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**Horticulture Centre  
of the Pacific**



**February 2023 eNews**

**Hours: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm**

**Everyday**



**A Message from our General Manager**



Thanks to HCP member Kate Cino for the above picture and message.

*"On the pathway was a pair of well-worn gloves left behind by a gardener.*

*I hope you enjoy the photo.*

*I think it shows the hard work and dedication that keeps the gardens looking great year round!*

*Kate Cino".*

We have a special shout out to Kevin from Castle Building Centres who donated the paint to help spruce up our front office and to Front Office Volunteer Pat and her paintbrush for making it happen!

Another shout out goes to Brynn – some of you may remember her as one of the many friendly faces at Charlotte & the Quail. She has struck out on her own with her brand of upcycled and refashioned clothing called B-Bot Clothing. Check her out here. [B-Bot Clothing](#)



"Located in Victoria, BC, B-Bot Clothing upcycles and refashions unworn and unloved clothing to reduce textile and fashion waste. They offer a ready to wear collection, custom projects, mending and alteration services, and beginner sewing and upcycling classes. Learning to sew and extending the lifespan of clothing is a valuable skill and a radical act to create a more sustainable fashion industry and a healthier planet."



Linda Petite, Head Gardener at HCP and both Hayley and Charlotte of Charlotte & the Quail were featured in an episode of Tea & Gardens.

Tea & Gardens is a new Victoria-based podcast. The project was funded by TELUS STORYHIVE and was produced from March-May of 2022.

I'm happy to share that the video and podcast episodes of [Tea & Gardens](#) are both available to watch and listen to at your leisure. The links for each are below...

Video: <https://youtu.be/1ppXfw1brAQ>

Podcast: <https://spotifyanchor-web.app.link/e/TO9ePkMk9wb>

The video series is also streaming on Telus Optik TV channel 345, and you should be able to find the podcast on whichever podcast platform you use.

*Deborah*



**A Message from our Head Gardener**



Come take a stroll through on a damp winter's day and the sensory delight this garden offers will lift your spirits and make you realize that Spring is just around the corner!

*The DPWG was established in 1985 with funds from the Victoria Horticultural Society (VHS).*

*It is named in honor of Doris Page, who spent decades demonstrating the potential for winter gardening in this climate in addition to introducing Hellebores to Victoria.*

I am pleased to share this link from Fine Gardening magazine that has high praise for the DPWG.

<https://www.finegardening.com/article/gpod-on-the-road-the-doris-page-winter-garden>



## Doris Page Winter Garden: Gardening with Gratitude

*By Amy Sanderson, Volunteer, Doris Page Winter Garden*

I know that for many in Victoria, evergreen structure is the heart and soul of their gardening, and of course, the Doris Page Winter Garden where I volunteer benefits from many evergreen shrubs and trees, as well as a background of well-kept rhodos. But for me, the joy of our garden is happening right now, where week upon week you can watch bare soil clothe itself in a tapestry of white, pink and gold, bare branches fill with spidery blooms in yellow, orange and red. The moist air hangs with the sweet scents of winter honeysuckle, viburnum and witchhazel. Evergreens are all well and good, but give me the ephemeral bulbs, the deciduous accelerando, slowed by winter for us to savour.



In a few years, the DPWG will turn forty. When I see a particularly good combination coming into flower, like demure pink *Erythronium revolutum* rising from a quilt of acid lime green *Chrysosplenium alternifolium* in Bed G, I always give silent thanks to previous volunteers. Such a clever contrast of foliage and flower! I have another soft spot for everyone who has nurtured the beautiful vase shapes of the old *Hamamelis mollis* in Bed B, currently in full flower. Years and years of selective pruning and even more benign neglect (harder than one would think) have gone into creating the scene they star in: hundreds upon hundreds of *Erythronium revolutum* flower and disappear underneath them in spring, followed by hundreds upon hundreds of *Cyclamen hederifolium* in autumn, and *Cyclamen coum* in winter. I bless all that have allowed this simple, effective planting to only get more handsome with time.

Sometimes, we humbly attempt change, and in that case we are grateful to piggyback on others' good sense. One of the newer moments we are experimenting with is on the south corner of Bed A: adding *Helleborus* 'Penny's Pink', with pink flowers and pink marbled leaves, to established *Galanthus nivalis* (snowdrops) and bergenias whose leaves turn a beautiful red in the cold, with self-sowing, lime flowered *Helleborus argutifolius* dotted about. In other seasons you might consider us mad for that colour combination, but I think you'll find in February it's positively elegant.

And speaking of elegance, just down the slope and around the corner you'll find a slide of perhaps the best performing hellebore in the whole garden, *Helleborus* 'Honeyhill Joy'. We liked it so much, we added more last spring! Despite severe root (not to mention light) competition, it flowers early and with vigour, the cream blooms standing out amongst their evergreen neighbours on the Ilex slope. Now, to be sure, if I had been volunteering, much less born, when the DPWG was established, I would have protested a whole slope dedicated to holly, but never mind.

At this time of year, thanks to long-running collaborative effort, beautiful distraction is manifold.



Don't forget to read our volunteer blog for January - [My Plant of the Month](#). Amy Sanderson a Winter Garden volunteer shares some interesting information about Galanthus elwesii 'Doris Page'.



## Thank You Volunteers!

*"To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow" Audrey Hepburn*

Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers! It has been wonderful to see you all in the gardens, enjoying the fresh air, preparing the gardens and planning for spring.

Thinking of joining our volunteer team? This is the time to start! We have fantastic volunteer opportunities coming up this spring and we have started accepting volunteer applications. Volunteer positions include gardening, conservation, office support, children's projects, and special events. For more information please contact Kim, Volunteer Coordinator at [volunteers@hcp.ca](mailto:volunteers@hcp.ca)



## Giles' Jottings

Greetings from Vietnam!

I am currently taking a short winter break from the Gardens and spending a few weeks in Vietnam, a country I have not visited before, and it is an opportunity to enjoy warm sunny weather and encounter so many new and unusual sights and sounds. In fact yesterday it was the Lunar New Year and in even the small seaside village where we are staying for a few days, they celebrated with noisy processions and, in the evening, a bright and colourful traditional play with amazing costumes and extraordinary wild music with much banging of drums and cymbals.



## Lunar New Year

Chrysanthemum(left)

Mandarin Tree(right)



I would give you a clear description of all the plants we are seeing if my knowledge of tropical plant species were better but I can at least offer you a snapshot of those with which I am familiar. Since it is only a couple of weeks since Chinese New Year houses everywhere are still decorated with huge pots of tall yellow chrysanthemums and mandarin trees in pots though I now begin to see trucks driving round collecting these well-grown mandarin trees, presumably to maintain them through the coming months before bringing them out again next year.





- White Bougainvillea, Pink Bougainvillea, Beautiful unidentified trailing plant, Sculpted Ficus (L-R)

As for garden plants in front of people's houses the ones I have seen most frequently are French marigolds (*Tagetes* sp.), yellow and orange Cosmos, several varieties of Celosia, Clarkia and Hibiscus. Heliconias and Canna lilies seem to grow wild, alongside Tibouchina, Madagascar Periwinkle (*Catharanthus roseus*) and Peacock flower (*Caesalpinia pulcherrima*). Many plants are grown in huge pots like giant bonsai, and we have seen some gorgeous bougainvillea and sculpted foliage trees. Yellow Mai Flower (*Ochna integerrima*) is a lovely small bush covered in yellow flowers at this time of the year and everywhere I see Papaya trees (*Carica papaya*) with their distinctive dark glossy green deeply palmately lobed leaves; but I haven't seen many fruit on them so presumably they are not yet in season.

But this brings me to the extraordinary range of fruits that are grown in the Mekong Delta region. We have visited both farms and markets and I am still overwhelmed by the extraordinary range of different species of fruits grown here, so many that I have never seen or tasted before. Mangoes (*Mangifera indica*) come in all sorts of sizes and colours, Jackfruit (*Artocarpus heterophyllus*) are now fully in season, their pimply green fruit growing quite enormous. Breadfruit (*Artocarpus altilis*) is a very close relative of the Jackfruit, but their fruit does not grow quite so large. There are Guava (*Psidium guajava*), Pineapple (*Ananas comosus*), Watermelon (*Citrullus lanatus*), Star Apple (*Chrysophyllum cainito*), Dragon Fruit (*Selenicereus* spp.) and Rambutan (*Nephelium lappaceum*), all of which are currently in season and so delicious eaten fresh from the plant. Then there are the palm fruits, coconuts, and bananas, which are grown in huge quantities and transformed into every sort of product, both edible and practical. Cashews, almonds and peanuts take their place too but of course I must not fail to mention the most important regional crop; the vast area of the delta is covered as far as the eye can see with rice paddy, edge to edge rectangles of vivid emerald green

plantations and with an average yield of around seven tons per hectare it is one of the most important producers of rice in the world.



Jackfruit (*Artocarpus heterophyllus*); Flowering Banana Tree; Coconut Palm; Watermelons on a boat at the floating market (l-r)

The whole delta region is crisscrossed by enormous rivers, the Mekong and its many tributaries, and they are genuinely huge, most of them one or two kilometres wide. In this developing country these rivers are still essential highways for industry so there are boats everywhere, boats of every size and description, carrying people, goods, and equipment. But as in many tropical countries the rivers are also being invaded by water hyacinth (*Pontaderia crassipes*) which form huge mats that can grow extremely quickly, doubling in size every twelve days. From most perspectives this is a problematic invasive pest, clogging waterways and depriving the water of sunlight and oxygen. But in the last twenty years industrious local people have begun to exploit this resource, making rattan baskets from the stems, and using the leaves and roots to create compost and fertilizer.

Transforming a worldwide scourge into a productive local industry is surely a wonderful indication of the resourcefulness and industry of this south-east Asian nation.



Gift Shop





Many new items, please stop in when you are in the gardens next!



Events at HCP





It is with thanks, a small amount of envy and a smile tinged with sadness that we must say good-bye for now to our Jane, HCP Event Coordinator, as she is off on a whirlwind adventure. Fortunately, joining us is Gwen, who arrived from the Philippines in December to continue her schooling at Camosun College and who we were lucky enough to welcome aboard. Please email her at [events@hcp.ca](mailto:events@hcp.ca) for all wedding and event enquiries.



*You are invited to*  
**Family Day at HCP**

Exhibitors, vendors and activities for everyone, rain or shine, indoors and out!

Monday, February 20, 2023

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Admission by donation

**The Gardens at HCP**

505 Quays Road



Family Day Event at HCP

Join our HCP family on Monday, February 20 for activities and exhibits in and around the gardens for a day of celebration! Enjoy the seasonal interest in our many demonstration gardens on a self-guided walk or on a tour. Visit with

our local partners and see what they have to share ... time to get composting? Improve on your results? Need more information on local environmental initiatives and projects? Why do we want birds in our backyard? How to conduct your own Backyard Bird Count? Check out local vendors at our Family Market! See what fun activities for you to try ... Pop Up Workshops by our Youth Programs team, activities and garden adventures to experience. Pack a picnic, visit our canteen, bring your binoculars and join our celebration of families outdoors. Rain or shine, indoors and outdoors this Family Day at HCP!



**OPEN**

**WEDNESDAY-FRIDAY**

**10<sup>AM</sup> - 3<sup>PM</sup>**

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY**

**9<sup>AM</sup> - 3<sup>PM</sup>**

[charlottteandthequail.ca](http://charlottteandthequail.ca) | 250.590.6346





We are back in full swing here at PHC. January was a bustling month at the college as all 20 of our 2023 Full-time Landscape Horticulture Certificate Program students began their 10 month program. Upon completion of the program in November, students receive both a Pacific Horticulture College program completion certificate and SkilledTradesBC Level 1 and 2 Landscape Horticulturist training levels. The Full-time Certificate students have now completed their orientation weeks and have begun studying Botany,



Communication Skills, Pruning, Plant ID, and Practical Skills. They also had their first Special Topics class in “Small Engines”.

January also brought on the start of our Level 1 Landscape Horticulturist Apprenticeship Program and 18 new students looking to begin and advance their careers in Landscape Horticulture. This part time program is offered in a blended online/in person format and runs from January to May. Upon completion of the program, students receive their SkilledTradesBC Level 1 in the Landscape Horticulturist program. The Part-time Level 1 students have also completed their orientation and are now delving into Soils, Tools and Equipment, Grading and Drainage and Communication Skills classes.

We are so excited to welcome these two new classes of eager and enthusiastic students and can't wait to see what they accomplish!

PHC is proud to offer continuing education in the form of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) courses which bring participants from all over the island and, thanks to Zoom, the lower mainland. The course covers pest management practices and is a requirement for many workers in the horticulture industry. We have a total of 5 IPM courses running between January-March! Please visit the [website](#) for more information and to register for our upcoming courses.

#### **Upcoming Program Openings:**

##### **2023 Level 2 Landscape Horticulturist Apprenticeship Training - Part Time**

Program Dates: August 8 to December 14, 2023

Application Opening: March 27, 2023

Application Deadline: July 17, 2023

##### **2023 Level 4 Landscape Horticulturist Apprenticeship Training- Part Time**

Program Dates: August 9 to December 16, 2023

Application Opening: March 20, 2023

Application Deadline: July 17, 2023

##### **2023 Level 3 Landscape Horticulturist Apprenticeship Training – Full Time**

Program Dates: October 30 to December 8, 2023

Application Opening: April 3, 2023

Application Deadline: October 2, 2023

##### **2024 Level 4**

Program Dates: January 8 to February 16, 2024

Application Opening: April 24, 2023

Application Deadline: December 11, 2023

## 2024 Landscape Horticulture Certificate Program

Program Dates: January 15 to November 12, 2024

Application Opening: March 13, 2024

Application Deadline: November 1, 2024

## 2024 Level 1 - Part Time

Program Dates: January 22 to May 22, 2024

Application Opening: April 17, 2023

Application Deadline: December 11, 2023

Remember to follow us on Instagram and Facebook for the latest news on all of our programs.



## Community Education Workshops

[Click to view a list of copy of upcoming adult workshops and classes](#)

### Plant Identification & Culture Workshops with Jane Tice

Next date Saturday, February 11 & March 18 - 1:00pm - 4:00pm



If you are a new gardener, new to Victoria or just want to brush up on your plant knowledge, this is a great place to get started. This is a monthly class where participants will be introduced to 20 new plants which fit with our local climate. Plants are selected for our local growing conditions and the value they bring to the garden. Part of the class will be in the classroom and part will be out in the gardens to view the plants for that month. Dress for the weather and bring something to take notes.

HCP Members \$40 / Non-Members \$50

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#) to learn more or to register online

Online: Willow Hoop Rib Basket



**online: community education**  
**willow hoop rib basket**  
**workshop**

WITH JOAN CARRIGAN



Fees: HCP Members \$120/Non-Members \$140

**SOLD OUT** - sign up for the [Willow Hoop Rib Basket Interest List](#) to receive a notice when an additional date is set for this class or if we have cancellations.

**Online: Bark Basket**

Sunday, February 12 - 10:00am - 3:30pm



**online: community education**  
**bark basket workshop**

WITH JOAN CARRIGAN



Fees: HCP Members \$120/Non-Members \$140

**SOLD OUT** - sign up for the [Bark Basket Interest List](#) to receive a notice when an additional date is set for this class or if we have cancellations.

**Starting Veggies from Seed**

Friday, March 3 - 10:00am - 12:00pm



**starting veggies from**  
**seed workshop**

WITH LINDA PETITE

Learn the basics of starting your veggies from seed with Linda Petite, HCP Head Gardener. Starting seeds indoors is a rewarding and effective way to get a head start in your garden. Many seeds germinate quickly and reliably without anything more than moisture and light. Linda will discuss the timing



and techniques for starting seeds. Each participant will seed a 6 pack tray of seeds to take home with them.

HCP Members \$30/Non-Members \$40

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#) to learn more or to register online

### Introduction to Mason Beekeeping

Sunday, March 5 - 1:00pm - 3:00pm



In this bee-loving workshop we will explore the importance of our native bees' incredible pollinating powers to our local ecosystems and agricultural systems. We will look at the lifecycle of the mason bee, the challenges they face and how best to support them through plants and nesting boxes. Discussing the seasonal responsibilities of the mason bee keeper, when and how to release them and what to watch for over the summer season will also be covered.

And finally, we will also look at the different styles of mason bee nesting boxes or houses available, how to select the best one and where to place them in the garden to meet yours and the bee's needs. Come and learn how to support these tiny, important and beautiful little creatures!

HCP Members \$30/Non-Members \$40

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#) to learn more or to register online

### Willow Chair Workshop

Saturday, March 4 - 9:00am - 5:00pm



Join artisan Andrew Kent from The Willow Way for this full day workshop. In one day, with Andrew Kent's expert instruction, you can make and take home

your own Bent Willow Rustic Chair. This is a great introduction to rustic building techniques. Learn how to make a square frame from pieces of alder & work with different sizes of willow to create your chair. This is recommended as it is ideal to have a helper for this class. Registration is for up to 2 participants making one chair together.

HCP Members \$285 / Non-Members \$305

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#) to learn more or to register online

### Introduction to Backyard Chickens

Saturday, March 11 - 10:00am - 12:00pm



Instructor Julia Sahota has raised backyard chickens for 7 years now. She loves her birds and has enjoyed the journey of learning and developing best practice for her flock's well-being and health. Have you ever thought about raising backyard chickens? If so, this is the class for you. You will learn what to consider right from the start when raising chicks. There are a lot of things to consider before making a decision to keep backyard chickens and Julia will give you the information you need to make an informed decision. Topics such as municipal jurisdiction, costs, time commitment, coop and nesting box options, hatching chicks or purchasing pullets, selecting breeds, chicken health, predators and vermin.

HCP Members \$30/Non-Members \$40

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#) to learn more or to register online

### Ivy and daphne and broom, oh my!

Saturday, March 11 - 1:00pm - 3:00pm



Interested in learning more about invasive alien plants and how to get rid of them from your garden and beyond? Come join Marian McCoy in a fun and interactive afternoon that digs into the what, why, and how of common invasive alien plants in our region. Learn about ivy, daphne, broom, gorse, knotweeds, blackberry, poison hemlock and other suspects, as well as some suitable native alternatives. Please be prepared to take your own notes. Marian McCoy is an ecologist with more than 17 years in the environmental management sector, including invasive plant management and ecological restoration.

HCP Members \$30/Non-Members \$40

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#) to learn more or to register online

### Driftwood and Epiphytes Workshop

Monday, March 13 - 10:00am - 11:30am



## driftwood & epiphytes workshop

WITH SHEILA WEITMAN

Enjoy a tranquil moment of creativity and connection with nature with horticulture therapist Sheila Weitman. Bring your playful heart to this workshop for the opportunity to make a one-of-a-kind creation. Each piece of driftwood offers the possibility to express your unique ideas through nature based materials. Each participant will receive two epiphytes and a choice of inspiring driftwood pieces, six to twelve inches long. Please feel free to bring any special pieces of driftwood you would like to incorporate.

HCP Members \$45/Non-Members \$50

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#) to learn more or to register online

### Introduction to Fruit Trees

Sunday, March 19 - 9:00am - 12:00pm



## introduction to fruit trees workshop

WITH GORDON MACKAY



This course participants will be introduced to the pruning fundamentals and concepts for fruit trees, including apple, pear and the stone fruits. We will look at summer versus winter pruning and pruning old, mature trees versus young newly established trees.

Tree planting and early training will be covered along with various methods of growing fruit trees e.g. tall spindle, dwarf pyramid, ufo etc. and also the choice of tree rootstocks. These terms will be explained along with many more.

There will be ample opportunity to ask questions in this class and participants will have an opportunity to spend some time in the garden looking at fruit trees and viewing demonstrations of the various pruning cuts recommended for fruit trees.

HCP Members \$40/Non-Members \$50

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#) to learn more or to register online

### **Pruning For Beginners Series**

Mar 22, 29 - 6:30pm - 9:00pm & Apr 8th 9:00am - 12:00pm



Learn the basics of pruning with Adam Miller, a Red Seal Certified Horticulturist and pruning instructor at the Pacific Horticulture College. In this course you will learn not only how, but why (and if) pruning should be done. Through in-class lecture, group work, instructor demonstration and hands-on work you'll gain confidence in your ability to tackle basic pruning tasks in your garden.

2 classroom sessions and 1 hands-on class

HCP Members \$135/Non-Members \$155

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#) to learn more or to register online

### **Introduction to Backyard Beekeeping**

Saturday, April 1 - 9:00am - 12:00pm



## introduction to backyard beekeeping class

WITH GORDON MACKAY

Have you ever wanted to start keeping bees but didn't know where to start? Would you like to see improved fruit production in your garden along with the potential of having your own honey? Learn the basics of beekeeping with Gordon Mackay.

In this workshop we will cover the basics of how to start your first colony. We will look at the various parts of the hive and what is involved in setting up and maintaining your colony in your first year. We will talk about some of the potential challenges and ways to mitigate these. The favourite plants that honey bees are attracted to will also be covered.

HCP Members \$30/Non-Members \$40

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#) to learn more or to register online

### The Art of Bonsai Series

Sundays - 1:00pm - 4:00pm, April 2, May 7 & September 17



## the art of bonsai series

WITH MARK PATERSON

Learn the art of Bonsai with Mark Paterson who is currently the bonsai artist at Royal Roads University. Mark has been practicing and teaching bonsai for 20 years. In this 3 part course you will learn all about bonsai! In the first session we explore what is unique about bonsai, and several ways to make bonsai. In the second class we will meet your new bonsai friend. We will design and plan the path your bonsai will take for best results, as well as learn several exotic bonsai techniques. In the final class we will implement the design portion of your plan, sending you home with a delightful looking bonsai. Note - the plant does not go home with you until the 3rd class.

HCP Members \$135/Non-Members \$155

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#) to learn more or to register online

## Little Gourd Owl Terrarium

Friday, April 14 - 10:00am - 11:30am



### little gourd owl terrarium **workshop**

WITH SHEILA WEITMAN

Come enjoy a moment of nature-based creativity as we paint an individual owl using dried gourds with horticulture therapist Sheila Weitman. Perched in a non-breakable terrarium and surrounded by natural found materials, this little gourd owl terrarium will add some quiet whimsy to a special spot in your home.

HCP Members \$45/Non-Members \$50

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#) to learn more or to register online

## Pretty in Pink - Dot Mandala Painting Workshop

Saturday, April 15 - 10:00am - 11:30am



### pretty in pink - dot mandala painting **workshop**

WITH SUSAN NELSON

In this class participants will learn the basics of dot mandala painting. You will be painting on a smooth molded four inch stone. You will learn how to set up the pattern with step by step instructions as you paint along with Susan. This class is perfect for beginners as Susan will share many tips and tricks along the way.

Bring an apron and your glasses if you need them.

HCP Members \$45/Non-Members \$50

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#) to learn more or to register online

## Coming this Summer! Hypertufa Containers Workshop

[Sign up](#) to go on the interest list and receive a notice when registration opens.





# Children & Youth Programs

## School and Youth Programs

Look what is happening this season at HCP Kids!

- **Child, Youth & Family Program** information on Facebook and Instagram. Check us out [@hcp.kids](#) for both.
- **Stories in the Garden** for pre-k's and an adult [HERE](#) beginning February 14!
- **Garden Nature Academy** for pre-k learners this **SPRING** is now open for registration! Need a two-day a week program? Check out our special pricing:)
- **Family Day at Gardens** Monday, February 20, 2023, 9am - 3pm with exhibits, activities, vendors and more!
- **Birthdays, workshops, school programs** and more!



## Stories in the Garden

Imagine a gentle nature walk with your child to calm and inspire you both! This rain or shine outdoor program on our endless pathways provides us with many social and nature connections. This is followed by a storytime that encourages the development of listening skills and small group interactions. Plan to bring along your favourite story blanket and snack to enjoy during the story with your child and invite a friend. Pre-registration is required to determine if this program will run.

- **Dates:** Tuesdays, February 14, 21, 28, March 1
- **Time:** 10:00 am - 11:00 am
- **Age:** 3+ (recommended)
- **Fee:** \$50/4 sessions
- **Register:** [HERE](#)

## Fairy Garden Workshop

Join us for some fun and creative time as we enter the world of fairy garden making! Your child will be introduced to garden design as we visit various gardens looking for inspiration, collecting items in nature to create

furnishings with. and followed by a hands-on lesson to make their own garden to take home. These miniature gardens offer hours of play potential for children of all ages. This workshop will include an indoor garden version suited to keeping in a child's room. Plant care, planting techniques, and furnishing making will all be featured. Consider signing up with your child and making one of your own!

- **Date:** Saturday, February 25, 2023
- **Time:** 10:00am - 11:30am
- **Age:** 4+ years (6 and under must be accompanied by a parent)
- **Fee:** \$30/child, \$25/accompany adult
- **Register:** [HERE](#)

### **Seed Starting for Kids**

Seeds are an easy, inexpensive and fun way to grow plants for food and flower production. This hands-on workshop provides a step-by-step approach to sowing into trays. These seed starting basics are skills that create confidence to grow healthy plants that can be used in containers or garden beds. Each child will plant up a tray to take home to grow their own flowers and edible plants.

- **Date:** Saturday, March 4, 2023
- **Time:** 10:00 am - 11:30 am
- **Age:** 5+ years
- **Fee:** \$30/participant
- **Register:** [HERE](#)

### **Growing Together for Families - (3 part series)**

Have you thought about growing your own food crops, but are overwhelmed? Let's work together in the HCP Kids Teaching Garden and transform an area into a garden plot. Learn about soils, productive garden planning, maximizing yields, managing pests, seeds and starts as well as seed saving. Join us along with your family for this 3 part workshop to build skills and understanding to make your own food production possible. This workshop series is also a great way to improve your garden experience. Bring along your own garden gloves.

- **Dates:** March 4, 11, and April 8, 2023
- **Time:** 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm
- **Age:** All welcome!
- **Fee:** \$125/family
- **Register:** [HERE](#)

### **Terrarium Gardens**

Gardening with tropicals and succulents is an easy way for children to use their creativity to make these miniature gardens. We will learn about the

individual needs of these interesting plants and create a safe environment for them to grow in while using a glass container that is being reused or upcycled. These make great gifts!

- **Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2023
- **Time:** 10:00 am - 11:30 am
- **Age:** 5+ years
- **Fee:** \$30/participant
- **Register:** [HERE](#)

### Fairy Garden Furnishings

Making your own fairy garden furnishings can be fun and easy with a little guidance. In this class we will take a walk together to forage natural materials that can be made into fun and functional furnishings for existing and future fairy gardens. We will explore doors, gates, transitions and theme related furnishings. Participants will also have access to supplies to make featured items and will be encouraged to source out their own special materials in nature going forward. Imagination is a wonderful tool as we learn to create items for these playful and whimsical gardens!

- **Date:** Sunday, March 12, 2023
- **Time:** 10:00 am - 11:30 am
- **Age:** 7-12 years
- **Fee:** \$30/participant
- **Register:** [HERE](#)

### HCP Kids Garden Club

Do you know a child or youth who loves the outdoors and thrives in the garden? Our HCP Kids Garden provides many opportunities for land-based engagement activities, including seed starting and propagation, planting, garden maintenance, pollinator habitats, and so much more. Each weekly class will have us in this amazing teaching garden where we grow our own food crops. Hope you can join us with your pre-k learner or drop-off (or join) your school age child. There are lots of takeaways, including seeds, transplants and more! Please pack your child's own garden gloves if you have some and bring along a water bottle (and snack if needed:)

- **Date:** Saturday's, April 8 - June 3, 2023
- **Time:** 9:30 am - 11:00 am
- **Age:** 3 - 14 years
- **Fee:** \$120/9 weeks
- **Register:** [HERE](#)

### Pro D Day Camp Dates 2022/23:

- **Date:** [Feb 17](#)
- **Date:** [May 19](#)



- **Times:** 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
- **Ages:** 5 to 12 years (school age)
- **Fee:** \$40/child
- **Register:** Click on camp date to register or call 250 479 6162

### Spring Break Camp Dates:

**Week 1 - *Now FULL!***

**Week 2 - *Now FULL!***

**Summer camp registration opens April 4, 2023**



### Birthday Parties

HCP offers private workshop bookings to celebrate your child's birthday in our gardens throughout the year! We host outdoors (rain or shine, year round) and offer an indoor option and covered areas to temper the seasonal weather. Contact our Youth Programs Coordinator for more information and to book [youthprograms@hcp.ca](mailto:youthprograms@hcp.ca).

### Here is what parents have to say ...

*"Thanks again for creating such a special birthday for our child. He loved every part of it! And the kids at school were all talking about it as well! We definitely want to recommend your program to others!"*



### Garden Nature Academy - Spring Session

The outdoors offer safe and seasonal opportunities for your preschooler to explore through play, games, songs and activities! These outdoor sessions

include time in our HCP Kids Teaching Garden where we grow food throughout the year, as well as numerous pathways and native plant forest areas to explore. Our small group sizes and experienced nature educators help to create a nurturing and engaging environment for young children to learn, play and grow! We welcome parent participation.

- **Dates:** Tuesdays, April 4 - June 13, 2023 and Thursdays, April 6 - June 15, 2023 or both
- **Times:** 9:00 am - 11:30 am
- **Ages:** 3 - 6 years
- **Fees:** \$275 (1 day/week for 11 weeks), \$440 (2 days/week for 11 weeks)
- Register [HERE](#)



Check out our [SCHOOLS](#) programming for 2023 and **BOOK** your class visit for winter and spring programs now! *See the sample program sheet below!* Our gardens offer many seasonal opportunities to connect with indigenous plants and food crops among the many demonstration gardens onsite. Pathways lead us through, allowing for vital relationships of natural systems to be observed and supported in the gardens and throughout the connecting wilderness spaces..

# Ethnobotany exploration

## Gr.2-Gr.12

Join us in WSÁNEĆ territory to learn about the cultural and ecological importance of native plants and ecosystems. Together, we will walk the Ethnobotany Trail, learn about the indigenous names and uses of plants, and discuss the importance of native ecosystems as we navigate our climate crisis.



### Curricular Competency Learning Standards

#### Interaction with environment/ Biodiversity/ First Peoples concepts of interconnectedness in the environment/ First Peoples knowledge of sustainable practices

- Demonstrate a sustained intellectual curiosity about a scientific topic or problem of personal interest
- Make observations aimed at identifying their own questions about the natural world
- Identify a question to answer or a problem to solve through scientific inquiry
- Formulate alternative "If...then..." hypotheses based on their questions
- Make predictions about the findings of their inquiry
- Experience and interpret the local environment
- Identify First Peoples perspectives and knowledge as sources of information

email: [youthprograms@hcp.ca](mailto:youthprograms@hcp.ca)



Programs are 1.5 hours and we offer an optional 30 minute self guided activity in the gardens for an additional fee. Program fees include entrance into the gardens.. To book a school program for your group or any inquiries, contact us at [youthprograms@hcp.ca](mailto:youthprograms@hcp.ca) or visit [www.hcp.ca](http://www.hcp.ca) for more information.

## Short Series Programs for Home Learners

CHILD & YOUTH NATURE PROGRAMS

HORTICULTURE CENTRE OF THE PACIFIC



Our Nature Connections - Short Series/Drop In Program



Every moment in the garden provides opportunities for connections with nature, and the many parts that contribute to its existence and evolution. This program of exploration will allow us to observe plants, both native and invasive species and to learn how they survive/thrive. Discover uses for some and ways to remove others, as we strive to heal the land.

- **Dates:** Thursdays [February 9](#), [February 23](#), [March 9](#), 2023
- **Time:** 9:30 am - 11:30 am
- **Ages:** 5-14 years
- **Fee:** \$20/day

### **Our Garden - Short Series Program**

Families looking for confidence to grow their own produce can join us for Our Garden. This 2 part series is all about hands-on techniques to prepare your garden space for planting. Week 1 will include the use of overwintering crops for soil development, creating & preparing plots, and harvesting of fall & winter crops, and making room for the spring growing season. During week 2, we will seed trays for a variety of vegetable crops to plant out in the future. Summer planning will also be an important part of this spring series. Parent and child participation is encouraged/welcome.

- **Dates:** [Mondays March 6 & 13, 2023](#)
- **Time:** 9:15 am - 12:15 pm
- **Ages:** 8 - 14 years
- **Fees:** \$70/participant + parent

### **Garden Creatures - Short Series Program**

Join us for a fun morning in the gardens! These drop-in sessions focus on the different animal species we find in the garden and the important role they play in that habitat. Each session will include hands-on activities, games, crafts, and garden explorations! Sign up for one or all four sessions.

- **Dates:** [Fridays April 14, 21, 28, May 5, 2023](#)
- **Time:** 9:30 am - 11:30 am
- **Ages:** 5 - 14 years
- **Fee:** \$25/session; \$85/4 session bundle



## **Membership Reminder**

Revenue from annual memberships supports youth programming, horticulture student development, plants and supplies for garden improvements, and volunteer appreciation.

You can purchase a [new membership](#) or [renew your membership](#) today online or by calling (250) 479-6162.

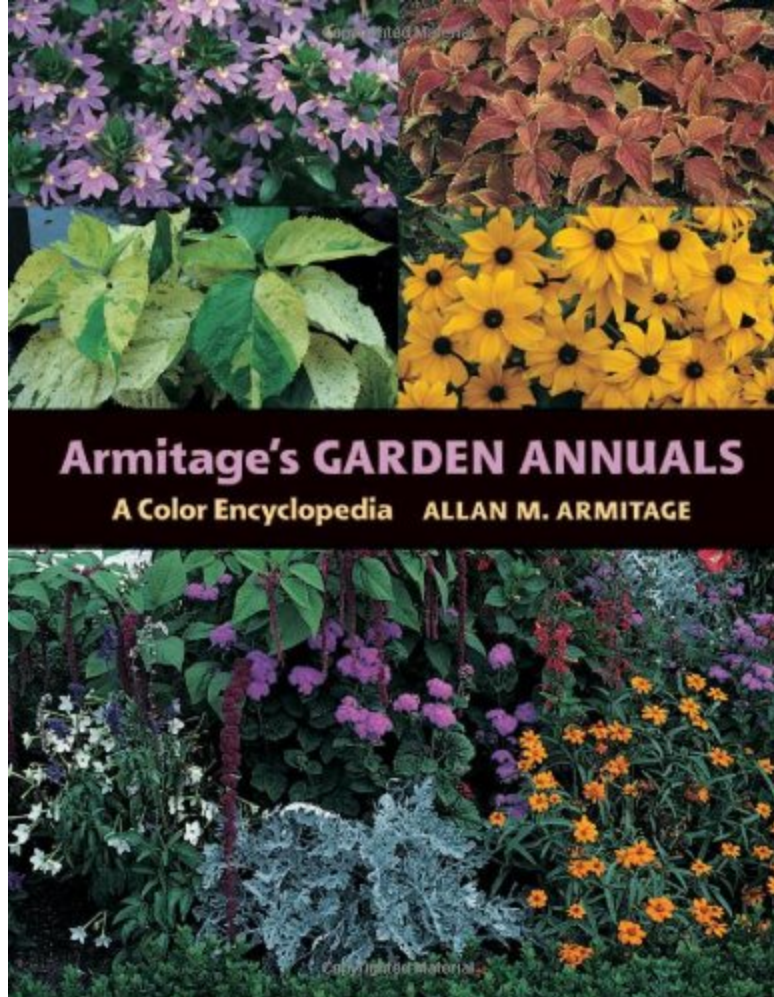
Memberships are a great value and include:

- Free admission to the Gardens
- A free guest pass with each membership
- Discounted rates for additional guests
- 10% off plants and gift shop purchases
- Discounted member rates on Community Education Workshops
- Borrowing privileges at the HCP Library
- Discounts at select garden centers throughout Victoria
- 20% off Admission at Victoria Butterfly Gardens
- 20% off Admission to Bateman Foundation
- Free admission, free parking, or other discounts at participating gardens in the American Horticultural Society's Reciprocal Admissions Program



**The Bookend**





## Armitage's Garden Annuals: A Color Encyclopedia

*Allan M. Armitage*

Many gardeners are studying seed catalogues this month and planning their best garden yet. Annuals can play their part in the design by injecting quick, long-lasting colour. Whether you're planting your own seeds now or setting out transplants later, *Armitage's Garden Annuals: A Color Encyclopedia* can make choosing them fun.

This isn't your typical encyclopedia. Armitage has written lively text to go with over 1300 gorgeous photos. He evaluates the garden worthiness and beauty of these annuals with personal commentary and inspiring advice. He describes acalyphas as schizophrenic, and the genus *Amaranthus* as the Halloween award-winner; *Acmella oleracea* is the toothache plant, and *torenia* is the wishbone flower.

This attractive and easy to use book includes more than 2 dozen fine lists of annuals suited to needs such as prickly, naturalizing, unique flower or fruit, and "love the water". Armitage focuses on plants that earn their keep.

Armitage has an impressive resume that includes prestigious awards, 9 books, and current head of the University of Georgia Horticultural Gardens.



This book was written as complementary to his *Armitage's Manual of Annuals, Biennials and Half-Hardy Plants*, which goes into more depth. Both of these books, and others written by Armitage, are available to borrow from the HCP Library.

### Library Hours

Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday 10am to 1pm

Contact us at [library@hcp.ca](mailto:library@hcp.ca)

And check out our [online catalogue](#) of more than 2600 books.



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