
SUNNYSIDE THYMES

Volume 31, Issue 3

“Helping Others Grow”

March 2022

Botanical Gardens to Love

By Jane Jones, SMG Member -

During the spring months when we are busy getting our own gardens in order and maybe traveling less, consider visiting three local gardens in Louisville when you have a few hours of free time available. You can expect to spend about an hour in each garden.

Admission to **Yew Dell Gardens** in Crestwood is free until March 26 when they officially open for the season. The tulips, daffodils, and other spring bulbs which make up the Big Bloom display may not be blooming yet, but you are likely to find Virginia bluebells, aconite, hellebores, witch hazel, and other early spring plants and shrubs in bloom along the wooded paths of the garden.



Witch hazel at Yew Dell

Note: The SMG Program Committee has arranged for a tour of the Big Bloom display **only** on April 21. Attendance for this tour will be limited to 30-35 members; detailed information about attending the tour is supplied elsewhere in this newsletter.

Consider a visit to **Whitehall Gardens** on Lexington Road in late spring or early summer. Whitehall has an excellent collection of peonies (over 60 varieties). Check the web site for information about their annual Peony Sale in early May. The Victorian fernery is unique to our area and reaches it is prime during the early summer months. It is a great garden to stroll through to admire the textures and color of the ferns which live there on a warm summer day. Whitehall is a popular place for event weddings on weekends, so a week-day stroll through the gardens is your best choice. There is no charge to walk through the gardens.



The **Waterfront Botanical Gardens** at the lower end of Frankfort Avenue continue to expand and evolve. The primary features are native plant/pollinator border gardens with a multi-season display of color and texture. This is a great garden to get ideas for pollinator plants that should thrive in sunny locations in our own gardens. There are labels for all plants, and a self-guided audio tour is available. Guides are also available to answer your questions and admission is free.

Check these websites for visiting hours and other information.

Yew Dell Botanical Gardens

yewdellgardens.org

Whitehall Gardens

historicwhitehall.org

Waterfront Botanical Gardens

waterfrontgardens.org

