Volunteer
Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania

Volunteer is a newsletter published monthly for Arboretum volunteers.

The Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania is an historic public garden and educational institution. It promotes an understanding of the relationship between plants, people, and place through programs that integrate science, art, and the humanities. The Arboretum conducts four major activities: education, research, outreach, and horticultural display. As the official Arboretum of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania provides research and outreach services to state agencies, community institutions and to citizens of Pennsylvania and beyond.

Education: Liza Hawley, efhawley@upenn.edu or (215) 247-5777 ext 128

Garden Railway: Pam Morris Olshefski, pamela@upenn.edu or (215) 247-5777 ext 188

Grist Mill: Bob Gutowski, gutowski@upenn.edu or 215-247-5777 ext 132

Horticulture: Pam Morris Olshefski, pamela@upenn.edu or (215) 247-5777 ext 188

Archives & History: Leslie Morris-Smith, leslm@upenn.edu or (215) 247-5777 ext 175

Physical Facilities: Tom Wilson, wilsont@upenn.edu or (215) 247-5777 ext 108

Information:
(215) 247-5777
www.morrisarboretum.org
100 E. Northwestern Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19118

Volunteer
Emily Clark, Editor

Contributors: Joan Kober, Joyce Munro, Michelle Conners, Liza Hawley, Deitra Arena, and the Morris Arboretum interns.

Questions, comments, and submissions can be directed to the editor at edintern@morrisarboretum.org or mailed to the Arboretum Attn: Education Intern.

Photos: Emily Clark, unless otherwise stated

Contents
Letter from the Editor 1
Notes from the Guides Chair 2
Volunteer Workshops and Opportunities 3
Exracurriculars 5
Patrick Doughtery Photos 7
Continuing Education 8
From the Archives...Cedar Grove 9
Garden Highlights 10
Upcoming Events 11

Cover Photo: Magnolia stellata ‘Centennial,’ Magnolia Slope.

Stumpery and flowers
Photos by Micah Christensen

Eranthis hyemalis and Galanthus
Photo by Micah Christensen
This month I had the opportunity to teach a class at the Arboretum called “Sustainability 101 – Learning the Basics to a Lower Waste Home.” In preparation for this class, I did some research about recycling in Philadelphia.

While I myself am an avid proponent of recycling, I learned that recycling is not as easy as putting a bin out on your curb side every week. About 50% of what we put into the recycling bin in Philadelphia ends up in the incinerator (learn more here). The truth is, recycling is expensive. For years, American recycling plants acted more like collection and re-distribution centers. When we put something into our recycling bin, the Philadelphia Streets Department picked it up, sorted it by papers, glass, plastic, etc., and then shipped it to processing centers where the actual hard work of turning our used products into new products happens. While some of these processing center are domestic, the vast major were in China and India. In 2017, however, China passed a policy that limits the number of waste licenses issued to foreign businesses, meaning that the country will accept much less American waste (learn more here). Now that the United States can no longer ship as much of its waste and recycling overseas, municipalities are having to face just how much we put out on our curbsides to be picked up every week.

While there’s a lot companies can do to make their packaging more sustainable, there’s also a lot we can all do at home. Here are five R’s to follow:

1. **Reduce** and **reuse**. If you’re offered a single use item like a straw, plastic cup or fork, before taking the item think – do I need this? Do I have a reusable item I can use instead? If you don’t have a reusable item with you, is there a way you could carry one in the future? Whenever making a purchase, challenge yourself to see how long you can keep the product (and its packaging!) with you. This could be as easy as buying peanut butter in glass jars instead of plastic and using those jars as drinking glasses or for food storage.

2. **Resist** the temptation to buy new. When looking to add something to your life, explore ways you could borrow from a friend or use something second hand. This may look like going to a thrift store for your clothes or home-ware, borrowing an item from a friend, or going to a place like the public library or West Philly Tool Library to “check-out” something temporarily.

3. **Research**. There are times when you’re simply going to need to add new items to your life, whether they’re a piece of clothing, home appliance or furniture. When those times come, be mindful about the purchase. Ask yourself, how can you ensure that this is a purchase you’re going to make for life? Doing the research and investing in items that can last you a lifetime can end up saving you money in the long run!

4. Keep on **recycling**! I’m still going to recycle, but be extra mindful of cleaning items before I put them in the recycling bin.

5. Finally, **RELAX**. We all make mistakes, don’t beat yourself up. There’s going to be a time when you need to buy a disposable item, and that’s okay! The important step is what you do afterward to change how you approach that situation again.

Best Wishes,
Emily Clark
*The McLean Contributionship
Endowed Education Intern*
Notes from the Guides Chair

GUMBO LIMBO, SLOTHS AND BOOM!!

My husband and I were fortunate enough to visit Costa Rica in February and as I expected, it was a nature lover’s paradise! In just a few short days our fantastic guide, Carlos, taught us enough about the plants, animals and geological features of Costa Rica to fill a thick guidebook. He carried a telescope with him everywhere so that he could point out things to us that we never would have noticed with the naked eye.

First up was the Gumbo Limbo or “tourist tree” so called because of its ex-foliating red bark. These trees are used to create “living fences” throughout Costa Rica. Farmers simply cut limbs off these trees, stick them in the ground, watch them quickly take root and string thin wire between the trees. The Gumbo Limbo grows so quickly that a sturdy fence is created in no time. “Living fences” have many benefits: they provide wind buffers for animals, they are inexpensive, they don’t add toxins to the soil that are added from per-treated fence posts and their use prevents other trees from being cut down.

If you think that the expression slothlike used to describe a lazy person is an exaggeration, you have never seen a sloth in the wild. They are everywhere in Costa Rica, but are often hard to find due to excellent camouflage and the fact that they hang in trees all day and hardly move except to chomp on leaves. Interestingly, they have the slowest digestive system of any mammal. It can take them two weeks to digest a meal which consists of leaves, branches, buds and occasionally insects. Cecropia tree leaves are their favorite snack. In an effort to conserve energy sloths have evolved to do less rather than eat more. They can spend up to 20 hours a day sleeping to conserve energy.

Another interesting feature of sloths is the symbiotic relationship they have with the algae that live in their fur. The algae gain shelter and a good supply of water as sloth fur absorbs water very easily. In return, the algae provide the sloth with extra nutrients via diffusion and absorption through their skin.

Finally, we stayed in an area called La Fortuna, which is the location of the Arenal Volcano. On July 29, 1968 the volcano suddenly and violently erupted. Eruptions continued for several days burying over 6 square miles under rocks, lava, ash and toxic gases. When it was finally over, the eruptions had killed 87 people and buried 3 small villages. At the height of the eruptions, the volcano flung giant rocks – some weighing several tons – more than ½ mile away at a rate of 18,000 feet per second. These explosions formed three new active craters. As we walked on the volcano trail, we noticed that plant life some 50 years later is making a comeback. Carlos explained that this has happened in a distinct progression: algae first followed by lichen, moss, grass, ferns, bromeliads and finally trees. The Arenal Volcano continued actively erupting until 2010 and it is now considered dormant.

Hope April brings with it good weather so that we can dust off our guiding skills and get back to what we all do best – teaching kids about the wonders of nature! Joan Kober
Volunteer Workshops and Opportunities

Volunteer for the Plant Sale

Thursday, May 9th - Saturday, May 11th | Bloomfield Farm

Please join us to help make the 2019 Morris Arboretum Plant Sale at Bloomfield Farm another successful event for connecting people with plants. Volunteers will receive a 20% coupon good for one-time use on May 10th or 11th. The actual plant sale runs Thursday - Saturday. Please click here to see dates, times, and available slots.

Questions? Contact Michelle Conners at mconners@upenn.edu or by phone at ext. 109.

Twilight & Peonies

Thursday, May 30th | 6:00 - 8:00 pm | Widener Tent

Please save the date for the annual Education Volunteer Recognition event, Twilight and Peonies. Circle the date on your calendar, bring your spouse or significant other, and enjoy this gala event being held in the tent behind Widener. This year’s event will be catered so you can sit back, relax, and thoroughly enjoy yourselves. The only thing you’ll need to prepare is a plant, labeled with name and growing needs, for the annual plant exchange. More information on the events of the night will be in the May Newsletter. Hope to see you there!

Photos courtesy of Paul Meyer
Volunteer Workshops and Opportunities

Arbor Week Sign Up

Monday, April 29th - Friday, May 3rd
Session 1: 10-11:30 am | Session 2: 11:30 am - 12:45 pm

Share your love and knowledge of trees with children during our annual Arbor Week Program. We are in need of volunteers for a variety of activities throughout the week of April 29th - May 3rd. Sign up via the Team Up calendar, and feel free to volunteer for more than one time slot!

New Guides

Our Recruiting & Retention and Training Committees will be busy again this year, planning for the guide class of 2020. We’re looking at new (for us!) places to recruit potential guides. If you have ideas of events or locations that attract a broad spectrum of audiences, please let me know: efhawley@upenn.edu

Always Check-In at the Kiosk

That’s really all that needs to be said, but to expand a bit: leave your home in time to get to your tour, meeting or program on time. I know traffic can vary and spring = road work, but take the time to stop and let the Visitor Experience folks know what you are here for. It’s a great reason to come often – they’ll know your smiling face and wave you on through quickly :-)
Extracurriculars

Intern Presentations
Wednesday, April 3rd | 12:30 - 2:30 pm | Upper Gallery

Pests of Woody Landscape Plants: An Integrated Pest Management Scouting Guide
Jenny Klimowicz, The John J. Willaman & Martha Haas Valentine Endowed Plant Protection Intern
Effective pest and disease management is a vital part of maintaining Morris Arboretum’s plant collection. To facilitate this process, Morris Arboretum is in need of an updated scouting guide that not only lists key Arboretum pests and diseases, but gives detailed information on when and how to scout for these problems and what to do when such problems arise. I have created a scouting guide outlining ten key pests that frequently affect the Arboretum’s woody plant collection to be used by the plant protection intern and other Arboretum staff to effectively scout, monitor and treat the living collection using a variety of pest management strategies.

Identification protocol and management strategies of plant pathogens in the Morris Arboretum Greenhouses
Vinnie Galatolo, The Martha J. Wallace Endowed Plant Propagation Intern
The purpose for my project is to develop a streamlined protocol for staff to identify, track, and diagnose plant pathogen infections in the Morris Arboretum greenhouses. Plant pathogens are one of the greatest challenges greenhouses face. Proper identification and treatment of infections is essential to the overall health of greenhouse plant collection. Implementing a strict pathogen identification protocol and management strategy will significantly reduce the possibility of spreading an infection. Executing effective treatment strategies in the greenhouses is the first line of defense against planting diseased plants in the Morris Arboretum.

Univ. of Pennsylvania Street Tree Pit and Trench Treatment Inventory and Recommendation
Amanda Wood, The Martha S. Miller and Rusty Miller Endowed Urban Forestry Intern
Street trees are under constant stress more so than their counterparts in natural lands. Considering their tough environment, the surface treatment for pits and trenches can help ameliorate those conditions. This project cataloged and researched tree surface treatments to make potential recommendations to improve Penn's tree pit and trench care.
Extracurriculars

**New Tour: MORE Hidden Gems!**

**Saturdays, April 27th | 11:00 am | Widener Terrace**

Join this new tour highlighting garden features not often discovered on an average visit. The original Hidden Gems tour was so popular that it is returning this season with MORE! Go off the beaten path to see less frequently visited garden gems and add some new fun facts to your guiding repertoire. The tour is a combination of structures, sculptures, spaces, trees and vistas.

**Arboretum Book Club**

The Book Club is open to all Arboretum volunteers and staff and meets the first Friday of each month. All are welcome to attend any session and you do not have to attend every month.

*April 5th | 1:00 pm | Gates Hall Conference Room*

**A Walk in the Woods: Rediscovering America on the Appalachian Trail** by Bill Bryson

Back in America after twenty years in Britain, Bill Bryson decided to reacquaint himself with his native country by walking the 2,100-mile Appalachian Trail, which stretches from Georgia to Maine. The AT offers an astonishing landscape of silent forests and sparkling lakes—and to a writer with the comic genius of Bill Bryson, it also provides endless opportunities to witness the majestic silliness of his fellow human beings. *A Walk in the Woods* is more than just a laugh-out-loud hike. Bryson's acute eye is a wise witness to this beautiful but fragile trail, and as he tells its fascinating history, he makes a moving plea for the conservation of America's last great wilderness.

*May 3rd | 1:00 pm | Gates Hall Conference Room*

**Ginkgo: The Tree That Time Forgot** by Peter Crane

Perhaps the world’s most distinctive tree, ginkgo has remained stubbornly unchanged for more than two hundred million years. Inspired by the historic ginkgo that has thrived in London's Kew Gardens since the 1760s, renowned botanist Peter Crane explores the history of the ginkgo from its mysterious origin through its proliferation, drastic decline, and ultimate resurgence. Crane also highlights the cultural and social significance of the ginkgo: its medicinal and nutritional uses, its power as a source of artistic and religious inspiration, and its importance as one of the world’s most popular street trees.
Patrick Doughtery

Progress Photos
Continuing Education

Nature-Inspired Papercutting
Mindy Shapiro, Papercut Artists and Zentangle Teacher
Sunday, April 7 | 10:00 am - 12:30 pm

Papercutting is an ancient art dating back to the creation of paper during the first century in China. In this class you will make flower papercuts based on a template. For those who prefer to design your own papercut, there will be real flowers and/or leaves to inspire your drawing. Register here.

Sustainability in Your Garden
Eva Monheim, Horticulture and Environmental Consultant Educator
Tuesday, April 9 | 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

What does sustainability really mean in the landscape? Creating sustainable landscapes can mean less work for you. You will be amazed at all the techniques you can use to enhance your garden while you focus on sustainable practices! Register here.

Weave Your Own Macramé
Angela Boltz, Fiber Artists
Saturday, April 13 | 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Join us in learning the soothing ancient textile art of macramé (decorative knotting), with fiber artist Angela Boltz. Students will learn the history of macramé, three basic knot formations, and how to start a project of their own. Each participant will leave with a beautiful handmade plant holder, along with the knowledge to use as a springboard for further creative play and mindful exploration. Register here.

Impressionist Painting
Allison Zito, Artist
Sunday, April 14 | 12:00 - 2:30 pm

Working in an intuitive manner, impressionist painters captured in color and rhythm the spontaneity of the moment. These innovations took the impressionists outdoors to paint in the open air. In this class, we will discuss the impressionist artists. Like the impressionists, we will paint in the open air, with the breathtaking gardens of the Morris Arboretum as our own personal Giverny. Register here.

Volunteers who have worked over 30 hours during the past year may take Morris Arboretum classes at a discounted price. Please refer to the Volunteer Price Spreadsheet in the Education Office for a complete list of volunteer class pricing. To sign up for a class please click here.
Five Things You Might Not Know...About Cedar Grove

1. Cedar Grove, the childhood summer home of John T. and Lydia T. Morris, was originally located in the Harrowgate section of Philadelphia, northwest of Kensington. According to the 1823 Geographical Dictionary, Harrowgate was once a “place of resort for bathing and drinking the waters.”

2. The blush rose bushes in the flower garden of Cedar Grove at Harrowgate were believed to date back to the original owner, Elizabeth Coates Paschall. Elizabeth also grew an extensive variety of herbs used to concoct medicinal salves, tonics and remedies.

3. The fifteen-acre tract of land around Cedar Grove, once a working farm with barn, carriage house and several small dependencies, was diminished in size when the Pennsylvania Railway declared eminent domain after 1871 and the “place of resort” soon became noisy and cramped.

4. A cousin of John and Lydia’s, Morton Morris and his family lived at Cedar Grove for a dozen years at the turn of the century, rent free. Morton’s daughter, Margaret Fort Morris, taught at the Isaac Paschall Morris Primary School, three blocks from Cedar Grove.

5. In his 1909 will, John Morris stated what he wanted done with Cedar Grove:

   *I will and direct that the dwelling house shall be preserved as an example of Colonial architecture and as a museum of old-fashioned things, and that nothing shall be done to it nor shall it be put to any use which will take from it its colonial simplicity.*

In 1926, Lydia fulfilled John’s wishes to preserve Cedar Grove, but she did so by having it removed from Harrowgate and re-erected in Fairmount Park. See photos of Cedar Grove [click here](#).
Garden Highlights

Lindera obtusiloba
Japanese spicebush
English Park

Narcissus bulbocodium
petticoat daffodil
Rose Garden

Jasminum nudiflorum
winter jasmine
Rose Garden

Cercidiphyllum japonicum
katsura-tree
Oak Allée

Cornus officinalis
Japanese Cornel Dogwood
Bloomfield Farm

Abeliophyllum distichum ‘Rosea’
pink Korean abelialeaf
Oak Allée
## Upcoming Events

### April 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3 Hort Vol. with Jess Intern Presentations 12:30 - 2:30 pm</td>
<td>4 Guide Council 1:30 pm</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Early Bird Weekends</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10 Hort Volunteers with Vince</td>
<td>12 Ed Committee Meeting 1 pm</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13 Cherry Blossom Days 10 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>15 Jenny Rose Carey’s Garden Trip 9:45 am</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17 Hort Volunteers with Erin</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20 Cherry Blossom Days 10 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24 Hort Volunteers with Louise</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27 MORE Hidden Gems Tour 11 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>29 Arbor Week 10 am-12:45 pm</td>
<td>30 Arbor Week 10 am-12:45 pm</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Weekly Volunteer Events

**Wednesdays:** Horticulture Volunteers 8:30 am - 12 noon

**Saturdays and Sundays:** Regular Tour 2:00 - 3:00 pm

**Sundays:** Regular Tour 11:00 am - 12 noon
### Upcoming Events

#### May 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Hort Volunteers with Lucy</td>
<td>Arbor Week 10 am-12:45 pm</td>
<td>Arbor Week 10 am-12:45 pm</td>
<td>Saturday Morning Live Tour 11 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Arbor Week 10 am-12:45 pm</td>
<td>Guide Council 1:30 pm</td>
<td>Book Club 1 pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irish Days</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Plant Sale</td>
<td></td>
<td>Plant Sale</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mother's Day Brunch</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Hort Volunteers with Vince</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Springfield Mills Opening Day 1 pm</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Hort Volunteers with Jess</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Garden Railway Opens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Hort Volunteers with Erin</td>
<td>Twilight &amp; Peonies 6 - 8 pm</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Weekly Volunteer Events

**Wednesdays:** Horticulture Volunteers 8:30 am - 12 noon

**Saturdays and Sundays:** Regular Tour 2:00 - 3:00 pm

**Sundays:** Regular Tour 11:00 am - 12 noon

**Sunday:** Early Bird Weekends, Arboretum opens at 8:00