

Garden Tours Guide

featuring
Rose & Garden Weekend Events
June 22 - 24, 2007



River Valley / CONNECTICUT



2007 ROSE & GARDEN WEEKEND EVENTS

ELIZABETH PARK ROSE GARDEN

At Prospect & Asylum Avenues in Hartford's West End
860-231-9443, www.elizabethpark.org

Saturday, June 23 & Sunday, June 24, 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
"The Annual Elizabeth Park Rose Weekend Festival"
Featuring 15,000 Rose Bushes in Bloom

Free to the public

All activities held in tent on rose garden lawn, unless noted.

Heavy and persistent rains could cancel outdoor activities.

Children's Activities (Saturday & Sunday): 12-4 p.m.

Connecticut Horticultural Societies Information & Displays
(Saturday & Sunday): 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Various Artists and Artisans sale & display: 12-4 p.m.

Rose Show by the Connecticut Rose Society: 1:30-4:30 p.m.
at the Pond House Hall (rain or shine).

HARRIET BEECHER STOWE CENTER

77 Forest Street, Hartford, CT 06105

860-522-9258 ext. 302, www.harrietbeecherstowe.org

Saturday, June 23 & Sunday, June 24, 12 noon-4 p.m.
"Victorian Garden Treasures"

Discover the overflowing, intimate cottage gardens surrounding the home of Harriet Beecher Stowe. Experienced historic garden interpreters will conduct Free guided garden tours of the gardens on the hour. Sip lemonade or try your hand at a Victorian flower-pressing project. Complete your experience with a guided tour of Harriet Beecher Stowe's home, offered every half-hour: Saturday starting at 9:30 a.m., Sunday starting 12 Noon, with last tour of the day at 4 p.m. House Tour Admission: \$8 Adults 13-64; \$7 Seniors 65+; \$4 Children 5-12; and Free for Stowe Center Members. Throughout the Season: The Gardens are open daily all



season long. Guided Garden Tours are offered Thursdays and Saturdays at 10 a.m. & 1 p.m. Visitors may choose a guided tour of the Stowe House, the gardens or both. Groups of 10 or more may reserve in advance by calling 860-522-9258 ext. 302 or email Info@StoweCenter.org.

HILL-STEAD MUSEUM

35 Mountain Road, Farmington, CT 06032
860-677-4787, www.hillstead.org

Saturday, June 23 & Sunday, June 24, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. “Rose & Garden Weekend”

Tour the Beatrix Farrand-designed, one-acre perennial garden at your own pace; experts will be on hand, 12 noon-4 p.m. both days. Saturday at 2 p.m., enjoy a Free presentation about Hill-Stead’s Sunken Garden. Guided tours of the museum’s 1901 Colonial Revival mansion and French Impressionist paintings, Japanese color woodblock prints, decorative art and original furnishings on Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., final tour of day begins at 4 p.m. Admission charged for tour.

OTHER HILL-STEAD MUSEUM GARDEN EVENTS:

Friday, May 11 & Saturday, May 12, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. “May Market”

Bask in the strains of wandering minstrels as you browse shrubs, perennials and quality crafts at Home and Garden Emporium, and watch on-going garden demonstrations. Friday at 11 a.m., enjoy a lecture by best-selling garden book author Ken Druse. Saturday at 11 a.m., authors and antique dealers Rhonda Eleish and Edie van Breems speak about Swedish design and American homes. Saturday at 1 p.m., see the lively Iron Thumb competition. Admission.



Sundays, July 1 through September 30, 12-4 p.m.
“Garden Tours”

A museum interpreter will be available to enhance your self-guided tour of Hill-Stead’s Sunken Garden. Complimentary to the public.

Sunday, July 8, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
“Connecticut’s Historic Gardens Day”

Experience the fragrances and blooms of Hill-Stead’s Sunken Garden while learning about the illustrious past of this historic treasure. Enjoy inspiring views from the Mount Vernonesque veranda while sipping a glass of cool lemonade. Complimentary to the public.
www.florencegriswoldmuseum.org/cthistoricgardens/

Also, enjoy monthly First Sunday Estate and Naturalist-led Walks, June through October.

HISTORIC SOUTH GLASTONBURY’S HOUSE, FARM & GARDEN TOUR

972 Main Street (Route 17), South Glastonbury, CT 06073
860-633-6890, www.hsgct.org

Sunday, June 24, 1-6 p.m.
“Out the Backdoor”

Visit multiple sites along the Connecticut River in South Glastonbury and explore perennial and heritage gardens, the largest organic farm in Connecticut, a tobacco farm and many historic homes, barns and outbuildings. Sponsored by the Historical Society of Glastonbury and Glastonbury Partners in Planting. Tickets in advance: \$25; Day of tour: \$30. Call 860-633-6890.



HURST FARM & COUNTRY STORE

746 East Street, Andover, CT 06232
860-646-6536

Saturday, June 23 & Sunday, June 24
“Rose & Garden Weekend Event”

Come join the Hurst family at the beautiful old-fashioned Hurst farm. Enjoy farm-made goodies and strawberry short cake while sitting on the wrap around porch of the Country Store. View beautiful gardens and game at the lovely view of the surrounding hills. Oxen-pulled wagon rides around the farm on Sunday from 1-3 p.m. Shop in the country store 9 a.m.-5 p.m. daily for farm made jellies, honey, maple syrup & much more. Farm & Store 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

Tour the Old World style Japanese Garden. Stroll, hill and pond, tea, and Zen gardens. Nearly one acre of peace and quiet. Enjoy chocolate, tea and guided tour. Open spring through fall everyday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Groups welcome. Free.





SUNDIAL GARDENS & TEA SHOP

Brault Hill Road (off Rt. 81), Higganum, CT 06441
860-345-4290, www.sundialgardens.com

Gardens and Tea Shop open Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Formal gardens include Knot garden, 18th century-style garden, and topiary garden with fountain, rose arbor and trellises. Tea Shop specializes in fine, loose teas, including rose-scented teas; Yixing teapots from China; petal jellies from France (rose, jasmine, & violet); herbal tisanes, etc. Check our website for Tea Tastings and other events. Shop and gardens open weekends throughout summer and fall. Admission to the Gardens: \$2.

WEBB-DEANE-STEVENS MUSEUM

211 Main Street, Wethersfield, CT 06109
860-529-0612, www.webb-deane-stevens.org

Saturday, June 23, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. &

Sunday, June 24, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

“Capture Connecticut Heritage”

The work of student, amateur and professional artists will be on display and for sale under the tent on the grounds of the Webb-Deane-Stevens Museum. Subject matter may include gardens, landscapes, historic houses and interiors. Free admission.

The Amy Cogswell Colonial Revival Garden is on the same property.



WICKHAM PARK

1329 West Middle Turnpike, Manchester, CT 06040

860-528-0856, www.wickhampark.org

Open April-October daily, 9:30 a.m.-dusk

Sunday, June 24, 12-1:30 p.m.

“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 Oriental Garden, the Italian Shrine, the Lotus Garden, the Cabin Garden, the English Garden, the Wetlands Garden and our new Rhododendron Garden. You will encounter a wide variety of plant materials and design styles, unique structures and statuary and 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: \$4 per vehicle.

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

BUSHNELL PARK, HARTFORD

Downtown Hartford

Bushnell Park Foundation

860-232-6710, www.bushnellpark.org

Bushnell Park Carousel

860-585-5411, www.thecarouselmuseum.org

Bushnell Park is America’s oldest public park.

Historic indoor carousel for only \$1 a ride, April-October.



BUTLER MCCOOK HOUSE & GARDEN

396 Main Street, Hartford, CT 06106

860-522-1806, www.hartnet.org

Discover one of Hartford's hidden botanical treasures! The Butler-McCook House & Garden features a restored Victorian ornamental garden designed by famed architect Jacob Weidenmann, who also designed Hartford's Bushnell Park. Built in 1792, the house was home to four generations of the Butler and McCook family and contains original family furnishings.

Open May through October, Wednesdays to Saturdays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sundays 1-4 p.m. Admission: Adults \$5; Children \$2; and Antiquarian & Landmarks Society Members - Free.

GAY CITY STATE PARK

Route 85, Hebron

860-295-9523, www.dep.state.ct.us/stateparks

Enjoy swimming, hiking, picnicking, and exploration of extinct mill town ruins and stone foundations. Open 8 a.m. until sunset. Pets on leash permitted.

GILLETTE CASTLE STATE PARK

67 River Road, East Haddam

860-526-2336, 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, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Fee for tour. Park open year-round, sunrise until sunset.



HISTORIC WETHERSFIELD'S GARDENS

860-529-7161, www.wethhist.org

Wethersfield invites you to visit three extraordinary gardens. Webb House Colonial Revival Garden at the Webb-Deane-Stevens Museum, 211 Main Street: Recreated from an original 1921 design by Amy Cogswell, her design included many types of plants, some of which were used in colonial times and some of which simply looked “old fashioned.” Unlike the “working” gardens of the colonial period, this garden was designed to be strictly decorative. The Heritage Garden at the Town Hall, 550 Silas Deane Highway, contains a variety of plants that were used for culinary, medicinal and fabric-dyeing purposes by the village’s earliest settlers and Native Americans. The name and use of each plant is identified. The Weston Rose Garden, adjacent to the Heritage Garden, offers a quiet, peaceful spot to enjoy the beauty of over 200 specimen-quality rose bushes.

HUBBARD PARK, MERIDEN

West Main Street, Meriden
203-630-4259

A National Historic Landmark, this Olmsted inspired park is home to many special events, notably the 28th Annual Daffodil Festival on April 29 & 30th. 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 open daily, sunrise until sunset. Castle open May 1 to October 31, 10 a.m.-4:45 p.m.



LONG HILL GARDENS

172 Long Hill Rd., Andover

860-742-2407, www.longhillgardens.com

Beautiful display garden and barn shop, worth a visit, small groups welcomed, call ahead for hours.

PHELPS-HATHAWAY HOUSE & GARDEN

55 South Main Street, Suffield, CT 06078

860-668-0055, www.hartnet.org

The lux lifestyle enjoyed by two wealthy 18th century Connecticut Valley families – until their fortunes collapsed – is displayed in the Phelps-Hathaway House and formal garden. Open May-October, Wednesdays, Fridays to Sundays, 1-4 p.m. Admission: Adults \$5; Children \$2; and Antiquarian & Landmarks Society Members – Free.





WADSWORTH ATHENEUM MUSEUM OF ART

600 Main Street, Hartford, CT 06103

860-278-2670 ext. 141, www.wadsworthatheneum.org

Thursday, April 26-Sunday, April 29
“26th Annual Fine Art & Flowers”

“Fine Art & Flowers” showcases the art museum’s splendid collections by pairing a painting or sculpture with a floral interpretation, table setting, or garden vignette. Every year, garden club members, professional florists and garden centers and talented amateurs are invited to participate. Hours are Thursday and Friday from 11 a.m.-5 p.m., and Saturday & Sunday from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission: \$13 Adults; \$11 Seniors 62+; \$8 Students, Ages 13 through College with I.D.; \$3 Children 2-12; and \$3 for Museum Members.

“Fine Art & Flowers” also offers special events, several of which have additional fees; visit www.wadsworthatheneum.org for more information.



Central Regional Tourism District, Inc.

“Home of Connecticut’s River Valley”

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