

VanDusen Botanical Garden

Guide Weekly Update #2: April 7 to April 13, 2019

Brought to you by Ashley Lambert-Maberly (ashley.lm@ubc.ca), Sunday walking guide.

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Member Mornings Are Back (with a vengeance)

9 April 2019 (Tuesday) 8:00am:

Enjoy VanDusen Garden before the public gets in: first 50 members get free coffee!

Guide Education & Business Meeting

11 April 2019 (Thursday) 10:00am:

The topic is “Introducing Rain Gardens ... or, What’s a Rain Garden and Why Should I Care?” presented by Deborah Jones (Rain Garden Coordinator for the Cougar Creek Streamkeepers).

Sakura Days

13-14 April 2019 (Saturday 11am-7pm & Sunday 11am-5pm):

A family-friendly celebration of the cultural arts of Japan, featuring Japanese vendors, food, arts and crafts, and over 50 performances.

Donations Needed for the Plant Sale Potluck

If you have more plants than you need, or the plants you have have overgrown their allotted space, or you’re just plain tired of them and want a do-over, give ‘em to VanDusen for the Plant Sale Potluck (so long as they’re healthy, of course!) To donate, call Jean at (604) 261-4556 or Margie at (604) 261-1868. They welcome perennials, small shrubs, native plants, and plastic pots (particularly square). On a personal note, this is where I buy 90% of my plants for the year, so I guarantee they’re going to a good home (albeit a shady one).

PERFECT PAIRINGS

This year I’m highlighting “perfect pairings” ... where a worthy plant may get overlooked by its more glamorous neighbour (and that’s why you *never* stand next to Kate Middleton). For example, you might stop to point out the Snake-Branch Spruce—turn eastward, and notice the spectacular bark on the River Birch, unfortunately named *Betula nigra* ‘Bnmtf’ DURA-HEAT, no lie—it’s an improved cultivar of the moisture-loving Missouri native. Or, you might be stopping by the bird garden, delighting in the giant bird house—while above it towers a *Fagus sylvatica* ‘Borneyensis’ (Borne Weeping Beech), a French cultivar selected in 1870 (it was found at a church in Borney), and of interest for being a “fountain form,” whereas the similar *Fagus sylvatica* ‘Pendula’ is considered a “mushroom form”.



You can normally DOWNLOAD all my photos from Flickr. Go to <https://tinyurl.com/VanDusenUpdate>, and each week I’ll keep adding more shots.