

COME FOR THE FUN!

By now you have heard that the IPPS conference includes a fantastic educational program, 2 full days of tours to premiere New England nurseries and a botanic garden, plant auctions and a poster session. There are also ample opportunities to network in a less structured atmosphere.



Iconic Federal Hill gateway arch

Providence Place Mall is an upscale shopping, dining and entertainment complex. It features Nordstrom, Macy's and 160 specialty shops, restaurants, Providence Place Cinema 16, IMAX theatre and Dave and Busters. Waterplace Park is also a walkable destination for the evening. There you can watch a street artist sketching the city, enjoy a lovely stroll by the river past Venice-inspired bridges or see some wonderful public art, all at this well-designed four-acre park and scenic riverwalk, considered to be the heart of the restoration of Providence's downtown area.



The Welcome Reception will be held from 5:30 to 7:00pm on Wednesday, September 29th – right after the Pre-Tour buses return to the Crowne Plaza. At 7:00pm, a bus will be available to transport you and your colleagues from the host hotel to either the Providence Place Mall or to the Federal Hill section of Providence for dinner on your own and a night on the town. Federal Hill is considered to be the *"Heartbeat of Providence"*. From shopping to dining to nightlife, Federal Hill has it all including some of the finest cuisine in the world. Federal Hill is home to 47 restaurants within a one-mile span!



Following a full day of educational sessions on Thursday, September 30th we will travel by coach bus to the Atlantic Beach Club, the only restaurant and banquet facility in Newport, right on the beach! We plan to arrive by 5:30p.m., giving us about an hour to enjoy the fabulous view before the sun sets and we move inside for our "Banquet by the Sea". We will enjoy some of Newport's finest dining overlooking the sounds and smells of the Atlantic Ocean. A full buffet will feature chowder and clam cakes along with entrees from the sea and from the shore, including vegetarian options. We will top off the evening with the live plant auction featuring the best of the best items donated this year.

Friday evening following the full day conference tours, we will gather for a fun and relaxing evening featuring the silent auction finale. You can place your final bids on that special plant you have been tracking while enjoying a cocktail and the Italian buffet dinner that is included in your registration fee! We will end the evening with informal 'round-table' discussion groups.

So come for the program, come for the tours and come for the chance to enjoy some "down" time to view the poster session, share drinks with colleagues, explore the great restaurants of Providence and Newport, walk on the beach, and bring home some wonderful new plants to play with after your winning bid at the auction helps support the IPPS Eastern Region fund-raising efforts! You can visit with IPPS International board members who will be in attendance from Australia, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, South Africa and Japan for a true international experience. See you in Warwick!

Visit www.ipps.org/easternna/meeting.htm for registration information.