

SUMMER

2023



ProCut® Orange Sunflower *Helianthus annuus*



**“KEEP YOUR FACE TO THE SUNSHINE AND
YOU CANNOT SEE THE SHADOWS.”**

–HELEN KELLER

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S LETTER

I bought myself a little present for this summer – an outdoor, wood-fired pizza oven. Sure, it's a bit of a splurge and my dear wife has done quite a bit of head shaking about it. But as mid-life crises go, it's a lot cheaper than a corvette. It's less likely to get me in trouble. And it makes amazing pizza!

But I love being out in my garden in summer. I love sharing breakfast time with my garden fountain and the birds on the feeders. I love being able to snip a few sprigs of fresh oregano for a homemade pizza or a bit of thyme and rosemary for soy/ginger glazed salmon in the new oven. Living out in the garden and bringing the garden inside are among the great joys of having a garden. It makes all the weeding and digging and swatting, that much more worth it.

That's why we work so hard to give you ways to bring a bit of Yew Dell home with you when you pay us a visit. A chance to bring home a bouquet of fresh cut flowers from our garden (in our gift shop, folks. Put those clippers back in the car!) to yours . . . A few fairy house ideas for a project with the kids or grandkids to put a new spin on your own garden. A few thoughts on adding more flowering bulbs to your garden for next spring . . . Some inspiration on new plant combos or even a few bits of home décor that help you create that year 'round connection between your inside and outside spaces – and between Yew Dell's gardens and your own.

When it comes right down to it, a garden shouldn't be something you drive past twice a day as you leave for work and come home at the end of the day. It should be something that makes you stop and smell the roses . . . or snip some basil . . . or think like a fairy. Life can be hard, and our days can be crazy. And while maybe the garden can't solve all the world's problems, it's not a bad place to start.

Now if you'll excuse me, I have to go tend to my pizza . . .

Happy Gardening!

Paul Cappiello



To register and for more information,
Scan the QR code or go to
www.yewdellgardens.org/classes-events



Don't delay – tickets are limited!

All listed programs are scheduled to be
in-person unless otherwise noted.

CLASSES AND EVENTS

HEALTH BENEFITS OF GARDENING

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12 • 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

MEMBERS \$15 • NON-MEMBERS \$25

Did YEW know gardening is good for your physical and mental health? Join Heather Toombs, homesteader, Certified Family Life Educator, and Oldham County Extension Agent – Family and Consumer Science, in this lecture-style workshop as she shares the many health benefits of digging, planting, weeding, and generally getting your hands in the dirt!



THE BOTANY OF CHOCOLATE

FRIDAY, JULY 28 • 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

MEMBERS \$35 • NON-MEMBERS \$45

In celebration of #NationalMilkChocolateDay take a deep dive into the food of the Gods. Julia Kachanova, University of Louisville PhD Biology student, will take participants through the process of cacao becoming the delicacy we all know and love, including how sugar, vanilla, cinnamon, and lots of other botanicals got into the mix. Then, Oldham County Small Batch Chocolate founder Jennifer Simpson will fill us in on the business side of chocolate while we enjoy dark, milk, and white chocolate samples.



HERBARIUM SHEETS: COMBINING SCIENCE AND ART

SESSION 1: HERBARIUM SCIENCE – SATURDAY, JULY 29 • 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

SESSION 2: HERBARIUM ART – SATURDAY, AUGUST 26 • 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

MEMBERS \$50 • NON-MEMBERS \$60

Before we had access to Google and email, botanists created herbarium sheets to study and share plants. In this two-part workshop, discover the history, science, and art of creating herbarium sheets with Dr. Jeff Masters, Department of Biology at University of Louisville, and make an original piece of art based on flowers in your own garden. In our first session, we'll get an overview of the traditional usage of herbarium sheets, how to select your specimens, and inexpensive ways to press flowers. You'll bring your dried specimens to the second session, and we'll create inspired works of art documenting your floral surroundings.

LET'S GET GROWING SERIES

Join Emma Stidham, mom, wife, and horticulturist with more than 15 years of experience in vegetable gardening, public gardens, and retail sales, as we continue our Vegetable Garden Planning series. Each quarter focuses on timely topics to get your garden from start to finish.



SUMMER SESSION: VEGETABLE GARDEN PLANNING GUIDE

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12 • 10:30AM - 12:00PM

MEMBERS \$40 • NON-MEMBERS \$50

This Summer, learn about succession plantings, trellising ideas, harvesting and processing the yields, and about additional summer pests in the garden.

Note that each workshop has a separate registration fee, and you can take one or more sessions without taking the full series. Attend all four, and we'll reward your dedication with a plant from our gardens!

HONEY BEES, POLLINATORS, AND BENEFICIAL FALL BLOOMS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19 • 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

MEMBERS \$15 • NON-MEMBERS \$25

For #NationalHoneyBeeDay, join Hope Gardiner, current Oldham County Extension Horticulture Program Specialist and former Kentucky Department of Agriculture Marketing Specialist for the Greenhouse and Nursery Industry, to learn about creating and maintaining a welcoming environment for honey bees and other pollinators as seasons change from summer to fall.



BEHIND THE SCENES NURSERY TOUR & GUIDED SHOPPING SESSION

SUNDAY, AUGUST 27 • 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

INCLUDED WITH ADMISSION

Do you wonder how magic happens in our Nursery? Step behind the Hoop House Covers with our Horticulture Team to see for yourself! We'll start with an overview lecture, then tour our production spaces and finish with a rare chance for attendees to shop the nursery with Jacob Stidham, Paul Capiello, and Jeff Margreiter.



BAD SCI-FI MOVIES AND REAL PLANT SCIENCE: KONGA (1961)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 25 • DOORS OPEN AT 6:00PM • MOVIE STARTS AT 7:00PM

MEMBERS \$20 • NON-MEMBERS \$25

Our film series – Bad Sci-Fi Movies and Real Plant Science – continues with the forgotten gem, Konga (1961). After watching this film, learn from our real botanists – the Horticulture Team – about how insectivorous and carnivorous plants really behave, and the link between plant and animal life. Bring your best “would plants really do that?” questions for our team to answer.

PLANT CHEMICAL DEFENSES

TUESDAY, AUGUST 29 • 6:00 PM - 7:30PM

MEMBERS \$25 • NON-MEMBERS \$35

In an expansion on our February workshop The Amazing World of Plant Self Defense, Noelle Visser, University of Louisville Biology PhD student, will focus on how plants defend themselves against herbivores (including people!) and pathogens with a full tool belt of chemical properties. Learn what chemicals are at play, where they are strategically located in the plant, and how they are dispersed. You won't look at your plants the same way after this workshop.

PERENNIAL PROPAGATION

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 • 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

MEMBERS \$60 • NON-MEMBERS \$70

Join our Horticulture Team to learn about dividing your perennials. We'll discuss perennial plant structures, what's happening underground, and how to divide the roots for more plants in your chosen location. Perennials are truly the gift that keeps on giving! Participants will each receive five clumps of different perennials that they will divide and take home to add to their gardens or gift to a friend.



SEED SAVING WORKSHOP

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 • 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

MEMBERS \$15 • NON-MEMBERS \$25

As the summer growing season comes to an end, join Mary Wheatley, Jefferson County Master Gardener, for a how-to lecture on saving seeds. Participants will learn why we should save seeds, how to identify the best seeds for saving, and the proper harvesting and storage of seeds. Mary will have a variety of seeds and pods for viewing.



Martha Lee's Kitchen

The kitchen is open for the season!
Scan the code to see our menu!



Friday & Saturday: 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Sunday: 12:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Come and enjoy fresh, local fare in the heart of the garden.



CHILDREN IN THE DELL

SATURDAYS, JUNE 3 THROUGH JULY 29 • 10:30AM - 12:00PM

INCLUDED WITH ADMISSION

Join us each Saturday in June & July for our Children in the Dell! This summer, we'll focus on children's garden-theme books for our hands-on activity for adults and children to enjoy together.

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

YEW DELL BOTANICAL GARDENS.



PRESENTED BY:



See series lineup and ticket information at:
www.yewdellgardens.org/bourbon-botanicals/



CULTURAL PASS

JUNE 1 THROUGH AUGUST 6

EVERY WEDNESDAY AND SECOND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

Cultural Pass families can enjoy our gorgeous gardens this summer! We have a variety of scavenger hunts to get you out and exploring.

Passes can be picked up at:

- Any Louisville Free Public Library
- Bullitt County Public Library
- Jeffersonville Township Public Library
- Charlestown-Clark County Public Library
- Floyd County Library
- Harrison County Public Library



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NOTES FROM THE NURSERY BY JACOB STIDHAM

Sayde calls us boujee for using shade cloth in the nursery to provide our plants a happier environment. Boujee is a slang term for the act of living a fancy, sophisticated lifestyle usually above your means. If you know me, you certainly know I'm not fancy or sophisticated . . . or even boujee, but that shade cloth sure works great! I guess the shoe fits.



But what is this shade cloth and why do we use it? The nursery is an inhospitable place during the summer. There are no shade trees and if you have ever walked into a greenhouse in the summer, you'll know that it can get so hot that it can take your breath away. These large pieces of heavy-duty cloth are a knitted or woven netting that blocks some sunlight but still lets some through. The more dense the knitting or weave, the less light passes through. We have used different types for different crops, but it is always for the same purpose, to lower light levels and decrease temperatures for our young plants. If you have ever been to Yew Dell on a hot summer day and walked from the sun into the shade of the American beech trees that line the walkway between the Walled Garden and Martha Lee's Kitchen, you have felt the temperature drop tremendously! That is what we are going for in the nursery but without the trees.

Our newest project with shade cloth is placing a 60% shade on our 30'x96' greenhouse. We have been using this house to grow annuals and perennials only in late winter and spring but with the new shade in the summer, we will be transitioning it to a year-round house for growing shade perennials. A nursery and greenhouse operation may look like a bunch of gravel, metal, and plastic but it truly is a living environment that we are continually tweaking to get the most and best use out of. Want to learn more about the nursery, shade cloth, and how we make the magic happen? Join us in August for a behind the scenes look with our Horticulture Staff.

MAKE YOUR BUSINESS BLOOM

WE SOLVE YOUR MARKETING CHALLENGES
THROUGH THE POWER OF GREAT DESIGN



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Castle Gardens Campaign Update

We are so close to our goal of \$5 million! Now is the time to join our effort to transform the area around Yew Dell's iconic castle.



Every capital campaign project has its fun parts – designing water features, plant selection . . . and more plant selection. But then there are those parts that, while not featured in the headlines, are the bits and pieces that make it all come together in the end. Here's a snapshot of a few of those important parts that our team has been working through as we prepare for construction:

New Plant Production – Since we will produce most of the plants for the new Castle Terrace Gardens project, new nursery and greenhouse manager, Jeff Margreiter and nursery assistant, Cosmo Bosela, will have a big planning project on their hands. What to grow from seed... and when to start. What to produce from cuttings... and when to start. What to grow from purchased plugs... and when to start. Seeing a trend here?

Plant Relocation – There are some important parts of our plant collections that currently call the castle area their home. And even if they will be part of the finished plant palette, they need to be relocated during construction. And coordinating the fundraising progress, design completion, construction planning and when to dig/move existing plants . . . well, that's a tricky project.

Visitor Circulation – Since we'll have the castle area torn up for a while, this summer we added a new entrance path near the Visitor Center. It's part of our long term circulation master plan and will provide a safe walkway for visitors during construction.

Utilities, Utilities, Utilities – From accommodating the City of Crestwood's planned sanitary sewer expansion to design and installation of new irrigation systems, providing lighting for evening events... There seems to be a never-ending list of utility issues that need to be addressed before we turn the first spade of soil.

Our supporters are even getting #YewDellFairies involved!
We are waiting to hear back on a conversion rate for magical coins.



Naming opportunities are available and donations of \$2,500 and more will be acknowledged on permanent signage in the garden.

To take part in this exciting project, contact us at **502-241-4788** or **Development@YewDellGardens.org**



Scan the QR Code to learn more or to make a donation



Mission Moments



If you're new to Yew Dell, our mission is to inspire a passion for plants and gardening with through accessible science and inspiring beauty.

No matter the department, everything we do is rooted in science- whether offering the best plants for the region, providing sound gardening advice, or educating our community about nature.

"I'm sometimes asked gardening questions when people pick up their online plant orders. With me, I like to help our visitors and customers in whatever way I can by discussing the details. It's not an exact science, it's an art too."

**- Cosmo Bosela
Nursery Assistant**

"With our programs, it is my pleasure to meet people where they are to spur excitement about plants and gardening. Do you like photography? Join a workshop and learn how to take photos in our gardens! Are you a fan of cheezy movies? Come to our Bad Sci-Fi and Real Plant Science series and learn how plants really behave. We make learning about horticulture fun!"

**- Susan Lucas
Event & Program Manager**

"The shop is obviously a little different than the rest of the garden when it comes to horticulture science. Since we don't "grow" our products, we try to reflect our dedication to the environment by choosing carefully what we stock. Items that help our wildlife like houses for the very necessary pollinators or bird houses and bat houses to protect these often overlooked creatures. We also try to pick items for the shop that are made by environmentally responsible companies that use recycled or appropriately sourced materials or give back to nonprofits that help protect our Earth.

Baby steps can go a long way- if we do it together!"

**- Madge Huecker
Visitor Center Manager**

Our hope is that visitors carry this knowledge from Yew Dell to their home gardens and put it to use making healthier ecosystems and more inspiring gardens.



NOTES FROM THE GARDENS BY SAYDE HECKMAN

Awww, if only we could be as boujee as the Yew Dell Nursery and Research Greenhouses, with their fancy shade cloths and automatic misting systems to keep their garden plants cool and happy. Unfortunately, in the gardens we have to plant our baby one gallon Bigleaf Magnolia (*Magnolia macrophylla*) and wait at least 10 years before it shades anything rhyming with Hosta, Fern, or Barrenwort. It's tough being a gardener!

Despite not having those fancy nursery tools to protect our garden from the sun, there are a lot of fun ways to play with the specimens in your garden, to take advantage of what you have. The three most important rules in any garden are...

1. Not being afraid to experiment and try new things
2. Remove and/or relocate specimens that aren't performing well
3. Variety is the spice of life! Plant perennials, bulbs, annuals, trees, shrubs, and more!

Throughout the gardens at Yew Dell, we have a lot of tricky sun exposure situations and microclimates, some occurring all in the same garden! Garden staff have been utilizing tropicals and annuals for these problem areas since 2019 and we have learned a lot along the way.



Millstone Garden

In 2019, this area was hit by an EF-1 tornado that carried away the big old White Pine (*Pinus strobus*) turning this once shade garden into an instant sun garden. It was an unfortunate loss, but in the end, it simply opened the doors to more plants! Since then, we've been working on:

1. Re-establishing the tree canopy
2. Relocating the existing shade perennials to better suited garden locations
3. Planting new sun perennials, to take advantage of the new sun exposure
4. Add sun annuals for temporary color while other plants settle in and mature

Glen Garden

In the summer of 2017 this garden went through a renovation with the addition of the decorative creek bed, Adirondack chairs, stone path, and new perennial plantings. With the established evergreen tree canopy the soil is overly dry, coarse, and a challenge to garden. We decided to experiment by incorporating annuals and some tough shrubs into the design, to see which would perform best in the crumbly soil and differing sun exposures.



So far, the best performers in morning sun have been Main Street Coleus (*Plectranthus scutellarioides* 'Yonge Street') and *Caladium* (*Caladium* 'Miss Moffet').

And in late afternoon sun exposure, Main Street Coleus (*Plectranthus scutellarioides* 'Venice Boulevard') alongside Strawberry Sundae™ Panicle Hydrangea (*Hydrangea paniculata* 'Rensun').

**Come check it out next time
you're in the gardens!**

THE WOODLANDS

Image Missing

BY BRAD KESSANS

While Yew Dell might be best known for formal gardens and historic structures, guests are also encouraged to take an adventure on our peaceful woodland trail system. This scenic trail system provides approximately 1.2 miles of easy hiking for all ages, two lakes, and opportunities to see a diverse variety of wildlife. Once utilized by the Klein family as a pasture for livestock, the woodlands have now been allowed to naturally grow into a recreational area where guests can get exercise, bird watch, identify native flora, relax, and enjoy a forested area.



Some of the wildlife that you'll find along the trails include deer, egrets, blue heron, kingfishers, turtles and bob white quail, just to name a few.

In the Spring you will enjoy displays of redbuds, dogwoods, and spring ephemerals, while in the Fall you will be surrounded and engulfed by an illuminating red, yellow, and orange forest canopy.



Another nice feature includes a small waterfall that flows year-round due to the natural springs that feed the two lakes.

During your visits, you will find the woodlands are not just a nice addition to our pristine gardens, but they are an enjoyable entity in themselves.



We're proud to be here for all your tree care and plant health care needs.

Visit our website bobrayco.com or call us at 502-425-7654.

Mark your calendar and plan to experience Yew Dell's annual

Twilight in the Garden

Mix and mingle in the gardens at our signature event and largest fundraiser of the year. Amidst the backdrop of Yew Dell's magnificent landscape at dusk, supporters enjoy an evening of gourmet food and cocktails, along with a live and silent auction.

We look forward to seeing you at Twilight in the Garden on **September 22, 2023!**

For sponsorship, table sponsors, and upcoming ticket availability, contact:
TJ Slaughter at 502.241.4788 or email: tjs@yewdellgardens.org



At Yew Dell, we strive to create an exceptional experience for our guests with inspiring beauty. In addition to the alluring and unique plants that you can take home with you, we offer flower arrangements from our new venture, a cut flower garden! This growing season, we will offer seasonal arrangements and bunches for sale at our gift shop. All flowers will be available on a weekly basis as they come into bloom, as nature intended. We look forward to extending the beauty of Yew Dell into your home.





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COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

OLDHAM COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AWARDED YEW DELL \$2,500 TO SUPPORT NEW OUTDOOR WATER BOTTLE FILLING STATION

The outdoor bottle filling station helps remedy health issues commonly linked to shared water fountains, provide an alternative to unhealthy drinks, reduce plastic waste, and encourage better hydration to our visitors in the gardens. It fits most bottles underneath the spout, contains cold and refreshing water and is more sanitary due to the hands-free function.



Sign up
today for our
Garden
eNews!



VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHTS



VOLUNTEER CELEBRATION

Earlier this year, we held our Annual Volunteer Celebration to thank our volunteers for their contributions to Yew Dell and to celebrate this thriving community.

As part of the evening, we recognized our Volunteer of the Year: Kate Pfeifer!

Kate has been adopting a garden since the beginning of the Garden Adoption Program, but last year she decided that wasn't enough. She began coming an additional day every week to help in the nursery, contributed to Weekly and Saturday Workdays, and signed up for shifts to help with nearly every event. We are thrilled to recognize her hard work and passion for Yew Dell! Thank you to Kate and to our entire volunteer community!



Yew Dell's Fairy Forest

Image Missing



We created a Fairy Forest Committee to help maintain, sustain, and elevate our Fairy Forest on a weekly basis. This team already restored many of the houses from last season, helped set up the Fairy Village, and organized a schedule for weekly upkeep. We're ready for Fairy Day on June 25!



Want to know more about volunteering? Scan the QR Code for more information!



THE

BUDDING GARDENER



A GUIDE FOR GARDENERS OF ALL AGES

Summer Nature Walk - What can YEW find?

Post your sheet on social media and tag us! We will select a winner that will then be shared in our next newsletter!
Be sure to tag us @YewDellGardens to be entered in the contest!

At Yew Dell

Check what you find

A Blue Bird



Fairy Schoolhouse

Purple Flower



Hemlock Cone

Squirrel



Beetle



Caterpillar



Oak Leaf

At Home

Draw or describe what you see

Bird

Flower

Cone

Leaf

Our Visitor Center has a variety of options to enhance your experience in the Gardens! Ask for availability at Admissions.
Explore the Gardens with one (or more!) of our Scavenger Hunts:

- Fairy Forest
- Arboretum
- Artful Animals around the grounds
- Gnome Adventure on the Woodland Trail

Check out a Backpack, stocked with activity lanyard, sketch book, and coloring pencils, to take a deeper dive into learning about Pollinators or our Arboretum.



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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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Garden Gift Shop



Hello summer!

From whimsical chimes and decorations to essential gardening tools – there are many ways to take the garden home this season!

Don't forget to show off your support of Yew Dell with our T-Shirt and baseball cap! The soft quality shirts are printed with earth friendly ink and will help you get through a hot summer in comfort.

As always, shopping at the Garden Gift Shop helps support the garden!

Scan the QR Code
To Learn More
About Our Garden
Gift Shop!



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