

Summer - Fall 2021



Program Guide

2021 Lecture Series

We thank our sponsors Bartlett Tree Experts; Donaroma's Nursery and Landscape Services; The Dukes Conservation District; Heather Gardens; and Middletown Nursery, Home and Garden Center

All lectures will be held virtually with the possibility of our September lecture being held in person in the Far Barn. Check our website for updates.



Chris Roddick

From Nursery to Nurse Log: 30 Years of Growing and Caring for Trees in the Northeast

Wednesday, June 16, 5:30pm. Sponsored by Bartlett Tree Experts and the Dukes Conservation District

Chris Roddick, certified arborist and Foreman of Grounds at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, became a lifelong learner of everything arboreal after a Scott Arboretum workshop

given by a “weird old plant guy,” renowned plantsman Michael Dirr. Pulling from his 30 plus years of experience in arboriculture — shopping at nurseries, planting, pruning, and caring for veteran trees — Chris will share what he has learned by looking in-depth at a dozen tree species and discussing his successes and failures, while telling a few stories along the way. *\$10 (Free for PHA members). This lecture will be held virtually.*

Traveling Tales of the Elusive Spotted Turtle

Wednesday, July 14, 5:30pm

Spotted turtles are one of the five turtle species found on Martha's Vineyard, but not much is known about our local population. The team at BiodiversityWorks has been busy over the last year searching for populations of these rare turtles and following radio-tagged spotted turtles to learn about their movements and upland nesting habitats. **Liz Olson**, wildlife biologist at BiodiversityWorks, will share the organization's research on spotted turtles and the adventures of their radio-tagged turtles

over the last year. She will also talk about their natural history and the other types of turtles you may see on the Vineyard. Bring your spotted turtle sighting stories if you have one! *\$10 (Free for PHA members). This lecture will be held virtually.*



Liz Olson



Image courtesy of BiodiversityWorks

Please register for lectures on our website (pollyhillarboretum.org). Registration links are available on our calendar. Call 508-693-9426 for assistance.

ANNUAL LISINA & FRANK W. HOCH LECTURE

Building Resilience in the Face of Climate Change

Wednesday, July 21, 5:30pm

Join **Chipper Wichman**, President of The National Tropical Botanical Garden, to learn about a garden's resilience in the face of climate change on the Hawaiian Islands. Climate change has now become a crisis for many parts of the world and the oceanic islands of the Pacific are experiencing some dramatic impacts. In 2018, Limahuli Garden and Preserve (part of the National Tropical Botanical Garden) experienced a “rain bomb” of unprecedented intensity. The recovery effort of this award-winning garden is a story of vision, commitment, and hard work that has created a botanical garden that is far more resilient, and now ready to take on the 21st century storms that climate change will bring. *\$10 (Free for PHA members). This lecture will be held virtually.*



Chipper Wichman



Abra Lee

Power to the Trees

Wednesday, July 28, 5:30pm. Sponsored by Middletown Nursery, Home and Garden Center

Abra Lee is a national speaker, writer, and owner of Conquer the Soil, a platform that combines history and current events to raise cultural awareness of horticulture. In “Power to the Trees,” Abra will dive into the historical and cultural significance of trees. Ancestral connectors, fruit bearers, holders of signs and symbols, transporters of luck, providers of shade,

guardians, mirrors, gathering spots — trees enrich the environment and our soul. Connections to trees are more than environmental; for many they are personal. Looking at trees through an intimate historical lens may be part of the solution to engage a new generation of tree huggers and advance future conservation efforts. *\$10 (Free for PHA members). This lecture will be held virtually.*

ANNUAL DAVID H. SMITH MEMORIAL LECTURE

Nature Rx: A Prescription We Can All Live By

Wednesday, August 11, 5:30pm

Although we have known for thousands of years that spending time in nature benefits us as humans, it has only been in the last few decades that scientific research has shown why those benefits exist and what we can each do to take full advantage of them. In this presentation, Cornell University professor **Dr. Don Rakow** will describe the latest research findings and relate them to ways that individuals, regardless of their age, can spend quality time in nature to improve their overall wellbeing.

\$10 (Free for PHA members). This lecture will be held virtually.



Dr. Don Rakow

Cultivating Place: How a Garden Culture of Care Strengthens Places and Their People

Wednesday, August 25, 5:30pm. Sponsored by Heather Gardens and the Dukes Conservation District

Jennifer Jewell will explore the philosophy of her public radio podcast *Cultivating Place* — that gardens/gardeners are powerful agents and spaces for potentially positive change in our world. They help to address challenges as wide-ranging as climate change, habitat loss, cultural polarization, and individual and communal health and wellbeing. This is exemplified by the important plant-based work being done by women around the world profiled in Jennifer's 2020 book *The Earth in Her Hands*, and the innovative place-based gardens that celebrate western landscapes in her forthcoming book, *Under Western Skies*. **\$10 (Free for PHA members).**

This lecture will be held virtually.



Jennifer Jewell

Of Monarchs and Milkweeds

Wednesday, September 22, 5:30pm. Sponsored by the Dukes Conservation District

Using striking visual imagery, Cornell University professor **Anurag Agrawal** will talk through some of the natural history of monarchs and milkweed, highlighting their coevolutionary battle. The cultural importance of milkweed's famous toxins will be the subject of one vignette, spanning several thousand years of human history. And finally, the current predicament of monarch declines and conservation will be discussed. The talk requires no scientific background, but will convey the latest research results, and provide a survey of current issues in monarch conservation. Ample time will be left for Q&A and discussion about all issues, including the fall migration, the history of monarch science, and citizen science. **\$10 (Free for PHA members).** *This lecture may be held virtually or in-person. Please check our website for updates.*



Professor Anurag Agrawal



Image Courtesy of Anurag Agrawal

Please register for lectures on our website (pollyhillarboretum.org). Registration links are available on our calendar. Call 508-693-9426 for assistance.

Workshops & Classes

Pre-registration is required for the following programs.

Please register online at least one week in advance, at the link for the event at pollyhillarboretum.org. (Click on "Calendar" under the Programs menu)

Classes will be held at the Arboretum unless otherwise specified. In-person class sizes will be limited and will follow Covid safety protocol.

Drawing from Nature

7 Fridays, 9:30am-12:30pm: June 4, 11, 18, 25, July 16, 23, 30

Join local artist **Lizzy Schule** for a series of nature drawing classes. Each class will cover a different topic in landscape drawing, accessible to all students, whether enrolled in an individual class or the entire series. Lizzy will address a variety of methods and themes that concern the landscape artist, such as materials, composition, perspective, shading, modeling form, and creating texture. She says: "We will have fun! Observing the subtleties of the natural world enriches your curiosity and creativity." Students will use a combination of graphite, charcoal, and pen and ink. Participants will need to provide their own supplies; a materials list is available. **\$55 per class (\$40 for PHA members).** *Space is limited. Please pre-register. This class will be held at the Arboretum.*



Drawing by Lizzy Schule

MINDFUL MORNINGS IN THE ARBORETUM

Balance in Nature

3 Tuesdays in June, 9-10am: June 8, 15, 22

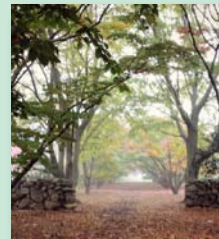
Deepen your appreciation of nature by joining in a mindful hour of gentle movements drawn from the Chi Kung tradition of Tai Chi with **Kanta Lipsky**. Set among the Arboretum's diverse collection of trees, this practice will strengthen our connection to the earth and increase our body's ability to maintain good balance. **\$25 per class (\$10 for PHA members).** *Space is limited. Please pre-register. This class will be held at the Arboretum.*



Forest Bathing

Tuesday, June 29, 9-10am

Forest Bathing, or Shinrin-Yoku, a Japanese practice of relaxation in nature, has been shown to improve immune response, mental performance, and creativity. Enjoy an easy, mindful walk through beautiful Arboretum trees in a special environment. **Shanta Gabriel** has worked in the field of alternative health for 40 years and has been leading groups in nature since 2012. **\$25 (\$10 for PHA members).** *Space is limited. Please pre-register. This class will be held at the Arboretum.*





Garden Bed Maintenance

Tuesday, June 15, 1-2:30pm

Need a little help with your garden beds? Join PHA Grounds Manager/Arborist **Ian Jochems** to learn how we maintain our garden beds at different times of the year. Ian will demonstrate how we cut bed edges, different weeding strategies, and how we make and use a variety of mulches. We will also cover some basic tool uses and plant maintenance. There will be a chance to try out tools and ask questions. **\$30 (\$15 for PHA members)**. *Space is limited. Please pre-register. This class will be held at the Arboretum.*

Plant Family ID Workshop

Thursday, June 24, 9am-2pm

Join Martha's Vineyard Land Bank ecologist **Julie Russell** in a one-day class that will help you learn easy ways to identify plant families. We will take you through diverse plant families at the Arboretum and teach you key features to help you place plants in correct families using identifying characteristics no matter where you are. Learn tips and tricks to identify plant patterns and practice your plant ID skills in the field. Bring your own lunch and a hand lens if you have one. **\$75 (\$60 for PHA members)**. *Space is limited. Please pre-register. This class will be held at the Arboretum.*



Image courtesy of Julie Russell

Watercolor in Bloom

3 Thursdays in August: August 5, 12, 19, 10am-12:30pm

Join artist **Lynn Hoeft** for a series of watercolor classes focusing on the sights and scenes of Polly Hill Arboretum. Take just one class, or all! This class will focus on landscape scenes, and the colors and textures of summer at the Arboretum. No previous watercolor experience is required. Participants will need to provide their own supplies; a materials list is available. **\$50 per class (\$35 for PHA members)**. *Space is limited. Please pre-register. This class will be held at the Arboretum.*



Paintings by Lynn Hoeft



"Deer Proofing" Your Garden

Saturday, August 14, 10-11:30am

Join PHA Grounds Manager/Arborist **Ian Jochems** to learn how you can have a less frustrating gardening experience by managing deer in your garden. We will discuss methods for preparing your garden in the fall to avoid buck rubbing on your trees and heavy winter deer browsing. Participants will also receive a copy of PHA's new publication on plants not favored by deer, which includes a plant list for Martha's Vineyard. **\$30 (\$15 for PHA members)**. *Space is limited. Please pre-register. This class will be held at the Arboretum.*

Local Wild Plants for Botanical Dyes

Wednesday, August 18, 5:30-6:30pm

Many people are aware of the dye potential of oak acorns and black walnut fruits, but there is an abundance of other common local plants which yield great dyes for projects. With PHA Plant Recorder **Liz Thomas**, learn about these other dye-giving weeds, woodies, and wildflowers, and how to capture their colors. The following week, Liz will point out some of these plants at the Arboretum during her "Looking Together" tour. **\$10 (Free for PHA members)**. *Please pre-register. This program will be held virtually.*



Garden Design with Native Plants for Pollinators

Friday, September 10, 10-11:30am Sponsored by the Dukes Conservation District

Create a livelier garden with butterflies, bees, and other pollinators by choosing the right native plants. PHA Horticulturist Oliver Osnoss will help you select the right native plant for the right place in your garden using a diverse plant palette. We will cover helpful tips on plant selection and explore the Arboretum's meadows and other native plantings for inspiration. Learn how to choose native plants that will attract desired pollinators and increase biodiversity in your garden **\$25 (\$10 for PHA members)**. *Space is limited. Please pre-register. This class will be held at the Arboretum.*



Workshops and Classes

NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY AT PHA

Photography for Gardeners with Dan Jaffe Wilder

*Three Classes in August:
Saturday, August 28, 8:30-11:30am or
Monday, August 30, 4-7pm*

Nature Photography for Smartphone Users: Tuesday, August 31, 4-7pm

These days cameras can do amazing things, and yet a good camera cannot take a good picture without a person behind it. Join **Dan Jaffe Wilder**, author and photographer of *Native Plants for New England Gardens* and Ecological Horticulturalist at Norcross Wildlife Foundation, for a crash course on garden photography. While many classes focus on camera specs and technologies, Dan prefers to focus on the person behind the camera. Learn to frame your shots and play with landscape angles, work with light and movement and pay special attention to your backgrounds. With these skills and others, everyone can become a good photographer no matter what sort of camera you are working with. Participants will need to bring their own camera that they know how to use. For the Tuesday evening class, participants will need a smartphone. *\$55 per class (\$40 for PHA members). Space is limited. Please pre-register. The Saturday morning & Monday evening class will be a repeat of the same class. Each class will be held at the Arboretum.*

Dan Jaffe Wilder



Photos by Dan Jaffe Wilder



Sandplain Grassland Restoration Ecology

Date TBA (Late September/Early October. Check our website for updates). Sponsored by the Dukes Conservation District

Join **Mike Whittemore**, Stewardship Manager with The Nature Conservancy (TNC) for Cape Cod and the Islands, to learn about ecological restoration of sandplain grassland habitat at TNC restoration areas on Martha's Vineyard. Tour Bamford Preserve

restoration area, a 14-year project to restore sandplain grassland habitat and Katama Airfield to see how an exemplary sandplain grassland is maintained. Dress for an outdoor field trip. *Space is limited. Please pre-register. This class will be held at Bamford Preserve. Directions will be provided upon registration.*

Photos by Mike Whittemore



Family Book Series



PHA Volunteer Kathy Kinsman leads nature storytime

Tuesdays at 10:30am, July 13 through August 24

Relax under the shade of a tree and enjoy summer with your family while listening to a nature-based children's book read by one of our volunteers. A simple walk or activity related to the book will follow. Books will be selected for children 3 to 8 years old, although all ages are welcome! Want to extend your Arboretum adventure? Pack a picnic lunch to enjoy in the picnic grove near the Visitor Center.

Free. Space is limited. Please pre-register. This program will be held at the Arboretum.

Special Events

Spring Plant Sale

Monday, May 10 - Thursday, July 1 (Order Online)

Get started with spring and summer gardening with selections from our spring plant sale. This plant sale will be held virtually: order plants online and pick them up at the Arboretum. Please visit our website (pollyhillarboretum.org) for updates and to order from the plant sale.





Fall Plant Sale

Begins Monday, September 13 (Please check our website for updates)

Join us for our end-of-the-season plant sale. The plant sale may be held virtually or in-person; please visit our website (pollyhillarboretum.org) for updates. For tips on native plant selection, register for PHA Horticulturist Oliver Osnoss' class "Garden Design with Native Plants for Pollinators" on September 10.

Exhibits

Visit anytime the PHA grounds are open: daily, sunrise to sunset (closed Wednesdays 8am-4pm)



Poetry in the Arboretum

Mid-summer (Check our website calendar for updates)

This summer, we are hosting a children's poetry exhibit showcasing poems written by Island children during April (National Poetry Month), in honor of Arbor Day. Enjoy imaginative poems at the Arboretum and find inspiration in nature. *Free.*

Native Tree Trail Opening

Mid-summer (Check our website calendar for updates)

This summer, we will be opening a new trail in our woodland, highlighting trees native to Martha's Vineyard. A brochure with information about these trees will be available. We will be holding special staff-led tours when the trail opens. Experience a new part of the Arboretum and learn about native Island trees. *Free.*



Tours

The following are in addition to our regular docent-led tours, which take place on many summer mornings. Registration is available for all tours on our website (pollyhillarboretum.org).

Looking Together Tours

Tours run the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month, 2-3pm, May through September

Learn more about the Arboretum and its plant collections on guided walks led by knowledgeable staff and docents. These specialized tours are designed to offer an in-depth Arboretum experience. The theme will change between tours. Meet at the Visitor Center. *Free with \$5 admission.*

Free admission for PHA members. Pre-register.

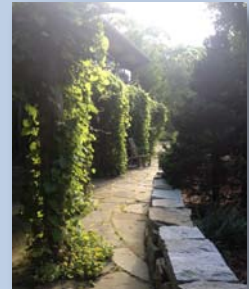


Photo by Kathy Kinsman

Edgartown Tree Tour

Wednesday, September 1, 6-8pm. Sponsored by Donaroma's Nursery and Landscape Services

Join PHA Grounds Manager/Arborist **Ian Jochems** for an informative and fun evening walking tour of the many glorious mature trees of Edgartown. Among the hydrangeas and picket fences, many unique and fine specimen trees await discovery. As one past participant noted, "I will forever after see the town's trees with new eyes and greater appreciation." *\$20 (\$15 for PHA members). Pre-register.*

Grounds Volunteer Open Days

The first Thursday of each month, 9am-12pm, May through October

Curious about becoming a PHA grounds volunteer? You'll work with Arboretum staff and other volunteers on activities that may include planting, pruning, weeding, and mulching. It's an easy-going, fun environment and staff is always available to answer questions. We provide tools, but please bring gloves and wear outdoor work attire. For more details or general volunteer information, contact us at info@pollyhillarboretum.org.





Visitor Information

The Polly Hill Arboretum grounds are open sunrise to sunset daily (Closed Wednesdays 8am-4pm for the 2021 season)

Due to the changing nature of COVID-19, please check our website for Visitor Center open days and hours this season.

The Visitor Center is wheelchair accessible.

Admission is \$5 for non-members, and free for members and children 12 and under.

Membership

Members receive free Arboretum admission, plant sale discounts, discounts on classes and lectures, our *Meristems* newsletter, reciprocal admission to other gardens via the American Horticulture Society, discounts at local nurseries, and more!

Visit our website for more info, or to sign up for membership.

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508.693.9426

pollyhillarboretum.org

Instagram & Facebook:

@pollyhillarboretum

Twitter: @pollyhillarb

YouTube: Polly Hill Arboretum



Stachys officinalis