

## Arbor Day 2023

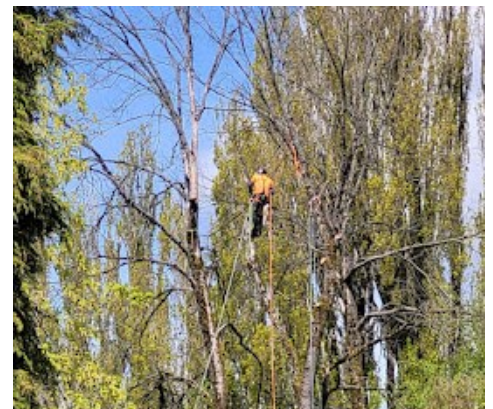
Since 2008, PlantAmnesty (PA) has supported the community's trees by holding an annual Arbor Day Prune. Our founder, Cass Turnbull, was a certified International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) arborist and a tenant of the organization is to uphold the ISA standards in the industry. PlantAmnesty is affiliated with over fifteen ISA-certified companies and their incredibly generous employees. These arborists are members of the organization's referral service - a service where community members who are seeking ethical and scientifically accurate pruning ask PlantAmnesty for recommendations. In 2022 alone, we had over 1,200 referral requests.

Each year the Tree Committee, consisting of our referral arborists, seek out public gardens, schools, or nonprofits in need of major pruning and donate a full workday. In 2021, PA selected 1125 East Harvard in Capitol Hill; future home of Seattle's newest park on the Bullitt Estate and projected site of the Cass Turnbull Garden.

The Seattle Parks and Recreation Department requested the help of PlantAmnesty arborists in the removal of a number of very large, dead, and dangerous American Elm trees that were victims of Dutch Elm Disease. Fourteen companies represented by 26 arborists stepped in to safely remove the trees. A total of three large elms and a grove of smaller elms which had succumbed to Dutch Elm Disease were taken down over the course of seven hours. Approximately \$30,000 worth of work was completed to ensure this new park will be safe for visitors.

PlantAmnesty is thrilled to donate our 2023 day of pruning to the Soos Creek Botanical Garden. Allen Taylor, chair of the Tree Committee, visited the property in November and our staff and arborists have been looking forward to April 28th for months! PlantAmnesty is honored to donate this work to a public space that respects and promotes the restorative properties of nature and ensures it is accessible to everyone.

***Maggie Rogers, Plant Amnesty Executive Director***



***Arborists in trees removing Dutch Elm Disease ridden trees.***



***Group shot of arborists who participated in the Arbor Day Prune.***

## RAINIER AUDUBON Returns to Soos Creek Botanical Garden

Rainier Audubon Society (RAS) returns to Soos Creek Botanical Garden with their informational booth during the two day Spring Plant Sale on Friday, April 21 and Saturday, April 22. In past years visitors enjoyed the educational materials, sample birdhouses and interesting displays. The Rainier Audubon Society is a completely volunteer-run, 501(c)(3) organization. Everything the RAS has accomplished would not be possible without the selfless contributions of RAS members, volunteers and the public.

## Rainier Audubon Society (CBC) Christmas Bird Count

Rainier Audubon Society serves South King County and North Pierce County and each year for the past four years they have counted birds at Soos Creek Botanical Garden. The team of five individuals arrived early in the morning armed with their binoculars. They looked up in the trees, down on the ground and listened as they conducted their Christmas Bird Count.

Here is the list of bird species and numbers that were seen on Sunday, December 18, 2022, during the damp 37-degree temps from 9:30am to 11:15am. Cackling Goose 75, Canada Goose 75, Anna's Hummingbird 4, Bald Eagle 2, Downy Woodpecker 2, Hairy Woodpecker 1, Northern flicker 3, American Crow 10, Black-capped Chickadee 4, Chestnut-backed Chickadee 6, Ruby-crowned Kinglet 2, Pacific Wren 1, European Starling 2, Hermit Thrush 1, American Robin 13, Dark-eyed Junco 25, Song Sparrow 2, Spotted Towhee 1

Upon completion of all their scheduled counts RAS sends data to the National Audubon Society. The data is used by scientists and researchers to better understand bird distribution and population trends. This information helps to identify conservation priorities and is used for local conservation projects.

If you would like to learn more about this great organization check out their website link at [Rainier Audubon Society | RAINIER AUDUBON SOCIETY](https://www.rainieraudubon.org/)

## King Conservation District (KCD) supports the Master Gardeners at Soos Creek Botanical Garden

The Master Gardener Foundation of King County (MGFKC) funds and manages the fruit and vegetable garden in cooperation with the Soos Creek Botanical Gardens (SCBG). The Master Gardeners (MGs) are on site in the vegetable garden areas from March to October on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10am-12pm to answer gardening questions for the public.

The SCBG in collaboration with MGs successfully applied for a grant from the King Conservation District (KCD) to install a new roof on the hoop house in 2022. The KCD grants are focused on supporting successful local fresh food production in underserved communities. The hoop house is important to food production because the MGs propagate all of their vegetable seed starts in the hoop house. All fresh produce and extra vegetable plant starts are donated to the Auburn Food Bank which serves over 3,000 households within the city of Auburn. In 2022 the MGs donated 100 pounds of vegetable plant starts and 1,600 pounds of fresh produce to the local Auburn Food Bank.

**Nancy Purcell, Manager of the Soos Creek Vegetable Demonstration Garden**

## Meet Our Newest Employee

Hello everyone!

My name is Josh and I am beyond thrilled to be part of the team here at Soos Creek Botanical Garden. A little bit about me - I'm originally from San Jose, California, where I grew up wandering redwoods and oak woodlands, as well as the many beaches nearby. I now have lived up here in Washington for the past 6 or so years with my wife, our three dogs, and two cats. I have a background in nursery work, restoration, park management, and residential gardening.



My first time at SCBG was during a fall plant sale. My wife and I bought some crocosmia bulbs and the most prolific flowering Scabiosa I have ever had in my garden. Though we were asked a few times, we decided against buying any peacocks that day, but I am happy to see them in the aviary every morning when I come into work. My first impressions upon the Garden itself when I took my initial walkthrough were that of pure awe! What a truly wondrous place to work in; as I walked along the path next to the long green lawn I couldn't wait to see this Garden in every season to see how its beauty changes.

I am so happy to be working alongside such amazing folks here in these wondrous 23 acres - a big thank you to Maurice and Jim for the opportunity to do so. I hope to share my passion for the Garden with all of you in the future and hope you will all see how the Garden will reflect that as well.

*See you in the garden!*

### Bird Nesting Boxes

Our local Auburn Audubon Society has been in collaboration with Soos Creek Botanical Garden in building nesting boxes to be installed in our Garden. Last year, three of the proposed twelve nesting boxes were installed in the Garden. The Audubon folks will supply the rest of the nesting boxes as time allows and will also be coming to the Garden at the end of the year to clean out the boxes for next year's fledglings. So far, we have one Chickadee box, one small songbird box, and one box for swallows. Can you find them?





## Spring Plant Sale

Spring is slowly peeking around the corner here at SCBG, welcoming the earliest of bulbs and buds. We welcome you to come to our annual Spring Plant Sale on April 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> to enjoy these early delights and to browse through the offerings in our nursery.

We've been busy since January preparing for your visit, and our nursery will be full of plants suitable for your Pacific Northwest garden. We'll have some of your often-requested plants available from our garden for sale this spring as well as a colorful selection of blooming perennials.

The Master Gardeners will be on-site to answer your plant or pest questions.

The Auburn Rainier Audubon Society will be here to talk all things birds. Ask them about our collaboration with them to install 12 new nesting boxes throughout our Garden. They have installed three of the twelve so far...can you find them?

Rose Lee, an expert in all things roses, will be on hand to talk about the new Rosarian Walk next to the nursery. She will have a variety of plants for sale, including her wonderful sweet peas!

Remember that Mother's Day (May 14th) is merely 3 weeks after our sale, so pick up a plant or two to celebrate your mom. We will also have some hand-painted porcelain items for sale that may please mom.

Take some time to stroll through the beautiful garden to see ducks on the pond, rhododendrons bursting with color, and hellebores in full spring glory. Listen to our cheerful songbirds and check out the Pavilion by the Pond for your next event.

Remember that you, too, can become a volunteer at Soos Creek Botanical Garden. It will become your happy place, too!

Donations accepted, as we are a 501(c)(3) non-profit garden. Admission is free.

## Join a Team & Join the Fun

### *Katie Swickard - Board of Directors Chair*

Maurice Skagen's vision for SCBG has always included the importance of community. The public is welcomed to stroll the Garden without an admission fee. The volunteers who donate their time and talents to benefit the Garden also do so to enrich the experience the community enjoys in this botanical oasis.

Would you like to be a vital part of enhancing the public's enjoyment of the Garden? There are several areas where you might find the perfect fit to join a team of like-minded folks.

### Events Team

We are looking for a team of dedicated volunteers to assist with events at the Garden. Do you like to talk about and plan activities? Do you enjoy thinking of delicious food and beverage options? Are you an organizer or a brainstormer? We need you on the events team!

### Docent Team

Joining the dedicated team of docents would be a good fit for someone who enjoys talking with people about plants and gardens. There are a wide variety of tours that visit the Garden, from retirement home groups, to garden clubs or beginning gardeners. New docents receive ample materials and training and typically join along with another docent on tours. We need you on the docent team!

### Propagation Team

The Garden's spring and fall plant sales are partially stocked with plants produced by our own propagation team. A variety of tasks are included that team members take part in to make this area a success. Only a few positions are available for advanced gardeners with previous propagation experience.

### Garden Maintenance Team

Keeping the Garden beautiful, healthy and safe takes many, many volunteers and we need you! Would you like to learn more hands-on gardening skills? Do you enjoy spending time in nature, maintaining a wide collection of plants? Mulching, digging, weeding, raking and trimming are more fun with a group of friends!

These are just a few of the teams that are looking for additional help. Other opportunities include assisting in the Heritage Center, marketing, office work and plant sale help. You may find that when you step up to help the community, you also find a new community of friends yourself.

If you are interested in volunteering, e-mail us at [info@sooscreebotanicalgarden.org](mailto:info@sooscreebotanicalgarden.org) for more information. Once you fill out the New Volunteer Form you will be contacted with more information.

## Take Your Group on a Private Docent Tour!

To book your tour,

E-mail: [info@sooscreebotanicalgarden.org](mailto:info@sooscreebotanicalgarden.org)

### Schedule a Guided Tour Today!



**Soos Creek Botanical Garden** features a variety of garden areas including a pond garden overlooking extensive double borders that lead to a native garden with towering trees and stream. Stop to smell the roses in the new Rosarian Walk. Guided tours are given Wednesdays through Saturdays, by reservation, starting at 10am. Tours are 60 to 90 minutes, your choice.

See the back of the card for details and how to register for your tour!

**SOOS CREEK BOTANICAL GARDEN and HERITAGE CENTER**

- Tours are \$5 per person, with a \$30 minimum.
- We require 2 or 3 weeks' notice to arrange a tour.
- If using a cane, walker or wheelchair, only part of the Garden is accessible. Most paths are gravel and have a slight slope.
- Wear closed-toe walking shoes and dress for the weather.
- Bring a bottle of water in warm weather.
- Meet at the Welcome Arch adjoining parking lot.
- Visitors may also self-tour at no charge.
- There are no tours specifically for children.

Arrange your Garden tour by emailing [info@sooscreebotanicalgarden.org](mailto:info@sooscreebotanicalgarden.org). Please give a cell phone number and the size of the group. Pay fee to the docent at the beginning of tour. (Cash or check only) Groups may arrange to rent the **Pavilion by the Pond** after their tour (Wed-Fri only) for lunch, their organization meeting or just to visit.



**SOOS CREEK BOTANICAL GARDEN and HERITAGE CENTER**  
29308 132nd Ave. SE - Auburn, WA 98092  
[www.sooscreebotanicalgarden.org](http://www.sooscreebotanicalgarden.org)  
[info@sooscreebotanicalgarden.org](mailto:info@sooscreebotanicalgarden.org)

## Pavilion by the Pond Programs



*Pavilion Programs are on the third Wednesday of the month, 12:30pm to 2pm. No charge, but donations gladly accepted.*

*The Pavilion provides covered outdoor seating.*

### **April 19 – Container Gardening with Lauren Linscott the Bonney Lake Plant Lady**

Maximize your small spaces or add a focal point to your larger areas with a head-turning, gorgeous container garden. Watch Lauren a landscape and container designer, as she creates a stunning container sure to bring joy in each season. Lauren will show how a container garden can reflect the seasons with just a few changes. Pick up pro tips from Lauren on her FB page and Instagram.

### **May 17 – The Great Blue Heron with Connie Sidles**

Come along with Master Birder and author, Connie Sidles, as she introduces you to herons that have shaped our culture and continue to fill our lives with beauty. Majestic and mysterious, the elegant plumes of herons enticed hunters to kill them. Their near extinction inspired people to start Audubon Societies around the world, one of the earliest and most successful conservation efforts.

### **June 21 – A Rose Journey with Rose Lee**

Help to celebrate the Grand Opening of the newest part of SCBG, “The Rosarian Walk.” Rose will share her life-long personal journey of how she came to collect one of the most romantic of flowers, including the challenges and successes. Following her program, which focuses on the Heritage and other roses planted in early Spring 2022, the SCBG docents will lead us through the new Garden.

### **June 24 – The Grand Opening of the Rosarian Walk**

Grand Opening of the new Garden continues on Saturday, with another Docent Tour of the new Rose Garden and more at 10:30

### **July 19 – Beauty and Duty: 100 Years of Women in Our Armed Forces**

Join historian Alice Miller as she displays authentic and some rare women’s military uniforms and shares personal stories of the women who wore them. Learn how women advancing in the military ranks have helped women in civilian life as well. Learn why and how the uniforms were made and how they relate to fashions of the time periods. We will begin with a uniform from 1898!

### **August 16 – Summer Sizzlers: The Clematis of July, August and Beyond**

Master Gardener, Laura Watson, will share her love of Clematis, especially the late summer bloomers: profuse Clematis, Trumpets, Urns, the late Large-Flowered and Non-Climbing Clematis varieties. Using great photos, Laura will share care and pruning tips about Clematis: the “Queen of Climbers!” So, as Laura says, “Grow the Heck up! Embellish your Garden with Clematis Vines!”

### **September 20 – Backyard Chickens: 101**

Mary Stueber is co-owner and head chicken-keeper at “13 Hens Farm” in Maple Valley. Her current flock includes over 70 chickens, 15 ducks, and 2 turkeys. Mary will discuss chicken and duck keeping topics. Mary and her family sell organic vegetables, flowers and eggs at the Maple Valley Farmers Market, May to September. Come and hear some of her happy stories about raising poultry.

## *2023 Save the Dates*

**Saturday, June 3, 2023**  
**11am to 3pm**

**Heritage Roses NW** will hold a Rose Display of Old Garden Roses in the Pavilion by the Pond.

Visitors are welcome to view these stunning specimens, both fragrant and disease resistant. Free of charge.

**Sunday, June 11, 2023**  
**3:00pm to 4:30pm**

**Rainier Youth Choir** will be performing at Soos Creek Botanical Garden, featuring Disney songs, “We Are One”

**Friday, July 7, 2023**  
**7:00pm to 9:00pm**

**Jazz in the Garden with Seattle Jazz Network**  
(10 piece Jazz Band)

**August 5 & 6, 2023**

**Emerald Theatre** presents 2 performances.  
Saturday performance at **6:30pm to 8:30pm**  
Sunday performance at **2:00pm to 4:00pm**

**Sunday, August 27, 2023**  
**2:00pm to 3:30pm**

**Auburn Chamber Orchestra**

# Heritage Roses Northwest Rose Society

*by Margaret Nelson*

We are a group of people dedicated to growing, promoting, and educating on Old Garden Roses (OGR) in the Pacific Northwest. Our roses are of the types grown since ancient times by people including the Greeks and Romans, Chinese and other cultures, and include historic roses like the ones grown from rose hips brought to Washington, on the Oregon Trail, by Louisa Boren Denny in Washington in 1854. A direct descendant of this is planted in the Soos Creek Botanical Garden, Auburn, WA.

We love these old roses because they are hardy, beautiful and the source of beautiful fragrance! Some repeat bloom and some bloom only once, but those still put on a good show for weeks in spring. Most of these roses have a story-some history-associated with them which can be a fascinating tale.

Old Garden Roses have been shared for centuries by people digging up runners or starting cuttings to make new bushes. A club like ours gives members a chance to view a multitude of OGRs in personal collections and public gardens, a chance to start their own collections and a source of information and advice on those roses.

We have quarterly meetings, sometimes with a guest speaker, and events include our annual rose display, field trips both local and distant, and service projects to support OGRs.

We would love to have you join us and have a rosy future! You can join us by sending a check for \$10.00 dues, made out to "**Heritage Roses Northwest**"

to: 12821 SE 285<sup>th</sup> St.,  
Auburn, WA 98092.

Please include your name, address, phone number and email.

*Thank you!*



## Heritage Roses Northwest

**Annual Old Garden Rose Display**

**Saturday, June 3, 2023**

**Public hours: 11:00 AM-3:00 PM**

**This event will be held at The Pavilion  
Soos Creek Botanical Gardens  
29308 132nd Avenue SE  
Auburn, Washington**

**Heritage Roses Northwest is holding its annual rose display on Saturday, June 3 at the Soos Creek Botanical Garden in the Pavilion, in Auburn WA.**

**This is not a judged competition but an educational display of the wide variety of our members' antique Old Garden Roses.**

**Please come and see these locally grown, lovely, fragrant and historic roses, and learn about which of these heirloom roses you, too might like to grow.**

**HERITAGE ROSES**  
  
**NORTHWEST**



# Spring Plant Sale

Friday & Saturday,  
April 21 & 22, 2023

10am to 4pm



**Epimedium**  
*Bishop's Hat*



**Phlox russeliana**



**Kalmia**  
*Mountain Laurel*

- Our Garden is bursting with spring color! Walk about our Garden and take a stroll through our new Rosarian Walk.
- Stop by and chat with Master Gardeners, Rainier Audubon Society and our rose expert!
- Gifts available for Mother's Day (May 14<sup>th</sup>).
- Docent tours available. See us online to register!

***Sales proceeds support our admission-free Garden.***

Soos Creek Botanical Garden is a 501(c)(3) non-profit garden.

## COLOR IN THE GARDEN

**March** — Cherry, Magnolia, Camellia, early Rhododendron, Pieris

**April** — Magnolia, Cherry, Dogwood, Azalea, Rhododendron, Camellia, Crabapple, Currant, Redbud

**May** — Rhododendron, Azalea, Magnolia, Clematis, Iris, Peony, Lilac, Rose, Water lily

**June** — Rose, Kalmia, Peony, Dogwood, Iris, Hydrangea, and a host of perennials



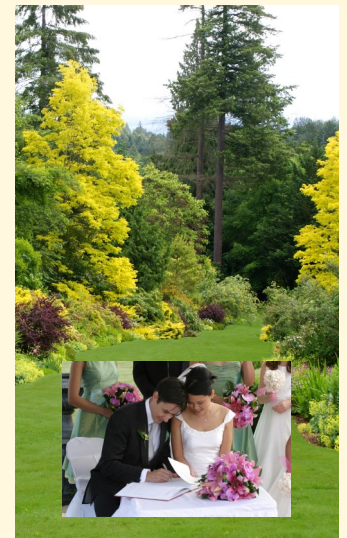
More monthly color on our [Facebook page](#).

## Schedule your Event or Ceremony at the Garden



- Weddings —
- Meetings / Classes —
- Fundraisers —
- Memorials —
- Family Reunions —

The event pavilion was completed in April, 2020. We are now taking reservations for 2023 celebrations.



Email us at: [info@sooscreebotanicalgarden.org](mailto:info@sooscreebotanicalgarden.org)

GARDEN CLIPPINGS is a publication of the Soos Creek Botanical Garden and Heritage Center

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