

# SPRING

2022

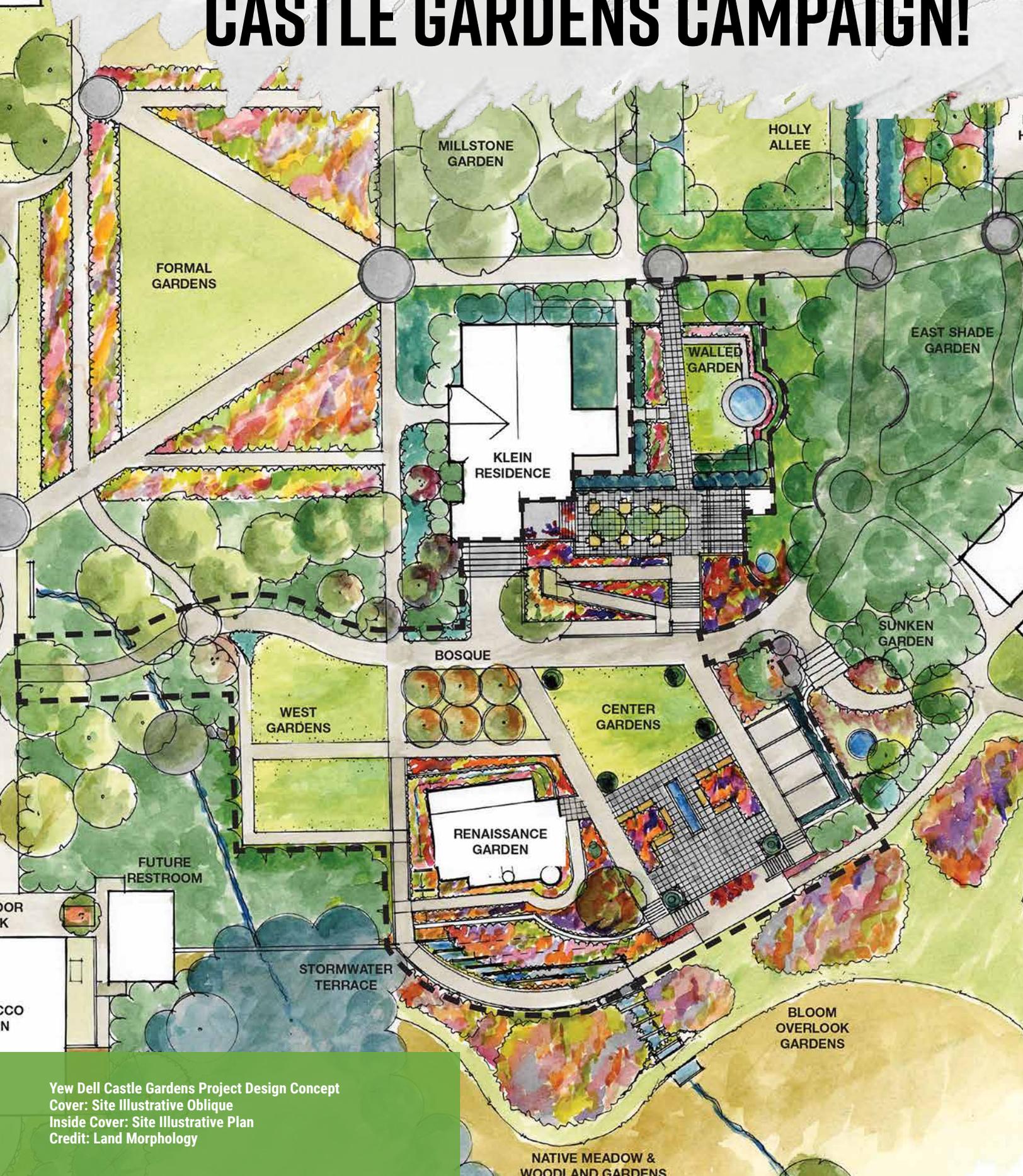


Celebrating

20  
YEARS

YEW DELL  
BOTANICAL GARDENS.

# CELEBRATING 20 YEARS WITH THE CASTLE GARDENS CAMPAIGN!



Yew Dell Castle Gardens Project Design Concept  
Cover: Site Illustrative Oblique  
Inside Cover: Site Illustrative Plan  
Credit: Land Morphology

NATIVE MEADOW &  
WOODLAND GARDENS

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S LETTER

Every few years I re-read Charles Darwin's seminal 1959 work, *The Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection*. I re-read it because it's one of those books you can read a thousand times and each time you learn something new about nature, science, and life. Maybe, also, I feel so connected to Mr. Darwin's little book because the book and I share a birthday. Can I claim one degree of separation from my friend Mr. Darwin?

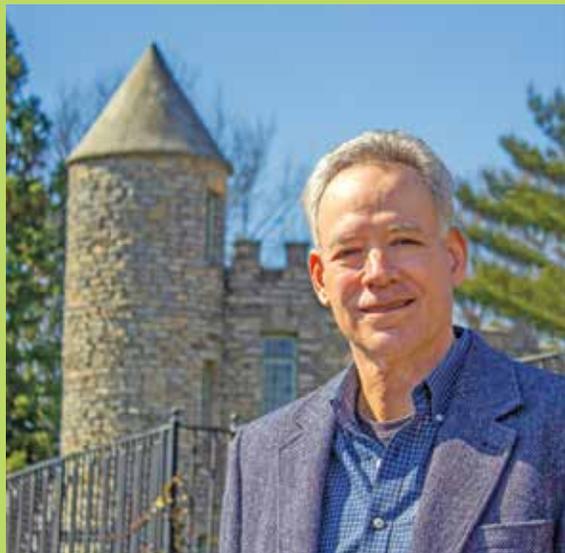
The whole concept of evolution – whatever works best lives on to change and improve overall fitness again and again – is such a strong metaphor for gardening. You try things. Some work. Some don't. You repeat the things that worked but tweak them a bit each time. Every tweak makes it a better fit to its surroundings and a stronger organism overall. It's a pretty good metaphor for a young, growing botanical garden as well.

In this Spring issue, as we will do all year long, we celebrate 20 astonishing years – from our simple and humble beginnings to the magical place it is today. And we aren't just celebrating with a few balloons and a bowl of ice cream (although we'll do that too . . . later this summer . . .) we're blowing the roof off the place by launching our most ambitious and transformative capital project in our first 20 years!

Through the Castle Gardens Campaign we will celebrate our iconic stone castle through development of a stunning new series of accessible gardens, expanded visitor facilities, educational gardens, and a complete reimagining of the visitor experience. And this new campaign didn't just emerge out of the primordial ooze. It has been slowly developing . . . gradually taking shape . . . and its concept slowly changing and maturing over time.

To those of you who've been here since the beginning, we thank you and invite you to join us on our next evolutionary 20 years. And to those of you who have been on the sidelines or have only just discovered the magic of Yew Dell, we invite you to jump on in. The primordial soup has taken form and there are wonderful things up the road. After all, as my good friend Mr. Darwin put it in the closing line of his little book . . . "from so simple a beginning endless forms most beautiful and most wonderful have been and are being evolved."

*Paul Cappiello*





# Big Bloom



## BEHIND-THE-SCENES BIG BLOOM WALK

TUESDAY, APRIL 19 • 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20 • 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

\$20/\$30 - MEMBER/NON-MEMBER

Sayde Heckman, Garden and Arboretum Manager, leads a walking discussion and behind-the-scenes tour explaining how 20,000 bulbs became this year's Big Bloom while providing plenty of tips and tricks for your own home displays. Each session will cover the same content.

## PLANT WALK SERIES: SPRING BLOOMS

SATURDAY, APRIL 23

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM • INCLUDED WITH ADMISSION

Horticulture Apprentices Silas Zoeller and Allison Morgan lead their last Plant Walk tour before taking their next professional steps.

For their last hurrah, Silas and Allison will showcase the gorgeous Spring Blooms emerging throughout the gardens.

# Spring Plant Sale

*Take part in our 20 year celebration by reserving a spot in our annual Spring Plant Sale! As we celebrate Yew Dell's history of gardening and plant sales, we are bringing back some of our favorite aspects of this springtime tradition.*

## SPRING PLANT SALE- MEMBER PREVIEW

FRIDAY, APRIL 29

5:00 PM - 8:00 PM • FREE REGISTRATION • MEMBERS ONLY

We are excited to resume the Spring Plant Sale – Member Preview as part of our 20th anniversary! Current members will have exclusive access to the Plant Sale bounty while enjoying hors d'oeuvres, drinks, and a lively plant discussion. Plus we will answer your questions about our Castle Gardens Campaign!

## ANNUAL SPRING PLANT SALE

SATURDAY, APRIL 30 • 10:00AM - 4:00PM

ADVANCED TICKETS REQUIRED

FREE/REGULAR ADMISSION - MEMBER/NON-MEMBER

Thanks to our sponsor LG&E & KU Foundation, the big kahuna of in-person plant sales is back! We'll again schedule advance, timed tickets to control the plant purchasing madness. Horticulture staff and knowledgeable volunteers will be on hand to answer your questions to help get your spring planting on!



THANK YOU TO OUR PRESENTING SPONSOR



Foundation



To register and for more information, go to [www.yewdellgardens.org/classes-events](http://www.yewdellgardens.org/classes-events)

All listed programs are tentatively scheduled to be in-person with the possibility of changing to virtual.

# CLASSES AND EVENTS

## WOODLAND TRAILS HIKE

SATURDAY, JUNE 4

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM • INCLUDED WITH ADMISSION

In appreciation of [#nationaltrailsday](#), Brad Kessans, Yew Dell's own Facilities and Trail Guru, will lead an easy hike on our one-mile Woodland Trails loop. Along the way, Brad will share historical anecdotes and point out the trees and wildlife that call this section of our gardens home.



## PLANT WALK SERIES: FRESH EYES ON THE GARDENS

SATURDAY, JUNE 25

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM • INCLUDED WITH ADMISSION

Our freshly-graduated new Horticulture Apprentices will lead a tour of their favorite plant discoveries on our grounds, translating what they learned in the classroom to gardening reality.

## BYOB FLOWER ARRANGING

SUNDAY, JUNE 26

12:30 PM - 2:00 PM • \$25/\$35 - MEMBER/NON-MEMBER

Stacy Thomas, Floral Designer at Petal Power Cut Flowers, puts a new spin on BYOB - Bring Your Own Bouquet - to this flower arranging class. Participants will bring their own flowers and vase, and Stacy will help you create a personal work of floral art!



## OPENING DAY & HOURS

MARCH 26 THROUGH MID-DECEMBER

TUESDAY - SATURDAY • 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

SUNDAY • 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM

MEMBERS - FREE

NON-MEMBERS- ADULTS \$9 / SENIORS & CHILDREN \$5 / CHILDREN UNDER 5 FREE

Yew Dell Botanical Gardens turns 20 and we are celebrating all year long- starting with our Opening Day on March 26!

Opening Day also means the return of our regular business hours and admission which is listed above.

The Garden Gift Shop also opens for the season with new, unique items for the gardener in your life.

## SAVE THE DATE: CHILDREN IN THE DELL STARTS IN JUNE!

EVERY SATURDAY IN JUNE AND JULY

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM • INCLUDED WITH ADMISSION

Drop in each Saturday in June and July for a special outdoor family activity geared to sparking a passion for plants and gardening. You'll find us outside by the Log Cabin and Family Garden.

In June, we'll celebrate Fairy Month with fairy-themed creations.

For July, learning about Pollinators will be our weekly focus.

Children in the Dell is included with admission and will be canceled with inclement weather. No reservation is needed.



## The Return of the Fairies



This June, we are having a whole month of celebrating our fairies! Pick up a map from the Visitor Center to locate the newest fairy house additions to our gardens, and to find the specially-designed fairy doors placed in and around our Arboretum trees.

Give the Fairy Forest Scavenger Hunt a try, which features fairy houses in our permanent Fairy Forest.

Also, if you visit us on Saturdays in June, stop by the Log Cabin and Family Garden during our Children in the Dell for a drop-in fairy-themed family activity! These magical happenings are included with admission and no reservation is needed. The Fairies can't wait to see you!



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# SAVE THE DATE: MEMBERS' 20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!

SATURDAY, JULY 9

6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

FREE REGISTRATION • MEMBERS ONLY

Members, mark your calendars to join us in celebrating our 20th Anniversary! Keep an eye on your email for an invite to our family-focused outdoor summer party. We're planning games like Cornhole and lawn-sized Jenga, evening garden tours, live music, and yummy summer treats to thank you for your support.



Seeing all the perks for Yew Dell members? Now is the time to renew or join our ever-growing family!



A membership at Yew Dell Botanical Gardens means:

- Free Admission For A Year
- Free Registration For Special Events
- Discounts To Events And At The Garden Gift Shop
- Quarterly Newsletter
- Monthly Garden eNews
- Free Guest Passes
- And More!



Learn more about membership benefits by:  
Scanning This QR Code  
Visit <https://www.yewdellgardens.org/memberships/>  
Call 502-241-4788

**We look forward to seeing you in the gardens!**

## MEET OUR NEW STAFF!



**TJ SLAUGHTER**  
DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT



**MANDA BARGER**  
PUBLIC RELATIONS & MARKETING MANAGER

Over the year, we will introduce you to the newest additions to the Yew Dell family.

## PLANT SALES - IN PERSON AND ONLINE

We've made it easier than ever to purchase the next great plant (or two!) for your garden! Our **online Plant Market** allows you to shop from the comfort of your own home. We will be adding new inventory in April then occasionally throughout the season- so be sure to subscribe to our Garden eNews!

Then along with our **Annual Spring Plant Sale**, you can see our constantly changing selection of plants for sale on-site at our **Visitors Center** and **Plant Market** near the nursery area.



# Yew Dell Celebrates 20 Years With Launch of... **The Castle Gardens Campaign!**



Discover a magical garden. . . an ever changing landscape that sparks the senses, inspires the mind, and nourishes the soul. Stroll through 60 acres of plants and gardens, meadows and woodland trails where ponds teem with kingfishers and Sandhill Cranes. Explore enchanted fairy forests through the eyes of a child.

*This is the magic of Yew Dell Botanical Gardens.*

Twenty years ago, the gem that is now Yew Dell was nearly lost to development – the artfully crafted buildings and gardens threatened by the bulldozer’s blade. But with grit and toil and unfettered determination, the property was saved, the gardens brought back, and the buildings lovingly restored.

Since 2002, Yew Dell Botanical Gardens has grown into a thriving center of horticulture and a cultural cornerstone for the community, recognized far and wide as a place of inspiring and cutting edge horticulture. But we’re far from finished . . .

While Yew Dell’s first five capital campaigns were devoted to growing a strong and sustainable organization, the Castle Gardens Campaign represents Yew Dell’s first campaign devoted entirely to gardens. This fabulous new project will transform the area surrounding the iconic Castle into a stunning collection of new gardens, water features and educational opportunities, all fully accessible to all visitors.

## **Our Design Team**



**Richard Hartlage**, Land Morphology

Yew Dell has engaged the Seattle, Washington, firm of Land Morphology. Founded by renowned horticulturist and designer Richard Hartlage, Land Morphology is focused on creating rich, emotive places across the country and for creating highly varied spaces that integrate exquisite built form, sophisticated horticulture, and the fine arts.

An added benefit to the firm’s selection for this project is that founding partner, Richard Hartlage, grew up in Crestwood, Kentucky, and knew Theodore Klein whose property now serves as Yew Dell’s core.



**Dr. Paul Cappiello**

Yew Dell’s staff is led by Dr. Paul Cappiello, internationally known plantsman, researcher, writer, and for the last 19 years, executive director of Yew Dell Botanical Gardens. Along with a talented staff and strong board of directors, in the last 20 years the organization has grown from one part-time staff member to a staff of 24, a board of 17 and a track record of having raised more than \$30 million to build a highly respected and admired organization.

## The Castle Gardens Campaign Project Goals:

- Create a re-imagined entrance experience to allow Yew Dell's unique story to unfold as visitors first experience the grounds
- Transform the Castle Terrace space into a stunning horticultural display garden with extensive new plantings, demonstration rain gardens and enhanced and shaded seating throughout
- Recreate the original Klein family swimming pool on the Castle Terrace as a water feature and display space for aquatic plants
- Develop a dramatic transition from the upper Walled Garden, to the main Castle Terrace and to the lower Overlook Garden and Pollinator Meadow spaces with a series of grand stair cases and fully accessible ramps
- Provide enhanced facilities for the rapidly growing visitor numbers and expand opportunities for rentals and other event revenue
- Through endowment funds raised for this project, add a full time horticulturist position to insure the highest level of horticultural management of Yew Dell's gardens.



Through the Castle Gardens Campaign, we are embracing our mission to:  
*spark a passion for plants and gardening with accessible science and inspiring beauty*

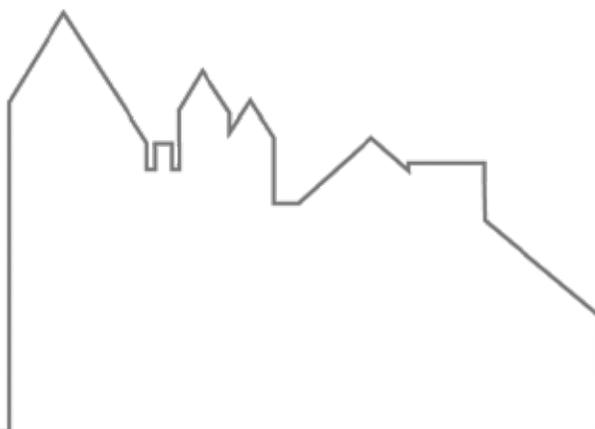
We invite you to join us for this wonderful new chapter in Yew Dell's growth.  
 For information on Yew Dell and the Castle Gardens Campaign contact us at:  
 502.241-4788 or [development@yewdellgardens.org](mailto:development@yewdellgardens.org)

### Castle Gardens Campaign Naming Opportunities

The Castle Gardens .....	\$1,000,000
Castle Reflecting Pool .....	\$250,000
Castle Terrace .....	\$250,000
Castle Terrace Arbor .....	\$200,000
The Overlook Terrace .....	\$200,000
Grand Staircase and Ramps .....	\$150,000
The Meadow Staircase .....	\$100,000
The Castle Bosque .....	\$75,000
Path Markers .....	\$35,000 (10 available)
Honorary/Memorial Bench /Chair Set .....	\$10,000 (8 available)



Scan the QR Code to learn more about the Castle Gardens Campaign Project!





## Yew Dell's Nursery – Yesterday and Today

At the peak of the Klein family nursery, the production and sales of plants was a critical part of a multi-faceted family farm – nursery plants, livestock, vegetable gardens, canning cellars, row crops and more. Now 20 years into the growth of Yew Dell Botanical Gardens, little has changed and everything has changed.



The nursery still serves as a critical cog in the broad, institutional wheel. The nursery plants and activity provide endless opportunities for educational programs. It produces plants that we sell to help cover our operating expenses and provides a vehicle for getting new plant varieties out to the gardening public.

But with the incredible growth of the nursery, it also offers our garden staff the potential to design with just about any plant they want. If Gardens Manager Sayde Heckman can dream it up, Nursery Manager Jacob Stidham can grow it. That keeps Yew Dell's displays at the forefront of what's cool and new in gardening. And it's part of what makes Yew Dell such a magical place!



Yew Dell's original wood-frame glass greenhouses had a long legacy of amazing plants but in 2003 there was much work to be done. True to form, the original greenhouse frames were recycled from elsewhere and repurposed in the northern European style typical of the day – sunken in the ground for temperature control with just the glass roofs left above ground.



Longtime board president Mary Rounsavall led an intrepid group of volunteers cleaning out the old greenhouses at a volunteer work day. It was February 12th, 12 volunteers at 12 degrees!



With the original greenhouses beyond repair, in 2005 a second hand (of course!) donated hoop house was erected on the site of the original Yew Dell glass houses. The hoop was covered with shade cloth during summer and was equipped with a make-shift mist system for rooting cuttings. In winter the hoops were covered with white poly film to provide protection for the first container nursery crops produced each year. It was cramped but it was a start!



In 2013, after a successful capital campaign, Yew Dell broke ground on the new glass house. Built in the footprint of the old glass houses, the new structure is a fully modern facility with solar/geothermal energy conservation features, fog and mist propagation and a fabulous green roof on the north roof slope. Since then it has served as the center of our plant propagation and production activities that eventually spawned the now thriving online Plant Market.



## Mark your Calendars for the return of



THURSDAYS IN JULY AND AUGUST

GATES OPEN AT 5:30 PM • GARDEN TOURS RUN 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM • LIVE MUSIC FROM 7:00 PM - 8:45 PM

Thanks to our presenting sponsor, Kentucky Artisan Distillery, our wildly - popular music series returns for Summer 2022! Join with like-minded gardening supporters for eight nights of amazing music on Thursdays throughout July and August in our outdoor covered Pavilion.



Scan Here To Subscribe  
To Our Monthly Garden eNews!

### TICKETING TIPS:

**Tickets will be advance-only, and they will go on sale late Spring.** Be sure that you are getting our monthly Garden eNews eblasts for notices about release dates. Ticket releases will roll out in this priority: Member Series, then General Admission Series, then any remaining separate show tickets for Members and General Admission.

Members, make sure that your Membership is current in order to get first access to the Series tickets. As a reminder, an Individual Membership only allows for one ticket. If you plan to include other residents from your household, be sure to upgrade to a Family Membership so that no one misses out.



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Scan the QR Code to learn more!



# COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

Sign up for our Volunteer eNews to receive more information!



**SAVE THE DATES: VOLUNTEER CELEBRATION**  
**VIRTUAL KICKOFF: MARCH 19**  
**IN-PERSON CELEBRATION: MAY 18**

In light of the uncertainty the pandemic casts upon planning, we have made a few changes to our yearly volunteer celebration.

We will host a virtual 2022 Volunteer Kickoff Meeting to provide a 2021 recap and teaser for what is to come in 2022 on March 19, 2022.

To keep in the spirit of festivity, thankfulness and community, we plan to host an In-Person Volunteer Celebration outside in our Rounsavall Pavilion the evening of May 18.



**Yew Dell Volunteers** 2021

**6,246 Total Hours**

**400 Nursery Hours**

**1,972 Garden Hours**

**684 Event Hours**

**709 Special Project Hours**

**509**

**Total Individuals**

*Thank YEW!*

## FAIRY FOREST

The Grace & Clara Marie Gettelfinger's Fairy Forest is getting a facelift this year! With close to 30 new houses, generously constructed and donated by volunteers, new fencing, updated signs, and fresh activities, we have a lot to celebrate! This year, we will be celebrating the fairies for the entire month of June. Be on the lookout for fairy doors in the arboretum and even more new houses scattered through the gardens!

Interested in getting involved with the Fairy Forest? We are always looking for new Fairy House Architects and supplies with which to build! Reach out to our Volunteer Coordinator, Amanda Barnett, for more information.



Grow with us and volunteer!

Learn more at:

[www.yewdellgardens.org/volunteer](http://www.yewdellgardens.org/volunteer)



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# THE BUDDING GARDENER

A GUIDE FOR GARDENERS OF ALL AGES

## Fairy Bell

We love any activity that starts with “find a stick,” especially if that activity leads to a craft that welcomes the fairies back to the gardens.

This Fairy Bell is one of the fairy-themed creations that we’ll make during June’s Children in the Dell sessions!

### To make this Fairy Bell, you’ll need:

- 1 stick (about one foot long and make sure it is already on the ground and not part of a growing plant)
- Yarn or string
- Bells, beads, and other sparkly and pretty things
- Glue dots or double-sided tape



Mark Your Calendars!  
Fairy Days run throughout  
the month of June!



A Fairy Bell can be horizontal or vertical. Wrap the yarn or string around the stick, covering as much of the stick as you like. Glue dots or double-sided tape will help hold the string in place while wrapping the stick. Then attach beads, bells, and other shiny items with more string. Finally, create a loop to attach to the Fairy Bell for hanging up – in your garden, on your porch, or in your room. Think about making a new Fairy Bell every month, so collect pretty and sparkly things to add to your next creation!





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Crestwood, Kentucky 40014  
[yewdellgardens.org](http://yewdellgardens.org)

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Yew Dell Botanical Gardens is a partnership project of the Garden Conservancy, a national, non-profit organization founded to help preserve America's exceptional gardens.  
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# OPENING DAY

*BE A PART OF THE CELEBRATION!*

We are kicking off our 20 year anniversary with Opening Day! Not only will we have our traditional plant sale with hellebores & other spring ephemerals, but we will also have a family activity and drop-in garden tours. Plus, the Garden Gift Shop reopens for the season with a fresh round of unique items!

SCAN TO  
RESERVE  
YOUR SPOT  
TODAY!



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