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Hi, just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in Evergreen Arboretum and Gardens. Don't forget to add [contactus@evergreenarboretum.com](mailto:contactus@evergreenarboretum.com) to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

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## February 2015 Newsletter

### THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

**Libbie Soden, Evergreen Arboretum President**

#### **State of the Arboretum**

Happy New Year! 2015 will be an exciting and challenging year for Evergreen Arboretum and Gardens. A major challenge will be what happens in the Arboretum during the Arsenic Mitigation Project. Clean up is set to take place this summer and fall. The scope of the project has changed considerably mainly due to the adoption of tree root protection zones. These enhanced tree root protection zones have been established by the Parks Department and as a result no trees in the Arboretum will be removed. The only areas impacted in the Arboretum will be small sections of turf area and the Master Gardener Border. All other landscape beds and the majority of turf areas will be left alone.

The Arboretum will be closed for an extended time during the mitigation, possibly as long as 6 to 8 months. We are working closely with the Department of Ecology and the Everett Parks Department with respects to the timing of the park closure and any changes with the project. Because of our concerns about impacts on Arboretum events, the timing of the closure was adjusted to enable us to have our Plant Sale and Gardens of Merit Tour on June 20.

The Arboretum will close to the public beginning on Monday, July 13. Unfortunately, we have had to cancel our Family Fun Event scheduled for July 25th - but - we are looking forward to bringing it back for 2016. We will continue to work with DOE and Parks as the project plans are being developed. As we approach the July 13 closure date we will know more about exactly how long the Arboretum will be closed and what the final impacts will be. I'm assured by the Everett Parks Department that space will be found, perhaps in another location, for our scheduled meetings and classes during the closure and that the Arboretum will be maintained during the closure. We meet regularly with Parks, so stay tuned for more news as it develops!



## Your Membership Means Everything to Us!

Simply put...

The Arboretum's success depends on you, our loyal members, and all the wonderful volunteers who help keep the gardens growing. We humbly ask for your continued support. It is critical as we look to improve the plant collections, increase maintenance to the existing gardens, and most importantly, expand the Arboretum with the development of our South Arboretum Plan. Without member support there would be no pavilion, entrance columns, pervious pathways, docent tours, free classes or rare plants to visit. Without supporting members like you, there would simply be no Arboretum for us to enjoy.

Evergreen Arboretum and Gardens annual membership is renewable on March 1st each year. Please renew your membership AND tell your friends, neighbors, and colleagues to join as well. Thank you for helping us continue to grow - we cannot do it without you!

## You Are Invited to our Annual Membership Banquet and Meeting

Evergreen Arboretum and Gardens will be hosting its annual banquet and meeting March 10th from 6 to 8:30 PM in Floral Hall at Forest Park. Drinks and appetizers, dinner catered by our very own Marylou and friends, an informative program AND new this year...a fabulous silent auction! Come and enjoy a fun evening and mingle with fellow members. This is our chance to thank you and ask for your continued support. Admission is free to all current members. Memberships will be available at the door - \$20/year for individuals and \$35/year for families. Please [RSVP in the Contact Us section on our website](#) or call (425) 257-8597. Come and enjoy great food and conversation all while helping to support the Arboretum!

## The Everett Home and Garden Show

The 12th annual edition of our local home and garden show is set for March 6th - 8th at Comcast Arena in Everett. There are always a ton of great ideas to absorb at the show and knowledgeable professionals to help answer your questions. Friday show hours Noon-7pm. Saturday show hours 10am-7pm. Sunday show hours 10am-5pm. Evergreen Arboretum and Gardens will have a booth at the show so when you go and get in the spring spirit, stop by and say "Hi"!

## Mark Your Calendars: Coming Attractions in June!

Less than five months until the **Garden of Merit Tour: Saturday June 20th!** While our gardens have been dormant all winter, work continues on the 2015 garden tour. In mid-January, garden mentors Cheryl Durham and Diane Easley hosted a luncheon for the owners of the gardens that will be featured in the 2015 edition. Participants had the opportunity to meet and greet and learn about what to expect over the upcoming months leading up to the tour. A delicious lunch was served followed by lively conversation sharing ideas and enthusiasm for the upcoming tour.

Over the next few months the garden tour team is working on many tasks including soliciting sponsors, identifying ticket vendors, arranging for publicity, designing posters and developing content for the tour brochure. In addition, this year the team is planning a very special "invitation only" event to honor the garden owners, tour sponsors, and arboretum members on Friday evening prior to the tour. There is still plenty to do and the team would love additional help. Volunteer by contacting chairwomen Patti or Linda through the Contact Us page at [evergreenarboretum.com](http://evergreenarboretum.com). In the meantime mark your calendars for this memorable event next June!



Just a few of the plants available at the successful 2014 Plant Sale!

**June 20th** is also the mystical magical **Plant Sale** day at the Arboretum! An annual tradition that provides top quality plants to the public and top notch prices! All the proceeds go to support the Evergreen Arboretum and Gardens to help maintain and improve our wonderful arboretum. We welcome plant donations for the sale and any help from volunteers is greatly appreciated! There are lots of preparations to be made to continue to make this event a success. Details will be posted on the website and in the May newsletter but please contact us at

[evergreenarboretum.com](http://evergreenarboretum.com) if you would like to help.

**Make sure to mark your calendars twice for June 20th** - once for a tremendous tour and again for a ginormous plant sale - all benefiting the Arboretum!



## Arboretum Focus....Plants, Plants, and More Plants!



Witchhazel

This is a great time of year for a walk through the Arboretum - lots of winter and early spring blooming plants to surprise you as winter turns towards spring the gardens awake and begin another journey through the seasons. There is much to see this time of year - and much to smell! Fragrance seems to be everywhere in February and March in the Arboretum. Find fragrant Viburnums like ***V. bodnantense* 'Pink Dawn'** located near the entrance and ***V. x burkwoodii*** located in the Master Gardener Border. Fragrant Himalayan

Sweet Box (***Sarcococca sp.***) are planted throughout the shady gardens and smell of sweet vanilla. Spidery orange and yellow witchhazel blooms (***Hamamelis cvs.***) are in flower near the entrance and in the Lower Garden. Sweet smells of spring fill the air. For blooms - the numerous winter Hellebores, or Christmas Roses (***Hellebores sp.***) are blooming now through spring and cannot be missed near the front entrance, in the Woodland Garden, and in the Lower Garden. Some early blooming shrubs and trees will be in flower in February and March. Visit the spectacular old Star Magnolia (***Magnolia stellata***) near the front entrance. Flowering Currant (***Ribes sanguineum***) will be blooming in the Native Plant Walk. A nice Cornelian Dogwood specimen (***Cornus mas***) will be dropping its bright yellow flowers in February as well. One can sense a theme here - there is a lot going on in the gardens this time of year! Every week more plants will emerge from dormancy and begin their cycle once again. Stop in for a few visits - each time you will witness spring in action and find something new to admire. Hope to see you on your Arboretum walkabout!

**Whatever the season remember you will find treasures growing throughout the Evergreen Arboretum and Gardens.**

### Captivating Cultivating Classes

**Come and learn about all things horticulture from our guest instructors at the Arboretum**

**All Classes are FREE!**

3rd Saturday of the month from Noon -1PM unless otherwise noted

RSVP by calling 425-257-8597, or online at [contactus@evergreenarboretum.com](mailto:contactus@evergreenarboretum.com)

**Saturday February 21st - Starting Annual Flowers and Vegetables From Seed - with Andy Sudkamp, Arboretum Board Member and Horticulture Instructor for Everett Schools.**

From Arugula to Zinnias - come learn tips and tricks to ensure successful seed starting. Growing your own will save you money and give you a wider variety of choices than found in stores.

**Saturday March 21st - Prune Almost Anything! - with Emile Van den Akker, owner of Van den Akker Landscaping and Arboretum Board Member.**

Wondering how to prune properly and where to start? Come learn from a professional how to prune almost everything. This will be a hands on class in the Arboretum.

**Saturday April 18th - Hardy Fuchsias with Frankie Dennison, Master Gardener.**

Hardy Fuchsias are colorful perennials especially suited to our maritime climate. They blend well with different garden styles and color schemes and boast growth habits that range from ground covers to shrubs to climbers. Come and learn how to incorporate these hummingbird beauties into your garden!

**Saturday May 16th - Incorporate Perennial Edibles Into Your Landscape with Andy Sudkamp, Arboretum Board Member and Avid Edible Gardener.**

Need a snack from the yard? Why restrict yourself to just looking at your landscape when you can wander through and eat it! Come and learn all about berries, fruits, herbs and other edible treasures.

[See the full class list here.](#)



## Come Get Dirty With Us!

Arboretum work parties have been scheduled. We would love to have anyone interested in helping join us. These work parties are necessary to continue to keep the gardens looking top notch. Come and pitch in while you talk plants and gardening with other volunteers. Enjoy the fresh air and our beautiful Arboretum. Be sure to bring your gloves, tools, a bottle of water and your smiles. We hope to see you there and thank you in advance for your help!

Saturday **March 21** - 10am to noon  
Wednesday **April 15** - 10am to noon  
Saturday **May 16** - 10am to noon

With the Arsenic Mitigation Project closing

## Tour the Garden With Our Experts

Have a group that would like a personal tour of the gardens? The Arboretum offers free docent led tours starting in April and running through mid-July this year. The Arboretum closes temporarily for the Arsenic mitigation project until spring 2016. The tours are most informative and will give visitors a unique look at the different gardens. Contact Christy Andre, docent coordinator, at (425) 257-8597 for more information or to schedule a tour. See you in the gardens!

the Arboretum mid-July through spring 2016 it is most important to get lots of work done early this year. We need to get ahead on maintenance around the gardens before the closure so come on out and let's get dirty!



Evergreen Arboretum and Gardens

[Visit our Website](#)

Mailing Address: PO Box 13014 Everett 98206



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