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**Horticulture Centre
of the Pacific**



April 2023 eNews

Hours: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Everyday



A Message from our General Manager

Happy Spring everyone!

As a valued supporter of the Gardens, I want to make sure you are aware of key events coming up in the Gardens. **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

- **Spring Plant Sale** – April 29th and 30th
- **Annual General Meeting** – June 22nd
- **Keep the Flowers Blooming Donor Thank You event** – July 23rd
- **Arts & Music in the Garden** – August 12th and 13th

The love of everything garden is what brings people to HCP. To quote a Chinese proverb “He who plants a garden plants happiness”.

As most of you know, we are a non-profit charity and one of our most successful fundraisings is our plant sales. The plants are propagated on site and Linda only brings up from the poly's those she knows are ready!

Please support this most-worthy sale.

On behalf of your Garden family, thank you again and I look forward to seeing you all here on April 29th and 30th!

Deborah



SPRING PLANT SALE

APRIL 29 & 30
9am - 4pm

Master Gardeners on site | 10% off for members
Many unique plants propagated from the Gardens

The Gardens at HCP
505 Quayle Road
Victoria, BC

FREE ENTRY

Visit our website
www.hcp.ca



A Message from our Head Gardener



Spring Plant Sale

April 29-30

9-4 daily

The cool spring weather has pushed the bloom date back for many plants! Most of our plants came through the winter and we have a great selection of unique plants to choose from, so **come early** for best selection.

Admission to the gardens is free during plant sales, so take time to peruse the Gardens. Victoria Master Gardeners, HCP staff, volunteers, and our Horticulture students will be available to help answer all your questions.

All proceeds raised from the plant sale support the maintenance and development of our not-for-profit teaching gardens.

New for 2023 (just mentioning a few) available at our sale:

Astilbe chinensis 'Hot Pearls'

Digitalis 'Pam's Choice'

Geranium sanguineum 'New Hampshire Purple'

Silene asterias

Tricyrtis formosana 'Gilt Edge'

Ugni molinae 'Variegata'

Stop by the gift shop, West Coast Seeds, gardening supplies and **NEW** this year, **Vancouver Island wool pellets** are available as well as local art.

Members receive 10% discount on all purchases!

Click [here](#) for our availability list.



The benefits of using wool pellets in your garden

I have read many articles in the past outlining the benefits of waste wool in the garden.

One of the many advantages of wool is that it is biodegradable, adding organic matter back into the soil as it breaks down.

Helen Chesnut mentioned this in her TC column in January (article [here](#)) and that got me thinking about how we could use wool here in the HCP garden.

This led me to contact Lorraine at Parry Bay sheep farm to see if she would donate some of her excess wool and she did!

I plan to do a trial bed in the lower veggie garden this summer, so come take a look when you are visiting us.

Vancouver Island Wool Pellets is a family run business up island and we are pleased to announce that we are selling bags of wool pellets (500 g and 1kg) in our gift shop.

The wool pellets are the perfect solution to giving waste wool a purpose that benefits plants and our environment.

How it works:

- slow- release organic fertilizer(9-0-2), high Nitrogen content, along with calcium, magnesium, iron and other micronutrients
- acts as a mulch holding 20- 30 times its weight in water and then releases it slowly.
- pellets add aeration to your soil and porosity for roots.

- deter slugs and snails-wool fibres have microscopic barbs acting as a physical barrier.

I look forward to experimenting with wool in the garden.

I am very curious to see how it goes, let me know your results as well.

Linda



Thank You Volunteers!

"Volunteering Weaves Us Together" April 16 - 22, 2023 is National Volunteer Week!

This April, we would like to express our greatest appreciation to all the volunteers who share their energy, expertise, and enthusiasm with us here at HCP. Together we have cultivated beautiful spaces and created a welcoming environment for everyone to explore. Thank You!

If you would like to join our volunteer team or would like more information, please contact Kim, Volunteer Coordinator at volunteers@hcp.ca



Giles' Jottings



Narcissus sp and Narcissus 'Jetfire'

When I wrote my Jottings a month ago, I felt sure that by the beginning of April the weather would have definitely warmed up and I would be feeling all the joys of spring. But I cannot honestly say that is how it seems now. The air temperature is still often cold, the skies are usually grey, and we are still getting cold nights and occasional frosty mornings, not to mention the odd

hailstorm. I will not complain given that friends in Montreal were hit by an ice-storm last week which brought down big trees and powerlines, but I cannot help myself wishing it would warm up a bit.

That being said there are many signs of spring in the Gardens, the most significant of which is the full flowering of the daffodils (*Narcissus* sp.). At first it was just the odd one or two here and there but now they are all open, the swathe of pale yellow ones in the lower field, the bright orangey crowd of *Narcissus* 'Jetfire' beyond the Plant Sale area, the golden 'February Gold' nearby at the top of the Doris Page and all around the lake are large naturalized plantations that we inherited from the farm that preceded us here. In the face of so much yellow and gold it is hard to say spring has not arrived. Bit by bit plants are reacting to the longer days and pushing out new shoots and new buds, the wavefront of the growing swell of greenery and blossom which is going to engulf the landscape over the coming weeks. It may be stating the obvious, but the constant cycling of the seasons feels like such a miraculous backdrop to our lives. We don't have to lift a finger, Nature gifts us day after day, year after year, this beautiful living picture-book, never quite exactly the same, always finding new and intriguing ways to charm us and the emergence of spring is surely one of the high points.



I feel the first flowers seem often pale, whites shading into yellows, as if reclaiming colour from the washed-out winter months requires a little time and patience. Hellebores in the Winter Garden cover the upper bank with their whites and ivories and pinks, the flowers of taller *Helleborus argutifolius* adding height and a hint of green. Magnolias are flowering too, the spidery white blooms of *M. stellata* especially striking at the top of the Doris Page, below the Gathering Place and outside the entrance gate in the car park while the much taller *M. zenii* in the Rhodo Garden has flowered so quickly it is almost already over but its falling white petals dapple the path to the Takata.

Pale yellow Corylopsis and white Ribes sanguineum make their contributions to this pale palette but Forsythia and Euphorbias add more vivid yellows. Bushes of Daphne odora in the Doris Page bring a more sensory experience, their pink flowers emitting such sweet perfume while the airy flowers of flowering cherries (Prunus sp.) in the Takata light up the shade cast by surrounding Douglas Firs. Magnolia sprengeri 'Eric Savill' in the Rhodo Garden offers even deeper reds with its huge crimson buds and then close to the ground more varied colours are appearing. Blue and pink Pulmonarias have popped up in the Fusion Garden and not far away in the Native Plant Garden Purple Shooting Star (Dodecatheon) and pink toad lilies (Erythronium sp.) are already carpeting the soil.



(From left)

White Ribes sanguineum,
Forsythia, Magnolia stellata,
Pulmonarias, Dodecatheon,
Erythronium sp.

Anemones and Hyacinths, Trilliums and Primulas, so many flowers are breaking out of the damp earth, contradicting my claim that spring is not yet with us. I am evidently confused; warmth is actually a summer characteristic, not one of spring at all. I will have to keep on my thick socks for a few more weeks and enjoy the emerging colours whilst remaining wrapped in my warm sweater.



Gift Shop





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

"We are looking for paper bags with handles again! Our preferences are for small and medium sizes, but we are happy for any paper bags you're willing to part with. Please drop them off at our front office. Thank you!"





OPEN

WEEKDAYS 10AM - 3PM

WEEKENDS 9AM - 3PM

charlottteandthequail.ca | 250.590.6346



Pacific Horticulture College





(Photo credit - Jo Wyld)

Happy Spring!

The full-time 2023 Certificate Program students are busy this month as they continue with their courses in Turfgrass Management, Practical Skills, Plant ID, Introduction to Food Growing, Soils and Landscape Design. Recently the students had the pleasure of taking a Practical Skills field trip to the beautiful Kildonan House and enjoyed their time in the Rhododendron Garden. Many thanks to the residents and volunteers for making them feel so welcome. They also had a field trip to the wonderful Finnerty Gardens with their Plant ID class. In March the students had Special Topics in Horticulture courses in Apiculture and Cannabis Growing. Please check out these student blog posts on our [website](#). This month's Special Topics class will be on Organic Landcare.

The part-time Level 1 Apprenticeship students are more than halfway through their program. This month they will be taking courses in Plant ID, Turfgrass Management and Plant Health. As always, PHC is so impressed with the dedication of the part-time students!

Curious about a career in horticulture and not sure where to start? Please join us for the Pacific Horticulture College Info Session at 6pm on Monday, September 11, 2023.

Can't wait until September? Please contact admissions@hcp.ca with any questions!

Programs now open for applications:

2024 Landscape Horticulture Certificate Program

Program Dates: January 15 to November 12, 2024

Application Deadline: November 1, 2023

2023 Level 2 Landscape Horticulturist Apprenticeship Program

Program Dates: August 8 to December 14, 2023

Application Deadline: July 17, 2023

2023 Level 3 Landscape Horticulturist Apprenticeship Program

Program Dates: October 30 to December 8, 2023

Application Deadline: October 2, 2023

2023 Level 4 Landscape Horticulturist Apprenticeship Program

Program Dates: August 9 to December 16, 2023

Application Deadline: July 17, 2023

Upcoming Program Openings:

2024 Level 1 Landscape Horticulturist Apprenticeship Program

Program Dates: January 22 to May 22, 2024

Applications Open: April 17, 2023

Application Deadline: December 11, 2023

2024 Level 4 Landscape Horticulturist Apprenticeship Full-Time Program

Program Dates: January 8 to February 16, 2024

Applications Open: April 24, 2023

Application Deadline: December 11, 2023

For more information, please visit our [website](#)

Questions? Please email admissions@hcp.ca

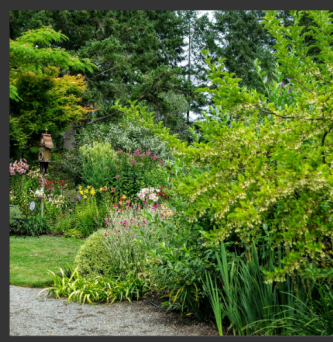


Community Education Workshops

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

Plant Identification & Culture Workshops with Jane Tice

Next date Saturday, April 15 & May 13 - 1:00pm - 4:00pm



community education **plant identification & culture workshops**

WITH JANE TICE



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

Rustic Building - Small Table Workshop

Wednesday, April 19 - 9:00am - 3:00pm



community education

rustic building - small table workshop

WITH ANDREW KENT

If you have attended a Willow Chair Workshop with Andrew Kent and are keen to try another project, this is the workshop for you. Anyone interested in exploring rustic building while making something functional and useful would enjoy this opportunity. In one day, participants build one Cedar top tripod table and one small or medium sized Slate top table with rustic builder Andrew Kent. All tools and materials provided.

HCP Members \$200/Non-Members \$230

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

Companion Planting Workshop

Sunday, April 23 - 1:00pm - 3:30pm



community education
**companion
planting workshop**

WITH RYAN BARTON

Have you ever wondered if your veggie garden has cliques? Who are best friends and who are arch nemeses? Well that is where companion planting comes in! In this class you will learn which plants benefit each other, what ways they do so, and what plants negatively affect others' growth. This class will help you get the most out of your garden, while encouraging biodiversity and sustainability practices.

Enjoy a fun and engaging class with Ryan Barton, PHC graduate and landscaper.

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

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

Edible & Medicinal Herbs for the Home Herbalist - Spring Workshop

Sunday, April 23 - 9am - 12pm



community education
**edible & medicinal herbs
for the home herbalist**
spring workshop

WITH RACHEAL SCHNARR

Are you interested in herbalism? Curious about the power of plants and how to utilize them? Come join Registered Holistic Nutritionist and Herbalist Racheal Schnarr for an engaging session as we explore the traditional uses of medicinal and edible spring plants. This class offers educational, practical, and creative components as we learn about, taste and create with spring herbs. You will leave with your own custom spring herbal tea blend as well as the knowledge, recipes and resources to practice herbalism in your own kitchen. This class is suitable for beginners.

HCP Members \$45/Non-Members \$55

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

Online: Watercolor Meditations on Place: Bitter Cherry

Wednesday, April 26 - 6:00pm - 7:30pm



online: community education
watercolor meditations
on place: bitter cherry

WITH MARISA PAHL

Join us for an evening of meditative painting, inspired by our neighbor the Cedar tree. Let's practice the art of noticing and explore painting as a way to tune into the present moment. This live online workshop offers guided watercolor painting prompts and an introduction to Cedar through an artist's lens.

Marisa Pahl is an artist living in East Vancouver whose work is grounded in human relationships with place. This workshop is part of a year-long series, where each month a different coastal tree of the Salish Sea is featured.

Participant Fee \$38

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

Diagonal Plaited Baskets with Willow Bark Workshop

Friday, May 5 - 9:30am - 4:30pm



community education
diagonal plaited baskets
with willow bark
workshop

WITH JOAN CARRIGAN



In this workshop, participants will explore two types of diagonal plaiting and weave both a square basket and a flat pouch. Diagonal Plaiting is super fun to weave and always feels like you are performing a magic trick. We will be using willow bark for each project. Discussion and demonstration will cover how to grow willow and how to harvest and prepare the bark in the springtime.

Tools: sharp scissors, 12" ruler, an old towel, spray bottle, household string.

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

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

Willow Bark Pouches and Vases Workshop

Saturday, May 6 - 10:00am - 3:00pm



Participants will be working with sheets of bark to form, stitch and bind it into pouches and vases. This is a creative workshop that uses and highlights the beauty of willow bark – Joan's Carrigan's favourite basket material. Come with an open mind and creative spirit. Sample baskets will be on hand for inspiration. Each piece will be unique and offers an opportunity for creative exploration.

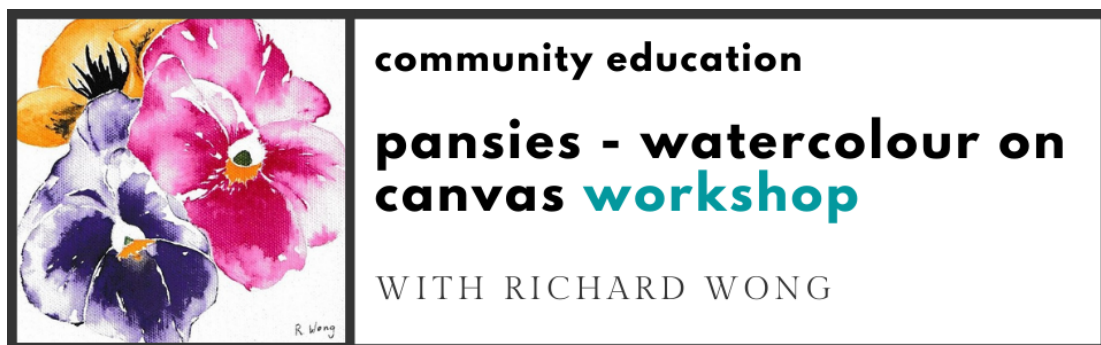
Tools: sharp scissors, an old towel, a small glass vase or bottle, spray bottle.

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

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

Pansies - Watercolour on Canvas with Richard Wong

Thursday, May 18 - 1:00pm - 4:00pm



New & Exciting! Capture the brilliance of watercolour on canvas (instead of traditional watercolour paper). Learn, step-by-step how to create a vibrant watercolour with wildlife artist Richard Wong. Richard will guide you through painting these beautiful Spring Pansies on a 6x6" canvas. This is a great class to take with a friend and beginners are welcome.

\$90 Participant fee which includes supplies

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

Willow Chair Workshop

Sunday, May 21 - 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

Weaving with Willow – Rattle Weave Variations Workshop

Saturday, June 3 - 10:00am – 4:00pm



This is a great introduction to weaving with willow. Participants will be making several projects employing what is called Rattle Weave. Joan will provide the lovely fine willow for each project which she has grown and harvested. We will start with making several napkin rings, followed by a bird feeder and then a basket with a wood base. Discussion and demonstration will cover how to grow, harvest, sort and prepare willow for weaving.

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

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

Pocket Flower Press Workshop

Monday, June 5 - 10:00am - 12:00pm



Come and capture the fleeting days of spring in this two hour workshop with horticulture therapist, Sheila Weitman. Participants will each make a pocket press, then explore a section of the HCP gardens to find just the right leaves and flowers for pressing.

Please bring a pair of scissors.

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

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

Papermaking with Wild, Invasive and Garden Plants

Wednesday, June 28 - 10am - 3pm



Participants will learn about local examples of plants suitable for preparation by hand beating, or by using a kitchen blender. Following this they will hand-beat pre-cooked invasive Daphne/Spurge laurel (*Daphne laureola*) fibers to a fine pulp. There will also be smaller quantities of prepared pulp from common wild and cultivated plants for experimentation. Each participant will have their own station with supplied equipment to make Western style paper. Papers will be dried and pressed in the days following the workshop and be ready for pickup up at HCP.

Papermaking is a wet process. If you have one, bring a waterproof apron, and wear shoes that can get wet.

This workshop is at a beginner level. There will be a handout with a list of resources.

HCP Members \$45/Non-Members \$55

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

Hypertufa 101 Workshop

Saturday, June 17 - 9am - 12pm & Sunday, June 18 - 1pm - 4pm



community education

hypertufa 101 workshop

WITH SHANA BROWN



Join local artist and Organic Master Gardener, Shana Brown for an intensive, two part, hands-on workshop where you will learn how to mix, mold, finish and cure a beautiful, one of a kind hypertufa planter for your home or garden.

Prized for its lightweight, porous qualities, durability and rustic look, hypertufa is an

ideal medium to create unique planters and garden ornaments. Made from easily

sourced, domestic materials; when properly cured and reinforced these charming

creations can withstand harsh winters and last for years and years.

HCP Members \$140/Non-Members \$160

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

Appreciating our Garden Pollinators

Saturday, June 24 - 9am - 12pm



community education

appreciating our garden pollinators talk & walk

WITH EMONY NICHOLLS

During this workshop discover what all the buzz is about our pollinators - learn about native pollinators, their importance to ecosystems and our food supply, and the issues they are facing. Find out how these bees and butterflies and birds like to live and what they like to eat with practical information on creating a garden in the southern Vancouver Island region that will be a pollinator paradise. And if the flowers are blooming, we will learn how to

identify some of the common pollinators in your garden and take a stroll to see who's buzzing around.

Participant Fee - \$10 which goes towards the maintenance of our mason bee nesting boxes.

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



Children & Youth Programs

School and Youth Programs

Look what is happening this season at HCP Kids!

- **VOLUNTEER/STAFF** - opportunities for youth looking for experience working with children for our JMG Garden Camps this Summer. Contact youthprograms@hcp.ca for details. Deadline May 15 to apply.
- **SCHOOLS** [HERE](#)
- **HOME LEARNERS'** [HERE](#)
- **SPRING PRE-K LEARNERS** [HERE](#) (GNA, Stories in the Garden, Garden Friends, Science Friends, Garden Club)
- **SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION** [HERE](#)
- **BIRTHDAYS** [HERE](#)

Did you know that ... our School & Youth Program department offers year round programming to connect educators, families, students, and children with plants and our natural systems? This includes workshops, home learner programs, school programs for young learners up to senior high, mentorship for school gardens, pre-k programs for participants and their families, as well as birthday parties, events and family learning? Our gardens are amazing, and we value your support to help spread the word!



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. Minimum registration is required. Please share word of this engaging program with your friends and make it a play date!

- **Date:** Tuesdays, May 9 - June 13, 2023
- **Time:** 11:00 - 12:00 pm
- **Ages:** 3+ years recommended
- **Fee:** \$75/6 classes or \$60/6 classes with a Family Membership
- **Register:** [HERE](#)

Garden Friends – A Series for Children and a Parent/Adult

Children love to explore our gardens while observing and experiencing nature. Together, we will engage in a series of nature activities. Each session includes a garden wander, sharing circle and story time. Bring a snack and picnic blanket for story time and dress for the weather.

- **Date:** Thursdays, May 11 - June 15, 2023
- **Time:** 12:30 pm - 2:00 pm
- **Ages:** 3 - 6 years
- **Fee:** \$110/6 classes or \$90/6 classes with a Family Membership
- **Register:** [HERE](#)

Science Friends – A Series for Children and a Parent/Adult

Bring along your budding naturalist for a trek around the pathways, bridges and fields as we explore the creatures who call our gardens, woodlands and ponds their home. Each session will focus on a different nature friend and include adventure time to explore the many pathways throughout our space, story time and craft. Pack a snack and picnic blanket for story time and dress for the weather.

- **Date:** Tuesdays, May 9 - June 13, 2023
- **Time:** 9:00 am - 10:30 am
- **Ages:** 3 - 6 years
- **Fee:** \$120/6 classes or \$100/6 classes Family Membership rate
- **Register:** [HERE](#)

Fairy Garden Workshop - 3 dates, 3 themes

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!

- **Theme:** Mushroom Hollow
- **Date:** Saturday, April 15, 2023
- **Time:** 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm
- **Age:** 4+ years (6 and under must be accompanied by a adult)
- **Fee:** \$30/child, \$25/accompanying adult or second child
- **Register:** [HERE](#)

- **Theme:** Blossom Lane
- **Date:** Saturday, May 13, 2023
- **Time:** 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm
- **Age:** 4+ years (6 and under must be accompanied by an adult)
- **Fee:** \$30/participant, \$25/accompanying adult or second child
- **Register:** [HERE](#)

- **Theme:** Sweets Retreat
- **Date:** May 27 , 2023
- **Time:** 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm
- **Age:** 4+ years (6 and under must be accompanied by an adult)
- **Fee:** \$30/participant, \$25/accompanying adult or second child
- **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! (Please note there is a minimum registration for this program to run.)

- **Theme:** SeaScapes
- **Date:** Saturday, April 22, 2023
- **Time:** 10:00 am - 11:30 am
- **Age:** 5+ 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 (no Class April 29)
- **Time:** 9:30 am - 11:00 am
- **Age:** 3 - 14 years
- **Fee:** \$120/ 9 weeks
- **Register:** [HERE](#)

Please contact youthprograms@hcp.ca for late registration options.

Pro D Day Camp Dates 2023:

- **Date:** May 19
- **Times:** 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
- **Ages:** 5 to 12 years (school age)
- **Fee:** \$40/child

Register: [HERE](#) or call 250 479 6162

Summer Camps

These JMG (Junior Master Gardener) Camps & Garden Arts Camps feature an outdoor program that includes time in our very own HCP Kids Teaching Garden where we grow food, learn to support natural systems and enjoy the many wilderness areas surrounding us! We also learn about using natural materials and resources for artistic projects and garden art too! Space is limited to 16 participants in each camp.

Summer Camp Dates:

- **Week 1 – July 3-7 (5 day, full day) \$185 (FULL)**
- **Week 2 – July 10-14 (5 day, full day) \$185 (FULL)**
- **Week 3 – July 17-21 (5 day, full day) \$185 (FULL)**
- **Week 4 – July 24-28 (5 day, half day) \$95 (FULL)**
- **Week 5 – August 1- 4 (4 day, full day) \$150 (FULL)**
- **Week 6 – August 8-11 (4 day, half day) \$80 (FULL)**
- **Week 7 – August 14-18 (5 day, full day) \$185 (FULL)**



Birthdays

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.



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:** Thursdays, April 6 - June 15, 2023 (No class April 27)
- **Times:** 9:00 am - 11:30 am
- **Ages:** 3 - 6 years
- **Fees:** \$275 (1 day/week for 11 weeks)
- **Register:** [HERE](#)

There is still time to join us this spring with space available. Connect at youthprograms@hcp.ca for more information.

Schools

CHILD & YOUTH NATURE PROGRAMS

HORTICULTURE CENTRE OF THE PACIFIC



Check out our **SCHOOLS** programming for 2023 and **BOOK** your class visit for **spring programs now!** 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.

Short Series Programs for Home Learners

CHILD & YOUTH NATURE PROGRAMS

HORTICULTURE CENTRE OF THE PACIFIC



Garden Creatures - Short Series Program

Join us for a fun morning in the gardens! Exploring the various species of creatures that make up our gardens, wetlands, and forests provide us with many lessons. Each day we will deepen our understanding of these creatures, through hands-on activities, observations, and garden exploration. Gaining a better understanding of how every garden creature is essential to their habitat, allows us to better understand how we can support them.

- **Date:** Wednesdays, May 17 (birds), 24 (herptiles), and 31 (insects), 2023
- **Time:** 9:30 am - 11:30 am
- **Ages:** 5 - 14 years
- **Fee:** \$75/participant
- **Register:** [HERE](#) or call 250-479-6162



Are you interested in learning more about what is happening at the Gardens or browsing through gardening articles? Then please visit our website and check the [HCP Blog](#). If you have a suggestion for an article or if you are a writer who would like to contribute, please email us at communityed@hcp.ca



Membership Reminder

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

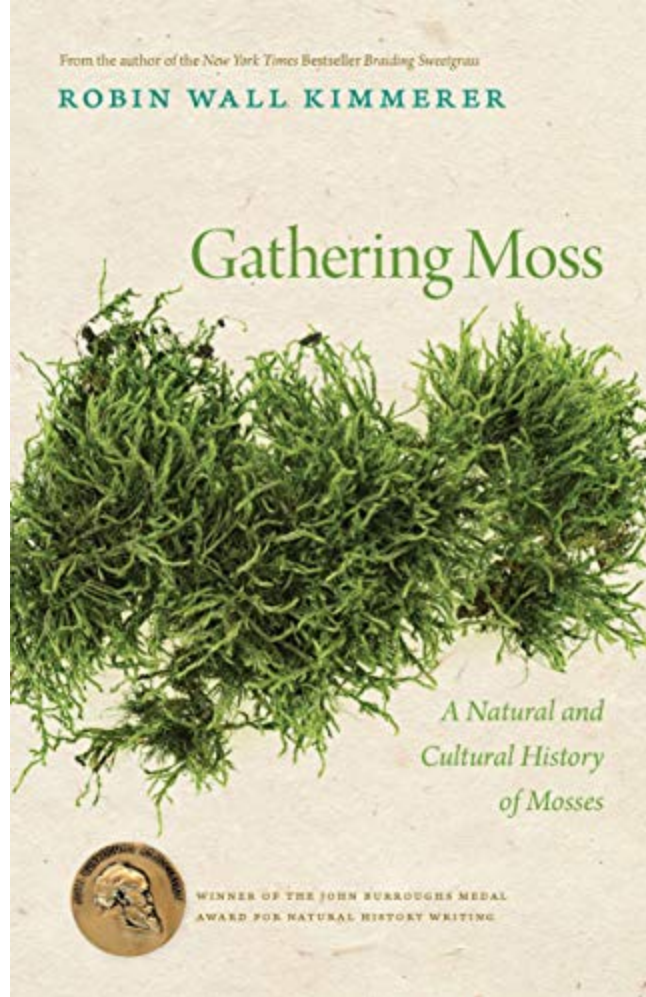
You can purchase a [new membership](#) or [renew your membership](#) today online or by calling (250) 479-6162.

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

- Free admission, free parking, or other discounts at participating gardens in the American Horticultural Society's Reciprocal Admissions Program





Gathering Moss

Robin Wall Kimmerer

Delicate and elementary, mosses (bryophytes) are the most primitive of land plants. They lack flowers, fruit, seeds, and roots. Yet, as Robin Wall Kimmerer puts it, “Mosses are not elevator music; they are the intertwined threads of a Beethoven quartet.”

In *Gathering Moss*, Kimmerer paints a portrait of this amazing plant that lends us a microscope as entry to their complex world. She combines her Indigenous ways of understanding, her scientific training, and education from the plants themselves into a natural and cultural history.

Composed merely of stems and leaves, mosses (22,000 species worldwide) thrive in the ‘boundary layer’ where air meets land. You may have felt this microclimate when lying on the ground. Like a floating greenhouse, it traps heat, water vapor and carbon dioxide for photosynthesis.

While not eaten, mosses over the centuries have had many uses, most notably as diapers for babies packed into cradleboards. Despite their simplicity, Kimmerer shows us that mosses exist not as solitary beings in nature, but in context, in a web of relationships.

You can borrow *Gathering Moss*, or Robin Wall Kimmerer's other book *Braiding Sweetgrass*, from the HCP Library.

Library Hours

Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday 10am to 1pm

Contact us at library@hcp.ca

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

And find our other Recent Acquisitions [here](#).



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