



George Landis Arboretum NEWSLETTER

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Birds, Trees and History for Our Visitors

Three new publications will soon be available to assist Arboretum visitors in their enjoyment of our garden. Designed to answer frequently asked questions, these brochures should help de-mystify some aspects of the Landis Arboretum.

Zealous volunteer and bird enthusiast Beverly Waite has written a Habitat Guide to Birds. Beginning with an explanation of our various bird habitats, the brochure also has the current master list of birds sighted at the Arboretum and space for visitors to mark their own finds. A map of the Arboretum with its habitat locations shows birders in which area one is most likely to find specific birds. Given the tremendous amount of "birding" that has taken place here this year, this new pamphlet should find a receptive audience in both experienced and new birders.

To help people appreciate not only our woodland, but also their own property, Arboretum naturalist Laura J. Lehtonen has produced a Woodland Trail Guide. The Guide gives background on our specific woodland and describes our goal for it (to increase the diversity of plant and animal life that live there) and the land management practices that will help us reach that goal. Many of the projects can be duplicated in your own backyard or woodlot.

Starting at the Meeting House end of the trail, the Guide has numbered sections to read at corresponding stops on the trail. Also on the path the trees will have new identification labels, finally replacing the long gone wooden ones. The 12th and final stop is actually after you've left the woodland and are heading for the greenhouse. This ambitious project still has many hours of work to go - the trail surface needs to be improved and all the signs need to be hung. (Anyone interested in helping Laura should call her at the office.) When complete, this trail and booklet will be a truly useful teaching tool for woodlot management and trail enjoyment.

The third brochure is a brief history of the GLA compiled by Amy Lent. No longer will visitors have to ask "Who was George Landis?" How the George Landis Arboretum Came to Be answers that question as well as sharing some of Fred Lape's life and the early years of the Arboretum.

All three of these brochures should be on hand by October for fall foliage visitors, at least in photocopied form. Underwriters are being sought to finance 'proper' publishing.



Above and beyond fall foliage, or 1,001 reasons to visit the Arboretum on a nice fall day ...

Gorgeous yellow quinces; purple and white autumn crocuses; crabapples in shades from creamy blush to deep red; Sapphireberries; pink sedum; fungi in all shapes and colors; yellow, red and orange mountain ash berries; golden-rod and purple asters; misty mornings; soft sunsets; and, of course, fall foliage in every hue.

Plant Science Programs to Visit Schools

The Arboretum's teaching volunteers will be doing some driving this year, as they take Laura Lehtonen's plant science programs directly to school classrooms. While the programs will still be offered as field trips to the Arboretum, it is expected that more teachers will opt for the outreach version due to lack of transportation money in school budgets.

Designed to supplement classroom activities, the programs "Inside a Tree", "What Tree Am I?" and "Adapt-a-Plant" are participatory, multi-curricular activities for elementary students. These lessons are a natural "outgrowth" of the previous "Wonderful World of Trees" which in the short time between Ms. Lehtonen's hiring last spring and the end of the school year, the newly trained volunteers and Ms. Lehtonen taught to over 500 school children. It is hoped this year to reach even larger numbers of children, although funding is still being sought to continue Ms. Lehtonen's position at the Arboretum.

Rare Plant Sale

Member's pre-sale order form
to be sent to you soon

You can be sure to get the plants you want
at the May 2, 1992, Rare Plant Sale
by ordering in advance.