


<p><b>Next Meeting:</b></p> <p><b>May 12, 2022</b></p> <p>The monthly meeting of the Natick Garden Club will be held on Thursday <b>May 12, 2022, at 7 pm</b> <b>IN PERSON</b></p> <p><b>Come at 6:30 pm to socialize</b></p>	
<p>www.natickgardenclub.org</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">May 2022</p>

## President's Letter

My calendar is filled with Garden Club events — the May meeting, Art in Bloom, Downtown Planting, Plant Sale and the Picnic. Very busy, very fun time for our club!

Whether you are planning an event, working at an event or just attending—I hope you will all invite family, friends, neighbors and colleagues to check out the activities that are open to the public so they can see the good work that we do.

*Linda Lentz*

Natick Garden Club President 2021-2022

## Dates to Remember

- **Thursday, May 12, 2022** – NGC monthly meeting, “Ask a Gardener” **in person** at the Morse Institute Library. The meeting will start at 7 PM, come to socialize at 6:30.
- **Saturday & Sunday, May 14 & 15, 2022** – Natick’s Art in Bloom at the Morse Institute Library
- **Saturday, May 21, 2022** – Summer planting downtown at 10 am (rain date same time, Sunday May 22). Many volunteers are needed to transform the downtown! Please contact **Betsy LePain** at [lepain@comcast.net](mailto:lepain@comcast.net) if you can help.
- **Saturday, June 4, 2022** – **Plant Sale** – live and **in person** at the Natick Senior Center
- **Saturday, June 25, 2022** – **Annual Meeting** – our **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Picnic!** Rain date June 26.

**Of Special Interest:**

The chairs of the following committees are planning to step down. **They will be happy to help you understand what is involved and assist with the transition.**

Current openings for 2022-2023 are:

- Downtown Planting Summer – One or two people
- Library Containers Summer – One or two people

## **May Program**

### **Natick Garden Club's Annual DIY meeting**

An annual member 'self-help' program has become a tradition and we're happy to be able to have it in person again!

Our meeting will be in two parts: first, Natick's Director of Sustainability, Jillian Wilson-Martin will update us about Natick's projects focused on climate change.

The second part of our meeting will be our fun "Ask a Gardener" Program, where members share their successes (and failures), problems and solutions.

Come to the meeting with ideas that you want to share with the group!

## **April Meeting**

### **Our Grandmothers Knew What They Were Doing – Laura Bibler**

Laura Bibler gave an interesting historical lecture entitled "Our Grandmothers Knew What They Were Doing." Laura studied three garden writers from the early 1900s and found many of their recommendations hold true for today. Their flower suggestions include many that are familiar to us today: peonies, roses, dahlias, and bee balm among others. Their thoughts on color blending, cultural consideration and plant placement form the basis of what we do today.

The books Laura used as references are:

- *A Woman's Hardy Garden by Helena Rutherford Ely (1904)*
- *The Little Garden by Mrs. Francis King (1924)*
- *Color in My Garden by Louise Beebe Wilder (1918)*

## **News, Notes, and Upcoming Events**

**Saturday, April 30 – Monica Foley’s garden, which is a Certified Wildlife Habitat was visited by many members of the club as part of EcoNatick (Natick’s 2022’s Earth Day celebration.)**



**Mark Your Calendars for these NGC activities...**

**May 12, 2022 Monthly meeting, 7 PM (socialize at 6:30) – Morse Institute Library**

Following a presentation by Natick’s Sustainability Director Jillian Wilson-Martin, our May meeting will once again be an “Ask a Gardener” program so come prepared with questions and success stories. Note: Logo items will be available for pickup

**Natick’s Art in Bloom 2022! May 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> at the Morse Institute Library.**

Natick’s Art in Bloom is almost here!

Besides our wonderful designers, many other club members will be working to make this second Art in Bloom as big a success as it was in 2021.

If you haven’t signed up to create an arrangement, or work at the event, then please support it by attending with your friends and family.

Please forward this terrific flyer (it’s attached) to your friends and family.

The Natick’s Art in Bloom Committee



Elizabeth Carroll  
Monica Foley  
Donna Thibault

**Saturday, May 21, 2022 – Downtown**

**Summer Planting**

We will meet in front of Fair & Yeager at 10 AM. Wear your NGC regalia and bring a trowel. This is a major effort, and many volunteers are needed. Rain date is same time/same place on Sunday, May 22.

Please let **Betsy LePain** [lepain@comcast.net](mailto:lepain@comcast.net) know if you are coming.

**Saturday, June 4, 2022 – Plant Sale**

## We're so excited about the LIVE, IN-PERSON, Plant Sale!!!



This is our major fundraiser, and it takes all of us to make it a success. Here are some of the ways you can participate:

- Contribute plants (at least 3) from your own garden, or a friend's (with permission) or purchased at one of the wonderful garden centers here in Metrowest. See the attachment for details.
- **Host a sign.** If you live on Route 16 or 27 or 135, or a well-traveled street like Bacon, Oak, Pine, Pond, Marion, we NEED you to host a sign. We will have 60 beautiful new signs and want to put them to the best possible use.
- **Solicit door prizes.** We need people to contact donors from previous years to see if they'll donate again, and new potential donors as well.
- Help members dig and pot if they need assistance.
- Spread the word by placing flyers in places you frequent and sending them electronically to friends and family.
- **Work before, during, and after the big day:** picking up plants and delivering them to the Senior Center, selling door prize tickets, organizing and pricing plants, helping customers get their purchases to their cars – in short, just about every job we had for the auction except “runner.” Signup sheets will be available at the meeting, and then virtually.

**Check these websites for events, classes and workshops of interest; note that some organizations are moving back to in-person events.** Note that Tower Hill has a new name and website.

- Arnold Arboretum <https://www.arboretum.harvard.edu/>
- Garden Club Federation of MA <https://www.gcfm.org/schools>
- Garden in the Woods aka Native Plant Trust <https://www.nativeplanttrust.org/education/>
- Mass Horticultural Society <https://www.masshort.org/Events>
- **New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill** <https://purchase.nebg.org/calendar.aspx>
- Frederick Law Olmsted Historic Site <https://www.nps.gov/frla/index.htm>
- Grow Native Massachusetts <https://www.grownativemass.org/>
- Mass Horticultural Society Master Gardener program  
<https://www.massmastergardeners.org/join-us/become-a-master-gardener>

### **Useful link(s):**

- Find the best native plants for your garden, this site was recommended by Doug Tallamy and is easy to use [www.nwf.org/nativeplantfinder](http://www.nwf.org/nativeplantfinder)
- The UMass Extension Gardener monthly e-Newsletter Clippings is always worth reading. You can subscribe at: <https://extension.umass.edu/landscape/home-garden-email-list>
- You can read the latest issue of the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts' newsletter The Mayflower online at <https://www.gcfm.org/mayflower>
- Check the Central-South District page under clubs on the Federation's website to see what other clubs are doing, often there are open meetings. <https://www.gcfm.org/central-south-district>
- Be sure to check out Natick's Sustainability News  
<https://mailchi.mp/natickma/sharethelove?e=5d2e739859>

### **Reminders:**

- **Betsy Szymczak** is the contact for the NGC Sunshine Fund. If you know of a member who should receive a card from us, (illness, bereavement) please let Betsy know at [szymczakb@gmail.com](mailto:szymczakb@gmail.com) or 617-750-1422
- Recycling gardening books, magazines, or catalogs you no longer want or need is challenging these days. If you have old copies of Horticulture or Fine Gardening that you probably won't read again, MassHort's library is accepting donations of gardening magazines and books. They can be left at the gate house if the library is not open.
- If you physically go someplace, send your photos to **Catherine Clifford** at [caclifford18@gmail.com](mailto:caclifford18@gmail.com) or **Kate Grzesiuk** at [kategrzesiuk@yahoo.com](mailto:kategrzesiuk@yahoo.com)



*Spring comes to 86 Pine Street, Natick (and the deer leave the tulips alone, because they don't eat daffodils!)*

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*Your Newsletter team: Catherine Clifford & Kate Grzesiuk*