

“GO WILD” at The RI Wild Plant Society’s 2008 Garden Tour in Naturally Beautiful South County

Saturday, June 21st - Rain or Shine 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Tickets \$20.00 non-members and \$15.00 for members. Join now and take advantage of the member discount.

Call the RIWPS office - 401.789.7497 to order tickets or visit the RIWPS website to download ticket order form at www.riwps.org

Tickets may also be purchased at Wildwood Nursery in East Greenwich, The Farmer’s Daughter in South Kingstown, Clark Farms in Wakefield and The Secret Garden in Jamestown.

The RIWPS *2008 Go WiLD! Garden Tour* is going to be something special this year with 11 very distinctive gardens, many host to an abundant variety of Rhode Island native plants. The tour will give you ideas you can use in your own gardens. The emphasis is on the beauty and sustainability of native plants, but the gardens are not limited to wild plants only.

The tour centers around three areas – the North Kingstown area which features three gardens:

- Judy Ireland, designer of the award winning RIWPS garden at the RI Flower & Garden Show, will welcome visitors to her garden, a stroll through picturesque vignettes of native and non-native plants selected and artistically arranged by this ultimate lover of plants. Judy is a professional landscape architect.
- Suzanne Lambert enjoys gardening *naturally* in a wet landscape in Wickford. Her garden is certified as a Backyard Wildlife Habitat by the National Wildlife Federation.
- You will think you are in a nature preserve when you set foot in Marty and Steve Cavanaugh’s garden in Saunderstown, which, it is believed, includes the headwaters of the Saugatucket River.

Three unique, imaginative gardens are on display in Jamestown:

- *Whimsey in The Garden* best describes this contemporary and fun cottage garden created by Cornelia Mueller and Wayne Munns on a small lot, abundant with numerous varieties of plants and other surprises.
- Pam King and Chris Pike have enjoyed creating a colorful border for all seasons that will be featured in the fall issue of *Better Homes & Gardens Magazine*.
- The Hobbit lives on in the Jamestown Garden belonging to Steve Jorgensen and Dan LaLiberte, two exceptional gardeners who have amassed a large collection of Rhode Island native plants that are right at home in this peaceful arboretum-like landscape over seen by Gandolf, the weathervane.

The South County area is home to five enthusiastic gardeners with specialty gardens:

- A magnificent garden has evolved in Wakefield with the help of friends of Kay and Bill Johnson when they were introduced to the American Rhododendron Society. Today they have one of the most outstanding collections of Rhodies in Rhode Island which is being featured in an upcoming issue of the *Rhode Island Monthly* magazine. But wait. There are other specially selected species of plants for you to enjoy on the tour.
- The theme of URI Professor Richard Casagrande's Kingston landscape is..." Plants vs. Deer In Beautiful South County". Learn how he has managed to create and maintain an outstanding garden of rhododendron, hydrangea from his own cuttings, specimen trees, perennials and veggie plants when you visit his garden.
- A woodland paradise welcomes you at this peaceful garden overlooking Barbers Pond, planned and created by Karen and Dr. Ira Asher who love native plants, especially ferns. This West Kingston garden is an excellent example of introducing Rhode Island native plants and shrubs to the home landscape. Karen is the former president of The Rhode Island Wild Plant Society and is an expert at growing wild plants.
- Visitors will step back into a simpler time when they visit Sagewood Herb Farm, where herbalists Kate and Dan Rakosky will be sharing their wisdom and lore on nearly 200 species of traditional healing herbs, many native to our area. These plants are grown in diverse settings including a traditional kitchen garden alongside the c.1743 homestead. Visit www.sagewoodherbfarm.com to view the gardens and for more information.
- Highlighting the RIWPS tour is the opportunity to visit the home garden of Louis Raymond, The Renaissance Gardener, who created the dramatic gardens at

Theater By the Sea and was the artistic designer for the New England Spring Flower Show from 1998 to 2003. On his Hopkinton historic property, Louis is *Creating A Garden For All Seasons*. You will not want to miss this amazing work in progress. To view Louis's gardens and to learn more about this exciting landscape designer, please visit www.rgardening.com

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Sponsors for the tour include The Secret Garden Florist and Garden Center in Jamestown, Wildwood Nursery in East Greenwich, Clark Farms in Wakefield and the Wal Mart Garden Center in North Kingstown. Our media sponsor for this event is the Narragansett Times, a RI Central newspaper.

Please visit the RIWPS website www.riwps.org to view garden photos and to download a ticket reservation form.