

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

December 2018

Dear Friends of Hidden Lake Gardens:

Over the last four years or so, many of our members and visitors have commented on the modifications and improvements made to the beautiful grounds, plant collections, and conservatories of Hidden Lake Gardens. It was founder Harry Fee's vision - and it is our goal - to provide an evolving botanical garden and arboretum so that all visitors will safely enjoy and experience plants, gardens, and nature in the Irish Hills of southeast Michigan. Simultaneously we strive to deliver high-quality educational programs and special events for the benefit and education of the public.

In order to fully achieve and continually sustain these goals, we will modify the admission fee and the membership program of Hidden Lake Gardens. Beginning January of 2019, visitors to HLG will pay a \$5 admission fee (children age four and younger will be admitted free). The current admission fee of \$3 per person has been in place for 18 years, hardly keeping up with the increased cost of operations during that time span. Similarly, membership rates have remained the same for close to the same time frame, so an amended set of membership categories, dues, and benefits are being offered starting January 2019.

As a benefit of membership, all Friends of HLG members will continue to enjoy free admission with every visit. Membership dues will continue to support the ongoing efforts of staff and volunteers to bring visitors enjoyable experiences, high-quality programs, and nationally significant plant collections.

Traditionally, the first Monday of the month is "free admission day" at Hidden Lake Gardens as we offer free access of the grounds, plant collections, and hiking trails to all visitors. That tradition will continue. We will also continue to honor US military active duty and veterans with free or discounted admission on certain US federal holidays.

We are excited about the opportunities we are planning for and embarking upon as we continue to evolve and sustain Hidden Lake Gardens as a great attraction. With your support, Hidden Lake Gardens will continue to be a gem for Lenawee County, the Irish Hills, and southeast Michigan.

With sincere appreciation,



Paul J Pfeifer
Managing Director



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