



Spring Garden Day 2019

May 18, 9 am - 3 pm

It's time to shop for those plants your gardens demand! Over 40 vendors will fill the circle ([Download the Vendor map!](#)) at Green Spring with "must have plants." The Garden Gate Plant Shop will also be open, where FROGS members receive a 10% discount.

Nibble on treats, and eat as you shop! Savor baked goods from the popular bake sale found inside the visitor center atrium. New at the bake sale this year, members of the Armed Forces can enjoy a free cookie in honor of Armed Forces Day, and kids can purchase a cupcake and then decorate it for themselves.

If the treasures of the bakery don't appeal to you, we will have two fabulous food trucks serving up tastebud treats! This year our food trucks will be Healthy Fool and Dogs on the Curb.

The proceeds from Spring Garden Day help purchase plants for the gardens and support educational efforts at Green Spring.

Volunteers still needed on Spring Garden Day.

FROGS need help with plant pick-up and parking, and with baked goods, especially whole cakes and pies. With over 2,000 visitors to this popular event, your help can make Spring Garden Day a success!!

Click on the *Volunteer* or *Bake Sale* link to sign-up.

[Volunteer Sign-up](#)

[Bake Sale Sign-up](#)

In this Issue

Articles

- ✦ Sarah Munroe Delivers Powerful Message on the Importance of Parks
- ✦ Faces of Green Spring
- ✦ Ghosts in the House
- ✦ Beeches of Green Spring
- ✦ FROGS Travelers Experience Winter Adventures
- ✦ Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*): a shrub to know and grow
- ✦ Celebrate Spring at the Green Spring Horticulture Library
- ✦ Park Authority Archaeologists Dig (in) Green Spring Gardens

News & Events

- ✦ Mangers Message & Frogs Talk
- ✦ Generous Donors Contribute Books in Memory of GS Volunteer Ernie Watkins
- ✦ "Silent" Auction Needs Your "Voice"
- ✦ Help Wanted!
- ✦ FROGS Book Clubs, by Susan Voss
- ✦ Green Spring Summer Camps for Kids
- ✦ Art Shows- Current & Upcoming
- ✦ Summer Concert

Manager's Message

Spring is such a joyful and encouraging time of year. We look forward to warm weather, flower blossoms, and extra daylight. During this time of year I am always reminded of Mark Twain's saying: "In the spring, I have counted 136 different kinds of weather inside of 24 hours." We certainly anticipate April showers but truly hope not to have another record breaking year of rain. Green Spring is transformative during this season and we look forward to witnessing the changes that take place outdoors.

We also continue to experience change with staff, and it is with super excitement we welcome Susan Eggerton to her new role as Visitor Services Manager! Susan has been serving Green Spring since 2003 and I am thrilled to continue my work with her. She has a beautiful vision for visitor services and Green Spring— we look forward to seeing that bear fruit in the coming years. In addition to Susan's transition to manager, we said a goodbye to Propagation Horticulturist Judy Zatsick at the end of January. We will miss Judy but are very excited for her as she achieved her dream position at Oak Spring. We wish Judy the absolute best and look forward to bringing her back to the gardens as a guest speaker.

The winter seemed long and cold but it did not keep FROGS membership from attending the annual meeting in early March. The attendance was record breaking and it was a pleasure to see members and hear their questions about your organization and the gardens.



Nicole Conners (Photo: Ivy Sinaiko)

It is also very exciting to be watching the reestablishment of the historic driveway in front of the Historic House. Restoration of Beatrix Farrand's 1942 curved driveway as a walkway was recommended in our Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) and in [Green Spring's 2016 Master Plan Revision](#). This is the first element of the Master Plan to be implemented in the gardens.

Many thanks to FROGS for your continued and unending support. Staff sincerely appreciates all the ways in which you serve Green Spring Gardens and Fairfax County Park Authority by volunteering, fundraising, and advocating for parks. The Park Authority's budget challenge has been stressful for staff and I feel so much gratitude knowing that FROGS is here to help – I am in awe of all the folks that have come to us and asked, "What can I do?" And I would like to answer that question here. You can help by volunteering – we are always recruiting new volunteers and have critical needs for [Children's Ed, Front Desk, Program Promotion, and the Historic House](#). Also, make sure you register and

enjoy our variety of excellent programs. I encourage you to register early. We have strict program minimums and have had to cancel some pretty enticing programs due to low enrollment. So, if you're interested in attending one of our fabulous programs, please register early. We continue to work through the glitches of the new registration system, which is improving. We can always assist you with online registration, or we can take your registrations over the phone, at 703-642-5173. We welcome any and all ideas for future programs and getaways as well.



Restoration of Beatrix Farrand's 1942 curved driveway as a walkway. During construction (above), and the finished walkway (left)
(Photo: Fred Blott)



To know how deeply Green Spring is cared for by the FROGS community touches my heart and makes me love my job even more, thank you. It reminds me of Thomas Jefferson's words: *"No occupation is so delightful to me as the culture of the earth, and no culture comparable to that of the garden."*

Fender Benders Headline the 2019 Summer Concert

Join us on June 25 from 5-8 pm as we enjoy a summer night out with refreshments and music.

FROGS will once again host a summer concert at Green Spring Gardens. The Fender Benders, who have entertained us with their lively music for the past two years, will return this summer.

The Fender Benders are a versatile rock band playing Soul, Early Rock, Blues, 70's, 80's, and current selections. See how long our FROGS mascot, Ribbit, can resist hopping and bopping to the tunes at this family-friendly fête.

Purchase dinner from the food truck or bring your own picnic to enjoy on the lawn.

Fun, interactive kids activities begin at 5 pm. Our traditional complimentary cake and lemonade service starts at 6 pm, along with the music.



FROGS Talk

Six years ago, we held a FROGS tagline contest for Green Spring staff and FROGS board. The winner was “Keeping Green Spring growing.”

This timeless slogan captures exactly what your FROGS organization is about. What we do to keep Green Spring growing changes with time, budget, and needs. (See FROGS “Then, Now & Next” in the [Materials from the FROGS Annual Meeting](#) on March 3, 2019, and Nicole Conners’ “[Manager’s Report to Membership](#).”)

A recent example of our efforts is the result of your latest financial contribution: \$25,000+ donated to our 2018 Annual Appeal. It has kicked off the purchase process for two new utility vehicles for garden staff. Thank you!

So what is next? Here are three new opportunities to ensure Green Spring remains vibrant for the long term:

First, advocate! FROGS’ critical subsidies help fund Green Spring operations, but only increased operating and capital funding from the County budget and Park Authority bond programs will assure your favorite garden’s future. At current (or reduced!) funding levels, the broad visions set forth in the 2016 Revised Master Plan for Green Spring Gardens will not be realized. Tell the Board of Supervisors what Green Spring means to you. Remind them that Green Spring contributes to three of the nine priorities identified by the community in the County’s strategic plan: education/lifelong learning, health/environment, culture/recreation.



Sarah Munroe, FROGS President
(Photo: Marina Marlowe-Wood)

Second, volunteer! With Green Spring and/or with FROGS. Volunteers are essential to many of the functions of the Gardens. Find information on current needs in this edition and on our website.

Third, share Green Spring Gardens with your friends and family! Help FROGS hone our hidden gem into the eminent treasure it deserves to be. There are so many ways people with diverse interests can connect to Green Spring—

horticulture, nature, sustainability, history, arts, design, food, wellness. . . .

Green Spring and FROGS at the American Public Gardens Association Conference

“Diversity Grows Gardens” is the theme of the American Public Gardens Association (APGA) 2019 conference to be held in Washington in June. Thanks to FROGS sponsorship, Green Spring Gardens will enjoy national exposure during this prestigious gathering of public garden professionals. Conference attendees are encouraged to tour Green Spring Gardens. In addition, the garden’s logo is prominently displayed on conference materials as an APGA Partner Garden. FROGS and Green Spring staff will participate in a panel session celebrating female landscape design contributions. Our presentation will spotlight the Beatrix Farrand historic garden. Produced at the pinnacle of her career, Farrand’s Green Spring design, though modest in scope, expresses her signature design principles: clarity of contour, integration of house and garden, and transition from formal to informal landscapes.

We're thrilled that a defining and organizing feature of Farrand's design, the circular drive fronting the Historic House, has been restored. The exposed aggregate drive mimics the look of the gravel drive of the Straight era yet is accessible and able to support small maintenance vehicles. It is worth noting that this is the first implementation of recommendations outlined in Green Spring's Master Plan!

Help us to Grow ... Participation

FROGS is committed to keeping Green Spring growing. We strive to balance beloved traditions with reaching new audiences. Prompted by the APGA conference theme, your FROGS board recognizes the need to advance our membership diversity. Folks we need to better reach: the next generation. Robust children's and family programming at Green Spring notwithstanding, this demographic is not



a big part of our FROGS membership base. We're actively exploring ways to better connect with young families and working professionals. Ideas on this? We'd love to hear them—contact us at info@friendsofgreenspring.org.

Fun at Green Spring

Don't miss these coming FROGS events: Spring Garden Day (5/18), Summer Concert (6/25), and our August puppet show (8/16). Our Garden Gate Plant Shop adjacent to the Horticulture Center is doing a booming business since opening in early April—don't miss out on special finds. Also, it's not too early to contribute to the FROGS' Silent Auction to be held at Fall Garden Day (9/21).

Happy spring and glorious gardening!

Gratefully,

Sarah Munroe Delivers Powerful Message on the Importance of Parks

Sarah Munroe, President of the Friends of Green Spring, testified on April 9 before the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors as part of their annual budget hearings. She detailed the many ways parks contribute to our communities and noted that over its 25-year history, FROGS has contributed \$2 million to Green Spring Gardens. "While we are committed to continued support of Green Spring," she stated, "we cannot fund the 2016 Master Plan vision or expand educational capacity there without more help from the county."

Sarah closed her testimony by asking, "Isn't a park system so committed to our rich park portfolio and advancing its economic sustainability worth more than 0.62 percent of the county budget?" Her complete testimony can be found at FriendsofGreenSpring.org.

A row of supporters sat behind her wearing FROGS gear. Supervisor Penelope Gross also wore her FROGS glasses. This interesting attire certainly helped make Sarah's testimony memorable.



A cheerful FROGS supporter

Faces of Green Spring

By Ivy Sinaiko

For the first article in what we envision as a series, I spent part of an April afternoon chatting with Lisa Jackson, who has worked since September 2014 as a visitor services assistant at Green Spring. Lisa works at the Horticulture Center Front Desk and Front Office, does what she calls “light accounting,” and is the buyer for the gift shops at the Horticulture Center and the Historic House. She is also Green Spring’s liaison with exhibiting artists.



Lisa Jackson (Photo by author)

Lisa describes herself as an “Army brat,” who traveled quite a bit with her family until she was in the fourth grade, when they settled in Northern Virginia. She received a degree in accounting from James Madison University, but gardens have always been her greatest love. In high school and during college breaks, she worked for Burke Nursery. Later, when the older of her two sons was about seven months old, she felt restless as spring approached. With her son with her in a backpack, she went to work part-time at Heather Hill Gardens, a small, family-

owned nursery. This is where she gained the extensive knowledge of plants that is so obvious to anyone who talks to her. She spent 14 years there learning about ordering, selling, and propagating plants.

Lisa says she learns something new every day at Green Spring. Her favorite part of her job is talking to visitors about plants. I have witnessed and been awed by the expertise she cheerfully shares with visitors who need suggestions about what plants to buy and how to take care of them. Her main advice: gardening is personal; buy and enjoy what you like and what makes you happy, within reason of course!

Lisa’s favorite spot at Green Spring is the path behind the white gazebo. It appeals to her imagination because to her it seems like a secret path and reminds her of books she loved as a child. (At this point in our conversation, she and I went off on a delightful tangent, talking about books we read as children. Some of her favorites were Enid Blyton’s “The Magic Faraway Tree Collection” and “Princess Chamomile’s Garden” by Hiawyn Oram. I’ll be looking for these.)

When she’s not at Green Spring, Lisa enjoys—surprise, surprise—visiting and reading about gardens! High on her bucket list is visiting England, where she lived for a while as a small child, and touring its beautiful gardens.

Thanks, Lisa, for all you do for Green Spring and its visitors. Your accounting and computer skills, horticultural expertise, and talented eye in choosing shop merchandise make you invaluable. More importantly, though, your welcoming smile and generously-given assistance help make Green Spring a happy destination for many.



Ghosts in the House

By Debbie Waugh, Historic House Coordinator

Visitors often ask if the Historic House is haunted. The house does have many ghosts, but not of the spectral sort. It's full of architectural ghosts: structural, functional, and decorative remnants from earlier times that provide fascinating clues to the architectural history of the house and glimpses into the lives of past residents.

Here are some of the real ghosts in the house:

- An interpretive “window in the wall” above a doorway in the central hall reveals architectural ghosts: a portion of the original 1784 brick load-bearing wall and a wooden lintel that tells us that this present-day



Exposed original door lintel (Photo: Debbie Waugh)

opening into the Fountain Beattie Room is the original one.

- The Fountain Beattie Room was originally two rooms. In 1942, the two rooms became one when the partition wall was removed, and the second original doorway in the hall was covered up. But we can still locate it. Tap the wall along the passage until you hear where the solid masonry ends and you've pinpointed the now-ghostly portal built in 1784.

- The low doorways are ghosts of an earlier time, revealing a standard eighteenth-century method of heat conservation (but nothing to do with the occupants' height.)
- Floor to ceiling windows flanking the front door are much taller than originally constructed. They are architectural ghosts from the late 1800s, when a Victorian-style porch extended across the front of the house, and the windows were enlarged to create access doors.
- A small white button in the wood paneling of the 1942 Michael and Belinda Straight Room is a remnant of mid-twentieth century life here: an electronic call bell that sounded in the kitchen to summon staff. (*Don't try it; it's disconnected!*)



Call button (Photo: Debbie Waugh)

- This room has another ghost which, like the phantom doorway, is invisible now. Beneath the floorboards lies the original cobblestone floor of the c. 1827 kitchen that stood here until it was demolished in 1942 to make way for the two-story west wing.

Other traces of past life from different eras can be found beyond the public rooms of the Historic House, from rope ladder fire escapes at

[Ghosts continued on next page](#)





Roman numerals scribed on rafters
(Photo: Green Spring Historic Structures Report)

Ghosts continued

upstairs windows to pink bathroom tiles and old wallpaper remnants. Ghost markings on a cellar wall reveal the existence of long-gone eighteenth-century steps. Scribed roman numerals on the original roof rafters are carpenters' marks - also called "marriage marks" - that indicated which pre-cut timbers were to be joined together.

Builders and occupants leave their imprints on a property and, throughout its history, our historic house has undergone changes that have left behind many vestiges of past life. These architectural ghosts don't haunt us, but they do inform and captivate us.



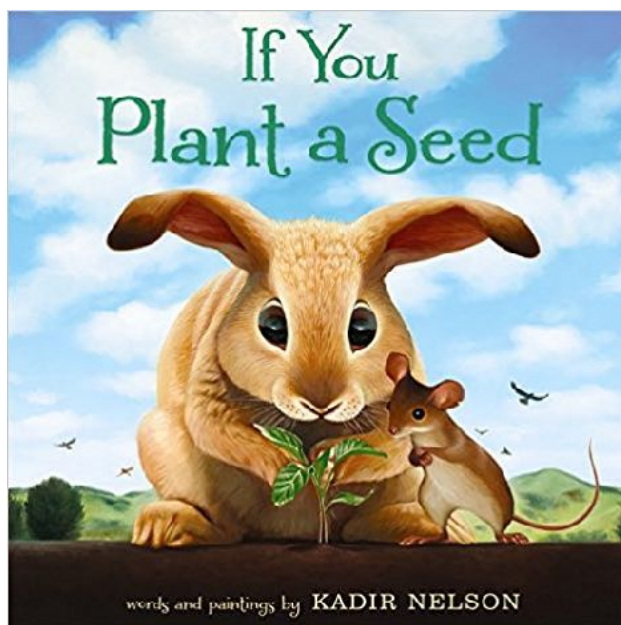
Generous Donors Contribute Books in Memory of GS Volunteer Ernie Watkins *

By Elizabeth Promen

Green Spring's young visitors make the Children's Corner one of the most used collections in the library. Children's programming staff also welcomes these books for use in programs and camps.

Books from the [Amazon Wishlist](#) can be purchased in memory or in honor of a person or an event. Donors can use the gift card to specify information for a book plate and the name and address of anyone they wish to be notified.

Green Spring staff and FROGS send their thanks to the donors!



* Five children's books have been donated to the Green Spring Horticulture Library in memory of GS volunteer Ernie Watkins.

(Photo: amazon.com)

Beeches of Green Spring

By Gil Medeiros

With all the beauty at our feet at Green Spring, it is easy to miss the beauty above our heads: the magnificent trees of Green Spring. Trees set the architecture of any landscape, and Green Spring is no exception. From the eastern red cedars in the border garden to the oaks near the Historic House to the forest trees on the east side of Turkeycock Run, trees determine what can be planted around them. They also bring beauty of their own; distinctive shapes, bark types, and leaves are significant features of Green Spring.

FROGS contributes to the maintenance of the trees at Green Spring. This includes pruning, fertilization sometimes (we do not fertilize trees at Green Spring unless there is a demonstrated need), and occasional removal of specimens for aesthetic reasons or because they have become a hazard to visitors.

In this edition we spotlight the American beeches (*Fagus grandifolia*) of Green Spring.

The native beech is typically a forest tree. Most homeowners don't like beeches because they inhibit the growth of nearby turfgrass and other plants. The root systems of beeches are intolerant of disturbance or compaction, so they are not good street trees. Also, the American

beech is seldom propagated by nurseries. The European beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) with its many cultivars is more likely to be found in a nursery yard, but even these are uncommon.



The magnificent beech in the Concentric Garden near the circular path. (Photo: Lois Vinci)

Green Spring has a striking specimen beech in the Concentric Garden near the circular path. With its near perfect symmetry and distinctive smooth, gray bark it is a real eye catcher. This specimen predates the establishment of the park and likely predates the land ownership of the Straight family. According to Brenda Skarphol, the longest serving member of the Green Spring staff, we have never taken a core sample of the tree to examine its growth rings,

so we do not know its age. Beeches have a life span of 150 to 200 years so it could be very old.

Green Spring engaged Bartlett Tree to prune and fertilize our tree in 2017. Bartlett also addressed a soil compaction problem. The tree's branches once extended all the way to the ground. Green Spring staff have limbed it up to better expose the beautiful smooth bark. We want it to continue to grace our landscape for many years to come.

Green Spring has a natural grove of beeches in the area east of Turkeycock Run. Beeches thrive near streambanks where the soil is made more fertile by the gradual deposition of nutrients carried by the stream. In fact, early farmers

Beeches continued on next page

would seek out and clear beech groves to create new agricultural plots because they knew the soil there would be fertile.

Beeches are often found in groves. Why? The obvious answer – but not completely correct – is that mature beeches produce beechnuts from which the next generation grows. However, beechnuts are great food for birds and small mammals, and few of these survive to become

seeds for the next generation. Many new trees grow as suckers from the root systems of the old. In a sense a beech grove is one giant organism connected under the ground. And since beeches have extremely dense surface roots, very few plants can grow under them. So a beech grove is typically undiluted by other species.

[Learn more about the American Beech.](#)

Help Wanted!

Green Spring is currently experiencing staff shortages that make maintaining our customary level of service to the community more difficult.

We need help in the following areas:

- Help on the front desk in the Horticulture Center: Meet and greet visitors during a morning or afternoon shift. Sell plants and gift shop items, answer the phone, provide maps and other information to visitors.
- Help with children's education programs: Using material prepared by the Green Spring children's education staff, help teach children who come to Green Spring on field trips. The kids will keep you on your toes, and you will learn a lot about a host of topics.
- Help as a hospitality host at the Historic House: Welcome program participants to the house, and assist staff with tasting programs and traditional afternoon tea service. You'll enjoy interacting with guests and being a member of our convivial team!

To find out more about these and other volunteer opportunities, please contact Ralph Weitz, Green Spring's volunteer coordinator, at 703-642-5173 or ralph.weitz@fairfaxcounty.gov. Training will be provided to all volunteers.



The Friends of Green Spring can also use your help.

- Do you have experience in fundraising and/or marketing? We could really use your talents to make our support of Green Spring more effective.
- Would you be interested in helping with a photography contest showcasing photos of Green Spring Gardens? We are excited about this new project but need help to plan and organize.
- We can also use help with activities such as putting labels on membership mailings, taking photos for social media, and helping with our upcoming Spring Garden Day (May 18).

To find out more about how to help FROGS support Green Spring, please contact us at info@friendsofgreenspring.org. To volunteer to help on *Spring Garden Day*, go directly to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10coe44aba72ea7fe3-frogs7>.

We truly appreciate whatever skills, time, and enthusiasm you have to offer!

FROGS Travelers Experience Winter Adventures

By Kathy Trichel

At the end of January, a group of cold travelers fled winter in the U.S. and landed in warm, tropical Costa Rica. While Northern Virginia was experiencing ice and snow, these sixteen adventurers were enjoying tropical sunshine. The group experienced many highlights: a chocolate factory tour with a delightful presentation of the history of chocolate, many beautiful plants, exotic orchids, sloths, and a slew of other exotic critters. The travelers even learned how geothermal energy from an active volcano is used to generate electricity for the Guanacaste area.

The tour was capped by a deep sea fishing trip for several of the travelers. Everyone got to enjoy the bounty with a sumptuous tuna dinner. It was fun. Many of the travelers have pledged to return to Costa Rica.

As February came to an end, twenty-three FROGS travelers flew to Iceland, "*The Land of Fire and Ice.*" The goal of this trip was to view many of the sights of this volcanic wonderland and, specifically, to see the Northern Lights.

While the travelers were prepared for winter at a high latitude destination, temperatures in Iceland were often warmer than Virginia.

Waterfalls exist everywhere in Iceland. Glaciers, though receding, were visible, and a geyser performed as if on cue. Of course, the Aurora Borealis or Northern Lights provided a spectacular light show, not once, but twice. This was a truly rewarding and exciting trip. We hope to send another FROGS group to Iceland within the next two years.

In July, another group of FROGS will visit Holland in bloom and in 2020, a return trip to southern Costa Rica and the jungles of the Osa Peninsula.

For more information about trips for FROGS Members to benefit FROGS, please contact Kathy Trichel at ktrichel@earthlink.net.



Spectacular view of Aurora Borealis as seen from Iceland this past February (Photo: David Baldwin)

Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*): a shrub to know and grow

By Alda Krinsman, Plant Shop Coordinator

Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*) is a deciduous shrub native to eastern North America occurring as far north as Canada and as far south and west as Texas. *Ilex verticillata* is famous for its brilliant display of red berries that persist on shrubs from late fall to early spring—hence the common name “winterberry.” (Red berries are the most common; however, there are several cultivars that will produce yellow or orange berries.) Although birds will eat the berries, they usually will not do so until after the berries have experienced several freeze/thaw cycles. Unlike some of its evergreen relatives *Ilex verticillata* is deciduous and will lose its leaves in the fall. Fall leaf color is usually yellow, but some reds or oranges may appear. This leaf loss has its upside since the berries are much more visible on the bare branches.

This year the Garden Gate Plant Shop will carry two female cultivars of *Ilex verticillata*—‘Berry Heavy’ and ‘Winter Red.’ Both cultivars are known for producing a reliable crop of showy red berries that persist through fall and winter. Green Spring Gardens is home to several cultivars of winterberry, all of which put on a colorful show of berries all winter long.

Something all gardeners should know before planting *Ilex verticillata* is that it is dioecious, meaning that an individual shrub will bear either female flowers (which when pollinated become berries) or male flowers (which produce the pollen that pollinates female flowers). Female and male flowers will not appear on the same plant. Thus, to ensure a good display of winter berries, one must plant at least one compatible



Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*)
(Photo: Kerry Woods CC-NC-ND-2-0)

male *Ilex verticillata* for every 1-10 female shrubs planted.

What does “compatible” mean in this context? As a general rule, *Ilex verticillata* varieties are either early bloomers or late bloomers. Therefore, it is important to purchase female and male cultivars that bloom at the same time; otherwise the female flowers will not be pollinated, and there will be no berries. In our geographical area ‘Jim Dandy’ and ‘Southern Gentleman’ are often used as male pollinators. ‘Southern Gentleman’ is a late bloomer and ‘Jim Dandy’ is an early bloomer. The Proven Winners cultivar ‘Mr. Poppins’ is also an early bloomer and can be used to pollinate all Proven Winners brand female shrubs as well as other early blooming female *Ilex verticillata*.

Our ‘Winter Red’ can be pollinated by ‘Southern Gentleman,’ and ‘Berry Heavy’ (a Proven Winners variety) can be pollinated by ‘Jim Dandy’ or ‘Mr. Poppins.’ We also have several mature specimens of ‘Southern Gentleman’ and ‘Jim Dandy’ for sale as well as some young specimens of ‘Mr. Poppins.’

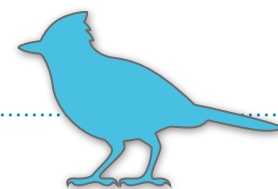
Winterberry continued on next page

Winterberry continued

To ensure good pollination of female shrubs, the male should be planted within 50 feet of the female shrubs. Although many gardeners value the female shrub because of its red berries, it is important to note that the male shrubs are the only ones to produce pollen, and although their flowers may be insignificant, they are an important pollen source for native bees which help pollinate the female shrubs!

In the wild, *Ilex verticillata* species tend to grow in medium to wet soils in sun and partly shaded

areas such as swamps, damp woodlands, and stream and pond edges. In our home landscapes *Ilex verticillata* needs moist acidic soil to avoid being stressed. Regular watering and mulching is beneficial. This is also a good shrub for a rain garden or low lying areas. Full sun will ensure the best flowering and berry set though the shrubs can tolerate some light shade. Depending on the growing conditions, shrubs can grow anywhere from 3 feet to 12 feet in height and often sucker to form dense thickets.



FROGS “Silent” Auction Needs Your “Voice”!

Support us by donating goods and services for this event. (*Minimum value of \$20, please!*)

Our most popular auction items are:

Gardening Items and Advice

—*Think GARDENING!*

- Gently used gardening items
- Landscape design or pruning consultation
- A day’s worth of planting, weeding, or trimming
- Garden art

Underused Treasures

—*Think REGIFTING!*

- Decorative housewares (china, crystal, pottery) (Please no silver)
- Paintings or prints
- Artwork (wooden or pottery)
- Antiques (toys, tools, etc.)

Entertainment and Sports

—*Think FUN!*

- Tickets to theaters, concerts, or exhibits
- Memberships to gyms, spas, or recreation centers
- Sports tickets or memorabilia (photos, balls, shirts, etc.)

Wines and Gourmet Items

—*Think DELICIOUS!*

- Wines for wine baskets
- Wine tastings or vineyard tours
- Gourmet food or drink baskets (gift certificates preferred for the latter)
- Restaurant or food boutique gift certificates

Getaways and Outings

—*Think ESCAPE!*

- A weekend at your vacation home or favorite resort

To arrange pickup, contact Susan Voss at susanlvoss@gmail.com or 703.819.1590

Or drop items off at the Horticulture Center.

Items accepted until September 1st

Thank You For Your Support!

A financial statement is available upon written request from the Virginia Office of Charitable and Regulatory Programs.



Celebrate Spring at the Green Spring Horticulture Library

By Pauline Perry, Green Spring Librarian

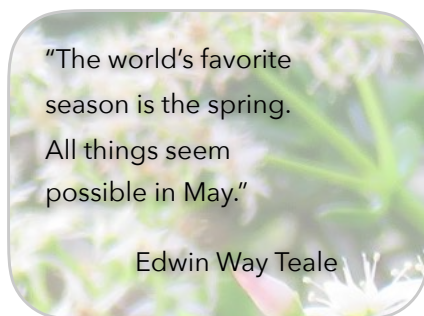
Spring is a great time for a native hike to explore all the fascinating secrets of wildflowers. Why not stop by our Horticulture Library to discover

where the first flowers appeared, why flowers exist, and how they help promote life on earth? Let's take a peek at some titles that bring focus to wildflowers:

"Finding Wildflowers in the Washington-Baltimore Area," by Cristol Fleming, Marion Blois Lobstein, and Barbara Tufty. This is a guide to places where wildflowers can be found. From the Blue Ridge to the Chesapeake, the mid-Atlantic region is home to hundreds of wildflowers species.

"The History and Folklore of North American Wildflowers," by Timothy Coffey. This important and highly entertaining reference book presents the popular lore, social history, and practical uses of nearly 700 native wildflowers. These are plants that have been used as foods, medicines, cosmetics, poisons, dyes, or fibers, from pre-Colonial times to our own day. They are also the plants that are currently undergoing a revival in American gardens.

"Wildflowers and the Stories Behind their Names," by Phyllis S. Busch. Learn who first gave names like Touch-me-not and Dandelion to wildflowers and why? This exceptionally beautiful picture book is an introduction to some of the most intriguing names in nature.



"Wild Flowers," by Graham Murphy, includes a wonderful history about wildflowers. Stated in the introduction:

Throughout the Victorian and Edwardian eras, wildflowers had become immensely popular in the minds of townfolk for their association with romantic notions of countryside. Often of necessity wildflowers were grown, because they could be collected from woods at no expense to the gardener. This book can be used as a practical sourcebook for the gardener, a reference book for the designer or a checklist for those wishing to identify the flowers or simply enjoyed for the beauty of the images.

"Wildflowers in Your Garden, A Gardener's Guide," by Viki Ferreniea. This guide tells you everything you need to know to grow wildflowers successfully, easily, and beautifully right in your own garden.

Identifying a flower requires that one look rather than merely see. Yet in spite of their popularity, the individual beauty of the wildflower species is sometimes overlooked. This year celebrate spring by enjoying our beautiful wildflower library book collection when you visit our gardens.

"And he is happier who has power to gather wisdom from a flower."

William Wordsworth

Please be sure to browse through our used book area to the left of the library entrance where you will find many interesting books for sale at great prices.

Library Hours

Monday to Saturday, 9 am to 4:30 pm
Sunday, noon to 4:30 pm.

Park Authority Archaeologists Dig (in) Green Spring Gardens, Make Several Finds

*By Aimee Wells, Archaeologist
Fairfax County Park Authority*

The Park Authority's Archaeology and Collections Branch (ACB) spent the last days of winter and first few of spring conducting an archaeological survey of Green Spring Gardens. The archaeologists found evidence of early settler activity and even the presence of Native Americans.

The crew was on site to help guide the installation of the new walkway in front of the Historic House.

The first archaeological find revealed dark organic soils with a lot of bone that may well be a clue to the location of a detached kitchen.

The second was a small discrete area where a Native American would have made or sharpened a stone tool, leaving the stone flakes behind as evidence.

The third was a small fragment of slave-built pottery, pointing to the lives of the enslaved people owned by John Moss.

While not every artifact has yet been washed and cataloged, initial impressions are of a site that has retained its archaeological integrity over the years.

Archaeologists used a grid system to place small holes across the entirety of Green Spring Gardens. These holes, called shovel test pits, provide archaeologists with a small window into the history of the property. In total, 270 shovel tests were hand excavated across the park. 115 of these were positive for cultural remains, 103 were



Archeologists at work at Green Spring Garden (Photo: Fred Blott)

devoid of cultural remains, and 52 were unexcavated due to paved areas, slope, saturated conditions, or to preserve planting beds.

The mission of the Archaeology and Collections Branch is to identify, interpret, protect, and preserve archaeological resources on parkland, as well as ensure compliance with county preservation ordinances on private property.

A full technical report is currently in process and will be published later this year. The ACB looks forward to working with the dedicated staff and volunteers of Green Spring Gardens to interpret the site's rich history. Staff at ACB enjoyed talking with park visitors, children on field trips, as well as park staff and volunteers about their work. It is clear that the park is well-loved. An added bonus was watching the gardens come to life as spring brought both blooms and visitors out to the park.

Gardens are for sharing!



<http://www.friendsofgreenspring.org>

Green Spring Summer Camps: Fun and Learning for Your Child

Arts al Fresco (Age groups 5-9, 7-11, 9-13): Let nature be your studio as you experiment outdoors with different art media. Each day features different artists and art forms as you create your own works of art.

Garden Sprouts Exploration (Ages 3-6): Curious minds explore nature on “seek-and-find” walks and enjoy nature crafts. Stories, games, puppets, and songs keep learning fun.

Hands-on Gardening (Ages 7-11): Come behind-the-scenes to discover how things grow at Green Spring Gardens. Learn alongside gardening pros and get creative with art projects featuring plants.

Nature Quest (Ages 6-12): Explore plants and animals that put life in our park wildlife. Crafts, games, and field study are part of this weeklong adventure.

Chopped (Ages 5-12): Tiny Chefs, a leading provider of kids cooking classes, brings food challenges to camp. Learn to make mouth-watering specialties while exploring new ingredients, tastes, and combinations.

Cupcake Wars (Ages 5-12): Join Tiny Chefs for some yummy fun learning cupcake basics. Finish the week with two days of baking battle as small teams compete for the title of “Best Cupcake of Camp!”

Fashion Design Sewing Camp—I and II (Ages 8-12): Learn how fashion design works and clothing lines are created while learning basic hand and machine sewing. Techniques include sketching a portfolio of designs, measuring, using patterns, and operating a sewing machine.

To find out more about these classes, go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes or call 703-642-5173 or 703-222-4664 for assistance.



Nature Exploration at Green Spring
Summer Camp

FROGS Book Clubs



By Susan Voss

There was so much interest in the new FROGS Book Club that the 15-member limit was reached two hours after the announcement went out! Not wishing to disappoint, we formed a second group (FROGS Book Club II). The groups meet bi-monthly on alternating 3rd Tuesday afternoons in the Green Spring library.

Books will focus on horticulture, natural history, science, ecology, history, and environmental issues. Participants will suggest and choose the books and take turns leading the discussions. Titles will be posted on the FROGS website.

There are a still a few open spaces. To join, contact Susan Voss at susanlvoss@gmail.com.

Gardenline



Spring 2019

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Green Spring Gardens is
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Management Division.

Art Shows at Green Spring Gardens

Current and Upcoming

April 30, 2019 – June 23, 2019

"Bountiful"

Paintings – Potomac Valley Watercolorists
Horticulture Center & Historic House

June 25, 2019 – August 25, 2019

"Scent"

Mixed Media – Dreamers' Art at CSC
Horticulture Center

"Trois Visage des Fleurs"

Photographs & Mixed Media – Barbara Ellison
Historic House

Reception: **Sat, June 29, 1-3**, Horticulture Center & Historic
House



Open Hours

Horticulture Center

Monday - Saturday, 9 am to 4:30 pm
Sunday, noon to 4:30 pm

Historic House

Wednesday-Sunday, noon to 4:30 pm

Friends of Green Spring, Inc. is a non-profit 501(c)3 membership organization dedicated to supporting Green Spring Gardens and its mission to connect the community to natural and cultural resources through horticulture, education and stewardship. Since 1993, our members have provided over \$2 million and countless volunteer hours to support garden operations, programs and projects.



Green Spring Gardens is administered by the Fairfax County Park Authority's Resource Management Division. If accommodations or alternative formats are needed, please call 703-324-8563 at least 10 working-days before the event.