



GARDEN DELIGHTS

ISSAQUAH GARDEN CLUB

"A gardener's relationship with the soil is little short of a religious experience.."

Bernard Schofield, author of A Miscellany of Garden Wisdom. 1991, et al., U. K.

March Meeting

March 13, 2019, 10:00 A.M.

Tibbetts Creek Manor

Program for March: "Natural Pest, Weed and Disease Control, and Organic Gardening"

We'll have a returning speaker this month, **Laura Matter**, who presented a program to us in February, 2011.



Ms. Matter, who holds a B. A. in Botany from the University of Washington, has been a practicing horticulturist for over thirty years. She works for Tilth Alliance (formerly Seattle Tilth), currently as the Garden Hotline Program Manager, specializing in watershed health, pollinator gardening and integrated pest management education.

During her years with Seattle City Light, she and her crew worked to reduce pesticide use. Under her guidance, a large electrical station was registered as a backyard wildlife sanctuary in Washington state, after being enhanced with native plants, birdhouses, and using natural alternatives to pesticides.

Ms. Matter also currently provides landscape consultations, specializing in native plantings, wildlife habitat and edible gardens.

The Garden Hotline, managed by Tilth Alliance, is sponsored by Seattle Public Utilities, the Cascade Water Alliance, and other programs.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome Spring

As I write this message I still have snow in my yard and on my deck.

The snow fall last month cancelled our Issaquah Garden Club February meeting.

The snow was so deep that for the first time in 28 years, our neighborhood was plowed and we shoveled our whole driveway. We lost the top of a pine tree and have a Vine Maple that split in half under the weight of the snow. There are many broken tree limbs and damaged plants that we have only just started cleaning up. I am hopeful that most of the plants will bounce back when the weather warms up.

The First Day of Spring is March 20. How inspiring it is to see bulbs popping up where the snow has melted!

Happy Spring Gardening,

Debbie DeFilipps

SHOW AND TELL

This month, **Lois Helbert** will discuss hummingbirds.



For our March meeting, please don't forget to bring your plate, cup and utensils from home!

And please don't forget your contributions for the Issaquah Food Bank!

REMINDER: The WSFGC Gala, Luncheon and Design Program

The forty-first Gala and Design Program by Helga Sallmon, guest designer, will be held on March 19, 2019, noon to 2:00 p.m., at the Red Lion Hotel in Olympia. Washington.

Tickets are available through Terry Critchlow and Diane Franchini, Gala Co-Chairmen and District Directors.

WSFGC 2019 CONVENTION

The State Convention will be held on June 4-6, 2019, at the Hotel RL (Red Lion) in Olympia. This will be your chance to meet Incoming WSFGC President, Dorrie Carr.

As at previous conventions, there will be garden tours, a guest designer, and educational workshops. Watch for the registration form and more information in the Spring issue of WASHINGTON GARDEN & DESIGN.

A REMINDER: BBG NATIVE DISCOVERY GARDEN UPDATING

The **Native Discovery Garden** at Bellevue Botanical Garden is being totally updated. Old plants will be removed, a new trail installed and many, many plants planted. There will be work parties at **10 am to noon** on **MARCH 8, MARCH 29***, **APRIL 5, and APRIL 12**. You are welcome to come with your gloves, favorite tool and bottle of water to any of these dates. At about **9:45**, everyone gathers in the covered area—"Gathering Place"—to the left as you enter the main entrance to garden.

***The date that most of our ELWD members will be attending will be MARCH 29.**

Please contact **June Ann Hassebroek** at: juneannhas@aol.com to let her know you will be part of this welcome garden team that will help homeowners see just how they can also create a beautiful garden that includes our native plants. Please give your name, email address, name of your garden club, and the date you're planning to work, for the records.

From June Ann Hassebroek



[Here's the write-up of the Native Discovery Garden from the Bellevue Botanical Garden website:]

“The **Native Discovery Garden**, maintained by the **East Lake Washington District of Garden Clubs** and the **Washington Native Plant Society**, inspires visitors to look to the native plant palette when planning their home gardens. Adapted to the climate and conditions of the Pacific Northwest, native plants in urban landscapes can be ecologically sound, beautiful, and low maintenance. Adjacent to a natural wetland, this garden illustrates the many layers of plant life in the Northwest, from ground covers to trees. It serves as a transition from the gardens to the woodlands and forested lands to the south. Sculptor David Maritz created “Owl’s Glare,” a bronze owl in flight, which graces the central bed in the Native Discovery Garden.”



Native Discovery
Garden Logo



PLANT SALE IN MARCH



NORTHWEST PERENNIAL
ALLIANCE

“March Mania Plant Sale”

Saturday, March 9, 9 am - 3 pm,
Aaron Education Center
at Bellevue Botanical Garden

“March Mania kicks off the local plant sale season in the Seattle area. It's held indoors on at the Aaron Education Center at Bellevue Botanical Garden. This event showcases choice garden plants and spring ephemerals not readily available at other times of the year. Rain or shine, you can browse the unique offerings indoors, out of the elements.

“Parking is free and plentiful, friendly volunteers abound, and many fantastic plants are waiting for a home in your garden. Save time after plant shopping to visit the NPA Border for ideas, inspiration and to see the magic of spring unfolding.

“This is a great way to support NPA and the specialty nurseries, chat with knowledgeable growers, and look for that special, must-have plant. Our fabulous group of growers, many of whom are generally not open to the public, include: **Botanica, Bouquet Banque, Fancy Fronds, Growing Girls, Lee Farm and Windcliff Plants.**”

(NPA will be selling plants propagated from the BBG Border, double hellebores and other exclusive plants.)



MARCH GARDENING TIPS from BETTER HOMES & GARDENS

Winter's long wait is almost over. Get busy outdoors. As the weather starts to warm, it's time to dig in on planting, pruning, and pest control.

By **Julie Martens**

DIVIDE PERENNIALS — Early spring is the ideal time to divide crowded clumps of summer- and fall-blooming perennials. This includes purple coneflowers, Shasta daisies, asters, and garden mums. After planting divisions, don't forget to water if spring rains fail to materialize.

See the BH&G website: <https://www.bhg.com/gardening/flowers/perennials/dividing-perennials/>

BEGIN SLUG PATROL — As soon as bulbs begin to poke through soil, slugs start feeding. To get a jump on controlling these voracious chewers, put out slug bait when you see bulb shoots. Slugs are most active during mild, rainy weather.

SPRAY FOR PESTS AND DISEASES — Break out the sprayer late this month to treat trees and shrubs typically attacked by scale. Spray horticultural oil, which also helps control mites. Don't spray blue spruce trees.

START PLANTING — Wait to dig until after soil has warmed and isn't too wet. Watch maple trees to know when soil is warm enough for planting. When leaves start to emerge, soil should be good to go.



BELLEVUE BOTANICAL
GARDEN
SOCIETY

MARCH CLASS **at Bellevue Botanical Garden**

There is only one class open for March
Pre-registration is required.

**The Botanical Gardens of
Eastern Russia, March 28,**
from 7:00 pm to 8:30 p.m., with
Tony Allison.

Come and enjoy a rare opportunity to learn about the flora and botanical gardens of eastern Russia! We will have several botanist-educators from Russian gardens who will share photographs and descriptions of their gardens, and how they are different from and yet similar to gardens here in the Northwest. There will also be a chance to hear about the environmental education exchange program that brought the educators to the Seattle area and an opportunity to chat with native Russian speakers.

FREE, but please sign up early, to be sure to be able to attend:

<https://bellevuebotanical.org/classes/>

And click on **“REGISTER NOW,”**
under **“March 28.”**



Life After the Snow; Our Resilient Gardens

“In the Pacific Northwest we are not immune to snow storms, although they are infrequent and usually short lived. Despite our best preparation we can still be caught by surprise when it lingers.

We hunkered down, pouring over seed catalogs, watching the snow fall; dreaming of spring and wondering what the snow storm would bring to our lives and our gardens.

While we may have delighted in the winter wonderland we now find ourselves assessing the impact to our gardens and wondering what to do next.

Here are some things to know about snow and how to recover your garden; as we take stock, rebound, repair and replace.

Snow acts as an insulator, protecting our plants roots from the damage that can occur when the mercury drops.

Snowflakes pick up nitrogen and sulfur as they fall. The melting snow provides fertilized water to our gardens that will aid in their recovery and growth.

Plants are surprisingly resilient and often times the best approach is to wait and see how they revive after the snow melts. This is a great time to clean up and cultivate patience as we see how new life emerges when the warmth of spring arrives.

Many leaning trees and shrubs with bent limbs can benefit from being staked or supported to assist them in recovering from the weight of the snow load.

(continued on page 6)

Life After the Snow, cont.

Prune off damaged limbs that may have cracked or split due to heavy snow and clean up areas where there is a ragged break with a hand saw to encourage complete healing.

Go gently and conservatively on pruning back evergreen shrubs, such as Camellias and Pieris; that may have been damaged by the snow load. Oftentimes they bounce back as the temperature rises. If you find that they are not springing back, prune a small amount initially and see how it responds; you can always come back later and trim a little more if need be.

The weather we experience can vary from city to city and neighborhood to neighborhood within our region. It is also true, that each garden has its own microclimate and no two gardens are the same. What survives in one garden may not weather the storm in another. And even with the best preparation and protection of our plants we can experience damage and loss.

Nature provides us with countless opportunities to learn, to adjust and to re-imagine our gardens. And while we are saddened by the loss of a much loved or prized plant, the loss can create a new opportunity in our garden; an opportunity to try a new plant or redesign a bed; opening up our landscape to new possibilities.

**[Taken from the newsletter of
McAuliffe's Valley Nursery]**



Garden Gate Notes

This e-newsletter, sent by the magazine, Garden Gate, contains all sorts of interesting and useful information on all sorts of gardening subjects. Categories include: Home Flowers and Plants, Vegetables, Design Ideas, Containers, “How To” Projects, Garden Plans, Seminars, et al.

Last month, the feature article was: **“Unique Spring Flowers for Shade,”** written by the Garden Gate staff:

“Don't feel limited in your shade garden. Mix it up and add a pop of color with these six unique spring flowers!

“Get color everywhere in your yard! Shade doesn't have to be the exception, especially in spring. Whether buds are poking up through the last patches of snow or a blossom greets you on the first sunny and warm day, unique spring flowers can instantly brighten any spot — even dappled light or dense shade.

“The plants featured here take varying degrees of shade, so after trees' canopies leaf out fully, they can still thrive. Some, such as sharp-lobed hepatica, are among the first blooms in early spring. And others, like the yellow archangel, will transition your garden from late spring to early summer.”

The plant pictures are stunning and the write up is informative. Intrigued? Go to [https://www.gardengatemagazine.com/newsletter/2019/02/26/unique-spring-flowers-for-shade/?](https://www.gardengatemagazine.com/newsletter/2019/02/26/unique-spring-flowers-for-shade/?utm_source=GardenGateNotes&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=15699)

[utm_source=GardenGateNotes&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=15699](https://www.gardengatemagazine.com/newsletter/2019/02/26/unique-spring-flowers-for-shade/?utm_source=GardenGateNotes&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=15699)

The latest issue of the e-newsletter has plans for four different “Do It Yourself” trellises for vining vegetables. If you're interested, go to this website:

[https://www.gardengatemagazine.com/newsletter/2019/03/05/4-diy-vegetable-garden-trellises/?](https://www.gardengatemagazine.com/newsletter/2019/03/05/4-diy-vegetable-garden-trellises/?utm_source=GardenGateNotes&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=15699)

[utm_source=GardenGateNotes&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=15699](https://www.gardengatemagazine.com/newsletter/2019/03/05/4-diy-vegetable-garden-trellises/?utm_source=GardenGateNotes&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=15699)

2019 CLASSES OFFERED BY CASCADE GARDENER

Here are more free classes offered by Cascade Water Alliance to help you have beautiful, healthy landscapes while using water efficiently.

Contain Yourself – Smart Ideas for Gardening in Pots Marianne Binetti, radio host, author, columnist Don't make the most common container gardening mistakes. Do learn how to grow crops in pots, shrubs in tubs and roses in recycled containers. In this class you will learn the most sustainable ways to fertilize, water, and design plants in containers, especially plants that do not demand a lot of water.

□ **Saturday, March 23**, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.
Gray Barn Nursery, 20871 NE Redmond-Fall City Road, Redmond
containergardening.brownpapertickets.com

□ **Saturday, April 6**, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. Bellevue Nursery, 842 104th Ave SE, Bellevue
containers.brownpapertickets.com

Creating Sanctuary in the Garden Jessi Bloom, author, owner and lead designer of N.W. Bloom EcoLogical Landscapes. Join Jessi Bloom for this class on creating a garden space that is in harmony with nature and provides sanctuary to you and whomever might visit the space, including beneficial insects and wildlife. Jessi will cover ecological design basics, choosing plants that work well for your space and plant based practices to help your mind, body and spirit!

□ **Thursday, April 4**, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. Issaquah City Hall, 130 E. Sunset Way, Issaquah
creatingsanctuary.brownpapertickets.com

Designing the Northwest Garden Greg Rabourn, educator, radio personality, author Thoughtful garden design creates a healthy, relaxing space for people, pets, and wildlife. Whether you are starting from scratch or just want to improve your existing landscape, you will learn how to design a true NW garden that

will allow your family time to relax and enjoy their surroundings while keeping maintenance minimal.

□ **Saturday, March 9**, 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Redmond Library, 15990 NE 85th St., Redmond
nwdesign.brownpapertickets.com

Eat Your Yard: Edible Landscape Design Lisa Taylor, author and horticulturist Edible landscapes start in the vegetable garden but they needn't end there. Explore the elements of an edible landscape and discuss criteria for selecting edibles with Lisa Taylor. Learn how to include edibles among your existing landscape. Explore how selecting edible landscape trees, shrubs and annuals can feed the family year round. Edible landscapes can also lead to healthier eating and cooking. Harvesting and preparing food from your landscape are wonderful family and community experiences.

□ **Saturday, March 30**, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.
Bellevue Nursery, 842 104th Ave SE, Bellevue
eatyouryard.brownpapertickets.com

Edible Landscapes for the Homeowner Jessi Bloom, author, owner and lead designer of N.W. Bloom EcoLogical Landscapes Would you like to grow your own food but think it's too much work or takes too much time? Learn how to employ design strategies from nature so you can grow easy edibles that are low maintenance, resilient, and sustainable. Plant once and enjoy the harvest from your edible landscape for years. Basic food forest design and favorite low maintenance edibles for the Pacific NW are featured.

□ **Saturday, March 9**, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.
Squak Mountain Nursery, 7600 Renton-Issaquah Road SE, Issaquah
ediblelandscapes.brownpapertickets.com

[The above ends page two of five pages of classes. The remainder of the list may be found on the website: <https://cascadewater.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/2019-Cascade-Gardener-Class-Catalog-PDF.pdf>]



These illustrations are taken from the March 2019 issue of **Into the Garden**, the newsletter of **The Gardeners' Club**, Santa Cruz County, CA, Writer/Editor: Lise Bixler (lisebixler@sbcglobal.net)

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c/o Cate Mueller, Editor
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March meeting:
Natural Pest, Weed and
Disease Control, and
Organic Gardening

