

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Excursions to Pittsburgh and the Pinelands, a dozen garden tours and nature walks, and more happen this spring and summer with TheDCH

TheDCH is pleased to offer a full slate of garden tours, nature walks, educational classes, fun workshops, and a fantastic excursion to visit Pittsburgh's garden gems this spring and summer. More information and registration details at TheDCH.org

EDITORS: High resolution images available upon request.

DAY TRIP

Walking the Seasons at Flintwoods: Spring Ephemerals Thursday, May 7, 9 am – 12 pm

The beautiful and delicate flowers of spring don't last long. Join land managers Mike Weaver and Jared Judy on our first of three visits to trace the development of the flora and fauna of Flintwoods Preserve, a beautiful piece of Piedmont forest near Centreville, DE. Spring's natural beauty in Flint Woods includes trout lily, Jack-in-the-pulpit, bloodroot, cut-leaf toothwort and rue anemone. Birders can look for Baltimore oriole, wood thrush, ovenbird and indigo bunting.

DAY TRIP

New Jersey Pinelands

Tuesday, May 12, 9 am – 5 pm

Walk the Pinelands with Master Naturalist Terry O'Leary through an expansive vegetative mosaic unsurpassed in the Northeast: low, dense forests of pine and oak, ribbons of cedar and hardwood swamps bordering drainage courses, pitch pine lowlands, and bogs and marshes filled with more than 850 species of plants, some of which are found only in this part of NJ. Space is limited due to the sensitive nature of this area.

WORKSHOP

Nature's Way, part IV: Plants as Tools

Wednesday, May 13, 5:30 – 7 pm

The final class in this series focuses on plant roles in natural systems. Learn about options for different soil conditions, pollinators, perennial edibles and more,

with a focus on native as well as non-invasive, non-native plants. Learn to make pots with recycled materials for starting seeds and up-growing plants. Students take home handmade pots and a packet of seeds/beneficial companion plants for their garden.

GARDEN VISIT

Learning from Great Gardens: a private garden inspired by England's Great Dixter

Wednesday, May 20, 5:30 – 7 pm

Our May Learning from Great Gardens visit takes us to a garden designed for strolling, filled with mixed borders that include shrubs and small trees, perennials, many bulbs, and self-seeding annuals chosen by the gardener, a passionate plant lover. Experience the sense of adventure and play inspired by Great Dixter garden in England and achieved through many years of learning, experimentation, and fun. Refreshments provided.

DAY TRIP

Guided Tour of Chanticleer Gardens

Thursday, June 4, 9 am – 4 pm

Join TheDCH staffer and expert horticulturalist Lenny Wilson and Chanticleer hosts for a behind-the-scenes tour of this celebrated garden and its many garden features. Chanticleer gardeners will talk about the gardening techniques and plants they employ to accomplish the artistry of their distinctive garden "rooms". Box lunch and transportation provided.

MORE >>>

MAKE & TAKE

A Beautiful Home for a Garden's Best Helpers

Wednesdays, June 3 & 10, 5:30-7:30 pm

Work with eco-artist and sculptor Susan Benarcik to research, design, and build your own insect hotel and garden ornament, created from natural materials, designed to attract specific insects. Most consist of several different sections that provide insects with nesting facilities, safe places to hibernate and nurse their young.

DAY TRIP

Walking the Seasons at Flintwoods: Early Summer Thursday, June 11, 9 am – 12 pm

Early summer carries the freshness of spring with the promise of summer color and heat. Join land managers Mike Weaver and Jared Judy for a guided tour of early summer's natural beauty in Flintwoods Preserve, part 2. We will be on the lookout for early summer grasses and flowering plants in the meadow such as *Monarda fistulosa*, beardtounge and perhaps some golden Zizia. Transportation provided.

WORKSHOP

Orchestrating the All-Summer Flower Garden, Part I Wednesday, June 17, 10 am – 12 pm

While successful spring and early summer displays are relatively easy to achieve, late summer and fall present greater challenges. In this two-season course, gardener Charles Cresson shows how early summer techniques and strategies can lead to equally lush displays into the autumn. Learn how to orchestrate a succession of perennials and integrate non-hardy annuals and bulbs to bolster the late display.

MAKE & TAKE

Floral Arranging: The Nose Knows!

Tuesday, July 14, 5:30 – 7 pm

Summer brings an abundance of color and fragrance to flower arrangements, as well as materials that aren't available at other times of the year. Create beautiful and aromatic arrangements using branches, wildflowers from the fields and fragrant flowers from the garden. Brenda Tunis leads this workshop. Materials included.

DAY TRIP

Mt Cuba in Summer

Wednesday, July 15, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm

Escape the summer heat for the shady beauty of Mt Cuba. We'll have a guided tour of Mt Cuba's pollinator studies and garden trials, as well as the formal gardens around the house, followed by a cooling stroll through the woodlands and ponds. Transportation provided.

EXCURSION

Beautiful Gardens in Pittsburgh!

Friday, July 24 - Monday July 27

Visit the new Pittsburgh Botanical Garden, Phipps Conservatory and its new Center for Sustainable Landscaping, colorful community gardens and museums on the North Shore, enjoy exclusive tours of superb private gardens around the city, and visit to Fallingwater, with a Visitors Center with renovated landscaping using native plants. Lodging, transportation, attractions and some meals included.

GARDEN VISIT

Learning from Great Gardens: Union Park Gardens

Wednesday, July 29, 5:30 – 7 pm

Union Park Gardens was one of the original suburbs created as part of the New Urbanism movement of the early 20th century. John Nolen, a town planner and landscape architect who trained with Frederick Law Olmstead, designed the neighborhood to house employees of the booming shipyards of that era. Tour the architecture and gardens with Adele Meehan, Union Park Gardens' architecture and neighborhood historian. Finish with refreshments and more in two lovely gardens.

LECTURE

Ask an Expert Plant Clinic

Tuesday, August 11, 5:30 – 7 pm

Free and open to the public

Ornamentals Integrated Pest Management Specialist Dr. Brian Kunkel, Extension Educator Carrie Murphy, and Master Gardener Volunteers present successful gardening techniques and answer your gardening questions. Registration required for this FREE event.