

The Perennial



2018-2019

Issue 8: April

Website: ArlingtonGarden.org

Facebook: m.facebook.com/arlingtongardenclubma

“Pressed Flower Workshop”

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*The Club’s business meeting will take place first followed by the presentation & workshop.*

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Wednesday, April 10th, 2019 - 10:30 am

St. John’s Episcopal Church 74 Pleasant St. Arlington, MA

After a short presentation by Cheryl Monroe, members can make pressed flower arrangements that will be photographed and then sent back to them to use as notecards. People can bring their own flowers to press or use some provided by the presenter.

Please note: There is a \$6 charge for anyone who would like to participate in the workshop part of the presentation. Please plan to pay by cash. Also, in order to give enough notice to the presenter about supplies, members are asked to **let VP-Programs Nancy Pike know by April 1st** if you would like to participate and if they will need flowers. Call or email Nancy.

Garden Therapy

March's Garden Therapy program was the victim of a late winter snowstorm and had to be postponed.

The next program will be April 1st.

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### Monarchs Love Milkweed – Plant Some Seeds!

The Dallin Elementary School's Go Green Club students have successfully harvested and cold-stratified *Asclepias tuberosa* (Butterfly weed) seeds.

The students have sown several hundred seeds and have many left over to give away.



Go Green Clubs are beneficiaries of the Club's button battery collection and sales.

You can try sowing the seeds outdoors at this point likely to have a low germination rate or indoors. The Go Green students get ~ 80-90% germination.

If you'd like some stratified seeds, please contact Dallin parent [Jeremy Malin](#) and let him know how many seeds you'd like and when you can pick up.

Pick up is near the Dallin School in Arlington Heights.

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EcoWeek

As part of Arlington's EcoWeek, which coincides with Earth Day, the Club has organized a collaborative gardening session for:

Sunday, April 28th – 11 am – 2 pm

Working in the Town Hall Gardens, Club members will be joined in that section of Arlington Center by Friends of Robbins Library and members of the First Parish UU Church.

Wear your new garden gloves ~ Bring tools if you have them ~ Meet near the Whittemore Robbins Carriage House at 11 am or look for gardeners in the Town Hall Gardens.

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### *Dealing with Invasive Plants*

With the gardening season just around the corner it will soon be time to get outside to enjoy your gardens. As gardeners it helps us all to be aware of the existence of invasive plants in our area.

While the problem of invasive species in Massachusetts is large one, we, as home gardeners, can help by removing and controlling any invasive plants in our own gardens. Even if invasive plants were not planted in your garden, they may end up there courtesy of the wind or birds. Watching for and removing these plants when they are new seedlings is a much easier task than dealing with them after a number of years in the ground. This will also prevent them from going to seed and continuing to contaminate the environment near and far.

When choosing new plants for the garden, make sure to check whether or not they are on the invasive plant list. These plants are prohibited from being sold by Massachusetts' nurseries, but it could be that you receive a plant from a friend who is not aware that the plant is an invasive one.

Replacing established invasive plants in your landscape with non-invasive plants may be hard work, but is well worth the effort. Below is a list with photos of the state's most common invasive plants.

#### **Common Invasive Plants in Massachusetts**

Use this guide to help identify and manage common invasive plants in and around your home. See any of these in your garden?



[Autumn Olive](#)



[Black Locust](#)



[Bush Honeysuckle](#)



[Common Barberry](#)



[Goutweed](#)



[Kudzu](#)



[Common Buckthorn](#)



[Hardy Kiwi](#)



[Mile-a-minute Vine](#)



[Common Reed \(Phragmites\)](#)



[Japanese Barberry](#)



[Multiflora Rose](#)



[Dame's Rocket](#)



[Japanese Honeysuckle](#)



[Norway Maple](#)



[Garlic Mustard](#)



[Japanese Knotweed](#)



[Oriental Bittersweet](#)



[Glossy Buckthorn](#)



[Japanese Stilt-grass](#)



[Pepperweed](#)



[Porcelain-berry](#)



[Swallow-wort](#)



[Wild Chervil](#)



[Princess-tree](#)



[Sycamore Maple](#)



[Wineberry](#)



[Purple Loosestrife](#)



[Tree-of-heaven](#)



[Winged Euonymus](#)

For more info go to [Massachusetts Audubon Society](#)

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[Helping to Create Fairy Gardens – bring your contributions](#)

Club member Peggy Gardiner helps children build fairy gardens and houses, and she is seeking your help with these projects...

The Kindergarteners will build the first fairy houses. We are asking people to bring/donate natural materials that are not fresh or green.... Things like cones, interesting toadstools, shiny flat rocks, interesting shaped sticks, pieces of bark.... I did discover that squirrels will eat the acorns so forget those.... I am asking different people because we all look at the world a little differently.... We are also going to start some pollinator gardens hopefully. So if you can ask some of the members of the garden club if they have things, that would be great.



There will be collection containers available at the April meeting for you to deposit any rocks, pine cones, etc. you'd like to donate to Peggy's students.

The Club's Annual Plant Sale - Saturday, May 18th - 9 am - 1 pm

What can you do?

- ~ Split & dig up your plants (call for help if needed) ~*
- ~ Start sorting out your treasures for the Tag Sale ~*
- ~ Bake goodies for the Bake Sale ~*

Arlington Garden Club's
Annual Spring Garden Sale



It's time to start thinking about digging and dividing your donations to this year's Spring Garden Sale. The earlier you divide the plant, the longer the root system will have to recover before the sale. Over the last few years, club members have done a fantastic job of providing fine specimens for us to sell.