

From the Potting Shed

January 15, 2024

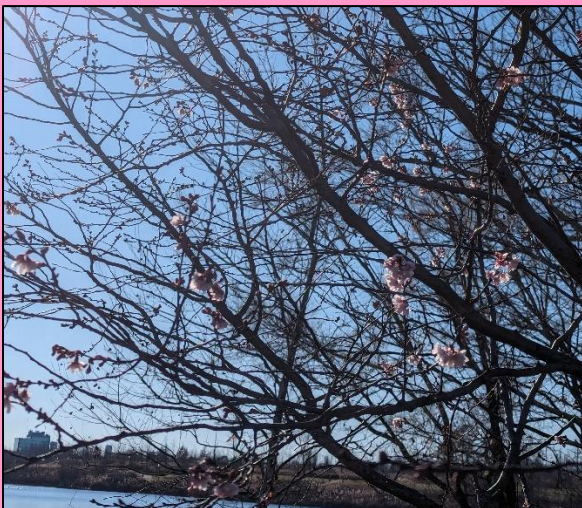
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Cherry blossoms in . . . January?



"I couldn't believe my eyes," said Jennifer DeLeon, Class of 2023, when she photographed these cherry blossoms Jan. 13 in Overpeck Park, Leonia. Leonia is in USDA plant hardiness Zone 7b; in 2012 Leonia was in Zone 7a. Click [here](#) for the 2023 USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map and enter your zip code for your hardiness zone. Jennifer took the photo below from the north end of Overpeck Park looking south.



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Meeting and voting news: Tuesday, Jan. 23

Bruce Crawford Barking Up the Right Tree

Click [here](#) to join our virtual meeting at 7:15 pm. Announcements at 7:20 pm followed by the election of officers and the program.

Bruce Crawford, a long-time proponent of unusual and fun plants, will discuss bark at our Jan. 23



Bruce Crawford

meeting. Bruce is the manager of horticulture for the Morris County Park Commission. Bark is the stuff only a few people seem to admire and even fewer really understand, he said. See Bruce's "bark" information sent with the Potting Shed.

From 2005 to 2020, Bruce was the director of [Rutgers Gardens](#), the botanical garden for

Rutgers University. A true plant lover, he said he has yet to find a plant he doesn't like.

Separately, certified MGs will vote on the following slate of officers for a two-year term beginning this month.

- President: Theresa Schneider, Class of 2016, and
- Vice president: Lisa Yoler, Class of 2019.

Any certified member can also submit a nominee for consideration at the virtual meeting.

WEBINARS

Jan. 22, 1 pm: National Garden Bureau sponsors Ask the Experts About Perennials for Extreme Conditions. Free. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

Jan. 22, 6:30-8 pm: Penn State Extension sponsors Winter Wonderings: Working with Hedges, Screens, and Slopes. Fee: \$10. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

Jan. 25, 1 pm: Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation sponsors In the Life of Beetles: Superstars of Soil Health, Pollination, and More! Free. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

Jan. 29, 6:30-8 pm: Penn State Extension sponsors Winter Wonderings: Fantastic Foliage and Garden Ornaments. Fee: \$10. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

EVENTS

Hackensack Garden Club fund-raiser

Eat, drink, and perhaps win a door prize. The Hackensack Garden Club sponsors its second annual fund-raiser Jan. 26 from 6:30-8:30 pm at the Troast Athletic Club, 74 Troast St., Hackensack. Tickets: \$35 for adults; \$15 for children 10 and under. Includes a pasta dinner. BYOB. Send an [email](#) to the club for more information or to purchase tickets.

Register now for a mum workshop in May

Learn to grow show-quality mums from the experts at the NJ State Chrysanthemum Society. Laurelwood Arboretum sponsors this “grow and show” mum workshop at the arboretum, 725 Pines Lake Drive West, Wayne. Pot up and take home six cuttings that you may want to display at the NJ chrysanthemum show in the fall.

The workshop will be May 30 at 4:30 pm. However, you *must* register no later than Jan. 19 to secure the cuttings. Fee: Members \$30; non-members \$35. Click [here](#) for the flyer on the home page of the arboretum’s website. The flyer includes the registration link.

Another winter find at Overpeck Park



Tammy Laverty, Class of 2015, photographed this frostweed at the Butterfly and Native Garden. The plants need a hard frost to split open and form ice ribbons, which then melt during the day, Tammy reported. They’re easy to grow from seed in part sun or shade. The late summer and fall-blooming flowers are great for pollinators, and deer don’t like it. Click [here](#) for more information about frostweed from the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center.

MG OF BC NEWS

Have you paid your 2024 MG of BC dues?

If not, please mail your \$20 check, payable to the MG of BC, to **Master Gardeners of Bergen County, PO Box 824, Saddle River, NJ 07458**. For the renewal form, visit our [website](#). As you scroll down the home page, the “Renew your membership now” box appears in the lower right. Click on “Download membership renewal form” and read the instructions to update your information for MG of BC records. Choose either 1, 2, or 3. By choosing 2, you can submit your information online. Contact [Theresa Schneider](#), Membership chair and Class of 2016, if you have questions about membership or the web directory. **Note:** Interns don’t pay dues.