

Grow Native massachusetts

Every garden matters ~ Every landscape counts®



May 2024 Newsletter

Plant sales and Nurseries and Pop-ups, OH MAY! There are so many opportunities coming up to source some great native plants for your garden. We have two Pop-up markets, a members' gathering at Weston Rewilding, and of course our popular...

Grow Native Plant Sale 2024

Friday May 31: *Open to Grow Native members*

Saturday June 1: *Open to all*

Advanced registration is required to participate in our sale. We stagger arrival times at 30 minute intervals to ease crowding and traffic in the parking lot.

NEW LOCATION ALERT!

7 Harrington Road

Lexington, MA 02421

Shopping sign-ups open next

week! Members will receive the announcement in advance, via email.

[Learn more.](#)



Help us make our sale a success!

This event is powered by dozens of dedicated volunteers. Lending a hand is a great way to learn about native plants (and even take a few home early).

[**SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER**](#) at the Plant Sale.

You Won't Want to Miss Any of Our Exciting May Programs!



Evenings with Experts Lecture:

Gardening Among Hungry Mammals

Nancy Lawson, Author, [The Humane Gardener](#)

May 8 | 7:00 - 8:30pm

Online (recording available for 2 weeks only)

Free and open to all

[Learn More & Register for Lecture](#)

Native Plant Pop-Up Markets

These pop-ups bring together several local native plant growers. Come show your support and shop for plants!

May 4 | 12:00 - 4:00 pm - Framingham Spring Fest, Framingham Downtown Common

May 17 | 11:00 am - 6:00 pm - Copley Square Farmers Market, 227 Dartmouth St, Boston, MA 02116



[More Info About All of Our Upcoming Pop-Up Markets](#)



Gathering in the Field: Weston Rewilding

Hosted by: [Trevor Smith, Design & Education Manager at Weston Nurseries](#)

May 14 | 10:30am - 12:30pm

Where: 40 Frankland Rd, Hopkinton, MA

Fee: Free for Grow Native members

[Reserve Your Spot \(Members Only\)](#)

Workshop: Ecological Gardening 101: How to Select, Install, and Care for Native Plants

Instructor: Marie Chieppo, [EcoPlantPlans](#)

May 20 | 7:00 - 8:30pm

Where: Online (By Zoom Meeting)

Fee: Member \$28/ Non-member \$38/ Workshop Sponsor \$100



Great News! 2024 Lecture Recordings Are Now Available

The first two of our 2024 *Evenings with Experts* lecture recordings are now posted to our website and ready for your viewing pleasure:

[Meadowmaking for Beginners](#)

Owen Wormser, Author, *Lawns Into Meadows: Growing Regenerative Landscapes*

[The Secret Lives of Native Bees](#)

Dr. Nick Dorian, Post-Doctoral Researcher, Chicago Botanic Garden

Our 2023 Annual Report is Here!



Take a look back at **highlights from 2023**, including the launch of our brand new *Native Plant Pop-up Markets*, and the return of *Gatherings in the Field* for members. We are expanding our reach with strategic partnerships and grassroots initiatives, and are grateful for the dedicated support from our growing community.

Double the Potential!



Some acorns are hiding a surprise: an extra seed (or two)! For our native red oak (*Quercus rubra*), these plural seeded fruits can make up over 30% of acorns.

This May, YOU can double your donation's potential, with a generous offer from our board members—now through May 31, **first time contributions** to Grow Native made **will be matched**.

That is double the resources which Grow Native will use to provide free programs, increase access to native plants, and spread the word about the importance of native landscapes across the Commonwealth and beyond.

This is a great time for people new to Grow Native to dig into membership benefits like:

- Advance access to our annual [Native Plant Sale](#)
- Discounted [Workshop](#) registration, and
- A variety of members-only programs, like our popular [Gatherings in the Field](#).

Spring is an exciting and busy season at Grow Native and a great time to tap into our native plant community. Wherever you are in your native plant journey, we have the resources, learning opportunities, and access points to help you take your next step.

[Donate / Become a Member](#)

Upcoming Partner Events

Check out our **NEW [Upcoming Partner Events](#)** listings on our website!

You can go here anytime to catch up on what's going on around the state (and beyond!). You can also **[SUBMIT](#)** any native plant, ecological landscaping, or habitat creation/restoration events that are not already listed.

[Weed for Wildlife](#)

May 5 | 12:00 - 1:00pm | In Person

Host: Wild Cohasset

Cost: Free

Spend an hour removing invasive weeds which harm native plants & all the wild creatures that rely upon them. We'll teach you what to do & assign you a spot in your choice of Norwell, Cohasset, Scituate or Hingham. Weed on your own schedule!

[Protecting Pollinators](#)

May 7 | 7:00 - 8:00pm | Online

Host: Mass Audubon

Presenter: Tia Pinney, Education Coordinator and Senior Naturalist, Mass Audubon's Metro West Region

Cost: \$15/Mass Audubon member; \$20/non-member

More than 70% of plants depend on pollinators like hummingbirds, butterflies, and bees to transfer pollen between flowers, yet many pollinator populations are in decline. Learn about the variety of pollinators in New England, why they are important, and what you can do to help them thrive in your landscape.

[Ecological Gardening Summit](#)

May 8 | 12:00 - 4:30pm | Online

Host: Joe Lamp'l, the "joe" behind joegardener®

Presenter: Joe Lamp'l, Founder, joegardener.com

Cost: \$35

Step into the future of gardening with the Ecological Gardening Summit, a groundbreaking virtual event designed for gardeners who aspire to be at the forefront of the ecological gardening movement. Featured speakers include: Doug Tallamy, Rebecca McMackin, Mary Phillips, and Emily May.

[Pollinator Garden Planning Workshop](#)

May 12 | 2:00 - 3:30pm | In Person

Host: Magazine Park Nature Center (Mass Audubon), Cambridge

Presenter: Jean Devine, Devine Native Plantings LLC/ Biodiversity Builders**Cost:** free

This fun interactive workshop unites native plant newbies and enthusiasts in a game challenge to design a sidewalk strip, or shade garden or rain swale filled with native plants. Event is free, but you must register.

[In the Life of Nocturnal Pollinators](#)

May 23 | 1:00 - 2:00pm | Online

Host: Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation

Presenter: Emily May, Pollinator Conservation Specialist, Xerces Society

Cost: free

Learn about the pollinators that come out to work as others turn in for the evening. Moths, flies, beetles, and other dusk and night-time pollinators play important roles in pollinating wild and managed plants.

[Wild Edibles of Lexington's Waysides](#)

May 22 | 6:00 - 8:00pm | In Person

Host: Citizens for Lexington Conservation

Presenter: Russ Cohen, Forager and Author, "Wild Plants I Have Known and Eaten"

Cost: FREE

CLC is delighted to have Russ Cohen return for another walk to teach us about wild edible plants! Lexington is home to over 70 species of edible wild plants, both native and non-native, including plants considered to be weedy or invasive. Some are more nutritious and/or flavorful than their cultivated counterparts.

[Culture and Climate Justice](#)

May 30 | 5:00 - 6:30pm | Online

Host: Wild Seed Project

Presenter: Diandra Esperza, Executive Director, Intersectional Environmentalist

Cost: Sliding scale, \$5 - \$25

Join Diandra Esperza as she shares about the ways her heritage and art influence her climate justice activism - and how we can each harness our own cultural backgrounds to take action for people and the planet.

[Mosquito and Tick Control: How to Keep Your Family Safe Without Poisoning Your Yard](#)

May 30 | 7:00 - 8:30pm | Online

Host: Lexington Living Landscapes

Presenter: Aaron Andersen, Pesticide Program Specialist, Xerces Society

Cost: free

Mosquitos and ticks are a nuisance at best and health risk at worst. Spraying may seem like an easy way to deal with them, but it's often ineffective. Insecticides are toxic to pollinators and other beneficial insects. Learn about the risks of mosquito spraying, and alternative methods of mosquito and tick control in residential landscapes.

Photo of the Month




Two-Spotted Bumblebee Visits Blueberry Flowers

© KP McFarland (via [iNaturalist](#))

The two-spotted bumblebee (*Bombus bimaculatus*) is easiest to spot in late May and June, when the number and activity of worker bees foraging to provision their colony peaks. Blueberries (*Vaccinium spp.*) which bloom in early spring, are a great source of nectar and pollen, and also benefit greatly from the bumblebees ability to "buzz pollinate" their flowers, a very efficient and effective method of pollination.

Header Photo: *Phlox divaricata* (Woodland Phlox) on display at a past plant sale.

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We inspire people to action across Massachusetts on behalf of native plants and the diversity of life they support.

We are passionate about our mission. Please join with us to make it a reality.

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