

JENKINS



Winter + Spring 2025

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.

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CONTENTS

04 Letter from the Executive Director

05 Partners in Preservation

06 Collections Celebration:
Rhododendrons and Azaleas
at Jenkins

08 Exploring the Extraordinary:
Preserving Rare Rhododendrons
and Azaleas

10 Hamilton Horticulture
Apprenticeship Projects

11 Picture This: Native Azalea
Identification Project

12 Programs and Events

22 Year-Round
Rhododendron Care

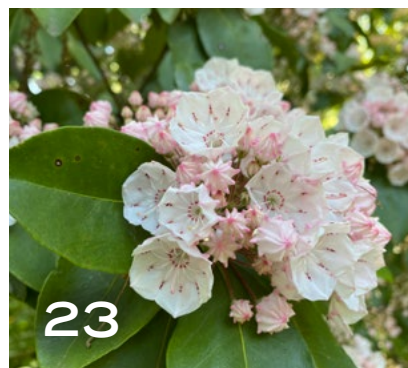
23 All in the (Plant) Family



**NATIVE AZALEA
IDENTIFICATION PROJECT**



SPRING BLOOMS



ALL IN THE (PLANT) FAMILY



PRESERVING AND SHARING

Dear Jenkins family & friends,

As I stroll through Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens each morning, I'm reminded of how deeply the connection between people and plants runs here. Our botanical collections aren't just displays of beauty; they represent the heart of our mission. The science behind every plant in our garden is extraordinary. Through careful taxonomic work, we ensure our collections are accurately classified, named, and organized, allowing us to preserve and share vital knowledge about each species. Every plant is tagged, and its information stored in our database, linking us to decades of horticultural history that tracks each plant's propagated origin and growth conditions. Our Director of Horticulture and Curator of Plant Collections, Steve Wright, leverages this wealth of data to curate new and unique specimens for the gardens.

This commitment to science and conservation began decades ago and continues to guide our work today. In 1972, landscape architect George E. Patton advised the board of newly appointed trustees to establish Jenkins as a place for significant azalea collections and native North American plants, cultivated with ecological sensitivity. Nearly 50 years later, we continue to embrace this mission, celebrating the connection between nature and cultivated gardens.

In the following pages, you will learn more about our renowned azalea and rhododendron collections, which will

be on full display during the National Convention of the Azalea Society of America from May 7-9, alongside other remarkable azalea displays throughout the region.

Hosting such a convention is invaluable for Jenkins. It not only showcases our significant plant collections on a national stage, but also fosters deeper collaboration among our partners. Regional botanical gardens, the American Rhododendron Society, and the Azalea Society of America, along with many other dedicated organizations, enable us to build an impressive collection and provide education about these plants. While azaleas enhance our home gardens, essential work is also underway to protect wild populations of native azaleas and rare, lesser-known cultivars. Jenkins staff have collaborated with nurseries and garden groups to visit and collect specimens (with permission) to ensure their preservation.

We hope you enjoy this peek into our core collection and discover the passion that drives our work every day. Your support plays a vital role in helping us protect these botanical treasures, and we can't wait to share the vibrant beauty of these blooms with you in the season ahead.

Nearly 50 years later, we continue to embrace this mission, celebrating the connection between nature and cultivated gardens.

Always growing,

Tom Smarr
Executive Director

Partners in Preservation

At Jenkins, our nationally accredited *Rhododendron* collection does more than add vibrant color to the landscape—it represents decades of horticultural dedication, conservation, and commitment to preserving the natural beauty that defines our garden. Our collection boasts both familiar varieties and rare species, bolstering biodiversity and safeguarding plants that are increasingly threatened or difficult to find in the wild.

Through our Native Rhododendron Germplasm Repository project (described on page 8) we are actively collecting and preserving unique native azaleas and rhododendrons from across the eastern United States. This initiative is just one of the many ways your support ensures that Jenkins serves as both a sanctuary and showcase for extraordinary plants.

Achieving and maintaining accreditation is no small feat. It reflects a deep commitment to excellence. Jenkins is proud to be home to one of the most extensive and well-documented collections of rhododendrons in the world, meeting rigorous standards in plant diversity, meticulous record-keeping, and high-quality care. Our horticulturists work tirelessly behind the scenes, from expertly pruning and managing soil health to creating photographic guides

for identifying native azaleas (learn more on page 11), all to ensure that our collections thrive.

But this legacy is not maintained by our horticulturists alone. Partners like you play a pivotal role in providing the resources needed to care for and expand our iconic *Rhododendron* collection. Your membership ensures the continuation of vital conservation efforts that safeguard these botanical treasures for future generations.

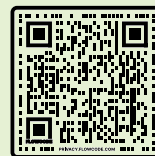
This spring, as our azaleas and rhododendrons burst into full bloom, we invite you to join us in preserving their future. Your membership guarantees that these magnificent plants will continue to bring joy, inspiration, and ecological benefits for decades to come.

Join us today and help keep Jenkins blooming for tomorrow.



YOUR MEMBERSHIP DOLLARS SUPPORT:

- ▶ **48** acres of woodlands and habitat
- ▶ Employment of **6** horticulture staff
- ▶ Preservation of **27** species of native rhododendron through the Native Rhododendron Germplasm Repository
- ▶ On-site propagation of **250+** plant species annually
- ▶ Cultivation of **3,203** species of azaleas (1,000 unique taxa)



TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP?

Scan the QR code to join, renew, or purchase a gift membership.

Collections Celebration

RHODODENDRONS AND AZALEAS AT JENKINS

Wherever you are right now, take a moment to close your eyes and journey to Jenkins in your imagination. Maybe you smell the sweet, earthy aroma of decomposing leaf mulch or hear the harmonizing trill of a Wood Thrush. Perhaps you feel the gentle caress of a breeze as you relax on a bench, counting chipmunks that dart between shrubs. No matter where in the garden you picture yourself, you likely imagine a soaring cathedral of green oak trees overhead, with vast sweeps of azaleas blooming in the dappled shade below. Of all the features that make up Jenkins' gardens, our extensive collection of azaleas and rhododendrons might be the most memorable.

But why are there so many azaleas and rhododendrons at Jenkins? More than five decades ago, landscape architect George E. Patton articulated his vision for the undeveloped woodland property. His early site surveys found the soil at Jenkins to be rocky, acidic, and well-drained with a healthy organic layer—perfect conditions for growing the plants of the heath family (Ericaceae). As the showiest members of that family, the genus *Rhododendron* (which includes both rhododendrons and azaleas) was chosen to star as the foundation of the new garden. At the same time, nurserymen and hobbyists throughout the northeast were busy mixing the genetic material of rhododendrons and azaleas, resulting in a boom of new hybrid plants that were stunning, diverse, and well-adapted for Pennsylvania's winters.

To the casual observer, the *Rhododendron* collection at Jenkins appears to be a simple celebration of color and form. But if you look more closely, you will notice that the gardens feature a highly curated collection of plants, including 1,000 unique taxa and 3,203 individual plants—making it one of the most extensive collections of *Rhododendron* in the world. Woven throughout the garden are plants that represent the life's work of many hybridizers who spent countless years crossing plants to achieve improved hardiness, enhanced flower color or

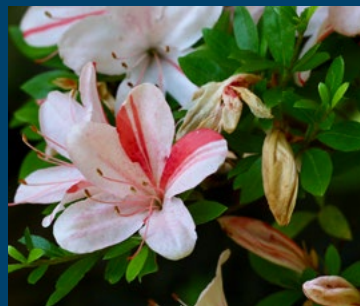
petal count, or diverse growth habit. In addition to serving as a repository for the genetic material of these plants, the gardens at Jenkins serve as a tribute to these hybridizers and their legacy.

Planting began in 1974 when Jenkins' first director, Leonard Sweetman, added over 100 Beltsville hybrids. These evergreen azaleas were bred for cold hardiness in the 1950s by the USDA's Beltsville Station in Maryland. 1975 saw the addition of nearly 800 new azaleas, most notably Hershey (grown at a small nursery in Lancaster County called Hershey's Azalea Farm), Leach (developed in Ohio by distinguished *Rhododendron* researcher David Leach), Exbury (hybridized by Lionel de Rothschild at the Exbury Estate in England), and Knap Hill (developed by Anthony Waterer at Knap Hill Nursery in England) hybrids. Jenkins opened to the public the following year with hundreds of tiny shrubs lining the newly created trails.

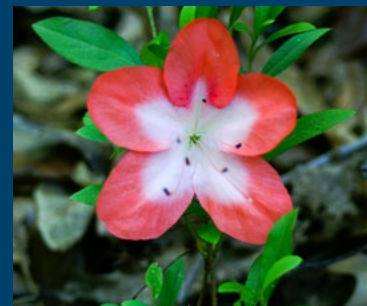
Over nearly 50 years, our collection has flourished and transformed. While some of the original plants didn't endure, they have been thoughtfully replaced. We continually assess and refine the garden, filling in gaps with exciting new additions. Our trail system and gardens have expanded to showcase a robust collection of Glenn Dale hybrid azaleas, developed for cold hardiness at a USDA research station in Maryland of the same name, as well as a stunning array of low-growing, late-blooming



Deciduous Azalea Hybrid
(*Rhododendron* x 'Gold Flake')
Bovee Knap Hill Hybrid



Evergreen Azalea Hybrid
(*Rhododendron* x 'Niji')
Satsuki Hybrid



Evergreen Azalea Hybrid
(*Rhododendron* x 'Ron Vines Jr.')
Holly Springs Azalea



Satsuki hybrids. Additionally, we proudly feature a Legacy collection of Pete Vines' hybrid Holly Springs azaleas, and we're excited to announce the upcoming addition of a complete collection of Joe Klimavicz's remarkable creations, celebrated for their striking bloom color and exquisite form.

In 2010, Jenkins' *Rhododendron* collection was awarded the prestigious designation of a Nationally Accredited Plant Collection™ through the Plant Collections Network, a program administered by the American Public Gardens Association and the USDA–Agricultural Research Service. This program fosters collaboration among gardens, enabling the sharing of resources and enhancing the preservation of plants across the continent. Achieving this accredited designation reflects Jenkins' commitment to outstanding plant preservation and management.

Though all our azalea and rhododendron collections continue to grow and improve, we have focused our recent energies on species native to the eastern United States and have developed a Native Rhododendron Germplasm Repository to collect, display, and distribute exceptional or unusual specimens. You can read more about this project on the following page of this magazine.

The next time you take a walk at Jenkins, remember that our gardens are more than their beautiful blooms; they are a living tribute to the artistry and dedication of countless horticulturists and hybridizers, where every plant tells a story of innovation, perseverance, and natural beauty.



Jenkins' first director, Leonard Sweetman (left), kneeling among rhododendrons in a May 23, 1976 Sunday Bulletin photo.



View from the Appalachian Trail on Roan Mountain showing some of the many flame azaleas.

Exploring the Extraordinary

PRESERVING RARE RHODODENDRONS AND AZALEAS

In the spring of 2020, Jenkins' Director of Horticulture and Curator of Plant Collections, Steve Wright, accompanied a group of fellow plant enthusiasts to explore the azaleas growing wild in the southern Appalachians. Together, the team embarked on a ten-day treasure hunt to look for unusual specimens. This expedition would be the first of many and would mark the beginning of Jenkins' Native Rhododendron Germplasm Repository.

Simply put, this initiative aims to enhance Jenkins' collection of native rhododendrons and azaleas, focusing on specimens that are particularly unique or exceptional. The project involves collecting and preserving the genetic material (or "germplasm") of these plants through propagation and cultivation. Once ready, these plants are then added to Jenkins' "repository"—the garden—which functions as a gene bank, safeguarding these remarkable plants for future generations to study and enjoy.

In a world brimming with breathtaking blooms, what sets a plant apart as unique, exceptional, or outstanding? Just like all living organisms, there exists a wide range of genetic variation among individuals. This diversity is particularly striking in azaleas and rhododendrons. Take, for instance, *Rhododendron calendulaceum*, commonly known as flame azalea. While its blooms are typically orange, a keen observer can find golden-yellow variations quite frequently; however, pure yellow forms are uncommon, and red variations are very rare. For our project, we are dedicated to highlighting and preserving these exceptional forms.

Our efforts go beyond the rare color forms to also include those with unusual flower structures. These would include individuals with "double" flowers (lack stamen and feature extra petals), split-petals (petals are thin and separated),

and spider flowers (petals are very thin and strap-like), among others.

Steve and others from Jenkins have traveled all over the east coast, visiting private collectors and specialty nurseries, and exploring wild populations in search of these botanical oddities. We have met many wonderful rhododendron and azalea enthusiasts who have been kind enough to share their plants and knowledge. To date, we have collected hundreds of plants, from small potted plants, to large, balled and burlapped specimens (48 of them so far), to thousands of tip cuttings from plants growing wild. Nearly all these plants are still growing in our nursery, waiting for their place in the garden.

As we look ahead, the Native Rhododendron Germplasm Repository stands as a testament to our commitment to preserving and celebrating the rich diversity of native plants. Each unique specimen we collect not only enriches our gardens for the enjoyment of visitors, but also helps safeguard the genetic heritage of these remarkable plants for future generations. Our ongoing collaboration with passionate enthusiasts, collectors, and nurseries continues to fuel our mission, ensuring that the beauty and diversity of these amazing plants thrive. We invite you to join us on this journey as we cultivate a living collection, celebrating the extraordinary variations and forms that nature has to offer.



Typical flower color and petal shape for Piedmont azalea (*Rhododendron canescens*)

Stunning flower and form of Piedmont azalea (*Rhododendron canescens* 'Glenda's Spider')



Extremely rare spider form of Piedmont azalea (*Rhododendron canescens*)

Photo credit: Vivian Abney



Typical flower color for Oconee azalea (*Rhododendron flammeum*)



Unusually pink Oconee azalea (*Rhododendron flammeum* 'Raspberry Sorbet')

Very dark Oconee azalea nicknamed 'Sriracha' (*Rhododendron flammeum*)



Hamilton Horticulture Apprenticeship Projects

During the two-year Hamilton Horticulture Apprenticeship, aspiring horticulturists have the unique opportunity to design and complete a project aligned with their specific horticultural interests that both enrich the visitor experience at Jenkins and contribute valuable insights into plant care and conservation. Stay tuned for updates on these exciting Apprentice projects!

JULIA MATTHEWS: WOODLAND WALK EXPANSION

Julia Matthews' interest in naturalistic landscape design made her the perfect fit for the Woodland Walk Expansion Project, which will nearly double the length of Woodland Walk and open a currently inaccessible section of the garden. This new trail will wind through a collection of rare native deciduous azaleas, cultivated as part of Jenkins' Native Rhododendron Germplasm Repository, an initiative which collects exceptional specimens for genetic preservation.

Last summer, Julia completed a thorough site evaluation which included soil tests for existing nutrient availability; sedimentation tests to measure the percentages of sand, silt, and clay; percolation tests to assess soil drainage; observations of light conditions; mapping of irrigation range; evaluations of the existing vegetation; and more! This winter, she will identify suitable planting locations based on specific plant requirements and will collaborate with a professional trail builder to finalize the trail design and placement for a gazebo. Our weekly crew of conservation volunteers will support cleanup of the expansion area, removing invasive and unwanted plants.

RILEY CALLOW: PHENOLOGY DATABASE

Driven by his fascination with the cycles and seasons of nature, along with his talent for photography, Riley Callow has embarked on an ambitious project to create a comprehensive phenology database. This initiative aims to meticulously document the timing of plant flowering, fading, and fruiting. Each week, he photographs these different stages of growth, creating a visual record of the collection's life throughout the seasons. He then records his observations in an ever-expanding spreadsheet which will be used as a phenological reference in future years.

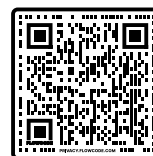
As the project develops, it will provide valuable information regarding the different microclimates within Jenkins and how they affect bloom times, as well as the overall effects of a changing climate on our local environment's bloom cycle. His efforts will lay the foundation for further phenological observations to be made by future Apprentices, volunteers, and perhaps even visitors. This project not only enhances Riley's familiarity with Jenkins' botanical collection, but also improves his understanding of how geographic conditions influence plant growth.



Percolation test for the Woodland Walk Expansion Project.



Photographing flowers for the Phenology Database; Stokes' aster (*Stokesia laevis*).



LEARN MORE

Scan the code to find out more about the Hamilton Horticulture Apprenticeship.

Picture This

NATIVE AZALEA IDENTIFICATION PROJECT

An arboretum serves as a living museum, curating the wonders of nature instead of art. At Jenkins, each plant is meticulously researched, cataloged, mapped, and tracked using advanced electronic databases and mapping software. While these curatorial efforts often occur behind the scenes, they form the backbone of our garden's beauty and require extensive planning and implementation.

In recent years, our curatorial team has focused on botanical exploration to collect exceptional azalea and rhododendron specimens. One key lesson from these field adventures is that identifying plants in the wild can be surprisingly difficult. Without the right morphological clues, misidentification can easily occur. To ensure accuracy in the field, we initiated a project to create a photographic guide for native azalea identification. This project underscores a critical reality: a nearly hidden detail, such as a microscopic gland on a flower petal, can be crucial for

distinguishing similar species that share bloom time and habitat.

The first phase of this project involved a thorough literature review to learn about the morphology of native azaleas. We then verified the literature by comparing our findings with actual plants in the garden. Observing details through a hand lens shifted our focus from simply appreciating the flowers' beauty to recognizing minute characteristics as vital for accurate identification. While many details have been documented in botanical keys, we saw the value in firsthand observation, which prompted us to create a compendium-style document.

Tara Spears, Jenkins' Curatorial Assistant, led this project over several months. She collected samples of buds, leaves, flowers, and stems from every native azalea species at Jenkins and then teamed up with photography volunteer Chris Swisher to capture their finer characteristics. Tara also visited the



Tara Spears (left) and Chris Swisher (right) photographing flower buds in winter.

botany offices at Morris Arboretum & Gardens, who generously granted us use of their photo microscopy equipment.

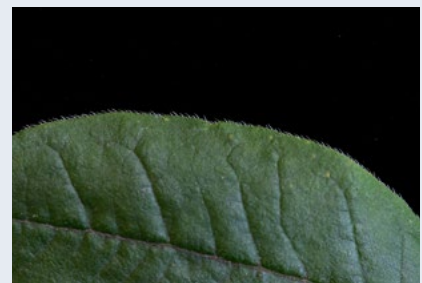
Although the project is far from complete, we are making significant strides. This journey into native azalea identification reflects our commitment to preserving the intricate beauty of these remarkable plants. Through diligent research and collaboration, we're developing a photographic guide that will serve as a valuable field resource. We look forward to sharing this knowledge and celebrating the wonders of our living museum at Jenkins and beyond.



Florida flame azalea
(*Rhododendron austrinum*)



Piedmont azalea
(*Rhododendron canescens*)



May white azalea (*Rhododendron eastmanii*) leaf showing fine hairs along the margin.

Programs at a Glance

- GARDENING & NATURE
- WELLNESS
- ART & PHOTOGRAPHY

- SPECIAL EVENT
- THIRD THURSDAY LECTURE
- YOUTH PROGRAM

1/6	Mindful Yoga (1/6-2/10) 6-WEEK SERIES 6:00-7:15 PM	2/1	Scientific Illustration Workshop 10:00 AM-12:00 PM	3/20	Pennsylvania's Big Trees 7:00-8:30 PM
1/8	Member Exclusive: A Year in Review 7:00-8:00 PM	2/8	Mindfulness Meditation Walk 9:15-10:30 AM	3/22	Fresh to Dry Wreaths 1:00-3:00 PM
1/9	Mindful Yoga (1/9-2/13) 6-WEEK SERIES 9:30-10:45 AM	2/17	Mindful Yoga (2/17-3/24) 6-WEEK SERIES 6:00-7:15 PM	3/29	Portraits of Nature by the Delaware Valley Art League (3/29-6/15) 9:00 AM-4:00 PM Gemstone Bracelets: Connect with Nature 10:30 AM-12:00 PM
1/11	14th Annual Visitors' Photography Exhibition (1/11-3/23) 9:00 AM-4:00 PM	2/18	Winter Wonder & Walk (2/18-3/11) 4-WEEK SERIES • ALL AGES 10:00-11:00 AM	3/30	Opening Reception for Portraits of Nature by the Delaware Valley Art League 2:00-4:00 PM
1/12	Views of the Forest Through the Lens of Music 2:30-3:30 PM	2/19	Tai Chi (2/19-3/12) 4-WEEK SERIES 9:30-10:30 AM	3/31	Mindful Yoga (3/31-5/5) 6-WEEK SERIES 6:00-7:15 PM
1/15	Tai Chi (1/15-2/5) 4-WEEK SERIES 9:30-10:30 AM	2/20	Mindful Yoga (2/20-3/27) 6-WEEK SERIES 9:30-10:45 AM Wildlife Habitats to Attract Backyard Birds 7:00-8:30 PM	4/3	Mindful Yoga (4/3-5/8) 6-WEEK SERIES 9:30-10:45 AM Backyard Wilderness: A Film Screening and Panel Discussion 7:00-8:30 PM
1/16	How to Manage Stormwater and Streamside Areas on Your Property 7:00-8:30 PM	2/22	Wool Art Painting Workshop 1:00-3:30 PM	4/9	Tai Chi (4/9-4/30) 4-WEEK SERIES 9:30-10:30 AM
1/19	Opening Reception for 14th Annual Visitors' Photography Exhibition 2:00-4:00 PM	2/23	Views of the Forest Through the Lens of Music 2:30-3:30 PM	4/12	Mindfulness Meditation Walk 9:15-10:30 AM Good Morning, Garden (All Ages) 10:00-11:00 AM Introduction to Birding 1:00-3:00 PM
1/25	Native Seed Propagation: Deer-Resistant Plants 10:00 AM-12:00 PM Vision Board Workshop 10:00 AM-1:00 PM	3/1	Scientific Illustration Workshop 10:00 AM-12:00 PM		
1/27	Bird Walk 8:30-9:30 AM	3/15	Sketching Winter Trees and Shrubs 10:00 AM-3:30 PM		
		3/16	Evergreen Exploration (All Ages) 10:30-11:30 AM Views of the Forest Through the Lens of Music 2:30-3:30 PM		



REGISTER ONLINE

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

- 4/17 **Backyard Bounty: Foraging at Home**
7:00-8:30 PM
- 4/19 **Photo Walk**
9:00-11:00 AM
- 4/21 **Bird Walk**
7:45-8:45 AM
- 4/22 **Jenkins Juniors (4/22-5/13)**
4-WEEK SERIES • AGES 2-5
10:00-11:00 AM
- 4/24 **Early Access Plant Party**
5:30-8:00 PM
- 4/25 **Plant Sale (4/25-4/27)**
9:00 AM-4:00 PM
- 4/29 **Exploring Light in Watercolor: A Plein Air Experience**
4:00-7:00 PM
- 5/1 **Namaste & Nature (Ages 2-5)**
10:00-11:00 AM
- 5/15 **The Microscopic Life of Pennsylvania Waters**
7:00-8:30 PM
- 5/17 **Photo Walk**
9:00-11:00 AM

Spring Blooms
5:00-8:00 PM
- 5/20 **Jenkins Juniors (5/20-6/10)**
4-WEEK SERIES • AGES 2-5
10:00-11:00 AM
- 5/21 **Tai Chi (5/21-6/11)**
4-WEEK SERIES
9:30-10:30 AM

- 6/1 **Floral First Aid**
10:00 AM-12:00 PM
- 6/2 **Mindful Yoga (6/2-6/23)**
4-WEEK SERIES
6:00-7:15 PM
- 6/5 **Mindful Yoga (6/5-6/26)**
4-WEEK SERIES
9:30-10:45 AM
- 6/14 **Mindfulness Meditation Walk**
9:15-10:30 AM
- 6/16 **National Pollinator Week (6/16-6/22)**

Mini Microscope Monday (Ages 3+)
10:00-10:45 AM
- 6/19 **Soil: The Story of a Black Mother's Garden**
7:00-8:30 PM
- 6/21 **One Flower at a Time by Gerald Simcoe (6/21-9/21)**
9:00 AM-4:00 PM

Photo Walk
9:00-11:00 AM
- 6/22 **Opening Reception for One Flower at a Time by Gerald Simcoe**
2:00-4:00 PM
- 6/23 **Mini Microscope Monday (Ages 3+)**
10:00-10:45 AM
- 6/30 **Mini Microscope Monday (Ages 3+)**
10:00-10:45 AM



APRIL 9-JUNE 25

Golf Cart Garden Tours

WEDNESDAYS 11:00-11:45 AM



APRIL 9-JUNE 25

Wednesday Walkabouts

WEDNESDAYS 1:00-2:00 PM

SPECIAL EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8

Member Exclusive: A Year in Review

7:00–8:00 PM

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

This virtual presentation celebrates our staff and volunteers, and highlights many of the accomplishments in our garden. Gain a new perspective on how Jenkins continues to develop and maintain our beautiful garden for all.

Free of charge | Members only | Virtual event

THURSDAY, APRIL 3

Backyard Wilderness: A Film Screening and Panel Discussion

7:00–8:30 PM

Backyard Wilderness will surprise and entertain you with a glimpse into the unexpected natural wonders hiding in plain sight in our own backyards. Spanning a seasonal year around a suburban home, the film displays a stunning array of unique wildlife and reminds us that Wi-Fi is not the only connection that matters. Sometimes in ordinary places, you can uncover extraordinary things that can transform you forever—you just need to step outside.

A panel discussion on the importance of native plants in maintaining watershed health, building climate resilience, and creating habitat for birds and other wildlife will follow.

Presented by Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens, Audubon Mid-Atlantic/John James Audubon Center, Valley Forge Park Alliance, and Penn State Great Valley.

Free of charge

Location: Penn State Great Valley, Conference Center Building

MONDAY, JUNE 16–SUNDAY, JUNE 22

National Pollinator Week

Celebrate the importance of pollinators with on-site education, activities, plants, and much more. We'll also highlight cool facts about winged wonders and how you can help on Jenkins' social media (@jagardens).

Art Exhibitions

GALLERY OPEN DAILY 9:00 AM–4:00 PM

JANUARY 11–MARCH 23

14th Annual Visitors' Photography Exhibition

OPENING RECEPTION: SUNDAY, JANUARY 19

2:00–4:00 PM

Enter your photography in our show! Submissions due January 6–7. Full entry submission details at jenkinsarboretum.org/photography.

Free of charge | Registration not required

MARCH 29–JUNE 15

Portraits of Nature by the Delaware Valley Art League

OPENING RECEPTION: SUNDAY, MARCH 30

2:00–4:00 PM

Free of charge | Registration not required

JUNE 21–SEPTEMBER 21

One Flower at a Time by Gerald Simcoe

OPENING RECEPTION: SUNDAY, JUNE 22

2:00–4:00 PM

Free of charge | Registration not required

Views of the Forest Through the Lens of Music

Immerse yourself in classical music with the forest as visual inspiration. Performances feature different musicians with meet-and-greet following. This chamber music series is in collaboration with Allegro Music Consultants.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12

2:30–3:30 PM

Chrystal E. Williams (mezzo) and Felipe Hostins (accordian)

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

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23

2:30–3:30 PM

Mimi Stillman (flute) and Gabriel Globus-Hoenich (percussion)

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

SUNDAY, MARCH 16

2:30–3:30 PM

Mei Ching Huang (violin) and Hae Yi Ni (cello)

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

Plant Sale

Celebrate the seasonal return of our outdoor retail nursery by shopping during our annual plant sale! Join us for a festive Early Access Plant Party on Thursday, then shop for an expanded selection of plants during our public plant sale.

Proceeds from this sale support Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens and the Delaware Valley Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society. Both organizations work to connect people to plants through education, research, and outreach.

Can't make it for this special weekend sale? Don't worry—this is just the start of the season! Shop for native plants in the outdoor retail nursery of The Garden Shop at Jenkins, open April 25 through mid-October.

THURSDAY, APRIL 24

Early Access Plant Party

5:30–8:00 PM

Kick off the growing season by attending our exclusive opening night party! Get first dibs on plants while enjoying an open bar and hors d'oeuvres in the company of other plant enthusiasts.

Experts from the Delaware Valley Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society as well as Jenkins' horticulture staff will be on hand to answer questions and provide expert guidance on plant selection throughout the evening.

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

FRIDAY, APRIL 25–SUNDAY, APRIL 27

Plant Sale Weekend

9:00 AM–4:00 PM

Choose from an expanded selection of native trees, perennials, and shrubs, including many rare and hard-to-find species. The sale will also feature uncommon and unusual rhododendrons and azaleas from our friends at the Delaware Valley Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society.

The plant sale will be held outdoors at Jenkins, rain or shine. Parking is limited; carpooling is strongly encouraged. Credit card, cash, Apple Pay, Cash App, and checks will be accepted. Members receive 10% off on all purchases!

Free of charge | Registration not required



SPECIAL EVENT

Spring Blooms

ANNUAL CELEBRATION

SATURDAY, MAY 17

5:00–8:00 PM

Save the date for our annual floral fête! Celebrate the emergence of spring by enjoying seasonal fare, delicious desserts, good conversation, and lively music.

Contact us at giving@jenkinsarboretum.org to learn more about Corporate Sponsorship and Patron opportunities.

GARDENING & NATURE

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25

Native Seed Propagation: Deer-Resistant Plants

10:00 AM–12:00 PM

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

It may be cold outdoors, but it's time to sow and grow indoors! Explore a variety of seed starting techniques for native plants, including winter sowing, leaching, soaking, scarification, and stratification. Get hands-on experience as you sow and take home seeds from a special selection of deer-resistant native plants for southeastern Pennsylvania gardens.

Members: \$30 | Non-Members: \$40

MONDAYS, JANUARY 27 & APRIL 21

Bird Walks

1/27 • 8:30–9:30 AM

4/21 • 7:45–8:45 AM

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

Go birding with Bonnie! Search for resident birds in winter and migratory birds in spring, and 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

WEDNESDAYS, APRIL 9–JUNE 25

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 five people per tour.

Free of charge

WEDNESDAYS, APRIL 9–JUNE 25

Wednesday Walkabouts

1:00–2:00 PM

Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens Staff

Join us on Wednesday afternoons this spring for walking tours through our glorious gardens. Each week's tour will have a different focus depending on the staff leader and seasonal landscape. Topics may include spring wildflowers, flowering trees, our *Rhododendron* collection, native plants, Jenkins' history, and much more. Get outside and discover Jenkins with us!

Groups of five or more are requested to schedule private guided tours at other times (contact tours@jenkinsarboretum.org).

Free of charge

SATURDAY, APRIL 12

Introduction to Birding

1:00–3:00 PM

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

Gain a foundational knowledge of and basic skills in birding, focusing on the birds found in and around Philadelphia. Learn bird identification techniques, key characteristics of local species, and effective birdwatching methods. Participants will feel confident in identifying common birds by the end of this indoor program.

Members: \$30 | Non-Members: \$40

SUNDAY, JUNE 1

Floral First Aid

10:00 AM–12:00 PM

*Marissa Jacobs, Trained Forager, Certified Herbalist, and
Founder of The Art of Ecology*

Join us for a guided walk to learn about flowering plant identification and the herbal benefits of plant life, especially those that will help us out in a pinch if we get hurt outdoors. After the walk, create your own skin salve utilizing nature's floral bounty. Each participant will also get to take home a floral first aid field bookmark. All materials provided.

Members: \$70 | Non-Members: \$80

THIRD THURSDAY LECTURES

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16

How to Manage Stormwater and Streamside Areas on Your Property

7:00–8:30 PM

Mark Gallagher, Vice President, Princeton Hydro; Clay Emerson, PhD, Senior Technical Director, Princeton Hydro

In the suburban landscape, our interconnected system of roadside ditches, inlets, and pipes have replaced natural headwater wetland areas and first-order streams. This new manmade conveyance system has increased the connectivity of our watersheds, bringing the responsibility of a riparian landowner to nearly everyone's front door. This presentation will focus on stormwater and vegetation/landscape management solutions for the environmentally conscious streamside property owner.

Free of charge | Virtual event

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Wildlife Habitats to Attract Backyard Birds

7:00–8:30 PM

Pat Sutton, Educator, Naturalist, and Author

Create it and they will come! Pat Sutton will share accounts of the diverse wildlife attracted to the South Jersey wildscape she and her husband have nurtured for over 30 years. They have tallied over 212 bird species and 78 butterfly species in their tiny one-half-acre wildlife oasis. How'd they do it? By questioning each practice as to whether it would help or harm wildlife. Get tips on creating a backyard habitat that benefits wildlife.

Free of charge | Virtual event

THURSDAY, MARCH 20

Pennsylvania's Big Trees

7:00–8:30 PM

Aaron Greenberg, State Coordinator, Pennsylvania Champion Tree Program

The Pennsylvania Big Tree Register is a list of all of the largest trees of each species in the state. It has nearly 2,000 specimens and is growing all the time. Explore how the Big Tree Register works and discover some of Pennsylvania's most impressive specimens. Learn why big trees are so important, including their ecological and cultural value to our landscapes.

Free of charge | Virtual event

THURSDAY, APRIL 17

Backyard Bounty: Foraging at Home

7:00–8:30 PM

Marissa Jacobs, Trained Forager, Certified Herbalist, and Founder of The Art of Ecology

Are you interested in eating seasonally, and creating delicious meals with whole, sustainably sourced ingredients? Look no further than your backyard! Discover the many wild foods that grow locally in the eastern United States, the nutritive benefits they have, and how to be ethical foragers. Feel more confident in your plant identification skills and discover some fun recipes to try out using these wild foods. Note: this lecture will not go into depth about mushrooms and fungi.

Free of charge | Virtual event

THURSDAY, MAY 15

The Microscopic Life of Pennsylvania Waters

7:00–8:30 PM

John Lisowski, PA Master Naturalist and Avid Microscopist

The ponds, lakes, and streams of Pennsylvania are alive with creatures too small to be seen by the naked eye. Enjoy a brief introductory presentation on light microscopy and highlights, followed by real-world examples of footage taken through the microscope. Discover fascinating microscopic creatures, including some found in water samples taken at Jenkins! Learn why these tiny organisms are important to us and how you can begin your own exploration of the microscopic world.

Free of charge | Virtual event

THURSDAY, JUNE 19

Soil: The Story of a Black Mother's Garden

7:00–8:30 PM

Camille T. Dungy, Poet, Scholar, and Author

In *Soil: The Story of a Black Mother's Garden*, Camille T. Dungy recounts the seven-year odyssey to diversify her garden in the predominantly white community of Fort Collins, Colorado, which limited what residents could plant in their gardens. In resistance to these restrictive policies, Dungy employs her garden as metaphor and treatise for how homogeneity threatens the future of our planet and why cultivating diverse and intersectional language in our national discourse about the environment is the best means of protecting it.

Free of charge | Virtual event

ART & PHOTOGRAPHY

SATURDAYS, FEBRUARY 1 & MARCH 1

Scientific Illustration Workshops

10:00 AM–12:00 PM

Marissa Jacobs, Educator and Founder of The Art of Ecology

Combine your love of art and the natural world to create scientific illustrations! Learn more about scientific illustration from the role of composition to the in-depth process of making and documenting observations. Review the scientific method as it applies to artists, and how being able to make detailed observations for our artistic creation can lead us to notice the little things around us.

All materials provided. No prior artistic or scientific experience is required.

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

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Wool Art Painting Workshop

1:00–3:30 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, 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 provided—size is 8x10," framed under glass. Perfect for any skill level.

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

SATURDAY, MARCH 15

Sketching Winter Trees and Shrubs

10:00 AM–3:30 PM

Margaret Saylor, Botanical Artist and Illustrator

Get up-close with winter trees and shrubs, many without their signature leaves. From the textured surfaces of branches to the delicate forms of emerging buds and the resilient sheen of evergreen leaves, you'll learn techniques to capture the intricate details to bring these unique seasonal features to life on paper.

Explore graphite, Micron pen, and watercolor as mediums with a small, manageable sketchbook.

All levels welcome; some drawing experience helpful but not necessary. Bring your lunch.

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

SATURDAY, MARCH 22

Fresh to Dry Wreaths

1:00–3:00 PM

Peicha Chang, Floral Designer

Create a wreath of fragrant blooms and foliage! Using a variety of dried materials and fresh florals that dry well over time, you will design a long-lasting wreath that can be enjoyed in your home beyond the spring season.

All materials provided—bring your creativity!

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

SATURDAY, MARCH 29

Gemstone Bracelets: Connect with Nature

10:30 AM–12:00 PM

Jessica O'Connell, Owner of Beads of a Feather

Shake off the past seasons and embrace the fertile soil awakening around you! Reconnect with nature through calming guided meditation and gentle live music. Tap into your creativity as you craft a one-of-a-kind gemstone bracelet, symbolizing the nourishment, guidance, and innate connection we share with the natural world. This workshop will be a reminder that you are not apart from nature, but truly a part of it.

All materials provided. Participants will make one bracelet. Suitable for adults and teens.

Members: \$40 | Non-Members: \$50

SATURDAYS, APRIL 19, MAY 17, JUNE 21

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.

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

TUESDAY, APRIL 29

Exploring Light in Watercolor: A Plein Air Experience

4:00–7:00 PM

Radhika Srinivas, Watercolor Artist and Instructor

This immersive workshop will focus on the dynamic interplay of light in watercolor. Explore key concepts such as light source, shadow, and reflection, and how to apply these principles to your plein air work. Learn how to focus on a scene and find an effective composition with the help of a view finder or your phone and start sketching and painting. Receive feedback and tips as you paint.

All levels welcome. A materials list is available.

Members: \$55 | Non-Members: \$65

WELLNESS

MONDAY & THURSDAY SERIES

Mindful Yoga

MONDAYS • 6:00–7:15 PM • HYBRID

6-week series: 1/6–2/10, 2/17–3/24, 3/31–5/5

4-week series: 6/2–6/23

THURSDAYS • 9:30–10:45 AM • VIRTUAL

6-week series: 1/9–2/13, 2/20–3/27, 4/3–5/8

4-week series: 6/5–6/26

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. Bring yoga blocks/straps to use with modifications.

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

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

WEDNESDAYS SERIES

Tai Chi

9:30–10:30 AM

4-week series: 1/15–2/5, 2/19–3/12, 4/9–4/30, 5/21–6/11

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. Winter classes will be held indoors and spring classes outdoors with an indoor option for inclement weather.

Members: \$48/4-week series

Non-Members: \$68/4-week series

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25

Vision Board Workshop

10:00 AM–1:00 PM

Liz Patterson, Founder of ProActive Wellness Coaching

No dream is too wild. Nothing is off limits! Unlock your creativity and set your intentions with a relaxing, guided vision board workshop. Through visualization and creative exercises, design a vision board that helps you clarify your goals and dreams for the coming year. Join us to turn your dreams into tangible, visual realities, and step confidently into the future you desire.

All materials and tools are provided. Bring an open mind, and any photographs, personal items, or clippings you'd like to include on your board.

Members: \$55 | Non-Members: \$65

SATURDAYS, FEBRUARY 8, APRIL 12, JUNE 14

Mindfulness Meditation Walks

9:15–10:30 AM

Nadine Kaylor, Mindfulness Meditation Teacher & Mentor

Deepen your appreciation for nature with seasonal meditation classes. Walk mindfully through the gardens, notice changes within the seasons, and connect with the natural world. Each class offers a framework based in mindfulness meditation to reduce stress and anxiety, increase focus and attention, and expand your practice.

All levels welcome, no prior meditation experience needed. Classes will be held outdoors with indoor or covered options available for inclement weather. Please dress appropriately with sturdy footwear.

Members: \$12/class | Non-Members: \$18/class



YOUTH PROGRAMS

Mini Microscope Mondays (Ages 3+)

MONDAYS, JUNE 16, 23, 30
10:00–10:45 AM

Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens Staff

Uncover the hidden details of nature's smallest marvels! Using kid-friendly, handheld mini microscopes, we'll get up-close with what's living and growing in Jenkins' gardens and appreciate the fascinating micro-world around us. Looking closer will help build focus, nurture curiosity, and boost observation skills. Discover something new each week!

Suitable for ages 3 and up. Children must be walking (no strollers) and must be accompanied by an adult. Registration required for children only.

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

YOUTH PROGRAMS

TUESDAYS, 4-WEEK SERIES

Winter Wonder & Walk (All Ages)

2/18–3/11 • 10:00–11:00 AM

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

Winter is wonder-full! Enjoy a nature-themed read aloud followed by an activity or craft. NEW—let's get outside for a walk! Learn what plants and animals do during the winter season and celebrate our love for nature.

All ages welcome; most suitable for ages 2–5. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Registration required for children only. Classes will start and end indoors with a short time outdoors, weather dependent.

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

SUNDAY, MARCH 16

Evergreen Exploration (All Ages)

10:30–11:30 AM

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

There's so much green in our gardens during the winter! Explore the evergreen plants at Jenkins by learning their names and looking closely at their unique leaves. Our outdoor green scavenger hunt will end with an indoor craft.

All ages welcome; most suitable for ages 2+. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Registration required for children only.

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

SATURDAY, APRIL 12

Good Morning, Garden (All Ages)

10:00–11:00 AM

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

Let's see what's waking up in the garden this spring! Go on a scavenger hunt as we discover the flora and fauna of Woodland Walk and beyond. Our morning exploration will end with a seasonally inspired activity.

All ages welcome; most suitable for ages 2+. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Registration required for children only.

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

TUESDAYS, 4-WEEK SERIES

Jenkins Juniors (Ages 2–5)

4/22–5/13 • 10:00–11:00 AM

5/20–6/10 • 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, MAY 1

Namaste & Nature (Ages 2–5)

10:00–11:00 AM

*Lisa Schwarcz, Yoga Instructor and Pediatric
Physical Therapist; Amy Mawby, Education Manager,
Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens*

In this special class, little ones get to have fun with yoga, explore nature, and learn how to feel calm and happy inside. Pretend to be animals, trees, and other things in nature as we stretch, move, and breathe together. Take the adventure off the mat and into the gardens with a walk to explore the natural world around us.

Suitable for ages 2–5. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Registration required for children only. Class will take place outdoors.

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

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.

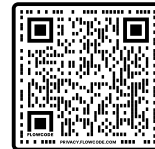
CAREGIVER REGISTRATION POLICY

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.

Year-Round Rhododendron Care

At Jenkins, the changing seasons bring distinct challenges and opportunities for our horticulture team as we care for our vibrant collection of azaleas and rhododendrons. Follow along through a year of maintenance to learn how to keep these beloved plants happy and healthy.

WINTER

Maintenance begins in winter with de-leaving, when our horticulture team and dedicated volunteers clear leaves that have fallen from the canopy. These trapped leaves can collect snow and ice, adding weight that may break branches and cause irreparable damage. Leaf clusters also provide a winter refuge for the maple mealybug (*Phenacoccus acericola*), who shelter under dried leaves to mature through the cold months. In spring, surviving adults lay eggs, then, both adults and larvae feed on azalea sap, reducing vigor and potentially leading to



plant death if not controlled. Removing these leaf clusters removes the mealybugs' shelter and exposes them to harsher winter conditions, helping to manage their population.

Late winter is an ideal time to prune larger branches that may disrupt the garden's aesthetics or block important views. Cuts are made at the base of the branch to ensure proper healing and support the overall health of the plant. Some types of rhododendrons and azaleas benefit from pruning in summer, so be sure to do a little research before pulling out your handsaw.

SPRING

Spring brings a flurry of maintenance and pest management in the gardens, with a key focus on azalea leaf gall fungus (*Exobasidium vaccinii*). This fungus causes infected leaves to swell with bright green galls that eventually turn white and release spores, spreading the disease. Our horticulture team scouts and removes these galls in April (see top left photo). While the galls typically don't kill azaleas, they do reduce the plant's ability to photosynthesize and look unsightly.

As rhododendrons and azaleas finish blooming, our team also deadheads spent flowers from large-leaf rhododendrons to prevent seed formation. This allows plants to conserve energy and focus on producing buds for next year rather than seeds.

Later in spring, we check leaves for small holes (see middle left photo) that indicate the presence of black vine weevil (*Otiorhynchus sulcatus*). While the adults aren't a major concern, their damage helps identify the presence of active larvae that feed on roots. Once larvae are confirmed, we apply beneficial nematodes—natural predators—into the soil to manage the issue.

SUMMER

Pruning is an essential aspect of plant maintenance. At Jenkins, we use a pruning

technique known as heading, which involves making cuts mid-stem to shape the plant, thus stimulating bud growth along the stem (see bottom left photo). Our horticulture team primarily employs this technique on evergreen azaleas after they bloom in spring—typically in June. Pruning during this time allows new growth to strengthen and harden off before the first frost of fall. This approach enables our staff to subtly shape evergreen azaleas.

Keep in mind that all rhododendrons form their flower buds in the previous season, so pruning live branches after July may inadvertently remove next year's blooms. Additionally, it's crucial to ensure clean cuts, as jagged edges, deep wounds, or broken branches can make the plants vulnerable to pests and pathogens.

FALL

The health of a plant begins with the quality of its soil. At Jenkins, our horticulture team prioritizes improving soil health with the use of woodchips and leaf mulch. As fallen leaves decompose, they form humus that retains moisture and provides essential nutrients. In areas prone to erosion, we layer wood chips with leaf mulch to prevent soil loss. Additionally, leaving branches on the ground supports this process, as they break down over time to enrich the soil and help slow runoff by trapping organic debris that can also decompose.

Adhering to best practices for rhododendrons and azaleas requires our staff to consider the plant type, season, and whether the task is routine maintenance or addressing a specific stressor. Many of these tasks are scheduled for specific times throughout the year and wouldn't be possible without the invaluable support of our dedicated garden volunteers, as well as Jenkins' Interns and Apprentices. Be sure find our team out in the garden to discover techniques that can benefit your plants at home as well!

All in the (Plant) Family

A plant family is a group of plants that are related, like family members. They share common traits, such as similar flowers or leaves, or the places they like to grow. The plants featured on this page all belong to the plant family, Ericaceae. Members of Ericaceae, or heath family, live happily together at Jenkins in our well-drained, acidic soils. From tiny to tall, this family seems diverse at first glance, but take a closer look and you'll notice that Ericaceous plants are often evergreen with simple leaves. Their flower petals tend to be fused together, creating an urn, bell, or tubular shape. Look for the family resemblance among these plants growing at Jenkins!



SOURWOOD
(*Oxydendrum arboreum*)



ROSEBAY RHODODENDRON
(*Rhododendron maximum*)



MOUNTAIN LAUREL
(*Kalmia latifolia*)



REDVEIN ENKIANTHUS
(*Enkianthus campanulatus*)



GHOST PIPE
(*Monotropa uniflora*)



PINXTERBLOOM AZALEA
(*Rhododendron periclymenoides*)



DROOPING LEUCOTHOE
(*Leucothoe fontanesiana*)



JAPANESE PIERIS
(*Pieris japonica*)



HIGHBUSH BLUEBERRY
(*Vaccinium corymbosum*)



SPOTTED PIPSISSEWA
(*Chimaphila maculata*)

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