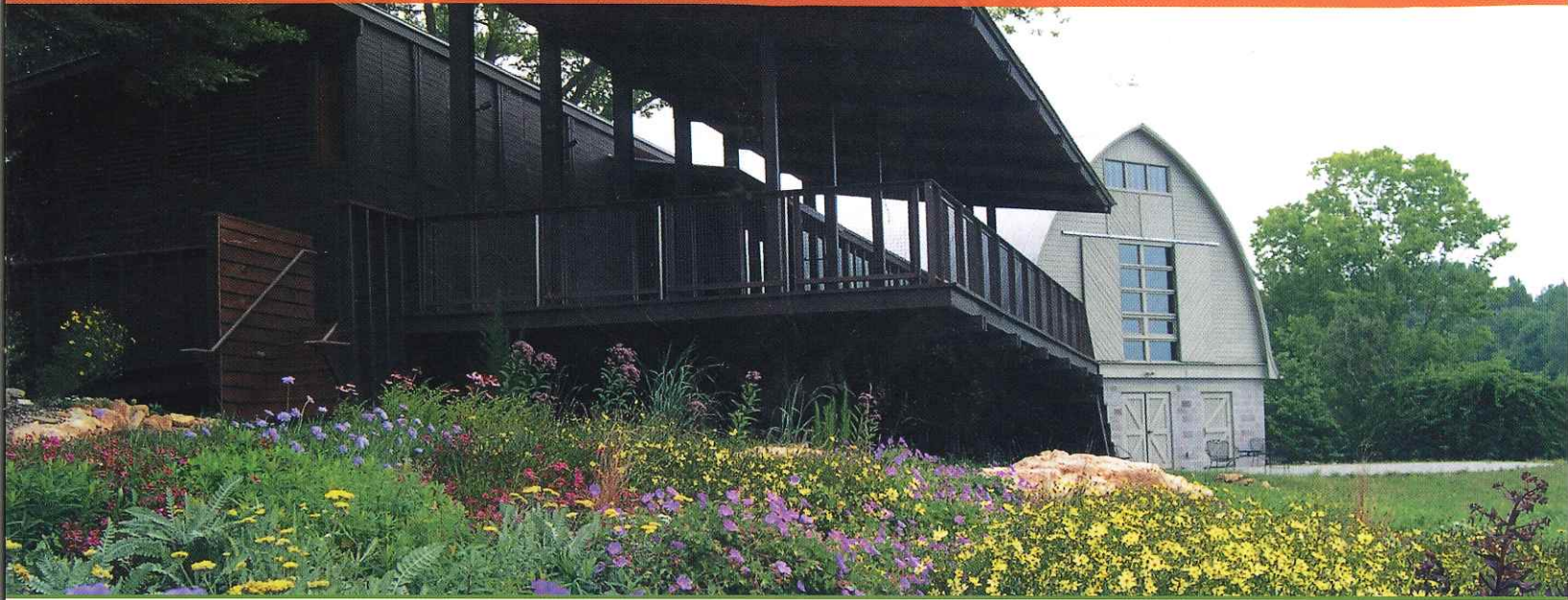




# THE CASTLE CHRONICLES

YEW DELL BOTANICAL GARDENS

SUMMER 2011



## TWILIGHT. THE BEST LIGHT.

*Unlike Ever Before - Friday, October 7th*

This fall, Yew Dell will host the 2011 version of what has become one of the most anticipated fundraising parties of the Year – ***Twilight in the Garden***, sponsored by **Brown-Forman**. And while this year's offering will have all the energy and brilliance of past editions, guests will be delighted with a whole new twist. *Twilight – The Best Light* will feature a celebration of the night garden complete with stunning lighting by **presenting sponsor Outdoor Lighting Perspectives**. Past silent and live auctions will be replaced by a slate of games (you know...

the fundraising kind!) for a chance to win a week at the incomparable *Maison Rose* in France, ring toss for fabulous wine and other opportunities to win jewelry, dinners and more. You'll even be able to participate in some of the games online before the event. *Twilight* will include sumptuous food by Corbett's, a bar stocked with Brown-Forman beverages and an energy level not to be missed. Buy your tickets today – or better yet, get together a group and buy a table for 10! [www.yewdellgardens.org/events](http://www.yewdellgardens.org/events) or 502.241.4788.

## THE GARDEN HAS GONE TO THE DOGS WITH BARKITECTURE AT YEW DELL!

Starting in September, Yew Dell will host the first annual Barkitecture! – a celebration of architectural design with a canine twist – all the houses on display will be doghouses! The whimsically-designed structures were designed by local architects, designers and other professionals and will be on display throughout the months of September and October. And dog lovers take note, on Sundays during the show we'll host Hounds on the Grounds, when you're invited to bring your dog (leashed please!) to enjoy the show, dog treats and more!

While all the canine cribs will be on display beginning September 3rd, a family and fido-friendly opening event will be held Sunday, September 11, 1-4pm. Dog treats, people treats (grilled hotdogs, of course!), prizes for dogs in costume, dog tricks and more will make it a great afternoon for all. Check the website for details. The show runs through October 30.

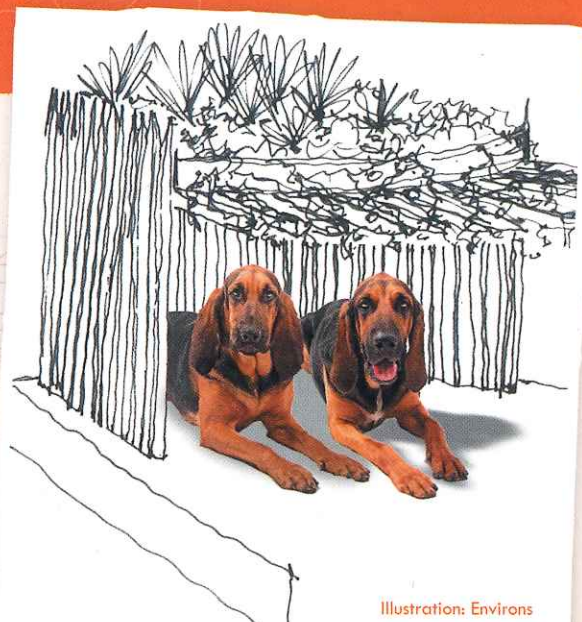


Illustration: Environs

# LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

In the continuing saga of these columns being inspired by my never-ending bedside reading pile... let me add Timothy Ferris's *The Science of Liberty*. Quickly described, Mr. Ferris uses his text to elegantly trace the intertwined nature of scientific advancement and personal liberty through the history of the world's cultural and political development: that the chance to take great risks, succeed at some and fail at others, is what fuels advancement, discovery and improvement of well being. And of course, that set me to thinking about Yew Dell... (surely you're not surprised!)

With a most talented and supportive board, creative and energetic staff, indefatigable volunteers and supportive community, this place has aimed high and succeeded in spades. Sure we've missed a few change-ups thrown down the middle of the plate, but the majority of fastballs have been hit squarely out of the park. Stunning new architecture, head-turning new gardens (and more to come!), unbeatable international garden tours and the like, the license to experiment and swing for the fences has been what has fueled all the success Yew Dell has experienced. And it continues...

Last year, we designed, constructed and opened a new **Visitor Center and Garden Shop**, right in the middle of our master planning process – a big risk that turned into one of our most successful ventures. This summer we offered our first **Farm to Table Dinner** – a smashing success proposed by our new Marketing and Development Director, Siofra Rucker and championed by new board member Margie Schubert; an event we didn't even have in the schedule at the beginning of the year! Board member Blair Louis pitched and Assistant Director Karla Drover ushered through *Barkitecture*, (an idea that took some convincing of the boss, who had a hard time initially seeing the BIG MISSION CONNECTION) – that has already become a much anticipated event for the fall. This fall we're also collaborating with **The Cultural Landscape Foundation** to bring to Yew Dell an outdoor tree exhibit – **Every Tree Tells a Story** – partnered with a photography exhibit at 21C Museum Hotel's gallery. **Twilight in the Garden**, our biggest and most successful fundraiser of the year... it's getting a complete make-over. And did I mention the greenhouse we're designing with a green roof?! Swinging for the fences, indeed!

So I invite you to come out to see for yourself what happens next. After all, every baseball fan knows that when your team hits the game winning home run, you want to be cheering in the stands, not reading it in tomorrow's paper! Happy Gardening!

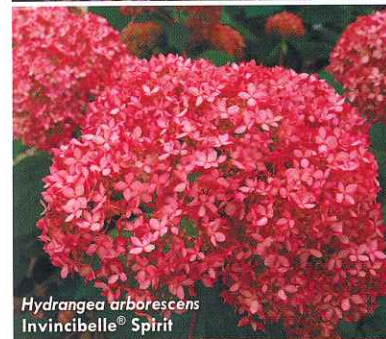
–Paul Cappiello



*Buddleia*  
'Purple Haze'



*Hydrangea paniculata*  
'Phantom'



*Hydrangea arborescens*  
Invincibelle® Spirit



*Stachyurus chinensis* var. *variegata*  
Variegated Chinese Stachyurus

## JOIN US!

Yew Dell membership offers a wealth of benefits including admission all year long, discounts on Yew Dell classes, lectures and workshops, invitation to member-only events and early admission to the annual Plant Sale and Garden Market.

Members also receive discounts at area nurseries and garden centers and coupons and gift certificates for plants and garden supplies—membership pays for itself several times over! And all of our \$150 and above members will receive a special plant dividend available only at our annual plant sale. For Silver Cloud and above memberships we're even offering guest passes for your friends and family members.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

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Email

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Card Number: ---

Expiry Date: - (MM-YY) Security Code:

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For a list of membership benefits and more information about events and programs, visit our website at [www.yewdellgardens.org](http://www.yewdellgardens.org). Please return this form to:

**Yew Dell Botanical Gardens**  
P.O. Box 1334  
Crestwood, KY 40014

## PLANTS UNDER EVALUATION

*A few preliminary notes on some promising selections.*

You can't spend more than a few minutes on the grounds without fully keying into the fact that at Yew Dell, it's all about the plants! We're always on the lookout for something new to fill a niche; better color, stronger growth, more pest resistance or something completely different for area gardeners.

With all our travels and collaborations with plant breeders, collectors and other acquirers of plants, we're constantly bringing in new plants for testing. We thought you'd enjoy a preview of some early observations.

### **Stachyurus chinensis var. variegata -Variegated Chinese Stachyurus**

Collected as a chance seedling in a nursery near Nagoya Japan, this looks to have all kinds of potential. Splashed variegation of green, white and gold that has been entirely stable through two seasons of growth. The species makes a medium-large spreading shrub with pendulous masses of chartreuse little bell flowers in spring. We think it needs a little more evaluation but if this one pans out, it will be a great addition to the shade garden.

### **Buddleia 'Purple Haze' – Dwarf Butterfly Bush**

Here's one that came out with much hype that seems to be living up to its billing. A dwarf and sterile selection, plants will top out at about 2'- 3' tall with a mounding habit. Plugs that were newly planted at Yew Dell last spring have grown well with little to no TLC and are blooming nicely. They seem to produce rather large inflorescences for such small plants. This seems to be a great massing groundcover plant for hot sunny spots.

### **Hydrangea paniculata 'Phantom' – Panicle Hydrangea**

There are just so many . . . but this one is looking good! The hype about 'Phantom' has been tremendous vigor, excellent deep green foliage and humongous flower heads – and that's what we're seeing. The stems seem quite sturdy so the plant hasn't flopped in full flower. Flower heads are a good 10" across and are more open and airy than something like 'Unique' that feels more like a Nerf football. 'Phantom' seems to bear flowers over a long period of time.

### **Hydrangea arborescens Invincibelle® Spirit**

After a long search, this selection from NC State's Dr. Tom Ranney hit the market a couple of years ago. Think of it as a pink-flowered Hydrangea arborescens 'Annabelle' and you'll have the idea. We've found the color to be good, with reasonable staying power. The stems seem a tad on the floppy side but we think that may just be the youthful stage of our specimens. We'll keep you posted. We know Dr. Ranney is working on even better selections.

### **Hydrangea arborescens 'PIIHA-I' Bella Anna™**

Sound familiar? This competing pink 'Annabelle' cross from Dr. Mike Dirr has shown deeper flower color than the above selection, with slightly smaller flower heads and fairly good stem strength. This one is being marketed through Bailey Nurseries through their Endless Summer series.

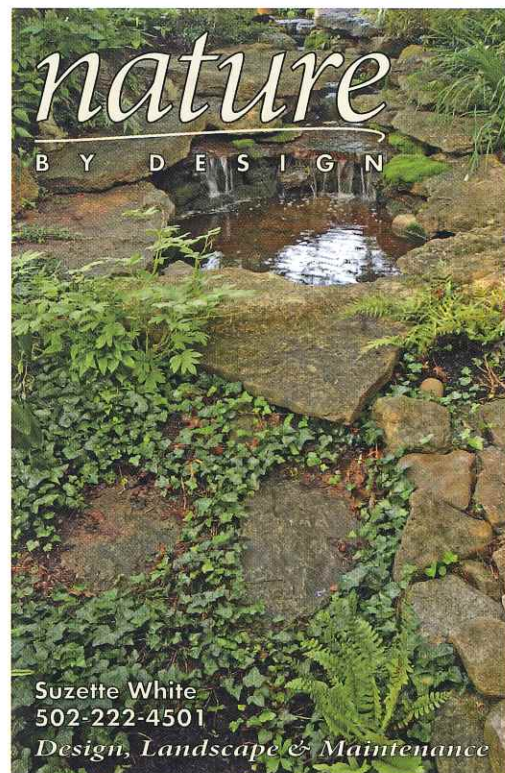


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## SUMMER 2011 PROGRAMS

### **Barkitecture at Yew Dell:**

A celebration of dogs and design.

See front page for details.

**September 3 – October 30**

**Free with regular admission**

### **Barkitecture at Yew Dell**

Opening Festival

See front page for details.

**September 11; 1-4pm**

**Free with regular admission**

### **Every Tree Tells a Story**

Don't miss the chance to catch this national travelling exhibit from the The Cultural Landscape Foundation. This collection of 12 outdoor signboards highlights the history, threat, and ways to become involved with 12 unique and threatened trees and tree collections across the country – one of which is Louisville's own Olmsted Parks and Parkways. The display is a partner exhibit to a concurrent photographic exhibit showing at Louisville's 21C Museum Hotel. Be sure to catch them both.

**September through December**

**Free with regular admission**

### **Third Thursday Concert:**

Harry Pickens Trio

This extremely popular group features a diverse and extensive musical background encompassing classical, jazz, popular, and world music genres.

**September 15, 7-8:30 p.m.**

**\$15/\$20 members/non-members**

### **Dividing Perennials with Ann Mattingly**

What can be better than free plants?! This hands-on workshop will teach you how to make more of those perennials you love, be they in your garden or a friend's. You'll learn which plants divide best, timing, aftercare and more. You'll get your hands dirty and learn some new plants also. And if you bring along a plastic bag or two, we might even have a few divisions for you to take home!

**September 28, 6-7:30pm**

**\$25/\$30 members/non-members**

### **Twilight – The Best Light!**

Sponsored by Brown-Forman

See front page for details.

**October 7; 6-10pm**

**\$185/ticket or table of 10 for \$1850**

### **Director's Plant Walk – Autumn Edition**

Join Yew Dell executive director Paul Capiello for a lively walk and talk about some of the best and newest plants for the garden. Hear about and see plants we've been testing; the winners and the losers. These walks are informal and lively and offer a great chance for you to ask questions about choices for your own garden.

**October 12; 6-7:30pm**

**\$10/\$15 members/non-members**

### **Third Thursday Concert:**

Whiskey Bent Valley Boys

These boys will take you back through the hills of old Kentucky. Last year's performance had the place jumpin'! You won't want to miss this year's edition.

**October 20, 7-8:30 p.m.**

**\$15/\$20 members/non-members**

### **Boo Dell**

Calling all ghosts and goblins! Boo Dell is the place to be with the kids for this fun and freight-free Halloween affair offered in collaboration with the Oldham County Public Library. Kids can enjoy trick-or-treating along the Trail-o-Treats (11am-2pm) – dozens of local merchants in costumes and decorated booths around the gardens. Hay rides for all and a performance by the incomparable Mr. Magic (2-3pm) make for a great day. Decorate a Jack-o-Lantern to look like your favorite character from a book and enter it in the Book-O-Lantern contest! But be sure to come early. This event attracts a large crowd!

**October 29; 11am-2pm followed by**

**Mr. Magic Show 2-3pm**

**Free admission for all; parking \$5**

**No reservations required**

### **Advanced Photography Analysis**

Spend an evening with former Southern Living photographer Joe Desciose critiquing photos from the class and the instructor as you learn how to improve composition. You will gain a new level of artistic sophistication and the ability to look at photographs with a fresh perspective. Bring your sense of humor and check your ego at the door! Class size is limited to 10. Appetizers included!

**November 4; 6-8:30pm**

**\$125/\$150 members/non-members**

### **Garden Photography**

Join former Southern Living photographer, Joe Desciose as he teaches a course for beginning to intermediate photographers. The course will include basic methods and techniques

to help you avoid common mistakes. Learn about composition and exposure and the difference between good and great photos. Morning classroom instruction will be followed by an instructor-guided outdoor hands-on session. Bring your camera and tripod if you have one. Instruction will be based on 35mm cameras with changeable lenses. **Lunch included with paid registration received by Nov 3.**

**November 5; 9am-3pm**  
**\$75/\$85 members/non-members**  
**(includes boxed lunch)**

### **Autumn's Gold Harvest - Slow Food Cooking Class**

Slow Food USA Southeast Governor and Brown-Forman chef, Mark Williams will unveil exquisite recipes that will help you make the very best of the autumn garden. Register now – these classes sell out quickly!

**November 13; 2-4pm**  
**\$20/\$25 members/non-members**

### **Third Thursday Concert** **Cheyenne Marie Mize**

Cheyenne Marie Mize vocals blend folk and rock creating a unique musical beauty. Her vocals and the acoustics of the Gheens Barn are a match made in Heaven!

**November 17; 7:00-8:30pm**  
**\$15/\$20 members/non-members**

### **Holiday Wreath Workshop**

Design and make a unique winter wreath with direction from nurseryman Jules Klein and made from fresh greens harvested at Yew Dell. Participants will be provided the necessary materials and tools to create a wreath but should bring their own gloves and pruners. Express your creativity by making a holiday wreath to take home--the finished wreath will measure 22-24 inches.

**December 3; 10am and 12:30pm**  
**\$30/\$35 members/non-members**

## **SUMMER INTERNS AT YEW DELL**



This summer we've been blessed to have two summer interns join the Yew Dell staff. Matt Curry, a Crestwood, KY native and current Plant and Soil Science major at the University of Kentucky has spent the summer working with Garden Manager Ann Mattingly on garden maintenance, plant propagation and irrigation projects.

Emma Akrawi is a rising sophomore at Yale University and came to us through the Bulldogs in the Bluegrass program. Emma has been working with Marketing and Development Director Siofra Rucker on social networking outreach, event promotion and public relations projects.

We wish them both well in their future studies and look forward to hearing about all they accomplish.

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# IN MEMORY: MARGARET BARR KULP

This past June, we were all saddened with the loss of one of Yew Dell's most ardent supporters and dearest friends with the passing of Margaret Kulp. Margaret was an active board and committee member and a constant presence and support in many areas of Yew Dell's work. But we also know well that the wider gardening world, well beyond Louisville, and the greater Louisville community, will feel the loss as well. Margaret was a supporter of the visual arts, early music, parks, conservation, education and so much more. But with all her interests, it was gardening that was nearest and dearest to her heart. She was a plant collector who could go toe to toe with the best of them. She was a passionate colorist. She had an encyclopedic knowledge of flower arranging and conditioning. Her passion for visiting gardens

around the world is rivaled by few. And all this passion and knowledge she shared freely with anyone with an interest, be they the illuminati of the garden world (she was never intimidated by titles, either bestowed or self proclaimed) or a student just starting out. That advice was always filled with the passion and vigor for which she was famous – "I never use wimpy colors in the garden. If you're going to make a statement, make it bold!" And one of our favorites, "Life's too short for boring plants!"

We will all miss Margaret's knowledge, energy, hospitality, generosity and friendship. Our deepest sympathies go out to her husband Bob and their entire family.



## MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUM

### IN MEMORY OF

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#### *Ben Thomas Cooper*

Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Rounsavall, III

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#### *Emmeline Rowley Pell Blakemore*

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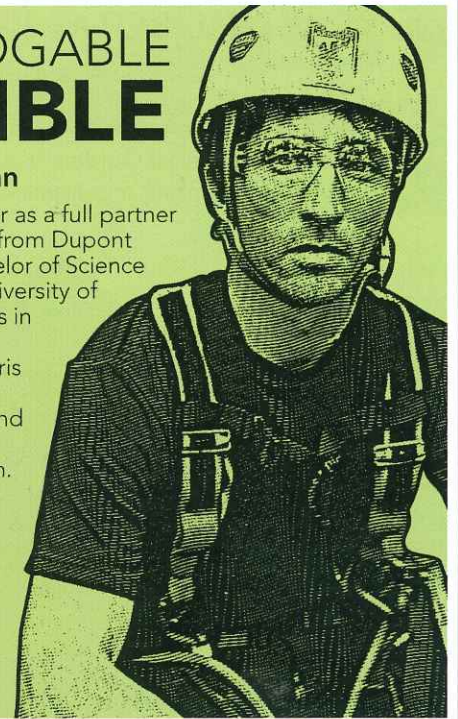
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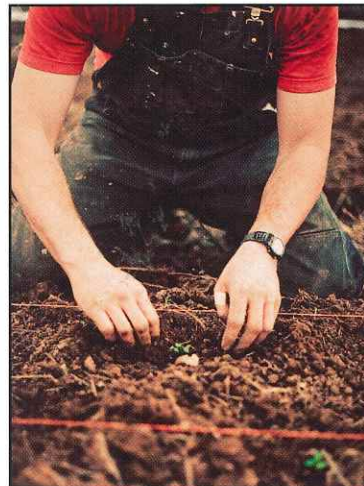
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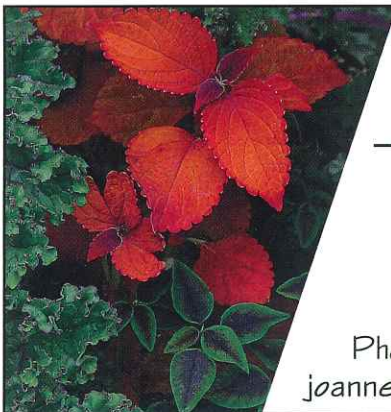
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## Jo Anne Fischer

In The Garden

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# YEW DELL BOTANICAL GARDENS

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## THE CASTLE CHRONICLES

NEWSLETTER • SUMMER 2011

### OPEN HOURS

#### APRIL TO NOVEMBER:

Mon – Sat: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Sun: noon to 4 p.m.

### Children in the Dell Classes for Kids and Families

Every Saturday morning from 10:30am-noon, kids ages 5 and up can join our host of educators on a variety of adventures from nature hikes to flower planting, scavenger hunts and more. This is a great opportunity to help kids develop a greater appreciation for the outdoors and to help them develop an early connection to the garden.

**Preregistration suggested but drop-ins are welcome as space allows. Saturday Mornings through October 22**  
**\$5/\$10 per child members/non-members**

### Second Saturday Guided Tours

Enjoy a guided tour of Yew Dell's incomparable grounds, gardens and buildings with one of our experienced tour guides. Wonderful for out of town guests, first time visitors or anyone interested in the Yew Dell's history, gardens and programs.

**Free with regular admission  
members / non-members**

### Calling all volunteers! Second Saturday work days

Join Yew Dell Garden Manager, Ann Mattingly for a morning of gardening and learning! Each week volunteers meet to work together to tackle a project here at Yew Dell and learn from each other and from our staff. This is hands-on, lots of fun and a wonderful way to get involved in Yew Dell!

### International Plant Propagators/ Society Conference

Yew Dell is helping to host this prestigious nursery industry conference in Louisville this fall and we're delighted to announce that the conference has been opened to the public – including a special Saturday session devoted to lectures on great plants and plant people. This is a once-in-a-lifetime chance to rub shoulders with some of the best plant people in the US and overseas and to hear some outstanding plant talks. For information go to: <http://ippseastern.com/meeting.htm>

**October 19-22**

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