Greenfield Garden Club Newsletter

October 2026 Vol. 34, No. 10

All Wassail the Apple!

Sunday, October 25th at
Nettlepoint Farm
2:00 – 4:00pm
Rain or shine
Rachael Bean, speaker from New Salem Cider

New Salem Cider

NEW SALEM CIDER calls a restored 1700 Farm brought back to life by Carol Hillman its home. In her 90's, Carol added hard cider to the farm's repertoire. Rachael Bean will fill us in about the cidery and we will sample several of their offerings. They will bring some of their bottles of cider to sell to interested parties. There will be finger food to help cleanse your palate. Nettlepoint Farm is located at 138 Highland Ave, Greenfield, and there is plenty of parking. The tent will be behind the house.

RSVP to greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com

October President's Musings ~ *Laura Schlaikjer*

October dawns misty and grey here in the hills of Leyden. The harvest abounds with a bumper crop of Chinese chestnuts, although it means repetitive stress issues with all the scoring and peeling! I am leaving the bulk of the harvest for the local wildlife – bears, deer, turkeys, birds, squirrels, etc. The trees are really starting to come alive with colors – it is truly a wonderful time of the year. I hope many of you will join us at our end of the year events – the Oktoberfest and our annual Holiday Party. Please remember to cast your vote in November! ~ Laura

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 14, 3:00pm – Steering Committee meeting
October 25, 2:00-4:00pm – GGC Annual Oktoberfest
October 26, 12:12am - Full Hunter's Moon peaks
November 6,7,8 – Cider Days Franklin County
December 11, 4-7pm – Annual Holiday Party with Yankee Swap

October is the opal month of the year. It is the month of glory, of ripeness ~ Henry Ward Beecher

"O.K., that should fix the leak."

Cartoon by Jared Nangle

LOOKING AHEAD: GGC ANNUAL MEETING - FEBRUARY

We are looking at Sunday, February 21, for our annual meeting, but it will all depend upon the availability of the venue and the speaker, both of which are in process. We have identified a number of interesting speaker possibilities, and will be excited to share that information with you in a future newsletter. If anyone has suggestions for a speaker or a venue, please let us know. We aim to bring you an event that you will want to attend. We hope to leave the thought of winter weather out of the picture, but will plan for a snow day nonetheless! It's hard to believe it will soon be 2027!

Don't forget to check out Margaret Roach's excellent ***Monthly Garden Chores*** *on her website:* https://awaytogarden.com/category/chores-by-month/

Seen at Art in The Orchard in Easthampton.

The Greenfield Farmers Market runs on Saturday mornings at Court Square through October 31st from 9:00am – 1:30pm

Officers 2026:

President/Newsletter/FB/Website: Laura Schlaikjer
Vice President: Marsha Stone
Treasurer: Becky George
Recording Secretary: Jane Alexander
Corresponding Secretary: Nicki Shipman
At Large Member/s: Eva Carrier; Celt Grant; Leslie Schaler

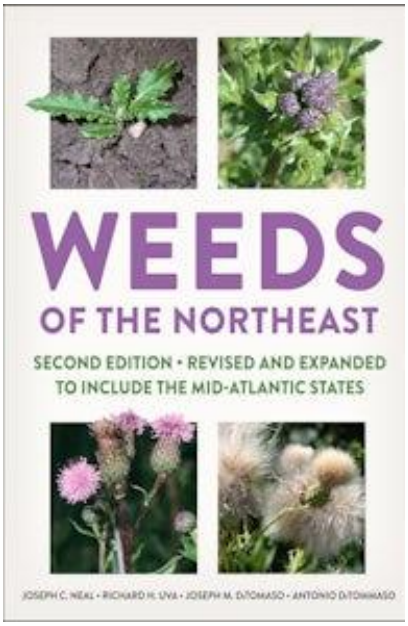
Our Fair Booth was a success! More photos are also on social media. Many thanks to all who lent us plant material and items in the booth. We had 'Find the Animal' and 'Identify the Tools," as well as "Identify the Children's Games." Everything circa 1700 – 1800.

Finished Booth – everything carefully placed

Empty Booth – how we start and end!

People were stumped – what is this?

WHAT'S THAT WEED??



The fully updated second edition of the book "**Weeds of the Northeast**" is a comprehensive and indispensable guide to learn more about potentially problematic plants in your garden. There are illustrations for ready identification of more than 500 common weeds. Make an ID before these plants flower. Don't want to buy a book? The **UMass Weed Herbarium** is an incredible online tool for identification and info on the life cycle of these plants. There is a search feature, or you can scroll through the alphabetical listings to find your plant by photos.

Destroy Spotted Lantern Fly Egg Masses This Fall

What to look for: Egg masses vary in size. The masses are typically an inch long by ¾ inch wide. The female secretes a white, waxy substance over the eggs to protect them. When dries, the egg masses look like light, greyish splotches of mud, cement, or lichen. Each mass holds 30 to 50 eggs. Lanternflies lay eggs in areas protected from wind and harsh winters such as tree trunks, the underside of tree branches, rocks, outdoor sheds and equipment, any other sheltered surface. Destroy the masses: Crush them. Drag a credit card, putty knife or other hard implement over the egg mass. The eggs will pop as you press down, and you may see liquid ooze out. Scraping: fill a plastic baggie with a few ounces of rubbing alcohol or hand sanitizer. Scrape the eggs off the surface with a credit card, putty knife or butter knife into the baggie. Make sure the eggs come in contact with the alcohol. The eggs must remain in the alcohol solution. Double bag and discard in the trash. (Keep plastic out of the landfill by simply crushing the egg masses.) View a Penn State Extension video on how to destroy the eggs HERE. The first instars hatch in May, so you can search for and destroy as many as you can find from now until early spring to help reduce the population. Some egg masses will be too high or too well hidden, but this will help keep the population down.

dcr
Massachusetts

Great Falls Discovery Center

2 Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA 01376
(413) 863-3221 www.greatfallsdiscoverycenter.org

THE CATERPILLAR LAB

A Live Insect Drop-in Exhibit

Saturday, Oct. 3, 11:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Visit the Caterpillar Lab's drop-in live caterpillar exhibits in the Great Hall! All ages.

Caterpillar Lab Walk

Saturday, Oct. 3, 4:30–5:30 p.m.

Join the Caterpillar Lab for a guided walk through downtown Turners Falls in search of caterpillars. Register by emailing janel.nockleby@mass.gov.

Saturday Movie Matinee: *The Extraordinary Caterpillar*

Saturday, Oct. 24, 3:00–4:00 pm.

This documentary follows scientists and activists into the world of nature's tiny superheroes.

Thank you to our sponsors: Magic Wings Butterfly Conservatory; Friends of the Great Falls Discovery Center; Greenfield Garden Club

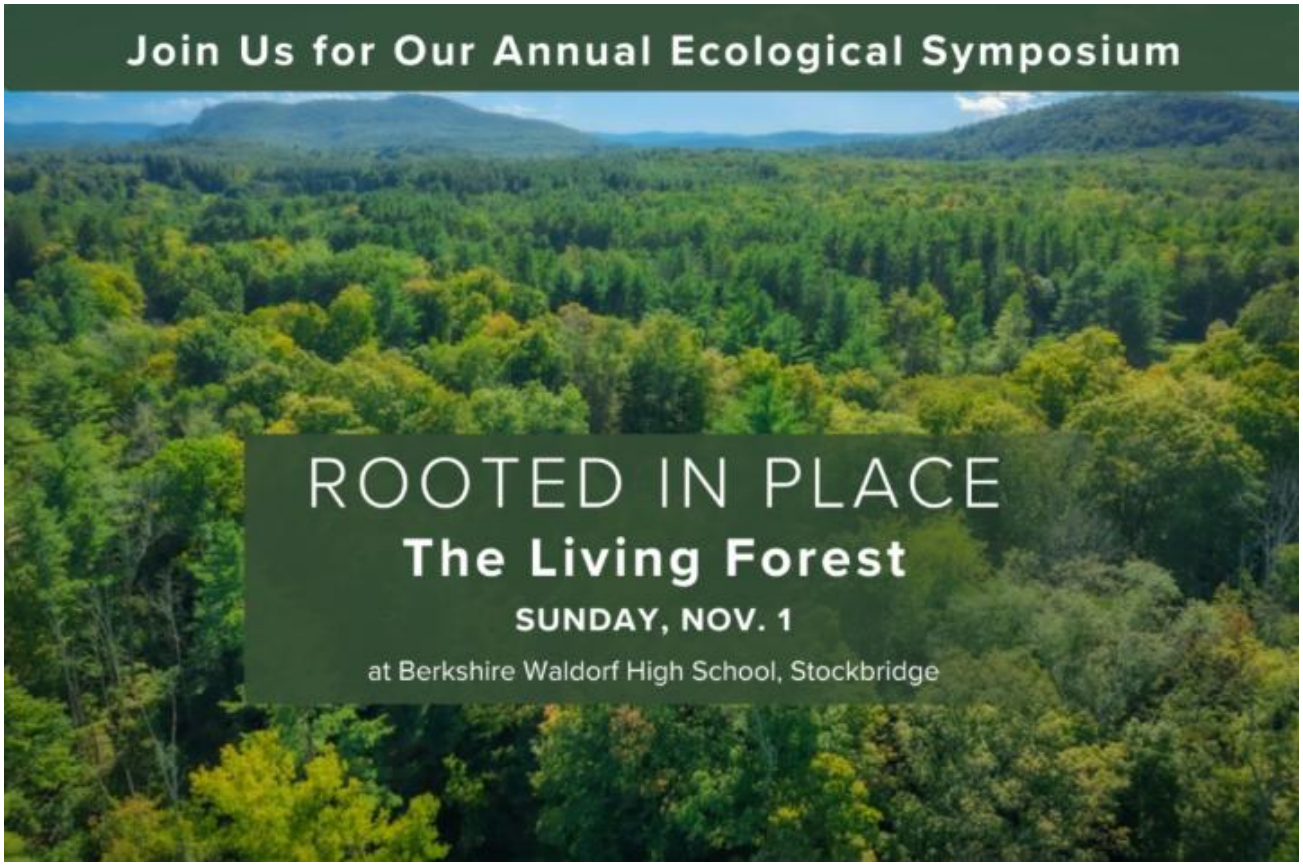
ADA/Reasonable Accommodation:
Call: 617-645-0358
Email: Moneesha.dasgupta2@mass.gov

Coming Events

Department of Conservation and Recreation, Massachusetts State Parks

The Caterpillar Lab events are proudly sponsored by the Greenfield Garden Club, Magic Wings, and the Friends of the Great Falls Discovery Center.

Heading West? Here are some fine events at Berkshire Botanical.



Western Massachusetts
Master Gardener Association

Soil Testing and Gardening Advice

Saturday, October 3, 9:00am - 12:00pm
Sugarloaf Gardens
Sunderland, MA

Bring Samples from up to 3 garden areas. For information on collecting soil samples, see "How to Test Your Soil" on our homepage, https://wmmga.org.

Sugarloaf Gardens

4th Annual

FARMERS MARKET

FALL FUN FOR KIDS

SEASONAL COLOR

Saturday, October 3rd
9 am to 3 pm

Seasonal Produce | Artisan Breads | Local Honey | Handcrafted Goods

SUGARLOAF GARDENS
25 Amherst Road
Sunderland, MA

Sugarloaf Gardens

SALE

October 1st-14th

SUGARLOAF GARDENS

ALL PERENNIALS
50% OFF
TREES & SHRUBS
BUY 1-4 SAVE 10%
BUY 5-9 SAVE 20%
BUY 10+ SAVE 50%

sugarloafgardensma.com | (413) 397-3262 | 25 Amherst Rd. Sunderland, MA

Western Massachusetts
Master Gardener Association

Soil Testing and Gardening Advice

Saturday, October 10, 9:00am - 12:00pm
Greenfield Farmers Market
Greenfield, MA

Bring Samples from up to 3 garden areas. For information on collecting soil samples, see "How to Test Your Soil" on our homepage, https://wmmga.org.

The season is wrapping up, and time is getting short to take advantage of local sales and get your plants intp the ground so they can get their roots established. Baystate Perennial had its last day of the season on September 27th. Andrew's Greenhouse is running all plants at 50% off and glazed pottery at 20% off. Sugarloaf (see above) is running 'the more you buy the bigger the discount' sale. Starview (was Laurenitis) may have some sale plants left. Agway's yard is starting to look empty and there doesn't appear to be any fruit trees left. Happy Hunting!

Garden Conservancy Webinar: "Rome: City of Gardens" Tuesday, October 6, 2–3 pm

Rome is—and always has been—a city of gardens. Since ancient times, the Italian city's green hills, from the imperial Palatine to the rural Janiculum, have been covered with gardens, orchards, and groves.

Rome: City of Gardens invites readers to explore three "golden ages" of Roman horticulture through 24 intriguing outdoor spaces. Featured are the romantic ruins and sculpture of Hadrian's Villa at Tivoli; the splendid water theater of the Villa d'Este; the lush terraces of the Villa Lante and the secluded Belvedere Courtyard and Casino of Pius IV within the Vatican. More contemporary designs include Palazzo Parisi, the family estate of Arabella Lennox-Boyd; La Torrechia Vecchia, a green-and-white garden by Dan Pearson that winds around the ruins of a medieval town; and the reimagining of the Bass Garden and the Villa Aurelia by Laurie Olin, at the American Academy in Rome.

Each garden is showcased with lush, specially commissioned photography, as well as handsome antiquarian prints. Gregory Long's authoritative text delves into the fascinating stories behind the gardens—romantic tales starring a unique array of artists and architects, Roman emperors and empresses, cardinals, popes, aesthetes and social climbers, aristocrats, and nouveaux riches.

GREGORY LONG is president emeritus of the New York Botanical Garden and a consultant on strategic planning for multiple international cultural institutions. A lifelong admirer of Rome, he has been immersed in studying the gardens in and around the city as a visiting scholar at the American Academy in Rome. Long is the author of *Historic Houses of the Hudson Valley* and *Rescue and Revival: The New York Botanical Garden 1989–2018*. He is editor of *The New York Botanical Garden*, a commemorative monograph to celebrate its centennial. ***CONTACT THE GREENFIELD GGARDEN CLUB TO PURCHASE TICKETS AT THE MEMBER PRICE OF $5.00.***

Scott Farm
707 Kipling Road, Dummerston, VT 05301
802-579-1720
www.scottfarmvermont.com/heirloomappleday

JUST ROOTS

-2nd annual-

HOOTENANNY!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3RD

7-10PM

$40 IN ADVANCE $50 AT THE DOOR

BARN DANCE

music from CELEBRATION BRASS BAND OF VT

SILENT AUCTION

INCANDESCENT BREWING BEER &
HEARTHSTONE ARTISAN BAKERY PIZZA

TICKETS AT JUSTROOTS.ORG

SPONSORED BY

Greenfield Savings Bank

MARTY'S Local

Sharp, Heyman, Dolven & Elkins, LLP

JOIN THE MUSHROOM HUNT AT SHANTIGAR

with John Wheeler, Berkshire Mycological Society

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17

11:00 am to 1:00 pm

Registration is limited: Register & Info HERE

BRING: a brown paper bag or basket, water, a knife, sturdy shoes, and insect repellent.

FIND: Red Chanterelles, Blue Trumpets, Golden Oysters, Lion's Mane

O'BRIEN NURSERYMEN – OPEN DAYS 2026

40 Wells Rd, Granby, CT

October 9, 10 & 11 – End of the Hosta Season Sale, as well as, the Woody Plants!

Oct 30, 31 & Nov. 1 – Amazing Fall Colors Japanese Maple, Ginkgo, Fothergilla, etc.

Hours: Friday 10-5; Saturdays 10-5; Sundays 10-5 (On Above Dates Only)

Also by Appointment – Please Call Ahead

They accept cash and checks – but not credit cards!

Check out this YouTube video featuring O'Brien Nursery released August 2025.

Garden Conservancy Webinar: "An Ecology of Quilts", Oct 22, 2-3pm

In spring 2027, the American Folk Art Museum is sending its acclaimed recent exhibition *An Ecology of Quilts* on tour to museums around the Northeast. Join the museum's Deputy Director and Chief Curatorial Officer Dr. Emelie Gevalt for a behind-the-scenes look at how this ecologically grounded exhibition was conceived and organized. Emelie will consider the origins of textile production and how it informed the artistry of quiltmaking, exploring the environmental and social impact of cultivating and harvesting raw materials. She will also explore the rich botanical subjects that helped define this quintessential American art form.

DR. EMELIE GEVALT is Deborah Davenport and Stewart Stender Deputy Director & Chief Curatorial & Program Officer at the American Folk Art Museum in New York City. Her exhibitions at AFAM include the critically acclaimed *What That Quilt Knows About Me* (2023), *Unnamed Figures: Black Presence and Absence in the Early American North* (2023), and *An Ecology of Quilts: The Natural History of American Textiles* (2025); her next project, Locating *Girlhood: Place and Identity in Early American "Schoolgirl" Art*, opens in fall 2026. Gevalt received her B.A. in art history and theater studies from Yale University, her M.A. from the Winterthur Program in American Material Culture, and her Ph.D. in art history from the University of Delaware. Her two decades of art-world experience include positions at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, and Christie's, New York, where she was a Vice President in the Estates, Appraisals & Valuations department. ***CONTACT THE GREENFIELD GGARDEN CLUB TO PURCHASE TICKETS AT THE MEMBER PRICE OF $5.00.***

SOWING SOLUTIONS

PERMACULTURE DESIGN COURSE

~Learn ecological design for your abundant home landscape

~Create resilience in our communities

in the artisan village of Shelburne Falls, MA

STUDY
site design, mapmaking, garden plans

NETWORK
growers, artists, activists, builders, ecological designers

COMPLETE
a guided landscape design project

GATHER
skills for soil care & regenerative agriculture

VISIT
gardens, farms, inspiring homes, perennial

PRACTICE
edible landscaping, natural building, water harvesting

EXPERIENCE
agroforestry, nature connection

RECEIVE
an internationally recognized certification

A Three-Weekend Program:

April 2-5,
May 1-3
June 4-7

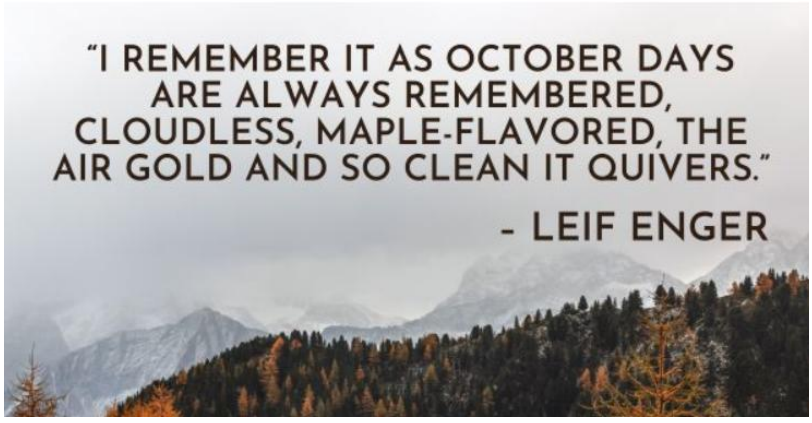
www.PermacultureSeries.org

SOWING SOLUTIONS
Permaculture Design & Education

Looking to find a new favorite orchard? Take a field trip up into Vermont and put your name in the pot to win a prize if you visit 2 or more orchards. There are at least 3 participating orchards in southern Vermont, although the bulk of them are clustered in the greater Burlington/Shelburne Area. Click HERE for more information on their orchard passport

CIDER DAYS 2026 - NOVEMBER 6, 7, 8

Start making plans for your cider day activities by checking out their schedule and find participating venues. Many of the larger events (dinner, guided tastings) sell out early, so check their website frequently for information on tickets. Most other events are free, so you can plan last-minute.



PLEASE NOTE THAT BECKY GEORGE, OUR TREASURER, HAS MOVED TO AMHERST. HER NEW ADDRESS IS LISTED AT THE RIGHT. PLEASE UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS BOOK SO WE DON'T LOSE YOUR MAIL.

ART IN THE ORCHARD

Make a plan to visit Art in the Orchard at Park Hill Orchards this year. It's a lovely walk through the landscape with a PYO option and a place to purchase apple cider, donuts and more. It's a wonderful way to spend time with family and friends.

Treasurer's Report

Balance as of August 16, 2026.....$6,088.14

Income .....$.15
Interest $0.15
Expenses $320.70
Grant: $200.00; summer party $120.70
Balance as of September 15, 2026...$6,767.59

All financial matters and membership dues should be directed to Greenfield Garden Club:
c/o Becky George, 286 Pomeroy Lane, Amherst MA 01002 **Questions?**
greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:
Wednesday, October 28th
greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com

Greenfield Garden Club
PO Box 309
Greenfield, MA 01301-0309

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. Please thank them for their generosity when you make a purchase.

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

Conway Natives
351 South Shirkshire Rd, Conway
10% off plants and consultations

Floral Affairs
324 Deerfield St, Greenfield
10% off anything in the store

Greenfield Farmers' Cooperative (Agway)
269 High Street, Greenfield
10% anything garden-related

Here We Grow
123 Russell St (Rte 9), Hadley
15% off everything in the store

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

Any vendors interested in offering our club member - gardeners a discount, please contact one of the club's officers – thank you!!

Mill River Farm Market – Conway
Road/corner 116 & Rtes 5/10. S. Deerfield
10% off plants in Spring and Fall

Nettlepoint Farm
138 Highland Ave, Greenfield
10% off online orders with the code GFGARDEN

O'Brien Nurserymen
40 Wells Road, Granby, CT
10% off plants

Patten Hill Flower Farm
135 Reynolds Rd, Shelburne Falls
10% off workshops taught by owner Barb Parry

Shelburne Farm & Garden
355 Mohawk Trail, Shelburne
10% off anything garden-related

Silver Garden Daylilies
23 Pickett Lane, Greenfield
10% off daylilies

Warm Colors Apiary
2 South Mill River Road, South Deerfield
10% off