

ATTENTION ARBORETUM ASSISTANTS!



September at the Arboretum is “Bring a Friend” month!

Do you have a friend or family member who loves to garden, who enjoys making new friends, who would enjoy improving the community? If so, why not invite him or her to come with you to one or more work sessions in September, Wednesday mornings 9-noon?

We hope to alert the wider community to the Arboretum Assistants Program at The Reading Public Museum, and perhaps attract new volunteers for the 2011 season.

Dedicated Benches and Trees by Donna Weik

A dedicated bench was placed early this spring along the walking paths in the Arboretum. It is located south of the creek and just west of the Museum Road Bridge. This bench was given in memory of Linda Schrufer by a group of her dear friends. These eight ladies and Linda would meet for lunch and conversation every month. They affectionately referred to themselves as the Lunch Bunch, as inscribed on the bench's bronze dedication plaque.

We planted one dedicated tree in the spring of this year. On April 14th a Paperbark Maple tree, botanical name *Acer griseum* of the Sapindaceae family, was planted in the Arboretum. It is located on the north side of the creek in the area of the middle red bridge. It is the second of a desired grouping of three planned at this site. This tree is dedicated in memory of Susan Williams, who died very unexpectedly last September. In early June a teak bench dedicated in Susan's memory was placed a bit south of her tree, along the path near the steps of the bridge. Susan had a loving family and a wide circle of friends and acquaintances, whose thoughtfulness and generosity made these gifts possible.

There have been eighteen inquiries about our dedicated bench and tree program since January. Two of those inquiries have resulted in dedicated trees which will be placed this autumn.

Sunflower tunnel update



The Sunflower Tunnel is doing well. The Museum has gotten lots of positive comments about it and has suggested we do it again next year.

Should be a bit easier and less time consuming next year since we've learned lots of "do's and don'ts" this year.

Trudy's Garden has been brightened with the addition of many flats of annuals donated by the Master Gardeners and several commercial donors. These were leftover from their stand at the Reading Fair.

You and a guest are invited to a
Safari Parti At RPM
Wednesday, September 22, 2010
5:30 - 7:30 pm
Outside on the Planetarium Lawn

(inside if inclement weather)

Join the Staff of the Reading Public Museum as we celebrate our hard-working Volunteers. We will have great food, prizes and music for your enjoyment.

on the hunt - wearing your Favorite animal print or safari inspired gear is encouraged!

We hope you can make it! This dinner is to celebrate you and your dedication to Rpm over the past year (or years!).

RSVP to Lauren McCarroll at

lauren.mccarroll@readingpublicmuseum.org

or at 610-371-5850 x230 by September 13, 2010

Recycling/Composting Education



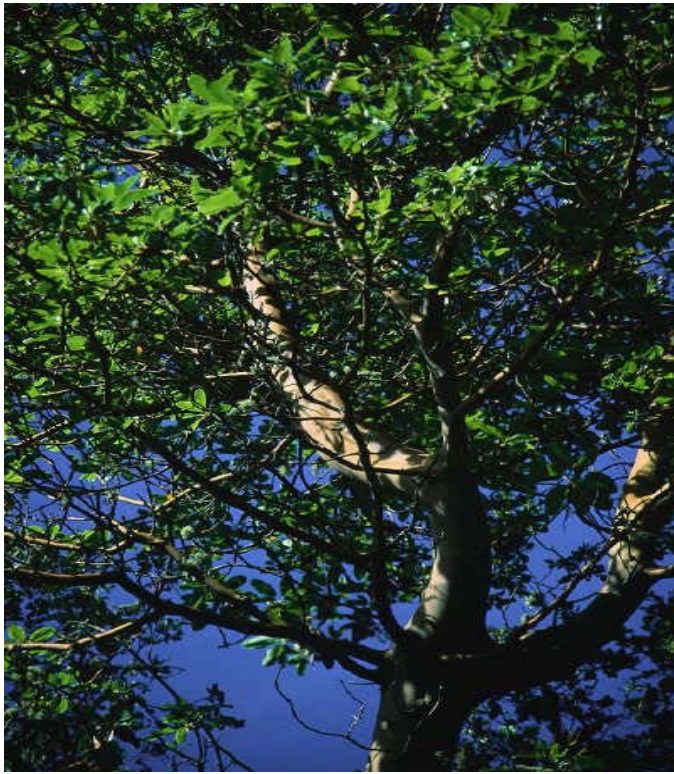
We are in the process of creating a composting area, not only to recycle all the weeds we gather, but to use as an opportunity to educate visitors on the process of composting and its benefits!



The Birch Tree Island project - to be installed on the north side of the creek - is moving forward. The first phase of this project will happen this fall when twenty-three River Birch trees and some understory shrubs will be planted. The second phase will happen in spring of 2011 with the planting of meadow grasses and other riparian plantings along the creek.

The understory plants for the Birch trees will be *Ilex verticillata* 'Jim Dandy' and 'Red Sprite', *Itea virginica* 'Henry's Garnet', the fern *Dryopteris marginalis*.

ATTENTION ARBORETUM ASSISTANTS !



TREE I.D. TOUR AT THE ARBORETUM
Monday, September 27, 9:00-11:00 a.m.
All Arboretum Assistants welcome!

Join Master Gardener Jim Smoker for an instructional tour on the Arboretum grounds and learn the basics of tree identification. This class will be geared to novices but will offer something for those more experienced as well.

Sign up sheets are posted in the Arboretum Room/Garage.

Got time, got talent?

Do you like to write? We need a replacement for the Arboretum Committee to take the minutes of the meetings and write the Newsletter. Come and enjoy the camaraderie and be up to the minute on breaking news. We also need someone to operate the engraving machine that creates those beautiful identification plaques you see in the arboretum.

Thought for the day

"What is a weed? A plant whose virtues have not yet been discovered."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Keep on troweling, Jeffrey