



Leaflet

Activity sheets are available from the info boxes.

❖ Fairy houses

You can find some old favorites or look for the new fairy home that are new this month. Read the riddles on the activity sheet and try to find them all.



❖ Volunteer days

Next month's date: Saturday, May 14, 9-12 with LM's Build On club. We can always use more tools and more people to help supervise and direct the efforts. Please join us! Contact us for details on when, what, and what to bring.

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❖ Earth day





Earth Day is celebrated worldwide on April 22, to demonstrate support for environmental protection. The Botanical Society of Lower Merion will be participating in Narberth's

NarbEarth Day: Sat, Apr 24, noon - 4:00pm Next to the Library



❖ What is in Bloom?





	<p>Flowering Cherry "Kwanzan" (<i>Prunus serrulata</i> "Kwanzan") Non-native</p> <p>Very showy double pink flowers in pendant clusters in April. Vase shaped tree is 20-25ft tall and wide. By the bridge at center of park and at the south end, near the stream.</p>
	<p>Silverbell (<i>Halesia tetraptera</i>) Native</p> <p>A small tree with white, bell shaped flowers in May. Prefers moist, well- drained soil in full sun to part shade. Not far from the upper stepping-stones.</p>
	<p>Flowering Dogwood (<i>Cornus florida</i>) Native</p> <p>It blooms in early spring, shortly after, but usually overlapping, the bloom period of the redbuds. The true dogwood flowers are actually tiny and yellowish green, and are surrounded by four showy, white, petal-like bracts. Several locations throughout the middle of park.</p>
	<p>Robinson Crab Apple (<i>Malus "Robinson"</i>) Non-native</p> <p>A 15-25' rounded tree. Flowers are deep pink and are followed by red crab apples. Disease resistant trees. Three trees near the north end of park and by the bridge.</p>

	<p>Magnolia "Jane" (<i>Magnolia</i> x "Jane") Non-native</p> <p>Hardy shrub or small tree. Flowers are tulip-shaped and lightly scented, reddish purple outside, white inside. They open late in spring to avoid frost damage. North of the bridge along the walking path.</p>
	<p>Flowering Quince (<i>Chaenomeles</i> sp.) Non-native</p> <p>Showy, pink, red or white flowers from early to mid-spring; foliage opens red-bronze then turns dark green in summer; fruits can be used for jellies when ripe. Around the manhole by Merion Rd, north of Latches Ln.</p>
	<p>Shadbush, Serviceberry (<i>Amelanchier</i> sp.) Native</p> <p>A small tree for multi-season interest. White flowers bloom in spring followed by purple fruit in summer, then orange fall color. South end of park.</p>
	<p>Spring Beauty (<i>Claytonia virginica</i>) Native</p> <p>A spring ephemeral. White-pink flowers are held on 6" long stalks, leaves are long and narrow. They support bees and beneficial insects. Colonist used it as food. Likes rich, humus rich acidic soil and part shade. Throughout the park, in the grass.</p>



	<p style="text-align: center;">Redbud (<i>Cercis canadensis</i>) Native</p> <p>The flowers are light to dark magenta pink and appear in clusters on bare stems before the leaves, sometimes on the trunk itself from spring to early summer. North end of the park, corner of Merion Rd and Civic Cir.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">White Flowering Redbud (<i>Cercis Canadensis "Alba"</i>) Native</p> <p>White flowers bloom profusely on bare branches in early spring before the foliage emerges. Flowers are followed by flattened bean-like dry seedpods that mature to brown in summer. North end of the park, corner of Merion Rd and Civic Cir.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Carolina Allspice (<i>Calycanthus floridus</i>) Native</p> <p>This 6-10 ft tall shrub has maroon flowers in April-May. Flowers, leaves and bark is fragrant. By lower stepping stone stream restoration area.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Golden Alexander (<i>Zizia aurea</i>) Native</p> <p>This perennial belongs to the carrot family. Its umbrella-shaped yellow compound flowers bloom in April. It grows in full sun to part shade in moist areas. Plant is host to the black swallowtail butterfly. By lower stepping stone stream restoration area.</p>



	<p style="text-align: center;">Violet Species (<i>Viola sp.</i>) Native and non-native species</p> <p>Woodland plant. Flower colors vary in the genus, ranging from violet, various shades of blue, yellow, and white. Some types are bicolored, often blue and yellow. Mainly in the wooded area, across the bridge.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Golden Ragweed (<i>Senecio aureus, Packera aurea</i>) Native</p> <p>An evergreen perennial that spreads and can create a dense groundcover in full sun to full shade. It is tolerant to a wide range of soil conditions, but prefers moist, acidic soil. Flowers develop on 2-3 ft tall stalks. In planting bed north of the bridge and some near the lower stepping-stones.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Woodland Phlox "London Grove Blue" (<i>Phlox divaricata</i>) Native</p> <p>A spreading wildflower with stems typically reaching 12-15" tall. Occurs in rich woods, fields and along streams. Loose clusters of slightly fragrant flowers appear at the stem tips in spring. Just south of the bridge by the stream.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Creeping woodland Phlox "Home Fires" (<i>Phlox stolonifera</i>) Native</p> <p>Native to wooded areas and stream banks. Loose clusters of fragrant, tubular, lavender flowers with five petal-like, rounded lobes appear on upright, leafy flowering stems which rise above the foliage in spring. Just south of the bridge by the stream.</p>



❖ Invasive Plant: Garlic Mustard

(Alliaria petiolata)

Garlic mustard was intentionally introduced to the US to be used as food and for medicine. It is one of the most invasive and hardest to control plants. It spread rapidly with seeds, invades forests, creates a dense monoculture and outcompetes native plants and even tree seedlings.

A biannual plant that produces a rosette of leaves in the first year of growth and a tall stalk with white flowers, then seeds in the second year.

Control: Plants can be hand pulled or cut/mowed close to the ground. If cut too high, they will still produce flowers. Once the seed pods are present, plants need to be pulled and bagged, because seeds can further ripen after the plants are removed. A single plant can produce thousands of seeds and seeds remain viable in the soil for up to 5 years.



<https://www.nps.gov/plants/alien/fact/alpe1.htm>

