# Cultivate

Fall 2026 &
Winter 2027

## Bloom with Brookside Gardens!

MontgomeryParks.org
THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

**Brookside Gardens**
1800 Glenallan Avenue
Wheaton, Maryland 20902
BrooksideGardens.org

**Hours**
**Gardens:** sunrise to sunset
**Conservatory:**
10 a.m. to 5 p.m., March through October
10 a.m. to 4 p.m., November through February
**Visitor Center:**
9 a.m. to 5 p.m., March through October
9 a.m. to 4 p.m., November through February

**Gift Shop at Brookside Gardens**
10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., March through October
10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., November through February
Hours subject to change. Visit BrooksideGardens.org for closure dates.

**McCrillis Gardens**
6910 Greentree Road, Bethesda, MD 20817
Hours: 10 a.m. to sunset daily

**Master Gardeners —**
**Plant Clinics at Brookside Gardens**
April–Oct.:
10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Wednesdays
10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturdays
1 to 4 p.m., Sundays

**Accessibility**
MoCoParks.org/BG-Accessibility

**Friends of Brookside Gardens**
1800 Glenallan Avenue
Wheaton, Maryland 20902
FriendsofBrooksideGardens.org

**Cover:** Hydrangea quercifolia (Oakleaf Hydrangea)

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|---|---|
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Botanical and nature-inspired gifts
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Check website for hours

Celebrate your special occasion with us!
For detailed pricing and availability:
301-962-1404 | BrooksideRentals@MontgomeryParks.org

# Letter from the Director:

As we look to the future of the Gardens, our strategic plan serves as both a compass and a commitment. It helps us align our daily work with our long-term vision, ensuring that every decision we make supports not only the beauty and vitality of this place, but also the people and communities we are here to serve. A strong strategic plan gives us the clarity to grow with intention, the discipline to focus our resources wisely, and the flexibility to respond to new opportunities while staying rooted in our mission.

At the heart of this plan is a belief that gardens should be places of welcome, renewal, and connection. Through our pillar of **Cultivating Wellness, Belonging & Inclusivity**, we are committing ourselves to creating an environment that is accessible, emotionally supportive, and responsive to the needs of all visitors—especially those from under-resourced and marginalized communities. This work is closely connected to our goal of **Providing One-of-a-Kind Visitor Experiences**, where immersive design, meaningful interpretation, and a culture of inclusivity, safety, and care help deepen every visitor's relationship with the Gardens.

Our strategic plan also affirms our responsibility to lead with integrity in how we care for the natural world. Through **Horticultural Excellence & Environmental Stewardship**, we strive to model sustainable horticulture and responsible public garden management, demonstrating practices that protect and sustain the environment for future generations. At the same time, our role as a **Cherished Community Partner** reminds us that the Gardens must be more than a destination—they must be a trusted and visible community asset. That means building mission-aligned partnerships, expanding outreach, and strengthening the diverse sources of support that allow our work to flourish.

This plan is not simply about what we will do next; it is about who we aspire to be. It reflects our shared values, our hopes for the future, and our promise to serve with care, relevance, and purpose. I invite you to read this magazine as an expression of that vision in action—and to imagine with us all that the Gardens can continue to become for our community in the years ahead.

**Stephanie Oberle**
*Director, Brookside and McCrillis Gardens*

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# Staff Updates

**Erin Obaonrin** (she/they) is happy to join Brookside Gardens as an Information Desk Assistant. She values this opportunity to learn more about nature and wildlife through her work. Erin earned her Bachelor's degree in Sociology and Psychology from St. John's University. Prior to joining us, she worked for a children's education nonprofit and the Department of State. Erin has had a passion for the performing arts from a very young age and is currently studying acting at conservatory to hone her skills and practice the power of storytelling. She aims to create art that is enlightening, honest, and social justice oriented. In her spare time, Erin enjoys studying astrology, hiking, and dancing.

**Akeila Reaves** (she/her) is pleased to join the Summer Intern Program at Brookside Gardens. A Montgomery County native, Akeila is studying Environmental Science at Towson University, where she has contributed to entomology review articles and biology lab research. Looking to expand her field experience, Akeila is interested in entomology, horticulture, and ecology, as well as working to contribute to her local community. In her free time, Akeila enjoys watching cartoons with her younger sisters, taking walks through her neighborhood, and drawing.

**Amad Miller** (he/him) joins the Brookside Gardens team as a Summer Intern after interning with the Prince George's County Planning Department. He completed his undergraduate degree as a student athlete (soccer) in Architectural Studies from Hobart & William Smith Colleges, and completed his graduate degree in Community Planning from the University of Maryland in 2026. He also recently applied to a graduate program in, and is committed to pursuing a career in Landscape Architecture. Additionally, he was a Design and Entitlements Intern with The NRP Group in Cleveland, Ohio. There, he conducted housing research, evaluated site plans, and supported design teams with detailed analyses and presentation materials.

**Arden Thompson** (she/her) joined Brookside Gardens in May as a Summer Intern. She is enrolled in the undergraduate program for Environmental Resources with a minor in Mathematics at Hofstra University. There, she works as a Student Aide in the Office of Student Leadership and Engagement and previously interned with the Environmental Education team at Nature Forward. She started a garden club in middle school and joined the environmental club at Hofstra. She is very interested in plant identification and sustainability.

**Katherine Stricker's** (she/her) interest in the intersection of community engagement and science brings her to Brookside Gardens' Summer Intern Program. She is working towards a bachelor's degree, double majoring in Biology and Environmental Geoscience at Boston College. During the school year, she works as an undergraduate Research Assistant in Boston College's Environmental Studies department, analyzing camera trap footage to identify snow leopards. In high school, she was a member of the "Inspirators" science club, where she presented to elementary school children to inspire careers in science. She is passionate about environmental science and conservation.

# A Brighter Welcome at Brookside Gardens

Just inside the Brookside Gardens Visitor Center, the Gift Shop now feels a little more like the gardens themselves: lighter, calmer, and more inviting at first glance. Over the winter, Brookside Gardens partnered with the Montgomery Parks trades teams to refresh the space, creating a welcoming atmosphere that better reflects the beauty and care visitors find throughout the gardens.

Our shop remodel focused on creating a brighter, more inviting environment. Cabinets were painted in lighter tones to provide a neutral backdrop, and outdated lighting was replaced with energy-efficient LED fixtures, along with additional lighting to enhance visibility and ambiance. These upgrades also support our sustainability goals by reducing energy consumption.

The checkout counter, once tucked behind a wall, has been repositioned to a more open and visible location. This change makes it easier for visitors to interact with staff and also allows multiple team members to assist at once, helping to streamline purchases during peak times such as the Garden of Lights, The Butterfly Experience, or any beautiful day.

Finally, we enhanced the experience by switching out a few display tables to provide a more inviting and accessible display. Together, these updates create a more welcoming Gift Shop that better serves visitors while aligning with our Strategic Plan goals to promote sustainability and belonging.

We can't wait to see you and invite you to come see the changes for yourself!

# Helping the Stream, Helping Wildlife

When you enter Brookside Gardens, you will see one of the brooks that gives the Gardens its name. This stream connects to the Anacostia River, the Potomac River, and finally the Chesapeake Bay. Streams and ponds are important because they are key sources of clean water and wildlife, but they can be damaged by pollution and erosion, especially when stormwater washes in from roads and parking lots. One way to protect these areas is to plant native trees, shrubs, and groundcovers along the banks. Their roots help hold the soil in place and improve water quality.

At Brookside, we are planting the edges of the Aquatic Gardens to act more like natural wetlands, and use native plants because they are well suited to this area. Many of them can handle wet soil, changing weather, and shady conditions. Their deep roots help stop erosion during heavy rain and improve water quality and create shelter and food for many kinds of wildlife.

Over the past two years, we have used a method called live staking to help stabilize the streambank. In late winter and early spring, we cut stems from native black willow and place them into the soil along the bank. These cuttings grow roots and help keep the soil from washing away. Willow is especially useful because it grows quickly and supports many insects, including butterflies, moths, and native bees. Other native plants, such as red osier dogwood and elderberry can also be used in this way.

You may also notice pickerelweed growing along the pond edges in summer. Its blue-purple flowers and rounded leaves add beauty to the landscape. We planted more of it because its thick roots help hold sediment in place and reduce erosion. Pickerelweed also helps filter pollutants from the water and provides habitat for fish, butterflies, and bees.

Streambanks are living systems that do important work. They protect water, support wildlife, and help keep the landscape strong. As you explore the Aquatic Gardens, look for other ways we are protecting these banks, including natural materials and careful planting.

**Heriberto "Beto" Diaz Galvan**
*Horticulturist*

# A Legacy That Continues to Bloom

Some gifts are enjoyed long after they are first planned. A bequest or beneficiary designation is a deeply meaningful way to support Brookside and McCrillis Gardens, helping these cherished public gardens remain places of beauty, learning, reflection, and environmental stewardship for generations to come. Through a planned gift, you can help ensure that future visitors will continue to find inspiration in the gardens' seasonal displays, quiet pathways, educational programs, and welcoming natural spaces.

If you are considering this kind of gift, we warmly encourage you to connect with us in advance. Having a conversation early in the process allows us to better understand your intentions, answer any questions you or your advisors may have, and help ensure that your generous gift can be received smoothly and used in the way you envision. It is a simple step, but one that can make a lasting difference.

The experience of Rose Tessirori offers a thoughtful reminder of why that conversation matters. Ms. Tessirori named Brookside Gardens as the beneficiary of her annuity, a gracious act that reflected her care for the community and her appreciation for the gardens. Because Brookside Gardens is part of Montgomery Parks and The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC), advance coordination helps make the process clearer and easier for everyone involved.

Speaking with us ahead of time helps protect your wishes, confirm that your gift aligns with our acceptance policy, and ensures that it can have the greatest possible impact. Just as our gardens flourish with care and planning, a planned gift can grow into a lasting legacy when the details are thoughtfully prepared.

With August recognized as Make-A-Will Month, this is a meaningful time to reflect on the legacy you wish to leave. A planned gift is more than a financial decision; it is a heartfelt investment in your community, in the landscapes that bring people together, and in the future of two beloved public gardens. Your generosity can help sustain the beauty, learning, and connection that so many people find at Brookside and McCrillis Gardens.

**To learn more about planned giving, contact:**

**Colleen Dolak**
*Assistant Director for Advancement*
colleen.dolak@montgomeryparks.org
301-962-1447

# Thank You Donors!

The Montgomery Parks Foundation and the Friends of Brookside Gardens would like to thank all the generous donors to Brookside Gardens from December 15, 2025 to June 1, 2026. Your gifts have been invaluable in providing resources, programming, and additional support to the Gardens. To learn more about making a donation to support Brookside Gardens, please visit MontgomeryParksFoundation.org/donate-now/ or **FriendsofBrooksideGardens.org**

**GENERAL SUPPORT**

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Charities Aid Foundation America
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**In Celebration of Marion Wexler and Dora Kelenson**
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**In Memory of Sandy C. Greer**
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The Families of Arthur Wexler and Milton Kelenson

**In Memory of Catherine J. Kurtz**
Zachary Pittinger

**In Memory of Sylvia Lucero**
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Michelle McNabb

**In Memory of Genelle N. Quarles-Adrien**
Cheryl Carcel

**In Memory of Bob and Kitty Salm**
Their Book Club

**In Honor of Steve Short**
Justine Short

## Art in the Gardens

### 2026 Art Exhibits & Sale

**Visitor Center**
See inside front cover for hours.

**Philip Levee | Painter, Oils, Photographer**
**Joanie Grosfeld | Painter, En Plein Air**
**July 27 to September 14**

**Jan Carey | Artist, Abstract Modern**
**Jackie Flanagan Pangelinan | Artist, Abstract Modern**
**September 14 to October 12**

**Ahmed Ibrahim | Painter, Acrylics & Oils**
**Denise Brown | Painter, Acrylics & Oils**
**Lee Goodwin | Photographer, Florals**
**October 12 to November 23**

**Sumi-e Society | Traditional East Asian Ink Wash Painting**
**November 23 to January 25, 2027**

### 2027 Art Exhibits

**Maryland Pastel Society | Pastels**
**February 9 to April 6**

**Takoma Artery | Mixed Media**
**April 6 to June 1**

**Botanical Art Society of the National Capital Region | Mixed Media**
**June 1 to 29**

**Montgomery Artists Association | Mixed Media**
**June 29 to August 31**

**Gaithersburg Camera Club | Photography**
**August 31 to November 1**

**Olney Arts Association | Mixed Media**
**November 1 to January 10, 2028**

## Brookside Gardens Wedding Vendor Showcase

**11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sunday, November 15**
**Free | Registration required**
**PBG0080-300002**
**Visitor Center**

**Your Dream Day Starts Here!**
Planning your perfect wedding? Join us for our exclusive Wedding Vendor Showcase at Brookside Gardens, where engaged couples can explore stunning venue spaces, experience guided tours, and gather creative décor inspiration for their big day. Meet top wedding professionals—including DJs, photographers, caterers, florists, and planners—ready to bring your vision to life. Whether you're searching for the perfect reception menu, ideal soundtrack or breathtaking photos, you'll find expert advice and exciting options to make your wedding uniquely yours.

And don't miss your chance to win exciting **door prizes!** Every guest will be entered for a chance to win fabulous wedding-related gifts including a free-venue rental at Brookside Gardens and wedding enhancements.

This is an incredible opportunity to connect, plan, and envision your perfect wedding day in one beautiful setting!

## Plant Shows & Sales

**Friends of Brookside Gardens & Brookside Gardens Plant Sale**
**Saturday, September 12**
**FOBG Members only: 9 to 10 a.m.**
**General public: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., or while supplies last**

**National Capital Dahlia Society Dahlia Show and Bloom Sale**
**Show: 2 to 5 p.m., Saturday, September 26**
**9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Sunday, September 27**
**Sale: 2 to 5 p.m., Sunday, September 27**

**Mycological Association of Washington Mushroom Fair**
**Noon to 5 p.m., Sunday, October 11**

**Washington Gardener Magazine Seed Exchange**
**12:30 to 4 p.m., Saturday, January 30**

**Camellia Society of the Potomac Valley Camellia Show & Sale**
**Saturday, March 20**
**Show: 1 to 4 p.m.**
**Sale: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

## Fall & Winter Conservatory Displays | South Conservatory

### Autumn Embers

**Saturday, September 19 to Sunday, November 1**

Transition out of the lush greenery of summer with the bold fiery colors of our Autumn Embers display! From russet and crimson foliage to bountiful blooms glowing gold, we hope that this display will set the mood for chilly evenings around the fire pit. Featuring the thirteen classes of chrysanthemum cultivars grown with different innovative techniques, this stunning show is sure to delight. Be sure to note the chrysanthemum bonsai lovingly tended by members of our staff representing every department!

### Garden Railway

**Saturday, November 28 to Sunday, January 3**

Come explore a whimsical world in miniature, replete with a replica of the historic Cabin John Trolley Line, and other local landmarks including the Brookside Gardens Conservatory! Every year the talented team from The Washington, Virginia & Maryland Garden Railway Society dreams up a new design for their dynamic G-scale model train display to be framed with a delightful array of live plants and water features. Come test your skills and see if you can find all the hidden details on our free scavenger hunts! This winter tradition always sparks the imagination and creates magical memories!

### Midwinter Delight

**Saturday, January 16 to Sunday, March 14**

Escape the cold and dreary days of midwinter with this fabulous assortment of spring blooms brought to you several months early! Let the lush larkspurs, dreamy dogwoods, and astounding azaleas act as a soft, colorful prelude to the rebirth of our outdoor landscapes. What better way to beat the winter blues than with a sneak peek of impending spring?

## GreenScapes Symposium

*Sponsored by Friends of Brookside Gardens*

**9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday, February 19**
**Early Bird Fee: $60 through Friday, January 15**
**Regular Fee: $70 starting Saturday, January 16**
**#PBG0057-400001**

**Note:** This program will be offered as a series of online lectures with audience Q&A. All lectures will be recorded and made available to registrants for online viewing.

The GreenScapes Symposium is an annual program organized by Brookside Gardens since 2004. The symposium will highlight the intersection of horticulture and environmental issues. Environmental stewardship is a core value of The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC), Brookside Gardens' parent organization. As such, we strive to provide timely information and viable solutions to environmental challenges.

## Fall Twilight Concert Series

### Fall Twilight Concert Series

**6 to 7:30 p.m., Wednesdays in September**
**FREE | No registration required**
**Visitor Center Lawn**

Dance the night away with this series of musical performances set in the beauty of the Gardens! Bring your friends and family, and don't forget your chairs, blankets, and picnics (allowed in the Gardens on concert evenings only). Food trucks will also be available for your dining pleasure. Alcohol is prohibited.

### Ocho de Bastos

*Latin Pop / Rock*
**September 2**

### Loveboat Yacht Rock

*70s & 80s Cover Band*
**September 9**

### King Teddy

*Swing / Rockabilly*
**September 16**

### David Cole & Main Street Blues

*R&B / Blues*
**September 23**

## REGISTRATION OPENS AUGUST 10

**ONLINE PROGRAMS**
V This symbol indicates virtual programs offered as online Zoom webinars with audience Q&A. After registering, a link will be emailed to you 24 hours prior to the live webinar. Recordings will be made available to students.
**Phone registrants must submit a signed waiver online prior to participating in Brookside Gardens' programs.**

**FRIENDS OF BROOKSIDE GARDENS (FOBG) DISCOUNTS**
Look for special FOBG program pricing on many adult programs for members of the Friends of Brookside Gardens, a nonprofit organization established to support the mission of the Gardens. For information about joining the Friends of Brookside Gardens, visit **www.FriendsofBrooksideGardens.org**.

**FEE REDUCTION PROGRAM**
Reduced fee options are offered to Montgomery County Residents who qualify. For more information and to apply online, please visit: https://montgomeryparks.org/parks-and-trails/brookside-gardens/learn/

**SPECIAL FOCUS TRACKS**
Look for the following symbols highlighting specific tracks designed to offer more in-depth educational opportunities:

- ✪ **Sustainability Programs** – a focus on making our homes and gardens "greener."
- ✿ **Gardener's Focus** – for experienced gardeners who want to increase their knowledge through advanced cultivation and management techniques.
- ✦ **Landscape Design** – for those wishing to develop skills to compose beautiful and functional garden spaces through the artful juxtaposition of plants and hardscape elements.

## Speaker Series

*Sponsored by Friends of Brookside Gardens*
**FREE | Registration required**
Each year Brookside Gardens welcomes nationally and internationally well-known horticulturists, botanists, authors, and speakers to explore a wide range of topics.

### V ✦ The Contemporary Cottage Garden

**7 to 8:30 p.m., Tuesday, October 13**
**FREE | #PBG0249-300001**
*Pamela Hubbard, Author of The Contemporary Cottage Garden*
Learn what it takes to grow in the cottage garden style! Flowers and vegetables intermingle in a casual display of colorful brilliance while meeting the needs of the modern world amid increased weather extremes. Discover invaluable techniques for cottage gardening done in a beautiful, contemporary way.

### V Bad Naturalist: One Woman's Ecological Education on a Wild Virginia Mountaintop

**7 to 8:30 p.m., Wednesday, November 18**
**FREE | #PBG0253-300001**
*Paula Whyman, Author of Bad Naturalist: One Woman's Ecological Education on a Wild Virginia Mountaintop*
Follow one gardener's humorous and humbling journey restoring a 200-acre former pasture in Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains. See the land through her eyes as she navigates hands-on conservation, battles invasive species, questions traditional ideas of nature, and forms a deep, unexpected connection with the natural world.

### V Vanilla So Black

**7 to 8:30 p.m., Wednesday, February 3**
**FREE | #PBG0254-400001**
*Derek Haynes, Botanist and Science Communicator*
Explore vanilla's fascinating story, from its botanical origins to the pivotal role of Edmond Albius—born into slavery in Madagascar—who revolutionized its cultivation. Discover the historical nuances surrounding Black communities and their relationships with vanilla, and how one person shaped the future of one of the world's most lucrative spices.

## Garden Tours

Registration required for all tours

### Behind-the-Scenes Greenhouse Tour

**1 to 2:15 p.m., Wednesday, September 9**
**$12 | FOBG $10 | #PBG0003-300001**
**OR**
**10 to 11:15 a.m., Thursday, September 10**
**$12 | FOBG $10 | #PBG0003-300002**
**Address and parking logistics will be sent after registration.**
*Jacob Roberson, Senior Greenhouse Technician, Brookside Gardens*
Opened in 2018, the O'Rourke Greenhouse consists of four growing areas totaling 10,000 square feet under glass. Participants will take a closer look at the state-of-the-art technology that enables staff to grow a variety of beautiful plants year-round while getting a sneak peek at the fall chrysanthemums being grown for displays.

### Fragrance Garden Tour

**10:30 to 11:45 a.m., Friday, September 11**
**$12 | FOBG $10 | #PBG0256-300001**
**Meet at Visitor Center entrance**
*Keely Shaughnessy, Horticulturist, Brookside Gardens*
Explore, touch, and smell your way through our Fragrance Garden! This interactive tour takes you up close to salvias, geraniums, aromatic herbs, and scented perennials like Agastache and Monarda varieties. Learn how perfume is made and discover which fragrant plants could thrive in your own garden.

### ✪ Living Field Lab: Native Plants, Wildlife & A Historic Farmstead

**10:30 a.m. to noon, Tuesday, September 15**
**$25 | FOBG $22 | #PBG0250-300001**
**Beallsville, MD (address sent after registration)**
Step back in time at the Solomon Simpson farm, a 93-acre historic property dating to 1783 in the Agricultural Reserve. Explore a wildflower meadow, discover beneficial

insects, and spot birds like indigo buntings. Learn about native plants, how to create a wildlife pond, and sustainable gardening.

### ✿ Beyond the Ordinary: Rare & Unusual Plants at Brookside

**10:30 a.m. to noon, Tuesday, September 22**
**$12 | FOBG $10 | #PBG0257-300001**
**Meet at Visitor Center entrance**
*Eric Evans, Horticulturist, Brookside Gardens*
Brookside Gardens has a hidden history worth exploring. In 1976, the gardens sponsored plant collecting trips to Japan and Korea, bringing back rare trees and shrubs of exceptional garden merit. Join this tour to discover these unique introductions alongside standout native and non-native perennials for fresh garden inspiration.

### Guided Bird Walk

**7:30 to 9 a.m., Wednesday, September 23**
**$12 | FOBG $10 | #PBG0133-300002**
**OR**
**8 to 9:30 a.m., Saturday, September 26**
**$12 | FOBG $10 | #PBG0133-300001**
**Meet at Visitor Center entrance**
*Emily Williams, Avian Ecologist*
Did you know that 168 bird species have been sighted at Brookside Gardens? Marvel at the fall migration and bring your binoculars to look for warblers, Baltimore orioles, orchard orioles, red-winged blackbirds and many more!

### Glory of Fall Garden Tour

**1 to 2:30 p.m., Tuesday, October 27**
**$12 | FOBG $10 | #PBG0059-300001**
**OR**
**10:30 a.m. to noon, Tuesday, November 3**
**$12 | FOBG $10 | #PBG0059-300002**
**Meet at Visitor Center entrance**
*Josh Demers, Horticulturist, Brookside Gardens*
Discover a whole new garden brought on by the changing autumn season. This walking tour highlights the spectacular fall colors in the woody and herbaceous plant collections with a closer look at our staff's favorite fall blooming perennials like asters, coneflowers, sedums, and grasses.

### McCrillis Gardens Fall Tour

**1 to 2:30 p.m., Wednesday, October 28**
**$12 | FOBG $10 | #PBG0206-300001**
**OR**
**10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., Monday, November 2**
**$12 | FOBG $10 | #PBG0206-300002**
*Karl Quimby, Horticulturist, Brookside Gardens*
Enjoy this naturalistic garden featuring the rich colors of autumn tucked into a residential neighborhood in Bethesda. The five-acre property was donated in 1978 and is managed by Brookside Gardens. Explore the fall blooming camellias and a remarkable collection of ornamental trees and shrubs, many of which are state and national champions.

### Chrysanthemum & Conservatory Tour

**10:30 to 11:45 a.m., Friday, October 30**
**$12 | FOBG $10 | #PBG0060-300001**
**Meet at Conservatory entrance**
*Carlos Rodriguez, Horticulturist, Brookside Gardens*
Delight in an autumn-inspired display of specialty chrysanthemums — a vibrant finale to the garden season! Discover fascinating facts about these amazing flowers, cultivated since the 15th century with over 20,000 varieties worldwide. Learn how our horticulturists create massive blooms, colorful combinations and impressive forms with this incredible plant!

### Conservatory Tour: Conservation and Collection Curation

**10:30 to 11:45 a.m., Thursday, February 11**
**$12 | FOBG $10 | #PBG0229-400001**
*Raymond Carter, Senior Horticulturist, Brookside Gardens*
Escape the winter chill and explore thoughtfully redesigned spaces showcasing rare tropical and subtropical plants. Discover conservation stories of incredible species and learn how collaborations with leading botanical institutions support education, plant health, and the protection of critically endangered plants – all amid the beauty of gardens under glass.

**REGISTRATION OPENS AUGUST 10**

## Horticulture Classes

**Registration required**
**Note:** All horticulture classes will be held online using Zoom unless otherwise noted. Recordings of online lectures will be made available to participants. After registering, a link will be emailed to you 24 hours prior to the webinar. Please ensure your ActiveMontgomery account is updated with your correct email address.

### V ✪ Cultivars: Untangling the Complicated World of Cultivated Native Plants

**7 to 8:30 p.m., Tuesday, October 6**
**$15 | FOBG $12 | #PBG0244-300001**
*Sam Hoadley, Manager of Horticultural Research, Mt. Cuba Center*
Join Mt. Cuba Center's Manager of Horticultural Research for a deep dive into the controversial and complicated world of nativars. Get a crash course on: what makes a cultivar a cultivar; which cultivars may or may not be beneficial for wildlife; and where and when cultivars may be most appropriate in the modern landscape.

### V ✿ Getting Your Garden Ready for Winter

**7 to 8:30 p.m., Thursday, October 22**
**$15 | FOBG $12 | #PBG0245-300001**
*Kathy Jentz, Editor of Washington Gardener Magazine*
Overwhelmed by winter garden to-do lists? Learn which chores are essential and which you can safely skip as you prepare your garden for the cold months ahead. Discover cost-saving tips and tricks for battening down the hatches before winter weather hits.

### V ✦ Creating a Well-Layered Landscape

**7 to 8:30 p.m., Thursday, January 21**
**$15 | FOBG $12 | #PBG0243-400001**
*Elaine Mills, Virginia Cooperative Extension Master Gardener*
Bring beauty and wildlife support to your garden through well-layered landscapes. Learn techniques for introducing diverse layers of vegetation across a variety of contexts — from reestablishing forest edges and planting around trees to refreshing foundation plantings, creating perennial beds, and

rethinking front yard designs. Includes ideas and real-garden lessons learned.

### ✿ Everything You Wanted to Know About Pruning

**10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Saturday, February 6**
**$25 | FOBG $22 | #PBG0063-400001**
**Adult Classroom**
*Josh Demers, Environmental Horticulturist, Brookside Gardens*
Discover how to keep your shrubs and trees healthier for longer. Gain invaluable pruning advice for ornamental trees and shrubs to maintain healthy specimens, improve structure, reduce hazards, and rejuvenate old growth. Participants are invited to submit questions with photos of their home landscapes, to be addressed during the final portion of class.

## Hands-on Workshops

**Registration required; no walk-ins allowed.**

### Seasonal Showstopper: Build a Fall-Blooming Container Garden

**10 to 11:30 a.m., Tuesday, September 29**
**$65 | FOBG $58 | #PBG0208-300001**
**Adult Classroom**
*Ashia Bunkley, Greenhouse Technician, Brookside Gardens*
Design a vibrant fall container using plants featured in Brookside Gardens' displays - and take it home! Combine thrillers, fillers, and spillers for a stunning mix of color, texture, and form. Ornamental grasses, brassicas, mums, and other seasonal surprises come together for a bold container that thrives through autumn.

### Hand Printing Leaves on Fabric

**10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Tuesday, October 6**
**$60 | FOBG $54 | #PBG0246-300001**
**Adult Classroom**
*Sue Fierston, Teaching Artist*
Vines, leaves, and vegetables create wonderful, evocative prints on fabric! Using Versatex water-based ink you'll learn hand printing and portable press techniques. Practice on muslin, then print on a cotton or silk item you bring from home — apron, t-shirt, scarf, or tote bag. Ink can be heat-set with an iron. All other materials included.

### Autumn Dried Floral Wreath

**10:30 a.m. to noon, Wednesday, October 21**
**$65 | FOBG $58 | #PBG0247-300001**
**Adult Classroom**
*Kristin Davey, Horticulturist, Brookside Gardens*
Create a stunning fall wreath using botanicals cut and dried from Brookside Gardens, layered with specialty dried florals including seedpods, strawflower, and hydrangea. Finished with hand-dyed silk ribbon, natural twine, or other organic accents for a beautiful, one-of-a-kind autumn keepsake.

### Introduction to Botanical Art with Watercolors: Autumn's Palette

**10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Saturday, October 24**
**$95 | FOBG $86 | #PBG0248-300001**
**Adult Classroom**
*Joan Ducore, Botanical Illustrator and Instructor*
Discover the art and science of botanical illustration in this hands-on beginner workshop. Using pumpkins and gourds as subjects, observe and capture nature's intricate details through drawing and watercolor techniques, including brush handling, flat and graded washes, and wet-in-wet methods. Expert demonstrations guide you in creating your own botanical watercolor.

### Festive Fresh Greens

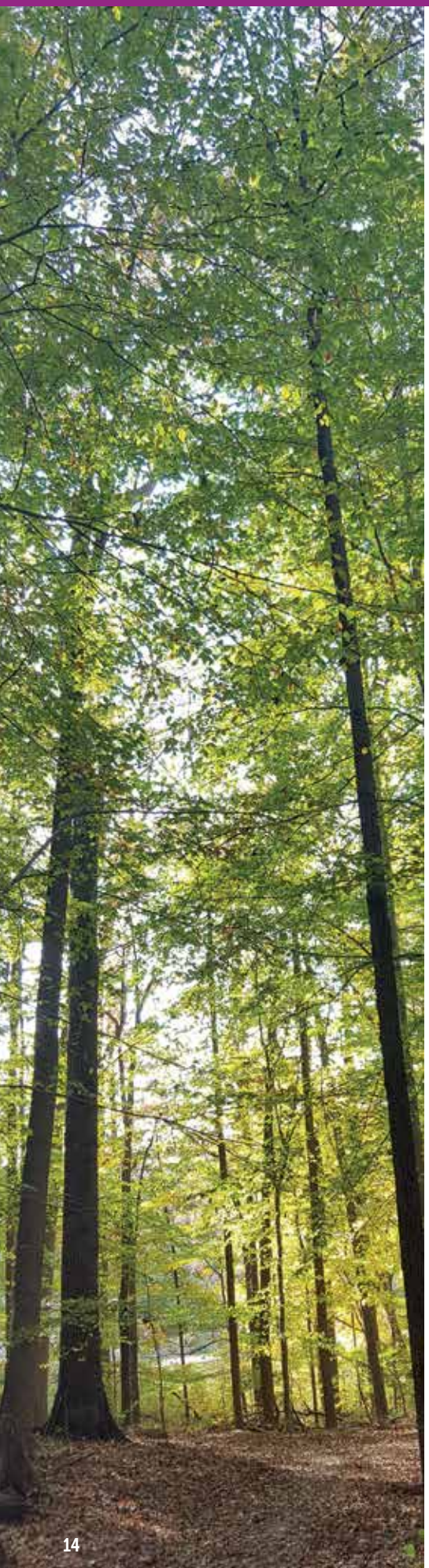
**Each session: $60 | FOBG $54**
**Adult Classroom**
*Jason Gedeik, Senior Horticulturist, Brookside Gardens*
*Lisa Sutherby, Horticulturist, Brookside Gardens*
Make a long-lasting beautiful wreath or centerpiece using fresh greens! Learn to make an evergreen wreath for your front door, complete with a pinecone and bow accents. The centerpieces will include a candle and seasonal decorations. Fee includes all materials for one wreath or two centerpieces.

### Festive Wreaths

**Wednesday, December 2**
**10 a.m. to noon | #PBG0065-400001**
**OR**
**1:30 to 3:30 p.m. | #PBG0065-400002**

### Festive Centerpieces

**Thursday, December 3**
**10 a.m. to noon | #PBG0066-400001**
**OR**
**1:30 to 3:30 p.m. | #PBG0066-400002**



### Nature-Inspired Moss Wall Art

**10:30 a.m. to noon, Tuesday, January 12**
**$65 | FOBG $58 | #PBG0252-400001**
*Kathy Jentz, Editor of Washington Gardener Magazine*
Bring the beauty of nature into your home by creating a unique piece of moss wall art. Using moss, cork bark, preserved mushrooms and other natural materials, design your own masterpiece that requires no additional watering! You'll take home an 11x11-inch framed moss art creation. All materials are provided.

### ✿ Introduction to Plant Propagation

**10:30 a.m. to noon, Friday, January 29**
**$45 | FOBG $40 | #PBG0016-400001**
**Address and parking logistics will be sent after registration.**
*Nate Roehrich, Assistant Director of Production and Display, Brookside Gardens*
Learn about plant propagation in our state-of-the-art greenhouse facilities. You'll discover how to produce your own houseplants inexpensively and easily from start to finish. We'll review the best techniques and plants to propagate from cuttings. Participants will get to take a few potted cuttings to grow at home.

## Health and Wellness

**Registration required.**

### Gentle Yoga at Brookside Gardens

**10 to 11 a.m., Thursdays**
**September 10 to December 17**
**and January 7 to February 25**
**$14 | FOBG $12 | #PBG0030**
**Japanese Tea House (September - October)**
**Visitor Center (November - February)**
*Sherry Weber, Yoga Instructor*
These series of classes feature foundational yoga poses that are designed to support better breathing, walking, and space orientation. Yoga movements help build muscle, bone density and core strength while improving balance, posture and flexibility. Mats are not included.

### Yoga at Brookside Gardens

**9:30 to 10:30 a.m., Saturdays**
**September 12 to December 19**
**and January 9 to February 27**
**$14 | FOBG $12 | #PBG0031**
**Japanese Tea House (September - October)**
**Visitor Center (November - February)**
*Tanory Ateek, Certified Yoga Instructor*
Designed to increase flexibility and physical strength and to cultivate mental focus, these classes are a beautiful and relaxing way to begin your weekend. Mats are not included.

### Tai Chi at Brookside Gardens

**9:15 to 10:30 a.m. Wednesdays**
**September 9 to December 16**
**and January 6 to February 17**
**$14 | FOBG $12 | #PBG0029**
**Japanese Tea House (September - October)**
**Visitor Center (November - February)**
*Charles Votaw, Tai Chi Instructor*
Tai Chi is an ancient, Chinese form of exercise perfect for adults seeking stress reduction while strengthening muscles, improving balance and increasing flexibility. The Forms are repetitive patterns that emphasize slow, flowing motions and controlled movements. Classes will help beginners to learn the Forms while providing regular practitioners the guidance of an experienced instructor.

### Half-day Mindfulness Retreat at Brookside Gardens

**9:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m., Sunday, September 20**
**$70 | FOBG $63 | #PBG0018-300001**
**Meet at Visitor Center Entrance**
*Tanory Ateek, Yoga Instructor, LMSW*
Tanory will guide you through a half-day of stress relieving practices, including gentle yoga; walking and seated meditation; and the meditative way of the labyrinth. Whether you are new to meditation or a seasoned practitioner, this retreat will provide a chance to slow down, connect to nature in new ways and rekindle a deeper sense of peace and wonder in your life.

### Shinrin-yoku: The Art of Forest Bathing

**10 a.m. to noon, Sunday, October 25**
**$35 | FOBG $30 | #PBG0022-300001**
**OR**
**9:30 to 11:30 a.m., Saturday, October 31**
**$35 | FOBG $30 | #PBG0022-300002**
**Meet at Visitor Center Entrance**
*Ana Ka'ahanui, Certified Forest Therapy Guide*
Connect with nature through a forest bathing walk among beautiful blossoms, remarkable trees, and rich fragrances. Stroll the grounds and neighboring forest at a measured pace that allows you to notice the small miracles of nature unfolding. Inspired by the ancient Japanese practice of shinrin-yoku, this walk invites you to slow down and engage your senses fully.

### New Year Retreat at Brookside Gardens

**10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Sunday, January 10**
**$105 | FOBG $94 | #PBG0018-400001**
**Meet at Visitor Center Entrance**
*Tanory Ateek, Yoga Instructor, LMSW*
Bring in 2027 with peace and intention! Treat yourself to a day of yoga, meditation practices, and creative visioning for your new year. We'll use both indoor and outdoor garden spaces (weather permitting). Participants are welcome to bring their lunches.

### Strolls for Well-Being

**Each series: $75**
**11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Tuesdays, September 15, October 13 and November 17**
**#PBG0033-300001**
**11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Wednesdays, September 16, October 14 and November 18**
**#PBG0033-300002**
**10 to 11:30 a.m., Saturdays, September 5, October 3 and November 7**
**#PBG0033-300003**
**Adult Classroom**
*Brookside Gardens Staff*
Soak up the healing wisdom of nature in this 8-week evidence-based mindful walking program. The program inspires self-reflection and connection to the natural environment through 12 solo strolls on your own schedule guided by a beautiful journal with themed prompts. Dates listed are for the 3 group meetings where you will receive your materials and program information and discuss the experience with others. While the program is for anyone interested in slowing down and being present with nature, those struggling with stress, grief or life transitions may particularly benefit.

### Guided Mindfulness Walks

**Each walk: $28 | FOBG $25**
**Meet at Visitor Center South Terrace**
*Tania Lanning, Integrative Wellness Therapist*
Join Tania to move with intention in nature, exploring the therapeutic relationship between mind, body, community, and the living world around you. Rooted in evidence-based wellness practices and ecotherapy principles, participants slow down, regulate the nervous system, cultivate meaningful connection, and restore a sense of balance and presence. Journal provided.

### Walk 1: Connections in Nature

**10 a.m. to noon, Sunday, September 6**
**#PBG0108-300001**
Through gentle movement, discussion, journaling, and meditation, participants explore connection with self, others and the natural world on a guided walk through the Gude Garden.

**REGISTRATION OPENS AUGUST 10**

### Walk 2: Self-Care in Nature

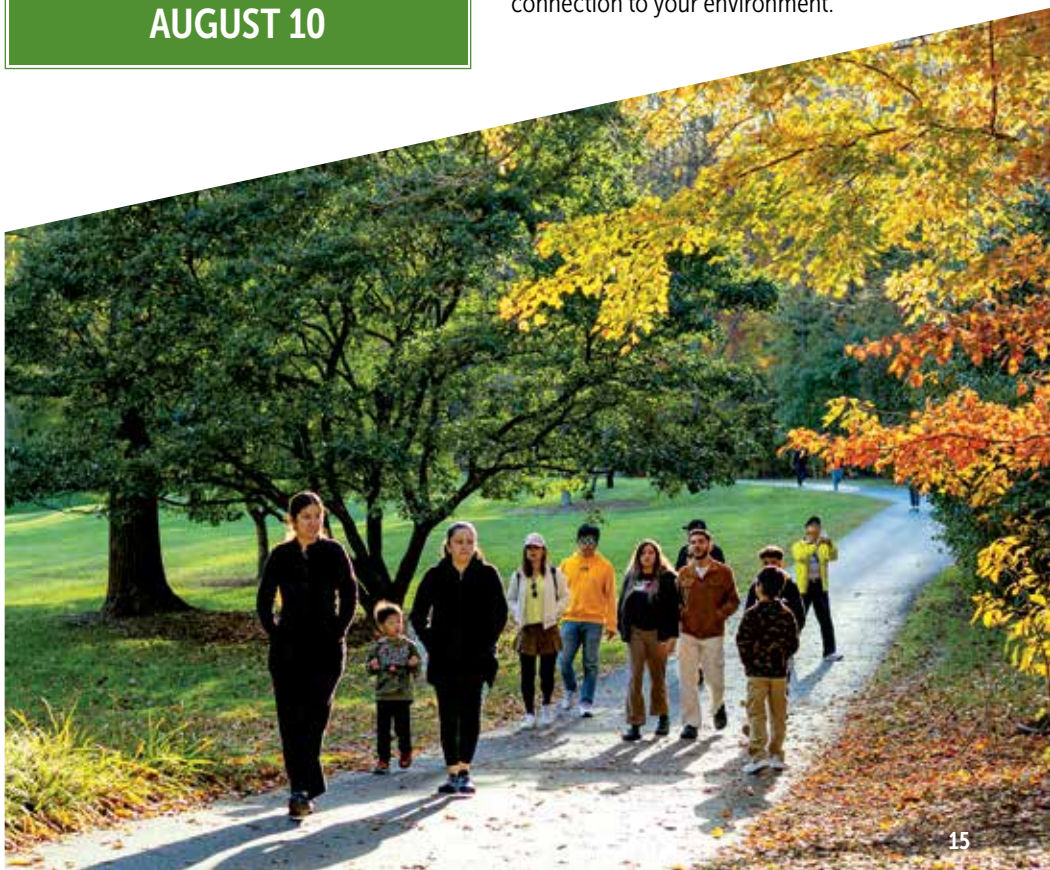
**10 a.m. to noon, Sunday, October 4**
**#PBG0109-300001**
Awaken your senses, notice your inner voice among the fragrant blossoms, maple trees, and brightly colored flowers of the Formal Gardens, and reflect on how you can extend awareness and compassion to yourself.

### Walk 3: Connections in Nature

**10 a.m. to noon, Sunday, November 8**
**#PBG0108-300002**
Through gentle movement, discussion, journaling, and meditation, participants explore connection with self, others and the natural world on a guided walk through the Gude Garden.

### Mindful Photography

**11 a.m. to noon, Sunday, October 4**
**$75 | #PBG0258-300001**
*Melissa Stonehill, Mindful Photography Practitioner*
Rooted in the Look Again methodology, this 2-hour workshop offers grounding mindfulness practices paired with a walk in the gardens exploring natural detail through the lens of your camera with a childlike curiosity. Leave with prints of your photos, a new approach to photography and a deeper connection to your environment.



### Children's Day
**10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, September 19**
**Free | #PBG0077-300008**
Explore gardening through child-driven art projects and engaging science activities. Groups will rotate through outdoor activity stations designed to educate and entertain. Bring your friends, family and picnics (allowed in the Gardens during this special event only). Registration is encouraged but not required.

### BOOtanica
**3 to 5 p.m., Sunday, October 25**
**$20 | #PBG0165-300005**
Celebrate Halloween with botanical-themed fun for the whole family! Dress in your favorite costume, trick-or-treat at the indoor activity stations, participate in arts-and-crafts projects including pumpkin decorating, and conduct hands-on science investigations to learn about the fall season. Registration required for the participating child. One parent/caregiver must accompany each child for the duration of event but does not need to register. Maximum two adults per registered child.

### Homeschool: Garden Scientists
**1 to 2:30 p.m., Wednesdays**
**Each session: $10**
**Ages 7 to 12 with adult**
In this engaging homeschool program, we will explore the garden from the perspective of three different scientific disciplines to learn how plants, birds, and insects grow, adapt, and interact to support a thriving ecosystem. Activities in our outdoor "classroom" include guided observation, scientific inquiry, and journaling, and are designed with built-in choices and challenges, so various ages can learn together with differentiated content. Register for one or multiple. One parent/caregiver must accompany each child for the duration of the program but does not need to register. Maximum of three registered children with one parent/caregiver.

### Entomologists (Insect Science)
**September 9**
**#PBG0242-300001**

### Ornithologists (Bird Science)
**September 16**
**#PBG0242-300002**

### Botanists (Plant Science)
**September 23**
**#PBG0242-300003**

### Outdoor Guided Walk for Families
**10 to 11 a.m., Select Weekend Dates**
**Each session: $10 | All youth ages with adult**
**Meet at Visitor Center entrance**
Enjoy a guided walk through the gardens designed for curious kids and their families. Led by a youth educator, each walk explores garden hotspots with interactive discussions about that day's topic. This series explores a different topic each day. Register for one or multiple. One parent/caregiver must accompany each child for the duration of the program but does not need to register. Maximum two adults per registered child.

### Outdoor Guided Walk for Families: Butterflies
**10 to 11 a.m., Sunday, September 13**
**#PBG0240-300001**

### Outdoor Guided Walk for Families: Birds
**10 to 11 a.m., Saturday, September 26**
**#PBG0240-300002**

### Outdoor Guided Walk for Families: Mushrooms
**10 to 11 a.m., Saturday, October 10**
**#PBG0240-300003**

### Outdoor Guided Walk for Families: Gardening for Beginners
**10 to 11 a.m., Sunday, October 18**
**#PBG0240-300004**

### Outdoor Guided Walk for Families: Trees
**10 to 11 a.m., Saturday, November 7**
**#PBG0240-300005**

### Crafting Characters in Nature

**10 to 11 a.m., Saturday, October 3**
**$7 | Ages 7 to 12 | #PBG0241-300001**
**Youth Classroom**

Step into the magical world of nature crafts. In this hands-on workshop, we'll turn twigs, acorns, and pinecones into charming little forest creatures. Using natural treasures gathered on a garden walk, you will bring imaginative characters to life, complete with leaf outfits and acorn hats. This program blends creativity with a love for nature, helping kids practice using the outdoors as a source of inspiration.

### Art Outside for Teens

**9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., select days**
**Each session: $45 | Ages 11 to 14**
**Youth Classroom**

A day off school is the perfect time to enjoy a full day of artistic fun both indoors and outside. Each session features varied media and activities, including nature photography, watercolor painting, and zine making. Bring a bag lunch and a refillable water bottle. Required sign-in forms will be emailed to guardians before the program begins. Enrollment closes last business day before program.

**Monday, November 2**
**#PBG0194-300005**
**Tuesday, November 3**
**#PBG0194-300006**
**Monday, January 25**
**#PBG0194-300007**

### V Educator Workshop: Teaching with Plants

**7 to 8 p.m., Tuesday, January 12**
**Free | #PBG0196-400002**

This virtual workshop is ideal for elementary or middle school teachers looking for ways to integrate hands-on gardening projects into existing curriculum. Experienced environmental educators will provide useful tools, resources and ideas for how to engage students with gardening exercises both in the classroom and outdoors. This session counts towards the MAEOE Green School Application's professional development requirements.

### Pop-Up Exploration Cart - iNaturalist

**11 a.m. to 1 p.m., September 2 through 4**
**Free | #PBG0195-300002**

Join us in cataloging the wide array of wild living things that call Brookside Gardens home. Learn how to download and use the helpful iNaturalist identification app to photograph and log observations that will be utilized by both nature enthusiasts and professional scientists. Drop by the Exploration Cart next to the Children's Garden any time between 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; no registration is required.

### Yoga Sprouts!

**10 to 10:45 a.m., Saturdays, September 5 to November 14**
**(no class September 19 or October 31)**
**$7 | Ages 3 to 9**
**Meet at South Terrace; class in Woodland Glen**

Bring your little ones to this series of fun, garden-related yoga movement classes. Physical exercise and mindfulness will awaken senses, boost energy, and give good garden vibes to start your day. Bring your own mat or borrow one of ours. After meeting at the South Terrace, you will walk with the instructor to the outdoor class location. November classes and classes with inclement weather are held indoors. Adults must accompany children but do not need to register.

**September 5**
**#PBG0078-300019**
**September 12**
**#PBG0078-300020**
**September 26**
**#PBG0078-300021**
**October 3**
**#PBG0078-300022**
**October 10**
**#PBG0078-300023**
**October 17**
**#PBG0078-300024**
**October 24**
**#PBG0078-300025**
**November 7**
**#PBG0078-300026**
**November 14**
**#PBG0078-300027**

### Storytime in the Garden

**10-10:45 a.m., Select Sundays and Mondays**
**$5 | Ages 3 to 7 with an adult**
**Meet in Outdoor Classroom in the Children's Garden (weather permitting)**

Join us for an engaging, nature-themed story, paired with a hands-on exploration or activity in the garden. Whether we're discovering plants, animals, or seasonal changes, each session helps young learners connect what they hear to the world around them. This program blends storytelling, movement, and discovery in a welcoming garden setting. November and February start with an indoor story with a short outdoor exploration (weather permitting). Sessions with inclement weather are held indoors. Adults must accompany children but do not need to register.

**September 14**
**#PBG0111-300017**
**September 21**
**#PBG0111-300018**
**September 28**
**#PBG0111-300019**
**October 5**
**#PBG0111-300020**
**October 12**
**#PBG0111-300021**
**October 19**
**#PBG0111-300022**
**November 9**
**#PBG0111-300023**
**November 16**
**#PBG0111-300024**
**February 7**
**#PBG0111-400009**
**February 8**
**#PBG0111-400010**
**February 21**
**#PBG0111-400011**
**February 22**
**#PBG0111-400012**

**REGISTRATION OPENS AUGUST 10**

# PROGRAMS BY DATE

| Date | Program | Course # | Fee | FOBG | Page Number |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| September 11 | Fragrance Garden Tour | PBG0256-300001 | $12 | $10 | 11 |
| September 15 | Living Field Lab: Native Plants, Wildlife & a Historic Farmstead | PBG0250-300001 | $25 | $22 | 11 |
| September19 | Children's Day | PBG0077-300008 | free | | 16 |
| September 20 | Half-day Mindfulness Retreat | PBG0018-300001 | $70 | $63 | 14 |
| September 22 | Beyond the Ordinary: Rare & Unusual Plants at Brookside | PBG0257-300001 | $12 | $10 | 12 |
| September 29 | Seasonal Showstopper: Fall-Blooming Containers | PBG0208-300001 | $65 | $58 | 13 |
| October 3 | Crafting Characters in Nature | PBG0241-300001 | $7 | | 17 |
| October 4 | Mindful Photography | PBG0258-300001 | $50 | | 15 |
| October 6 | Cultivars: Untangling the Complicated World of Cultivated Native Plants | PBG0244-300001 | $15 | $12 | 12 |
| October 6 | Hand Printing Leaves on Fabric | PBG0246-300001 | $60 | $54 | 13 |
| October 13 | The Contemporary Cottage Garden | PBG0249-300001 | free† | | 11 |
| October 21 | Autumn Dried Floral Wreath | PBG0247-300001 | $65 | $58 | 13 |
| October 22 | Getting Your Garden Ready for Winter | PBG0245-300001 | $15 | $12 | 12 |
| October 25 | BOOtanica | PBG0165-300005 | $20 | | |
| October 30 | Chrysanthemum & Conservatory Tour | PBG0060-300001 | $12 | $10 | 12 |
| October 31 | Introduction to Botanical Art with Watercolors: Autumn's Palette | PBG0248-300001 | $95 | $86 | 13 |
| November 2 | Art Outside for Teens | PBG0194-300005 | $45 | | 17 |
| November 15 | Wedding Vendor Showcase | PBG0080-300002 | free | | 9 |
| November 18 | Bad Naturalist: author Paula Whyman | PBG0253-300001 | free† | | 11 |
| January 10 | New Year Retreat at Brookside Gardens | PBG0018-400001 | $105 | $94 | 14 |
| January 12 | Nature-Inspired Moss Wall Art | PBG0252-400001 | $65 | $58 | 14 |
| January 12 | Educator Workshop: Teaching with Plants | PBG0196-400002 | free | | 16 |
| January 21 | Creating a Well-Layered Landscape | PBG0243-400001 | $15 | $12 | 12 |
| January 29 | Introduction to Plant Propagation | PBG0016-400001 | $45 | $40 | 14 |
| February 3 | Vanilla So Black | PBG0254-400001 | free† | | 11 |
| February 6 | Everything You Wanted to Know About Pruning | PBG0063-400001 | $25 | $22 | 13 |
| February 11 | Conservatory Tour: Conservation and Collection Curation | PBG0229-400001 | $12 | $10 | 12 |
| February 19 | GreenScapes Symposium† | PBG0057-400001 | $70*** | | 10 |
| September 2 | Fall Twilight Concert Series - Wednesdays | not required | free | free | 10 |
| September 2 | Pop-Up Exploration Cart* | PBG0195 | free | free | 17 |
| September 5 | Strolls for Wellbeing * ** | PBG0033 | $75 | | 15 |
| September 5 | Yoga Sprouts!* | PBG0078 | $7 | | 17 |
| September 6 | Guided Mindfulness Walk* | PBG0108 | $28 | $25 | 15 |
| September 9 | Behind-the-Scenes Greenhouse Tour* | PBG0003 | $12 | $10 | 11 |
| September 9 | Homeschool Garden Scientists Series* | PBG0242 | $10 | | 16 |
| September 13 | Outdoor Guided Walk for Families* | PBG0240 | $10 | | 17 |
| September 14 | Storytime in the Garden* | PBG0111 | $5 | | 16 |
| September 23 | Guided Bird Walk* | PBG0133 | $12 | $10 | 12 |
| October 25 | Shinrin-yoku: The Art of Forest Bathing* | PBG0022 | $35 | $30 | 14 |
| October 27 | Glory of Fall Garden Tour* | PBG0059 | $12 | $10 | 12 |
| October 28 | McCrillis Gardens Fall Tour* | PBG0206 | $12 | $10 | 12 |
| December 2 | Festive Fresh Greens* | PBG0065 | $60 | $54 | 13-14 |

* Multiple sessions offered ** Program meets multiple days *** Early Bird discount offered. †Sponsored by Friends of Brookside Gardens

Active MONTGOMERY
ActiveMontgomery.org

**REGISTRATION OPENS AUGUST 10**
**(6:30 a.m. for County Residents)**

**Register Online:** ActiveMontgomery.org.
**Register by Mail:** Mail or drop off this form and check to **ActiveMontgomery**
1800 Glenallan Avenue, Wheaton, MD 20902

## Important Registration Information

1. You must open an ActiveMONTGOMERY account in order to register for any program.
2. For assistance with your ActiveMontgomery account, please email ActiveMONTGOMERYHelp@montgomeryparks.org or call 301-495-2580.
3. For questions related to Brookside Gardens' programs, please call 301-962-1451.
4. FOBG members should enter the discounted FOBG rate in the Fee column. For more information about joining FOBG, visit FriendsofBrooksideGardens.org.
5. Confirmation of your registration will be sent by email. If you are on the waiting list for a full event, you will be notified if a spot becomes available.

**Refund Policy:** For details regarding the refund policy, please visit https://MontgomeryParks.org/classes-camps/activity-withdrawals-and-refunds/

* Required Info

## REGISTRATION FORM

☐ Check here if this is a new address, phone number or email address since your last registration. Please print or type. This form may be copied.

**PARENT/GUARDIAN**

| Last Name* | First Name* | Email* | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Address* | City* | State* | ZIP* |
| Home Phone * | Work Phone | Cell Phone | Birthday (mm/dd/yy)* |

**EMERGENCY CONTACT**
**For participants under 18**

| Name | Relationship | Phone |
|---|---|---|
| | | |

| Participant's Name (Last, First) | Birthday (mm/dd/yy) | Gender | Activity Name | Activity Number | Fees* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | **Total Program Fees:** | |

**To which race do you identify most?**

☐ Asian
☐ Black
☐ Caucasian
☐ Native American
☐ Pacific Island Alaskan
☐ Other

**Are you Hispanic or Latino?** ☐ Yes ☐ No

**PAYMENT OPTIONS***

Total Programs Fees $_____

Non-Resident/Other Fees $_____ Check# _____ $_____

Total Fees Due $_____

**Make checks payable to: ActiveMONTGOMERY. No cash payments.**

**Will you need an ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) disability accommodation (e.g., trained support staff, sign language interpreters, companion, Braille/large print, adaptive equipment, assistive listening/auxiliary devices, and/or audio description)?**

☐ Yes ☐ No

**If YES, please see below:**

**ADA Requests for Montgomery Parks**
To request an accommodation for M-NCPPC, Montgomery Parks programs you must contact the Program Access Office at 301-495-2581 or email ProgramAccess@montgomeryparks.org

**IMPORTANT: Request should be made before the program begins.**

***SIGNATURE IS REQUIRED***
Participant or Parent/Guardian Signature_____ Date _____

The participant assumes all risks associated with participation in the program; Montgomery Parks/M-NCPPC does not assume any liability for injury or damages arising from participation in the program. Due to the strenuous nature of some activities, each participant is encouraged to consult his or her physician concerning fitness to participate in the program. The participant consents to emergency treatment. The participant also consents to Montgomery Parks/M-NCPPC's use of the participant's image and likeness as shown in any photographs, videotapes, motion picture film, or electronic images, and any audio recordings made of the participant's voice in whatever way Montgomery Parks/M-NCPPC desires, including television, print and Internet websites. Furthermore, the participant consents that such photographs, films, recordings, electronic images shall be the sole property of Montgomery Parks/M-NCPPC. If the participant is a minor, the parent or guardian approves his or her participation in the program. Neither the instructor nor any staff are responsible for children prior to or after scheduled program.

Brookside GARDENS

1800 Glenallan Avenue
Wheaton, MD 20902
**BrooksideGardens.org**

**REGISTRATION OPENS AUGUST 10**

MONTGOMERY PARKS
# Garden of Lights
AT BROOKSIDE GARDENS

**Tickets go on sale Monday, October 12, 2026**

## Winter Walk-through Light Display

**Friday, November 20, 2026 to Sunday, January 3, 2027**

**CLOSED:** November 23 to 26, December 24 and 25, and January 1
Timed entry tickets starting at 5 p.m.

Visit **www.GardenofLights.org** for more information and to purchase tickets.

**Admission per person:**
Fri.–Sat.: **$16.99** (includes $1.99 service fee)
Sun.–Thurs.: **$13.99** (includes $1.99 service fee)
Ages 4 & under - **Free**
All tickets sold in advance online only.
**No tickets will be sold at the gate.**

**Buses by Advanced Registration Only**
Special advanced bus pricing available.
Email Gardens@montgomeryparks.org for more details.