



Spring 2021

Education, Programs, and Events

Spring is a time of fresh starts in the natural world and, this year, the same can be said of education at the Arboretum. We are expanding online programming and preparing for the return of in-person programs in the gardens, providing more ways to engage with the Arboretum than ever before!



Eastern Bluebird, one of many species banded by volunteers in our Avian Education Program (Photo by Nick Kerlin)

We have been experimenting with the Zoom webinar format recently, and the response has been gratifying. Topics have included creative ways to engage children in nature; a guide to designing a pollinator garden with children; and a behind-the-scenes look at how we track, display, and maintain our living plant collections. When the Avian Education Program's annual seminar went online this spring, over 180 people joined us to hear biologist Chris Parish discuss California condor conservation and efforts to convince hunters to switch to non-lead ammunition to protect these birds and other wildlife.

The Arboretum continues to produce videos about the gardens. We have initiated a new quarterly series that features seasonal sights and sounds. We are also developing new content highlighting the incredible work of our garden crew and will soon be resuming our "Garden Wonderings" productions featuring experts from across campus and beyond.

Finally, we are eagerly anticipating the return of in-person programs in the children's garden this summer. Educators will be sharing their knowledge of birds, insects, plants, and caves, and we expect to add a series of yoga classes in mid-summer.

More programs and events, both online and in-person, are in the works; please keep an eye on our website and social media for announcements. To receive updates directly, please sign up for our programs and events mailing list here: <https://bit.ly/3s5celT>.



Volunteers from campus and community planting the Pollinator and Bird Garden this spring

Pollinator and Bird Garden Gets Helping Hands

United in a robust effort, town and gown dedicated 1,053 volunteer service hours last autumn to planting the new Pollinator and Bird Garden. Over the course of 12 weekend sessions, from September to December, in rain or shine, volunteers came and planted! Nearly 54,000 bulbs and herbaceous perennials were

installed in the new garden. An amazing 351 individual members of the community contributed their time to this very important, time-sensitive task. The numbers never lie—this new garden is generating quite a "buzz" in the worlds of people and bees. With the opening set for early summer, we're more than halfway to completing the work. Planting sessions are being scheduled for the weekends listed below. Want to lend a hand? Contact Arboretum volunteer coordinator Kelly Oleynik at keo5114@psu.edu/814-867-2591.

Pre-registration Required

Saturday, May 22

Sunday, May 23

Saturday, May 29

Saturday, June 5

Sunday, June 6

All sessions are from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Meet the Interns!

We sorely missed the energy of our interns in 2020 and are pleased to welcome them back this summer. In the children's garden, Grace Stewart and Paige Fenstermacher will be helping with day-to-day children's garden chores and delivering educational programs. Jennifer Davidson, Breanna Kisner, Zack Kline, and Lucas Rizzo will be honing their horticulture skills as they work with Penn State gardeners to maintain the botanic gardens.

As always, interns bring not only fresh faces, but also surprising skills and interesting hobbies! Grace is a landscape architecture major who enjoys fly-fishing and kayaking. Paige is a junior majoring in Recreation, Parks, and Tourism Management who grew up on a flower farm. Jennifer, a cyclist with a double major in Landscape/Horticulture at the Pennsylvania College of Technology, has conquered numerous challenging trails from Pittsburgh to Washington, D.C. Breanna, who is majoring in Plant Sciences, loves to paint and to be outdoors. Zack, who is also majoring in Plant Sciences, is an enthusiastic hiker and enjoys adding to his growing collection of houseplants. Landscape architecture student Lucas Rizzo has been interested in plants since childhood when he planted his first tree by growing a maple from a fallen seed.

We asked all the interns to name their favorite Berkey Creamery ice cream flavors, and while one brave soul admitted to a preference for Coffee Break, most of them played their cards close to the vest. We think it's safe to assume that they all love Arboretum Breeze!



Paige Fenstermacher



Grace Stewart



Jennifer Davidson



Breanna Kisner



Zack Kline



Lucas Rizzo

Parking Plan during Museum Construction

The Arboretum parking lot will be removed in July as construction begins on the new Palmer Museum of Art building. Parking will be moved across the road to the lot at the Lewis Katz Building, and visitors



New Palmer Museum of Art
Rendering by Allied Works Architecture

should expect a charge of \$1.00 per hour, at least during business hours. We are in discussions with the Parking Office to resolve regulations and procedures in everyone's best interest. All parties agree that accessibility for public visitors is essential to the Arboretum's mission. Until completion, the fenced construction site will require taking one of two walking detours in the direction of the gardens, one at either end of the construction site.



Moving the weeping hemlock into the gardens from the parking area

Relocating Tree Not Easy

It's hard to move after you have put down roots in a place. And it can be just as stressful for trees. In March we relocated our weeping hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis* 'Sargentii') to give it a better home before this summer's museum construction project begins.

It was difficult for all involved, but our garden crew was up to the task, and the tree seems to be settling in to its new home just fine.



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Newly planted flowering crabapple (*Malus* 'Indian Summer')



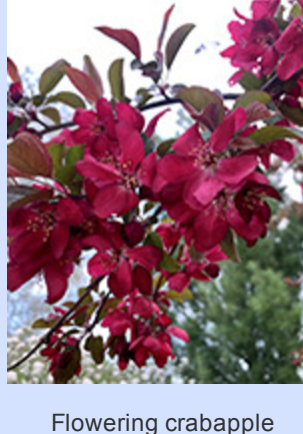
Lilac (*Syringa vulgaris* 'Wedgwood Blue')



Norway spruce cones (*Picea abies* 'Acrocona')



Star-flowered tulip (*Tulipa clusiana* var. *stellata*)



Flowering crabapple (*Malus* 'Amazam' American Masterpiece®)



Chinese tree peony (*Paeonia x suffruticosa* 'Jun Yan Hong')



Lilac (*Syringa* 'Penda' Bloomerang® Purple)



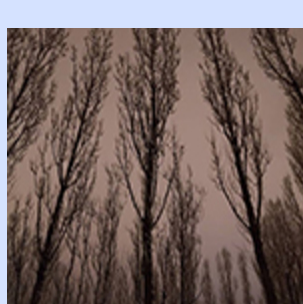
1st Place Winter 2021 Photo Contest
Audra Hixson



2nd Place (tie) Winter 2021 Photo Contest
Vicki Blazer



2nd Place (tie) Winter 2021 Photo Contest
Vishnu Bhatt



3rd Place Winter 2021 Photo Contest
Michele Riggle



Masks are required indoors for all visitors.

Masks are required outdoors for non-vaccinated visitors who are unable to maintain 6' distance between themselves and others not in their household.

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