

The Perennial



2014-2015

Issue 2: October

Website:

ArlingtonGarden.org

As our days grow shorter and the trees put on their autumnal show, it will be important for us to water our flowers, shrubs and trees during this dry weather for as long as we are able. Giving them water now will be necessary to sustain them through the winter.

Upcoming Programs:

Evening Meeting – October 30
Masonic Temple

LexFarm: Developing a Community Farm – Janet Kern, Executive Director.

LexFarm, founded by residents of Lexington and Arlington, is committed to the preservation of farming in our community as an integral part of the towns' health, heritage and ongoing civic life. Janet will share the long and often winding history leading to the establishment of the farm.



Daytime meeting – November 12
St. John's Episcopal Church



Easy Care Orchids – Paul Steen, Past President of Massachusetts Master Gardener Association. This is an opportunity to learn about basic growing techniques for growing orchids. Paul will introduce us to the six easiest orchids to grow.

Civic Development:

The Garden Club under the leadership of Katherine Krister will be contributing window boxes to the new Food Pantry location at the former Broadway Diner. We are honored to be part of this collaboration of many Arlington organizations which will allow greater access to the food pantry.

Invasives Alert

From Mary Stack

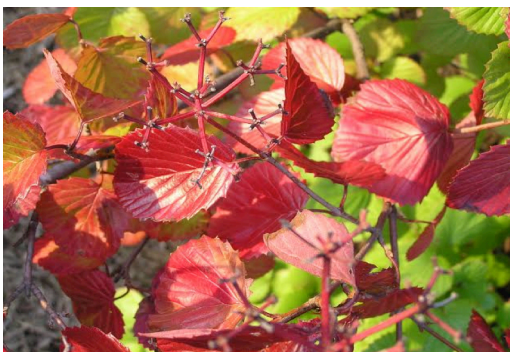
Burning Bush (*Euonymus alatus*) is now considered an invasive plant. It was widely used in landscaping for its brilliant fall foliage and colorful berries. Although sale of it is banned in Massachusetts, it is still growing abundantly in many gardens. Birds eat the berries and spread them into the woodlands where they form dense groves which crowd out native species. It was introduced from Asia so it has no native competition, insect or disease control. There are several native plants with colorful leaves and berries that can be used as alternatives: Highbush Blueberry (*Vaccinium corybosum*), Arrowwood (*Viburnum dentatum*), Witch Alder (*Fothergilla gardenii*). There are many advantages to choosing native plants. They provide food and shelter for a variety of birds and insects thereby creating a more diverse biome. Native plants are also well adapted to our climate, so they require less care.



Burning Bush (Invasive)



Witch Alder (Native)



Arrowwood (Native)



Highbush Blueberry (Native)

Think Spring While Enjoying These Fall Days:

As you put your garden to bed this fall, think ahead to our spring plant sale. If you split your plants now, move them into a protected location and water well. They'll be ready to transfer to pots come spring.

ArlingtonGarden.org:

Don't forget to check our website for program details, links to Massachusetts and National Garden Clubs, scrapbooks and many other resources, available 24/7.



Autumn at Elm Bank
Photo by Sally Naish