
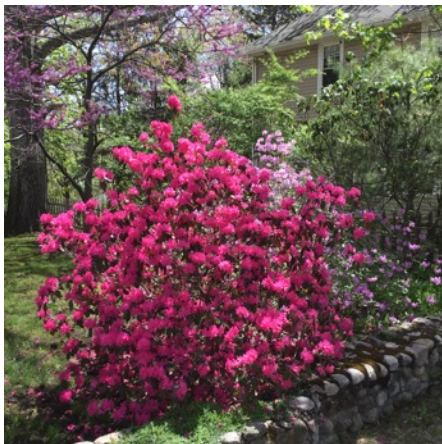


<p>Next Meeting: May 20, 2021 via Zoom The next monthly meeting of the Natick Garden Club will be held on Thursday May 20, 2021, at 6:45 pm</p>		
<p>www.natickgardenclub.org</p>	<p>May 2021</p>	

Spring in Rhea Gallagher's yard!



President's Letter

A Garden

~Shannon Schofield, poet, writer, gardener

*The wind is tossing the lilacs,
The new leaves laugh in the sun,
And the petals fall on the orchard wall,
But for me the spring is done.*

*Shovel and spade ready to toil
As I push and dig in heavy soil
It's so hot my blood will boil
As I construct a garden*

*Rain and sun come from above
In a tree is a cooing dove
My heart is now filled with love
When I grow a garden*

Spring is in full force and it's blooming in a spectacular fashion. Even the word, Spring, brings a smile to your face. There is so much to be thankful for this season. Since most of us have a vaccine in the arm we are ready! We are ready to go out and dig in the dirt and plant something. We are ready to open the windows and bring in the fresh spring air; but, most of all, we are ready to meet and greet in person!! Thanks to Lillian Graffam and her amazing banquet committee we will finally have a chance to see everyone from the club in person at our backyard picnic on Saturday June 26th. If you can, you may

want to carpool to the event since parking is a bit limited on St. Thomas and parking is restricted to only one side of the narrow street.

Although the month of May marks the beginning of our planting season, sadly it is the end of our monthly meetings for this year. And what a year it has been. Through Zoom meetings we have had some fantastic programs starting off the fall with “Sequence of Bloom”, with Laura Bibler, “Gardening for the Future”, with Nancy Riggs and “Winter Wow”, with Deborah Trickett. In the depths of winter we had some uplifting programs with “Foolproof Roses”, with Mike and Angelina Chute, “Twentieth Century English Herbal Revival”, with Alicia Carroll and “Starting from Seed”, with Gretel Ansbach. Recently this spring we have had “Survival of the Fittest: Native Plants”, with Michele Schuckel and finally we were able to view some beautiful trees with Jen Kettell, an arborist and horticulturist serving the New England area. I hope this month you can join us for our final program presented by you, the gardener in, “Ask the Gardener”. It will be about everything you have always wanted to know about gardening and now is your chance to ask.

Finally, as this year comes to a close it also signals the end to my year as the president of the Natick Garden Club. Even though this has been a very strange and unprecedented year for all of us, I have truly enjoyed the experience of being your president and I would like to thank all of you for the opportunity. I have learned so much and have met so many new people throughout this year. I would like to extend a very special thank you to Laurie Adelstein, for setting up all of the Zoom meetings, to Rosalind Forber for her remarkable talent of being able to record every detail of our board meetings, to Ann Marie Mackinnon and Pat Polimeno for keeping me informed of how much money we have and of course to Pat for joining me in person for every board and monthly meeting. I would like to congratulate Linda Lentz as the new president of the Natick Garden Club. I know that she will have, as I did, so many people to help guide her through the process and make sure that next year will be a truly pandemic free and successful year.

Warmest wishes for a wonderful summer,
Jean Egerhei
Natick Garden Club President 2020-2021

Dates to Remember

Thursday, May 20, 2021 – NGC monthly meeting via Zoom

NOTE: we will start promptly at 6:45, so log on before then!!!

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88533642031?pwd=N2JabnVCU204ZjVHWUJ1bTdmcTcvZz09>

Meeting ID: 885 3364 2031

Passcode: 272189

> +1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

> +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

May 22 - July, 2021 – Our 2nd Online plant sale, www.natickgardenclub.org/shop

Saturday, May 22, 2021 – Summer planting downtown at 10 am (rain date Sunday May 23 same time). Many volunteers are needed to transform the downtown! Please contact Sheila at sltiberio@comcast.net if you can join in to help.

Saturday, June 26, 2021 – Annual dinner meeting pivots to a picnic! 12:30 - 3:30 pm (raindate June 27, same time) RSVP by June 7 to Lillian Graffam, reply card attached

Wednesday, June 30, 2021 - membership due date at \$35. Form attached and some forms will be available at the picnic.

May Program

At the May 20th meeting, we will be having our Ask a Fellow Gardener program. Let Geri Wadness know your questions, problems, advice and successes to share with the club. Then at the meeting your fellow gardeners will be discussing your topics. Thanks to Laurie and Zoom, we will be able to break up into small groups. Everything will be on Zoom. Looking forward to hearing from you. I am also looking for a few people who are will to be facilitators at the meeting. Don't delay! Email Geri at geriwadness@verizon.net today!

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88533642031?pwd=N2JabnVCU204ZjVHWUJ1bTdmcTcvZz09>

Meeting ID: 885 3364 2031

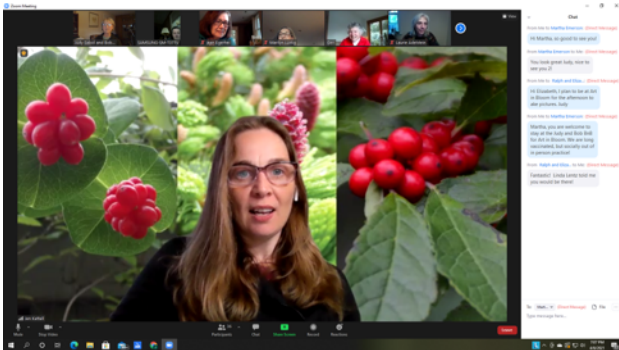
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March Meeting

Jen Kettel, Natick resident and owner of Radiant Leaf Consulting, gave a down-to-earth, knowledgeable and animated presentation called “Small Plants, Big Bang!” You can access all of the plants that Jen spoke about by downloading a handout of the presentation here:

<https://radiantleaf.com/smallplants>

Password: bigbang



News, Notes, and Upcoming Events

Plant Sale *Volunteers are Needed!*

Our Plant Auction/sale has typically been a time that the WHOLE club community pitches in to pull off the sale!

Volunteers are needed on plant pick up days to help Bryan and Catherine organize plants for pickup and delivery. Additional volunteers will be needed to make the deliveries, times and dates TBD as orders come in. Deliveries may be on other days (not necessarily Wednesdays and Saturdays), as arranged with the buyers and available volunteers.

Email both Bryan and Catherine using INFO@NATICKGARDENCLUB.ORG to sign up for a pick-up date or to volunteer to do deliveries!

Here's the schedule:

On-line store will open for sales on Saturday 5/22 and we are offering delivery within 5 miles of Natick Center.

Plants may be picked up (address to be provided when sale is confirmed) the following times

Wednesdays beginning 5/26, 4:00 to 7:00 pm

Saturdays beginning 5/29, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Special extra pick-up on Friday 5/28 - time TBD

Plant Sale *Plants are Needed! Dig! Dig! Dig!*

To donate plants for the sale, follow these easy steps:

- Dig early and often - give the plants time to become acclimated to their pots. Try to dig at least a week before they are to be sold.
- Make sure the plant has a substantial root system.
- Plant in a pot (not a box or paper bag.) A milk carton, yogurt tub, or other plastic food holder will work. If you need pots, call or text Bryan at 617-910-7383. Let us know what size pot(s) and how many you need. If you have extra pots, we can always use them.
- Amend the soil if your garden soil is poor. You can lighten large pots and reduce the use of soil with leaves at the bottom of the pot. Pots do not need to be full so long as the roots are covered.
- Remove hitchhiking bugs and/or weeds.

- Remove dead or tattered leaves and stake if necessary.
- Do NOT donate invasive plants no matter how appealing. (ex: NO orange daylilies!)
- Gather as much information as possible: name (common and scientific if you know it), bloom time, color, height, light and moisture requirements and type (perennial/biennial/annual.) Note if it is a rapid spreader or enthusiastic self-seeder
- Get a photo of the plant in bloom if you can, but do NOT “borrow” a photo from another source.

Email your plant donation details (and photos if available) to donateplants@natickgardenclub.org. **At this point in time it's helpful to know how many of something you have potted; if you have a large number you may inquire how many we need.**

You will get an email back with an Item Number for each plant (multiples of the same plant will have the same number). You will need to put this number clearly and well secured (written on or stapled to the pot would be great) on each plant and leave the plants in a safe, but accessible location. Then you will need to reply to the email that gave you your item number(s) to tell us where the plants are located. **Plan on watering the plants for a while - we will let you know when the plants need to be delivered or will be picked up.**

With everyone's participation, we can make 2021 as successful as past years. Looking forward to wide-ranging participation from the club. Happy Digging!



Double sided postcards available at 13 Sherman Street ; pertinent information printed on other side. Grab a few and give to friends and neighbors today!

Sale runs online May 22 - September, 2021
natickgardenclub.org/shop



Natick's Art in Bloom Recap

This was a wonderful collaboration with the Natick Center Cultural District, held in the sunshine on April 18. Editorialized excerpts from Elizabeth Carroll's summary below - hats off to her for organizing such a fun inaugural event. For the full photo sense of the day check out [Judy's whole album here](#).

The event was so good because of the wonderful efforts of so many. Thank you to the Board of Gardeners for supporting this new event and for having patience as this event grew! Many volunteers showed up for the event. Thank you all! You were cheerful and hands on deck to do whatever was needed. Publicity was a team sport, along with balloon installation and photographs. Many thanks to the members who made donations of beautiful cards, assembled seed items, and to Betsy for her dahlia tubers.

Monica Foley was our floral design consultant extraordinaire. Drumroll please.....The Floral Designers!!!! Melanie Harvey, Joyce Hannaford, Elizabeth Carroll, Rose Coyman, Julie Mason, Donna Thibault, Doris Fina, Jean Egerhei, Susan Shipman, Marilyn Lustig, Terry Monahan Fitzgibbons, Monica Foley, Kate Grzesiuk and Shirley Fitzpatrick.

Thank you all so much for making Natick's Art in Bloom a spectacular success!



Here's the NCCD newsletter for which there's a nice write-up. Might be worth subscribing as it tells you a lot of local happenings!

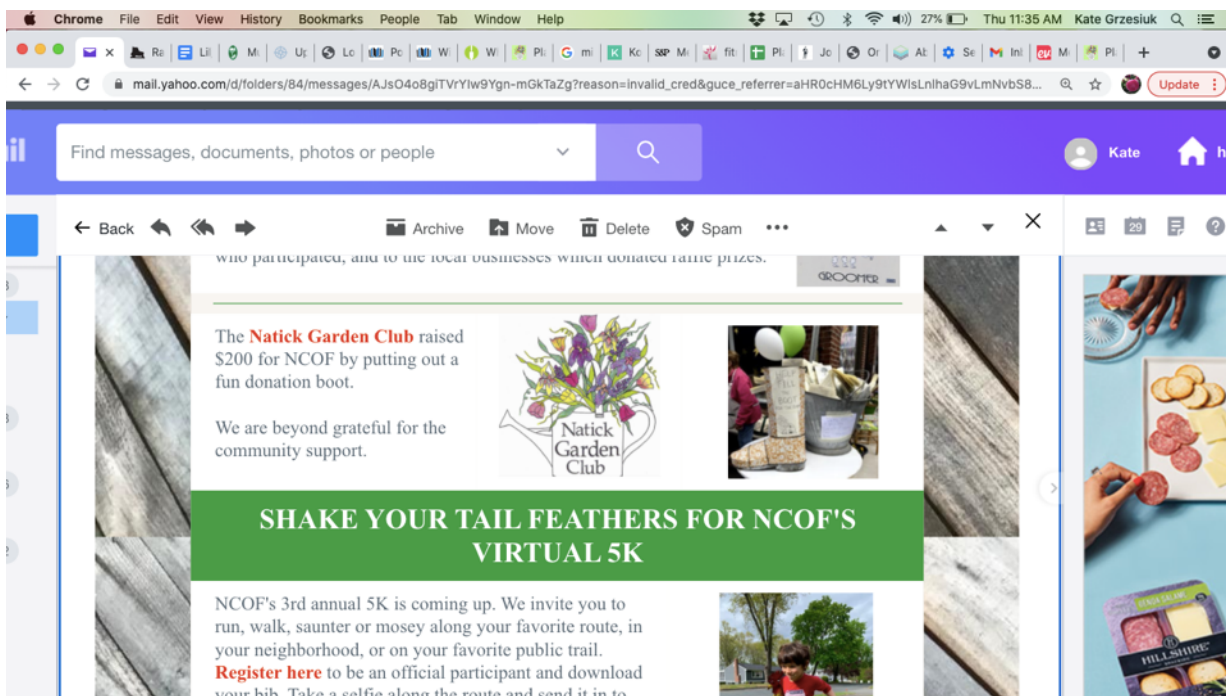
<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/NCCD-May-2021-Newsletter.html?soid=1102329166332&aid=oiHheYQO-2U>

Natick Community Organic Farm

In response to the heartbreaking destruction of the farm's 1815 barn in the March 17th fire the board voted on Thursday to make a donation of \$500 to the rebuilding effort. Additionally they featured the Club in their newsletter for our community spirit during Art in Bloom.

Also from their newsletter:

So many people have asked if they could help replace the tools that we lost in the fire, that we've started a [tools wish list](#). It's set up as a donation page so that you can contribute the partial or whole cost of what's needed. This way the Farm can place a bulk order, which saves fossil fuels and shipping costs. If you already have one of these items, keep in mind that we love gently used tools! Email info@natickfarm.org with questions.



And for These Events of Interest

- I'd like to recommend this book to the club: [Uprooted, A gardener reflects in beginning again](#) by Page Dickey. She left a formal garden in NY she'd developed for 34 years to NW Connecticut & has been developing a less formal & smaller garden for about 6 years. She writes about considerations as she ages & more interest in Natives & a natural environment. ~Marilyn Lustig
- Daffodil sale! Order bulbs by June 1 to support the Sherborn Garden Club (form attached).

Grow Native Massachusetts

EVENINGS WITH EXPERTS

Cultivating Wildlife Conservation with Native Plants

Desiree Narango, David H. Smith Conservation Research Fellow, University of Massachusetts Amherst

When: **May 26 | 7:00 - 8:30pm**

Where: Online (By Zoom Meeting)

Fee: Free to All

Restoring habitat in urban and suburban spaces is crucial to stemming declines in biodiversity. To be successful, we need evidence-based guidelines to inform our landscaping decisions. Desiree Narango will describe her research showing that native plants are essential to sustaining biodiversity, and discuss findings that illuminate the proportion of natives needed, and best species to use, if we are to create thriving wildlife habitat at home.

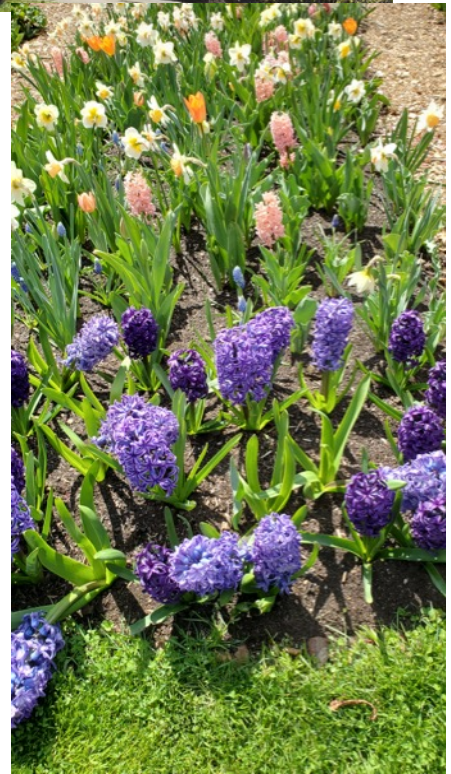
<https://desireenarango.weebly.com/>

<https://grownativemass.org/Our-Programs/evenings-experts/Achieving-Wildlife-Conservation-with-Native-Plants>



Club Trips

Sue Mandell ventured to the Stevens-Coolidge House.



For online classes or workshops of interest, check these websites....

Arnold Arboretum <https://my.arboretum.harvard.edu/>

Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts <http://www.gcfm.org/Calendar-News/Calendar.aspx>

Garden in the Woods <http://www.newenglandwild.org/learn/our-programs>

Grow Native Massachusetts <https://www.grownativemass.org/>

Massachusetts Horticultural Society <https://www.masshort.org/Events>

Tower Hill Botanic Garden <http://www.towerhillbg.org/index.php/visit/what-s-happening/events-calendar/>

Useful link(s):

NEW! The National Garden Club is announcing to all its members that their magazine is transitioning from a print publication to a digital platform with their summer 2021 platform. It's a great little quarterly publication with articles on community programs and grants, special seeds, environmental, gardening and landscape design, and more. To subscribe and receive The National Gardener directly to your inbox, visit The National Gardener website (www.gardenclub.org) and complete the subscription form. You may unsubscribe at any time and subscriptions are always free.

- The UMass Extension Gardener monthly e-Newsletter is now **Hort Notes: Clippings from the Garden**. It is written for landscapers, grounds managers, arborists, and other green industry professionals with the understanding that home gardeners may also look to this publication for information as well. <https://ag.umass.edu/landscape/newsletters-updates/hort-notes>
- 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 calendar on the Federation's website to see what other clubs are doing, there frequently are open meetings. <http://www.gcfm.org/Calendar-News/Calendar.aspx>
- Here is the latest Newsletter from New England Garden Clubs, see what's going on in other states: [New England Region Newsletter February 2021](#)
- Native Plants of MA Facebook Group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/367054536748975/?ref=share>
- Natick's Sustainability link <https://mailchi.mp/natickma/earthrise?e=5d2e739859>

Recommended Blogs:

<http://www.enchantedgardensdesign.com/blog/> Jana's blog is always a treat!

<https://awaytogarden.com/> sign up here for Margaret Roach's free email newsletter; she gardens in Copake Falls NY in the Hudson River Valley, zone 5B so her advice is pertinent.

<http://gardenrant.com/> A recent blog pointed to a curated collection of good gardening videos.

You can see them here <https://goodgardeningvideos.org/>

Reminders:

- Linda Lentz 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 Linda know at LindaRLentz@gmail.com or 508-208-8686.
- If you travel virtually to places of horticultural interest, please let Deb Thompson know DeborahThompson567@gmail.com, and if you physically go someplace, send your photos to Catherine Clifford at caclifford18@gmail.com

What's Blooming in our gardens?

This tree was originally a stick that came from the Arbor Foundation .



They actually do grow! - Pat Polimeno



Morse Library Pollinator garden April, 2021

Our thanks to Laurie Adelstein, Elizabeth Carroll, Jean Egerhei, Rhea Gallagher, Lillian Graffam, Marilyn Lustig, Sue Mandell, Pat Polimeno, Judy Sabol, Bryan Smith, Sheila Tiberio, and Geri Wadness for their contributions to this issue.

Catherine Clifford & Kate Grzesiuk