



NATIONAL PUBLIC GARDENS DAY

MAY 12, 2017

Public Gardens as an Education Resource

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PUBLIC GARDENS AS AN EDUCATION RESOURCE

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WATER CONSERVATION:

Public gardens utilize efficient watering practices and have industry insight on responsible irrigation systems. Homeowners can learn how to irrigate their own gardens by exploring and consulting with their local public garden.

NATIVE AND ADAPTABLE PLANTS:

Choosing native plants or plants that have adapted to a local environment can ensure a garden will be healthy and require less water. Public gardens have huge collections of native and adaptable plants that homeowners can be assured will work in their own gardens.

LANDSCAPE DESIGN:

Homeowners can find sources of inspiration in botanic gardens from the design of gardens, the types of plants used in particular environments, the selection of plants that do well in particular geographical locations, and the way gardens are displayed, coordinated, and arranged. Landscaping at public gardens can demonstrate what plants bloom at similar times, what arrangements look well together, and how gardens can be beautifully displayed.

GEOGRAPHICAL CONSIDERATIONS:

Different plants are healthier in different geographical regions and it is difficult to know before purchasing at a nursery, what plants will do well in a homeowner's garden. Public gardens put on display a broad selection of plants that succeed in a homeowner's region. Knowing that a plant, tree, or flower grows well in a public garden can assist consumers on knowing what will grow well in their own gardens.

SEASONAL CONSIDERATIONS:

Public gardens have a selection of plants that are perfect for a variety of seasons. Many plants can still thrive in colder and drier seasons. Additionally, blooms can happen year round if the appropriate types of plants or trees are selected. Keeping a homeowner's garden beautiful all year can be accomplished by seeing how public gardens arrange their own collection.



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GARDENING METHODS:

Public gardens have staff dedicated to botany and are also home to specialists that understand a particular geographical region very well. Homeowners can access these industry experts at their local public garden and receive advice on gardening techniques for plants they have in their own gardens.

PUBLICATIONS:

Public gardens have publications available to visitors and members that provide ample resources on gardening and botany. The average consumer can find a wealth of knowledge in member publications and, in addition, often have access to libraries and bookstores within the public gardens as well.

PLANTS AND SUPPLIES:

Public gardens will often sell plants, flowers and trees to garden members during annual festivals, providing top quality additions to homeowner's gardens. With the sale comes professional experience and advice of the sort that cannot be found in nurseries or hardware stores.

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