretary Julie Grover, The Blue Ridge Garden Club

Corresponding Secretary Wendy Walker, The Garden Club of the Eastern Shore

Treasurer Tricia McDaniel, The Rappahannock Valley Garden Club

Director at Large District 1 Anne McCracken Rogers, Three Chopt Garden Club

Director at Large District 3 Lois Spencer, The Garden Club of the Northern Neck

Director at Large District 4 Forrest Moore, The Mill Mountain Garde