



Plymouth Garden Club

April 2019

Linda O'Neill, President

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Club Flower
Plymouth Gentian

Website: PlymouthGardenClub.org

Membership

Active	81
Associate	11
Life:	1
Honorary	2

Horticulture By Joy Sands

Today's New Springs

The newest victims of climate change appear to be wildflowers which grow on the forest floor. Bluets, marsh marigolds and the bird's-foot violets sprout and flower several weeks before the oaks and maples leaf out. The ephemerals need the full sunlight of early spring before the leaves of trees shade the forest floor. Once the trees leaf out, forest wildflowers don't receive the sun's energy to grow flow and set seeds for their survival.

Comparing present day observations to those of Henry David Thoreau in Concord Mass in the 1850's, today's maples, oaks and birches are leafing out two weeks earlier. But wild flowers are leafing out only a week earlier. Scientists believe that this difference, due to climate change, could lead to the decline and loss of wildflower species. Tree branches are up in the warming air currents, but the wild flowers are dormant in the colder, slower to warm, soil.

In the last 150 years, the New England region has warmed by 4 degrees, twice the rate of overall global warming. The likely consequence is that in the future we may see fewer woodland wildflowers.

APRIL MEETING: this Wednesday **Apr. 10th, 1 p.m.** Yvonne Capella, award winning designer, flower show judge and GCFM board member will present designs from the new Flower Show Schedule including a cascade and a n 8 inch small design. Her completed designs will be offered as chance opportunities. Join us at 12:30 for socializing, prior to the start of the meeting. Guests are invited to this meeting (guest fee \$5.)

For horticulture, please label your item: genus, species and variety if you can.

Aluminum can pull tabs are being collected to bring to the district luncheon so if you have any please bring in to the April meeting. Otherwise hold for Sept.

Arnold Arboretum Day Tour Reminder: The Arnold Arboretum trip is scheduled for **Thursday, May 2nd**. The cost is \$56 which includes the tour fee plus the bus and a tip for the driver and lunch after the tour. Please pay Liz Branch at the April meeting if you have not already done so. Please make checks out to the Plymouth Garden Club. Two pick-up sites: the bus will be at the Kohl's at **9:15 a.m.** and at the old Benny's parking lot at Court St. at **9:30 a.m.** Carpooling is suggested.

Southeastern District meeting: The Coonamessett Inn in Falmouth will be the site for the Southeast District annual meeting April 25, starting at 8:45 a.m. Please write your check (\$42) to the GCFM and send to Gayle Reilley at the district PO Box 280, 72 Bayberry Lane, Cotuit, MA 02630 with your lunch selection.

Southeastern District Flower Show: An NGC Standard Flower Show "Celebrating Heritage" will be held July 16th-July 18th at the Heritage Museum and Gardens in Sandwich Plan to participate in design, photography or horticulture. Go to GCFM .org for the schedule, or contact Gerri Williams.

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There may be fewer wild berries and other fruits for the small mammals and less food for migratory birds.

Restrain yourself from planning annuals and vegetables other than cold crops. Because of recent sub-freezing nights, the soil has not warmed. The forsythia has not yet bloomed. Heat-loving vegetables like tomatoes, peppers and eggplant generally don't go into the soil until at least May 15 here in zone 6b. Any earlier and the cold will shock the roots enough to retard growth or even kill your new plants. If cold nights persist, hold off planting until Memorial Day.

Junior Gardener Environmental Program: The Garden Club volunteers have completed more than half the classroom visits this year sharing valuable knowledge about our unique Plymouth ecosystems, the Pine Barrens and Coastal Plain Ponds and our sole source aquifer. Hopefully, we are helping to prepare future citizens who will care about preserving our precious environment.

We will be bagging 550 seedling spruce trees to distribute to each 5th grader in the Plymouth Public Schools at Geri Williams' home on **Wednesday, April 24th at 10:00 a.m.** **Please sign up to help out at the meeting or call Geri 508-833-4355 for directions.**

There will be an Arbor Day Tree Planting at Indian Brook Elementary School located at 1181 State Road. Please come help the students pot their trees on **Friday, April 26th at 10:30 a.m.**

Annual June Luncheon: The June 13th annual luncheon will be held at the Plymouth Country Club. Guests will be welcome. Starting time will be 11:30 a.m. The luncheon selections will be **Cranberry Stuffed Baked Chicken at \$27 or Lobster Caesar Salad at \$37.**

May Garden Sale: There are 6 plant sale signs for members to take home and put out in May. They are numbered and please sign the list next to the number if you take a sign at the April meeting.

May 6 Fundraiser: The Plymouth Walking Tours is donating all of their proceeds to the Plymouth Garden Club from their historical walk, **Monday May 6 at 7 pm starting at 126 Main St.** There is a \$10 fee to participate. The walk takes about 90 minutes. Bring yourself, friends, neighbors and relatives for an interesting time.

Garden Therapy: Tues. Apr 23, at 10 a.m. at Plymouth Rehabilitation Center, 123 South St.

Evening Garden Club: Apr. 17th at 7 pm at the Center for Active Living there will be a fundraiser with Brian Leib speaking on orchids. Tickets are \$10 and must be purchased in advance. See Patty O'Brien.

