



Volunteers Making New Canaan Beautiful
APRIL 2018 NEWSLETTER
(Abbreviated Version)

Dear Members,

While we are all looking for signs of spring and eager to get back into our gardens, many of our members are gearing up for our busy time. Kathy Lapolla and Tracy Phillips have sent out letters to their Triangle volunteers, and the plants for our hanging baskets are being tended to. The work that Rose Bauersfeld, Tonya Gwynn, Dodie Whitehurst and Karen Hanson have done on our Annual Appeal has brought in a record number of contributions (if you know someone who has contributed please thank them), and work has finally begun on transforming the house at Lee Garden into a seasonal workspace and storage for Lee Garden volunteers thanks to the many hours of work by Peggy Dannemann!

Even though our March board meeting was cancelled, the members have been busy coming up with ideas to continue to get our organization's name out in the community. We will have a table at the Farmers' Market on April 28 and will march in the Memorial Day parade as the Beautification League Rake Brigade. We are looking for volunteers to join us!

Our April 4 joint meeting with the Garden Club featuring Charlotte Moss was wonderful! We'll have a brief recap in our next newsletter.

We hope to get our gardening tips column started, so if you have anything to contribute, please contact our newsletter editor Betsy Sammarco. We are always looking for ways to make gardening easier and produce better results.

As the weather improves and we are spending more time outdoors, please visit Lee Garden. There is always something new to see. Even better, consider becoming a volunteer. After our horrendous March, getting the garden ready for spring will take some work!

We wish you happy spring!

Barbara and Karen

UPCOMING EVENTS

May Program What Do I Do Now?

Revitalizing a Mature Landscape with Nancy King

Wednesday

May 2, 2018

9:30 am - 11:30 am

NC Nature Center



Victorian Tea

Wednesday

May 16, 2018

11:30 am - 2:00

Waveny House



Azalea Festival

Sunday

May 20, 2018

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Lee Memorial Garden

89 Chichester Road



Hanging Baskets

May date to be determined



Annual Meeting

Landscaping for Birds, Bees, & Other Critters

with Patrick Comins, Executive Director of the CT Audubon Society

Wednesday

June 6, 2018

9:30 am - 11:30 am

NC Nature Center

Announcing Our May Program

**"What Do I Do Now"
Revitalizing
a Mature Landscape
with talented landscape architect Nancy King
of Seventy Acres Landscape Architecture & Design**

Does your property need some "sprucing up" ?
Get some tips at our next program!

**Wednesday
May 2, 2018
9:30 am coffee
10:00 am program**

Nancy King is a landscape architect and principal of Seventy Acres Landscape Architecture & Design in Wilton, Connecticut.



Nancy is enthusiastically committed to sustainable and regenerative design solutions. She loves getting to know a property and uses her expertise to unlock its capability.

Read more about Nancy at her website: www.seventyacres.com



Join us in welcoming our newest members!

Lauren McCusker

Megan Morales

Anne Tropeano

Simin Zendehrouh

TRIANGLE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

HELP! Triangle Volunteers are needed!

A green thumb isn't necessary. All you need is an interest in continuing to help make New Canaan beautiful!

Triangles in need of a caretaker:

Littlebrook and Route 106

Route 123 and Route 106

Weed Street and Old Stamford Rd

Old Norwalk Road and Marvin Ridge

Country Club and Route 123 Lambert

Rd and Oenoke Ridge

Some members, who are not able to care for a triangle, lend their landscaper to do an occasional "touch up". Let Kathy at kathyfore@optonline.net know if you are interested in helping and she will send you the list of simple tasks.

Whenever we thank our town workers for their help in clearing, hauling, repair, etc., they respond by thanking *us*. We really do make a difference. Our efforts are noticed and appreciated as indicated by the response to our Annual Appeal and from all of those who stop by while we are working to say "Thank You". We care for over 30 triangle areas in town.

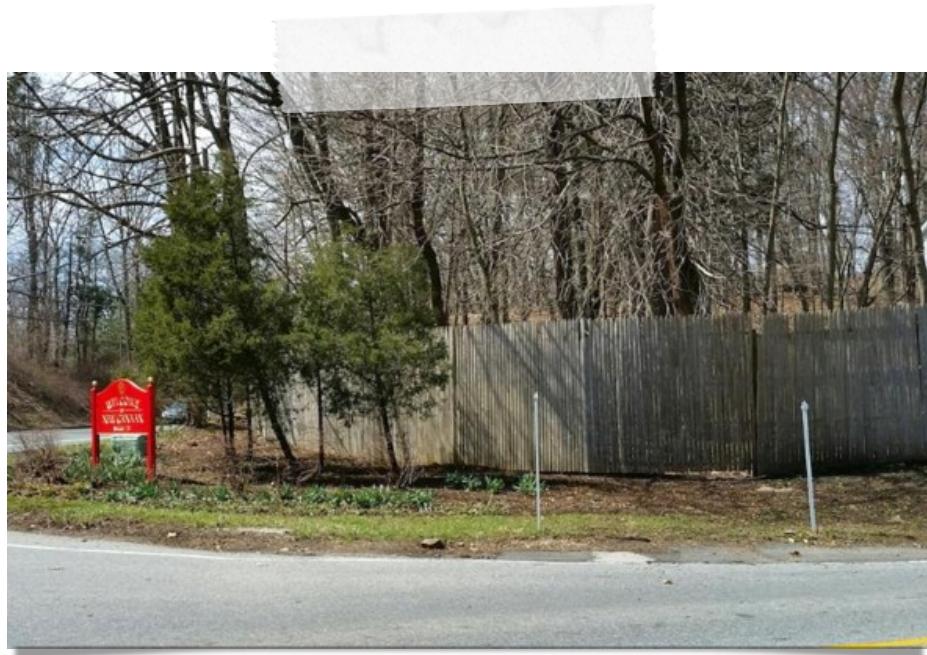
Triangle Cleanup at Marvin Ridge

After our March storms, Karen and Peter Hanson went to work on their triangle taking down damaged limbs.



Peter Hanson lops off a damaged branch.

Triangle Clean Up at Carter Street Entrance



Faith Kerchoff and Bianca Romano met at their triangle for two hours and left their triangle ready for spring and daffodils. Juniper and liriope were trimmed, and leaves and branches taken away.

Waveny Care Center Arranging



We are looking for volunteers to help make the flower arrangements for the dining room at Waveny Care Center for the month of June. Let **Bianca Romano** at bianca.romano@gmail.com know if you'd like to help with fun activity!

June 4: Betsy Sammarco

June 11:

June 18:

June 25:



One Person's 'Trash' is our Treasure!

Spring is a time for plants! At Easter there are many bulb plants given as gifts, to welcome spring. When your tulips, hyacinths, daffodils and primrose plants are finished blooming, would you consider donating them to Lee Garden?

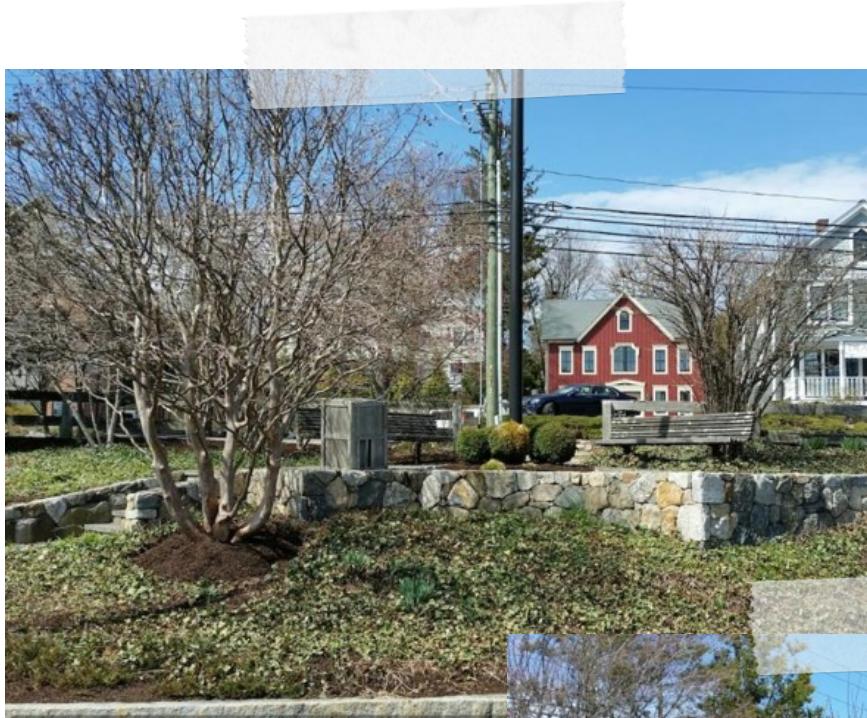
They can be dropped off at the parking lot of the garden, under our kiosk there, or dropped to my porch, 47 Kelley Green, anytime. We will plant them at Lee for next year's bloom.



A primrose grows at Lee Garden.

Our Annual Appeal Dollars at Work at the Train Station!

Part of our town beautification includes keeping our train station looking good. We contracted JMD Landscaping to take care of the broken branches, do heavy pruning, remove overgrown and messy plants, and lay mulch. We're sure the many people who use the train station will take notice!



As you can see, the clean up revealed more areas for Traveling Trowels to plant flowering bulbs and perennials. If you'd like to help out with beautification of the train station, contact Liz Orteig.





Wednesday, May 16, 2018
Waveny House
11:30 am

Celebrate spring with members and friends!

- Have you RSVP'ed to this new date with Gloria Simon yet?
- If not: email or call Gloria at thesimons4949@gmail.com or 203-972-8069 and let her know what edible you'll be bringing:
2 dozen tea sandwiches, 2 dozen finger desserts, a green salad, deviled eggs, or a fruit salad.
- Also, let Gloria know if you'll be bringing a guest.
- See you there!



Join the Yellow Bag Challenge. Those who want to participate will be given a yellow gift bag to be filled with flowers, plants, or whatever your creativity desires. The bags will be displayed as centerpieces on the tables for our Tea. To sign up, give [Bianca Romano](#) an email or phone call!

MARCH HAPPENINGS at Lee Memorial Garden

Mother Nature has been very busy at Lee Memorial Garden this March. The storms that wrecked havoc in our own yards caused trouble on the Chichester Road property also.

Five dogwood tops snapped, as did one silverbell tree. A very large branch of *Rhododendron vaseyi* came down along with other rhododendron, and a large branch of witch hazel snapped off.

A large stately *Rhododendron fortunei* 'Lu Shan' along the main path fell over with roots still intact. Too beautiful to let it go, Rob Carpenter, Yvonne Hunkeler, and Faith Kerchoff use rope pulleys to lift it back into position. They tied it in place, and added soil and hollytone around its base.



This rhododendron was too beautiful not to save. Photo from a previous spring.

Yvonne Hunkeler looks at the fallen Rhododendron after the storm.



Crocus, *Iris cristata*, and squill have been blooming at Lee Garden.

Town Wide Efforts to Save Antique Valley Road Home

In early March, an 18th century home on Valley Road received a 90- day demolition delay as various groups in town (Land Trust, Historical Society, Preservation Alliance, New Canaan Conservation Commission, and the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation) rallied together to save it. The house and property abut the Land Trust's Brown Wildlife Sanctuary. You can read about the story in the New Canaan Advertiser and the NewCanaanite online.



If you know an NCBL member who is sick or is going through a difficult time and needs some words of cheer, please share it with us.
Libby Butterworth 203-801-0862 or eabutter@gmail.com.

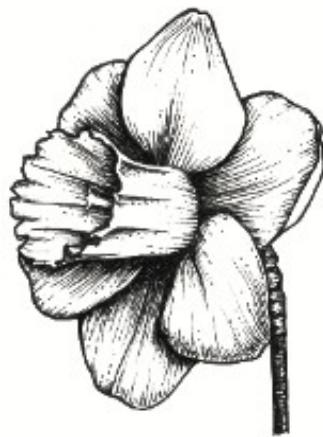
EVENTS OF INTEREST AROUND TOWN

Earth Day | Celebrating Biodiversity
April 21

grace farms
foundation



**Connecticut Daffodil Show and
New England Show**
Sponsored by: The Greenwich Daffodil Society



This show is open to the public at these times:
Wednesday, April 25 1:30 pm - 6:00 pm
Thursday, April 26 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
Christ Church, 254 East Putnam Ave., Greenwich, CT
free admission - donations accepted