

2018 NSAGC Convention Program
Hosted by South Shore District
June 1st & 2nd, 2018
Days Inn, Bridgewater

Friday, 1st

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| 1:00 – 5:00 | Registration |
| 1:00 – 5:00 | Vendors open/Self guided tours of local attractions, nurseries & farm markets (map in registration bag) |
| 1:00 – 4:00 | Floral Arrangements in place (Judging on close of entries) |
| 2:30 – 3:30 | Demo/Workshop – Charles Berry - Cleaning & Sharpening Hand Tools (max. 40) |
| 2:00 – 4:00 | Tour of Freemans Forest (Details on registration form) |
| 6:00 – 6:30 | Opening ceremonies, cash bar open |
| 6:30 – 7:15 | Speaker – Greg Sutcliffe – Chestnut Hill Farms - Beekeeping |
| 7:15 | Social time |

Saturday 2nd

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| 8:00 – 12:00 | Registration |
| 9:00 – 4:00 | Vendors open |
| 8:45 – 9:45 | NSAGC Annual Meeting and AGM Door Prize |
| 9:45 – 10:15 | Nutrition Break/Door Prizes |
| 10:15 – 11:00 | Iain Jack - Fernwood Nursery - Ferns in Garden Design |
| 11:15 – 12:00 | Chris Sanford – Yonder Hill Farm - Soil Preparations |
| 12:00 – 1:15 | Lunch/Raffle Basket Draw/Door Prizes |
| 1:15 – 2:00 | Chris Sanford – Bridgewater Community Gardens Coordinator - Planting for Pollinators |
| 2:00 – 2:15 | Nutrition Break/Lottery Draw/Door Prizes |
| 2:15 – 3:00 | Mersey Tobeatic Research Institute – Monarch Butterfly |
| 3:15 – 4:00 | NSAGC Awards Presentation/Door Prizes |
| 4:00 - 5:30 | Free time to explore the area |
| 5:30 | Meet & Greet in Foyer, Cash Bar Open |
| 6:00 | Banquet |
| 7:00 | Guest Speaker – Rosmarie Lohnes – Helping Nature Heal - Ecological Restoration Closing Announcements |

Sunday, 3rd

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| 10:00 - 2:00 | Open Garden Tours (Map in Registration Bag) |
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Floral Contest:

The floral contest will be **club entries only**. The theme will be “Spring Tea”, a composition using a tea service set, on a tray (Teapot, Cup & Saucer, Sugar & Creamer). Tray not to exceed 18” in any dimension. Floral element to be displayed in the teapot.

Note: Some timings may be adjusted slightly on the official program.

Convention 2018 – Update

Bridgewater & Lunenburg & Area Garden Clubs have been working diligently to bring the convention from a plan to a presentation stage. The program should have something for everyone, with presentations on Soil Preps, Planting for Pollinators, Beekeeping, Ferns in Garden Design, the Monarch Butterfly and Ecological Restoration. Although there is limited space for vendors there will be a variety of material available. There will be two raffles taking place. One is a lottery type, that was started last fall when Bridgewater held a Tea & Penny Auction to kick-start the fundraising efforts. Tickets for this lottery continue to be sold throughout the winter and spring, up until Saturday June 2nd at noon. The main prize for this lottery is an all expense paid weekend at White Point Beach Resort (valued at \$700.00). The second raffle will be an on-site raffle for a bushel basket full of garden related goodies (valued at \$200.00).

Registrations started early with a few in December and have been trickling in over January & February and we have received 85 up to this point. Still plenty of time to register and get a hotel room. Hotel rooms are blocked until April 30th. Check the registration form on the website for details on accommodations.

The registrations for the tour of Freemans Forest filled quite quickly and overshot our head count of thirty, before we could get it closed. Therefore, we added an additional 10 spaces to accommodate the extra requests and the tour will be run in two groups of 20, starting at 2:00 & 3:00 pm respectively. Members involved will be advised of their start time.

Garden tours have been lined up for Sunday, with 5 sites available. Two in the Bridgewater area, one in Mahone Bay area, one in Gold River and one in Chester. These sites were chosen so travellers would have a chance to visit some gardens on their trip home. There are plenty of garden centres and nurseries to visit in the area and along your traveling routes. Maps/directions will be provided to the local area sites.

At this point in the planning, the floral competition will be limited to club entries only. In keeping with the convention theme, entries will be based on a spring floral design. The theme will be “Spring Tea”. A composition using a tea service set on a tray (teapot, cup & saucer, creamer & sugar). Tray not to exceed 18” in any dimension. Floral element to be displayed in the teapot

We will be limiting the number of delegates to 200 and closing date for registration will be April 30th, (postmarked by that date). Requests for registration after this time will be considered on a “phone contact only” basis.