

MSU IN BLOOM

MSU HORTICULTURE GARDEN NEWS



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GARDEN HAPPENINGS

PLANT SALE

Our Annual Spring Plant Sale. MSU Horticulture Gardens are mostly self-funded. Consider supporting these beautiful gardens to keep them running for many years to come. Don't miss out on the Spring Plant Sale! Be there early for the best selection.

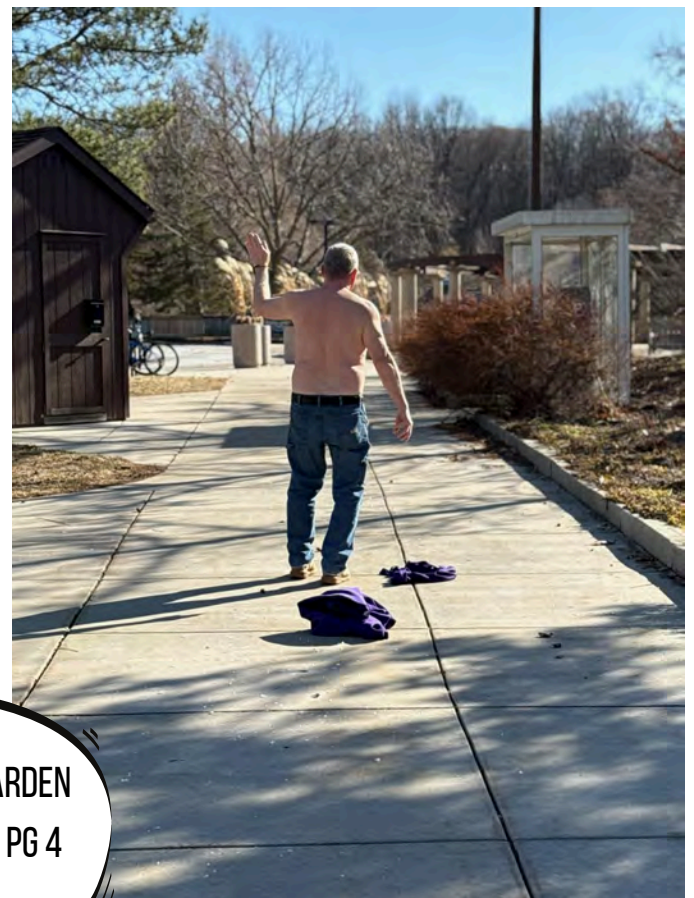
Members: Friday, May 16, 4-7pm
Public: Saturday, May 17, 8am-2pm
1066 Bogue St, East Lansing 48824



RECIPROCAL GARDEN
SPOTLIGHT SEE PG 4

SEYYABYE

“SeeYaBye” is a phrase we have all heard many times from Greenhouse Manager Dan Bulkowski. After working __ years, Dan has officially retired. While he will be greatly missed, we wish him all the best in the next chapter of his story.



Spring Plant Sale

Members

Public

Garden Information Booth Open

May 16

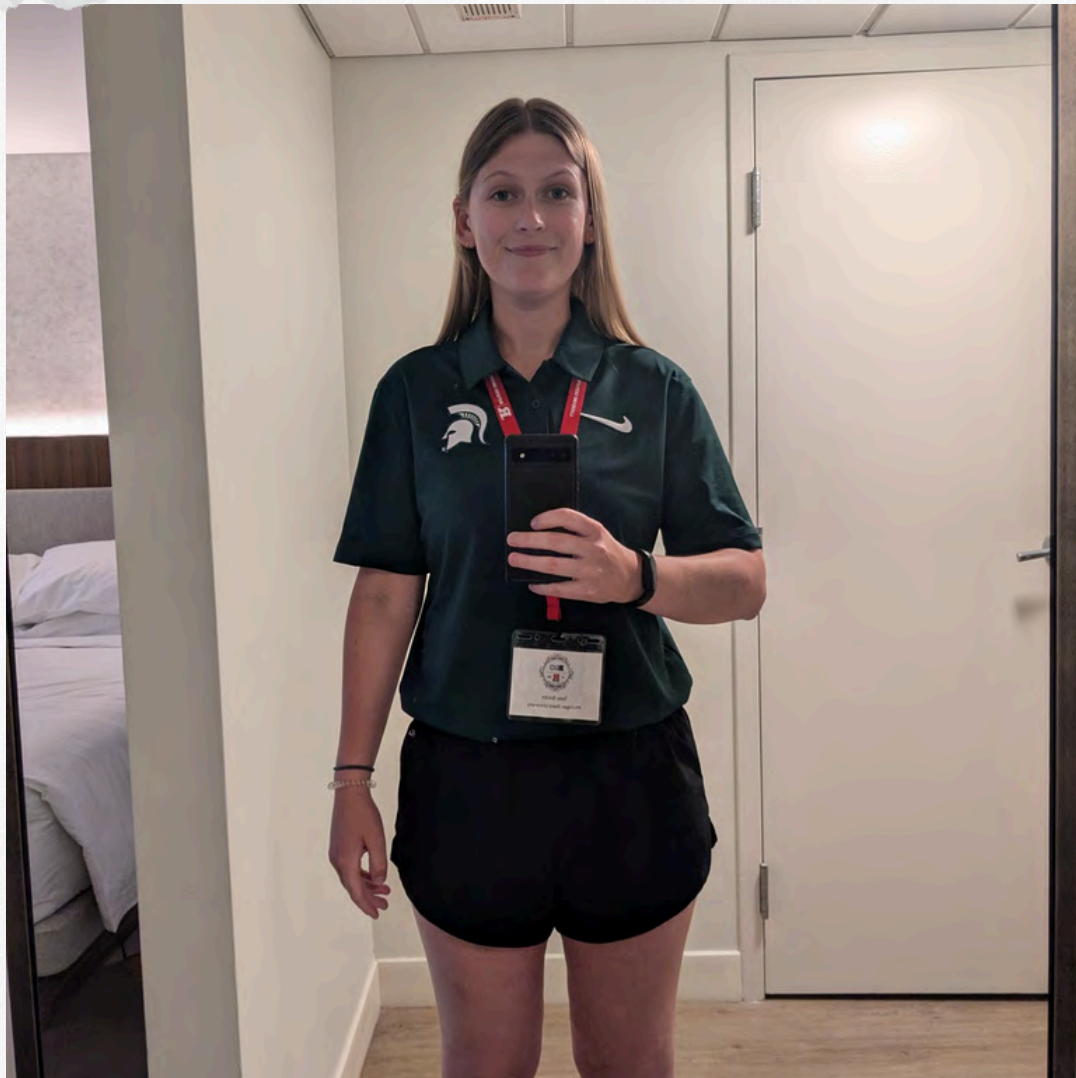
May 17

Tuesday-Thursday, June 3-August 28

Hello i'm tes Smith

MSU Horticulture
Gardens: South Gardens
Manager

My Hobby's



About Me

I am new to the MSU Horticulture Gardens team this year! I am very excited to be the new South Gardens Manager, caring for the Michigan 4-H Children's Garden and the Judith A. De Lapa Perennial Garden. My hobbies include club sports, spending time with my family & friends, and spending time outdoors.



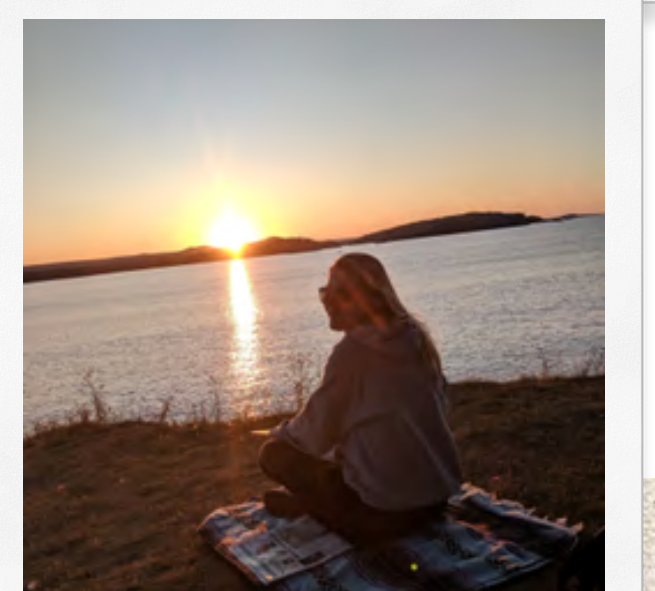
Soccer



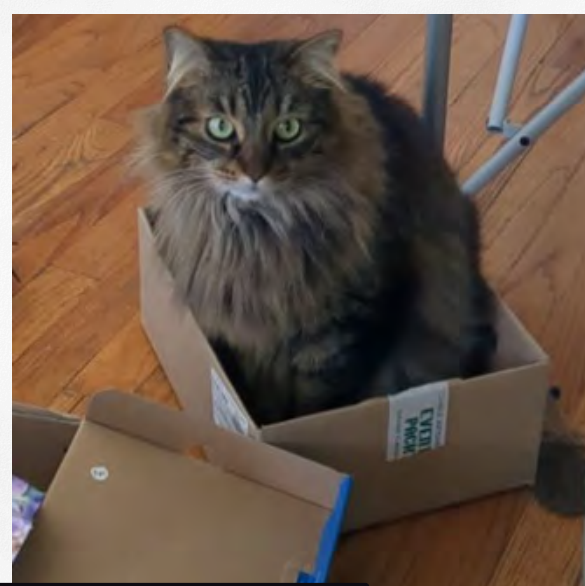
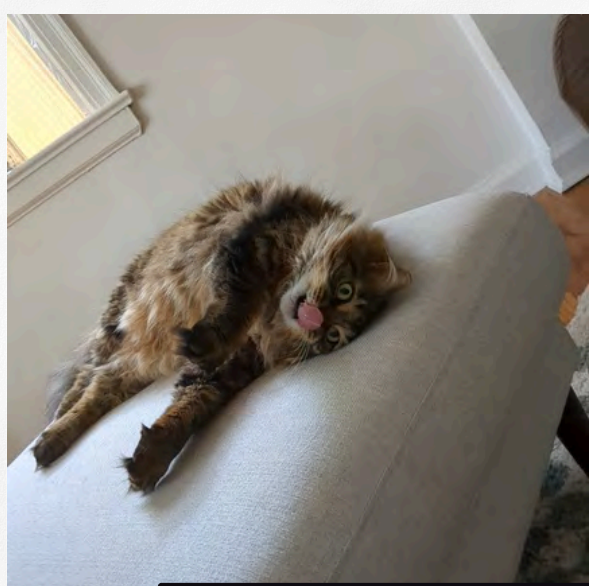
Having fun with friends



Dodgeball!



Being outside



My Pet Cat

Lizzy-Beans!

Fun Facts

Northern Michigan
University Alumni

Worked for MSU IPF
Landscape before coming
to the gardens



FAMILY PROGRAMS SPRING & SUMMER 2025

SUMMER FUN SERIES

Butterfly Day

April 19 from 10 a.m.–noon

Join us in celebrating another exciting season of “Butterflies in the Garden.” Come and explore the secret life of butterflies in the Indoor 4-H Children’s Garden. We will discover the amazing butterfly life cycle, create butterfly gardens to take home and much more. **\$5 per child.**

Garden Geocache Event

June 7 from 10 a.m.–1 p.m.

Cache veterans and new enthusiasts are welcome at this geocaching adventure. Bring your picnic lunch and enjoy a day of caching in the gardens. We will be finding new caches, trading travel bugs, exploring the gardens and much more. **FREE.**

Fairy and Elves Garden Party

June 17 from 10 am-noon

Wear your fanciest fairy and elf attire and come for a party in the garden. We will be making fairy houses, designing our own wands, playing garden games and much more. **\$5 per child.***

Digger Day

June 24 from 10 a.m.–noon

Come to the garden and explore the world of diggers. Front end loaders, dump trucks and back hoes – all of these tools help with projects both big and small in our communities. MSU Infrastructure Planning and Facilities will bring some of MSU’s biggest and best equipment to the garden for us to explore. We will also have activities and crafts. Come ready to dig and get dirty at this event! **\$5 per child.***

Bubble Day

July 17 from 10 a.m.–noon

Come and enjoy the fun of summer at the garden with bubbles! As we explore the wonderful world of bubbles we will make bubble wands, create bubble art and much more! Don’t forget to invite your friends and family to come to this bubblicious bash! **\$5 per child.***

Bug Day

July 24 from 10 a.m.–noon

We cannot get enough of these amazing six-legged friends! Join us for what has become an annual tribute to insects in the gardens. We will be collecting bugs, observing bugs and even making bugs! Our friends from the MSU Bug House will be back this year with their amazing collections of insects from all over the world! **\$5 per child.***

Beach Day

August 14 from 10 a.m.–noon

Come celebrate the end of summer vacation at the garden with a day at the beach! We will be making sand castles, painting shells, playing beach games and much more. Bring your beach towel and suit and come ready to get wet. **\$5 per child.***

**Be sure to
register early!**

Register at
www.4hgarden.msu.edu

*Event cost does not include parking.

CURIOSITY CAMPS

Garden Writers Workshop July 8-10 from 10 a.m.-noon

Young writers will learn about the wonderful world of writing in the garden. Using the garden as their inspiration, campers will connect writing to nature by creating poems, stories, plays and much more. Ages 7 and up. (Limited to 24 participants). **Registration required. \$65 for all three days.***

Be sure to
register early!

Register at
www.4hgarden.msu.edu

Stories for Sprouts & Seedlings from 10-11 a.m.

This program is designed especially for young children, ages 0-4, to experience the wonders of gardening and fun through stories and hands-on projects. **FREE.***

June 11 — *Hello, Little One: A Monarch Butterfly Story* by Zeena M. Pliska

June 25 — *Worm Weather* by Jean Taft

July 9 — *It Starts With a Seed* by Laura Knowles

July 23 — *Mushrooms Know* by Kallie George

August 13 — *The Honeybee* by Kristen Hall

Camp Monet

July 29-July 31 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Young artists will love spending three days in the gardens creating marvelous projects. Campers will use inspiration from the garden to make projects that involve sketching, painting, sculpting, dying, weaving and much more! Lunch will not be provided, so please bring a lunch each day. We will eat together in the garden. Ages 7 and up. (Limited to 24 participants). **Registration required. \$95 for all three days.***

SPLENDID STORIES

Stories in the Garden

June 18 from 10-11:30 a.m.

July 16 from 7-8:30 p.m.

August 6 from 10-11:30 a.m.

Teens will be reading stories to younger children — a magical time of fun and learning. Great for kids 0 to 100! **FREE.***

Stories in the Garden is a partnership between the East Lansing Public Library and the Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens. Interested teen readers should contact the East Lansing Public Library directly at elpl.org or by phone (517) 351-2420. Sign up to be a reader soon!

IMPORTANT PARKING NOTE

Visitors during the week needing to park on campus will have a parking fee in addition to any registration cost to attend the event. You must park in a space designated as a "Pay by Plate" parking space. Signage has been installed in these areas. Parking spaces not marked as "Pay by Plate" may be reserved for faculty/staff permit parking. Parking in a space not designated as "Pay by Plate" parking may result in a parking violation. Immediately after parking, enter your license plate number and payment into the lot's SPOTON pay station or via the MSU SPOTON app. Pay stations accept cash payment or credit cards. They do not give change back nor are refunds issued for time paid for, but not used.

*Event cost does not include parking.



Staff Plant Sale Picks

THESE ARE A FEW OF THE MUST SEE PLANTS AT THE 2025 PLANT SALE



Coleus Kong Jr.™
Lime Vein



Dichondra
'Silver Falls'



SunPatiens®
Tropical Salmon



TOMATO, Kitchen Minis®
Red Velvet Hybrid



Basil
'Pesto Perpetuo'



Chocolate Mint



Iris pseudata 'Eye Liner'



Paeonia 'Bartzella'



Clematis 'Rain Dance'

2024 VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

BY BRIAN GAYHEART, ARBORETUM MANAGER

Dr. Perry grew up in a fruit orchard operation in the Santa Clara Valley of California and received his BS in Fruit Science at Cal Poly and a Masters and PhD in Horticulture at Texas A&M. While at Texas A&M, he focused on viticulture for research projects where he identified wine grape growing regions, conducted grape variety and rootstock trials and studied root dynamics of Vitis. While on faculty at Texas A&M, he also taught courses over 5 years in Deciduous Tree Fruit Production, Advanced Deciduous Tree Fruit Production, Citrus and Avocado Production, Tropical Horticulture and Plant Propagation laboratories. His work began at MSU in 1980 where he focused on rootstocks, soils and

high-density systems for tree fruit. He served as Executive Secretary of the International Dwarf Fruit Association for 4 years and coordinated the Michigan Hort Society Fruit programs for 5 years. He created the MSU Fruit Schools and taught or organized lectures for over 800 Midwestern fruit growers over 10 years. He also served as Chairperson of the Department of Horticulture from 2000-2007. He returned to the department in 2008 where he conducted research and extension responsibilities in Orchard and Vineyard Technology. He taught or co-taught four courses which include; HRT 430 Exploring Wines and Vines (developed), HRT 336 Viticulture and Berry Production (developed and co-taught), HRT 332 Tree Fruit Production (co-taught), and HRT 206 (co-taught) Training and Pruning Plants. He co-authored an electronic textbook to support the wine course “Wine and Other Hospitality Beverages”, 4th Edition, Great Rivers Technology, Dubuque, IA 9781644965115. In retirement, Dr. Perry co-authored an el-



ectronic and print copy publication of “Espalier Fruit Plantings for Northern Gardens; Creating Fruit Trees as Art”. Along with co-author, Kristin Getter, they published the book so that all royalties go to the operating budget. We have accrued over \$3200 since first publishing the book in 2021.

Ron is an outstanding volunteer and we congratulate him on being named the 2024 Volunteer of the Year.

COASTAL GEORGIA BOTANICAL GARDENS @ THE HISTORIC BAMBOO FARM

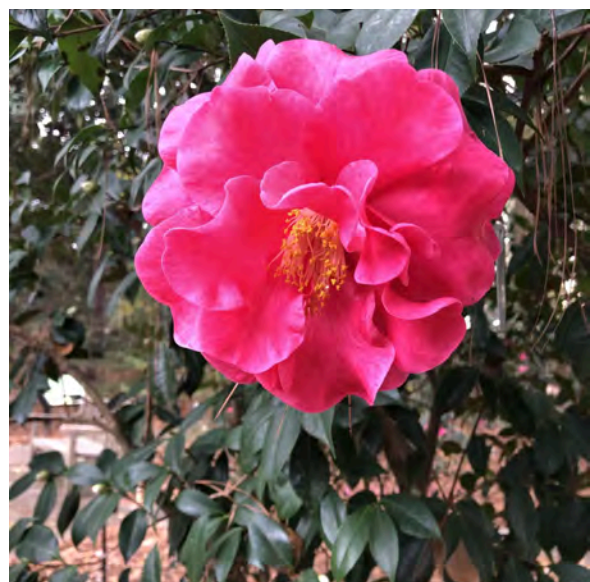
The Coastal Georgia Botanical Gardens at the Historic Bamboo Farm is one of Savannah's hidden treasures. The garden's ADA-accessible paths offer year-round opportunities to explore, relax and enjoy nature. Located only 20 minutes from downtown Savannah, the 51-acre garden was established as a U.S. Department of Agriculture Plant Introduction Station in 1919. The USDA acquired the family farm because of its thriving 1-acre grove of Japanese timber bamboo. The initial objective was to assemble as many bamboo species as possible, build up permanent plantings of them, and propagate bamboo for distribution throughout the South. Currently, the historic bamboo collection includes more than 70 species and a Bamboo Maze.

The USDA's secondary objective for the new station was to test a wide range of plants for economic potential. Thanks to the USDA's endeavors from 1919 to 1979, plants from all over the world can be found in the garden's unique collections, including several trees and shrubs which are one-of-a-kind in the U.S. Six state champion trees - the largest known trees of their kind in Georgia - are located on the property. In 1984, the property was deeded to the University of Georgia College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences for research and education initiatives. In 2012, renamed the Coastal Georgia Botanical Gardens, the focus shifted from research to research-based public education. A major expansion in 2015 added gardens featuring plants which thrive in coastal Georgia. The diversity of species is a plant lovers' delight. The best analogy is a 'grandpa garden' and 'toddler garden' hanging out together.

Late fall and winter are ideal times to visit, when a stroll through the Camellia Trail is a sensory delight and source of amazement. Camellias, ranked as one of the best flowering shrubs, are cherished for their awe-inspiring blooms, lush evergreen foliage and compact growing habit. They bloom profusely for weeks from fall to spring. The garden's internationally recognized collection has 36 species and over 500 different cultivars. It is one of the most diverse and unique collections in North America and is listed in the American Camellia Society, American Camellia Trail Gardens - Coast to Coast Camellias.

The Coastal Georgia Botanical Garden is also listed as a bird biodiversity hotspot by eBird, a project of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology.

For more information visit: coastalbg.uga.edu



New 4-H Children's Gardens Fund Remembers Cass County 4-H Alumna and Teacher; Endows Educational Coordinator Position



Cass County 4-H alumna Sarah Proctor was a dedicated and talented elementary school teacher for Dowagiac Union Schools for almost 20 years. After losing Sarah tragically in a car accident on Dec. 2, 2022, her parents Terry and Pamela Proctor established the Sarah L. Proctor Educational Endowment at the 4-H Children's Gardens to honor her legacy. "The 4-H Children's Gardens combine three key aspects of Sarah's life: childhood education, 4-H and MSU," said Matt Proctor, Sarah's brother. "Sarah had a strong passion for educating and helping children to grow and develop."

Opened in 1993, the Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens was the first garden in the United States developed specifically for the education of young children on a university campus. Funding for the Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens is provided by the Michigan 4-H Foundation, through the generosity of donors. Growing up, Sarah attended Edwardsburg Public Schools, the Berrien County Math and Science Center and earned two degrees from MSU – a bachelor's degree in child development and a master's degree in education. A second-grade teacher at Justus Gage Elementary School, she taught and mentored over 400 students in her classroom. She remained connected to 4-H, Cass County Fair, Love of God (LOGmichiana), her church and many other community organizations. "One of Sarah's goals as a teacher included offering real-world experiential learning to her students," continued Matt. "Learning by doing was an important component in her lesson planning. Hands-on activities and local field trips to reinforce classroom learning were integral parts of her lessons."



During her 4-H and college years, Sarah and her mother would often visit the Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens. Upon her passing, Terry and Pamela created the endowment for the gardens to provide a lasting memory of Sarah in a place she loved. The endowment supports the education coordinator position at the Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens. By creating this endowment, they hope to continue Sarah's passion for children's education and provide a legacy which impacts the lives of students and the MSU community by benefiting area children for years to come.



“We feel this endowment is a meaningful way to help to carry on Sarah's legacy of positively affecting the education of children through real-world learning. 4-H was also an important part of Sarah – both as a participant, and later as an adult volunteer – so education at the 4-H Gardens seems a wonderful way to combine interests important to Sarah during her life,” said Matt.

An endowment is a perpetual fund that is invested. While the corpus is held intact and continues to grow, the investment earnings from the fund are used to support 4-H programs – in this case the 4-H Children's Gardens. Endowments provide a source of stable income for nonprofit organizations. They can be funded by a variety of assets, including cash, property or securities. Planned or estate gifts can also help grow endowments. “Endowed support helps to ensure the future of hands-on science education in the Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens and provides a stable environment where both students and educators can learn and grow,” said Jessica Wright, Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens education coordinator. “It is such a privilege to work with people like the Proctors that share a common vision for education. It is donors that build the community and give us the means to share our passions.”

To view the full article click [here](#)

MSU Horticulture Gardens Membership Perks



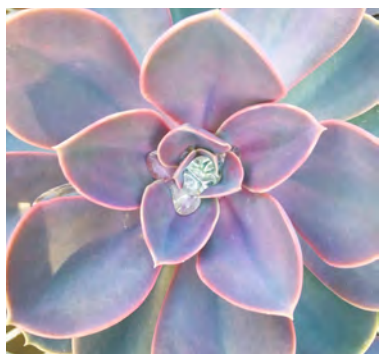
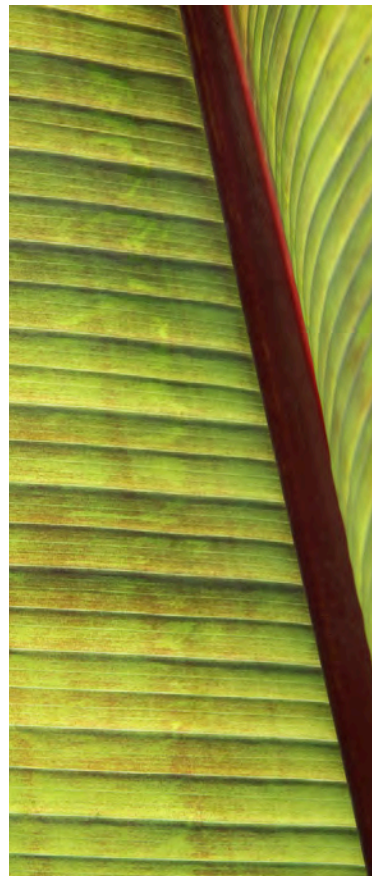
10% Off Plant Sales

Members not only get 10% at our spring plant sale but also our fall and poinsettia sales!



Free admission and exclusive discounts to over 300 gardens

As a garden member you can enjoy exclusive discounts and free admission to gardens throughout the US.



VIP Early Plant Sale access

Members get to enjoy the best selections and get a first look at both spring and fall sales.



Discounts on all Hort Gardens Educational Programs

Members will receive discounts on educational programs including Curious Gardener, lectures and more.

More Perks!

- Family membership and above receive Special invitation (for two) to our Annual VIP Wine and Chocolate Donor Reception
- Contributors enjoy 5 free 2-hour parking permits
- Patrons enjoy free parking during the garden season and a free 4"x8" commemorative brick place in the garden on your behalf

To purchase a 2026 Membership and learn more visit www.hrt.msu.edu/join
