



# Greenfield Garden Club Newsletter

July 2022

Vol. 30, No. 7

## The Greenfield Garden Club's Garden Tour 2022

**Date: Saturday, July 9, 2022**

*(Rain date Sunday, July 10)*

**Time: 10am – 4pm**

**Location: 7 Gardens in Greenfield, MA**

**Tickets: \$10pp**

**Ticket/Map purchase: Day of the Tour**

**9:30am – 1pm**

**Jon Zon Community Center**

**35 Pleasant St, Greenfield, MA**

Please make plans to join us for our 27th Garden Tour! We have been hard at work organizing it, and our hosts look forward to welcoming you to their gardens. Please leave pets at home, bring a water bottle if it's hot, and plan your rest stops as there are no public facilities on the tour. See you soon!!

**Greenfield Garden Club**  
**Garden Tour 2022**

Visit  
Local Gardens  
to Inspire You  
in your Own  
Garden!

**Saturday**  
**July 9**  
**10 am - 4 pm**

**Rain Date:**  
**Sunday July 10**

**Ticket Sales**  
**Day of Tour Only**  
**9:30 - 1 pm**  
**Jon Zon Center**  
**35 Pleasant St Greenfield**  
**\$10 per person**

Soil Testing provided by  
Western Mass Gardener's Assn  
10 am - 12 pm  
\$2 suggested donation

Visit us at  
[www.thegreenfieldgardenclub.org](http://www.thegreenfieldgardenclub.org)



## July President's Report ~ *Laura Schlaikjer*



Welcome to the middle month of summer! I have just returned from my trip to England with my mother, where we had the good fortune to see many magnificent gardens, including Sissinghurst and Great Dixter. It was very inspiring! It's great to see that many of the plants that caught our attention are available in the Baystate Perennial newsletter which details plants for the early July border. Giant Scabiosa (*Cephalaria gigantea*) and Thalictrum varieties (especially *Thalictrum flavum* – yellow Meadow Rue) had really caught our eye. One of the things we particularly noticed is the use of wild meadow spaces. All the gardens have them- even a small house lot on the High Street in Tenterden had a little wedge of meadow. This got me interested in lawns and meadows, and in poking around I notice that a friend that I know from working in Turners Falls and the Ave A planters, Owen Wormser, has written a book on this very topic. Perhaps he would make a good speaker for the club. I am getting back into the garden after my hiatus, and I see that it is coming along. How are your gardens progressing? See you at the Tour!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

July 9, Saturday, 9-4 – Garden Tour (rain date Sunday, July 10)

**Last minute helpers still needed: call Eva Carrier at (413) 773-7457**

July 20, Monday, 5:00pm – Steering Committee Meeting

July 30, Saturday, field trip to & private tour of [Olallie Daylilies](#). Look for emails and RSVP!

*I always see gardening as escape, as peace really. If you are angry or troubled, nothing provides the same solace as nurturing the soil ~ Monty Don*

### Soil pH Testing at the GGC Garden Tour

Don't forget that the Western Mass Master Gardeners will be at the ticket sales area offering to test your soil's pH level. A donation of \$2 per test will be gratefully accepted. Soil analysis is a big help in maintaining the productivity and vigor of your gardens. I see the UMass testing lab turn-around time is currently normal right now (6-10 days), so it would be a good time to get your soil tested. The method of collecting the sample is crucial – check [here](#) for a detailed description of the best way to obtain your sample. A routine soil analysis is \$20. This will cover pH, acidity, Modified Morgan extractable nutrients (P, K, Mg, Fe, Mn, Zn, Cu, B), lead and aluminum, cation exchange capacity, and percent base saturation. Recommendations for nutrient and pH adjustment are included with your results. Optional tests are also available – Soil Organic Matter (\$6), Soluble Salts (\$6), and Soil Nitrate (\$8). Descriptions of these can be found at the link above regarding soil sampling. For ordering information and forms, please visit [this link](#). They currently accept cash, check or money orders, but not credit/debit cards or other electronic payments. All orders must be accompanied by a payment. They recommend that customers get in the habit of testing in late fall (annual crops, for planning spring amendments) or summer (turf, for planning early fall and early spring amendments) so that delays in processing can be avoided but results are still available when needed.

**GGC MEMBERSHIP:** Thank you for **renewing!** Membership is \$20 per person, or \$25 per house-hold.

Memberships make a nice gift for the gardener in your life! Please make checks payable to: Greenfield Garden Club; and send them to: Becky George, 61 Madison Cir, Greenfield, MA 01301. Thank you for your continuing support!

### Acanthus hungaricus – Bear's Breeches

Another interesting plant – so stately and dramatic! It's zone 5-10, and is probably borderline in some towns in our area, but it makes quite the statement. I do see that it can be 'aggressive,' but if you are willing to control it, it will reward you! I see they have it grow-

ing out in the Berkshire Botanical Gardens.



### Officers 2022:

**President/Newsletter/FB/Website:**

Laura Schlaikjer

**Vice President:**

Marsha Stone

**Treasurer:**

Becky George

**Recording Secretary:**

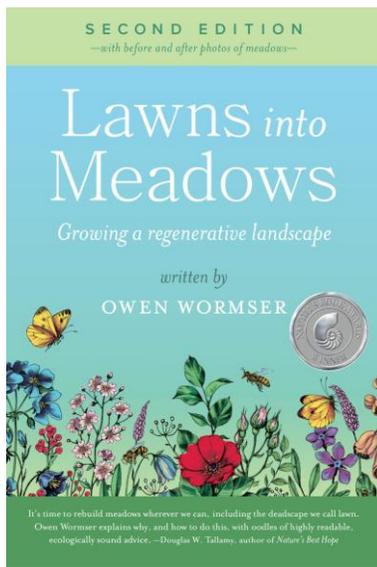
Annette Kilminster

**Corresponding Secretary:**

Eva Carrier

**At Large Member/s:**

Nicki Shipman



Coming this September 15th! The 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition of Landscape Designer Owen Wormser's book Lawns into Meadows. Wormser explains how to replace the deadscape we call lawn with low-maintenance, eco-friendly meadows. This award-winning, how-to book on growing your own wildflowers and native grasses is also about sustainability, regeneration, and beauty. In a world where lawns have wreaked havoc on our natural ecosystems, meadows offer a compelling solution. It is garden landscaping that is beautiful, all year round. Meadows establish wildlife and pollinator habitats, are low-maintenance and low-cost, have a built-in resilience that helps them weather climate extremes, and can draw down and store far more carbon dioxide than any manicured lawn. Wormser describes how to plant an organic meadow garden or traditional meadow, that's right for your site. Find a full description [here](#).

## JULY RECIPE: MONARDA MOJITO

### INGREDIENTS

- 15 Fresh bee balm leaves (*Monarda didyma*)
- 1/2 Lime, cut into 4 wedges
- 2-3 tbsp simple syrup (see recipe below)
- 1 cup ice cubes
- 1 1/2 fl oz. white rum
- 1/2 cup club soda

### DIRECTIONS

1. Place bee balm and 1 lime wedge in tall sturdy glass and muddle well.
2. Add 2 more lime wedges and simple syrup and muddle further.
3. fill glass 3/4 with ice and pour rum over ice.
4. top with soda and stir. Adjust syrup as needed for sweetness.
5. Garnish with remaining lime wedge.

### SIMPLE SYRUP

Makes 1/2 cup simple syrup

1. Combine 2 TB hot water with 4 tbsp sugar and stir until dissolved.
2. Add 2 tbsp cold water and stir.



## KILL YOUR LAWN *with* DAN JAFFE WILDER

The lawn is this monoculture of non-native grasses, that's not diverse and doesn't really serve the ecology. Lawns are a whole lot of work, and they don't give us anything in return. And when I say us, I mean the entire ecosystem, humans being a very important part of it. But the lawns from an ecological point of view are at the very least a waste of space, and in some cases are truly a detriment to the ecological function. There are gradients of ecology, by which you rank various shifts, either in the way we care for our lawns or changes instead of lawns that we can make. Almost anyone could do the first gradient level. The gradients of ecology allow us to really look at this on a step-by-step process. You don't have to go full swing into it if you're not ready for it. And most people aren't. And you can start very, very small. Watch Dan's lecture for free on [YouTube](#).

# Westminster Cares Garden Tour

Gardens are being prepped and plans are underway to host the 2022 Garden Tour in Westminster, VT. This year's gardens will once again, feature the spectacular grounds of

[Gordon and Mary Hayward](#)

along with

Cheryl Charles & Family

Obe & Lonnie Lisai

The Westminster Center School

Tickets are available on the day at the tour. You can obtain these at either the Westminster Institute or at the Haywards Gardens.

You can get directions [here](#).

This is a rain or shine event and all proceeds will go to the many Westminster Cares' community efforts. To learn more about Westminster Cares - click [here](#)

*Many thanks to our wonderful Garden Tour Sponsors!*

## **New Native Nursery in Franklin County – [Checkerspot Farm](#)**

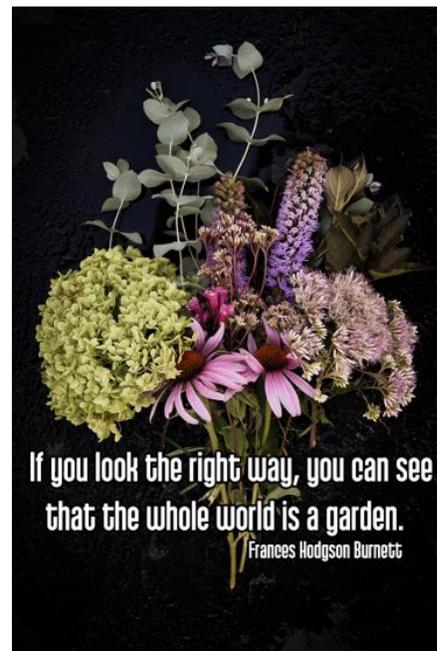
I was standing in line today at Staples for a print job, and starting chatting with a woman who I saw was printing up color flyers about native plants. We got to talking, and it turns out she and her partner are relatively new to the area, and they grow native plants and wildflowers at their farm. She would be happy for us to spread the word about their farm as they are not very far away – just up route 112 into Colrain. If you click on the link above, you can see their plant list for 2022. She would be very happy to have us come up and get a tour of the farm, so look for an impromptu visit which we will probably advertise via email. She said there are a lot of wonderful plants in bloom right now. They also do habitat restoration consultations. Check them out!

**Planting and Stewarding Native Meadows: An Intensive One-Day Workshop with Larry Weaner**

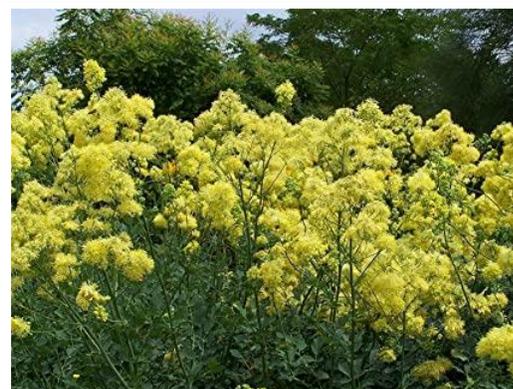
September 17th | 10am -4 pm | Berkshire Botanical

Demand for native meadows, particularly as an alternative to lawn, is increasing dramatically. That said, few planting types are more misunderstood. Many failures result from inadequate planning and management; as well as the use of plants that are poorly adapted to the site and unable to survive in a highly competitive meadow environment. Far better results can be obtained when the plants and processes used reflect the ecological character of our native meadow communities. More than one-year wonders, meadows modeled on these ecosystems can provide long-term, easily managed landscapes that harbor a myriad of wildlife and provide color and texture throughout the year. The program will begin with Landscape Designer Larry Weaner discussing the design, implementation, and management of native meadows on a variety of scales and in residential and public settings. The remainder of the day will include viewing on-property meadows including a meadow-in-progress and an area with high potential for a future meadow planting.

Register [here](#). \$165 members/\$185 non-members



**If you look the right way, you can see that the whole world is a garden.**  
*Frances Hodgson Burnett*

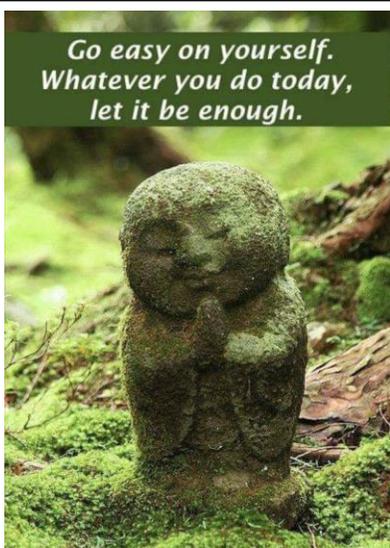


Thalictrum flavum – Yellow Meadow Rue

**Treasurer’s Report**

**Balance** as of May 15, 2022 ..... \$8,391.78  
**Income** ..... \$65.23  
*Interest \$0.23; Dues \$65*  
**Expenses** ..... \$175.00  
 \$25 Farmers market booth; \$150 donation  
**Balance** as of June 15, 2022..... \$8,282.01

*All financial matters and membership dues should be directed to Greenfield Garden Club:  
 c/o Becky George, 61 Madison Cir  
 Greenfield MA 01301 **Questions?**  
[greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com](mailto:greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com)*



*Go easy on yourself. Whatever you do today, let it be enough.*



*Everything comes to you in the right moment. Be patient.*

Margaret Roach’s excellent [Monthly Garden Chores](https://awaytogarden.com/category/chores-by-month/):  
<https://awaytogarden.com/category/chores-by-month/>

**August NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:**  
**Friday, July 29th**  
[greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com](mailto:greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com)



Greenfield Garden Club  
PO Box 309  
Greenfield, MA 01302-0309

## MEMBER DISCOUNTS

These vendors have agreed to provide the listed discounts for members who show their membership card when making a purchase. We appreciate their support! Please respect their offers by remembering these generous discounts are for club members only and only when your card is presented.

### **Baystate Perennial Farm**

36 State Road (Route 5/10), Whately  
10% off regular priced plants with membership

### **Chapley Gardens**

397 Greenfield Road (Route 5/10), Deerfield  
10% off regular priced plants and pond supplies

### **Greenfield Farmers' Cooperative (Agway)**

269 High Street, Greenfield  
10% anything garden related

### **Silver Garden Daylilies – 23 Picket Lane, Greenfield**

10% off daylilies

*Any vendors interested in offering our club member - gardeners a discount, please contact a member of the Steering Committee – thank you!!*

### **LaSalle Florists**

23 LaSalle Drive (Route 5/10), Whately  
10% off regular priced plants

### **O'Brien Nurserymen – 40 Wells Road, Granby, CT**

10% off plants

### **Mill River Farm Market – Conway**

Road/corner 116 & Rtes 5/10. S. Deerfield  
10% off plants in Spring and Fall

### **Warm Colors Apiary**

2 South Mill River Road, South Deerfield  
10% off

### **Wilder Hill Gardens**

351 South Shirkshire Road, Conway  
10% off plants and consultations