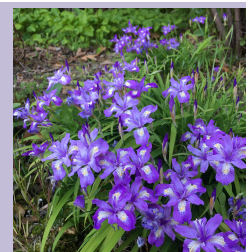




# HAH Happenings

## May 2021



The Horticultural Alliance of the Hamptons

631.537.2223 [hahgarden.org](http://hahgarden.org)

P.O. Box 202, Bridgehampton, NY 11932-0202

at the Bridgehampton Community House

**On Sunday, May 2, 2021 at 2:00 pm  
please join us for a lecture via ZOOM  
by Susan Cohen**



### ***FINDING DESIGN: LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS AND THE CREATIVE PROCESS***

Reaching beyond the constraints of their sites, landscape architects often create works that are unique and memorable. **Susan Cohen** will show ways in which creative imaginations have fueled the design process of several landscape architects. The projects discussed will include the garden of the American Academy in Rome, a college campus in Israel, a modern garden in Japan, a public park in China, a desert garden in California, and a walled garden in England.

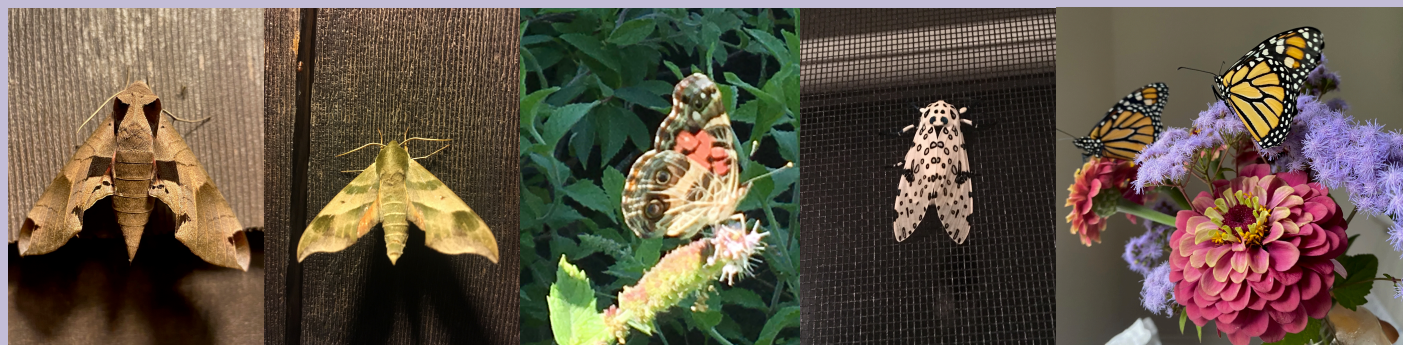
Susan Cohen FASLA is a practicing landscape architect in Old Greenwich, Connecticut, specializing in residential design. She is also a lecturer, author and the founding coordinator of the New York Botanical Garden's Landscape Design Portfolios Lecture Series, now in its twenty-third year. This annual event invites prominent landscape architects from around the world to present their work to a New York City audience.

Susan is also the coordinator of NYBG's Landscape Design Certificate Program, at which she has taught for many years. In addition, she has designed exhibition gardens for NYBG, including the Japanese Autumn Garden and a garden setting for fifteen sculptures on loan from the Museum of Modern Art. She is a member of NYBG's Board of Advisors.

A graduate and Trustee emerita of Smith College, Susan received her landscape architecture degree from CCNY. In 2010, she was elected to the Council of Fellows of the American Society of Landscape Architects for her outstanding contribution to the profession.

Her book, [The Inspired Landscape: Twenty-One Leading Landscape Architects Explore the Creative Process](#), was published by Timber Press. Her website is: [susancohenlandscapearchitect.com](http://susancohenlandscapearchitect.com)

Susan's own home garden has been open for visits by the Garden Conservancy and many garden clubs. This year, she was chosen as an Honorary Member of the Garden Club of America.



Left to right:

Bark pattern moth(Pandorus Sphinx Moth); Virginia Creeper Sphinx Moth; American lady - exterior wing; Leopard moth; Monarchs - on zinnia and blue foam native. Thanks to Sarah Alford for her talk about and photos of pollinators.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Friends,

How quickly May arrived this year. My sense of time is so different now – things feel either endless or instantaneous. But how lovely that we are in this beautiful month, enjoying the last of the daffodils, the tulips and peonies, among other late spring flowers.

What we are missing is our annual Garden Fair and Preview Party! It's more than a fund raiser – it's the beginning of the social season for our gardening community. We are hoping we can do something communal and festive for plant addicts in the early fall, but of course that all depends. In the meantime, several HAH members will be selling their "digs" in their respective driveways, always a highlight of our May event.

We are getting ready for being able to get together in the fall; among other things, we're installing a new sound system with sound battles on the walls to help the acoustics in the community house. And we're also working on how we may be able to have hybrid events—in person and virtual. Or at least with a follow up recording. Stay tuned.

Here's to long warm days, and beautiful early evenings in the garden,

*Alicia*

### Save - the - Date

**The HAH 2021 Karish Program will be held on Saturday, August 28. Please watch for more details on this special event in upcoming newsletters and on the website.**

### HAH 2021

#### **OFFICERS: (an officer serves for a 1 year term)**

President	Alicia Whitaker
First Vice President	Erika Shank
Second Vice President	Rick Bogusch
Recording Secretary	Janet Donohoe Ollinger
Corresponding Secretary	Joan DiMonda
Treasurer	Bettina Benson

#### **DIRECTORS: (a director serves for a 3 year term)**

Erik Brockmeyer	'21
Elaine Peterson	'21
Sarah Alford	'22
Pamela Harwood	'22
Marie DiMonte	'23
Michael Longacre	'23

The Library Chairperson (who serves on the Board with a vote) is currently: Susan Kennedy Zeller

On occasion the board may appoint someone to fill an unexpired term if necessary.

#### **NEWSLETTER/WEBSITE EDITOR**

Elaine Peterson  
hahmember@optonline.net

Submissions must be received by the 10th of the month prior to publication. Please include NL in the subject line.

#### **MAILING**

John Benson

#### **PHOTOS this month**

Sarah Alford, Susan Brackett, Pamela Harwood, Elaine Peterson

### Saturday, May 8 Member Plant Sale & Tour

at the home of Bettina & John Benson,  
4 Sandalwood Court, (cross street King Street)  
Hampton Bays. Hours: 10am to 1pm.  
Cash & Checks appreciated, however, we will  
be able to take credit card info.

All proceeds benefit HAH.

### FOG – Friends of the Garden

The gardening dates for 2021 are Tuesdays at  
10am (*Rain Dates are Thursday of the same  
week*)

May 4, June 1, June 29, July 27, August 24,  
September 21, October 19, and November 16

If you'd like to garden and see some other people  
while gardening – we would be delighted to have  
you join us - anyone wanting to join is welcome –  
but until Covid-19 is behind us - please remember  
to wear a mask and social distance. Hope to see  
you in May or some time this summer.

Cornelia Bostwick

**TELL ME, TREE**  
**All About Trees for Kids**  
by Gail Gibbons

Nobody writes science books for children like Gail Gibbons! She has been at her craft for her 40 years, writing and illustrating more than 100 informational books for kids. Her understanding of children and how they learn, coupled with her vast scientific knowledge is a winning combination.

To introduce your children or grandchildren to trees this is the book to read. All the parts of the tree are discussed - seeds, bark, leaves and roots. There is a simple explanation for phloem, cambium and even photosynthesis. There are cut away illustrations and labels that are visually easy to understand. A variety of leaf shapes, bark textures and tree profiles are presented and discussed. It is a delightful book.

There is a fun activity at the end of the book for your child to engage in individually or for participation by the entire family. It will reinforce the facts presented in the book.  
Suggested grades: K-3

Reviewed by Joan DiMonda

**The Horticultural Alliance of the Hamptons  
Announces a Non-Event Preview Party & Garden Fair**

*Feel good about NOT attending. No need to dress up, attend a party or listen to speeches. Just put on your most comfortable clothes and take time out to savor memories of Preview Parties past—feel free to pour your own wine or champagne.*

We do kindly request a donation for the privilege of staying away

**Dear Members,**

The Officers and Board of HAH made the difficult decision to again cancel the annual May Preview Party & Garden Fair—our only major fundraiser of the year—due to Covid-19. You should have received email and a mailing with this information and request.

2020 was a challenging year for all of us, but HAH plans to continue bringing you a lot more informative and enlightening programming via Zoom until it's again safe to gather in person. A decision was made to waive HAH dues for 2021, but of course *HAHappenings* printing and mailing costs, rent on the Library space, and other normal expenses still need to be paid.

**Thank you for your support and joining in the fun**  
To contribute online: <https://hahgarden.org/2021-HAH-Non-Event/>

A few weeks ago HAH started using the Constant Contact service to send most of our emails in order to give us more graphics and photo capabilities (you'll see a notice at the very bottom of emails with Constant Contact info). This is unlikely to affect your email setup identifying HAH emails as "junk," but if you think you're missing an email, be sure to check in your junk/spam folder and add HAH to your email contacts or "safe sender" list.



## HICKORIES

### *Carya* spp.

Hickories are important trees throughout eastern North America. Locally, they are a major component of the Coastal Oak-Hickory Forest, which covered much of eastern Long Island before colonization, along with its variant, the Coastal Oak-Beech Forest. Along with white, black, scarlet and chestnut oaks, they are commonly found on fertile lowlands and dry mid-slopes and knolls, associated with understory species that include highbush blueberry, flowering dogwood, huckleberries and maple-leaved viburnum. As with all forests, acreage has declined as a result of residential, commercial and agricultural development and the fragmentation that results, as well as predation of young trees and understory plants by deer.

Hickories are large and stately and make visually striking specimens, perfect for large properties and parks, but they are rarely planted as landscape trees. Though their yellow leaves give a golden glow to the autumn landscape, they continually drop bark, twigs, large leaves, flowers and nuts and can, in the wrong place, become a maintenance nightmare. More importantly, they quickly develop long taproots and resist transplanting except in the smallest of sizes.

Hickories have male and female flowers. Numerous male catkins and female spikes bloom in April and May. When trees are 25 years old, the flowers form nuts that ripen in October and drop from trees with their husks, to be eaten and stored by squirrels and other rodents or crushed under foot and tire. Nuts are usually difficult to extract from shells and can be bitter to humans, but they can also be sweet and easily cracked like those of *Carya illinoensis*, the tasty hickory known as pecan.

Hickory wood is hard, tough and shock-resistant, making it perfect for wheel spokes, tool handles, and ladders. Early colonists split saplings to make booms. Today, it is mostly used as firewood and to smoke meats.

Hickories are great trees for naturalizing, because they provide ample forage for wildlife and support the larvae of over 200 species of moths and butterflies. If you want to plant a hickory, you can buy mail order seedlings, or you can depend on the squirrels or become your own squirrel and plant nuts where you want them in autumn. You may also start them in pots in November, leave them outside for the winter and transplant as soon as growth appears in spring.

Pignut hickory (***Carya glabra***) is the most common hickory to be found locally, but it can also be found along the coast from Ontario to Florida. Yellow-green leaves, often a foot long, are pinnate, like all hickories, and composed of 5-7 leaflets. Mature pignuts can be 50-80 feet tall, but only 25-30 feet wide, achieving greatest size with good soil and lots of moisture. With an oval crown and contorted branches, it has a straight trunk with smooth, light gray bark that develops scaly ridges as trees age.

Pignuts produce bitter, round nuts. Ridged husks fall still encasing the nuts, split halfway, which is a clue for identification, as husks of other species split fully and fall separately. The tree got its name because hogs, along with squirrels, chipmunks, raccoons and bears, feasted on the nuts to fatten up for winter.

Two other hickories can also be found in local woodlands. Red hickory, also known as sweet pignut (*Carya ovalis*), is uncommon in our area, but can be found on dry, sandy ridges and slopes throughout its range. It resembles pignut closely in appearance, but its nuts are sweet. Mockernut (***Carya tomentosa***) is also rare and prefers moist, fertile lowlands. It has dark gray bark with distinctive, flattened ridges. Shagbark hickory (*Carya ovata*), with its distinctively peeling bark, is perhaps the most well-known species, but it is not a coastal species and generally not found on eastern Long Island.

Nearby places to see hickories are the Morton Wildlife Refuge, Mashomack Preserve, Barcelona Neck, many Peconic Land Trust preserves, including Bridge Gardens, and perhaps your local woodland.



Rick Bogusch, Director, Bridge Gardens



## Viburnums -- How about some natives?

Susan Brackett

I adore viburnums. They flower through the spring in "cymes", those large, flat-topped "pillows" made up of dozens of tiny, trumpet-shaped, white or pink flowers. The cymes can cover an entire shrub. The berries are wonderful food for birds, and gorgeous. Some are black, some blue, and some a fantastic, Christmas red. But I had never thought to search out native viburnums. I now find that our area has six, including two Arrowwoods.

**Southern Arrowwood** (*Viburnum dentatum*) is an arching, multi-stemmed deciduous shrub that can be 6- to 15 feet tall and wide. It grows at a moderate rate, reaching 6 feet in about 8 years. It has 4-inch, serrated, glossy, dark green leaves and 3- to 4-inch cymes that bloom in late May. Black berries come in September.

*Dentatum* is "one of the most durable viburnums for general landscape use" says woody plants expert Michael Dirr in his beautiful book, *Viburnums: Flowering Shrubs for Every Seasons*. "Wet, dry, acid, high pH, salt -- it withstands all." These shrubs are widely available and easy to transplant. They prefer moist, well-drained soil, but their fibrous root system allows them to tolerate some drought. They do well in sun and part-shade.

They are found in zones 2-8. They have almost no pests, though the leaves can be eaten by the viburnum leaf beetles. Unfortunately, they are grazed by deer. There are many cultivated varieties but, as is generally true, we do not necessarily know whether the cultivars feed birds and bugs in the same way as the species.

In nature, *dentatum* grows in moist woodland areas also home to plants such as American Elder (*Sambucus canadensis*), Button Bush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*), Joe-Pye Weed (*Eupatorium purpureum*), Swamp Rose-Mallow (*Hibiscus moscheutos*), and Turk's Cap Lily (*Lilium superbum*). East Hampton's *Guide to Native Plants* lists *dentatum* as native to Montauk Mesic Forest ("a successional hardwood forest in low areas near the seacoast") with oaks, maples and cherries.

**Northern, or Smooth Arrowwood** (*Viburnum recognitum*) is so closely related to Southern that it can be hard even for experts to differentiate, but it is the more common form in colder regions. The leaves seem to be a bit longer and narrower, and their backs are smooth except for hairs along the veins. The two species have similar cultural requirements. Dirr considers *recognitum* "very adaptable". East Hampton lists it as native to their higher, dryer woodland habitats. These woodland communities include many of the same plants as the Mesic Forest.

The native plant lists created by Southampton and East Hampton towns have introducing me to a whole new world of plants and plant communities. To find details about individual species, I have used an old copy of Michael Dirr's *Manual of Woody Landscape Plants*, and I have searched favorite websites such as USDA (especially their Plant Fact Sheets), Missouri Botanical Gardens and Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center (much more than wildflowers!). When Googling a plant, I include one of these sources as part of the search name, then these more academic sites are the first listed in the results.

**Want to know our other native viburnums?** They are Maple-leaved (*V. acerifolium*); Nannyberry or Wild Raisin (*V. lentago*); Witherod (*V. nudum*); and Blackhaw (*V. prunifolium*). They all sound like fabulous choices for birds, bugs and beauty.

Photos: left to right  
Southern Arrowwood  
(*Viburnum dentatum*)

Southern Arrowwood flowers  
Southern Arrowwood berries

Northern Arrowwood  
(*Viburnum recognitum*)



## BEST PLANTS TO ATTRACT GARDEN POLLINATORS

By Pamela Harwood

This was the topic at our Zoom Roundtable on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, and I wish to thank Brian Smith, VP of the Long Island Native Plant Initiative, and our own Sarah Alford, for making fabulous presentations.

I introduced the session by sharing that besides the generally familiar pollinators like bumblebees and honeybees, many are not easily recognizable, they may be tiny, come in different colors, and may even appear to be flies but are actually bees! Most nest in the ground or in the hollows of dead wood and stems, and since they like warmth prefer south-facing slopes. To help support them, it's good to leave some part(s) of your garden undisturbed, choose a range of plant shapes and colors, have plants with a long blooming season like annuals, plant in masses to attract pollinators, avoid pesticides, and provide shallow water or a muddy area. And although there are many plants that are said to attract pollinators, my experience is that even if I have early-blooming plants, most pollinators seem generally not to appear until our area warms up. I've also found that even though we encourage having as many native varieties as possible, there are many non-native plants that do attract pollinators, because the shape and color of their flowers make them attractive and accessible.

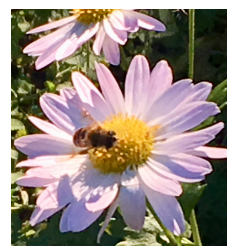
Brian suggested that by creating structure in your garden using low or tall hedges, evergreens, paths, fences, rocks and stones, etc., you can prevent a garden from looking weedy while maximizing undisturbed areas. He agrees that full-season blooms provide the maximum opportunities to attract bees, wasps, and butterflies. Most Long Island natives are late to start and don't begin to flower until June. Interestingly Cape Cod is included in the geographic area of plants that are considered Long Island natives. More reasons to plant natives are that they need less water and fertilizer. Abundance and repetition are important to attract our flying friends. Brian imparted interesting facts about milkweed: there are 12 native varieties (although common milkweed, or *Asclepias syriaca*, is not one of them!); tropical milkweed has been known to hamper migration, and *A. tuberosa* and *A. incarnata* are the valued hosts for monarch caterpillars. Stay as close to the species of a plant as possible, as many cultivars do not have the same attraction to pollinators as the species. Bumblebees are native to our area, whereas honeybees are not and their primary value is in producing honey. Some other top picks: Prickly Pear cactus is a native (and makes a good container plant), *Pycnanthemum* or mountain mint, *Monarda fistulosa*, *Verbena hastata* or blue vervain, *Vernonia noveboracensis* or ironweed, *Eutrochium purpureum* or Joe-Pye weed, *Ageratina altissima* or white snake root, autumn-blooming *Solidago* and *Aster*. Brian reminded us not to forget the overnight pollinators like bats, moths, and beetles. Check out this link: <http://www.linpi.org/plants>

Sarah Alford had a very interesting power point presentation that included images of the various life cycles of butterflies: eggs, caterpillars (larva), chrysalis, and butterfly. Plants to sustain butterflies include false

foxglove, plantain, blue mist, spicebush, linden benzoin, sassafras, Queen Anne's lace, dill, parsley, rue, fennel, pearly everlasting, cudweed, mountain mint, columbine, Lobelia, Monarda, Clethra, blue mist flower, phlox, zinnia, calendula. Cutworms, aphids, grubs, and tomato hornworms are too destructive. Beneficial insects include ladybugs, lacewings, and praying mantis to help the predators of Queen Anne's lace, coreopsis, cosmos, sunflower, dill, angelica.

Several participants shared their favorite pollinator plants, and here are some in my Bridgehampton garden as well as some dates I've recorded when I've first seen pollinators feeding on them:

Acer rubrum (red maple)	April
Agastache	Early July
Asclepias (milkweed)	September 2
Aster	September 30
Borage	End June
Buddleia (butterfly bush)	August
Caryopteris	Mid-September
Chrysanthemum	October 25
Clerodendrum trichotoma	Mid-August
Clover	June
Coreopsis	July 7
Cosmos	September 22
Crocosmia	July 9
Crocus	March
Deutzia scabra	Mid-June
Dianthus	June 15
Dill	July 9
Echinacea (coneflower)	July 15
Echinops (globe thistle)	July 4
Eutrochium purpureum	Early August
Fothergilla	May 9
Hibiscus syriacus	Mid-July
Hydrangea arborescens	July 21
Lavender	June 30
Lobelia	July 21
Lysimachia chethroides	July 17
Malus (crabapple)	May
Monarda (bee balm)	End June
Nepeta (catmint)	June 16
Parsley	September 1
Penstemon	August 6
Perovskia (Russian sage)	August 11
PJM Rhododendron	Mid-April
Rudbeckia	Mid-July
Sedum	August 24
Solidago (goldenrod)	September 26
Spirea japonica	Mid-June
Stokesia (Stokes aster)	Late June
Styrax obassia	June 2
Vitex agnus-castus	Late July



## Save the Night Sky

Joy Flynn

“We are losing the dark of night by the speed of light.” [Losing the Dark](#)  
*The International Dark-Sky Association (IDA)*

I chose light pollution as my *cause célèbre* 12 years ago after visiting Carmel, CA, which at the time had no streetlights, and then attending a weekend sustainability conference in Southampton run by Darr Reilly. Among all the other environmental challenges, light pollution seemed to have achievable remedies.

Rather coincidentally, within months of my epiphany, the Town of Southampton adopted an outdoor lighting code thanks to the efforts of local community groups, dark sky advocate Gail Clyma, and Nancy Graboski, the then Town Councilwoman. The Town appointed a Dark Skies Advisory Committee in 2010, which I now co-chair with Olivia Motch, to educate the public and to update the Town code as necessary.

So, what is light pollution? Simply put, light pollution is the inappropriate or excessive use of artificial light which can have serious environmental consequences for humans, wildlife, and our climate.

### **Glare**

Light shining directly into your eyes causes discomfort and reduces your ability to see. Glare is hazardous to drivers, pedestrians, boaters.

### **Light trespass**

Light that spills beyond property lines can interfere with sleep and infringe on neighbors' rights to enjoy their property.

### **Disrupted ecosystems**

All earth's creatures have evolved over thousands of years by adapting in a world that has been dark at night. Loss of true darkness can disrupt foraging, feeding, and mating habits, often with disastrous results, and can weaken trees by altering growth cycles.

### **Wasted energy**

Lighting that is unnecessary or excessive causes air pollution, squanders irreplaceable natural resources, and increases costs to homeowners, businesses, and governments.

### **Skyglow**

...is obliterating the view of stars. As the night sky brightens, we lose more and more of the shimmering stars that have been a source of inspiration and information to diverse cultures across the ages—and a treasured hallmark of Southampton's rural character.

(*Town of Southampton Dark Skies Advisory Committee brochure*, <https://www.southamptontownny.gov/444/Dark-Skies-Committee>)

Of all the light pollution issues, light trespass by neighbors can prove to be the most personal one. Do you have a neighbor who is only there on weekends but leaves the spotlights on all week to shine in your bedroom window? The IDA's [practical actions](#) include a sample letter that can be sent to a neighbor. Their advice to keep it friendly is the best advice of all (and often the most difficult)!

In David Owens' 2007 New Yorker article [The Dark Side—Making War on Light Pollution](#), he writes of the Bortle Dark-Sky Scale of 1-9, from dark to light. New York City is Class 9 and even the darkest places are Class 2. “For someone standing on the North Rim of the Grand Canyon on a moonless night, the brightest feature of the sky is not the Milky Way but the glow of Las Vegas, a hundred and seventy-five miles away.”

While light pollution may not rank as high as climate change as an environmental concern, its impact on the ecosystem and the human spirit deserves our attention. We've all read what light does to hatchling sea turtles and migrating birds, but the effect on nocturnal pollinating insects gets overlooked. Flowers lit artificially are not pollinated as frequently—moths headed to collect the flowers' nectar are attracted to the light where hungry bats await them. [Nature](#)

What can *you* do? Inspect your own outdoor lighting. Install dimmers, replace offending fixtures or shield them, install motion detectors, avoid high Kelvin blue-white lights, turn off all outdoor lights when not in use. The fixtures—usually four—at the end of the circular driveway should be shielded, dimmed, or replaced with very low wattage bulbs. Replace the solar lights that stay on all night with motion-sensored lights. Review the HAH talk by Tyler Horn on effective landscape lighting.

“In the end, humans are no less trapped by light pollution than the frogs in a pond near a brightly lit highway. Living in a glare of our own making, we have cut ourselves off from our evolutionary and cultural patrimony—the light of the stars and the rhythms of day and night. In a very real sense, light pollution causes us to lose sight of our true place in the universe, to forget the scale of our being, which is best measured against the dimensions of a deep night with the Milky Way—the edge of our galaxy—arching overhead.” [Our Vanishing Night](#), by Verlyn Klinkenborg



## HAH Sunday Lectures for 2021- 2pm

May 2 - Susan Cohen – *The Inspired Landscape*

June 13 - Dan Hinkley – *From Shadow to Sun: the Making of Windcliff*

No lectures in July/August

September 12 - Andy Brand – *Spectacular Natives, Beauty & Biodiversity of the Northeast*

October 17 - Bill Cullina – *What do you Mean I'm Not a Perennial?! Native Shrubs & Small Trees for Perennial Companionship*

November 14 - Holger Winenga – *New Plants at LongHouse Reserve*

December 12 - Roxanne Zimmer – *igarden – New Tools for a Bountiful Garden*

### Garden Conservancy Programs

**Thursday, May 6, 2:00 pm. Doug Tallamy: The Nature of Oaks.** \$5 for members, \$15 non-members. For more info and to register: <https://www.gardenconservancy.org/education/education-events/virtual-doug-tallamy>

**Thursday, May 13, 2:00 pm. Christian Brechneff: A Painter's Journey Into the Garden.** \$5 for members, \$15 non-members. <https://www.gardenconservancy.org/education/education-events/virtual-program-a-painter-s-journey-into-the-garden>

### In Person

**Friday, May 7, 4:00pm to 6:00pm. Children's Mini Rose Planting and Art Workshop** (presented by the Southampton Rose Society). Free but attendance is limited. For more info and to register: <https://southamptonrose.org/childrens-mini-rose-planting-art-workshop-2021/>

**Saturday, May 15, 12-4 pm. Natural Garden Fair,** Southampton Arts Center, 25 Jobs Lane, Southampton. Many local groups participating, **including HAH.** Native plants will be for sale. [southamptonartscenter.org](https://southamptonartscenter.org)

100% Recycled  
May 2021  
HAH Happenings



Iris florentina



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