

# The Perennial



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Website:  
[ArlingtonGarden.org](http://ArlingtonGarden.org)

Are you itching to get your hands back into the earth and to start planting, pruning, and weeding? I've listed several sources for classes that offer some opportunities to hone our gardening skills to get us ready for spring. Thanks to all the members who shared this information.

*February's Program: February 8 at 10:30*  
*St. John's Episcopal Church, 74 Pleasant St., Arlington, MA*



Our president, Patsy Kraemer and her husband Chuck recently traveled to Cuba and have prepared a travelogue of their trip. Come along for an introduction to this mysterious destination that recently opened its doors to visitors from the United States.



This will be a brown bag lunch. The hospitality committee will provide beverages.

*Nominating Committee - Janet Pagliuca, Chair:*

Nominations are being accepted for President, Vice-President of Programs, Environment Chair, Publicity Chair and Hospitality Co-Chair. If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact Janet Pagliuca at [JanetP08@verizon.net](mailto:JanetP08@verizon.net).

## *Environmental Corner – Mary Stack*

If you are interested in environmental issues like recycling or climate change there are several local organizations, private and governmental, that offer information and volunteer opportunities.

FoodLink is an Arlington-based organization that collects fresh food from local grocery stores and prepared food servers for distribution to social service agencies. Its programs help reduce food waste and provide nutritious food to low-income people. They provided the treats at EcoFest. The [website](#) has information on the environmental cost of food waste and good tips on how to reduce it. There is also a list of low cost food resources in Arlington and a list of volunteer opportunities. FoodLink uses volunteers to collect, sort and distribute food.

[Sustainable Arlington](#) is a Town of Arlington Vision 2020 Environment Committee. They focus on climate stabilization. Their web page has information on tracking gas leaks, upcoming meetings and local environmental events.

[Arlington Recycling Committee](#) works with the Department of Public Works. Their volunteers help with the monthly Saturday collections and Community Collection Day. Recently they have been publishing articles in the Advocate about recycling. Their website has information on upcoming meetings, events and copies of their printed articles.

The town Recycling Coordinator, Charlotte Milan, has a news section on the Town [website](#) giving updates on recycling events and guidelines.

If you're interested in recycling, you can [subscribe](#) to the town email notices for information on recycling dates, delays and events. It will remind you about holiday schedule changes and yard waste pick up and end dates. It also sends reminders about Community Collection Day, Saturday Collection and Minuteman Hazardous Waste Collection.

## *Books in Bloom – Patsy Kraemer and Sally Naish, Co-Chairs*



Books in Bloom will be held on Friday evening March 10. Members are needed to choose a book and then design a floral display that relates to their choice. Let Patsy or Sally know if you are interested. We need approximately 20 participants. Bakers are also needed to provide desserts for the event. Please contact Carol Nahigian or Nancy Pike ([nancypike@verizon.net](mailto:nancypike@verizon.net))

## *Senior Center Project – Sally Naish*

The next meeting will be held on February 15 at 9:30 in the Town Hall's Lyons Hearing Room. At the last meeting, we looked at the elements of design that may be considered when developing a landscape plan. Sally provided the participants with a plot plan on which we can lay out our designs. Sally has asked that plans should be emailed to her so that they can be projected for the group to share

## *Plant Sale – Saturday May 20, 2017*

Co-Chairs Emily Snyder and Jessica Lane are happy to report that the 2016 subcommittee chairs have re-upped for 2017.

Stay posted for more details and don't forget to save those "White Elephants" for the sale!



## *December Auction Winner*

Karen Doyle shared her delight with her winning bid for the donation of a winter container design and plant materials by member and landscaper Jessica Lane.

## *Programs of Interest*

**Medford Garden Club Movie and Popcorn Nite: "Hometown Habitat: Stories of Bringing Nature Home."** Thursday Feb. 2, 7:00-9:00 pm Medford Public Library 111 High Street.

The Medford Garden Club's Movie Night will feature this documentary film narrated by noted entomologist Dr. Douglas Tallamy which explores a variety of community projects around the country that promote sustainable, native, affordable land care practices, which enhance both wildlife and human life. Come on by for some popcorn and some mid-winter inspiration!

### **New England Wildflower Society**

The society has begun offering a series of on-line courses, including one on landscape design using native plants. They are also offering several webinars which are free to members. You can check out their course offerings on their [website](#).

### **Grow Native Massachusetts**

Evenings with Experts is a series of free public lectures on topics focused on growing native plants in the landscape, both public and private. They have archived their previous evening lectures, and list their programs at their [website](#).

### **Perennially Yours**

Kerry Ann Mendez who spoke last year at our joint evening meeting periodically offers [webinars](#) on garden topics and also has some archived subjects that are available online.

### **McCue Garden Center**

Peter Copolla who writes the blog [greenthumbpete.com](http://greenthumbpete.com) will be offering three courses at the center this spring. Information will be available on their [website](#) when they reopen on February 8<sup>th</sup>.

### **Mahoney's Garden Center**

Workshops on a wide variety of subjects will be offered during February and March. To access the course list, you can go to their [website](#).

## Farmers' Markets

Winter Farmers' Markets are being held in the greenhouses at [Russell's Garden Center](#) (Wednesdays) and Mahoney's Garden Center (Saturdays). Locally sourced root vegetables, jams, honey and other products are available while you enjoy the indoor plants. [Lexington Farmers' Market](#) takes place at the Waldorf School on Mass. Ave. on alternate Saturdays – see website for details.



Winterberries are a food source for birds during the long winter months.