



WHAT'S INSIDE

Sculpture in the Garden ..	1
Maintenance Schedule	1
What's in Bloom	2
Events of Interest	3
We've Moved	4

MAINTENANCE CONTRACT CALENDAR

APRIL

- Mow, trim, edge and weed paved areas
- Slow release fertilizer with application of pre-emergent herbicide for regular treat lawns (weather dependent)
- Slow release organic fertilizer for organic treat lawns (weather dependent)
- Prune and trim bushes
- Clean, weed and edge planting beds
- Annual and perennial flower care
- Plant health care visits, including spraying dogwoods
- Rose care continues (additional charge)
- April 3rd - Summer annual flower orders due

MAY

- Mow, trim, edge & weed paved areas
- Broadleaf and pre-emergent weed control treatments for regular treat lawns (second application)
- Inspect lawns for grubs; treat as needed (additional charge)
- Prune and trim shrubs
- Clean, weed & edge planting beds
- Annual and perennial flower care
- 1st round of gutter cleaning begins
- Plant health care visits, including inspection & treatment for pests & diseases as needed
- Rose care continues (additional charge)

JUNE

- Mow, trim, edge & weed paved areas
- Continued inspection of lawns for grubs; treat as needed (additional charge)
- Prune and trim shrubs
- Clean, weed & edge planting beds
- Annual and perennial flower care
- Plant health care visits, including inspection and treatment for pests and diseases as needed
- Rose care continues (additional charge)
- 1st round of gutter cleaning completed

SCULPTURE IN THE GARDEN

Last May, I visited Chanticleer Garden in Pennsylvania. In addition to being a plant lover's paradise, the garden is filled with many pieces of sculpture, mostly whimsical and of varying sizes. The trip reminded me that carefully chosen and sited sculpture can add a tremendous amount of interest and visual excitement to a garden.

Here, then, are some points to keep in mind in incorporating sculpture in a garden. Choose a piece because you like it, and think carefully about where you want it placed. Do you want to be able to view it from many places in the garden, and/or from a particular window in your house? Or do you want it tucked away for a visitor to discover at the end of garden path, a little surprise that makes the journey worthwhile? Formal marble statues look right at home in more traditional gardens, surrounded by lush plantings or clipped evergreens. Large abstract structures may need more open space around them, and backgrounds of trees or shrubs that are closer to their own scale.

Several LPI clients whose gardens include sculpture have taken different approaches to incorporating the works they have chosen. In one woodland-style N.W. Washington property, several large metal sculptures, including a Calder mobile ("Le Flamand"), grace the edges of an open lawn area and a grassy terrace in the back yard, while other, smaller bronze pieces are tucked into borders to



A Nepalese wooden window frame, acquired by some Chevy Chase clients on their travels, is repurposed as a sculptural element in the garden."

delight visitors who look carefully as they explore the garden. In Chevy Chase, some former clients of LPI's mounted three carved Nepalese wooden screens in their front yard as sculptural elements surrounding a new copper beech tree that replaced a hickory tree downed by a lightning strike. In both cases, the owners have lit their sculptures for night viewing, giving their gardens extended interest even after dark.



A sculptural face at Chanticleer Garden in Pennsylvania is framed by grasses and honeysuckle.





All photos © Melissa Clark unless otherwise noted

Cover story continued

“No winter
lasts forever;
no spring
skips its turn.”

Hal Borland



Clematis ‘Dawn’ is a variety that blooms in shady locations.

In a somewhat different situation, several years ago I designed the front yard garden of Bethesda architect Mark Kramer, who is also a sculptor. His front yard already contained a pair of free-standing figures. I suggested moving another, smaller red sculpture from the back yard to be placed in front of a new small patio next to the front of the house. I kept the plantings around the sculptures low and neutral, avoiding shrubs or perennials that I thought would compete with the playful metal figures that are the first thing that strike your eye when you pull up to the house.

Locally, the Hirshorn Museum has its own sculpture garden, described by the Washington Post as a “welcoming urban park” after its redesign and reopening in 1981. The National Gallery also has a Sculpture Garden directly across from the Gallery’s West Building entrance. Farther afield, interested visitors can visit Grounds for Sculpture in New Jersey (www.groundsforsculpture.org), the PepsiCo corporate grounds in Purchase, New York, or the Storm King Art Center in Mountainville, New York (www.stormking.org). Check each center’s website for hours and directions. You may find some inspiration for your own garden!

Melissa Clark, APLD

WHAT’S IN BLOOM IN OUR LANDSCAPES

There’s a Clematis vine for virtually every situation and they are often spectacular, with a profusion of flowers in white, blue, violet, purple, pink, red and even bi-colors. The large-flowered hybrids may have blooms ranging from four to ten inches in diameter and as many as 100 or more blooms per plant in a season.

When planted at the base of shrubs or small trees they will weave their way through the supporting foliage and extend the season of interest with their showy blooms. The woody structure of Shrub Roses can be used to support the non-clinging Clematis varieties such as *Clematis integrifolia*; for example; or you can grow purple or blue Clematis through a yellow Shrub Rose for a fabulous contrast. The taller varieties are stunning when covering an arbor or trellis. And while most Clematis prefer sunny locations, there are a number of shade-tolerant varieties.

There are three general flower forms: small white flowers in loose clusters; bell or urn-shaped flowers; and flat or open flowers. Small-flowered species offer a range of fragrances from almond to hot cocoa. Butterflies and hummingbirds are attracted to clematis.

The size of different clematis vines varies considerably. Very vigorous species like Sweet Autumn Clematis and Anemone Clematis grow to 20 to 30 feet. Most of the large-flowered hybrids grow to around 8 to 12 feet tall, and the smaller species grow 2 to 5 feet tall. The old saying about clematis growth (and many other perennials) is, “The first year they sleep, the second year they creep and the third year they leap.” Growth may seem slow as the plant builds its root system, but once established, clematis are strong growers. Clematis is well deserving of a place in the garden.

Barbara Monfort





Events of Interest

EVENTS OF INTEREST APRIL – JUNE 2014

BROOKSIDE GARDENS

Garden Walks & Talks

The Fragrance Garden

Wednesday, April 30, 1:00-2:30pm
(Visitors' Center Adult Classroom)

During one of the most aromatic times of the growing season, come and enjoy a tour of the Fragrance Garden led by its lead horticulturist. Learn tips and tricks for adding fragrant plants to your garden.

Fee: \$6 FOBG: \$5; registration required

Don't Forget the Groundcovers!

Wednesday, June 4, 1:00-2:30pm

Experienced gardeners utilize even the small garden space with layers of design. From the upper canopy down through understory trees and shrubs, interesting groundcovers serve as an important, contrasting edge to the landscape or will fill in areas where grass is not an option. Both common and unusual, the variety is endless.

Fee: \$6 FOBG: \$5; registration required

US NATIONAL ARBORETUM

Friends of the National Arboretum Garden Fair & Plant Sale

Friday - Sunday, April 25 - 27
(10 am - 4 pm)

This sale's carefully curated offerings include rare and hard to find plants as well as tried and true favorites - you're sure to find exactly what you're looking for.

In addition to FONa's hand selected offerings, on-site staff offer expert advice on-site to guide you through selecting plants for that tricky spot in your garden. Members-only sale hours from 10 am to 1 pm on Friday (opening day). For more details visit www.fona.org/gardenfair.

GEORGETOWN GARDEN TOUR

Saturday, May 10th, 10 am - 5 pm

Visit seven Georgetown gardens, enjoy "tea" at Christ Church (31st and O St. NW), and take a tour of Dumbarton Oaks Park, led by docents of the DOP Conservancy, who will highlight restoration efforts and speak about two major

ASK LPI

Dear LPI: We're planning to put an addition on the back of our house beginning in a few months. There are several nice trees, including a beautiful flowering dogwood, in the vicinity of the planned construction area. How can we protect them?

Answer: The key to maximizing their chances to survive the construction process is protecting their root areas from compaction. First, have the contractor or your landscape contractor install temporary fencing at a distance around each tree that corresponds to the outermost edge of the canopy or 'drip line.' In addition to preventing damage to the trunks of the trees, this fence will discourage workmen from piling up soil, debris, or construction materials on top of root area. Moreover, it will keep trucks and other heavy equipment from driving over or parking on the area. Both of these factors are important in preventing soil compaction, which prevents air and moisture from penetrating the tree roots. Soil compaction is probably the single most common cause of serious damage to (and eventual death of) trees at construction sites. It's important to keep the trees adequately watered during the construction process; and keep an eye on them even once the work is finished. There may be stress to the root area (since the roots actually extend beyond the drip line) despite these precautionary measures that may not manifest itself in signs of distress in the tree until one or two years after the construction is completed.



challenges facing the Park - stormwater runoff and invasive plants. Tickets are \$30 if purchased before May 1st, \$35 thereafter. For more details visit the Tour's website at www.georgetowngardentour.com.

BROOKSIDE GARDENS

1800 Glenallan Ave., Wheaton MD, 20902.
(301) 962-1400.
www.brooksidegardens.org

US NATIONAL ARBORETUM

3501 New York Avenue, NE
Washington, D. C. 20002-1958
(202) 245-2726





WHAT'S INSIDE

- Sculpture in the Garden .. 1
- Maintenance Schedule 1
- What's in Bloom 2
- Events of Interest 3
- We've Moved 4

We've Moved

5301 Westbard Circle, Suite 2, Bethesda MD 20816 • (301) 652-8844



5301 Westbard Circle, Suite 2
Bethesda MD 20816
(301) 652-8844
www.landscapeprojects.com