January \* February \* March 2019

# YEW DELL BOTANICAL GARDENS

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# MEMBERSHIP FORM

# TURN OVER A NEW LEAF WITH YEW DELL IN THE NEW YEAR!

Growing up in the New York City area, each holiday season my parents took us to The City to see the sights; Macy's decorated windows, Radio City Music Hall and of course Rockefeller Center complete with ice skaters and giant Christmas tree. One year when I was about 10 or 12 years old we were on such an excursion when a TV newsperson shoved a big, puffy microphone in my face and asked, "Any New Year's resolutions this year?" Now being the sublimely articulate adolescent I was at the time, I calmly weighed my options, considered my response and then blurted out, "uh, mmmm, waaaa, swk, uhhhhh." So went my Warholian moment of fame. So this year we're here to help you avoid the same fate.

To help gardeners with some resolutions we offer this winter's **Turn Over A New Leaf Series**. Through a slate of lectures and workshops we invite you to engage your brain (brain exercise actually burns loads of calories!) and get yourself in the garden swing long before Derby week arrives. Better than a gym membership you may never use or a pledge to avoid the doughnut platter at work,

Turn Over A New Leaf offerings will help you commit to engaging company, inspired learning and excellent food and drink. Don't be that stammering youth, searching for a meaningful response to the inevitable Resolutions question. Join us and we'll Turn Over A New Leaf together!

Happy Gardening,

Paul Cappiello

Executive Director

#### ON THE COVER:

'Diane' Witchhazel (Hamamelis x intermedia) - is one of the best of the red blooming witchhazels. A large, spreading shrub/small tree to 10-15' tall and wide, it is a welcome bit of color in the middle of winter. Look for witchhazels along the Yew Dell entrance drive and arboretum path.



LEVELS OF GIVING

#### Do you Enjoy Reading This Newsletter?

If you thought to yourself ... yes, I do, then we are so pleased. But we have a favor to ask. Would you mind looking on the label to check your membership status? If you are a current member, thank you for your support! If not, we hope you will consider renewing your membership. We love our current and previous members and want you to stay informed. Yew Dell has been growing and, to continue on that path, we need your support. Thank you in advance for your support!

Individual	\$35
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For a list of membership benefits and more information about events and programs, visit our website at www.yewdellgardens.org. Please return this form to:

> Yew Dell Botanical Gardens 6220 Old LaGrange Road Crestwood, KY 40014

# OPENING DAY & HELLEBORE SALE

# Saturday, March 30 10 am — 4 pm Free with Regular Admission

Spring is here... or at least it will be here soon. Help us celebrate the season by joining us for our annual opening day. If you've been here for past Hellebore Sale days you know how much fun we've had. Well, we've ramped up **Hellebore Day** for a full-on celebration of the new season. We'll have a full day of plants, tours and demos all designed to get you fueled up for a great spring of gardening. Here's just a taste of the day's lineup...



#### Beginning at 10 am

**Hit the Garden Gift Shop** – Get a jump on the season at our award-winning shop stocked with everything the gardener needs for 2019.

**Hellebores anybody?** We'll have the usual, best selection in town, supply of hellebores. Whether you're looking for the newest, best and choicest named varieties or are just getting started with those bomb-proof, deer-proof, bloom all winter Helle-things. We'll have plenty beginning at 10 am until they're gone.

#### 11 am - 2 pm

**Yew Dell History Tour** – Join our crew of outstanding volunteer tour guides for a walk through Yew Dell's history including Klein family history, the plants, gardens and architecture.

**Early Spring Garden Walk** – Take a guided stroll through the grounds and get a first glimpse of the best of the early garden.

**Behind the Scenes in the Nursery** — Join Greenhouse & Nursery Manager, Jacob Stidham, for a tour of all that's going on in the nursery. From new greenhouses to propagation projects, plant evaluations and more, this will be a fun walk for all.





#### 11 am - 2 pm

**Proper Planting Workshop** — Join horticulture apprentice Issac Lechner for a hands on master class on planting. From perennials to trees, shrubs and more, learn to recognize quality root systems, planting bed prep, and all the other basics to make sure your new tree will thrive.

**Painting With Plants** — Horticulture apprentice Isabel Branstrom will amaze you with her talents for making art from plants, soil and more. This will be a fun and informal demo/workshop that'll send you home with a long list of new ideas to try at home.

# 2019 Winter - Early Spring Events and Classes

Watch for emails and check our website for complete descriptions, program updates and additions.

#### Birds in Paradise – a self-guided winter arboretum hike - Free!

A bird in hand is worth two in a bush, but a bird in the arboretum is priceless! Volunteer & Social Media Coordinator (and all around wickedly creative person) Lindsay Duncan and uber Volunteer Debby Levine (no slouch of an artist in her own right!) have **re-purposed colorful old event banners** into stitched tapestry bird banners to adorn arboretum specimens that offer particular winter interest. Plants with attractive bark, winter fruit or unique habit or foliage will sport banners with bird images on one side and horticultural info on the other. Come take advantage of **free winter admission**!

#### TURN OVER A NEW LEAF – PLANT AND GARDEN DINNER/LECTURE SERIES

Join us for our 3-part dinner and lecture series that includes a diverse slate of topics. All 3 will include cocktails and a themed dinner to go along with a plant/garden lecture by Yew Dell executive director, Dr. Paul Cappiello. These sell out fast so turn over your first new leaf by getting online or on the phone to reserve your spot!

#### Three Awesome Stories – Three Awesome Trees; a garden natural history

Thursday, January 17; 6:30-9 pm \$100/\$120 - Members/Non-members Limited to just 30 slots.

Join us for an exclusive and fun event full of plants, science, food, drink and great company as our executive director and chief plant geek, Dr. Paul Cappiello takes us through some of the most awe-inspiring stories about three amazing trees. An intimate and informal dinner and cocktails will round out this evening hosted by our good garden friend Carol Matton in her beautifully restored, Cherokee Triangle home.



#### The Botany of Bourbon Hosted by our neighbors at Kentucky Artisan Distillery, the Home of Jefferson's Reserve Bourbon

Thursday, February 21; 6:30 - 9:30 pm \$100/\$120 - Members/Non-members Kentucky's finest native spirit has taken over the planet in recent years. We know about the limestone water, the climate and the heritage that make Kentucky bourbon such an icon in the spirits industry. But what about those grains, the magic kernels that transform branch water to gold? Join us for a wide-ranging dinner lecture by executive director, Dr. Paul Cappiello, covering the natural history, the botany and the chemistry that make these iconic grains the stuff of myth and magic. Enjoy specialty bourbon cocktails, a luscious dinner and lecture right in the heart of the distillery, a behind the scenes tour, plus a bourbon tasting led by Head Distiller, Jade Peterson of Kentucky Artisan Distillery the home of Jefferson's Bourbon.

# The Plants and Gardens of Coastal Maine — a travelogue dinner

Wednesday, March 20; 6:30 – 8:30 pm \$80/\$90 - Member/Non-members

Always an instant sellout, our Travelogue Dinners, including garden/plant lecture and themed dinner and cocktails, have developed an avid and faithful following. Join executive director, Dr. Paul Cappiello on a tour of the unique flora, gardens and history of this iconic tip of the Atlantic coast. Long famed for its rugged coastline and scenic landscape, coastal Maine has long held a special place in the history of American gardening. Register early. These sell out quickly.

# TURN OVER A NEW LEAF — HANDS ON WORKSHOP SERIES

If the dinner lecture isn't your thing, try turning over a new leaf with one or more of our hands on workshops or plant walks.



#### Houseplant Addicts Anonymous

with Garden Manager, Sayde Heckman Wednesday, February 20; 6-7:30 pm \$40/\$50 - Members/Non-members

We fear that Sayde's gone 'round the bend with her houseplant and tropical plant obsession. But our loss is your gain! Join Sayde at the new Mahonia Studio in Nulu for this workshop on selecting, sourcing, collecting and caring for a wide selection of awesome tropicals and house plants. We'll be one of the first to teach a class in Mahonia's new space. If you don't already have your own collection, she'll send you home with a new addition, or the beginning of your collection to get you rolling.

#### Printing From Plants with Horticulture Apprentice Isabel Branstrom

Tuesday, March 5; 6-7:30 pm \$20/\$30 – Members/Non-members

Spend a winter morning reconnecting with your inner artist in this creative workshop offered at the fab new Mahonia Studio location in Nulu. Isabel will take participants through a wonderful variety of plant printing methods from leaf printing to stamping and more. Each participant will go home with their own work of art. Continued on next page.

#### Winter Tree ID Workshop

Tuesday, March 19; 6 - 7:30 pm \$10/\$20 - Members/Non-members Join Yew Dell horticulture staff for this engaging and informative walk that will focus on plants that strut their stuff in the heart of winter. From exfoliating bark to winter fruit, foliage and form, this is a program that will expand your idea of what the winter landscape can do.

#### Seed Starting Workshop with Greenhouse & Nursery Manager Jacob Stidham

Wednesday, March 27; 6 - 7:30 pm \$15/\$25 - Members/Non-members
Come inside and get this year's garden started early. Follow along with our
Horticulture Staff as we guide you through the fun world of seed starting. Choose from our seed bank of annuals, perennials, herbs, and vegetables to sow several trays to take home!

#### SPRING EVENTS – 2019 First Volunteer Work day of 2019

Saturday, March 9; 9 am – noon Kick off the gardening season in style and help us get ready for opening day (March 30) by joining us for our first volunteer work day of the year.

#### **Volunteer Celebration**

Saturday, March 23; 10 – 11:30 am Plan to join us for Yew Dell's annual event where we thank all those who work so hard all year to make this place shine. Celebrate the start of spring while we enjoy light snacks, announce our annual volunteer awards and talk a bit about all that's coming in the new season. And if you're not yet a volunteer, this is the perfect time to see and hear what it's all about. Please RSVP to Volunteer Coordinator Lindsay Duncan at (502) 241-4788 ext.1005 or lindsayd@yewdellgardens.org.

# The Art of the Sustainable Landscape

Sunday, March 24; 2 - 3:30 pm \$10/\$20 - Members/Non-members Sacred Heart Preschool 3105 Lexington Road, Louisville, KY Don't miss this unique opportunity to learn from someone on the cutting edge of the combination of art, garden and sustainable development. Paul Tukey is the Chief Sustainability Officer for Glenstone Museum, a spectacular, privately funded new modern art museum located outside Baltimore, MD. Long a proponent of sustainable garden and landscape management, Mr. Tukey has overseen development and implementation of a plan for the sustainable and 100% organic management of the 250+acre museum campus.

#### **Opening Day!**

Saturday, March 30; 10 am – noon Free with Regular Admission! Yew Dell Garden Gift Shop Opens for the Season!

Saturday, March 30; 10 am – 4 pm See page 3 for the detailed line-up of



#### The Big Bloom!

Date: All spring long! We figure the tulips to be at peak in April but we're at Mother Nature's Mercy!

FREE with regular admission!

Plan to hit the gardens several times this spring as we fling open the gates for our first **Big Bloom!** Last fall, a mega crew of staff and volunteers added more than 14,000 bulbs to our already growing show. Masses of daffodils, tulips and a host of others will adorn the grounds whenever they feel in the mood! Check our Facebook page and website home page for bloom progress updates.

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#### Hypertufa Workshop

Instructor: Jackie Gulbe, Director of Marketing & Events

Tuesday, April 23; 6-7:30 pm \$35/\$45 - Members/Non-members
Create the perfect horticultural masterpiece for your garden or patio. Yew Dell's Director of Marketing & Events and no-holds-barred gardener Jackie
Gulbe will guide you through the process of creating your own hypertufa planter.
Hypertufa containers are the perfect home for low maintenance plants like succulents and cacti and they are cool looking.
Making this creation before the Plant Sale gives you the perfect opportunity to come back and shop for plants to fill your new Hypertufa creation.

#### Spring Plant Sale – Friday Night Members Only Pre-Sale

Friday, April 26; 6-8:30 pm

Free for Members (Not a member? You can buy a Membership at the door!)

This member only event was such a hit last year that we are going to do it again!

Enjoy first shot at the best plant offerings around, live music, grab a beer or a glass of wine and a few bites and make an evening of it. Come early. The best plants go fast!

# Plant Sale Saturday – for members and not yet members!

Saturday, April 27; 10 am – 3 pm Members get in at 9 am on Saturday! (Not a member? You can buy a Membership at the door starting at 9... or better yet, buy it online before you get here!)

#### Free with Regular Admission

Plants, plants, plants... this is your shot at some of the best plants the region has to offer. From perennials to shrubs, trees, tropicals, succulents and more, we'll have a great selection to get your garden in shape just in time for Derby. Plant sales, kid's activities, food truck and the most knowledgeable plant staff around can help you pick the perfect plants to spruce up your garden.

# NOTES FROM THE GARDEN

## Sayde Heckman, Garden Manager A BUDDING OBSESSION WITH HOUSE PLANTS



Closing out my first year as Yew Dell's garden manager and moving into my own apartment has brought many changes in my life: one of them being developing my first real addiction. And while my addiction is strictly legal it does come with a certain amount of danger. You see filling my small apartment with a collection of rare, unusual and cool plants has gotten a bit out of control. What made me realize the extent of my addiction was when I created an Instagram account specifically for photos of my plants.

The Instagram account, sayde.lady.crazy.plant.lady, is where I now regularly post scores of pictures of my begonias and such. It's a great outlet that gets the plant stuff out of my system without annoying my friends and family at picnics and barbeques. Through this account I am able to continue to spread the love of plants outside of the typical garden setting. Feel free to follow the account and join the fun.

A year ago I would have thought having 100 plus houseplants in a small, second-story apartment was crazy; which it is. But in the past 6 months of plant motherhood I have learned a lot about growing plants in the harshest of environments. With minimal humidity, no precipitation and low light levels, coaxing plants to live inside isn't easy. So after my first year as crazy indoor plant lady, here are a few things I've learned that may help those of you with the same budding addiction:

· Give your houseplants some outdoor time by relocating them outside for the spring and summer months. They will appreciate the increased sunlight and humidity;

· Plants are smart and will show us what they want. Maybe you notice leaves are dropping from too little water or stems are stretching in search of more sunlight. If you see a plant isn't thriving, simply move it and try something different;

• Overwatering is the number one killer of houseplants. It is important that you let the top 2 inches of soilless medium dry out before watering again. This will also keep fungus gnat larvae from feeding on your plants roots. If you would like to hear more about my journey as a crazy plant lady, join me at my crazy house plant workshop on Wednesday, February 20; 6-7:30 pm at Mahonia Studio. See page 4 for details.

# NOTES FROM THE NURSERY

## Jacob Stidham, Greenhouse & Nursery Manager EVERGREENS STRUT THEIR STUFF IN THE WINTER LANDSCAPE

A keen eye can notice subtle changes in a garden from day to day. Watching those little changes is my favorite thing to do in the garden besides planting a new tree. I mean let's be honest, how are you going to beat buying a new tree and finding a spot for it in the garden? Each week, month, and season brings about a new thing you hadn't noticed in years past. This coming spring pay attention to the trees blooming and notice little things you've overlooked before. You'll be amazed at what you see. But that is spring and this is January, and we need to scratch that gardening itch.

Hopefully we aren't buried in a foot of snow as you are reading this, but if we are rest assured the evergreens are strutting their stuff in the garden. Once all of those pesky leaves blow off the trees we gardeners and plant enthusiasts have a new bit of eye candy to devote our attention to. Theodore and Martha Lee Klein left some truly amazing evergreens at Yew Dell for us to enjoy today. The Nordmann Fir (Abies nordmanniana) is not the most common but certainly one of the best large conifers for our area. Deep green and spire-like, it is a little slow growing but worth the wait.

Then there are a few charming, yet gnarly Weeping Norway Spruce (Picea abies 'Inversa' and many other named weeping forms) examples in the Arboretum that form weeping, mounded and twisted sculptures in the garden. They can make a perfect focal point in any winter garden.

A final favorite is the Weeping White Pine (Pinus strobus 'Pendula), a unique and amazingly awesome specimen in both the Arboretum and Secret Garden. It is a weeping wonder that can transform any space in winter and summer alike.

Before all of the deciduous trees leaf back out this spring make sure to plan a trip to Yew Dell to admire these winter anchors of the garden. And next time you go tree shopping keep an eye out for that perfect, unusual evergreen that you can admire out the window when we are buried in that fluffy, white stuff.

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# A COLLECTION OF SOLOMON'S SEALS FOR THE SHADE GARDEN

Long a mainstay of the shade garden, Solomon's Seals and their close cousins are among our favorites. Here's a listing of a few that have risen to the top of the heap in our evaluations.



#### Variegated Common Solomon's Seal (Polygonatum odoratum var. pluriflorum 'Variegatum')

A Eurasian native found along shady hillsides and stream banks, this is the poster child for the group. Two-foottall, arching stems spread slowly to form graceful colonies in lightly shaded sites. Faintly fragrant white bell flowers hang from each leaf axil in mid-spring. 'Variegatum' with its delicate white edging is by far the most common selection, and for good reason. It was a 2013 Perennial Plant Association Plant of the Year in 2013 and is a Theodore Klein Plant Award winner as well.



# Red Stemmed Solomon's Seal (Polygonatum odoratum 'Jinguji')

Start with 'Variegatum', remove the variegation and add deep red stems and stiff blue/green foliage. There's a ton of disagreement about where this one originated and whether or not it is identical to another out there sold under 'Red Legs', but there's no disputing that it is a first rate garden plant. We've been propagating the heck out of this one!



## Dwarf Solomon's Seal (Polygonatum humile)

A delightful miniature offering, this one grows to a max height of about 6-8" with small green leaves and diminutive white bell flowers. This forms a nice little pocket groundcover but it tends to be a spring and early summer plant. Once the heat of summer hits the leaves can get a little tattered. Great to pair with hostas and ferns that cover them up after their spring show.

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## White Tiger Solomon's Seal (Polygonatum odoratum 'Byakko')

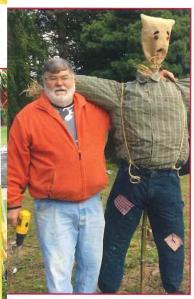
This is hands down our favorite variegated Solomon's Seal. A touch shorter and somewhat slower spreading than 'Variegatum', this old Japanese selection is clothed in deep green leaves with brilliant, clear white blotches at the base of each blade. A stunning show in the shade garden.



## Evergreen Solomon's Seal (Disporopsis pernyi)

We've grown this one for years and have no idea why everyone isn't growing it. At 12-15" tall with dark, glossy green leaves and white flowers in late spring, this is a plant that seems to belong in every shade garden. This southern Chinese native is evergreen in its native haunts but tends to lose its foliage by midwinter in Kentucky. Stunning, unusual and hard to find but worth the effort. Look for some at our spring plant sale event.

# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: KARL KLEIN



Karl has been involved with Yew Dell since the very beginning... quite literally. Karl grew up at Yew Dell and has helped shape it into the Botanical Gardens our community enjoys today. As a part of the rough and tough original Second Saturday Workday crew (Karl Klein, Janice Morgan, Fran Tiller, Wes Krupiczewicz, Holly Cooper and Stan Hankins) Karl has made it out for practically every Second Saturday Workday since 2006.

Karl is reliable, steadfast, handy and so knowledgeable about plants. He comes out at short notice to help with projects only suitable for Paul Bunyan. One day after a bad storm, Karl checked on the big old pine tree near the office only to discover a fallen branch on the path. Before Yew Dell opened to the public, he independently chainsawed the fallen branch and cleaned up the mess.

Karl doesn't like to fuss about his good deeds, so most don't know the extent of his generosity. Whether the task is big or small, Karl is willing to pitch in: tours, cutting bamboo for the Girl Scouts' scarecrows, driving the tractor for the Boo Dell hay ride, donating hay bales, allowing people to park in his property during Boo Dell, assisting with the Pollinator Meadow, or just making an extra effort to take a group of volunteers to see an old VW car hidden in the Woodland Trails after a workday.

It's inspiring to work alongside a member of the Klein family. Karl's stories of the past and knowledge of plants gives greater meaning to the work we do at Yew Dell. Thanks, Karl, for keeping our gardens growing!

## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

Volunteer Celebration • Saturday, March 23rd 10 - 11:30 am

See program page for details

#### Greenhouse Volunteer Group Reminder!

This is a friendly reminder that Greenhouse Work days with Nursery Manager, Jacob Stidham, will begin Thursday, January 10, 2019. The workday opportunities are every Tuesday from 1-3 pm and Thursday from 10 am - noon. We look forward to kicking off the New Year with our green-thumbed volunteers!

New Volunteers - Want to join our Volunteer Program? Check out these Orientation Dates!

Saturdays, 9 - 10 am: March 9, April 13, May 11, June 8, July 13, August 13, September 15, October 12 and November 9. Go to www.yewdellgardens.org/volunteer or call (502) 241-4788 ext. 1005 to sign up!



Tim Baker, a retired school teacher, has been a wonderful addition to our Volunteer Program. He's one of those self-motivated volunteers who just knows what needs to be done. He has done great work in the arboretum and gardens but did not stop there. Tim wowed us with his mobile garden classroom that he brought to Boo Dell in October. It was a huge hit. Thanks Tim!



**Bulb Planting** 

A crew of Yew Dell's awesome volunteers Thanks to all the volunteers who assisted battled the cold and frozen soil to help to join us for The Big Bloom celebration next spring when all this work will pay off with a huge splash of spring color!



Yuletide!

with Yuletide at Yew Dell! Special hort staff plant more than 14,000 tulip thanks to Fran Pullias for working her and other bulbs in November. So plan magic in the Gheens Barn. Santa says it's the best Holiday display in the world! And special thanks to Robin Macaione (pictured) for volunteering every day for Yuletide. Robin is a true treasure to our program! We are so grateful to have such talented volunteers!

## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

# CORPORATE PARTNER SPOTLIGHT: UNITED MAIL



As a nonprofit agency Yew Dell relies on our individual and corporate partners to thrive and we are excited to add a spotlight section to recognize our generous supporters! This quarter we spotlight outstanding Corporate Partner, United Mail!

Since early on, United Mail has generously provided significant support to every aspect of our mission by donating pro-bono mailing services as well as sponsoring many of our events over the years.

This year, United Mail not only donated mailing services for all of our newsletters, save the dates, and invitations, they also sponsored a table at our largest event of the year — Twilight in the Garden. In addition to their corporate philanthropy, Yew Dell is fortunate to have Rosemary Kirkwood, wife of United Mail Founder Lee Kirkwood, as a longtime board member. Our partnership with United Mail strengthens our ability to communicate our mission and events with our members, volunteers, and the public and we are forever grateful for their continuing support. Thank you United Mail!

# WE SINCERELY APPRECIATE OUR 2018 COMMUNITY AND CORPORATE PARTNERS! YOUR GENEROSITY KEEPS OUR GARDENS GROWING!

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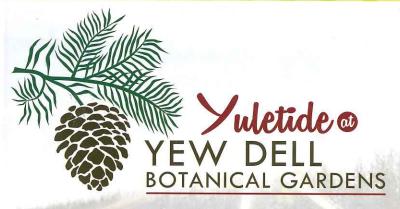
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## **HONORARY AND MEMORIAL DONATIONS**

Purchase of a memorial/ honorary bench has been and continues to be an excellent way to remember a loved one, mark a special occasion, or honor a valued friend. Contact a staff member for details.



#### **MEMORIAL GIFTS**

In Memory of Lois U. Davis Loretta Shearer Susan M. Bentley

In Memory of Eutha Clemons Douglas and Katherine Bryant Judy Wall

#### **HONORARY GIFTS**

In Honor of Mary Rounsavall David Phelps Elizabeth Rounsavall

In Honor of Holly Cooper Robert Koehler

In Honor of Karla Drover Cheryl Leifer

In Honor of Phil Payne Margy Thomas Stephen Linker

In Honor of Yew Dell Staff Robert W. and Mary Rounsavall

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In Honor of Laurie and George Vieth The Sam Schubert Foundation

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In Honor of Yew Dell board members Paul & Carolyn Cappiello

Gifts received between 9/15/2018 – 12/17/2018 We apologize for any errors or omissions in this list.

# WHERE THERE'S A WILL, THERE'S A WAY



If you think estate gift plans are just for the very wealthy, think again. Planned and estate gifts, that are so essential in providing that lasting support for places like Yew Dell, can be arranged at any budget level — and there are many options and wide flexibility.

From will-based bequests to charitable remainder trusts, life insurance, retirement fund designations and more, you can turn your love of Yew Dell into long-term support to ensure Yew Dell continues to grow, surprise and astound as it has over its first 14 years. Don't know where to start or want to talk with us? Call and talk with any of our staff. We'll be delighted to help! And if you have already named Yew Dell in a planned gift, please let us know so we can thank you!



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YEW DELL BOTANICAL GARDENS

January February March 2019



DON'T MISS OPENING DAY! AND THE BIG BLOOM!

