

# Garden Tours Guide

*featuring*

River Valley/Connecticut

Greater New Haven/Connecticut

Rose & Garden Weekend Events

Friday, June 18 - Sunday, June 20, 2010



**River Valley/CONNECTICUT**

**Greater New Haven/CONNECTICUT**



## **BUTLER-McCOOK HOUSE & GARDEN**

396 Main Street, Hartford, CT 06103

860-522-1806, [www.ctlandmarks.org](http://www.ctlandmarks.org)

**Saturday, June 19, 11am-4pm and**

**Sunday, June 20, 11am-4pm**

### **Day in the Garden**

Visit the Butler-McCook House & Garden and relax in the historic Victorian ornamental garden designed in 1865 by pioneer landscape architect, Jacob Weidenmann. Light refreshments will be served. Free.

## **ELIZABETH PARK ROSE GARDEN**

1555 Asylum Avenue, West Hartford, CT 06117

860-231-9443, [www.elizabethpark.org](http://www.elizabethpark.org)

**Friday, June 18, Wine & Roses Party**

**For reservations, call 860-231-9443**

**Saturday, June 19 and Sunday, June 20**

### **Rose Weekend Festival in Elizabeth Park**

Come celebrate more than 15,000 rose bushes in full bloom with over 600 varieties of roses in a 2½-acre rose garden with historic gazebo. On Saturday and Sunday from 11am to 4pm, the park will host several horticultural societies and community organizations and family activities. On Saturday at 1pm, a poetry reading at the Pond House will take place. At 2pm, there will be a Free Rose Garden Tour.

On Sunday from 1:30-4:30pm, enjoy the Connecticut Rose Society's Annual Rose Show at the Pond House.

**ALL SUMMER LONG:** Free Summer Concert Series begins June 23 through August 25 every Wednesday evening at 6:30pm.

Free tours also available including Rose Garden Tours, Full Moon Tours, Perennial Garden Tours, Annual Garden Tours, Tree Tours, and Heritage History Tours. For a complete listing of bands and tours, visit the website.



## **HARRIET BEECHER STOWE CENTER**

77 Forest Street, Hartford, CT 06105

860-522-9258 ext. 317, [www.HarrietBeecherStowe.org](http://www.HarrietBeecherStowe.org)

### **Rose & Garden Weekend**

**Saturday, June 19, 9:30am-4:30pm and**

**Sunday, June 20, 12noon-4:30pm**

**Connecticut's Historic Gardens Day**

**Sunday, June 27, 12noon-4:30 pm**

Treat yourself to a guided tour of Stowe's home and surrounding gardens. House and Garden tours are offered every half hour: Saturday 9:30am-4pm; and Sunday 12noon-4pm. Admission applies.

Find your favorite spot in the garden – water colors, paper and brushes will be on hand so you can tap into your inner artist and paint en plein air! Garden activities are Free.

Supplies available from 12noon-4pm.

**ALL SUMMER LONG:** The Stowe Center's award-winning historic gardens are open for strolling every day. House and garden tours Tuesday through Saturday 9:30am-4pm and Sunday from 12noon-4pm. Self guided map available on line or in the Visitor Center. Don't miss a visit to the Stowe Center Museum Store for books and garden treasures.

## **HILL-STEAD MUSEUM**

35 Mountain Road, Farmington, CT 06032

860-677-4787, [www.hillstead.org](http://www.hillstead.org)

**Friday, June 18 through Sunday, June 20, 10am-4pm**

### **Rose & Garden Weekend**

Tour Hill-Stead's Beatrix Farrand-designed one-acre sunken garden, with 90 varieties of perennials, at your own pace, or join an optional 1½ hour house-and-garden tour. Along with the spectacular garden, enjoy exploring Hill-Stead's estate – over three miles of stone walls, woodland trails, a meadow and pond, all set on 152 acres. Garden- and outdoor-only activities are free to the public. Admission applies for guided tours of the 1901 Colonial Revival-style house with its renowned Impressionist art collection.



### **Other Hill-Stead Museum Garden Events:**

**Friday, May 7 and Saturday, May 8, 10am-4pm**

#### **Hill-Stead's May Market**

A premier gardening event offering rare perennials, trees and shrubs, daily gardening and cooking demonstrations, live music, and over 50 high-quality vendors in an historic setting. 2010 feature guest: nationally renowned garden designer, lecturer and award-winning author Gordon Hayward. Admission applies. Visit website for information.

**Starting Wednesday, June 9, 6:30pm**

**Continuing every other Wednesday through August 4**

#### **Sunken Garden Poetry & Music Festival**

Enjoy two hours of world-class poetry and music among the fragrant blooms of Hill-Stead's historic Sunken Garden. Gates open at 4:30pm. Performance begins at 6:30pm. Participants may bring their own food or purchase on site. Attendance to the Festival is free. On-site parking is \$10 per vehicle. See [www.hillstead.org](http://www.hillstead.org) for details.

**Sunday, June 27, 12noon-4pm**

#### **Connecticut Historic Gardens Day at the Hill-Stead Museum**

Visit one or several of 14 historic gardens across Connecticut, including Hill-Stead's own c. 1920 Beatrix Farrand-designed Sunken Garden. Stroll the garden paths, admire heirloom plants and consult with interpreters and master gardeners. Enjoy views of the Farmington Valley while sipping a glass of cool lemonade on the Mount Vernon-style verandah. At 2pm, relax and enjoy a talk and slide show on historic gardens of Connecticut. For more information on activities at other historic gardens, visit <http://cthistoricgardens.org>.

### **HURST FARM & COUNTRY STORE**

746 East Street, Andover, CT 06232

860-646-6536

**Saturday, June 19 and Sunday, June 20, 9am-5pm**

#### **Special Rose & Garden Weekend Event**

Come join the Hurst family at the beautiful old-fashioned Hurst farm. From 11am-3pm, enjoy farm-made goodies and



strawberry short cake while sitting on the wraparound porch of the Country Store. View beautiful gardens and gaze at the lovely view of the surrounding hills. Shop in the Country Store from 9am-5pm daily for farm made jellies, honey, maple syrup and much more. Farm and Store are open year-round, something for every season!

## **JAPANESE GARDEN AT WHEELER FARM GARDENS**

171 Bartlett Street (off Rt. 17), Portland, CT 06480  
860-342-2374, [www.wheelerfarmgardens.com](http://www.wheelerfarmgardens.com)

**Friday, June 18 through Sunday, June 20, 9am-6pm**  
**Guided Garden Tour**

Tour the Old World-style Japanese Garden. Stroll hill and pond, tea and Zen gardens. Three-quarters of an acre of peace and quiet. Enjoy dark chocolate, green tea and tours each day. Open spring through fall every day, 9am-6pm. Groups welcome. Free.

## **WICKHAM PARK**

1329 West Middle Turnpike, Manchester, CT 06040  
860-528-0856, [www.wickhampark.org](http://www.wickhampark.org)

Open April through October, daily 9:30am-dusk  
**Sunday, June 20, 11am-12:30pm**

**Historical Garden Tour**





Learn about the history and development of Wickham Park's 20 acres of ornamental gardens. This 250-acre private park includes the former estate of one of Connecticut's greatest industrial inventors. Themed gardens include the Sensory Garden, the Oriental Garden, the Italian Shrine, the Lotus Garden, the Cabin Garden, the English Garden, the Wetlands Garden and the Rhododendron Garden. You will encounter a wide variety of plant materials and design styles, unique structures and statuary, and a panoramic view. Bring the family and visit our Aviary, Nature Center, playgrounds and picnic areas. A concession stand is also available. The gardens are accessible all weekend, unless they are reserved for a wedding function. Admission is \$5 per vehicle.

*More gardens, parks, and garden-themed sites to visit throughout the year:*

## **BUSHNELL PARK & BUSHNELL PARK CAROUSEL**

Downtown Hartford, CT 06103

Bushnell Park Foundation

860-232-6710, [www.bushnellpark.org](http://www.bushnellpark.org)

Bushnell Park Carousel

860-585-5411, [www.thecarouselmuseum.org](http://www.thecarouselmuseum.org)

Bushnell Park is America's oldest public park. Historic indoor carousel for only \$1 a ride, May 1 through October.





## **DAFFODIL FESTIVAL/ HUBBARD PARK, MERIDEN**

West Main Street, Meriden, CT 06450

203-630-4259, [www.daffodilfest.com](http://www.daffodilfest.com)

A National Historic Landmark, this Olmsted-inspired park is home to many special events, notably the **32nd Annual Daffodil Festival on Saturday, April 24, 10am-9pm and on Sunday, April 25, 10am-5pm**. With food, crafts, music, fireworks, amusements and a parade that has to be seen to be believed, the Daffodil Festival is a springtime funfest for old and young, couples and singles, families and friends. Children accompanied by an adult may fish in Mirror Lake. Drive or hike up to Castle Craig for a panoramic view of the Metacomet Ridge, all the way to the Long Island Sound. Park is open daily, sunrise until sunset. Castle is open May 1 through October 31, 10am-4:45pm.

## **GAY CITY STATE PARK**

Route 85, Hebron, CT 06248

860-295-9523, [www.dep.state.ct.us/stateparks](http://www.dep.state.ct.us/stateparks)

Enjoy swimming, hiking, picnicking, and exploration of extinct mill town ruins and stone foundations.

Open 8am until sunset. Pets on leashes permitted.

Fee for parking.

## **GILLETTE CASTLE STATE PARK**

67 River Road, East Haddam, CT 06423

860-526-2336, [www.dep.state.ct.us/stateparks](http://www.dep.state.ct.us/stateparks)

184-acre park and former home of William Gillette, the





actor who portrayed Sherlock Holmes on the stage. Visitors reception center, observation deck and snack bar. Castle open Memorial Day weekend through Columbus Day weekend, 10am-4:30pm. Fee for tour. Park open year-round, sunrise until sunset.

## **IVORYTON GARDEN EVENTS**

106 Main Street, Ivoryton, CT 06442

860-767-1252, [www.ivoryton.com](http://www.ivoryton.com)

**Friday, May 14, 4-5pm**

### **Fairy Houses in the Garden**

Come to the Ivoryton Library to build fairy houses in the Children's Garden. Materials provided. Free. Call 860-767-1252 to register.

**Sunday, June 6, 4-5pm**

### **Through the Garden Gate Revisited**

The public is invited to the Ivoryton Library to view slides from their successful 2009 House and Garden Tour. Some of the homeowners will speak. Free. Call 860-767-1252 to register.

**Sunday, June 13, 3-4pm**

### **Fancy Nancy Tea Party**

Children are invited to dress in their fancy finery and attend a tea party in the Ivoryton Library Children's Garden (inside if it rains). Free. Call 860-767-1252 to register.

## **POTTED GARDEN TOUR**

Main Street in Essex, Centerbrook and Ivoryton

860-767-3905, [www.essexct.com](http://www.essexct.com)

**Friday, June 4 through Sunday, June 6**

Enjoy a **Potted Garden Tour** along the quaint village main streets of Essex, Centerbrook and Ivoryton. Professionally designed and planted containers of all types will grace patios, gazebos, courtyards and storefronts, creating a charming and inspirational stroll to enjoy at your own pace. Various special events will take place throughout the weekend, including garden lectures and demonstrations, streetscape painters and art exhibits, retail promotions. Free admission. Visit [www.essexct.com](http://www.essexct.com) for tour map and event listing.



## **ROSES FOR AUTISM PINCHBECK'S ROSE FARM**

929 Boston Post Road , Guilford, CT 06437

203-453-2186, [www.rosesforautism.com](http://www.rosesforautism.com)

Open Monday-Saturday, 8:30am-4pm

Enjoy CT grown fresh cut roses year round, grown under 1929 glass greenhouses. Buy roses by the dozen or in beautiful unique arrangements at the farm. For upcoming events, go to website, or call ahead for greenhouse tours. Roses For Autism is a transitional vocational training program for young adults on the autism spectrum.

## **SUNDIAL GARDENS & TEA SHOP**

Brault Hill Road (off Rt. 81), Higganum, CT 06441

860-345-4290, [www.sundialgardens.com](http://www.sundialgardens.com)

Formal gardens and Tea Shop open Saturdays and Sundays, 10am-5pm through mid-October. The Tea Shop offers a wide selection of fine, loose teas from the major tea growing regions of the world, herbal tisanes, teapots (Yixing as well as fine porcelain), note cards and specialty food items. Featuring exquisite French petal jellies – rose, jasmine, and violet. Check website for Tea Tastings and other events scheduled throughout the year. Admission to the gardens by donation.

## **WADSWORTH ATHENEUM MUSEUM OF ART**

600 Main Street, Hartford, CT 06103

860-278-2670, [www.wadsworthatheneum.org](http://www.wadsworthatheneum.org)

**Thursday, April 22 through Sunday, April 25**

**29th Annual Fine Art & Flowers**

“Painting with Plants”- Pairing paintings and sculptures with dramatic floral interpretations and beautiful table settings, Fine Art & Flowers showcases the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art’s splendid collection of art. Inventive garden displays complement the museum’s historic and elegant interiors.

Hours: Thursday & Friday 11am-5pm; and

Saturday & Sunday, 10am-5pm

Admission: \$13 for adults; \$11 for seniors (62+); \$8 for



students (ages 13 through college with I.D.); \$3 for children (ages 2-12) and for museum and corporate members. For a full event schedule of Fine Art & Flowers, visit [www.wadsworthatheneum.org](http://www.wadsworthatheneum.org)

**Thursday, April 22 through Sunday, April 25**

**The Art in Fine Art and Flowers Tours**

Docent-led highlights tours will explore works in the collection that have accompanying floral arrangements.

**Saturday, April 24, 2:30pm**

**“Run for the Roses”, Fashion Show and Tea Reception**

View one-of-a-kind dresses and floral-themed hats suitable for a day at the Kentucky Derby. Twenty talented fashion design students and alumni of Gibbs College have each designed an ensemble exclusively for the 29th Annual Fine Art & Flowers. You will have an up-close experience as models walk the “runway” around Avery Court with musical accompaniment by DJ Jon Eastman. Ticketed reception to follow with Kentucky Derby menu – tea sandwiches, desserts, herbal tea and wine, catered by Tallulah’s. Fashion show only-free with museum admission; Tea Reception: \$45; \$35 members, includes museum admission and reserved seat at fashion show.

**Thursday, April 22, 2:30pm**

**Designing From the Garden: Using Plants, Flowers, Fruits and Herbs**

Design team Louis Lista and Brenda Christie from the Pond House Café in Elizabeth Park will show you how to make designs for in and around your home using seasonal flowers, fruits and vegetables. See how to design unique tablescapes, window boxes and outside planters. Free with museum admission.

**Friday, April 23, 11:30am**

**Roses 101**

Learn rose-growing basics from Elizabeth Park’s Rosarian Marci Martin as she draws upon her 30 years of experience in growing roses. She currently has more than 150 varieties at her home and tends 15,000 at Elizabeth Park. This is your chance for Marci to answer your rose questions. Free with museum admission.



**Friday, April 23, 2pm**

**Flower Arranging the American Way**

Book Signing and Reception to Follow

Award-winning flower arranger and local author Nancy D'Oench will present floral designs from her newest publication, *Flower Arranging the American Way*. Free with museum admission.

**Saturday, April 24, 11am**

**Herbs for Garden, Kitchen and Display**

Hartford native, chef, and former restaurateur Frank Garofolo will share his tips on growing herbs for cooking and decorating, discuss which herbs are most often used for cooking in today's kitchen, and demonstrate simple herbal arranging for decorative display. Free with museum admission.

**WEBB-DEANE-STEVENS COLONIAL REVIVAL GARDEN**

211 Main Street, Wethersfield, CT 06109

860-529-0612, [www.webb-deane-stevens.org](http://www.webb-deane-stevens.org)

The Webb-Deane-Stevens beautiful Colonial Revival Garden is open to the public to enjoy throughout the year. Our garden is maintained by a volunteer group called the Garden Angels. The garden was designed by Amy Cogswell, one of the first female garden architects in the United States. The garden is located behind the Webb House, an historic house made famous in part due to a visit by George Washington in 1781. Three-house tours: \$8 for adults; and \$4 for students and children ages 5 to 18. Open daily – with the exception of Tuesday. For information about hours, current exhibits, upcoming events or Museum School classes, call 860-529-0612 or visit [www.webb-deane-stevens.org](http://www.webb-deane-stevens.org).

**Central Regional Tourism District, Inc.**

One Constitution Plaza, 2nd Floor  
Hartford, CT 06103

P 860-787-9640  
[www.centerofct.com](http://www.centerofct.com)

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