



June 2023 eNews

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

A Message from our General Manager

For my message this month, I would like to introduce you to the amazing and talented staff at HCP. The question everyone was asked was why they choose to work at HCP.

Beginning with the staff that bring you the beauty...

...Our Gardening staff!



Giles Collins – Nursery Lead



Tony Bobbitt – Assistant Head Gardener

I really enjoy working at the HCP and appreciate the positive energy I gain each day from the gardens as well as from the amazing volunteers.



Claire Shadrake – Gardening Assistant

Working at the HCP has provided opportunities to immerse myself in nature, to continue my horticultural education, and to be exposed to a great community of plant lovers!





...Our Education team!

Laura Biggs – PHC College Director

I am so grateful to be part of the HCP community, where I get to work with amazing people and support our wonderful students in their passion for plants.

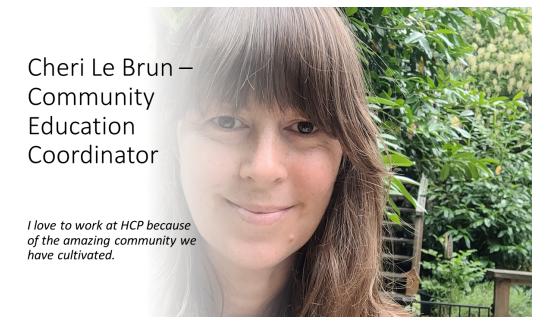


Racheal Schnarr – PHC College Administrator

 It is a privilege to work among like minded people, connecting people with plants, in a literal paradise.







Paula McCormick – Youth programs Coordinator



Kim Morison – Volunteer Coordinator

One of the things I enjoy most about HCP is the sense of community that is created when so many people come together to share their time, skills and enthusiasm as we work in these beautiful gardens and conserve the natural spaces for the future.



...Our Event Coordinator!

Barbara Pack – Event Coordinator

From volunteering here when I was young, to taking plant ID, to getting married here, and now I get to work here- what an absolute privilege it is to work amongst such strong, motivated, and absolutely wonderful people.



...At the Front Desk.....Ainsley and John!

Ainsley Jackson-Renz – Front Desk

I chose to work at HCP because it is such a fun and welcoming community and it's an opportunity to be near the beautiful gardens every day at work!





...And Finance!

Lynn Evans – Financial Administrator

HCP is a local paradise where you can enjoy a wander through an organic oasis and be changed - step through the gates and feel the difference. This is all possible because of the many people that care enough to support the gardens through their time and resources. Thank you.





For me it is all about the people – our creative and wonderful staff, amazing volunteers, Donors and Members.





To view the Agenda and learn about the captivating speakers we have lined up, please go to AGM information for more information on the two presentations that are offered for you: "Land Use History" by our own HCP Board Director - Marion McCoy and "Native Plants and Climate Resiliency", by Kristin Miskelly of Satinflower Nurseries.

A Message from our Head Gardener



The genus Salvia, commonly known as Sage is a diverse group of plants found growing in every continent except Antarctica.

They are members of the mint family (Lamiaceae).

Salvias prefer a sunny, infertile, well-drained soil and are deer resistant and drought tolerant (once established).

They have showy flowers in a range of colors and aromatic foliage.

Their nectar rich flowers attract a range of pollinators including honey and native bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds.

We grow and propagate several varieties and will have them in our sale area over the next few weeks.

Salvia'Royal Bumble' has stunning deep red flowers and dark stems.

Salvia'Peach Cobbler' is a strong grower with orangey-peach flowers (new for 2023).

Salvia uliginosa (Bog Sage) is one of the tallest up to 6 feet with sky blue flowers summer-fall and tolerates more moisture than other Salvia.

Salvia nemorosa 'Bordeau Steel Blue' is a compact grower ideal for containers.

Gallon Pots Needed

We are in need of gallon pots only at this time. Please drop them at the office or gate 4.

Thank you, Linda







Thank you so much for your generous support!

As a charity, the Horticulture Centre of the Pacific depends on the support and generosity of others to help us make a difference. The maintenance of our gardens is funded through our memberships as well as donations, sponsorships, grants and income from our gardens through admissions, plant sales, events and weddings. Even though much of the creation and maintenance of the gardens is carried out by teams of hardworking and cherished volunteers, there is still a large financial commitment when caring for nine acres of curated gardens and the Conservation Park.

Your donations provide essential support, especially now.

Thank you so much for your continued support -- we couldn't do it without you! Visit our website or phone (250) 479-6162 to donate today.



If you were a Perennial Giving Circle Donor (donation of \$250 or more) in either the 2021 or 2022 year, please save the date.

"Keep the Flowers Blooming"

Donor Appreciation Garden Party

When: July 23rd

Where: The Gardens at HCP

505 Quayle Rd, Victoria

Time: 3:30-6:00pm

Invitations will be emailed soon and we can't wait to see you!

Deborah Donahue

director@hcp.ca

250-479-6273



"The earth laughs in flowers" Ralph Waldo Emerson

You are invited to join our fun-loving Arts and Music Festival volunteers this summer. Over 150 volunteers will come together over the August 12th and 13th weekend to help ensure the event is a great success. Volunteers always have a fantastic time enjoying the music, art and festivities held throughout the gardens. on this very special weekend!

For more information about volunteer opportunities in the front office and gift shop, gardens or to add your name to the HCP Arts and Music Festival volunteer list, please contact Kim, Volunteer Coordinator at volunteers@hcp.ca

<u>HCP Board volunteer opportunity</u> - "In accordance with our newly minted Strategic Plan, the HCP is increasing its efforts to engage both individuals and corporations as donors to the organization. Consequently, the Fund Development Committee (FDC) is seeking two additional volunteers to assist in this effort."

As a subscriber to HCP's Newsletter, you are obviously passionate about horticulture and the environment. If you are also willing to devote several hours a month to help build awareness of the HCP within our community, please contact Ed Chwyl, chair of the FDC at edc@hcp.ca. for an interview.



Well June has begun with some glorious weather following straight on from the sunshine we enjoyed through so much of May. Without doubt the lack of rain in these early months of the year is a worry: the ground is terribly dry, we are obliged to irrigate in the Gardens even more than usual and each time the forecast gets our hopes up with rain predicted some days ahead, it somehow seems to evaporate before it ever actually arrives.



But the plants don't concern themselves over weather forecasts; they absorb all that sunshine and use it to put out the best of themselves. All over the Gardens the flowers are blooming in a radiant array of spectacular colours. The Rhododendron Garden, though many varieties are now over, is still producing enormous blooms in a range of different colours. Rhododendron 'Tortoise Shell' is a colour somewhere between orange and red, many of the blooms a shade of deep salmon while the flowers of R. 'Ignatius Sargent' seem to open to form much rounder balls of colour and these are a strong fuchsia pink. Rhododendron 'Tally Ho' is coming toward the final days of its flowering season but catch it while you can, it is a very striking scarlet that draws the eye. And then in restful contrast R. Catawbiense Album has beautiful translucent white petals with pale yellow throat markings; and yet the stigmas, and to a lesser extent the stamens, are a delicate pink. I find walking through the Rhododendron Garden such a pleasure, huge voluminous bushes of colour encroaching on either side, hostas and astrantias carpeting much of the floor and insects and birds dodging from plant to plant.



Yet one would have to say that the Iris Garden is currently even more fully in flower than the rhododendrons. I'm sorry that I cannot give the names to the amazing varieties that are now on show, perhaps we could work on labelling some of these magnificent specimens, but the range of different colours is incredible and several varieties mix multiple colours on a single flower. There is one which shows an exotic gradation of purple from pale on the upper petals (known I think as the standards) all the way down to a deep, almost black, shade of purple on the lower hanging petals (the falls) and seated on the throat of these falls the 'beard' is a vivid orange hairy tongue looking not unlike a caterpillar. Not far away there is a variety with pale yellow standards, so pale they are almost ivory, with contrasting deep maroon falls and the beard is golden yellow. What an extraordinary genus the irises are that they can be bred to produce such wild mixtures of colours. But the Iris Garden has been planted also with calla lilies and yellow roses and a lilac clematis and the overall effect is one of true abundance.

Just next-door the Cutting Garden is looking wonderful, perhaps the garden that is most obviously a showcase for annuals. Already the sweet-peas (Lathyrus odoratus) are tall and flowering, love-in-a-mist (Nigella damascena) has formed a cloud of flowers amongst its feathery foliage and snapdragons (Antirrhinum majus) and marigolds (Calendula officinalis) add bright accents to the beds.

The Drought Tolerant Garden is inevitably enjoying these dry conditions to the full and the lower bed is a magnificent swathe of pale blue and lilac tones. Ceanothus thyrsiflorus 'Victoria' is a beautiful strong blue and beneath it Nepeta racemosa 'Walker's Low' contributes powdery pale blue beside Salvia 'Bordeaux Blue Steel's more vivid violet tone.

Phlomis russeliana



Throughout the Gardens there are more and more lovely sights to enjoy, Phlomis russeliana in full yellow flower beside fat fluffy peonies (Paeonia spp.) as you walk down the hill, more calla lilies (Zantedeschia aethiopica) in the Lily Garden beside large clumps of varied true lilies that are just beginning to open, several unusual and unique alpines in the new crevice garden at the bottom of the DPWG and stroll through the Hardy Borders for more plants too numerous to mention. But finally, and difficult to forget, the Rose Allee is now a cornucopia of colour and fragrance. Rosa 'Polka' is a very fragrant climbing rose of a delicious apricot colour, R. 'Julia Child' is another scented variety, a buttery-yellow floribunda, and R. 'Navy Lady' is a lower growing shrub with semi-double wine-red velvety flowers. There is such a range of varieties down this walkway that one can spend a lot of time just standing there, absorbing, and inhaling all their rich beauty. And yet the rest of the Gardens is calling, colours and textures and fragrances beckoning you, tempting you from one area to another. In June there is no end to the beauty and intrigue of the HCP.







Many new items! Please stop in when you are in the gardens next and find the perfect gift for someone special or yourself!



OPEN

WEEKDAYS 10AM-3PM
WEEKENDS 9AM-3PM

charlottteandthequail.ca | 250.590.6346







It's a bit quieter at the College this month as the Level 1 students have now completed their program. We look forward to seeing many of them back for the upcoming Level 2 Program in August!

The Certificate Program students are now nearly halfway through their program and have been particularly enjoying their Landscape Design and Food Growing classes. This year's Industry Rep Day is on June 20 and we are pleased to welcome back Russell Nursery, Susanne Osmond (Susanne Osmond Garden and Design, Gardener's Kit), and Saanich Parks. We are also excited to welcome new presenters Natalie Foofat (Mustang Landscaping, Patio Gardens), and Makita! After a morning of exciting presentations, the Certificate Program students will be presented with their work experience host options. The students will complete their mandatory two weeks of work experience in August and September. June also brings a plethora of Special Topics in Horticulture classes. These three-hour classes focus on niche topics and this month's topics include Environmental Stewardship, Bonsai, Forest Grooming, Water Stewardship and Medicinal Plants! Later this month, the students can look forward to our second annual "Ice Cream Social" and their two-week summer break which spans into July.

In other news, after working tirelessly in the College office for over 6 years, Jessica Lokker has moved on to pursue other exciting opportunities. As College Administrator and later as College Program Manager, Jessica has supported hundreds of students throughout their time at PHC and has vastly improved the College's administrative practices. As a colleague and friend, Jessica's cheerful nature and sense of humour will be greatly missed. Although we are sad to see Jessica go, we wish her the best and cannot thank her enough for all she has done at PHC!

PHC Alumni are invited to join us on Thursday, July 27th from 5-8 pm for our Alumni Picnic Night. Bring a picnic basket, listen to live music, chat with fellow alumni, and enjoy a lovely evening in the gardens!

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

2024 Level 1 Landscape Horticulturist Apprenticeship Program

Program Dates: January 22 to May 22, 2024

Application Deadline: December 11, 2023 (waitlisted)

2024 Level 4 Landscape Horticulturist Apprenticeship Full-Time Program

Program Dates: January 8 to February 16, 2024

Application Deadline: December 11, 2023

For more information, please visit our website

Questions? Please email admissions@hcp.ca



Click to view a list of upcoming adult workshops and classes

Plant Identification & Culture Workshops with Jane Tice

Next date Saturday, June 24 & July 8 - 1:00pm - 4:00pm



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

POLLINATOR WEEK! 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

Papermaking with Wild, Invasive and Garden Plants

Wednesday, June 28 - 10am - 3pm



community education

papermaking with wild, invasive & garden plants workshop

WITH FRANCES HUNTER



Participants will learn about local examples of plants suitable for preparation by hand beating, or by using a kitchen blender. Following this they will handbeat 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

Eco Printing Workshop with Lorelei Textile Design

Tuesday, June 27 - 4:00pm - 7:30pm



community education eco printing workshop

WITH LORELEI TEXTILE DESIGNS



Join Carly of Lorelei Textile Design as she leads you through a beginner-friendly eco printing workshop! Engage in an afternoon of plant-infused play with a lovely community of inquisitive minds! Attendees will be provided with a handmade and upcycled bandana and a set of 2 vintage hankies to explore different techniques and applications of eco-printing. All flowers and foliage are also provided. You will leave this workshop with the foundational skills to continue exploring this fascinating practice at home, your very own eco printed bandana and hanky set, and an instructional booklet full of resources for further research and experimentation.

HCP Members \$65/Non-Members \$75

VISIT OUR WEBSITE to learn more or to register online

Hypertufa 101 Workshop

Saturday, July 15 - 9am - 12pm & Sunday, July 16 - 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

Finger Painting without the Paint Workshop

Saturday, July 22 - 9:00am - 1:00pm



community education finger painting without the paint workshop

WITH WENDY PICKEN



Have **FUN** in the Gardens with Artist and Author Wendy Picken. Explore the mixed medium techniques she has developed over the past 30 years. Learn how to create beautiful flowerscapes while exploring the Gardens on paper. This class is suitable for beginners. All supplies are included.

Fees: HCP Members \$70/Non-Members \$80

VISIT OUR WEBSITE to learn more or to register online

Edible & Medicinal Herbs for the Home Herbalist - Summer Workshop



edible & medicinal herbs for the home herbalist summer workshop

WITH RACHEAL SCHNARR

Join Registered Holistic Nutritionist and Herbalist Racheal Schnarr for the summer installment of "Edible and Medicinal Herbs for the Home Herbalist". In this hands-on class we will sip on refreshing iced herbal tea while we discuss some of the best herbs for iced teas and herbal salves. Next, we will dive right into creating our own herbal salves and iced tea blends! You will leave this session with your own salve to lather on for the rest of summer and beyond or add to your herbal first aid kit, as well as a herbal iced tea blend.

*Please note that our salves are not vegan and will be made with beeswax.

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

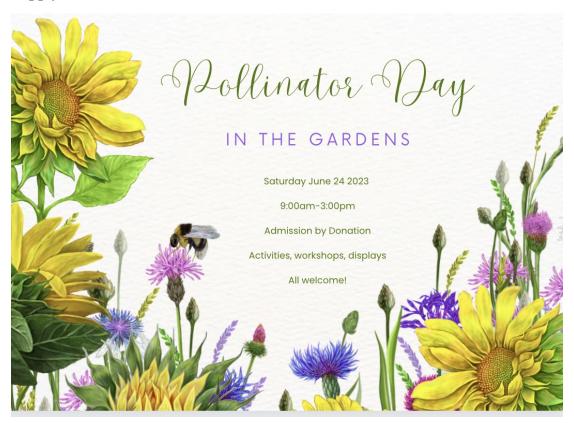
VISIT OUR WEBSITE to learn more or to register online



Look what is happening this Summer and Fall at HCP Kids!

- SCHOOLS Bookings are now open for 2023-24 HERE
- **HOME LEARNERS'** Sign up your child or a group **HERE**
- BIRTHDAYS popular themes include Fairy Gardens & Mythical Creatures HERE
- Up-coming Pro-D Day Camps: Sept 22, Oct 20, Nov 20, Feb 16 & May
- Registration Opens August 22 for Family Membership holders
- STUDENTS JOBS & VOLUNTEER opportunities. Looking for experience working with children during our JMG Garden Camps this

summer. Contact youthprograms@hcp.ca for details. Deadline June 16 to apply



To see more details about a program please use the link in the title.



Stories in the Garden

Imagine a gentle nature walk with your child to calm and inspire you both, followed by a story. Plan to bring along your favourite story blanket and snack. **Age:** 3 + years recommended (all welcome:)

- **Date:** Tuesdays, July 4, 11 & 18
- **Time:** 11:00 am 12:00 pm
- Fee: \$37.50/3 classes or \$30/3 classes with a Family Membership
- Register
- Date: Wednesdays, August 2, 9 & 16
- **Time:**11:00 12:00 pm
- Fee: \$37.50/3 classes or \$30/3 classes with a Family Membership
- Register

Tea Time Workshop

Tea brewing is an art form that goes back to ancient times. This makes a great "friends meet up" for your child for an afternoon of creativity, gathering and fun! **Age:** 6+ years

• **Date:** Tuesday July 25, 2023

• **Time:** 1:30-3:00pm

• **Fee:** \$30/child

Register

Flower Pressing Workshop

Remember pressing flowers as a child? Enjoy some creative time with a child in your life and sign up for two! All materials are provided. **Age:** 6+ years

• Date: Wednesday July 26

• Time: 1:30-3:00pm

• Fee: \$30/child

Register

Fairy Garden Workshop - It's TeaCupTime!

Join us for some fun and creative time as we enter the world of fairy garden making! Bring along a wide mouth cup & saucer (no need to match) of your choice. Consider signing up with your child and making one of your own!

Age: 4+ years (6 and under must be accompanied by an adult)

• Date: Wednesday August 9, 2023

• **Time:** 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm

• Fee: \$30/participant, \$25/accompanying adult or second child

Register

Herbal Creations

Many of us grow herbs in our gardens, but what can you do with them? Participants will make items to take home and share with their family and friends. **Age:** 4+ years (6 and under must be accompanied by an adult)

• **Date:** Thursday August 10, 2023

• **Time:** 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm

• Fee: \$30/participant, \$25/accompanying adult or second child

Register



Coming this Fall -

- Garden Friends 13 September
- Stories in the Garden 13 September
- Herbal Creations 16 September
- Fairy Gardens 7 October
- Pumpkin People (Family) 14 & 28 October
- Mythical Creatures 21 October

Garden Nature Academy - Fall Session is Now open!

The outdoors offer safe and seasonal opportunities for your preschooler to explore through play, games, songs and activities! We welcome parent participation. (Cost \$23-\$25 per 2.5 hour class) **Ages:** 3 - 6 years

- Dates: Tuesdays & Thursdays September 12 November 30, 2023
- **Times:** 9:00 am 11:30 am
- **Fees:** \$550/child for **Family Memberships** (2 day/week for 12 weeks), \$600/child for HCP members + public
- Register

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. **Ages:** 3 - 14 years

• Date: Saturday's, September 16 - October 21, 2023

• **Time:** 9:30 am - 11:00 am

• **Fee:** \$80/6 weeks

Register

Please contact **youthprograms@hcp.ca** to discuss the suitability for your child if you like.



Hello everyone and happy summer!

I am wanting to introduce myself - My name is Barbara and I am the new event coordinator here at HCP.

I started working here in 2021 at the Front Desk and have now taken on the events position as of April 1, 2023.

I am so excited to be working with everyone to make your special day just as lovely and unique as you are!

I'd love to hear from you and meet you in person - please don't hesitate to send me an email at events@hcp.ca or give me a call at 250-479-6162.

We are booking into 2024! We have some weekends still available for our summer season. If you haven't had a chance yet, take a look at our wedding packages. We have updated our wedding brochure and added another wedding package for you to choose from!

As always, we are booking events year-round and I'd love to hear what event you'd like to hold in our gorgeous pavilion.

It's so nice to be a part of such a lovely organization - not to mention work in such a stunning place!

I look forward to this summer and getting right into the busy season.

Stay safe, wear sunscreen, and have a wonderful day!



AUGUST 12 & 13, 2023

10:00AM - 4:00PM

LIVE MUSIC | FOOD TRUCKS | BBQ
OVER 50 VENDORS | CONCESSION

Members get in **FREE!** Pre-purchase your tickets online at **www.hcp.ca** or get them the day of at the gate.



250-479-6162 505 Quayle Rd, Victoria, BC





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.

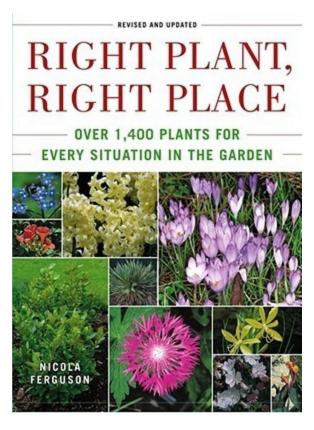
Memberships are a great value and include:

- 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







Right Plant, Right Place

By Nicole Ferguson

Have you ever been at a garden centre and made a spontaneous purchase based on looks alone? Welcome to the club.

Now you can avoid unsuitable plants by consulting Nicole Ferguson's book *Right Plant, Right Place.*

The "right plant, right place" principle was inspired by Beth Chatto (1923-2018). It is a key to successful gardening. (Check our online catalogue for many library books by her.)

Ferguson's book *Right Plant*, *Right Place* is for everyone, beginner to expert. It leads readers to zero-in on plants that will grow well in their own gardens. Sections include growing conditions, purpose, and appearance, with chapters such as "Plants suitable for dry soils in hot, sunny sites" and "Decorative plants with flowers suitable for cutting." Each entry has a photo, description of plant size, flowering season, needs, and care. Rounding out the chapters are bonus lists of plants found elsewhere in the book.

Check out this comprehensive reference so you can go plant shopping with a purpose. Available to borrow now 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.













This email was sent to cheri@hcp.ca. Click here to unsubscribe.