

FROM PLANNING TO PLANTING: LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT PLANNING FOR PUBLIC GARDENS

American Public Gardens Association: 2018 Annual Conference

Panelists:

Shari Edelson, The Arboretum at Penn State

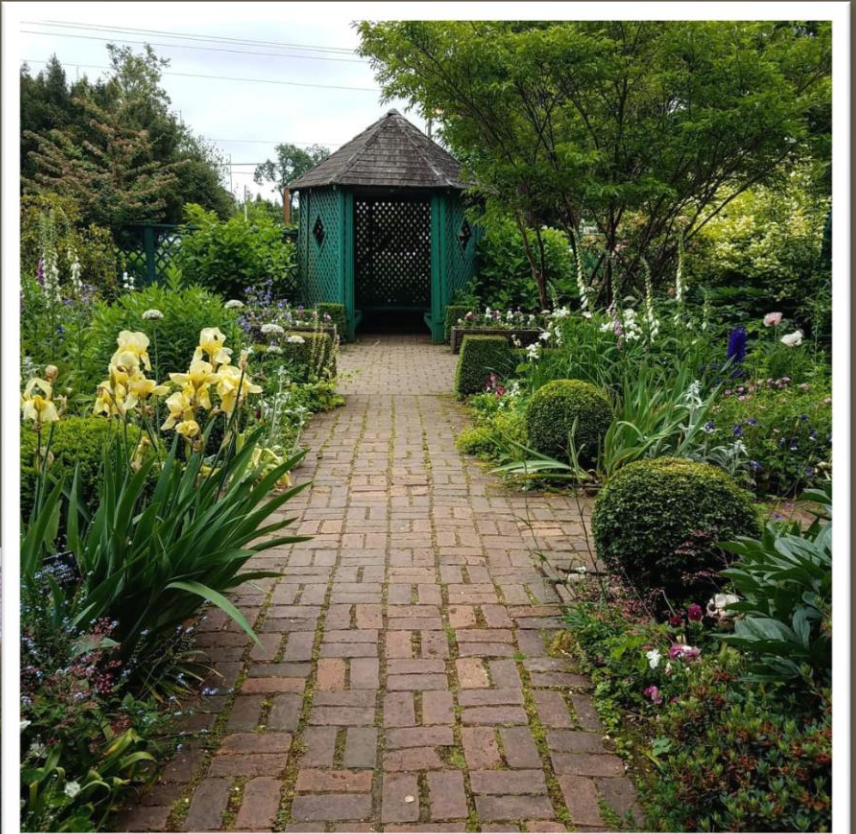
Peter Lowe, The Dawes Arboretum

Lindsey Kerr, Lord & Schryver Conservancy

HOW MANY OF YOU:

- Are considering writing, or are in the process of creating, a landscape maintenance plan?
- Already have a written maintenance plan at your home institution?
- For those who have a plan in place,
 - Do you use it or refer to it regularly?
 - Are you satisfied with it?

BLOOM DATE	JANUARY				FEBRUARY				MARCH				APRIL				MAY				JUNE				JULY				AUGUST				SEPTEMBER				OCTOBER				NOVEMBER				DECEMBER																	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12																			
WEEK NUMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12																			
HORT TASKS	Fertilized cutbacks																															Fertilized cutbacks																														
	Leaf Removal																															Leaf Removal																														
	Water weekly pruning																															Water weekly pruning																														
	Ornamental grass cutbacks																															Ornamental grass cutbacks																														
	Annual dead down pruning / satellite inspection																															Annual dead down pruning / satellite inspection																														
TREY BUILT	Spring mulching																															Spring mulching																														
	Spring plant-out																															Spring plant-out																														
	Ongoing glass maintenance, deadheading, watering, etc.																															Ongoing glass maintenance, deadheading, watering, etc.																														
	Limeless change-out																															Limeless change-out																														
	Soil change-out																															Soil change-out																														
WATER FEATURES & IRRIGATION SYSTEM	Pumpkin Festival Prep																															Pumpkin Festival Prep																														
	Sub-irrigation																															Sub-irrigation																														
	Water change-out																															Water change-out																														
	Twice weekly lawn mowing																															Twice weekly lawn mowing																														
	Weekly leaf gutter cleaning																															Weekly leaf gutter cleaning																														
RAIL TRAIL	Monthly leaf mowing																															Monthly leaf mowing																														
	Annual cut - spring up-lawn																															Annual cut - spring up-lawn																														
	Annual cut - fall up-lawn																															Annual cut - fall up-lawn																														
	Leaf removal																															Leaf removal																														
	New fire deck removal																															New fire deck removal																														
WATER FEATURES & IRRIGATION SYSTEM	Water backing brush-up																															Water backing brush-up																														
	Spreading fire brush-up																															Spreading fire brush-up																														
	Inspection book up																															Inspection book up																														
	Weekly water feature maintenance																															Weekly water feature maintenance																														
	Edge maintenance																															Edge maintenance																														
RAIL TRAIL	Right-of-way brush mowing (every 2-3 yrs)																															Right-of-way brush mowing (every 2-3 yrs)																														
	Annual tree inspection																															Annual tree inspection																														
	Edge maintenance																															Edge maintenance																														
	Edge maintenance																															Edge maintenance																														
	Edge maintenance																															Edge maintenance																														



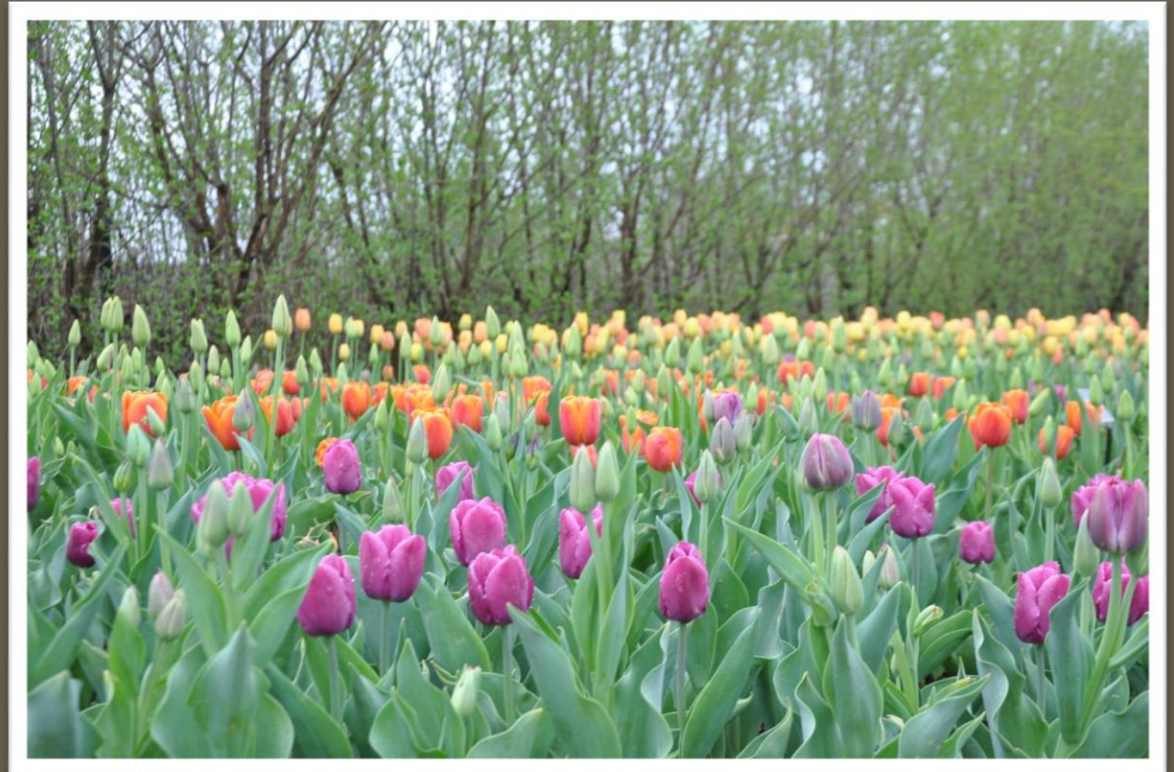
PURPOSES OF A LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE PLAN

- I. Set basic guidelines for safety, responsible work staging, etc.



PURPOSES OF A LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE PLAN

2. Establish consistent horticultural standards
 - Serve as a training tool for staff and volunteers
 - Ensure that all staff are using the same procedures



PURPOSES OF A LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE PLAN

3. Serve as a reference for work planning
 - Prioritize tasks and/or areas of the garden
 - Support a proactive vs. reactive approach to tasks and projects



PURPOSES OF A LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE PLAN

4. Provide a mechanism for accountability
 - Hold staff accountable for work
 - Hold managers accountable for prioritizing and planning
 - Hold leadership accountable for providing resources to meet standards



PURPOSES OF A LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE PLAN

5. Advance institution's larger goals and priorities
 - Harmonize with the work of colleagues' departments
 - Resonate with other guiding documents
 - Reflect organizational mission



TWO APPROACHES TO WRITING A PLAN

- Proscriptive
 - Documents current practices, staff assignments, and expectations; intended to be carried out at present and as written
- Aspirational
 - Documents goals and ideal standards of landscape care, some of which may not be achievable at present

PARTS OF A MAINTENANCE PLAN

1. Table of Contents
2. Introduction / Statement of Purpose

“By maintaining exemplary standards of horticultural care, we reflect [the Arboretum’s] commitment to excellence, ensure the optimal health of our living collections, and create a landscape of enduring beauty.”

PARTS OF A MAINTENANCE PLAN

3. Body of Plan: Organize sections operationally!

- **Option A: Asset Classes**
 - Turf/lawns
 - Woody and perennial plant beds
 - Seasonal display beds
 - Trees
 - Walkways and pathways
 - Water features
 - Irrigation system
 - Site fixtures and furnishings
- **Option B: Landscape Areas**
 - Overlook Pavilion
 - Children's Garden
 - Rose and Fragrance Garden
 - Etc.
- **Option C: Hybrid System**

PARTS OF A MAINTENANCE PLAN

4. Plant Health Care

- Fertility management
- Pests and diseases
 - Key pests and diseases, target crops
 - Thresholds for action
 - Means of intervention
 - Scouting calendar



PARTS OF A MAINTENANCE PLAN

5. Special Protocols and Procedures

- Weekend cover
- Drought contingency plan
- Snow removal

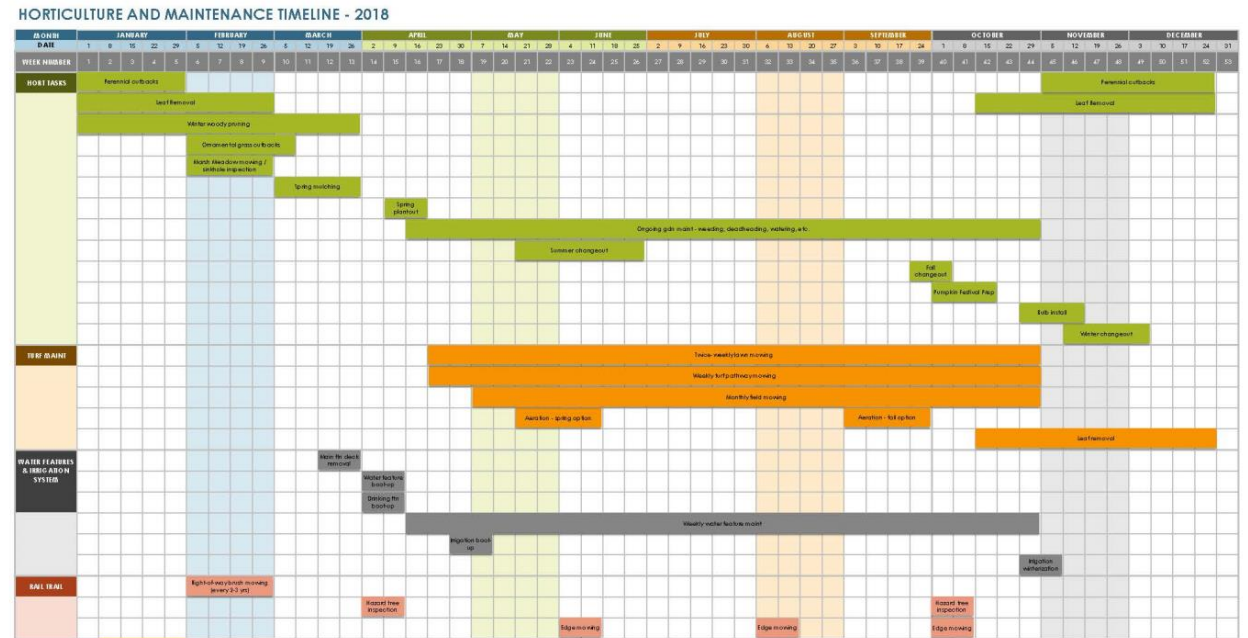


PARTS OF A MAINTENANCE PLAN

6. Dates and Milestones

- Holidays
- Festivals
- Recurring deadlines

7. Calendar or Timeline



From Planning to Planting:

Landscape Management Planning for Public Gardens

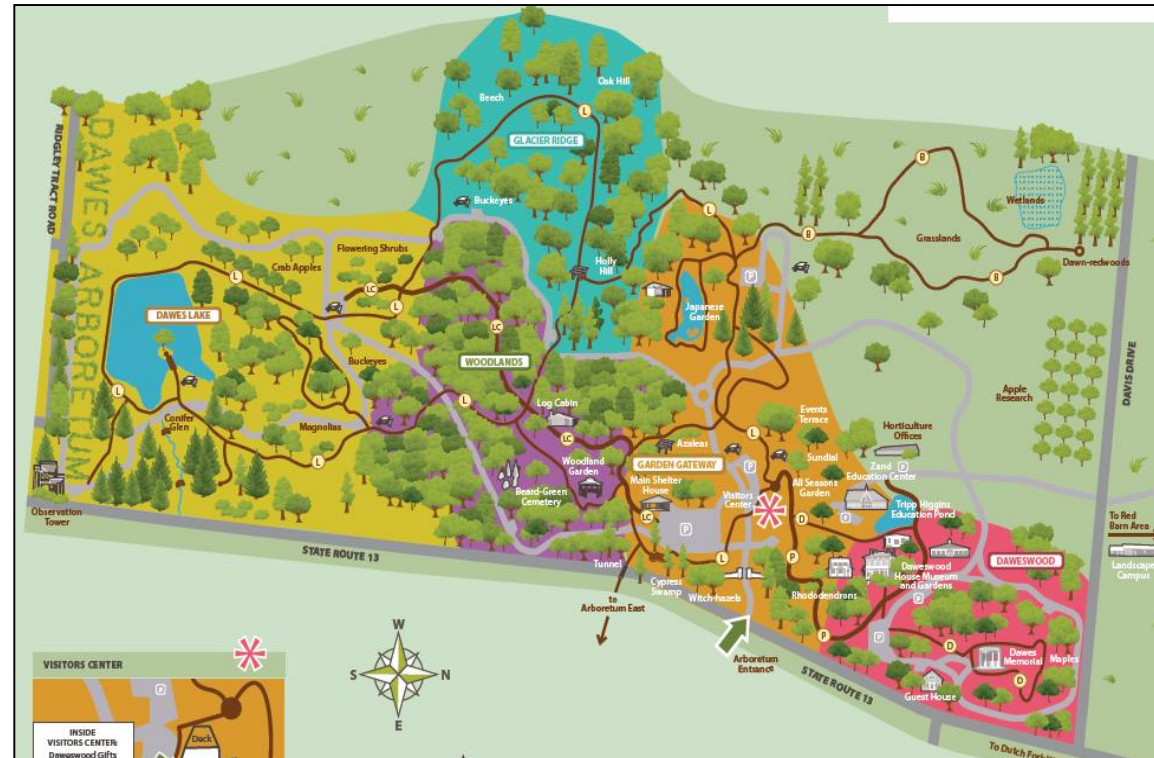
Presented By
Peter Lowe, Director of Landscape Operations



The Dawes Arboretum

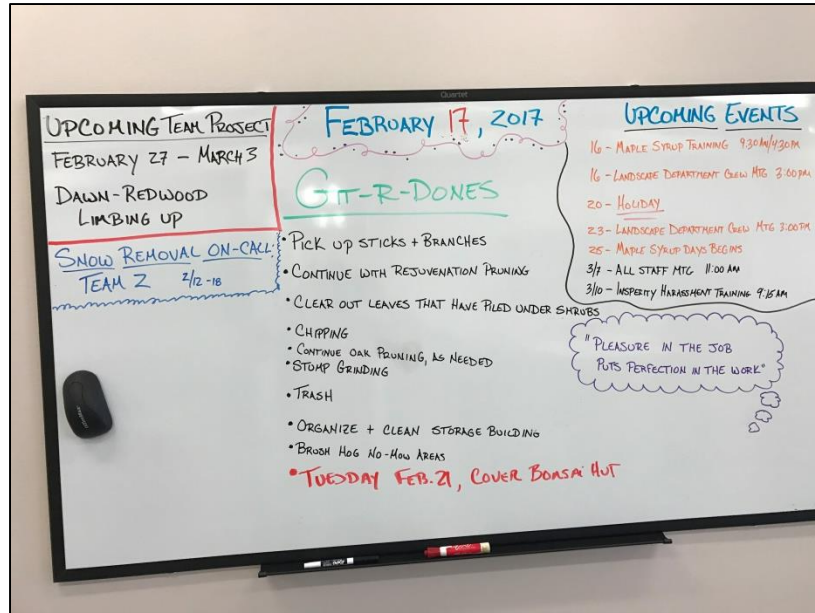
The Dawes Arboretum

- 2000 total acres
- 350+ acres of collection and display gardens
- 13, 523 living collection plants
- 6 Full-time Landscape Operations team members
 - 1 Landscape Horticulturist
 - 2 Senior Horticulturists
 - 2 Landscape Technicians
- 9 seasonal workers
 - April thru October




Defining the Standards

What do we know to be important, but are unable to measure?



Ensuring Quality Control





The Dawes Arboretum
Trees • History • Nature

Quailty Assessment Review

Date *

Garden Area *

Staff in attendance *

Areas for Improvment

Deadline for improvments

Photos taken
☐

Calendar of Events

TDA Landscape Management Schedule													
Activity	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Dividing & Transplanting			X	X	X				X	X	X		
Edging		X	X	X						X	X		
Fertilizer Application													
Trees				X	X					X	X		
Shrubs				X	X					X	X		
Perennials			X	X	X								
Mowing				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Mulching			X	X	X	X			X	X			
Planting													
Trees & Shrubs			X	X	X				X	X			
Perennials				X	X	X			X	X			
Annuals					X	X			X	X			
Bulbs				X	X				X	X	X		
Plant Removals	X	X				X	X	X			X	X	
Pruning													
Trees & shrubs	X	X	X	X					X	X	X	X	
Conifers	X	X		X	X	X	X	X					
Perennials with winter interest		X	X	X									
Perennials with no winter interest									X	X	X		
Snow Removal	X	X	X								X	X	
String Trimming			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Turf			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Establishment								X	X	X			
Overseeding			X	X	X								
Aerating			X	X	X								

Level of Priority Management



To learn more about
The Dawes Arboretum,
please call 800.44.DAWES, contact
information@dawesarb.org
or visit dawesarb.org.



The Dawes Arboretum

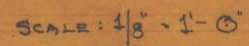
Maintenance Planning at Gaiety Hollow

Lindsey Kerr
Lord & Schryver Conservancy
Salem, OR.









APRIL

nature.org/earth

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

1

Prune Kelly
hedge

2

Easter

8

9

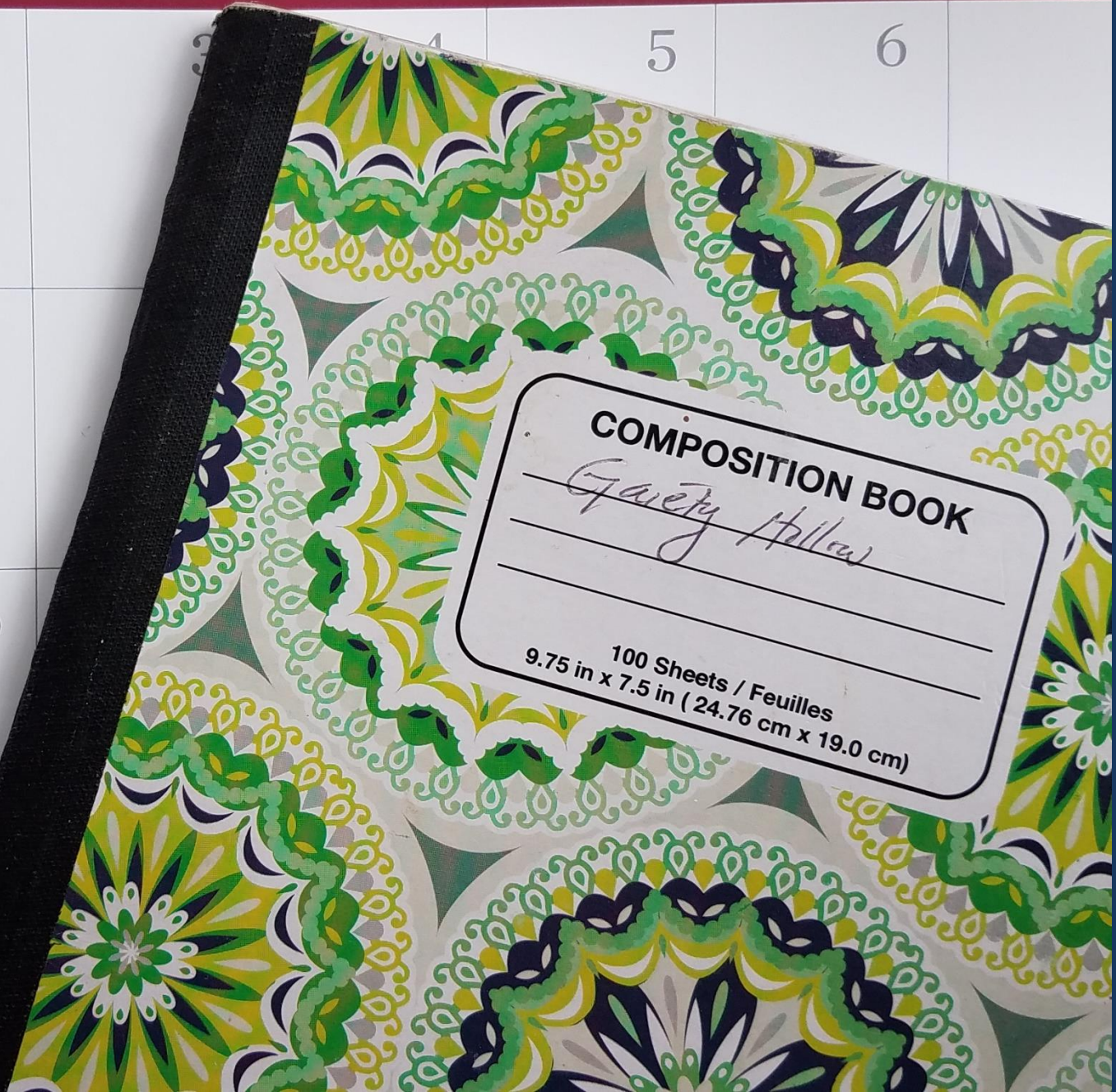
15

16

22

Fert roses
+ animals

23



COMPOSITION BOOK

Garey Hollow

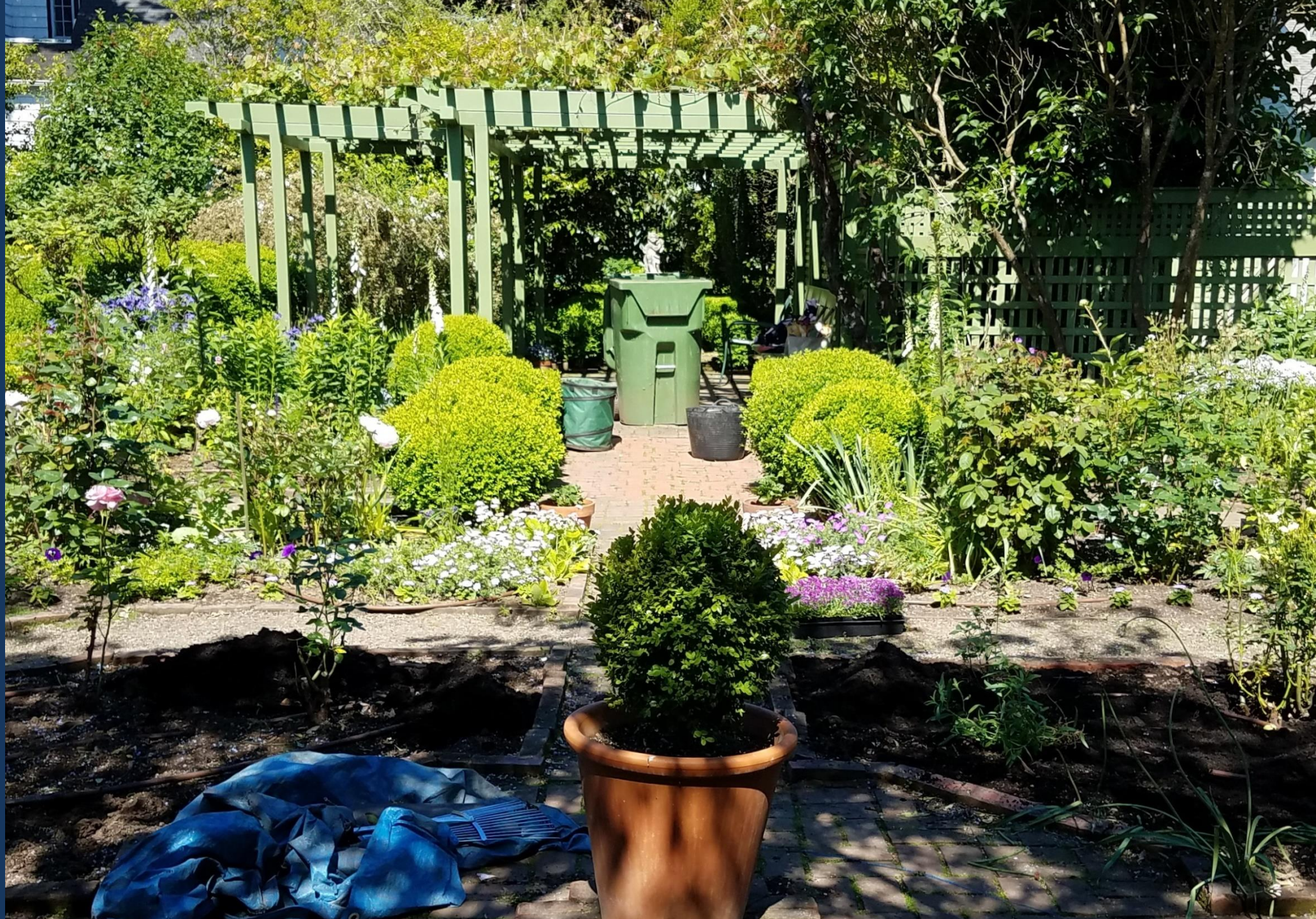
100 Sheets / Feuilles
9.75 in x 7.5 in (24.76 cm x 19.0 cm)





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Concrete Paths.....	6
Pea Gravel	6
Turf Care	7
Landscape Care.....	9
Bed Maintenance: Trees and Woody Shrub Beds.....	9
Tree and Woody Shrub Planting.....	9
Tree Care	9
Shrub Care.....	10
Camellias.....	10
Rhododendron hybrids.....	10
Roses	11
Lilacs	11
Hedges	11
Boxwood Hedges.....	11



January	1 st week	2 nd week	3 rd week	4 th week	Daily	Weekly
Hard surfaces					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean fallen leaves and blossoms • Snow removal 	
Wooden Structures	Inspect for damage					
Lawn						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean fallen leaves and blossoms • Mow as needed
Trees & shrub beds			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate trees. • Contract tree pruning. • Contract IPM service. 	Prune broken tree and shrub branches.		Clean fallen leaves and blossoms
Hedges						Remove fallen blossoms and leaves from boxwood hedges.
Vines						
Perennial beds	Reset frost heaved perennials	Remove invasive species	Reset frost heaved perennials	Remove leaves from <i>Helleborus</i> and <i>Epimedium</i>		Clean fallen leaves and blossoms







CONTACT

Shari Edelson | Director of Horticulture & Curator | The Arboretum at Penn State

ske13@psu.edu | 814-865-8080

Peter Lowe | Director of Landscape Operations | The Dawes Arboretum

pllowe@dawesarb.org | 740-323-2355 x1251

Lindsey Kerr | Curator & Garden Manager | Lord & Schryver Conservancy

lordschryvercurator@gmail.com | 971-600-4902