

Tyler Topics

Winter
2017-18



NEWS, PROGRAMS, AND EVENTS OF TYLER ARBORETUM

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Executive Director's Message

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Cover Photo: Dogwood berries by
David Charlton.



Winter is a time I spend more time indoors, cooking. Although the season of bountiful summer harvest is past, winter is the season of root vegetables. The

spectrum of root vegetables is diverse. It includes tubers (potatoes), corms (water chestnut), rhizomes (ginger), bulbs (garlic and onions), and of course roots – parsnips, celery root, carrots, turnips, rutabagas, and beets.

Every harvest of root vegetables offers a surprise bounty, rich in nutrients absorbed from the soil, packed with delicious, energy boosting carbohydrates, often surprisingly sweet. Consider the rutabaga. Like all root vegetables, the sturdy rutabaga grows underground, out of sight. What a thrill to unearth this giant yellow turnip at a time when the garden is quiet– and then make it into a delectable compote.

At Tyler, we also do a lot of ‘cooking’ in winter, harvesting the insights and ideas you bring us over the year. We have been thinking a lot about food – in particular, about a new Edible Garden. This is a garden that many of you have asked for – a place to learn hands-on gardening, and to share with our youngest the miracle of seeds.

The Edible Garden we envision is all about growing fresh, organic fruits and vegetables.

Designed to reconnect us to the source of our food and how it grows, it will also connect us to the soil and all the critters big and small that make a garden bountiful. In an Edible Garden we learn we are part of the food web that sustains all life on earth.

Look for this garden to make an appearance sometime next year, when we will invite all to experience the joy of unearthing a rutabaga. Until then, enjoy this delicious root vegetable compote. It is one of my family's holiday favorites.

Root Vegetable Compote (about 12 servings)

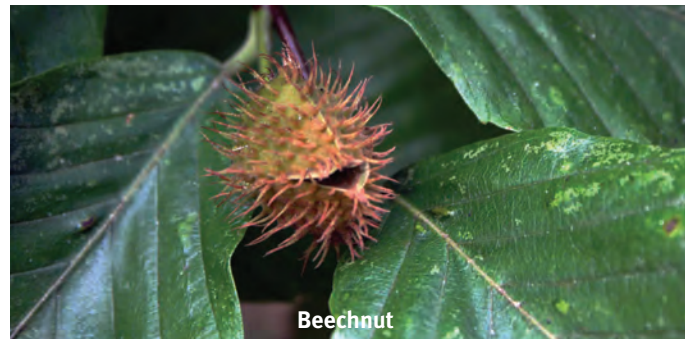
5³/₄ cups of chicken broth (or vegetable broth)
1¹/₂ cups EACH of peeled & diced carrot, turnip, rutabaga, & parsnip
2 cups of peeled & diced celery root (celeriac)
3/4 cup of unsalted butter
2–3 tablespoons of brown sugar
Freshly ground pepper & salt to taste
1/2 cup of fresh parsley, minced, for garnish

Lightly butter a 3 qt. baking dish. Bring the broth to a boil; add all the vegetables and cook until tender – about 5 minutes. Strain. Puree in a food processor or blender. Add butter, sugar, pepper and salt to taste. Transfer to your baking dish, cover with foil. Bake at 350 degrees until hot, remove foil and bake 5 more minutes. Serve with parsley garnish. Surprisingly delicious!



Beech Tree Love

This year our beech trees are prickly with beechnuts – a delicious and nourishing food adored by deer, squirrels, birds, and nut-eating insects. Because this excellent food source is produced only every few years (a 400 year old beech might only produce 60 nut crops in its lifetime), beech nut production also serves as a form of forest population control – with deer and insect populations swelling when beechnuts are bountiful, and declining in the off years. This helps the beeches as well. With fewer beech nut eaters around, the chances are better that a few among the average of 7,500 lb of nuts a mature



Beechnut

beech will produce, might germinate. Please celebrate our beech nuts, taste them, and admire the bounty of nature, but don't wait for the babies. Beeches propagate much more effectively by sending new trees up from the roots of the parents. See some of our nutty beeches near the gate to the Rocky Run trail.

Heirloom Seeds and the Foodways of the Past

By William Woys Weaver

Pennsylvania is the third most important agricultural state in the U.S. Our garden bounty defines the character of our regional foods. Southeastern PA, in particular, has a rich tradition of heirloom vegetables descended to us through generations of families growing the favorites of their forbears, heirlooms that evolved into varieties distinctive to our microclimate and local history.

For the past 300 years, the culinary identity of Southeastern Pennsylvania has evolved along two separate, yet mutually fertilizing food cultures: the Pennsylvania Dutch with its roots in the cooking traditions of Alsace, Southwest Germany, and Switzerland; and the Anglo-Quaker style centered on Philadelphia, with influences from the Caribbean. Philadelphia was the hub of the Caribbean trade with its cuisine of exotic spices and flavors. The Quaker uplands surrounding the City were the source of cream, cream cheese, butter, and grass-fed beef. By the 19th century it is difficult to imagine southeastern Pennsylvania as anything other than a culinary paradise. The regional tradition of good food simply made, put this region on the cutting edge of 19th century food trends.

While centering on southeastern Pennsylvania and encompassing the Pennsylvania Dutch Country, our farmhouse cookery also embraces elements from southern New Jersey, northern Delaware, and parts of Maryland. This Mid-Atlantic style was first articulated in cookbook form by Maryland Quaker Elizabeth Ellicott Lea whose popular *Domestic Cookery* (1845) ran through many editions. Not surprisingly, Lea included a chapter on gardening since this was critical to the successful operation of any well-run farm.

Quaker interest in botany, the collection of rare seeds and their preservation has left a huge legacy in the form of horticultural treasures like Tyler Arboretum, but additionally, a long tradition of regional seed companies such as William Henry Maule, W. Atlee Burpee, and others. Many of the heirloom food plants that enrich our horticultural heritage can be traced to these old Quaker networks. This includes an interest in Native American food plants to the extent that more Native American seeds have been preserved in Pennsylvania than in any other East Coast state. Preserving this horticultural, cultural, and food heritage is one of the main focuses of the Roughwood Seed Collection which was begun in 1932 by my grandfather H. Ralph Weaver. His collection also included seeds he received from his gardening friend Horace Pippin, who is best remembered today as an African-American folk artist. Among the peppers acquired from Mr. Pippin are the Fish Pepper, Golden Honey Pepper, Buena Mulatta, and several others mostly of Caribbean origin.



Delaware Blue Sweet Corn and Munsli Wolf Beans represent legacies from Lenape Indian agriculture.



Dating from pre-1770, The Lumper Potato was popular in colonial America. Due to lack of genetic diversity this is the same potato that failed in Ireland and caused the Great Famine.

Some of my favorites are the rare potatoes and old Lenape corn varieties, such as Psindamocan (blue) sweet corn, Puhwem flour corn, and the myriads of flavorful squash that deserve to be better known. In addition to propagating seed plants and working with a geneticist to stabilize seed lines, the Roughwood Seed Collection wishes to create gardens on regional themes, such as a Philadelphia or Quaker kitchen garden from the nineteenth century using plants proper to that period. The seed stories – the countries they come from, the traditions they represent, the foodways of the past, and the people who planted them are what make the heirloom varieties so special. They invite narratives and tastes that connect us to a diverse regional heritage.

William Woys Weaver is a food anthropologist, and is the author of several books on heirloom seeds and the foodways of the past, including Heirloom Vegetable Gardening, recently republished by Quarto.

Take Your Stand

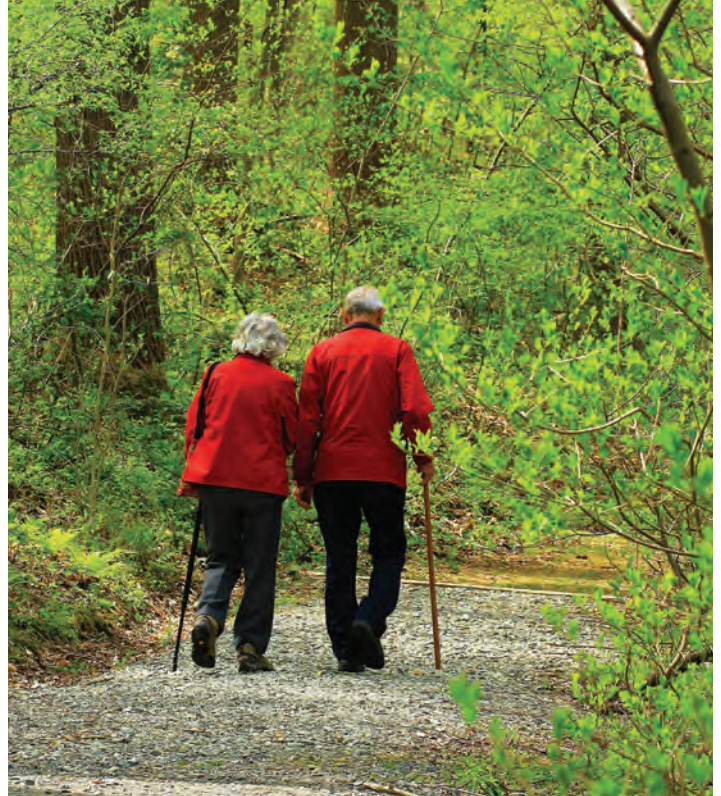
As you drive in Delaware County, how often do you see yet another corner that is now bare? It's frightening how quickly development is happening. Living near the 5th largest city in the U.S. and in the second most densely populated county in the Philadelphia area, we face a major threat to our natural lands.

Over 14,800 acres of undeveloped land has been lost between 2010 and 2015 in the Delaware Valley. That's eight acres per day! Are you concerned about this? **Given your love of Tyler, you probably are.**

We are so fortunate to have 650 acres of green space at Tyler Arboretum. **Together, we share a tremendous responsibility and opportunity to protect it.**

Your generous support saves this special place – where the filtered light can change how you see the world and your place in it... where you can listen to the quiet of the outdoors...where you can savor a calmness that is increasingly hard to find.

With your gift to Tyler's Annual Fund, you are taking a stand to protect our precious woodlands, meadows, wetlands, and gardens. In these uncertain times for the environment, your support is all the more critical to preserving this land for you, your family, and your neighbors.



**The time to act is now.
The one to act is you.
Take your stand to protect
Tyler's precious green space.**

**Visit www.tylerarboretum.org/giving
to give online today or call
610-566-9134, ext. 209.
Thank you for all that you do for Tyler!**

Tyler Events

Winter
2017-18

The Country Gardeners Annual Greens Sale

Saturday, December 2, 9:30am – 1:30pm

Enjoy a huge selection of beautiful holiday arrangements and trimmings: fresh greens, hand-made wreaths, swags, ornaments, and other natural holiday decorations. The Country Gardeners Annual Greens Sale is held at Tyler's Barn Loft and hosted by The Country Gardeners of Lima. *No admission charge to attend the sale.*



Holiday Ornaments for You and the Birds!

Saturday, December 9, 2 – 4pm

Enjoy the warmth of the season with your family and friends in our Barn Loft, and create ornaments for your tree and the wildlife in your life. Take a family photo with our antique sleigh, or gathered in front of our festive Christmas tree. Fee includes two ornaments per person, cocoa, cider, and yummy holiday cookies. *Note: peanut products will be used.*
\$10 members, \$15 non-members (Children ages 2 and under: FREE)

Valentine Indulgence

Thursday, February 8, 6 – 8pm

Back by popular demand, join noted wine collector and educator **Joe Buchter** for a decadent evening of sparkle and fizz just in time to celebrate with your Valentine. Paired with delectable desserts, seasonal fruits, cheeses and rich chocolates, you'll enjoy three dessert wines and three sparkling wines to indulge your inner romantic.
\$40 members, \$50 non-members, suitable for ages 21 and over.

Pancake Breakfast and Maple Sugaring Celebration

Saturday, February 24, 8am – 1pm. Snow date: Saturday, March 3

The spirit of winter is alive and well at Tyler as we invite you to bundle up and join us in celebrating with some outdoor fun. Walk through our maple sugaring stations to explore how the tasty topping is turned from sap into syrup. The festivities don't stop there! Satisfy your appetite with our famous all-you-can-eat pancake and sausage breakfast. Rain or shine event, snow date March 3.



Adults \$16, Children (ages 3-12) \$10, Under 3 FREE. Purchase your Pancake Breakfast tickets ahead of time – online sales opens February 1. Save yourself time the day of the event! Pre-registration not required; tickets will be available for purchase through the Visitor Center at the event.

Tyler Travels

Garden Tour: Behind-the-Scenes at Longwood Gardens

Tuesday, January 30, 10:30am – noon

Enjoy an exclusive morning at Longwood Gardens with Tyler's Executive Director, **Cricket Brien**, during the spectacular Orchid Extravaganza display. Discover the Conservatory through new eyes with an expert tour guide and gain a new level of appreciation for the horticultural excellence and fabulous under-glass space. Get a behind-the-scenes look at Longwood's production greenhouses, seeing how their talented horticulture staff studies, propagates, and cares for the plants that will soon dazzle visitors. The rest of the day is yours at Longwood Gardens! *Meet us there:*
1001 Longwood Rd, Kennett Square, PA 19348.
\$30 members, \$40 non-members



Adult Programs

Gardening and Horticulture

Winter Tree Identification Workshop

Saturday, January 27, 1:30 – 3:30pm

Join **John Wenderoth** to learn how to identify trees in the winter season using a hand lens to examine the details of leafless twigs. Practice using decision-making keys that allow you to identify a tree through a series of questions. These keys are ideal for winter identification after the leaves have fallen, but they also focus on characteristics that aid in identification year-round. The workshop is conducted indoors but may include a short outdoor ID component, weather permitting. *Inclement weather date: Saturday, February 3.*

\$10 members, \$20 non-members

A Seasonal Boost with Winter Blooms

Tuesday, February 20, 1:30 – 3pm

Explore late fall, winter, and early spring gardens with **Matthew Ross** from Longwood Gardens. Discover the plants that act as true harbingers of spring and those that surprise us with blooms in times of dormancy. Lift your spirits with vibrant photos, as you learn about plants that are hardy in zone 6 and a few perfect winter companions for the home. See some of the featured plants close-up and try your luck with an exclusive plant raffle!

\$20 members, \$30 non-members

Bewitching Witchhazels

Saturday, March 3, 10am – noon

The vibrant flowers of Tyler's witchhazel collection attract a lot of attention when winter seems as though it will never end, adding pops of yellow, gold, orange, and red to the landscape. Join **Randy Kobetich** for an exploration of these fascinating early-blooming shrubs. An overview presentation indoors will be followed by a walk to see the flowers and form up-close. Randy has been studying, growing,



and propagating witchhazels for many years. *Dress for the weather, especially taller waterproof boots. Note: if weather or bloom time does not cooperate, we will reschedule for Saturday, March 10.*

\$20 members, \$30 non-members

Botanical Arts

Holiday Wreath Workshop

Sunday, December 3, 1 – 3pm

Add some creative natural beauty to your holidays this year by making your own holiday wreath. Instructor **Leona Swiacki** will guide you through the process of creating a wreath using evergreens accented with natural elements such as pinecones and berries. Enjoy your festive creation during the holidays and into the winter months that follow. *Please bring garden shears and light work gloves. All other materials provided.*

\$45 members, \$55 non-members



Exploring the Interior in Oil Painting

Wednesday – Friday, January 24 – 26, 10am – 2pm

Join artist **Susan O'Reilly** for a 3-day intensive workshop featuring the narrative of an interior painting, using the resource of Tyler's magnificent restored barn as subject matter. Participants will focus on light and darkness and the roles each play in storytelling. Susan will demonstrate different mediums and techniques used specifically for this intriguing and intimate genre of painting. For examples of instructor's work, please visit susanoreillyart.com. *Suitable for intermediate to advanced level painters. Participants must supply their own portable easel, paints and surface. Please bring a bag lunch. Instructor will provide additional mediums, paints, and tools.*

\$125 members, \$150 non-members

Tropical Escape Floral Workshop

Saturday, February 10, 10am – noon

Have "cabin fever" and dream of escaping winter, even just for two hours? A tropical floral arrangement is the perfect fix! Join **Leona Swiacki** to design your own delightful arrangement incorporating bold floral elements. Explore the use of exotic plant material and accents. Just in time for Valentine's Day too.

\$45 members, \$55 non-members

Photo Walk: Focus on Witchhazels

Sunday, March 4, 1 – 3:30pm

Join naturalist photographer and witchhazel enthusiast **Chris Lawler** for a stroll through Tyler Arboretum's substantial witchhazel collection, discovering colorful blooms and sweet, heady scents along the way. Learn the best techniques and practices for capturing the beauty of these glorious plants through the camera lens. After the walk, we'll meet in the barn for warm refreshments and a review of the day's work. *Please dress for the weather, with weatherproof shoes suitable for uneven terrain. Perfect for all levels of photographers and cameras (even camera phones).*

\$10 members, \$20 non-members

Adult Programs

Nature Studies

Supermoon Night Hikes

Saturday, December 2, Monday, January 1 and Saturday, February 3, 6 – 7:30pm

With the leaves off many of the trees, winter can offer some of the best views of the Arboretum. Join **Dick Cloud** for a fast-paced hike that will



include moderate to steep trails. Take advantage of a series of full moon supermoons which actually occur on December 3, January 2 and January 31 (a blue moon with two full moons in one month!). Perfect for hikers who hate being trapped inside during the winter. *Suitable for teens and adults. Please bring a flashlight and wear appropriate footwear.*

\$10 members, \$20 non-members

Beekeeping at Tyler Arboretum

FREE FOR MEMBERS!

Saturday, February 3, 10 – 11:30am

Join Tyler's beekeeper **Paul Strommer** to discover the Arboretum's growing apiary and opportunities to get involved. This program will cover beekeeping basics including necessary equipment and hive management. Learn all about the Arboretum's Hive Sponsorship Program, exclusive for Tyler members and perfect for

beginner beekeepers. Turn your interest in honeybees into reality on Tyler's property with seasonal instruction!

FREE for members, \$15 for non-members



Nature Walks and Hikes

FREE for members; FREE with admission; No pre-registration required

Winter Bird Walks

Every Wednesday, 8:15 – 10:15am

Tyler is a wonderful winter haven for non-migratory birds. Explore Tyler's winter landscapes with experienced birders who know all the best places to look. Birders of all experience levels welcome. *Bring bird guides and binoculars if you have them.*

Christmas Bird Count

Saturday, December 16, 5:30am – noon

Each year between mid-December and early January, thousands of volunteers in North and South America collect data on bird sightings. Tyler invites you to be a part of the tradition. Data gathered during the count is used to assess the health of bird populations and guide conservation action. Join Tyler's experienced birders to search for owls and other nocturnal and dawn birds. After breakfast at a nearby restaurant (on your own), venture out again to look for both common and unusual birds.



Winter Botany Walks

Every Wednesday, 11:15am – 1:15pm

Tyler is the perfect place to beat the winter blues. There's always something to see and **Richard Brenner** and **Dick Cloud** are the perfect guides to winter's natural wonders. Learn to recognize plants in their seasonal guise using seed stalks, leaf rosettes and other clues, and explore Tyler's ever changing beauty.

Saturday Botany Walks

Saturdays, December 16, January 20 and February 17, 1:30 – 3:30pm

There's plenty to see at Tyler, even in the winter. Join **Dick Cloud** for an afternoon walk, and search Tyler's meadows and woodlands for some winter beauty.

Beyond the Fence Hikes

Dates and times set by Mother Nature

Join ecologist and naturalist **Steve Tessler** for fun and informative seasonal nature hikes out on Tyler's trails. Feeling spontaneous? If you'd like to receive notice of Beyond the Fence hikes, please contact Amy Mawby at (610) 566-9134 ext. 301 or amawby@tylerarboretum.org. *Suitable for teens and adults. Dress for the weather and wear shoes suitable for uneven terrain or wet trails.*

Adult Programs

Health and Wellness

T'ai Chi Chih

Thursdays, January 11 – February 15, 2 – 3pm

Come and relax your body while focusing your mind. Join **Kathleen McAllister** to learn T'ai Chi Chih (pronounced tie-chee-chuh) – a series of gentle movements that stimulate, circulate, and balance internal energy. Beneficial results are obtained regardless of age, physical condition, or agility and can be modified to a seated practice. Classes take place indoors during the winter season. *Suitable for ages 15 and up.*

*Individual class: \$12 members, \$18 non-members
Six-class series discount: \$60 members, \$90 non-members*

Winter Medicinal Meanderings

Saturdays, January 20 and February 17, 10am – noon

Join **Katelyn Melvin** of Tooth of the Lion Farm and Apothecary to investigate winter botany and herbal medicine. The first part of the class will be a medicinal plant walk highlighting an aspect of winter plant identification, as well as herbal medicine connections. The second part of the class will focus on medicine making demonstrations indoors including herbal tea blending and making herbal vinegars. Each demo will utilize at least one of the plants discussed during the walk. Participants will go home with a product sample and the know-how to make your own kitchen medicine. *Please dress for the weather with appropriate footwear.*

January 20: Herbs and Medicinal Teas

Discover the medicinal qualities of herbaceous plants, as well as how to identify them in dormancy. Warm up with some hot tea and learn about making medicinal teas, herbal tea blending, infusions, and decoctions.

\$25 members, \$35 non-members

February 17: Woody Plants and Herbal Elixirs

Focus on winter identification of medicinal woody plants. Explore using bark, resin and other plant parts in herbal vinegars, shrubs, elixirs and more.

\$25 members, \$35 non-members



Youth & Family Programs

Toddlers in Nature

Ages 18 mths - 3 years

Wednesdays, 10 – 11am

Toddlers in Nature programs are for toddlers and their favorite adult. Toddlers are all about exploring their sense of wonder and each program includes a story, exploration and time in nature.

*\$10 members, \$15 non-members
(Fee is for the child only)*

Uniquely Nature

January 10

Snowflakes are a great example of how everything in nature, including us, is unique. Explore and observe the subtle differences in snowflakes, leaves, nests, bird feathers and other natural objects.

Owls in the Moonlight

January 24

Winter is a great time to go searching for owls. Learn all about owls in Pennsylvania.

Cozy Critters

February 7

How do animals stay warm in the winter? Discover the special adaptations that animals have to keep them cozy out in the chilly weather.

Below the Snow

February 21

What's going on under the snow? Some animals are hibernating and some are scurrying about. Learn who's doing what and see if we can catch them in action!



Ages 18 mths - 3 years

Winter Special: Storytime

NEW!

Wednesdays, 10 – 11am

Gather around and listen to some favorite childhood tales. Storytime programs are for toddlers and their favorite adult. Programs include a story and a craft – all indoors.

*\$10 members, \$15 non-members
(Fee is for the child only)*

The Nutcracker

December 13

Join us as we follow Clara on her adventure into a world of toy soldiers and beautiful fairies. Afterwards we'll make a nutcracker of our own.

Frosty the Snowman

December 27

Discover the tale of a beloved snowman who comes to life in this winter classic, then make a special snowman to take home.

Youth & Family Programs

Little Chefs

All Ages

Wednesdays, 10 – 11:30am

Kids are more likely to try new foods when they help prepare them. The Arboretum will serve as culinary inspiration for our youngest gourmands. We'll work together to prepare delicious snacks made with healthy, natural ingredients. Thematic content and cooking tasks will be best suited to kids aged 3-6, but all ages are welcome. Please inquire before registering if you have allergy concerns.

\$15 members, \$20 non-members
(Fee is for the child only)

Cracker Mania

December 6

Make a batch of homemade crackers and turn them into delectable appetizers.

Coniferous Cucumbers?

December 20

Use cucumbers to create a delicious coniferous tree sculpture, then eat your tasty creation with dip.

Bite-Sized Snack Balls

January 3

Get your hands messy making some healthy, energy-packed snacks.



“Sushi” Wraps

January 17

Wrap up some tasty, kid-friendly food and slice it sushi style. Try your hand at eating with chopsticks!

Granola Creations

January 31

Mix up a batch of homemade granola bars or get wild and craft some granola shapes.

Chocolate Pretzels

February 14

Learn about the cacao bean and make a special Valentine's Day treat.

On a Stick

February 28

What does kebob even mean? Create a fruity twist on a Turkish delicacy.

Garden Sprouts

Ages 4 – 6

Tuesdays, 1 – 2:30pm

Garden Sprouts programs introduce children and their favorite adult to the world of plants and gardening. Each program includes an interactive lesson and outdoor exploration.

\$10 members, \$15 non-members
(Fee is for the child only)

Forever Green

December 19

Learn about Tyler's majestic evergreen trees and how to identify their needles and cones. Take a hike to spot bright berries and decorate your collection of winter greens while we munch on a special snack.

Inside Sprouts

January 23

Did you know that we can grow house plants from carrot tops, avocado pits, and sweet potatoes? Start your own winter garden plants in a container to take home to grow in your kitchen.

Sweet Syrup

February 20

Yummy! See how sap is made into pure maple syrup and sample its pure deliciousness. Read a classic story about how this sweet treat was first discovered.



Tiny Trackers

Ages 4 – 6

Thursdays, 1 – 2:30pm

Tiny Trackers programs introduce children and their favorite adult to the marvels of nature. Each program includes a lesson, nature exploration, and a craft to take home.

\$10 members, \$15 non-members
(Fee is for the child only)

Crafty Critters

December 14

Do you enjoy making things for others? Then come to this hands-on class. Use nature's gifts of seed pods, cones, and nuts to make woodland animal decorations.



Winter Wonderland

January 11

Winter may be quiet and seem like not much is happening outside. We're going to explore the outdoors for the hidden wonders of wintertime.

Me & My Shadow

February 8

Is it time for the groundhogs to wake up? Learn about these furry winter sleepers and explore their cold weather resting places.



Youth & Family Programs

Middle School Programs

NEW!

Middle School Only Camp In

*Saturday, February 10, 1pm –
Sunday, February 11, 10:30am*

Stay overnight at the Arboretum without your parents! Hang out with our camp counselors and pitch your tent in the Barn Loft and camp “in”. Explore Tyler at night with an evening hike. *Bring your own camping gear. Dinner and breakfast will be provided. Suitable for grades 6-8.*

*\$80 for members,
\$90 non-members*



Ages 4 – 12

Children’s Eco-Birthday Parties

Surrounded by the sights and sounds of nature, your child’s special day will be one of exploration, discovery, and fun. Enjoy a one-hour nature program or walk, and a full hour for your own activities and refreshments in a private room. Choose from a selection of specially developed themes, each designed to appeal to children with personal, up-close interactions with nature.

\$300 for up to 12 children; \$400 for up to 24 children

Discounts available for Tyler members. To schedule your child’s eco-birthday party, call 610-566-9134, ext. 306.

School Day-Off Camps

Camps run from 8:30am – 5pm

A day of nature exploration and fun is the perfect solution when your child has a day off and you have to work! These easy-going days are filled with discovery, games, crafts, hikes, and projects so engaging the kids won’t even know they’re learning.

Please pack a lunch and snacks.

\$70 members, \$85 non-members

Two Groups per Program: Ages 6 – 9 & Ages 10 – 13

Building Bridges

December 27

Test your mind to build a bridge for animals to walk over and people to walk under. Find out why we would even do this!

Play in the Snow

December 28

Even if there is no snow on the ground, we’ll make our own and have a snowball fight.

Winter Wildlife

January 15

Learn how plants and animals have adapted to survive long periods of cold temperatures. Examine evergreens and collect natural objects to create your own work of art.



It’s a Hoot!

February 16

Discover these exciting nocturnal birds. Learn about what owls eat, how they sleep, and dissect an owl pellet.

Sweet Maples

February 19

Learn about the trees that bring us maple syrup and how sap is turned into this delicious breakfast treat. Taste test real maple sap and syrup!



Youth & Family Programs

Homeschool Days

All Ages

3rd Tuesday of each month, 10 – 11:30am

Visit the Arboretum for hands-on learning in an outdoor setting. Connect with other homeschool families in this program exclusively for you. Admission to the Arboretum is included; stay for just the program or for the entire day! Each program is aligned to PA state educational standards. This program is best suited for ages 5 – 12, but is open to all ages.

\$10 members, \$15 non-members (Fee is for the child only)

Land of the Lenape

December 19

Experience the daily life of Lenape families who lived in our region 1,000 years ago. Learn how they used native plants and animals for shelters, gardening, hunting, cooking, tools, and clothing.

2002 SAS Standards: 4.2, 4.8, 8.2

Wildlife in Winter

January 16

How do animals survive in the winter? Learn the ways animals have adapted to survive the challenges of this harsh season. We'll learn about the clues animals leave behind and go on a winter walk to discover what sticks around for winter at Tyler.

SAS Standards: 3.1.2, 3.1.3, 3.1.4, 3.1.5, 3.2.4, 3.3.4, 3.4.4, 4.1.4, 4.2.4, 4.4.4, 4.5.4

Maple Sugaring

February 13

Did you know there's a special treat hiding in our trees? It's sugar! Learn how to make maple syrup — from tapping to tasting — in this hands-on program.

Family Programs

Grab the kids and come have fun all together at Tyler! Interactive programs let you learn, create, or explore nature and plants. Fee is for each child and each adult, unless noted.

Dads & Daughters Hot Chocolate and Hike

Saturday, January 13, 10 – 11:30am

Young ladies bring your favorite dad, uncle, or friend on this wintry Arboretum adventure. Investigate the different ways animals survive the winter. Learn the clues that tell us which animals are still around and what they are doing. Head outside to look for animals at Tyler. Afterwards, warm up with hot chocolate and a special treat. Suitable for ages 5 and up.

\$10 members, \$15 non-members



Indoor Camp Out

Saturday, January 27, 1pm – Sunday, January 28, 10:30am

Stay overnight at the Arboretum! Pitch your tent in the newly renovated Barn Loft and camp "in". Cook hot dogs and s'mores over a campfire and explore Tyler at night with an evening hike. Bring your own camping gear. Dinner and breakfast will be provided. Please consider the limited indoor Barn space and bring self-supporting tents appropriate for your number of guests. Cabin tents cannot be accommodated. Suitable for ages 5 and up. \$50 members, \$60 non-members

Night Hike

Friday, February 2, 6:30 – 8pm

Hiking under a winter full moon is a magical experience. Learn which animals and birds may be out at night and look to see if we can spot them. The evening concludes with hot drinks and a snack. Dress warmly and bring a flashlight. Suitable for ages 5 and up. FREE for members, \$15 non-members

FREE FOR MEMBERS!



Catapult Olympics

Saturday, February 10, 10am – noon

Put your design and engineering skills into action by building two different catapults from common household materials. Use your catapults by hurling marshmallows and beans to test your designs for distance, accuracy, and power. Suitable for ages 6 and up. \$15 members, \$20 non-members

All programs require pre-registration unless otherwise noted. Register online via our Calendar page: www.tylerarboretum.org/calendar

These walks are
**ALWAYS FREE
FOR MEMBERS!**

Winter Bird Walks* Every Wednesday, 8:15 – 10:15am

Winter Botany Walks* Every Wednesday, 11:15am – 1:15pm

Saturday Wildflower Walks* Dec. 16, Jan. 20 and Feb. 17, 1:30 – 3:30pm

Programs marked with asterisk* are FREE for Tyler Members

December

- Sat. Dec. 2 **The Country Gardeners Greens Sale**
- Sat. Dec. 2 Supermoon Night Hike
- Sun. Dec. 3 Holiday Wreath Workshop
- Wed. Dec. 6 Little Chefs: Cracker Mania
- Sat. Dec. 9 **Holiday Ornaments for You and the Birds!**
- Wed. Dec. 13 Storytime: The Nutcracker
- Thurs. Dec. 14 Tiny Trackers: Crafty Critters
- Sat. Dec. 16 Christmas Bird Count*
- Sat. Dec. 16 Saturday Botany Walk*
- Tues. Dec. 19 Homeschool Days: Land of the Lenape
- Tues. Dec. 19 Garden Sprouts: Forever Green
- Wed. Dec. 20 Little Chefs: Coniferous Cucumbers?
- Wed. Dec. 27 Storytime: Frosty the Snowman
- Wed. Dec. 27 School Day-Off Camp: Building Bridges
- Thurs. Dec. 28 School Day-Off Camp: Play in the Snow

January

- Mon. Jan. 1 Supermoon Night Hike
- Wed. Jan. 3 Little Chefs: Bite-Sized Snack Balls
- Wed. Jan. 10 Toddlers in Nature: Uniquely Nature
- Thurs. Jan. 11 Tiny Trackers: Winter Wonderland
- Thurs. Jan. 11 T'ai Chi Chih
- Sat. Jan. 13 Family Program: Dads & Daughters
Hot Chocolate and Hike
- Mon. Jan. 15 School Day-Off Camp: Winter Wildlife
- Tues. Jan. 16 Homeschool Days: Wildlife in Winter
- Wed. Jan. 17 Little Chefs: "Sushi" Wraps
- Wed. Jan. 17 Afterschool Adventures Club:
Animals in Winter
- Thurs. Jan. 18 T'ai Chi Chih
- Sat. Jan. 20 Winter Medicinal Meanderings:
Herbs and Medicinal Teas
- Sat. Jan. 20 Saturday Botany Walk*
- Tues. Jan. 23 Garden Sprouts: Inside Sprouts
- Wed. Jan. 24 Toddlers in Nature: Owls in the Moonlight
- Wed. Jan. 24 Afterschool Adventures Club:
Science Explosions
- Wed. Jan. 24 Exploring the Interior in Oil Painting Series
- Thurs. Jan. 25 Exploring the Interior in Oil Painting Series

- Thurs. Jan. 25 T'ai Chi Chih
- Fri. Jan. 26 Exploring the Interior in Oil Painting Series
- Sat. Jan. 27 Winter Tree Identification Workshop
- Sat. Jan. 27 to Sun. Jan. 28 Family Program: Indoor Camp Out
- Tues. Jan. 30 Garden Tour: Behind-the-Scenes at Longwood Gardens
- Wed. Jan. 31 Little Chefs: Granola Creations
- Wed. Jan. 31 Afterschool Adventures Club: Moon Magic

February

- Thurs. Feb. 1 T'ai Chi Chih
- Fri. Feb. 2 Family Program: Night Hike*
- Sat. Feb. 3 Beekeeping at Tyler Arboretum*
- Sat. Feb. 3 Supermoon Night Hike
- Wed. Feb. 7 Toddlers in Nature: Cozy Critters
- Wed. Feb. 7 Afterschool Adventures Club: Sweet Trees
- Thurs. Feb. 8 Tiny Trackers: Me & My Shadow
- Thurs. Feb. 8 T'ai Chi Chih
- Thurs. Feb. 8 **Valentine Indulgence**
- Sat. Feb. 10 Tropical Escape Floral Workshop
- Sat. Feb. 10 Family Program: Catapult Olympics
- Sat. Feb. 10 to Sun. Feb. 11 Middle School Only Camp In

- Tues. Feb. 13 Homeschool Days: Maple Sugaring
- Wed. Feb. 14 Afterschool Adventures Club:
Art of Nature
- Wed. Feb. 14 Little Chefs: Chocolate Pretzels
- Thurs. Feb. 15 T'ai Chi Chih
- Fri. Feb. 16 School Day-Off Camp: It's a Hoot!
- Sat. Feb. 17 Winter Medicinal Meanderings:
Woody Plants and Herbal Elixirs
- Sat. Feb. 17 Saturday Botany Walk*
- Mon. Feb. 19 School Day-Off Camp: Sweet Maples
- Tues. Feb. 20 A Seasonal Boost with Winter Blooms
- Tues. Feb. 20 Garden Sprouts: Sweet Syrup
- Wed. Feb. 21 Afterschool Adventures Club: Tree-riffic!
- Wed. Feb. 21 Toddlers in Nature: Below the Snow
- Sat. Feb. 24 **Pancake Breakfast and Maple Sugaring Celebration (Snow date: March 3)**
- Wed. Feb. 28 Little Chefs: On a Stick

March

- Sat. Mar. 3 Bewitching Witchhazels
- Sun. Mar. 4 Photo Walk: Focus on Witchhazels



**Register online via our Calendar page: www.tylerarboretum.org/calendar
or call Joanne Landau at 610-566-9134, ext. 303 or e-mail: jlandau@tylerarboretum.org**

MEET LEARN ENJOY HELP

Lend-A-Hand

At Tyler, volunteers take part in fun opportunities, hone existing skills, and teach others while making a lasting, memorable impact on our day-to-day operations. Get involved as part of the Tyler community today. To learn more, contact Julia Lo Ehrhardt, Community Outreach Manager, at jlo@tylerarboretum.org or 610-566-9134, ext. 305. Fill out our online application form at www.tylerarboretum.org/volunteer.

Building a Better Tomorrow

The community of Tyler volunteers is strong and vibrant. We sustain the Arboretum through hard conservation work, sharing of expertise and opportunities, and reaching Tyler visitors in new ways. We are building a better tomorrow for the Tyler community.

Our work is to ensure Tyler's mission is front and center every day. Our volunteers are leaders in stewardship. Most recently, the Natural Areas Restoration volunteers led by Dick Cloud and Liz Pascale, completed a plant rescue at Pink Hill. They removed shade-loving plants that would be uprooted once restoration begins on Pink Hill. These treasures were transplanted to the North Woods and Native Woodland Walk—*Chimaphila maculata*, *Pyrola chlorantha*, and *Vaccinium sp.* This group also created a partnership with Mt. Cuba Center, a Delaware public garden that champions native plants, to survey our Pink Hill plants, collect some of them, and care for them at Mt. Cuba to safeguard the population.

The American Chestnut Orchard is supported by a group that is extremely knowledgeable and keen to preserve the American chestnut population. This year, Dan O'Keefe supervised Neumann University ecology students as they helped harvest 2,371 open-pollinated nuts. During the 2017 June-flowering season, Dan initiated several improvements as to how he conducted the controlled pollination procedures. As a result, we will have a better understanding of the proper time to apply pollen. In addition, he demonstrated better techniques that allowed us to visually confirm that we were successfully extracting pollen from anthers and applying it to the style of the female flowers.



Some of our Docents and Ambassadors—Thank you!

In 2017, David Rogers' Big Bugs visited Tyler, bringing in new visitors and new friends. These friends were greeted by our newly-formed volunteer team of Docents and Ambassadors. Fifteen volunteers completed training and now work on Fridays and Saturdays to help visitors discover the Arboretum.

Docent and Ambassadors tell visitors what's in bloom, what are the Painter trees, what the goats eat, and much more. They lead tours to reveal Tyler's magical spots and highlight information that is fun and engaging. Even longtime members have commented that they have found something new with the guides. Please join us next year as we expand our team to build a superior visitor experience.

This year, we had our community friends back from SAP, Vanguard, PECO, Williamson College of the Trades, Neumann College, Penn State Brandywine, and Villanova University. With the help of PECO and Vanguard, we cleared what was once the Children's Vegetable Garden and laid the foundation for our Pollinator Garden.

Williamson students helped plant the garden three weeks later with native and non-native perennials and annuals. As one visitor noted "Every bug in the Arboretum is in the Pollinator Garden." The garden has attracted many types of butterflies, bees, beetles, birds, and yes, even flies – all busy pollinating the plants. The garden also attracted many bridal parties for wedding photos!

We're so proud of our volunteer family. A few of our volunteers stood out during the year and we want to acknowledge them:

Rookie of the Year: Diane Collings
(Horticulture, Volunteer services, and Development)

All Stars: Liz Pascale (Natural Areas Restoration, Docent/Ambassador Program) and

Dave Charlton (Plant Records, Docent/Ambassador Program, Photographer, Education Committee).

Leadership: Dick Cloud (Natural Areas Restoration, Educator).

If you are interested in joining the Tyler family of volunteers, contact Julia Lo Ehrhardt at jlo@tylerarboretum.org or 610-566-9134, ext. 305.

Membership Matters



The Perfect Holiday Gift

What do you get the person who has everything? How about a year of memorable experiences, time in nature, and connection with friends and family? A gift membership to Tyler Arboretum provides all that and more.

Your loved ones will be thrilled with their year of unlimited free visits and you'll have the pleasure of knowing your gift supports Tyler Arboretum. Our Steward level membership covers two adult members, any 6 children, AND two additional guests during each visit! It's great for holiday trips to Tyler. How many gift memberships can you give this year?

Order online at tylerarboretum.org/membership, or call 610-566-9134, ext. 209. Order by November 26 for delivery by Chanukah. Order by December 10 for delivery by Christmas.

Membership Options

Individual	\$60
Dual	\$75
Family	\$89
Family Plus	\$125
Steward	\$150
Circle of Friends	\$300



Making Change



Mainline Media News.
Photo by Pete Bannan

Aldys Davis came to Tyler in the early 1980s to work in the Fragrant Garden, cared for by the Herb Society of America, Philadelphia Unit.

Almost immediately she agreed to lead their care efforts and 32 years later, she gave that role to Rena Barnett, former Herb Society President, and stalwart member of her care team. This year, Aldys designated Tyler's education programs in her will. Mary Beth Jackson, Director of Development, spoke with Aldys about Tyler and why she gives.

Mary Beth: Aldys, can you tell me how you connected to Tyler and how it felt to you then?

Aldys: I loved the Herb Society and working with the members, and I loved the Fragrant Garden so it was a natural for me. I'd go by myself

and just weed. Or sit on the bench under the magnolia and look out over the Arboretum. I loved the people at Tyler. Rick Colbert inspired me and frequently came out to show his interest along with Betsey Ney. I enjoyed Barbara Young who worked at the gift shop for many years. I enjoyed the Bird Lady, aka Sue Lucas. I got to know the people and felt at home. Tyler was a friendly place to go and relax. There's also something about herbs and the herb garden that makes me happy. I grew up in the country so Tyler reminds me of that too.

MB: What did you learn at Tyler? What did you learn about yourself?

AD: I learned about different herbs, their names, their bloom times, and how to grow them. I experienced their beauty, their smells, their feel to the touch, and how relaxed they can make you feel. I learned that I could lead a task when I love it. And

I learned that touching herbs made me feel better when my husband was sick.

MB: What makes you feel good about your connection to Tyler?

AD: The people I work with are wonderful. Tyler itself is unique. Something makes you want to go there and to tell others about it.

MB: What would you say to supporters of Tyler?

AD: Keep on giving and keep on going!

Tyler's Sequoia Society

To discuss estate giving options, please call Mary Beth Jackson, Director of Development, at 610-566-9134, ext. 206, or email mjackson@tylerarboretum.org. Visit tylerarboretum.org/estate-giving

Many Thanks to our Generous Friends, Sponsors & Donors

June 22, 2017 – September 7, 2017

\$10,000 – \$15,000

Anonymous
Connelly Foundation

\$5,000 – \$9,999

Shipley & Mary Allinson

\$2,500 – \$4,999

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Richardson McKinney
Heather Saunders
Vicky Will & Mike Kowalski

\$1,000 – \$2,499

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Iron Hill Brewery & Restaurant, Media
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Pumpkin Days Sponsors 2017

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Contributing Sponsor – \$500
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Nolan Painting

Friend Sponsor – \$250
Wipfli CPA's and Consultants

Our recognition lists are accurate to the best of our knowledge for gifts in this timeframe. If you note any errors, please let us know so that we may correct them promptly. Thank you.

Amazing Fruits

By Julia Lo Ehrhardt, Community Outreach Manager

This is the time of year to go on a fruit walk at Tyler Arboretum. Fruits provide much needed calories for birds and soon to be hibernating animals. While some fruits are devoured in fall, others will be eaten during the colder winter months of January and February. These fruits will soften after a frost and become more palatable for birds. Here are just a few that you may encounter:

In the Parking Lot is white beauty berry (*Callicarpa dichotoma*), staghorn sumac (*Rhus typhina*) and orange winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*). Of the three, the staghorn sumac fruit is edible, actually drinkable. Some say it makes a great sumac-ade.

On the way to the Butterfly House and a little beyond, you will come across many native dogwoods (*Cornus florida*) and kousa dogwood (*Cornus kousa*). The fruits are very different. The native dogwood has individual fruits while the kousa dogwood fruits are fused — resembling a raspberry.

In this same area, you can find several evergreen hollies — mostly adorned with the quintessential red berries. Why do I say “mostly adorned?” Hollies are either male or female plants. Male plants do not bear fruit. Tyler has 555 recorded hollies and of those, 166 are the native American holly (*Ilex opaca*).

You will find large yews by the Grapery. Yews (*Taxus sp.*) will also produce bright red fruit. Do not eat these for the seeds within the fruit are poisonous.

Take a walk to the Meadow and choose the route that flanks the Rhododendron Garden. On this path you will see many viburnums adorned with red, blue and even pale pink fruits.

Take the time to stroll the Arboretum and enjoy Nature’s winter fruits before the birds devour them.



Staghorn Sumac



Kousa Dogwood



Viburnum

TYLER ARBORETUM MISSION: To preserve, enhance, and share our rich heritage, collections, and landscapes, to create and inspire stewards of the natural world.

Hours

March – October
Mon – Fri 9am – 5pm
Sat & Sun 9am – 6pm

November – February*
Mon – Fri 9am – 4pm
Sat & Sun 9am – 5pm

*Closed on Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve & Day

Information

610-566-9134 • www.TylerArboretum.org • info@tylerarboretum.org

Admission Non-members

Adults (18-64): \$15
Seniors (65+): \$13
Youth (3-17): \$9
Military and students with valid ID: \$9
Children age 2 and under: free