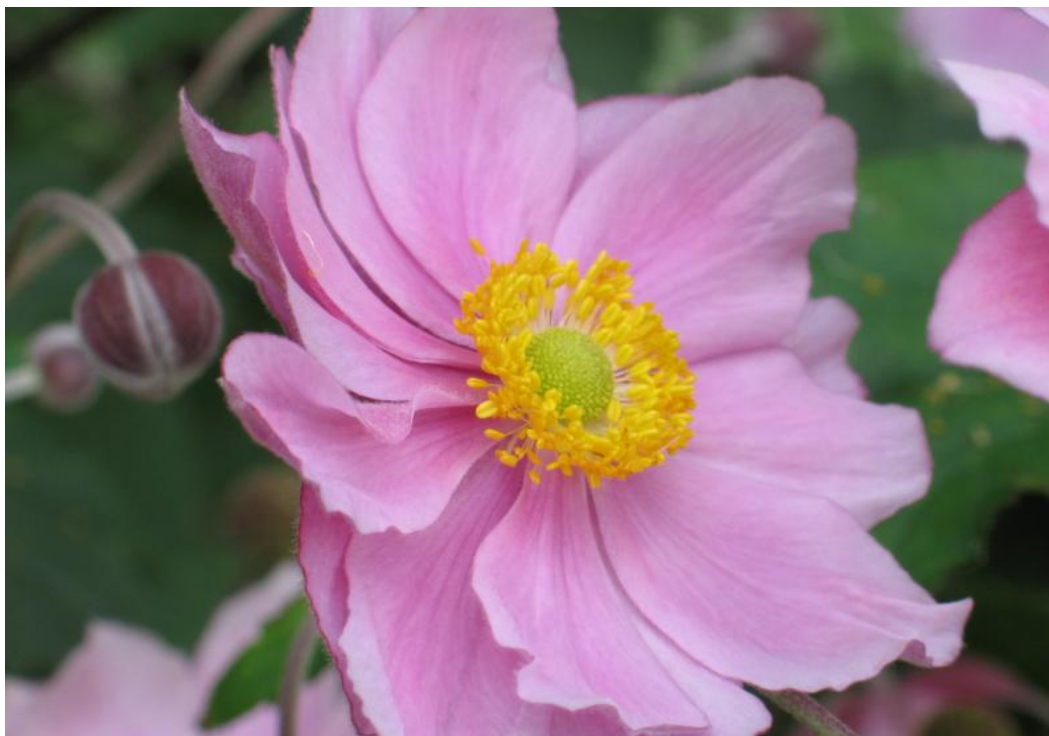


We've got exciting news about Evergreen Arboretum and Gardens!



September 2018

Happy September to all the friends and members of Evergreen Arboretum and Gardens! We have been enjoying a nice summer albeit a bit smoky for most of August. Good thing we are surrounded by plants to help filter out this mess and a marine flow to finally push it out of here. Hopefully everyone has stayed safe and healthy during this time.

It should be noted that the Executive Board took some time on August 22nd for a retreat of sorts. **Thanks to Hap Wertheimer for hosting us and Sandy Milam, Libbie Soden, Marylou Hart, and Renee Greenleaf for taking the time in our month 'off' to brainstorm ideas for Evergreen Arboretum and Gardens.** We have a number of projects in the works and wanted to spend time looking at what needs to be done now and plans for next year. The Executive Board also formulated lists for five- and 10-year plans for the future in advance of our annual planning meeting with the entire Board in October. We have some excellent ideas to report to the entire Board of Directors this fall and

are eager to get these implemented moving forward. We all have big wishes for Evergreen Arboretum and Gardens!

At the work parties in August, we focused on more clean-up and the beginnings of the transformation of the Backyard Garden. **Thanks to all the volunteers who showed up to help at the Volunteer Days! We have more work to do in this garden but under the leadership of garden champions Craig Callies and Dee Drake the plan is in place.** We look to accomplish more in the Backyard Garden this fall and again in early 2019 as we continue to rejuvenate the existing gardens. This will continue to be a great demonstration area showcasing practical plants for local landscapes that shine in all four seasons. We will keep on working on it!

As we head towards the conclusion of summer and the start of school, there is still much happening in the gardens. **We have begun planting the completed south area!** We added a circle of evergreen Barberry plants at the base of the new Siblings sculpture to help keep folks off of the base. There have been too many visitors attempting to climb the piece and hopefully the thorny scratchy Barberry will help deter this from happening anymore. **Parks has seeded the new lawn area in the south area and it looks fabulous.** We have rock placed in the gardens and are now ready to continue planting in September. There is much to do but we are pleased with the progress.

Please join us on Wednesday September 5th and Saturday September 15th as we embark on a large fall project - the removal of the overgrown shrubs and groundcovers along the small tree walk. These will be busy days and we will need some serious volunteers on a serious mission to do some serious digging! We will hopefully have enough folks to get this done, then mulch can be applied and we can replant this area next spring with low maintenance LOW growing plants that will not require as much work to keep attractive and tidy moving forward. We hope to see some nice crowds down there both days to make this happen at the Arboretum.

The entire Board of Directors will be examining the Oak Leaf Fundraiser prototype at our September meeting. The Executive Board loves them! These metal geometric obelisks are looking really cool and we are excited to get the leaves mounted and displayed in the Arboretum. The Board knows this is long overdue but we are getting close! We will keep you updated on progress and we will have them up this fall on display for all visitors to admire. Thanks once again to all who helped support this fundraiser for the south area. If you missed out on this opportunity, stay tuned as we may be offering more leaves for purchase once the first phase is successfully completed.

There is an exciting class this month, Gardening for Wildlife, on Saturday September 15th at Noon. Join our special guest Alicia Kellogg from the Snohomish County Conservation District as she discusses ways to turn your yard into a wildlife sanctuary in which all our native creatures will thrive. This promises to be a truly useful class as we all can help offer nesting and nourishment to our local fauna. Come and learn how to turn your landscape into a microhabitat for natives and help

preserve our local biodiversity. Don't forget classes are [free to all our members](#)! Others wanting to attend may come for a \$10 fee or join the day of the class. Please [RSVP on our website](#) or call the office to sign up.

Reminder to all volunteers - the Annual Volunteer Appreciation Barbeque is set for Saturday, September 22nd from 10 AM to 1 PM. Mark your calendar and come join us as we say 'Thank You!' to all of you - the wonderful folks who care enough about the Arboretum to help when they can throughout the year. We appreciate all your valuable time! So many people help at so many events throughout the seasons in the gardens. We are stepping up our BBQ game this year and are skipping the hot dogs in lieu of some fancy shish kabobs and sides. In addition, we will let volunteers pick a plant to take down and plant in the completed south area - thinking this would a cool way to let volunteers feel like 'I planted that in the new garden'! Join us as we pause to appreciate all the hard work that has been accomplished in 2018. We look forward to seeing everyone in the Arboretum on the 22nd!

As we look ahead for the remainder of 2018, don't forget there are two great Family Fun Events still to come. **We will have our second annual Bulb Fest Northwest on Saturday, October 20th from Noon to 2 PM.** Join us as members plant more spring bulbs throughout the gardens for a stunning spring 2019 flower show! This year the Daffodils were a treat blooming bright yellow - the result of our Bulb Fest last October. This fun event is for the whole family and folks will get a bag of bulbs to take home to plant as well! **Coming in December is a unique Holiday Workshop in which attendees make some fabulous crafts to take home. This is a popular class and there will be two sessions on Saturday December 8th, one from 10 AM to Noon or a second session from 1 until 3 PM.** Both of these events are free to members! Not a member? [Join at one of the events](#) or you may pay a \$10 fee to join the fun. Mark your calendars for these Family Fun Events - both promise to be a blast for the whole family!

We hope that everyone has enjoyed the summer with family and friends. There is beauty all around the Arboretum in September with flowers still blooming strong and foliage beginning to transform into fall's bright colors. Be sure to stop down to see all the progress in the South Area Completion Project. We hope to see you on an Arboretum walkabout soon!

Trevor Cameron, President

Evergreen Arboretum and Gardens

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Evergreen Arboretum & Gardens | 145 Alverson Blvd | Everett | WA | 98201