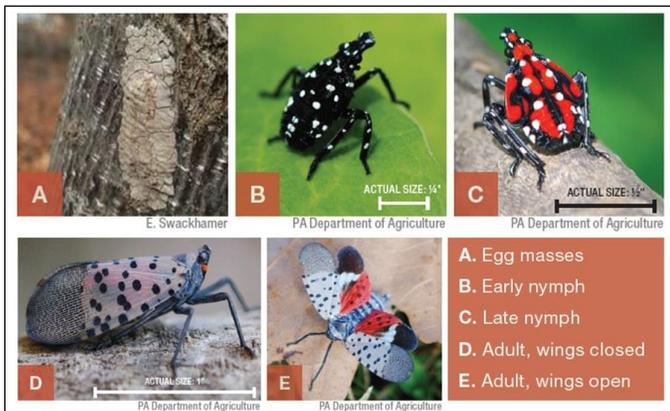


HORTICULTURE



Penn State Extension photo

SLF: Don't let your guard down

Spotted lanternfly (SLF) early nymphs are out and about. A Teaneck Garden Club member recently snapped a photo of a nymph (similar to photo B above) and asked whether the bug was friend or foe. It's a foe. The nymphs appear in this stage beginning in May through July. At their largest, they'll be a quarter-inch long, are wingless, and jump to avoid capture or predators.

In the next stage — late nymph, which lasts from July through September — they'll grow to approximately a half-inch (photo C above). They remain strong jumpers and will do so to avoid danger.

According to the NJ Agricultural Experiment Station, some people may think SLF is a moth but it's really the Asian plant hopper, *Lycorma deliculata* (white). In the United States, SLF is an invasive species that could be devastating to some New Jersey crops and hardwood trees. SLFs will suck the sap from as many as 70 plant species.

Spotted lanternfly resources

- NJ Agricultural Experiment Station's SLF [webpage](#) has general information, photos, plant and pest advisory information, FAQs, and more.
- US Department of Agriculture has a [checklist](#) for residents, photos of life stages and egg mass locations, and where to look to prevent spreading the SLF before you move or travel.

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Links are clickable and are noted in [blue](#).

From the President's Desk

By Melody Corcoran, Class of 2016

An American toad has taken up residence in my garden. Toads are great creatures to have in a garden because they are a natural pest control. Toads will sit in one spot and wait to ambush their prey with their long, sticky tongues.



Almost anything that moves and will fit in their mouths is on the menu including slugs, ants, spiders, flies, crickets, grasshoppers, and worms. One toad may eat up to 1,000 insects per day. They are mostly nocturnal, hiding during the day and emerging at night to feed.

Toads swallow their prey whole and use their eyes to help them eat. They blink hard when eating, which pushes their eyes down into their mouths; the eyes assist in pushing the food down their throats. Toads do not drink water.



Photo by Melody Corcoran

This toad has taken up residence in Melody's garden.

Instead, they absorb water through an area on their belly called a drinking or seat patch. Toad skin is warty but touching a toad does not cause warts as folklore would have you believe.

However, toads do secrete a toxin, called bufotoxin, that makes them unpalatable to predators. Bufotoxin is produced and secreted from the parotid glands, which

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(President's desk, continued from page 1)

are the large bumps behind their eyes. This toxin can irritate human eyes and mucous membranes. Be sure to wash your hands well if you handle a toad.



Photo by Melody Corcoran

Toad amenities: A clay flowerpot buried halfway in the ground becomes a home; a saucer is a water source.

To make a garden toad-friendly, no pesticides or herbicides should be used. Native insects supported by native plants are the preferred foods. A shallow saucer of water is sufficient, no pond needed. Toads will often find a home in brush piles, leaf litter, under porch steps, and in other protected spaces. A daytime home for toads can be made by half-burying a clay flowerpot in the soil. The clay pot can help keep a toad safe and cool during hot weather.

I'm hoping that my toad takes up residence in the home I have set up for it — and gets busy eating all my garden pests.

(Horticulture, continued from page 1)

More spotted lanternfly resources

- Penn State Extension's SLF Management Resources [guide](#) includes links to factsheets, quick videos, and webinars for residential use and industry professionals.
- NJ Department of Agriculture's [website](#) offers information for [homeowners](#) and businesses. The [About the SLF](#) section shows photos of life stages and egg masses.
- Complete this [form](#) to report an SLF sighting at any life stage to the NJ Department of Agriculture.
- Read a June 15 northjersey.com [article](#) about the SLF and watch an accompanying video.

- Story suggestion from Liz Gil, Class of 2019

Learning bonsai from the master



Photo by Arnie Friedman

Jean Friedman, Class of 2004, took a private lesson from bonsai expert Peter Chan at his nursery, Herons Bonsai, about 28 miles south of London. Peter advised Jean how to prune and wire the branches of this pine as well as how to trim the roots before replanting. Visit the Herons Bonsai [website](#) and view Peter's YouTube [videos](#). Below, Arnie Friedman, also Class of 2004, outside Herons Bonsai. Arnie warns that the drive from London can take "an hour or two" due to traffic and the narrow roads in Surrey.



Photo by Jean Friedman

(Continued on page 3)

FIVE QUESTIONS FOR . . .

Suzanne Danzig, Class of 2008, answers five questions for the Potting Shed. Suzanne is the site coordinator for Washington Spring Garden in Van Saun Park. She's also our volunteer records chair.

1. What prompted you to become a Master Gardener?

It's so long ago I hardly remember. I had just completed my Landscape Design certification at NYBG and felt it would further my knowledge. In addition, the idea of volunteering to maintain certain county sites was intriguing to me as I was looking to give back to my community but in a way that honored the environment and satisfied my passion for gardening.



Suzanne Danzig in her rooftop garden over the garage. A bonus: The New York skyline as a backdrop.

2. What's the most important thing you've learned or been exposed to as a Master Gardener?

The importance of educating the public and continuing to educate myself about IPM [integrated pest management] and managing invasives, along with a whole host of things that we as MGs continue to learn about through other MGs. I am always in awe of the knowledge my fellow MGs have and share with each other.

3. Have your interests in gardening changed over time? If so, how?

I have become much more passionate about how to protect our landscapes, environment, and community gardens in a more sustainable way. Digging in the dirt and enhancing my own properties and landscape in an environmentally respectful way has always been an interest of mine, but I now find that educating my neighbors is all part of that passion. I am proud that our organization shares that responsibly by participating in local events that educate the public.

4. Briefly describe your own garden. My husband and I recently downsized from a fairly large home on an acre in Allendale to a postage-stamp property and a 2,200-square-foot house in the Edgewater Colony. My property in Allendale was chock-full of borders and perennial beds that required quite a bit of maintenance, which I loved, and herds of deer, which I didn't love so much. It featured about 600 daffodil bulbs that I planted about eight years ago that put on quite a show in early

springtime. I often drive back up there just to catch a glimpse of that display.

Here in Edgewater the little bit of landscaping was older and overwhelming the property, so I had the pleasure of redoing the terraced gardens along with designing and installing a rooftop garden over the garage. I wanted the rooftop garden to be fairly low maintenance, so I planted it with Mexican feather grass, gaura, dianthus, sedums, allium bulbs. We'll see how low maintenance it really is.

I planted the front terraces along the street with nepeta, purple Moore grass, Stella d'oro daylilies, old-fashioned hydrangea. Very linear, which is not usually my style, but I felt the small space needed to be tidy. In addition, I have several acres in Stowe, VT, where I planted a wildflower meadow along with several perennial beds.

5. Do your interests in gardening extend beyond the MG of BC and your own garden?

I am a member of several gardens in the metropolitan area — NYBG, High Line, NJBG — and visit them frequently. And when they have member volunteer events I do try to attend. The Edgewater Colony has a community vegetable garden, and I am on that committee as well. I am also a steward for a Stowe Land Trust site where I do maintenance work and keep invasive plants from rearing their ugly heads.

(Horticulture, continued from page 2)

All parts of this plant are poisonous

Keep away from poison hemlock (*Conium maculatum*). Multiple sources are warning that the plant can cause skin irritation, blisters, respiratory failure, and death. And don't confuse it with Queen Anne's lace.



D. Lingenfelter, Penn State Weed Science

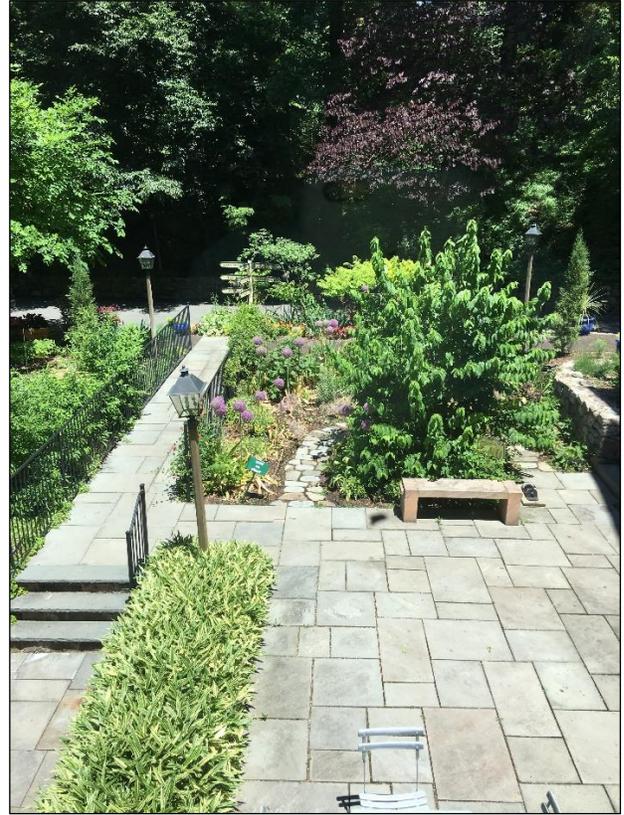
Poison hemlock in the flowering stage.

Resources

- Penn State Extension: [Article](#) titled Facts About This Early Season Weed.
- Healthline: [Article](#) titled Hemlock Poisoning.
- University of Illinois Extension: [Article](#) titled Poison Hemlock Toxicity Risk and Control.

- Story suggestion from Jeffrey Chan, Class of 2011

THINGS TO DO



Photos by Janet Schulz

Reeves-Reed Arboretum — Gardens, sculpture, artwork

By Janet Schulz, Class of 1988

I went to Reeves-Reed Arboretum in Summit to hear a lecture. I had never been there before, so I did not know what to expect. Even before parking the car, I was blown away — impressed by the plantings I passed on the way to the parking lot. This is truly a garden all gardeners ought to visit. Its historic garden as well as contemporary gardens are waiting to be explored.

The arboretum is listed on the National and State Registers of Historic Places. Inside the main building is a sculpture exhibit by William Durkin titled “The Shoaling.” All of the pieces are mixed-media sculptures of fish consisting mainly of buttons; one piece contains not only buttons but chopsticks as well. They are all something to behold and admire.

In the outdoor gardens are two sculptures by [Donna Conklin King](#) titled “Alternate Universe” and “Monument for Healing,” which are on display through May 31, 2023. This is well worth the drive (49 minutes from Wyckoff). Allow yourself enough time to explore all the arboretum has to offer.

Reeves-Reed Arboretum is located at 165 Hobart Ave., Summit. Admission is free; a suggested donation is \$5. Visit the [website](#).

Native Plant Society meeting/garden tour

The Bergen-Passaic chapter of the Native Plant Society of New Jersey will meet and tour the native plant garden of the Ridge Ranch School, 345 Lockwood Drive,

Paramus, from 2-4 pm, July 10. Volunteers have been working on this beautiful garden for several years, and the results are outstanding. Some seating is available but bring a folding chair if needed. The meeting is open to the public.

- Elaine Silverstein, Native Plant Society

FARMERS MARKETS

Fair Lawn Farmers Market, New Song Church, Fair Lawn Avenue and Craig Road. Wednesdays, 11 am-3:30 pm through Nov. 23. Click [here](#) for flyer.

Hawthorne Farmers Market, library parking lot, 345 Hawthorne Ave. Sundays, 10 am-1:30 pm through Oct. 30. Click [here](#) for Facebook page.

Paramus Farmers Market, Petruska Park, 475 Farview Ave. Wednesdays, noon-6 pm through October. Click [here](#) for Facebook page.

Ramsey Farmers Market, Main Street train station. Sundays, 9 am-2 pm through November. Click [here](#) for dog rules, vendors, and other information.

Ridgewood Farmers Market, train station parking lot, Godwin and West Ridgewood avenues. Sundays, 9 am-3 pm through Nov. 21.

River Edge Farmers Market, 215 Continental Ave. Thursdays, 3-7 pm through September. Click [here](#) for Facebook page.

River Vale Farmers Market, Town Hall parking lot, 406 Rivervale Road. Thursdays, 2-6 pm through Oct 27. Click [here](#) for list of vendors.

Rutherford Farmers Market, Williams Center Plaza. Wednesdays, 11 am-4 pm beginning July 6; Saturdays, 8 am-2 pm beginning July 9 through Oct. 29. Click [here](#) for flyer.

Teaneck Farmers Market, municipal parking lot, Garrison Avenue and Beverly Road. Thursdays, noon-6 pm through Nov. 17. Click [here](#) for Facebook page.

Westfield Garden State Plaza (new for 2022): Parking lot between Macy's and Route 17. Sundays, 9 am-2 pm through Nov. 20. Produce and food vendors, food trucks, kids' activities. Click [here](#) for more information.

WEBINARS

For your convenience, all times are Eastern.

Reminder: All 10 education hours can be earned by attending applicable horticultural webinars.

July 6, 1-2 pm: Kansas State University sponsors Growing Culinary Mushrooms at Home. Free. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

July 12, 2:30-3:30 pm: University of Illinois Extension sponsors Identifying Common Lawn and Garden Weeds. Free. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

July 12, 3-4 pm: Oregon State University sponsors Best Ecological Way to Control Pests in Green Spaces. Free. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

July 12, 7-8 pm: Jersey-Friendly Yards sponsors Lose the Lawn, Create a Wildflower Meadow Instead. Free. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

July 14, 7 pm: Friends of the Frelinghuysen Arboretum sponsors Why You Should Consider a Water Feature for Your Garden. \$10 members/\$15 non-members. Click [here](#), then scroll down to July 14 in the left column for more information and to register.

See more webinars in the July Mid-Month Potting Shed.

THIS AND THAT

Trail Conference needs volunteer leader

The New York-New Jersey Trail Conference is seeking a gardener experienced in botany or landscaping who can volunteer two weekend days a month at its headquarters, 600 Ramapo Valley Road, Mahwah. The candidate should have a vision and experience for the group's native species garden. Click [here](#) for more information.

Joel talks up benefits of houseplants

Joel Flagler was quoted in an article titled Houseplants Bring Your Home to Life from the June 15 NJHome website. In it, Joel noted that "Houseplants are able to take up benzene, formaldehyde, and trichloroethylene through the roots, the soil, and the leaves, and thus render these products innocuous." Click [here](#) to read the entire article.

Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Bergen County

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