

JENKINS



Summer + Fall 2024

Semi-annual news, education, and events at Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens





MISSION & VISION

Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens celebrates the wonder of plants and place as a destination for education, conservation, and community connection.

Our vision as defined by the will of H. Lawrence Jenkins states that Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens is to be developed as a public park, arboretum, and wildlife sanctuary for the use of the public and responsible organizations engaged in the study of arboriculture, horticulture and wildlife, for educational and scientific purposes.

Cover photo: Liz Pettit

Photo contributors: Laura Ducceschi, Liz Pettit, and Chris Swisher

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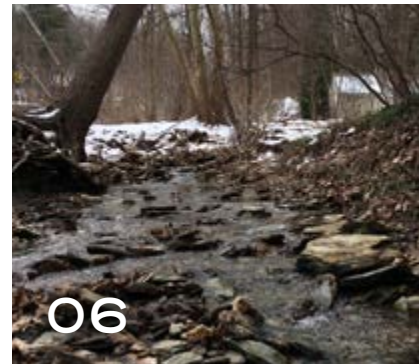
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**FINDING OUR FLOW:
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT
PLANNING AT JENKINS**



POND CONTAINER GARDENS



WINTER LUMINARY NIGHTS



WORKING WITH NATURE

Dear Jenkins family & friends,

I love watching documentaries about space discoveries. One thing all scientists say in these shows is how the presence of water on a planet is essential for life to be possible. Here on our living planet, we take for granted this abundant molecule. Two very common elements that typically exist as gases, hydrogen and oxygen, bond together to form a substance that can exist as gas, liquid, and solid—sometimes all at once!

As a public garden in a temperate climate, we rely on periodic rain and snow to hydrate the soil and allow our plants to flourish. Water moves throughout our landscape at Jenkins in a small unnamed tributary that flows into Trout Creek and eventually into the Schuylkill River north of King of Prussia. A small portion of water from this stream is diverted into our pond, which was constructed in the early 1970s. This pond expanded on the efforts of one of our founders, H. Lawrence Jenkins, who commissioned several small ponds near the Jenkins House to host his beloved waterfowl. Today, the pond provides habitat to all manner of wildlife, from mallard ducks to dragonflies.

As gardeners, we know that the overabundance or lack of water can

bring problems. In periods of drought, our garden soil dries out quickly. We are fortunate at Jenkins to have a well that supplies irrigation throughout the gardens, creating artificial rainfall that keeps the soil moist and enables our plant collections to survive. At other times, severe storms dump inches of rain in bursts. The stormwater rushes so quickly down the hillside at Jenkins that it cannot soak into the ground, often skidding across impervious surfaces and causing damage

The presence of water on a planet is essential for life to be possible. Here on our living planet, we take for granted this abundant molecule.

along the way. Over the past six or more years, we have seen these storms increase in intensity, causing damage throughout the gardens and the surrounding region. I am awed—and a bit frightened—by the

power of water during these storms!

We love water and its ability to nourish us, provide beauty, and keep our entire ecological community thriving. But the force of water during a storm can quickly alter our landscape and cause destruction. In the pages that follow, we celebrate water and the life it gives, and explore ways we can work with nature to be part of the solution to managing our environmental challenges.

Always growing,

Tom Smarr
Executive Director

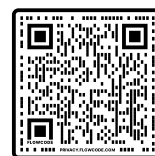
IDEAs into Action

Every year, Jenkins welcomes 85,000+ visitors to the gardens, each with their own interests, experiences, and abilities. Each unique visitor presents an opportunity to extend an equally unique invitation to experience all that makes Jenkins special. We strongly believe that every visitor should feel welcome in our gardens. Our 2023–2027 Strategic Plan articulates this commitment with our goal of “inviting more, and more diverse, people into our garden and community” through increased accessibility.

We recently made progress on this goal by participating in a one-year program administered by The IDEA Center for Public Gardens™. A collaboration between Denver Botanic Gardens and the American Public Gardens Association, The IDEA Center was founded to increase *Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access* at botanical gardens, arboreta, and public parks across the globe. From April 2023–May 2024, Jenkins took part in The IDEA Center’s Cohort Program, an “initiative that empowers, educates, and builds support for public gardens to enrich their knowledge of IDEA principles and

activate intention.” Team members from Jenkins joined representatives from 11 gardens across the United States and Scotland including Santa Barbara Botanic Garden in California, Madison Square Park Conservancy in New York, Wellesley College Botanic Gardens in Massachusetts, and Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh in Scotland for monthly, virtual, instructor-led learning and discussion focused on disability, LGBTQ+, and indigenous inclusion, in addition to other topics.

A main component of the Cohort Program was planning and launching an inclusion initiative at our home institutions. For our project, the team from Jenkins created expanded resources for neurodivergent visitors, including those on the autism spectrum. Through this project, we have increased pre-visit information on our website, incorporated staff training on welcoming neurodivergent visitors, and now offer free-to-borrow sensory backpacks filled with tools to make visits calm and enjoyable. Accessibility at Jenkins is an ongoing journey, and we are excited about this latest initiative to increase a sense of welcome for all our visitors.



LEARN MORE

Scan to check out Jenkins' accessibility webpage.

Finding our Flow: Stormwater Management Planning at Jenkins

Water can be a gardener's best friend or worst enemy, depending on the day. Our gardens could not exist without water, but too much rainfall can wreak havoc! Jenkins is not immune to the woes of water in the garden; the effect of stormwater runoff remains one of our most pressing and persistent challenges. A changing climate has brought a change in the frequency and severity of storms, resulting in increased stormwater runoff. In addition, Jenkins is situated in an area of increasingly dense suburban development. Each new driveway, roof, parking lot, and patio creates a new impervious barrier, preventing rainfall from naturally soaking into the ground to be slowly released back into local waterways. Rising rainfall paired with increased impervious surfaces has resulted in severe flooding, erosion, and damage in our gardens, along our stream, and throughout the surrounding region.

For many years, we have been observing and documenting the damaging effects of stormwater runoff at Jenkins. The hillside at Jenkins slopes down to an unnamed tributary of Trout Creek. Although this incline creates the conditions for a uniquely beautiful garden, it also creates the conditions for uniquely damaging flows of water during storms. We were quite literally losing ground in this battle! Through a comprehensive master planning process, our board and staff prioritized creating a stormwater management strategy to mitigate further damage to the gardens and the stream.

Solutions to stormwater issues can be complicated and expensive, so it was critical that we spend the time needed to fully understand the issue and plan carefully for positive progress. In 2021, a supporter of Jenkins with a deep love for ecological horticulture and a thoughtful eye for the future presented us with a generous gift to fund our work with Meliora Design, a Phoenixville-based civil and water resources engineering firm. After a detailed site analysis, Meliora provided Jenkins with a thorough stormwater management and stream restoration plan to guide our future work. This plan described several prioritized phases of work along with estimated pricing, beginning uphill

from Jenkins' property, running all the way down 1,390 linear feet of stream to the intersection of Devon State Road and Berwyn Baptist Road.

As is the case with many environmental issues, the problem—and the solution—will involve a swath of land much larger than Jenkins' 48-acre property, and a budget far beyond what our normal operating budget could support. The work described in the stormwater management plan requires creative partnerships and substantial funding, which will result in noticeable reduction of stormwater on our site and in the communities downstream from Jenkins. To accomplish each phase of the stormwater management plan, Jenkins is forging strong partnerships with local government, engineering firms, and other area nonprofits. Notably, Tredyffrin Township has emerged as a vigorous advocate for our stormwater work and an incredible partner as they secure public funding for joint projects, offer extensive expertise, and provide a more expansive and regional view of the issues facing the residents of the township.

Several phases of the stormwater management plan are currently underway as we continue our work with Tredyffrin Township, PennDOT, Hunt Valley



The small creek running through Jenkins' property is overwhelmed with surging runoff during storms, resulting in damaging floods and erosion, as displayed in these photos.



Environmental, and others. Through each phase of our stormwater management project, we hope to share our challenges and successes with visitors, followers, peers, and supporters so that our findings can encourage and enlighten others in our region and beyond, resulting in decisions that benefit humans, plants, wildlife, and waterways.

As gardeners, we know that landscapes are always in flux and our work to manage stormwater runoff will never be fully complete. Even so, we are excited to make progress in the years to come and are encouraged by the partners who have joined us in this work. We are just beginning our stormwater journey here at Jenkins, and we hope you will follow along as we share updates in the years to come!

Selecting Plants for Soggy Soil

We all have that one tricky spot in our garden where water lingers too long after a rainstorm. It can be disheartening to watch a beloved plant struggle in wet, poorly drained soil despite your best efforts. Fortunately, when we pay attention to nature's clues, we can easily transform problem areas into beautiful, thriving gardens.

The natural landscape is filled with distinct habitats, each populated by their own cadre of specialists—organisms that have evolved to thrive in their own niche, however harsh the conditions may be. By working with nature and selecting plants best suited to the conditions of an existing site (namely, the sunlight, soil, and moisture levels), gardeners can nurture landscapes that provide functional, ecological, and aesthetic value.

FUNCTIONAL VALUE

Many plants have adapted to develop robust root systems, despite growing in saturated soils. Not only do these root systems suck up water through the process of transpiration, but they simultaneously hold the soil in place, preventing or slowing erosion. Trees that are particularly well-adapted to soggy soils include American sycamore, Eastern cottonwood, silver maple, and many of the oak species.

Erosion control can be attained by adding much smaller plants as well. While the colonizing nature of some native perennials and shrubs might be a downside in certain areas of the garden, these shameless spreaders are perfect for developing a stabilizing network of roots in an area prone to erosion. Minimize erosion and stabilize soil by planting redbud, dogwood, summersweet, white meadowsweet, pickerelweed, irises, or obedient plant.

ECOLOGICAL VALUE

Not only do plants adapted for wet soils provide functional benefits, many also increase the ecological value of a landscape. When selecting new plants to add to the gardens at Jenkins, we always consider the benefits each plant will offer to the bees, butterflies, and birds who call the gardens home. Bring this practice to your own landscape by considering what a plant will offer wildlife seasonally, as well as in the different stages and phases of their lifecycles.

Butterflies benefit from host plants like oaks or Eastern cottonwood when looking for places to lay their eggs, while other plants provide rich nectar sources, such as New York ironweed or Joe Pye weed. Others, such as swamp milkweed and swamp goldenrod, are recognized as ecological all-stars, pulling double duty as both hosts and nectar sources for butterflies. To attract and nourish bees, add plants that offer both pollen and nectar, such as summersweet, purple-stemmed aster, swamp goldenrod, white meadowsweet, and pickerelweed. For our feathered friends, remember to incorporate plants that provide different types of food in different seasons, such as winterberry holly (fruits), river birch (seeds), common elderberry (fruits), oaks (insects), or inkberry (fruits).

AESTHETIC VALUE

At Jenkins, we practice environmental horticulture, which means we pursue the art and science of growing plants for the mutual benefit of humans, wildlife, and ecosystems. Our aim is to create spaces that are functionally valuable, ecologically beneficial, and beautiful in all four seasons. Many of the plants recommended for waterlogged locations can provide the texture, fragrance, and color that come together to create an attractive space. Plants like summersweet and sweetbay magnolia offer enchanting fragrance in spring, while swamp rose mallow, Joe Pye weed, great blue lobelia, and swamp goldenrod provide bold pops of color later in summer. Come autumn, river birch, Eastern larch, red maple, baldcypress, red chokeberry, and Virginia sweetspire are ablaze with red, orange, and yellow foliage.

By working in harmony with nature to select plants that are well-adapted to wet conditions, you can transform a trouble spot in the landscape into a thriving garden that boasts high ecological value and multiple seasons of interest.



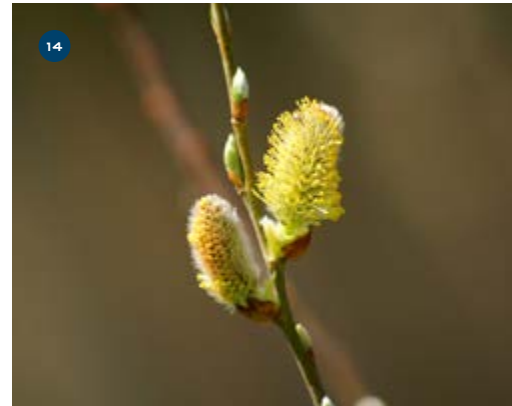


TREES

1. American sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*)
2. Baldcypress (*Taxodium distichum*)
3. Eastern cottonwood (*Populus deltoides*)
4. Eastern larch (*Larix laricina*)
5. Red maple (*Acer rubrum*)
6. River birch (*Betula nigra*)
7. Silver maple (*Acer saccharinum*)
8. Swamp chestnut oak (*Quercus michauxii*)
9. Swamp white oak (*Quercus bicolor*)
10. Sweetbay magnolia (*Magnolia virginiana*)

SHRUBS

11. Buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*)
12. Common elderberry (*Sambucus canadensis*)
13. Inkberry (*Ilex glabra*)
14. Pussy willow (*Salix discolor*)
15. Red chokeberry (*Aronia arbutifolia*)
16. Redtwig dogwood (*Cornus sericea*)
17. Summersweet (*Clethra alnifolia*)
18. Virginia sweetspire (*Itea virginica*)
19. White meadowsweet (*Spiraea alba*)
20. Winterberry holly (*Ilex verticillata*)



PERENNIALS

21. Great blue lobelia (*Lobelia siphilitica*)
22. Irises (*Iris fulva* [pictured], *Iris versicolor*, *Iris virginiana*)
23. Joe Pye weed (*Eutrochium dubium*, *Eutrochium maculatum*)
24. New York ironweed (*Vernonia noveboracensis*)
25. Obedient plant (*Physostegia virginiana*)
26. Pickerelweed (*Pontederia cordata*)
27. Purple-stemmed aster (*Symphotrichum puniceum*)
28. Swamp goldenrod (*Solidago patula*)
29. Swamp milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*)
30. Swamp rose mallow (*Hibiscus moscheutos*)

Hamilton Horticulture Apprenticeship Updates

The Hamilton Horticulture Apprenticeship, formerly the Hamilton Educational Fellowship, provides an immersive experience for emerging professionals to acquire specialized skills and practical knowledge that benefit them in pursuit of a career in horticulture and environmental fields. Every year, Jenkins undergoes a transition as we say farewell to graduating Apprentices, and welcome new additions to the horticulture team.



OUTGOING APPRENTICES

Liesl Barkman (left) arrived at Jenkins in early spring of 2022 while the trout lilies were blooming. Her passion for a broad array of environmental causes led her to work on a variety of projects at Jenkins including collecting data in the floodplain on rainfall and stormwater erosion, designing a garden for seed-eating birds, and creating an Integrated Pest Management manual. Liesl will be attending Temple University in the fall for a Master of Landscape Architecture degree.

Nate Braddock (right) came to Jenkins in 2023 and quickly jumped into the hustle and bustle of spring. His deep interest in rare plants led him to reimagine the space below the dawn redwood at the outer pond loop. After careful research, he created a design that adds new color and vibrancy to the space and includes a row of shrubs to buffer noise from the nearby road. Nate will be continuing as a horticulturist in the Collections section at the U.S. Botanic Gardens in Washington, D.C.

Join us in thanking our Apprentices and wishing them luck for their flourishing careers!

INCOMING APPRENTICES

Julia Matthews (left) grew up in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, where she developed a love for plants from the colors, palettes, and textures pictured in gardening magazines. After earning a Bachelor of Environmental Science from the University of New Hampshire, she worked in a community vegetable garden, a salt marsh, and at Longwood Gardens. In her free time, she can be found playing frisbee with her rescue pitbull, looking for sea glass, or visiting gardens around the country.

Riley Callow (right) grew up in Kansas City, Missouri and Seattle, Washington. Recently, while serving as a community gardener with AmeriCorps, he realized that he loves sharing his knowledge with the public as much as he loves native plants. Gardening alongside many diverse communities taught Riley the importance of preserving the unique relationships between culturally significant plants and the people that grow them—a passion he hopes to share at Jenkins. In his free time, Riley enjoys photography, painting, reading, watching movies, and trying out new recipes.

Be sure to say “Hi!” to these new faces when you see them around the garden!

Pond Container Gardens

Not all of us have ponds on our property, or even the space for one, but you can still create a mini-aquatic habitat with a pond container garden! Below we share tips for creating and maintaining your very own pond-in-a-pot. Here's what you'll need:

- › *A wide, watertight container at least 18" deep*
- › *Water-loving plants in plastic pots*
- › *Soil medium mixed for aquatic habitats*
- › *Rocks or bricks*
- › *Access to water*
- › *A location with morning sun and afternoon shade*

There are two types of plants you might grow in your container pond. Aquatic

plants grow fully submerged in water or floating on the surface. Emergent plants grow in shallow water with submerged roots and stems/leaves that extend out of the water. Try a combination of both types in your container! Start with 2–3 plants to avoid overcrowding this small, aquatic environment.

It is easiest to maintain a small pond when all your plants are in plastic pots. Pot plants with their crowns just above the soil level. When you pot up your plants, use heavy, clay topsoil from your garden or commercial water garden soil mixes. Make your own by combining 2 parts compost-free loam topsoil with 1 part pool filter sand. It is important to avoid soil with organic matter like compost or

peat as these will float and decay in the water. You'll also need to remove any dead leaves during the season before they rot.

Place your container in a level area where it will get bright sun throughout most of the day with some afternoon shade. Fill your container with water and let it sit for at least two days to condition the water. Place your potted aquatic plants first, setting them at the bottom of the container. Next, add bricks or rocks to position your emergent plants on top at the proper depth. Finish by adding any floating aquatic plants and oxygenators. You can also place rocks above the water line or outside of your container to serve as a perch for thirsty birds or stairs for frogs. Enjoy your pond all summer long!

Native Water-Loving Plants for Pond Containers

PLANT NAME	PLANTING DEPTH	BENEFITS
AMERICAN WATERLILY <i>Nymphaea odorata</i>	Aquatic 18–24" below surface	Floating leaves are complemented by fragrant white flowers. Attractive to bees and humans alike!
HORNWORT <i>Ceratophyllum demersum</i>	Aquatic 18–24" below surface	Whorls of thin leaves stay entirely submerged underwater. Adds oxygen and helps to keep algae at bay.
PICKERELWEED <i>Pontederia cordata</i>	Emergent 3–6" below surface	Arrow-shaped leaves stand tall above the water's surface. Bumblebees can't resist the spikes of blue blooms.
NORTHERN BLUE FLAG <i>Iris versicolor</i>	Emergent 2–4" below surface	Large, violet flowers stand above graceful, strappy foliage. Nectar source for hummingbirds and butterflies.
CORKSCREW RUSH <i>Juncus effusus</i> 'Spiralis'	Emergent 1–6" below surface	Vibrant green, leafless stems twist and curl out of the water to form a mound of alien spirals.
CARDINAL FLOWER <i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>	Emergent 1–4" below surface	This hummingbird magnet blooms in spikes of bright red flowers held atop long, sturdy stems.



Programs at a Glance

- GARDENING & NATURE
- WELLNESS
- ART & PHOTOGRAPHY

- SPECIAL EVENT
- THIRD THURSDAY LECTURE
- YOUTH PROGRAM

<p>6/22 Seeking Art in Nature: Photography by David Hucker (6/22-9/22) 9:00 AM-4:00 PM</p> <p>6/23 Opening Reception for Seeking Art in Nature: Photography by David Hucker 2:00-4:00 PM</p> <p>7/1 Arbo-READ-um Kick-Off ALL DAY</p> <p>7/3 Tai Chi Series (7/3-7/17) 3-WEEK SERIES 9:30-10:30 AM</p> <p>7/8 Mindful Yoga (7/8-8/12) 6-WEEK SERIES 6:00-7:15 PM</p> <p>7/9 Sidewalk Chalk Walk (All Ages) 9:30 AM-12:00 PM Summer Storytime (All Ages) 10:00-10:30 AM</p> <p>7/11 Mindful Yoga (7/11-8/15) 6-WEEK SERIES 9:30-10:45 AM Member Sip 'n Stroll (Patron Level and above) 5:00-7:00 PM</p> <p>7/16 Sidewalk Chalk Walk (All Ages) 9:30 AM-12:00 PM Summer Storytime (All Ages) 10:00-10:30 AM</p> <p>7/18 Arbo-READ-um Author Lecture: Slow Birding 7:00-8:30 PM</p> <p>7/20 Arbo-READ-um Guided Bird Walk 8:00-9:30 AM</p>	<p>7/23 Sidewalk Chalk Walk (All Ages) 9:30 AM-12:00 PM Summer Storytime (All Ages) 10:00-10:30 AM</p> <p>7/25 Pond Pals (Ages 2+) 10:00-10:45 AM</p> <p>7/30 Sidewalk Chalk Walk (All Ages) 9:30 AM-12:00 PM Summer Storytime (All Ages) 10:00-10:30 AM</p> <p>8/1 Pond Pals (Ages 2+) 10:00-10:45 AM</p> <p>8/6 Sidewalk Chalk Walk (All Ages) 9:30 AM-12:00 PM Summer Storytime: Bird Bonanza (All Ages) 10:00-10:30 AM</p> <p>8/7 Tai Chi Series (8/7-8/21) 3-WEEK SERIES 9:30-10:30 AM</p> <p>8/8 Pond Pals (Ages 2+) 10:00-10:45 AM</p> <p>8/13 Sidewalk Chalk Walk (All Ages) 9:30 AM-12:00 PM Summer Storytime (All Ages) 10:00-10:30 AM</p> <p>8/14 Native Fern Propagation—From Spore to Frond 6:00-7:30 PM</p> <p>8/15 Cavity-Nesting Birds 7:00-8:30 PM</p> <p>9/9 Mindful Yoga (9/9-10/14) 6-WEEK SERIES 6:00-7:15 PM</p>	<p>9/10 Jenkins Juniors (9/10-10/1) 4-WEEK SERIES • AGES 2-5 10:00-11:00 AM</p> <p>9/12 Mindful Yoga (9/12-10/17) 6-WEEK SERIES 9:30-10:45 AM</p> <p>9/15 Last Chance Café: The Secret Life of a Goldenrod Field 2:00-3:30 PM</p> <p>9/16 Fall Planting Week (9/16-9/22)</p> <p>9/18 Tai Chi Series (9/18-10/23) 6-WEEK SERIES 9:30-10:30 AM</p> <p>9/19 Ecological Horticulture Practices 7:00-8:30 PM</p> <p>9/21 Photo Walk 9:00-11:00 AM</p> <p>9/28 Nature's Palette: Paintings by Radhika Srinivas (9/28/24-1/5/25) 9:00 AM-4:00 PM Introduction to Photography: Wildlife Edition 10:00 AM-12:00 PM</p> <p>9/29 Opening Reception for Nature's Palette: Paintings by Radhika Srinivas 2:00-4:00 PM</p> <p>10/5 Introduction to Bonsai Using Native Trees 10:00 AM-1:00 PM</p> <p>10/6 Plant-Based Delights 11:00 AM-12:30 PM</p>
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REGISTER ONLINE

To register for programs + events and for more info, visit JAGardens.eventbrite.com

- 10/8 **Jenkins Juniors (10/8-10/29)**
4-WEEK SERIES • AGES 2-5
10:00-11:00 AM

**Botanical Observations: Autumn
Objects of Field and Forest
(10/8-10/29)**
4-WEEK VIRTUAL SERIES
6:30-8:30 PM
- 10/14 **Bird Walk**
8:00-9:00 AM
- 10/17 **Plug into the Wet Meadow Matrix**
7:00-8:30 PM
- 10/19 **Photo Walk**
9:00-11:00 AM

Wool Art Painting Workshop
1:00-4:00 PM
- 10/21 **Mindful Yoga (10/21-11/11)**
4-WEEK SERIES
6:00-7:15 PM
- 10/24 **Mindful Yoga (10/24-11/14)**
4-WEEK SERIES
9:30-10:45 AM
- 10/26 **Intentional Composition
Through Photography**
1:00-4:00 PM
- 10/27 **The Art and Science of Leaves
(All Ages)**
10:00-11:00 AM

Poetry Reading
2:30-3:30 PM
- 10/31 **Halloween Storytime & Sidewalk
Chalk Walk (All Ages)**
10:00 AM-12:00 PM
- 11/3 **Wool Art Painting Workshop**
1:00-4:00 PM

- 11/9 **Starting a Botanical Sketchbook**
10:00 AM-3:30 PM
- 11/10 **The Art and Science of Leaves
(All Ages)**
10:00-11:00 AM

**Views of the Forest Through
the Lens of Music**
2:30-3:30 PM
- 11/16 **Photo Walk**
9:00-11:00 AM
- 11/18 **Mindful Yoga (11/18-12/16,
no class 11/25)**
4-WEEK SERIES
6:00-7:15 PM
- 11/21 **Mindful Yoga (11/21-12/19,
no class 11/28)**
4-WEEK SERIES
9:30-10:45 AM

**Native Plant Allies:
A Non-Chemical Approach
to Ecological Gardening**
7:00-8:30 PM
- 11/23 **Autumn Harvest Centerpiece**
1:00-3:00 PM
- 12/7 **Holiday Greens Wreath Workshop**
10:00 AM-12:00 PM OR 1:00-3:00 PM
- 12/13 **Winter Luminary Nights**
5:00-6:30 PM & 6:30-8:00 PM
- 12/14 **Winter Luminary Nights**
5:00-6:30 PM & 6:30-8:00 PM
- 12/15 **Winter Luminary Nights**
5:00-6:30 PM & 6:30-8:00 PM
- 12/19 **Native Evergreens**
7:00-8:30 PM



JULY 3-NOVEMBER 13

Golf Cart Garden Tours

WEDNESDAYS 11:00-11:45 AM



JULY 3-NOVEMBER 13

Wednesday Walkabouts

WEDNESDAYS

7/3-8/28 • 10:00-11:00 AM

9/4-11/13 • 1:00-2:00 PM

SPECIAL EVENTS

THURSDAY, JULY 11

Member Sip 'n Stroll

5:00–7:00 PM

Members at the Patron Level and above (\$250+) are invited to enjoy tasty treats and lively libations on the Tree Canopy Deck followed by guided tours of the gardens. Golf cart tours will be available.

Free of charge

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16–
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

Fall Planting Week

Fall is a great season for planting in your garden! Learn about the benefits of fall planting with on-site education, activities, and much more. Come get new additions for your landscape from The Garden Shop at Jenkins. Shop for a variety of perennials, shrubs, and trees—members receive 10% off all purchases.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27

Poetry Reading

2:30–3:30 PM

“Poetry is the extraordinary perception of the ordinary.”
Join us for an afternoon of poetry with nature as inspiration! Local poets Joyce Meyers and Joe Cilluffo will present and discuss their work with tree-mendous views of the outdoors as their backdrop.

Free of charge

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Views of the Forest Through the Lens of Music

2:30–3:30 PM

Musicians: Haerim Oh and Jonathan Okseniuk

Violinists from the Studio of Midori will perform with the forest as visual inspiration. This concert is in partnership with Allegro Music Consultants.

Members: \$30 | Non-Members: \$35

Art Exhibitions

GALLERY OPEN DAILY 9:00 AM–4:00 PM

Explore exhibitions of artwork in the John J. Willaman Education Center. Our exhibitions complement the natural beauty of the gardens and offer a platform to celebrate the work of regional artists.

JUNE 22–SEPTEMBER 22

Seeking Art in Nature: Photography by David Hucker

OPENING RECEPTION: SUNDAY, JUNE 23

2:00–4:00 PM

Free of charge | Registration not required

SEPTEMBER 28–JANUARY 5, 2025

Nature's Palette: Paintings by Radhika Srinivas

OPENING RECEPTION: SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

2:00–4:00 PM

Free of charge | Registration not required

2024 Arbo-READ-um Events

Join Tredyffrin Public Library and Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens for our 4th annual Arbo-READ-um Community Read Events. During Arbo-READ-um, we provide opportunities to promote literacy and community conversations in Tredyffrin Township.

July 1 through August 16, join us in reading *Slow Birding: The Art and Science of Enjoying the Birds in Your Own Backyard* by Joan E. Strassmann, Ph.D. This one-of-a-kind guide to birding locally encourages readers to slow down and notice the spectacular birds all around them. Strassmann tells colorful stories of the most common birds to be found in the United States—birds we often see but might not have considered deeply before.

MONDAY, JULY 1

Arbo-READ-um Kick-Off

Begin logging your reading journey of *Slow Birding*. Register on Tredyffrin Public Library's Beanstack to enter to win a prize pack featuring bird-related goodies as well as a signed copy of the book.

Free of charge | Location: Virtual via Beanstack

THURSDAY, JULY 18

Slow Birding with Joan E. Strassmann, Ph.D.

7:00–8:30 PM

Open your eyes more to the fascinating world of common, everyday birds. See page 17 for program description.

Free of charge | Location: Virtual via Zoom

SATURDAY, JULY 20

Guided Bird Walk with Troy Bynum

8:00–9:30 AM

Get outside and discover which birds are at Jenkins during summer breeding with avid birder, Troy Bynum. Explore diverse habitats including woodland, pond edge, and stream-side paths. All levels of birders are welcome, especially new birders.

Bring binoculars if you have them. Dress for the weather. Wear comfortable, closed-toed shoes with good traction for various terrains.

Free of charge | Location: Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens

TUESDAY, AUGUST 6

Summer Storytime: Bonanza

10:00–10:30 AM

Enjoy a bird-themed read aloud with staff from the Tredeffrin Public Library and Jenkins. Join us for a morning in nature and learn something new while listening to engaging stories. Sidewalk chalk will be available after for creating art with our feathered friends for inspiration!

All ages welcome; most suitable for ages 3–6. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Free of charge | Location: Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens

THURSDAY, AUGUST 15

Cavity–Nesting Birds with Jennifer Uehling, Ph.D.

7:00–8:30 PM

Explore our local cavity-nesting birds and what we can learn from these special species. See page 17 for program description.

Free of charge | Location: Virtual via Zoom



SPECIAL EVENT

Winter Luminary Nights

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13–SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15
5:00–6:30 PM & 6:30–8:00 PM

As the days grow shorter, we invite you to join us at Jenkins for an evening celebration of winter light. The gardens will be aglow with luminary-lined paths and the warmth of friends and neighbors. A family-friendly event, not to be missed! More event information to come.

GARDENING & NATURE

WEDNESDAYS, JULY 3–NOVEMBER 13

Wednesday Walkabouts

7/3–8/28 • 10:00–11:00 AM

9/4–11/13 • 1:00–2:00 PM

Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens Staff

Join us on Wednesdays this summer and fall for walking tours through our glorious gardens. Each week will have a different focus depending on the staff leader and the seasonal landscape. Topics could include Jenkins' history, summer wildflowers, pollinators, native trees, fall foliage, and much more. Get outside and discover Jenkins with us!

Large groups are requested to schedule private guided tours at other times (contact tours@jenkinsarboretum.org).

Free of charge

WEDNESDAYS, JULY 3–NOVEMBER 13

Golf Cart Garden Tours

11:00–11:45 AM

Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens Staff

Explore Jenkins on wheels! Golf cart tours are a great option for those who are not able to enjoy the beauty of the gardens due to the sloping terrain. This guided tour will feature seasonal garden highlights, a behind-the-scenes visit to the apiary and research nursery, and history of the property, including a drive-by view of the Jenkins and Browning Houses.

Tour topics and route will be the same each week. Limited spots available—only 5 people per tour.

Free of charge

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14

Native Fern Propagation— From Spore to Frond

6:00–7:30 PM

Helen Standen, Greenhouse & Nursery Manager, Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens

Looking for a new propagation challenge? Learn how to grow ferns from spores! Gain the knowledge to produce ferns for your shady backyard or indoor terrariums. Ferns have a fascinating reproductive process—review the life stages as well as the methodology for growing them. Participants will create a propagation bin full of sown fern spores to take home.

Members: \$25 | Non-Members: \$35

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Last Chance Café: The Secret Life of a Goldenrod Field

2:00–3:30 PM

Mike Weibacher, Naturalist and Author of Wild Philly

Goldenrod fields—the wrongful villains in thousands of allergy-relief commercials—are a critically important ecosystem for millions of butterflies, bugs, and birds, offering a last chance for life-saving pollen and nectar before the long winter sets in. In a combination of indoor talk and outdoor walk, discover the wonderful life histories of the many insect and plant species found in goldenrod fields. You'll gain a deep appreciation for this critical ecosystem and be inspired to plant goldenrod and other native plants in your own yard.

Members: \$25 | Non-Members: \$35

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

Introduction to Bonsai Using Native Trees

10:00 AM–1:00 PM

Brian Tuel, Bonsai Artist and Pennsylvania Bonsai Society Member

The art of Bonsai has a long and rich history in Japan and other Eastern Asian countries—one that can translate easily to our region using native trees and proper techniques. Join members of the Pennsylvania Bonsai Society to explore the history, fundamental elements, and styles of this ancient art. Students will learn how to choose, plant, train, and provide long-term care to a young specimen tree. Go home with a new Bonsai tree of your own.

Bring sharp pruners/scissors, gardening gloves, and a flat box to transport your tree home.

Members: \$75 | Non-Members: \$85

MONDAY, OCTOBER 14

Bird Walk

8:00–9:00 AM

Bonnie Witmer, Birder and Visitor Services Associate, Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens

Go birding with Bonnie! Enjoy early morning access to Jenkins during fall migration. Explore various habitats including woodland, pond edge, and stream-side paths. Discover the GISS method to identify our feathered friends by recognizing the general impression, size, and shape of birds. Participants will learn to use their eyes, ears, and binoculars to find birds and other wildlife.

Bring binoculars if you have them. Dress for the weather and wear comfortable shoes with good traction. Rain or shine.

Free of charge

THIRD THURSDAY LECTURES

THURSDAY, JULY 18

Slow Birding

7:00–8:30 PM

Joan E. Strassmann, Ph.D., Professor of Biology, Washington University and Author of Slow Birding

In the heart of migration, it is easy to jump from one bird to the next, tallying counts of warblers, vireos, tanagers, and thrushes with increasing speed. But there is another way to approach birding—through slow, quiet observation. Join Dr. Strassmann in getting to know the most common birds, not just by sight, but by behavior. Discover their unique stories and enrich your experiences of our most commonly seen birds.

Arbo-READ-um partnership program—learn more on page 14.

Free of charge | Virtual event

THURSDAY, AUGUST 15

Cavity–Nesting Birds

7:00–8:30 PM

Jennifer Uehling, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biology, West Chester University

Cavity-nesters are birds that nest in holes in trees, and they will also readily nest in human-provided nest boxes. This creates an excellent system for studying bird breeding behavior and ecology. Dr. Uehling will explore species of cavity-nesters in this region, including Tree Swallows, Eastern Bluebirds, House Wrens, and Carolina Chickadees, and will share findings from her own research on Tree Swallow foraging ecology.

Arbo-READ-um partnership program—learn more on page 14.

Free of charge | Virtual event

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Ecological Horticulture Practices

7:00–8:30 PM

Steve Wright, Director of Horticulture/Curator of Plant Collections, Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens

Recent weather extremes, increased pests and diseases, habitat loss, and overuse of chemical pesticides have taken their toll on our environment and all the life within it. Here at Jenkins, we recognize these challenges and are focused on reversing these trends through ecological restoration and ecologically conscious gardening practices. Learn what Jenkins is doing to improve our ecosystem and how you can join this effort.

Free of charge | Virtual event

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17

Plug into the Wet Meadow Matrix

7:00–8:30 PM

John Mark Courtney, Owner of Kind Earth Growers

A large and often missed opportunity can be found in gardening the wet, seasonally “unmowable” areas of the landscape. Tap into the power of native plant diversity and create a functioning wet meadow or wetland habitat by properly planting and seeding according to the season. Learn how to restore an overlooked landscape into a thriving habitat with renewed ecological function.

Free of charge | Virtual event

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21

Native Plant Allies: A Non–Chemical Approach to Ecological Gardening

7:00–8:30 PM

Elyse Jurgen, Owner of Waxwing EcoWorks Co.

Have you struggled to restore your “back forty” where aggressive introduced species like lesser celandine pervade? Discover the specific native plant allies that can bolster biodiversity in the toughest planting sites without the need of harmful sprays! Whether you are a home gardener, a leader of a community native gardening project, or an ecological practitioner, this presentation will equip you with the native plant knowledge and ecological design practices to compassionately outcompete invasive species.

Free of charge | Virtual event

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

Native Evergreens

7:00–8:30 PM

Duncan Himmelman, Ph.D., Horticulturist and Garden Educator

Evergreens are an indispensable part of all home landscapes. They provide year-round color and textural interest, give structure to the garden, and offer shelter and food sources for birds and other wildlife. Learn the identifying features, cultural requirements, and uses of an array of native evergreens that will enhance the appearance and ecological value of your property.

Free of charge | Virtual event

ART & PHOTOGRAPHY

**SATURDAYS, SEPTEMBER 21, OCTOBER 19,
NOVEMBER 16**

Photo Walks

9:00–11:00 AM

Laura Ducceschi, Fine Art Photographer

Capture the season while learning about photography. An award-winning photographer will be your mentor and guide for a small group session. Stroll the gardens and photograph what inspires you while learning about light, background, and composition on the spot.

Participants can use any kind of camera—from smartphones to DSLRs. Be sure to have a fully charged battery and storage space to shoot freely.

Rain dates: Sundays, 9/22, 10/20, and 11/17.

Members: \$20/walk | Non-Members: \$30/walk

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

Introduction to Photography: Wildlife Edition

10:00 AM–12:00 PM

*Troy Bynum, Naturalist and Owner of TB Wildlife
Photography LLC*

Unlock the secrets of digital photography! This hands-on course delves into the essentials of aperture, shutter speed, and ISO. Perfect for beginners and seasoned photographers alike, explore troubleshooting techniques and cultivate the skills needed to capture images with your unique artistic flair. Learn how to confidently use manual settings to photograph wildlife and diverse subjects, applicable across various digital camera types. Indoor presentation will finish with outdoor learning in the garden.

Bring your camera and dress for the weather with good footwear.

Members: \$45 | Non-Members: \$50

TUESDAYS, OCTOBER 8–29

Botanical Observations: Autumn Objects of Field and Forest

6:30–8:30 PM

4-WEEK VIRTUAL SERIES

Margaret Saylor, Botanical Artist and Illustrator

Let's take a closer look at the natural elements that make up our autumn outdoor world! Capture the unique shapes and textures of botanical wonders, all while growing your artistic skills. Join Margaret Saylor virtually to draw (or paint) a new specimen each week. Learn about that week's

botanical theme, as well as how these subjects fit into the broader realm of contemporary botanical art.

All levels welcome; some drawing experience helpful but not necessary. A recommended materials list is available for review prior to registration.

Members: \$120/series | Non-Members: \$135/series

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19 OR SUNDAY,
NOVEMBER 3**

Wool Art Painting Workshop

1:00–4:00 PM

Maria Gio, Artist and Owner of Mara Effects—Wool Art

Discover the artist within through the process of painting with wool and create a unique, handmade work of art. Wool watercolor is an exceptional, meditative art where the piece is created by layering dry wool onto fabric (not needle felting). Under the weight of glass these complex layers of wool appear vibrant and rich with 3D effects. Choosing from sample designs, you'll go step by step through the process, finishing with your own artwork ready to hang.

All materials included—size is 8" x 10," framed under glass. Perfect for any skill level.

Members: \$75/class | Non-Members: \$85/class

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26

Intentional Composition Through Photography

1:00–4:00 PM

*Ray Schneider, Freelance Photographer and Author of
What the Photographer Sees*

Photographers know that creating more interesting images requires perceiving your subject deeply and focusing on what makes it unique. Explore the differences between seeing and perceiving as instructor Ray Schneider shares compositional strategies for memorable images using a broad range of examples from his portfolio. Feedback will be provided on images from participants with ideas for how to possibly make each image stronger and even unforgettable.

Some photography experience recommended. Participants should bring 2–3 of their own images for discussion on a memory stick.

Members: \$45 | Non-Members: \$50

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9

Starting a Botanical Sketchbook

10:00 AM–3:30 PM

Margaret Saylor, Botanical Artist and Illustrator

Whether you're a beginner artist or looking to add to your portfolio, learn how to start your own botanical sketchbook and sharpen your observation skills during this insightful class. Study intriguing materials from our gardens—seed pods, bark, cones, and more—and use basic drawing techniques to create lifelike and botanically accurate sketches.

All levels welcome; some drawing experience helpful but not necessary. A recommended materials list is available for review prior to registration. Bring your lunch.

Members: \$100 | Non-Members: \$115

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23

Autumn Harvest Centerpiece

1:00–3:00 PM

Peicha Chang, Floral Designer

Add some autumnal flair to your table just in time for Thanksgiving. Join us for a hands-on workshop to create your own seasonal masterpiece. Play with the colors and textures of autumn as you arrange your centerpiece with flowers, foliage, and dried elements.

All materials provided—bring your creativity!

Members: \$45 | Non-Members: \$55

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7

Holiday Greens Wreath Workshop

10:00 AM–12:00 PM OR 1:00–3:00 PM

Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens Staff

Incorporate natural beauty into your holidays by making your own festive wreath. Jenkins staff will guide you through the process of creating a wreath using fresh greens from our gardens. Gain inspiration from our massive holiday wreath, which will be on display.

All materials provided including a wreath frame, greens, natural accents, and ribbon.

Members: \$50 | Non-Members: \$60

WELLNESS

WEDNESDAY SERIES

Tai Chi

9:30–10:30 AM

3-week series: 7/3–7/17, 8/7–8/21

6-week series: 9/18–10/23

Aimée Alegría Barry, Centaur Tai Chi

Tai Chi, a series of postures done slowly, promotes balance, flexibility, and strength. Learn the Tai Chi form, as well as the yin and yang principles that underlie this martial art. Tai Chi is known as a soft martial art because it emphasizes a calm mind and relaxed body.

All levels welcome. Classes will be held outdoors with an indoor option for inclement weather.

Members: \$36/3-week series, \$72/6-week series

Non-Members: \$52/3-week series, \$102/6-week series

MONDAY & THURSDAY SERIES

Mindful Yoga

MONDAYS • 6:00–7:15 PM • HYBRID

6-week series: 7/8–8/12, 9/9–10/14

4-week series: 10/21–11/11, 11/18–12/16 (no class 11/25)

THURSDAYS • 9:30–10:45 AM • VIRTUAL

6-week series: 7/11–8/15, 9/12–10/17

4-week series: 10/24–11/14, 11/21–12/19 (no class 11/28)

Janet Muti, Yoga Instructor

Our Mindful Yoga practice consists of gentle stretching and strengthening exercises done slowly with awareness of breath and sensations that arise as we move from pose to pose.

All levels welcome; modifications and variations will be offered. Participants must have yoga blocks and straps available to take advantage of the variety of modifications.

Members: \$48/4-week series, \$72/6-week series

Non-Members: \$68/4-week series, \$102/6-week series

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6

Plant-Based Delights

11:00 AM–12:30 PM

Liz Patterson, Board-Certified Holistic Nutritionist and Founder of ProActive Wellness Coaching

Discover how plant-based eating can improve your personal health and wellness while also supporting the health of the planet. Learn practical tips for including more plants in your diet and enjoy delicious samples of plant-based dishes provided by program partner ANEU Kitchens.

Allergen info: food will be gluten free. Some options will contain sunflower seeds and peanuts.

Members: \$45 | Non-Members: \$50



YOUTH PROGRAMS

The Art and Science of Leaves (All Ages)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27 OR NOVEMBER 10
10:00–11:00 AM

*Amy Mawby, Education Manager,
Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens*

Join us for fall fun at Jenkins! Head outdoors for a nature walk to explore the season. Discover the science behind why leaves turn color and fall off deciduous trees. Bring your outdoor inspiration indoors with an autumn art project. You won't be-leaf what you'll create!

All ages welcome; most suitable for ages 3+. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Registration required for children only.

Members: \$10/class | Non-Members: \$15/class

YOUTH PROGRAMS

TUESDAYS, JULY 9, 16, 23, 30, AUGUST 6, 13

Sidewalk Chalk Walks (All Ages)

9:30 AM–12:00 PM

Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens Staff

Draw your way through Jenkins! Use sidewalk chalk to create beautiful nature-related art from the John J. Willaman Education Center down the main path through the garden. Don't miss these special mornings of family fun and endless doodling.

All ages welcome. Chalk will be provided—just bring your creativity! Please check in before starting. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Shine only.

Free of charge

TUESDAYS, JULY 9, 16, 23, 30, AUGUST 6, 13

Summer Storytime (All Ages)

10:00–10:30 AM

Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens Staff

Join us for a nature-themed read aloud in Jenkins' very own secret garden—the Explorer Garden! Enjoy a morning out and learn something new while listening to engaging stories.

Special Storytime on 8/6 with Tredyffrin Public Library featuring birds. See page 15 for more info.

All ages welcome; most suitable for ages 3–6. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Free of charge

THURSDAYS, JULY 25, AUGUST 1, 8

Pond Pals (Ages 2+)

10:00–10:45 AM

Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens Staff

Get to know some of the critters that live at our pond! From sky to land to water, there are loads of insects, birds, amphibians, and reptiles to learn about that rely on healthy aquatic habitats. Explore Jenkins with a guided nature walk and outdoor activities. Discover something new each week!

Suitable for ages 2 and up. Children must be walking (no strollers) and must be accompanied by an adult. Registration required for children only. Shine only.

Members: \$5/class | Non-Members: \$10/class

TUESDAYS, 4-WEEK SERIES

Jenkins Juniors (Ages 2–5)

9/10–10/1 • 10:00–11:00 AM

10/8–10/29 • 10:00–11:00 AM

*Amy Mawby, Education Manager,
Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens*

Let's go exploring—get your little ones outside this spring! Each class will include a story, scenic strolls, and a creative craft. Our activities will encourage children to embrace their sense of wonder, and adults to rekindle theirs. Each week will have a different theme so join us for one or both series.

Suitable for ages 2–5. Children must be walking (no strollers) and must be accompanied by an adult. Registration required for children only. Rain or shine; indoor space for inclement weather.

Members: \$50/series | Non-Members: \$60/series

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31

Halloween Storytime & Sidewalk Chalk Walk (All Ages)

STORYTIME: 10:00–10:30 AM

SIDEWALK CHALK WALK: 10:30 AM–12:00 PM

*Amy Mawby, Education Manager,
Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens*

Join us for a special Halloween-themed read aloud for our littlest nature lovers. Enjoy a morning out and learn something new while listening to engaging stories. After storytime, stay for sidewalk chalk! Doodle with seasonal colors through the main path of the garden.

All ages welcome. Chalk will be provided—just bring your creativity! Children must be accompanied by an adult. Shine only for both events.

Free of charge

Program Registration

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR ALL PROGRAMS, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

Please visit JAGardens.eventbrite.com to register.

Program and event prices do not include Eventbrite processing fees.

CAREGIVER REGISTRATION POLICY

Registration is free for a caregiver accompanying a program participant with a disability.

If you have program-related questions or to register for a caregiver, please contact us by emailing programs@jenkinsarboretum.org.

CANCELLATIONS

Please inform us of cancellations at least five days before the program. No refund will be issued if cancellation is made less than five days prior to the program start date. Jenkins reserves the right to cancel any program if necessary. In the case of cancellation by Jenkins, registration fees will be refunded.



REGISTER ONLINE

Scan the QR code with your phone's camera to visit our registration page.

Garden Maintenance for the Pond at Jenkins

The pond at Jenkins in summer is full of life. Butterflies and bees flit between colorful flowers while dragonflies whirl between stems. Red-winged Blackbirds cry warning calls as American Bullfrogs exchange croaks. Amidst the bustle of wildlife, the pond changes. Invasive sedges quickly fill its edges as beloved aquatic plants compete with the algae that billows, blocking sunlight and oxygen for the plants and wildlife below.

Summer is when the Jenkins horticulture team tends to the pond, ensuring it remains a stable habitat. Tasks include tending water levels and flow, managing organic matter, removing invasive species, and editing native species. Equipped with floating bins, pruners, and waders, the team works their way around the pond until the final fall cutback.

The small, man-made pond is fed from natural sources. An outlet returns water to the creek and is adjusted to manage water levels. During a drought, the outlet is blocked to keep the pond's water level up, preventing weeds from sprouting in exposed soil. During heavy rainfall, the outlet is left fully open to flush and refresh the pond, inviting a fresh supply of oxygen that is vital to a healthy pond habitat.

The horticulture team keeps oxygen in mind while pruning. In many parts of the garden, our team leaves cut plant debris to decompose in place. Not at the pond! Here, debris from pruned herbaceous plants is removed to prevent high levels

of decomposing organic matter, which overuses oxygen and can cause other organisms to die. A downward spiral can begin, with the newly dead organisms consuming more oxygen as they decompose, thereby killing even more organisms, which then decompose...and the cycle continues.

Working in the pond is working with the fine balance of nature. When a storm knocked a large Eastern cottonwood tree (*Populus deltoides*) into the pond, the horticulture team treated this as a new element to the habitat. Several years later, our team continues to navigate the canopy of underwater branches that provide an ideal habitat for turtles, frogs, and fish to hide. The exposed parts of the trunk are rarely bare; Green Herons perch on the bark to fish, Mallard Ducks nestle in for a nap, and our beloved turtles pile on top to soak in the sun. Without the shade of the cottonwood to keep it in check, the American lotus (*Nelumbo lutea*) population has surged. Between the lotus and other valuable but aggressive aquatic plants like American waterlily (*Nymphaea odorata*) and bogbean (*Menyanthes trifoliata*), it is a deliberate effort to reclaim the pond.

Plants along the bank or pond edge tolerate very wet soils and include a range of perennials, from small, rare bog plants like golden club (*Orontium aquaticum*) to hardy colony-forming perennials like cup plant (*Silphium perfoliatum*). Throughout the season, perennials are edited to

remain in contained groups. Particularly prolific perennials include obedient plant (*Physostegia virginiana*), horsetail (*Equisetum hyemale*), and wingstem (*Verbesina alternifolia*). Other, more delicate plants include copper iris (*Iris fulva*), ladies' tresses (*Spiranthes odorata*), and pitcher plants (*Sarracenia* spp.).

The pond has two key invasive perennials which appear each year: yellow flag iris (*Iris pseudacorus*) and purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*). These plants have native look-alikes, so it is helpful to scout them when they start to bloom. Invasive sedges like razor grass (*Scleria scindens*) and false-green kyllinga (*Kyllinga gracillima*) are very challenging to remove once established so they are frequently pulled from the perennial beds.

As temperatures cool, the team carries out their final fall task of cutting the cattails just below the water surface. This prevents their roots from reabsorbing nutrients and keeps the colony from expanding. Fall is also a key time for planting around the pond. Last fall, our team added more native lilies to the collection, including Turk's cap lily (*Lilium superbum*) and Michigan lily (*Lilium michiganense*). Each year, these new plants will become more established as the pond habitat evolves. Come see for yourself what wildlife is active and what key plants are in bloom. There is always something to discover!



Jenkins' horticulture team maintaining aquatic plants in the pond.



The pond at Jenkins is a highlight for human and wildlife visitors alike!

Who Lives at the Pond?



Blue Dasher Dragonflies

Adult dragonflies fly over the pond catching insects to eat. Larval dragonflies live in the pond and eat aquatic insects.



Bumblebees

Busy native bumblebees visit flowers for nectar and pollen. Nectar provides energy while pollen provides protein.



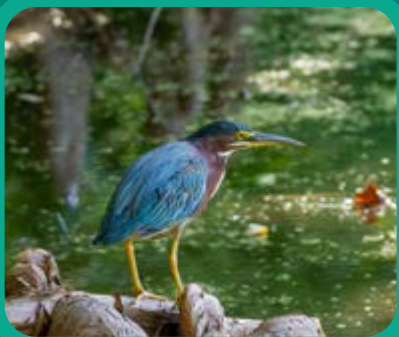
Eastern Tiger Swallowtails

Check out their “tiger stripes”—four parallel black stripes at the top of each wing and one stripe along the base.



Mallard Ducks

Mallard pairing begins each fall. Females are brown with brown/orange bills. Males have green heads with yellow bills.



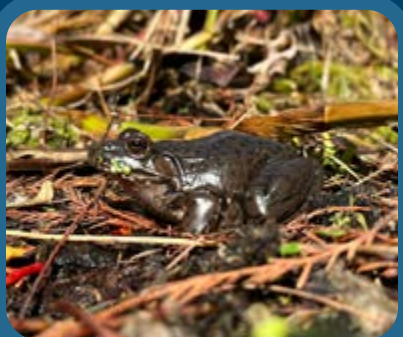
Green Herons

Most often found waiting to catch a fish with their daggerlike bill, Green Herons also lure in fish with twigs and insects.



Red-winged Blackbirds

Conk-la-lee! A male bird (pictured) can often be heard singing this song and defending its territory.



American Bullfrogs

Rum-rum, rum-rum! Bullfrog tadpoles overwinter in the pond and take 1–3 years to mature into an adult frog.



Green Frogs

Gunk, gunk-gunk! The Green Frogs’ call sounds like a plucked rubber band but they make loud squeaks when in danger.



Painted Turtles

These brightly marked native turtles bask in the sun to help maintain body temperature and healthy shells.

Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens

631 Berwyn Baptist Road
Devon, PA 19333
610.647.8870

jenkinsarboretum.org



**Jenkins
Arboretum
& Gardens**



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