

Seasons

A Newsletter of The Morton Arboretum

The Morton
Arboretum

STERLING MORTON LIBRARY



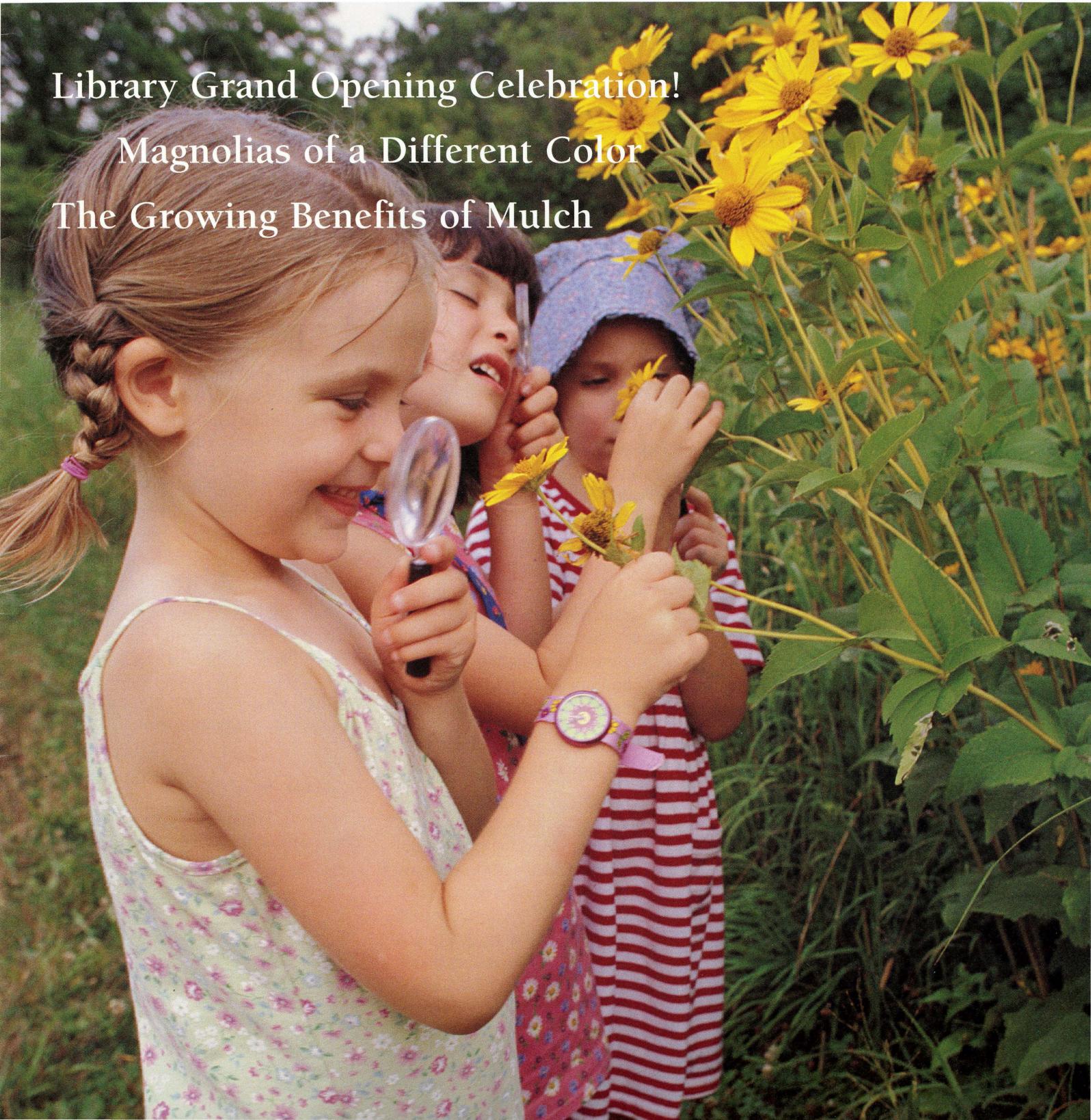
3 8070 00092 8209

May & June 2000

Library Grand Opening Celebration!

Magnolias of a Different Color

The Growing Benefits of Mulch



Contents

Welcome	2
Know How <i>Tips for gardeners and landscapers</i>	3-7
Plant Picks <i>Attractive and successful plants for your landscape</i>	8-9
Innovations <i>News for plant lovers</i>	10-11
At the Arb <i>Arboretum events and announcements</i>	12-15
Vistas <i>A place of interest or a trail worth trying at the Arboretum</i>	16

The mission of The Morton Arboretum is to collect and study trees, shrubs, and other plants from around the world, to display them across naturally beautiful landscapes for people to study and enjoy, and to learn how to grow them in ways that enhance our environment. Our goal is to encourage the planting and conservation of trees and other plants for a greener, healthier, and more beautiful world.

© 2000 The Morton Arboretum

630-968-0074 • www.mortonarb.org

For a directory and Arboretum hours, please consult the *Special Events & Activities* insert.

Seasons is generously underwritten by



Cover: Children take a closer look at the Schulenberg Prairie

Cover photo: Rich Malec

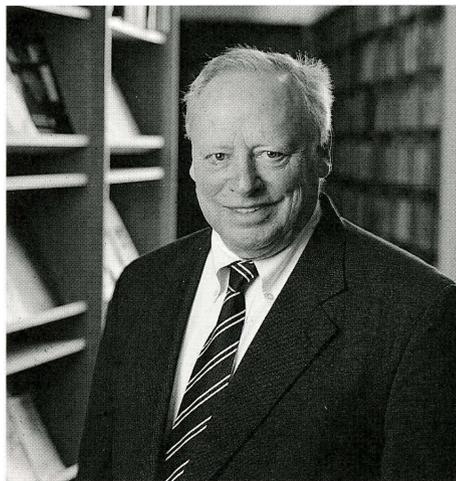
Page 2 photo: Peter Frahm

Editor: Valerie Budach

Writer: Patrice Peltier

Graphic Design: Michelle Klonowski

A Special Home for Special Collections



When Joy Morton started the Arboretum in 1922, he created a library at his Thornhill estate to support the scientific work of the institution. From the beginning, this library also contained the nucleus of a rare book collection to which Mr. Morton's heirs, Jean Morton Cudahy and Sterling Morton, added. Beginning in the 1960s, his granddaughter, Suzette Morton Davidson, greatly accelerated the collecting of rare botanical books, prints, and drawings. As Board Chairman, she commissioned the construction of the Sterling Morton Library building in 1963, which included storage space for the special collections.

Under Mrs. Davidson's leadership, the Arboretum's special collections continued to grow in number, scope, and importance. More recently, acquisitions have included not only impor-

tant rare books, prints, and drawings, but also archival materials such as collections of the papers of Jens Jensen and Marshall Johnson, both noted landscape architects.

The significance and usefulness of the library's special collections require the most effective possible provisions for storage, care, and study. For this reason, it was my goal to provide an addition to the Sterling Morton Library to house current and future rare collections. Now completed, the special collections addition provides an environmentally controlled vault room for secure storage, a reading room, and exhibit space for these fascinating books and artworks.

Please join me for the gala opening celebration of the special collections addition to the Sterling Morton Library. See pages 6 & 7 for a listing of events in May and throughout the rest of the year. Special lectures, tours, exhibits, and family and youth programs make 2000 a very special Year of the Library. Arboretum members have library-borrowing privileges and may view items from the special collections in exhibits, classes, library presentations, and by special appointment.

Charles C. Haffner III, Chairman
Board of Trustees

Garden Calendar

What to do in May

- Begin planting trees, shrubs, and perennials now.
- Divide and transplant perennials after they flower.
- Plant annuals after all danger of frost has passed (average date in northeastern Illinois is May 15).
- To encourage butterflies and bees, plant native species.
- Deadhead flowers from spring bulbs when they have finished blooming to direct energy back into bulbs. Do not remove foliage, but let it die back naturally.
- Prune spring flowering trees and shrubs, such as crabapple, forsythia, lilac, and viburnum, immediately after blooming.
- Avoid pruning oaks and elms between mid-April and mid-July. Oak wilt and Dutch elm disease are spread by sap-feeding insects that carry the disease from tree to tree.
- To reduce weeds, conserve moisture, and control temperature fluctuations in soil, spread three-to-four-inches of organic mulch under the driplines of trees and shrubs. Do not let it touch the trunk. (See pages 10 & 11 for information about mulch.)
- Stake tall and floppy perennials, such as peonies and delphiniums, as they grow.
- Check evergreens, especially spruces, for spider mites. Place a white sheet of paper under a branch and tap lightly. Look for pinhead-size specks moving on the paper.

- Apply fungicide sprays to roses to control diseases such as black spot.
- Take a day off to enjoy Buds 'n Blooms at The Morton Arboretum!
- Join us for Members' Evenings every Friday & Saturday beginning May 5. Enjoy a picnic and a bike ride.

What to do in June

- Water trees and shrubs deeply if natural rainfall is less than one inch per week. Water the soil — not the foliage — to avoid leaf spot diseases.
- Prune late spring flowering shrubs and hedges now.
- Monitor all plants regularly for insect and disease problems. Early detection can make a difference!
- Pull weeds before they go to seed.
- Annuals are developing roots, so fertilize and keep well watered.
- Monitor container plants daily for watering needs, especially those in clay pots.
- Pinch garden mums and asters once a month for bushier growth. Stop pinching after July 15 so plants can set flower buds.
- Fertilize roses with a 10-10-10 slow release fertilizer after first bloom.
- Check bird houses for unwanted tenants, and fill birdbath regularly.
- Check out the Arboretum for Twilight Tree Walk (June 9), the Nature Study & Camera Club exhibit (June 17-18), and Shakespeare on the Lawn (June 24-25).

Trees of the Month

■ **May's** Tree of the Month is a flowering dogwood (*Cornus florida*), not far from the Main Route, in the Plants of Acid Soils collection on the East Side. Although this native Illinois tree is known for spectacular flowering in mid-May, it is not actually the flowers that are showy! The true flowers are tiny and greenish, gathered in small, inconspicuous clusters. What viewers marvel at are the four, very large, white bracts around each flower cluster. But, this is not all the flowering dogwood has to offer. It has clusters of bright red fruits; black, alligator-like bark; large, green, oval leaves that turn a beautiful scarlet in fall; and a lovely, horizontal branching pattern in winter. This is a specimen tree for all seasons.

■ Even before you see it, your nose may guide you to **June's** Tree of the Month, a Peking lilac (*Syringa pekinensis*), right outside the Visitor Center. In early to mid-June, masses of fragrant, creamy white flowers, in 3-6 inch long panicles will attract your attention. The sweet aroma of the blossoms has been compared to that of honey. The dark green, broadly ovate leaves are typical of lilacs, but somewhat smaller and finer. Prominent dotted lines of white lenticels ring the younger branches of this small, multi-stemmed tree lilac. Older trunks develop a scaly, gray bark. Some Peking lilacs, though not this one, have bark that exfoliates in curly strips. In winter, the arching and gracefully twisting branches are especially beautiful when highlighted with fresh snow. As the name suggests, Peking lilac is a native of northern China, introduced to the West in 1881.

Shrubs of the Month

■ **May's** Shrub of the Month, a variety of showy cotoneaster (*Cotoneaster multiflora* var. *calocarpa*), surpasses the species in many ways. Like the species, it is a large shrub with spectacular flowering in mid- to late May, but its flowers, leaves, and fruits are bigger and the fruits more numerous. Native from eastern Asia to the Caucasus, the species was introduced into North America in 1900. A broad-spreading shrub with arching stems, it needs room. But, given space, its finely-textured, blue-green leaves work well massed or in a large shrub border. It can even be trained into a small tree. Birds love the large red fruits that appear in early autumn, making it a good plant to use in a backyard wildlife haven. You'll see this shrub on the Joy Path at Thornhill.

■ Don't be intimidated by the unwieldy name of **June's** Shrub of the Month. Frau Dagmar Hastrup Rugosa Rose (*Rosa rugosa* 'Frau Dagmar Hastrup') may be a mouthful, but a magnificent shrub deserves an imposing title. You'll find a group planting of this splendid rose on the south side of the Founder's Room at Thornhill. Beginning in June, the fragrant, pink, one-inch flowers appear in profusion. Flowering continues at least into August, and sometimes as late as September. The edible, urn-shaped fruits, or rose hips, mature as early as July. Large, abundant, and brick red, they remain showy through late fall and can be used to make tea and preserves. Excellent yellow to orange fall leaf color is another asset of Frau Dagmar Hastrup. One of the hardiest and most disease resistant of the rugosa roses, this cultivar is also versatile. It can be used in the shrub border, massed, or as an informal hedge.

Plant Clinic Questions and Suggestions

Q: My neighbor lost an elm to Dutch elm disease last year, but saved some of the logs for firewood. Is this safe, or should I be concerned about my tree becoming infected?

A: The most effective means of preventing the spread of Dutch elm disease (DED) is removing diseased trees and branches. This reduces breeding sites for the elm bark beetle (the carrier) and eliminates the source of DED fungus. Infected trees should be removed promptly by chipping, burning, or burying the wood. Wood that is retained for firewood should have all the bark removed from the logs, and the wood pile should be covered with heavy plastic from April through October. Secure the edges of the plastic into the ground to prevent bark beetle emergence.

Q: How can I eliminate creeping Charlie from my lawn? A friend suggested spraying it with an old fashioned product called 20 Mule Team Borax. Does this really work?

A: Creeping Charlie, also known as ground ivy (*Glechoma hederaceae*), can be effectively controlled while it's in full bloom (usually early to mid-May) with applications of a broadleaf weed killer containing 2, 4-D.

A second application works after frost in October. In between these two times, products containing 2, 4-D are not effective. During the summer months, broadleaf weed killers containing Dicamba are somewhat effective. Timing is key for control.

The "Borax" method of control is not recommended. Borax contains the element boron, which can be toxic to plants when heavy concentrations are present in the soil.

Q: How can I attract more butterflies to my garden? Can you recommend some plants?

A: Select a sunny spot protected from wind. The more sunlight, the longer butterflies will stay to find food and shelter, and to mate. Some shade is important for resting during the heat of the day. Choose a mixture of perennials and shrubs to provide a continuous source of nectar for your butterflies. Planting native species also encourages butterflies.

Some shrubs known to attract and support butterflies include: butterfly bush, blue spirea, cotoneaster, deutzia, St. Johnswort, and weigela. Suggested perennials include: chives, daisy, daylily, phlox, thistle, verbena, and yarrow. Native plants especially favored by butterflies include: hazelnut, New Jersey tea, bee balm, butterfly weed, catmint, coneflower, gayfeather, Joe Pye weed, and mint.

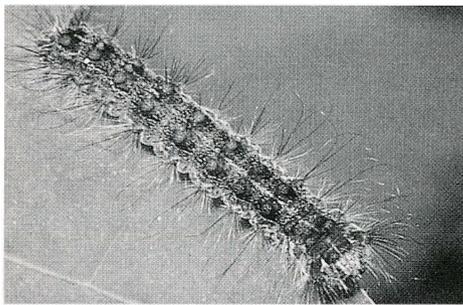


Rudbeckia hirta

Watch Out for Gypsy Moths!

“Gypsy moths are coming into our area,” reports Donna Danielson, Plant Health Care Technician at the Arboretum. “We can’t stop them, so we have to be ready to detect and eliminate them.”

Gypsy moths are a very serious threat to trees and they are spreading into Illinois from the north and east. In their caterpillar stage, they feed on the leaves of trees and shrubs. In some areas of the United States, these pests have defoliated more than 13 million acres of woodlands in one season.



Arboretum Archives

The Morton Arboretum has been using pheromone traps to monitor gypsy moths for the last two years. In 1998, only 34 male gypsy moths were lured to the traps. Last year, the number escalated to 220. The moths were trapped mostly in the East Woods of the Arboretum, which makes sense to Danielson. “Oaks are the favorite food of gypsy moths and, of course, the East Woods are full of oaks.”

The presence of so many male gypsy moths has placed the Arboretum’s staff on alert. Horticulturist Matt Pierce spotted several gypsy moth caterpillars chewing on the leaves of *Malus* ‘Satin Clouds’ near Crabapple Lake last year. This find prompted Dr. Fredric Miller, University of Illinois Cooperative Extension Service Entomologist and Arboretum Research Associate, and Danielson to organize

a full scale search for gypsy moth egg masses. Ten volunteers and 20 members of the Collections & Grounds crew scoured the East Woods and the area around Crabapple Lake. Only one egg mass was found. “Thanks to the search, we know we do not have a serious infestation at this point in time,” Danielson reported.

Arboretum staff will continue to monitor the collections diligently and Danielson says it’s time for homeowners to be on the alert in their own yards.

Here’s what to look for:

- From early May to the end of June, look for gypsy moth caterpillars (photo at left) on the leaves of trees and shrubs. At maturity, these hairy caterpillars are up to 2 1/2 inches long with five pairs of blue spots on one end and six pairs of red spots along the other. If you find them, contact the Illinois Department of Agriculture, 847-294-4343, for further instructions.
- From August until trees begin leafing out in spring, look for buff-colored egg masses, (below, right) approximately 1 1/2 inches long by 3/4 inches wide, on tree trunks, under loose bark, in wood piles, on outdoor furniture, or on the undersides of cars and other vehicles. If you find them, scrape them off with a knife and drop them into a bucket of hot water and bleach or ammonia.

If you need help identifying caterpillars or egg masses, you can put them in a plastic bag or other sealed container and bring them to the Plant Clinic. Prepare the caterpillars first by putting them in a sealed container in a freezer.

Gypsy Moth Menu

Oaks are a favorite food of gypsy moths when they are in their larval stage. These caterpillars also dine on the leaves of apple, alder, basswood, hawthorn, some poplars, and willow. Less desirable but still palatable plants include elm, black gum, hickory, maple, and sassafras. During large infestations, the caterpillars may resort to munching on beech, hemlock, white cedar, pine, and spruce.

Is there anything they won’t eat? Gypsy moth larvae rarely feed on ash, balsam fir, butternut, black walnut, catalpa, red cedar, dogwood, holly, locust, sycamore, or tulip trees.

Large infestations have been known to defoliate trees completely. Even this usually will not kill deciduous trees in a single season. However, defoliation — and the energy it takes to produce new leaves — weakens the tree and leaves it vulnerable to attack from other insects and diseases. Trees defoliated for two consecutive seasons usually die.



Arboretum Archives

Special Collections Enumerated

If you've been wondering just exactly what's included in Special Collections, here's the answer for you:

- More than 5,000 rare books
- 8,500 rare botanical prints
- 4,000-plus archival photos (2,000 from the Jens Jensen archives and 2,000 by E.H. Wilson during plant collection trips to China and Japan on behalf of Veitch Nurseries in England and for C.S. Sargent at the Arnold Arboretum at Harvard University in the late 1800s and early 1900s)
- 2,000 archival landscape drawings by Jens Jensen, former Arboretum Landscape Architect O.C. Simonds, and others.

The Special Collections reading room is part of the addition to the Sterling Morton Library.

Library Grand Opening Celebration

Beginning Wednesday, May 17

Open House for Members

Wednesday - Friday, May 17 - 19

A special opportunity for Arboretum members to take tours of the Library and the exhibition "Botanical Gems from the Sterling Morton Library."

Ages 12+

Sterling Morton Library

11:00 am, 1:00 & 3:00 pm

Storyteller Jim May

Saturday, May 20

Award-winning storyteller and author Jim May will spin yarns about his childhood in Spring Grove, Illinois. Considered one of Illinois' top storytellers, May tells stories with the sense of awe and wonder of a child combined with the retrospective of adult wisdom.

All ages

Administration & Research Center

1:00 pm

Open House for Members

Saturday, May 20

Arboretum members are invited to join Library staff at this special evening open house, with a wine & cheese reception, classical guitar music, and an opportunity to view the exhibition "Botanical Gems of the Sterling Morton Library."

Ages 12+

5:00 - 8:00 pm

Members' Dinner

Saturday, May 20

On this special Members' Evening, enjoy dinner at the Ginkgo Restaurant before or after your visit to the Library.

Reservations required: **630-719-2457**

Menu items: \$7.00 - \$17.95

5:00 - 8:00 pm

Pounded Leaf and Flower Prints

Saturday & Sunday, May 20-21

Visitors of all ages can learn to make imprints of fresh leaves and flowers (and perhaps relieve tension) by pounding plant pigments onto a piece of cloth.

All ages

Administration & Research Center

Noon - 3:00 pm

Artist Demonstrations

Sunday, May 21

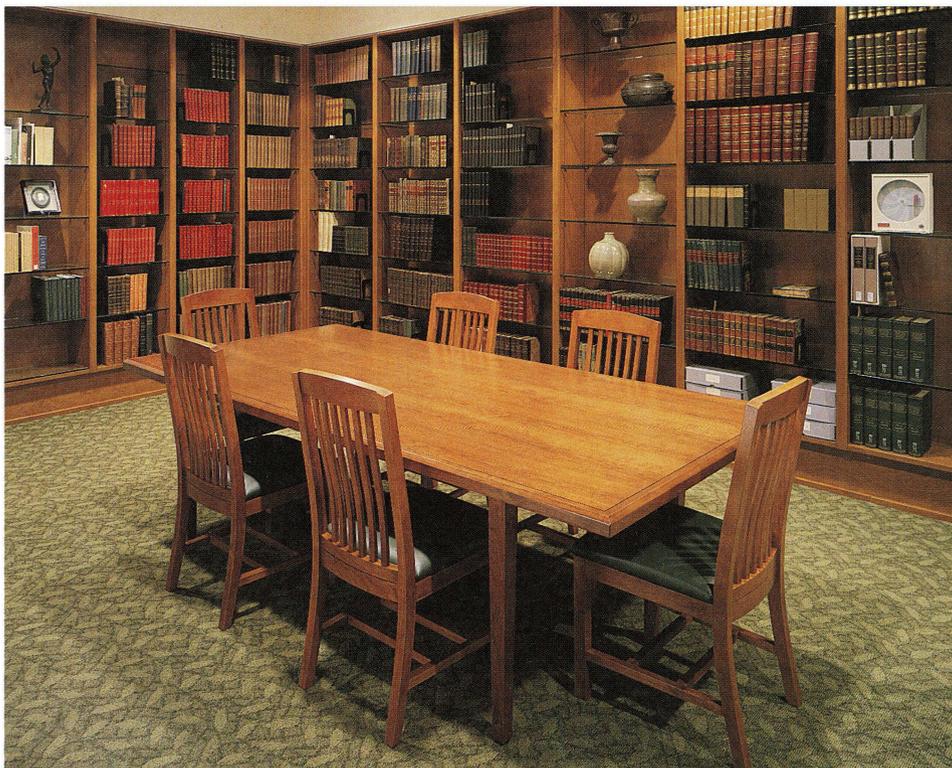
Botanical artist Karen Johnson will demonstrate watercolor and scratchboard illustrations of plants and insects.

Bookbinder Jill Reinhold-Jerome will show stages of bookbinding and examples of handmade paper and other art style books.

All ages

Sterling Morton Library

1:00 - 3:00 pm



Photos by Peter Fröhlin

Nature's Stories

Sunday, May 21

Enjoy children's stories presented by Naperville storyteller Carolyn Finzer.

All ages

Sterling Morton Library's May Watts

Reading Garden

1:00 & 2:00 pm

The Clutius Botanical Watercolors: Plants and Flowers of the Renaissance

Sunday, May 21

Northwestern University Art Historian Claudia Swan, who specializes in art and science of the late Renaissance, will discuss and present images of these recently discovered 17th Century watercolors.

Registration required: **630-719-2468**

Education class code A800a

Free for members; non-members \$12

Administration & Research Center

Cudahy Auditorium

3:00 - 5:00 pm

Black Locust, White Pine, & Arborvitae: History of New World Trees and Their Introduction to Europe

Tuesday, May 6

Ian MacPhail, Retired Arboretum Research Fellow & Curator of Rare Books, presents this special lecture about the important role these three trees had in the colonization and exploration of the New World.

Registration required: **630-719-2468**

Education class code A800b

Free for members; non-members \$12

Administration & Research Center

Cudahy Auditorium



The Special Collections vault is where rare books, prints, botanical paintings and historic landscape drawings are preserved in carefully controlled environmental conditions.

Intrepid Women Artists-Naturalists of the 18th, 19th, and 20th Centuries

Tuesdays, May 13 & 20

Arboretum Library Administrator, Michael Stieber, and Staff Artist & Curator of Rare Prints, Nancy Stieber, present the astounding lives of four influential and talented women artist-naturalists: Maria Sibylla Merian, Margaret Mee, Margaret Stones, and Bertha Hoola van Nooten.

Registration required: **630-719-2468**

Education class code A800c

Free for members; non-members \$12

Administration & Research Center

Cudahy Auditorium

7:00 - 8:30 pm

Our library is easy to use!

- Hours:
Tuesday – Friday
 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Saturday
 10:00 am to 4:00 pm
- Visit the library in person. Most of the books in our newly renovated reading room may be checked out by members for up to one month.
- Call (630-719-7950) or e-mail (msteiber@mortonarb.org) our reference librarians for help finding the information and materials.
- Access materials through your local public library through inter-library loans.
- We're starting the process of putting our circulating collection catalog online. By the end of 2001, you'll be able to access our catalog on the internet or on your suburban library's online system.

Meet Our Magnolia Expert

Kunso Kim, the Arboretum's Curator of Botanical Collections, is an international expert on magnolias. His appreciation for these magnificent trees sprang from his work as curator of the Chollipo Arboretum in South Korea. During his 10 years there, he helped build a collection including more than 500 different kinds of magnolias, one of the largest collections in the world.

During a one-year assignment at Savill Garden in Windsor Great Park, England, Kunso had the opportunity to further his knowledge of magnolias. "They had an incredible collection of Asiatic magnolias," he recalled. "A few Asiatic species don't flower until they are over 20 years old. At Savill, the gardens included many older trees, so I got the rare opportunity to see them in bloom. It inspired me greatly."

A life member of the Magnolia Society, Kunso says he is not dismayed that our climate does not allow us to grow the full range of magnolias. "It is a challenge to discover what will grow here," he said, adding, "I think that's why the yellow magnolias are so exciting. They are creating whole new possibilities for this region."

'Elizabeth', a Magnolia of a Different Color

Yellow magnolias are revolutionizing the way we think about and use these fragrant, flowering trees — especially in Northern Illinois.

Certainly, their lovely, yellow flowers are an interesting departure from the white, pink, and mauve flowers we've come to associate with magnolias. But that's only part of the story.

Yellow-flowering magnolias are offspring of the native species, *Magnolia acuminata*, also known as the cucumbertree magnolia. This native species blooms much later than the magnolias we're most familiar with. Often blooming in late May or early June, the cucumbertree's flowers are not subject to the frost damage that can ruin the flowers of earlier blooming

species. This attribute intrigued plant breeders at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden and launched them on a hybridization program in the 1950s.

One of their most enduring successes is 'Elizabeth', which was introduced in 1977. 'Elizabeth' is the result of a cross between the native species and the Yulan magnolia (*Magnolia denudata*), a Chinese species known for its exquisite white flowers.

'Elizabeth' has glamorous yellow flowers that appear in late April or early May, making this cultivar a wonderful choice for our area. The flowers are easily seen because they open before the leaves are fully expanded. The flowers are a clear, light yellow, fading to ivory in warm weather.



Kunso Kim



Kunso Kim

Display

- Fragrant, yellow flowers in late April to early May
- Egg-shaped leaves are tinged with copper when unfolding, becoming dark green as they mature
- Smooth, light gray bark
- Deciduous, pyramidal tree growing 35 feet tall and 15 feet wide

Conditions

- Prefers moist, well-drained, slightly acidic soil, rich in organic matter, although it adapts to a wide variety of soils
- Prefers full sun or partial shade
- Performs best in sites sheltered from wind

Care

- Mulch with 3-5 inches of organic material
- Provide plenty of water, especially in hot, dry conditions

Another nice thing about ‘Elizabeth’ is that, unlike many magnolias, it begins flowering at a young age — often after the first three years.

At maturity, ‘Elizabeth’ has a pyramidal form, reaching 35 feet with a spread of up to 15 feet.

This cultivar is vigorous and, like most magnolias, it grows best in slightly acidic soils. It is also free of disease and insect problems.

“Yellow magnolias have great promise — especially for growing in the upper Midwest,” noted Kunso Kim, the Arboretum’s Curator of Botanical Collections and a magnolia expert. “Not only are they hardy, but they bloom late enough so there is less danger of their flowers being damaged by frost. And, they are beautiful,” he added with enthusiasm.

Don’t take our word for it, though. Take a look at the Arboretum’s ‘Elizabeth’. You can find ‘Elizabeth’ in a group of magnolias north of Crabapple Lake on the East Side. Perhaps you, too, will be captivated by this magnolia of a different color.



Tim Boland

Plant Clinic Hours

Weekday Afternoons
Visits & Telephone Calls
1:00 to 4:00 pm

Saturdays
Visits Only
10:00 am to 4:00 pm

630-719-2424

Mulch or Compost?

Composting is a process in which fresh organic materials are partially decomposed to produce a soil amendment. Compost is a soil amendment applied as top dressing to enrich the soil. While mulch may be composted, it is not compost. Compost is generally applied to the soil in small quantities to increase organic matter; provide a source of nutrients, primarily nitrogen; and to improve soil workability. Because compost has a much lower carbon:nitrogen ratio than mulch, compost needs to be used in smaller quantities more frequently.



Proper mulching



Improper mulching

Research News You Can Use

The Beauty of Mulch Is More Than Skin Deep

If beauty is as beauty does, then mulch is gorgeous. It performs a multitude of important tasks in the landscape.

Of course, mulch does help make a landscape more attractive. It adds texture and a finished appearance to planting beds. But the real beauty of mulch is in what it does below the surface.

For starters, mulch insulates the soil and regulates its temperature. “A study we performed showed that the minimum soil temperature in winter was as much as 10° F higher under mulch than under turf grass,” explained The Morton Arboretum’s soil scientist Patrick Kelsey.

These warmer soil temperatures generally mean less root loss due to freezing. Mulch also decreases the freeze-thaw cycles at the soil’s surface in late winter, helping protect roots from tearing as the soil heaves.

In summer, Kelsey’s work demonstrates that mulch reduces the maximum root-zone temperatures up to 12° F as compared to turf grass. This minimizes root loss caused by desiccation.

Mulch also helps retain soil moisture by reducing evaporation, improving rainfall absorption, and lessening runoff. This is a tremendous benefit not only to plants but to those paying the water bill!

Weed control is another benefit that makes mulch beautiful in the eyes of many gardeners. Mulch smothers weeds below its surface. Weeds that root in the loose mulch are easier to pull than those rooted in soil.

Some gardeners use landscape fabrics or sheets of plastic under the mulch as an added layer of defense against weeds. “In my experience, these materials often inhibit the flow of air and water, especially in silty or heavy clay soils,” Kelsey reports. “As much as I dislike yanking out weeds, I still opt for hand-pulling the ones that rise up from a thick layer of mulch.”

Because mulch is organic material, it is a gift to your garden that keeps giving. As mulch decomposes, it adds nutrients to the soil.

Best of all, mulch is easy to use. For the greatest benefit, apply a 3- to 5-inch layer of mulch (it will settle to a depth of 2 to 4 inches) over the root zone of plants or over the entire planting bed. Because mulch decomposes, you’ll have to replenish it when there’s an inch or so remaining. Depending upon how fast the material decomposes, mulch replacement may be needed as often as once a year.

Although mulch is useful and reliable, there is an important rule to observe: never apply mulch directly against the stems of plants. Trunks, stems, and crowns must be entirely exposed. “I often see mulch mounded against trees so it looks like a volcano surrounding the trunk,” Kelsey notes (see photos at left). “This buries part of the tree’s stem, increases the likelihood of basal rot, and may even lead to the tree’s death.”

Whether you’re using whole or shredded leaves, shredded cypress, chipped hardwood, or any of a number of other organic mulches, the many benefits that mulch brings to your landscape make it a thing of beauty and a joy to behold.

Mulching Materials

(Excerpt from Pat Kelsey's article in the October 1999 issue of *Fine Gardening* magazine, *Mulch for a Healthy Garden*, pages 40-43)

Mulch is any organic substance used to enhance the rooting environment of plants. Many composted materials, such as leaves, grass clippings, and mushroom compost, are used as mulch. A variety of inorganic materials, including gravel, shells, lime-

stone, and granite screenings, are used as ground coverings, but these are not mulch. They do not offer the moisture retention, temperature moderation, and soil modification benefits that mulch offers.

Contact your city's public works department to find out if they offer free mulch. Some municipalities even deliver.

Here are some common mulching materials:



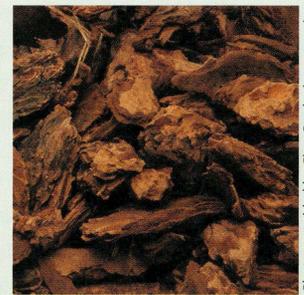
Shredded white cedar
Widely available, this light-colored mulch looks attractive in many garden settings. It takes several years to decompose.



Shredded cypress
A popular, light-colored mulch, this material ranges in texture from fine to coarse. It decomposes in two to five years.



Chipped hardwood
This material is commonly available — often for free! It is brown to grayish-brown with medium to large particles. It breaks down in one to three years.



Southern pine bark
Often referred to as nuggets, this reddish-brown mulch becomes acidic and can take two to six years to break down.



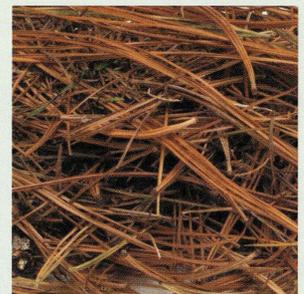
Tub-ground hardwood
Like chipped hardwood — except small to medium particles — this material, too, is often available at no cost through municipalities. It breaks down in two years or less.



Leaf mold
One of the most abundant (read “free”) mulch sources, whole or shredded leaves usually break down within a year. They can influence soil pH, depending upon the tree species.



Crushed cocoa-bean hulls
Mmmm. This dark, fine-textured mulch smells like chocolate. It is available at some nurseries and garden centers. This material breaks down in two to three years.



Pine straw
Also called pine needles, the fine strands break down rapidly and become acidic, making it a good choice for plants like azaleas and rhododendrons.

Photos provided by *Fine Gardening* magazine

In Their Own Words...

Naturalist guide Ellen Weissbrodt recorded the impressions of her K-1 Nature Explorers group as they studied the Schulenberg Prairie last summer.

On Monday, the group learned to observe nature quietly and chose seeing as the sense to focus on that day. Here are the highlights of their morning:

Kelly: "I saw a roly-poly."

Parker: "I saw a cabbage butterfly."

Theresa: "I saw a pink clover."

Forrest: "I saw a blue rubber band."

Kyle: "I saw leaves that were red."

Eddie: "I saw a daddy long legs."

Tina: "I saw flowers that were purple."

On Wednesday, the group talked about mammals that might live in a meadow. These are some of the things the children reported at the end of the morning:

Theresa: "I found the first brown bunny."

Forrest: "I got hot today."

Kyle: "I was a coyote. I am a meat eater. My eyes are in front."

Eddie: "I found a pine cone eaten by a squirrel."

Tina: "I found a yellow bunny."

On Thursday, the children talked about touch, looking for different textures in the prairie. This is what some of them had to say:

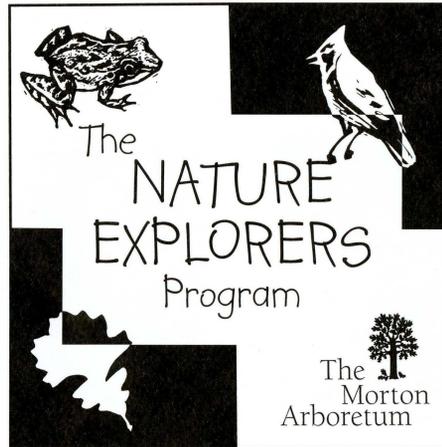
Kelly: "I felt hard leaves."

Kyle: "I felt sandpaper leaves. I didn't think I would find anything in the prairie that would feel like sandpaper."

Eddie: "I walked in grass that was taller than me."

Nature Explorers Puts the Emphasis on Experiencing

"Nature Explorers helps kids discover the wonders of science and nature," explained Gary Ketterling, Manager of Youth Education. "And we want the learning to be fun."



The program offers three, one-week sessions (**June 12-30**) for students in grades K-8. Each session is dedicated to one of three ecosystems: the prairie, the woodlands, and the wetlands. Using games, projects, stories, and songs (as well as the whole Arboretum as their laboratory!), students learn new ways to observe, explore, and experience nature.

"We ask children to focus their attention on what they can hear, see, and feel. Many begin to experience things they never have before," Ketterling continued. "Many kids who come to this program haven't spent much time exploring outdoors. It's so much fun to see these kids becoming more confident in their experience of nature after they've spent a few days in the program," he added.

The program is staffed by school teachers and naturalist guides as well as a storyteller, an artist, and a

folksinger. "We try to provide a very unique, fun experience that starts as soon as they arrive in the morning," Ketterling noted.

Storyteller Joanne Cullinam-Matousek draws upon her vast store of folklore, fairy tales, myth, and oral history, tying her stories into the topic the Nature Explorers are studying. "They learn the factual information from other people in the program," she explained. "But I also want them to remember the magic." Part of the magic, she believes, includes collecting and recording their own experiences at the Arboretum.

Students in grades K-1 attend the program from 9 to 11 am Monday through Friday. For kids in grades 2-8, the program runs from 9 am to 3:30 pm. Extended day supervision is available from 8 am to 5 pm to accommodate working parents.

Naturalist guide Gordon Lindstrom is a retired high school chemistry teacher who has been working with junior high school students in the program for three years. "It's a very hands-on experience, and the kids like that," he explained. "We usually spend much of the day out looking at the environment. Often when the parents or grandparents come to pick the kids up, the kids will take them right back to the area where we spent the day and show them what they learned," he continued. "I'd say that's a pretty strong indication that they thought it was ok."

For more information and to enroll, please contact the Registrar, **630-719-2468**.

Learn, Enjoy, Rest at the Big Rock Visitor Station

Just in time for fall color, visitors will discover a comfortable, informative way to enhance their exploration of the East Woods: the Big Rock Visitor Station.

The station, which will serve as a prototype for future visitor stations, will feature an open-air shelter with benches for resting, a compass set into the limestone to help orient explorers, and interpretive signs to provide information about the surrounding area. Festive banners will welcome visitors, while parking for 25 cars and 3 buses will make the area easily accessible to vehicles. The visitor station will also have enclosed portable toilets but no electricity or running water.

A hard-surfaced loop near the visitor station will help those with strollers or wheelchairs to experience the East Woods. “Our intent is to provide a mini trail at each visitor station, for those visitors who cannot use the longer, unpaved trails through more

rugged terrain,” explained Scott Mehaffey, Arboretum Landscape Architect.

“The visitor stations will provide our visitors with more and better information about what they’re experiencing on our grounds and interpretation on what there is to see and do,” noted Diane Gutenkauf, Manager of Interpretation and Exhibits. “Each visitor station gives us the opportunity to share information about the plants and animals found in the area. The visitor stations will also give people starting points to explore both our collections and our natural areas.”

Arboretum Capital Projects Manager Ralph Grieco is enthusiastic about how the new visitor station will enhance visitors’ experiences at the Arboretum. “It’s going to be a wonderful destination, where people can drive, park, rest, refresh themselves, explore the East Woods, or simply learn about the area,” he said.

Construction Detour

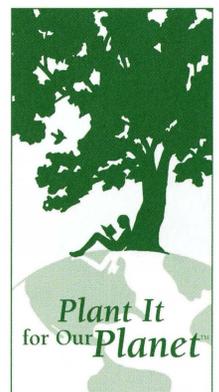
From June 1 through September 1, the Main Route will be closed at the far East Side of the Arboretum to accommodate visitor station construction traffic as well as to allow the resurfacing of portions of the road. The East Woods will still be accessible via the two Inner Loop roads. Please watch for signs indicating traffic pattern changes on the Inner Loop roads.

To help you enjoy the Heritage and Woodland Trails during the summer, we will provide a convenient temporary parking area (accessible from the Inner Loop) and plenty of signs to direct you to these trails.

We apologize for the inconvenience, but the new amenities, opening this autumn, will be exciting additions to your Arboretum experience!



Scott Mehaffey



Weekend Activities

Buds 'n Blooms Through May 14

Buds 'n Blooms activities continue on Wednesdays and weekends through May 14. Programs include tours, demonstrations, kids' activities, and enjoying beautiful blooms! See calendar insert for details.

Artistic Endeavors

The Nature Artists' Guild of The Morton Arboretum presents its spring show on **Saturday, May 6**, and **Sunday, May 7**, from noon to 5 pm at the Thornhill Education Center. You'll not only have the opportunity to admire a variety of artistic techniques and media but also to visit with many of the artists. The Guild's Ways and Means table will tempt you with a selection of hand-made items priced at \$25 or less. And, if you succumb to temptation, it's for a good cause. The Ways and Means table helps fund a variety of special projects at the Arboretum.

The Nature Study and Camera Club of The Morton Arboretum has its annual exhibit on **Saturday, June 17**, and **Sunday, June 18**, from 10 am to 5 pm at the Thornhill Education Center. You can enjoy the images captured by these fine local artists (including a new competition category for Arboretum images) and perhaps even purchase matted photos for sale from their Ways and Means table.

Entry to both events is free and is included in the \$7 gate fee for non-members. For more information about these artistic endeavors, please call Visitor Services, **630-719-2465**.

Treat Mom and Dad on Their Days

If you're looking for something special to do on Mother's Day and Father's Day, come to the Arboretum.

On **Sunday, May 14**, you can take Mom to a delicious brunch at the Ginkgo Restaurant. Just for Mother's Day, we're offering four seatings: 10 am, 11:30 am, 1 pm, and 2:30 pm. Then, stop by the Visitor Center courtyard from Noon to 3 pm to make a scented sachet, a personal gift for Mom on her day.

On **Sunday, June 18**, it's Dad's turn to be honored at brunch. Seatings are 10:30 am, Noon, and 1:30 pm. Dad's sure to enjoy our special program, "Backyard Barbeque Made Easy," presented by Don Marino of Marino's Deli and Butcher Shop in Lisle. Look for this program from 1 to 3 pm near the Visitor Center.

Brunches are \$16.95 for adults and \$7.95 for children ages 12 and under. Reservations are required and can be made by calling **630-719-2457**. (Note: reservations taken beginning May 8).



Rich Malec

Talking trees? An arresting concept!

Join us for the traditional Twilight Tree Walk.

When:

Friday, June 9 at 7:00 pm
(Visitor Services, Gift Shop, & Coffee Shop open until 9:00 pm)

Where:

Adjacent to the Visitor Center

Cost:

Free with admission to the Arboretum

In addition to the walk, there will be musical entertainment, activities, and refreshments. Dress for the weather; a light drizzle will not cancel the walk. Sturdy walking shoes recommended. Call 630-719-2465 for more information.

The Ginkgo Restaurant is also offering dinner from 4:30 to 7:00 pm.

Dinner reservations are required: 630-719-2457.

Shakespeare on the Lawn

Our all-ages outdoor Shakespeare production was such a success last year, we've expanded it to two performances this season. Please join us **Saturday, June 24**, and **Sunday, June 25**, for the Trippway Theatre's production of *The Taming of the Shrew*. The performance will last no more than 2 hours.

Performances will be at 5 pm each day on the lawn behind the Thornhill Education Center. You're invited to bring a blanket or chairs and a picnic supper. In case of rain, this event (picnic baskets and all) will move into the Thornhill Auditorium. For more information, please call Visitor Services, **630-719-2465**.

Chicago Region Biodiversity Forum

On Saturday, July 29, The Morton Arboretum will team with Chicago Wilderness for a seminar on biodiversity in the Chicago region. Topics to be presented and discussed include presettlement vegetation, monitoring native plant and animal populations, assessing impacts of urbanization, and efforts to revitalize and enhance native ecosystems. The forum will take place from 9 am to 5 pm in Cudahy Auditorium in the Administration & Research Center. The registration fee of \$55 (\$45 for Arboretum members) includes lunch and coffee breaks. For more details about the forum, contact Jeff Skibins, Manager of Natural History Education at the Arboretum, at **630-719-2458**. This forum can be taken for credit in the Arboretum's Naturalist Certificate Program. For registration information, contact the Arboretum registrar (**630-719-2468**).

Chicago Wilderness is a first-of-its-kind collaboration among 94 organizations to coordinate efforts for biodiversity conservation in a major metropolitan area. The Morton Arboretum supports Chicago Wilderness initiatives through its education programs and research.



CHICAGO WILDERNESS
A Regional Nature Reserve

Let's Chat!

We'd like to hear your thoughts. By participating, you're eligible for a one-year extension of your membership! Thank you for participating!

Why do you visit the Arboretum?

(check up to *three*)

- Enjoy and learn about trees & plants
- Walk trails
- Take a tour (walking or tram)
- Visit gift shop or have lunch
- Take photographs
- View birds, other wildlife
- Entertain family members, visitors
- Attend a class or seminar
- Get away from it all

Do you visit primarily during...

(check *all that apply*)

- Spring Summer
- Fall Winter
- All year 'round

Would you like more...

(check *all that apply*.)

- Special seasonal festivals
- Walking tours
- Classes
- Special speakers
- Children's activities/programs
- Organized runs or walks
- Expanded restaurant hours
- Gift shop merchandise

Which of the following might you give as a gift? (check *all that apply*)

- Entry passes to the Arboretum
- Arboretum membership
- Restaurant Gift Certificate
- Gift Shop Gift Certificate
- Education Program Gift Certificate

Do you feel that your membership is a good value?

- Yes No

Age (optional)

- 25 & under 40 - 55
- 26 - 39 56 & above

Number of children (optional)

- 0 2 - 3
- 1 4 or more

Please return your survey to:

The Morton Arboretum, 4100 IL Rt. 53, Lisle IL 60532, Attention: Marketing Manager, or drop it off at Visitor Services or the main reception area in the Administration & Research Center.



Hanns Guttenstein

Place of Interest: For Crabapples, Go East...and West.

For many, the sight of crabapples in glorious bloom in May is a sure sign the growing season is finally upon us. If a profusion of white, pink, purple, and red blooms is what you long to see, you'll want to visit our two crabapple collections which include 989 trees representing 278 different kinds of crabapples!

The original crabapple collection, started in the 1920s, is on the West Side. In the 1980s this site was

replanted with crabapples selected for their disease resistance, making it a great place to get ideas for good trees to use in your home landscape. You can reach this collection by stopping at Parking 18 and walking southwest.

On the East Side, the collection is planted near Crabapple Lake, extending to the berm along I-88. Eleven of the varieties in this location are grown from seed collected in the wild. Because of the diversity of trees,

particularly the collection of nine North American species, the North American Plant Collections Consortium has given The Morton Arboretum the prestigious status of national repository for the native species of the genus *Malus*. You can see this collection by driving the Main Route past Frost Hill, where you can enjoy the view in passing, or stop at Parking 3 and walk to the lake for a closer inspection.



4100 Illinois Route 53
Lisle, IL 60532-1293
www.mortonarb.org

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 7
Lisle, Illinois

DATED MATERIAL —
PLEASE EXPEDITE DELIVERY

Special Events & Activities

May & June at the Arboretum

The Morton
Arboretum



Every Day

(weather permitting)

Tram Tours

50-minute guided tour of the Arboretum aboard the Acorn Express open-air tram.

\$3 per seat (\$2 members)

\$2 children 3-11

Tickets available in Visitor Services

10:45, Noon, 1:15, and

2:30 pm

Every Weekend and Wednesdays

Guided Walks

45-minute walking tours highlighting natural history and garden areas.

Adults and children 6+

Stop by or call Visitor

Services at **630-719-2465**

for an updated schedule of guided walks.

Every Friday and Saturday

Members' Evenings

Members only can enjoy biking, hiking, and picnicking on the Arboretum's East Side.

All ages

5:00 - 8:00 pm



Buds 'n Blooms

Weekends and Wednesdays

April 15 - May 14

Spring Discovery Station

Wildflower displays, demonstrations, children's activities, and planting information.

At the Visitor Center

Noon - 4:00 PM

(Wednesdays Noon - 3:00 pm)

Guided Walks and Tram Tours

See beginning of calendar for details.

Plant Clinic (extended hours)

Visits only

Saturdays, 10:00 am to

4:00 pm

Sundays, Noon to 4:00 pm

(The Plant Clinic, outdoor walks, tram tours, and demonstrations may be canceled due to poor weather.

Please call **630-719-2465** to verify times and locations before your visit.)

Also during Buds 'n Blooms:

- Nature Artists' Guild Spring Show on May 6 - 7
- Enjoy Mother's Day on May 14

Look What's Bloomin'

For the latest information on blossoming trees, shrubs, and other plants, contact the following Arboretum sources:

- Bloom 'n Color Hotline, **630-719-7955**
- Plant Clinic, **630-719-2424**
- www.mortonarb.org

May

3 Wednesday

Buds 'n Blooms

Plant marigolds, color daffodils, or "create" a crabapple branch. Also, learn about daffodils and wildflowers through demonstrations and displays. (See Buds 'n Blooms description at left for more details.)

All ages

Adjacent to Visitor Center

Noon - 3:00 pm

6 - 7 Saturday-Sunday

Buds 'n Blooms

See May 3 description

Noon - 4:00 pm

14th Annual Nature Artists' Guild Spring Show

View more than 300 spring images in a wide variety of media. Demonstrations and children's activities both days.

All ages

Thornhill Education Center

Noon - 5:00 pm

7 Sunday

Leafing Through the Arboretum

Behind the scenes tour of the Arboretum.

Adults and children 6 +

Visitor Center

1:00 - 1:45 pm

10 Wednesday

Buds 'n Blooms

See May 3 description.

Noon - 3:00 pm

13 - 14 Saturday -Sunday

Buds 'n Blooms

See May 3 description.

Noon - 3:00 pm

14 Sunday

Mother's Day Brunch

Reservations required: **630-719-2457**

Ginkgo Restaurant

\$16.95 adults; \$7.95 children

Seatings at 10:00 am, 11:30 am, 1:00 pm, and 2:30 pm

Mother's Day Sachet

Need a gift idea with a personal touch? Make a scented sachet for Mom.

All ages

Visitor Center Courtyard

Noon - 3:00 pm

17 - 21 Wednesday-Sunday

Sterling Morton Library

Grand Opening Celebration

Join us for special visitor and member activities, including Library tours, storytellers, and special lectures. See Library opening celebration description on back panel for more details.

28 Sunday

Summer Treasure Book Series

Start a scrapbook of your summer nature memories! Decorate a cover for your book and return at the end of each month to add new pages. Each month will offer a new project that you can place in your scrapbook.

All ages

Administration & Research Center

1:00 - 3:30 pm

29 Monday

Japanese Flower Arranging

Yaeko Baily will demonstrate this colorful, contemporary approach to flower arranging from the Sogetsu School of Japan.

All ages

Visitor Center Courtyard

1:00 - 3:00pm

30 Tuesday

The Garden Chef

Our chefs will present and discuss a unique dinner and recipes created around the use of herbs.

Registration required: **630-719-2468**

Education class code H157

\$37 (\$29 members)

Ginkgo Restaurant

6:00 - 8:00 pm

June

4 Sunday

Leafing Through the Arboretum

Behind the scenes tour of the Arboretum.

Adults and children 6 +

Visitor Center

1:00 - 1:45 pm

Garden Fun

Take a closer look at how soil, water, and sun help plants grow. Make a seed medallion to wear home.

All ages

Visitor Center Courtyard

1:00 - 3:30 pm

Mama Edie Ama Adobeia

Enjoy this special interactive storytelling session of African tales, music, and songs.

All ages

Administration & Research Center

2:00-2:45pm

6 Tuesday

Black Locust, White Pine, & Arborvitae: History of New World Trees and Their Introduction to Europe

*Ian MacPhail, Retired Arboretum Research Fellow & Curator of Rare Books, presents this special lecture about the important role these three trees had in the colonization and exploration of the New World. Registration required: **630-719-2468***

Education class code A800b

Free for members; non-members \$12

Administration & Research Center Cudahy Auditorium

7:00 - 8:30 pm

9 Friday

Dollar Discovery Day

Dollar specials in the Ginkgo Gift Shop and Coffee Shop, and on the Acorn Express.

Admission \$1

Twilight Tree Walk Dinner

Reservations required: **630-719-2457**

Ginkgo Restaurant

Menu items: \$7.00 - \$17.95

4:30 - 7:00 pm

Twilight Tree Walk

Join us for evening tours to experience the rarest of treats - talking trees! Unique Arboretum trees come to life in this family favorite event. Sturdy walking shoes recommended.

All ages

Meet at the Visitor Center
7:00 pm

11 Sunday Garden Fun

See June 4 description.

Hardy Roses for Your Home

Join Lynne Kalata, Grower at the Arboretum, to learn about hardy shrub roses for bloom and fragrance, as well as their culture and care requirements.

Ages 12 - Adult

Administration & Research Center

2:00 - 2:45 pm

13 & 20 Tuesdays

Intrepid Women Artists - Naturalists of the 18th, 19th, and 20th Centuries

Arboretum Librarian, Michael Stieber, and Curator of Rare Prints, Nancy Stieber, present the astounding lives of four influential female artist-naturalists: Maria Sibylla Merian, Margaret Mee, Margaret Stones, and Bertha Hoola van Nooten.

Registration required: 630-719-2468

Education class code A800c

Free for members; non-members \$12

Administration & Research Center Cudahy Auditorium
7:00 - 8:30 pm

17 - 18 Saturday - Sunday

Nature Study and Camera Club Photo Exhibit

Club members will display beautiful nature photographs, many of them taken at the Arboretum.

Thornhill Education Center
10:00 am - 5:00 pm

18 Sunday

Father's Day Brunch

Reservations required: 630-719-2457

Ginkgo Restaurant

\$16.95 adults; \$7.95 children

Seatings at 10:30 am, Noon, and 1:30 pm

Backyard Barbecue Made Easy

Looking for a few cooking tips?

Join Don Marino of Marino's Deli & Butcher Shop to learn more about outdoor grilling.

All ages

Adjacent to Visitor Center
1:00 - 3:00

Garden Fun

See June 4 description.

24 - 25 Saturday - Sunday

Shakespeare on the Lawn

Nature is integral to William Shakespeare's work. Seeing it performed in an outdoor setting can't be beat. Join us for Tripaway Theater's production of *The Taming of the Shrew*, in a performance that will engage all ages. Bring a picnic supper and a blanket to spread out. The performance will last no longer than 2 hours.

Thornhill Education Center lawn
5:00 pm

25 Sunday

Garden Fun/Summer Treasure Book Series*

Make a garden drawing today and add it to your summer scrapbook. Soil, water, and sun activities available, and make a seed medallion.

All ages

Administration & Research Center

1:00 - 3:30 pm

* See May 28 description.

The Summer Treasure Book series continues through August. Beginning materials will be available if you missed our first program in May.

Coming in July and August

July

Prairie Heritage Days
every Sunday

August

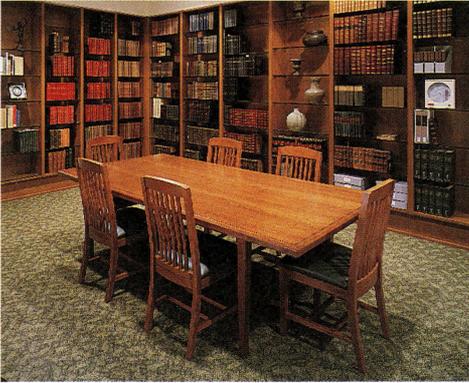
Members' Appreciation
Weekend August 26-27



Maria Sibylla Merian

Sterling Morton Library Grand Opening Celebration

Wednesday, May 17 - Sunday, May 21



17-19 Wednesday - Friday

Open House for Members

A special opportunity for Arboretum members to tour the Library and exhibition "Botanical Gems of the Sterling Morton Library."

Ages 12+

Tours at 11:00 am, 1:00, & 3:00 pm

20 Saturday

Storyteller Jim May

Award-winning storyteller and author Jim May will spin yarns about his childhood in Spring Grove, Illinois. Considered one of Illinois' top storytellers, May tells stories with the sense of awe and wonder of a child.

All ages

Administration & Research Center

1:00 pm

Open House for Members

Arboretum members are invited to join Library staff at this special evening open house, with a wine & cheese reception, classical guitar music, and an opportunity to view the exhibition "Botanical Gems of the Sterling Morton Library."

Ages 12+

5:00 - 8:00 pm

Members' Dinner

Enjoy dinner at the Ginkgo Restaurant before or after your visit to the Library.

Reservations required: 630-719-2457

Menu items: \$7.00 - \$17.95

5:00 - 8:00 pm

20-21 Saturday & Sunday

Pounded Leaf and Flower Prints

Visitors of all ages can learn to make imprints of fresh leaves and flowers (and perhaps relieve tension) by pounding plant pigments onto a piece of cloth.

Administration & Research Center

Noon - 3:00 pm

21 Sunday

Artist Demonstrations

Botanical artist Karen Johnson will demonstrate watercolor and scratchboard illustrations of plants and insects. Bookbinder Jill Reinhold-Jerome will show stages of bookbinding and examples of handmade paper.

All ages

Sterling Morton Library

1:00 - 3:00

Nature's Stories

Enjoy children's stories presented by Naperville storyteller Carolyn Finzer.

All ages

Sterling Morton Library's

May Watts Reading Garden

1:00 & 2:00 pm

The Clutius Botanical Watercolors: Plants and Flowers of the Renaissance

Northwestern University Art Historian Claudia Swan, who specializes in art and science of the late Renaissance, will discuss and present images of these recently discovered 17th Century watercolors.

Registration required: 630-719-2468

Education class code A800a

Free for members; non-members \$12

Administration & Research Center

3:00 - 5:00 pm

General Information

Grounds Hours/Entrance Fees

7:00 am to 7:00 pm

Members FREE

\$7/car, discounted to \$3 on Wednesdays

\$50/bus, discounted to \$25 on Wednesdays

Visitor Center Hours

Visitor Services, Ginkgo Gift Shop and

Coffee Shop: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm daily

Ginkgo Restaurant: 11:00 am to 3:00 pm daily

Sterling Morton Library Hours

Tuesday - Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Saturday 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Founder's Room

Morton family historical exhibits

Thornhill Education Center (Parking 19)

Open weekdays, except holidays,

9:00 am to 4:30 pm

For a safe and serene Arboretum, please:

- Observe speed limit of 20 mph
- Park in numbered lots only
- Jog on paved roads, not trails

Please, no:

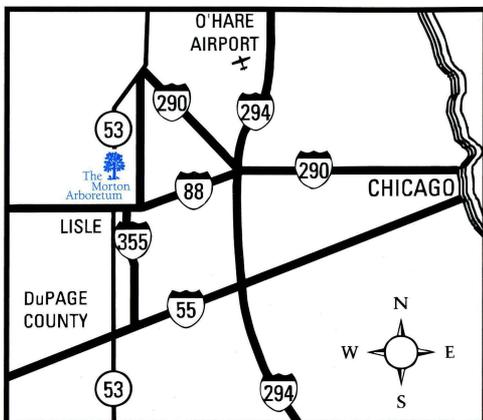
- Pets, except service animals
- Bicycling, fishing, or active sports
- Intoxicants
- Grills and fires
- Damaging of plants
- Solicitation or posting of literature

The Arboretum has facilities providing access for visitors with physical disabilities. Call **630-719-2465** for more information.



4100 Illinois Route 53
Lisle, IL 60532-1293
www.mortonarb.org

How to find The Morton Arboretum



Only 25 miles west of Chicago's Loop.
Just north of I-88 and west of I-355.
Follow directional signs to the Arboretum.

Visit us on the web! www.mortonarb.org

May we help you?

Administration Reception	630-968-0074
General Information & Events (24-hour recording)	630-719-2400
Visitor Services & Special Events	630-719-2465
Bloom 'n Color Hotline	630-719-7955
Education Program Registrar	630-719-2468
Membership Services	630-719-2453
Volunteer Opportunities	630-719-2443
Development/Fundraising	630-719-2441
Ginkgo Restaurant	630-719-2457
Ginkgo Gift Shop	630-719-2454
Sterling Morton Library	630-719-2427
Plant Clinic	630-719-2424

The mission of The Morton Arboretum is to collect and study trees, shrubs, and other plants from around the world, to display them across naturally beautiful landscapes for people to study and enjoy, and to learn how to grow them in ways that enhance our environment. Our goal is to encourage the planting and conservation of trees and other plants for a greener, healthier, and more beautiful world.