

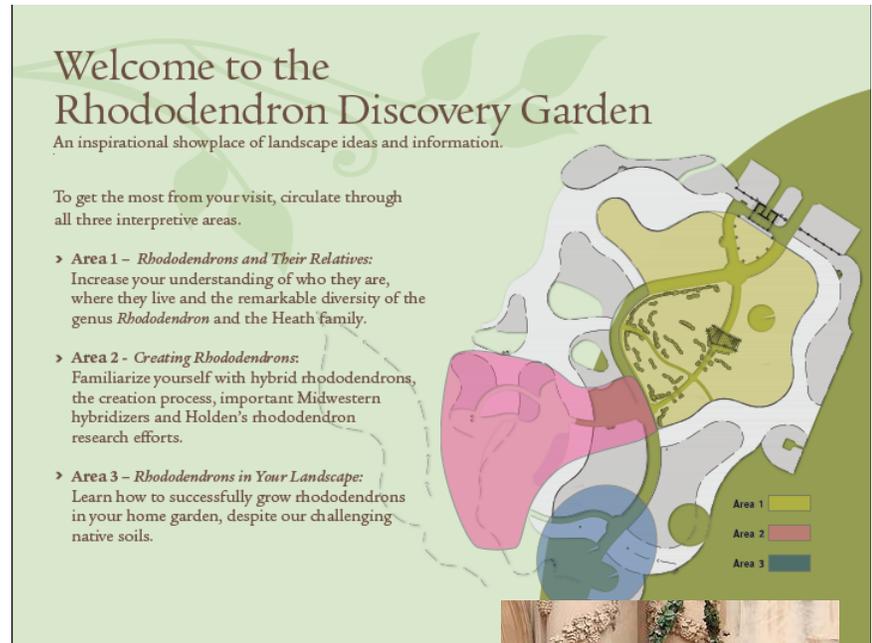
## Rhododendron Discovery Garden and R. Henry Norweb Tree Allée to Open May 18

The new Rhododendron Discovery Garden and R. Henry Norweb Jr. Tree Allée will open to the public on Saturday, May 18. The new garden features three distinct areas (see image at right) in which guests will:

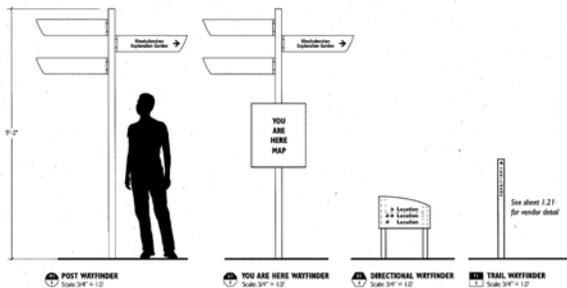
- Learn about the diversity of the genus *Rhododendron* and the Heath family.
- Discover how the hybridization process is done, and learn about important Midwestern hybridizers and Holden's research efforts
- Learn how to successfully grow rhododendrons in their own home garden.

The R. Henry Norweb Jr. Tree Allée, lined with a mix of paperbark hazel, swamp white oaks, American elms, flowering dogwood and serviceberry trees will lead visitors from the Display Garden to the new Rhododendron Discovery Garden. As Holden continues to develop its core master plan, the allée will serve as a welcoming element, drawing visitors deeper into the gardens to explore the grounds.

The week leading up to the grand opening for the public on May 18 will include VIP parties for New Leaf donors and Rhododendron-level members. Public events kick off Saturday morning at 11am with a ribbon cutting, after which guests may stroll through along allée and through garden. Holden's rhododendron experts will be on hand to answer questions and guests can enjoy *The Living Vines*, a ballet on stilts, (pictured on the right); and *Circque du Papier*, nature origami demonstrations as well as create their own paper rhododendron to take home. In the evening, a ticketed dinner with live music and a fireworks show to end the day with a bang. Volunteers will be needed for opening day activities so keep an eye out for information about available opportunities in the coming weeks.



## Finding Your Way Around Holden to Get Easier



Holden was not designed and built in one fell swoop, and finding your way around our six gardens and 20 miles of trails can be troublesome to the initial visitor. The current Map and Visitor Guide, although very informative, has not been particularly helpful for wayfinding. Holden has been working with a consultant, Seth Frankel from Studio Tectonic, to study our trails, signage and map system and make recommendations on how they can be improved. The plan is a work in progress, but Holden has chosen to implement three of his recommendations — wayfinding posts, directional signs

and "You Are Here" maps — with the first pieces to go up this spring between the Corning Visitor Center and the new rhododendron garden, expanding into the other areas in following years. A new smaller, map is also being created and will be available soon. There will be few physical changes to the trails, although some names may change or be eliminated. We will be sure to keep everyone updated as changes occur.

## From the Volunteer Office



*After a winter of quiet solitude and less activity, spring is a time of discovery and renewal as we clean off last year's debris, dig out of the snow and move with a little more bounce in our steps. It's also a great time to*

*volunteer and try something different here at The Holden Arboretum. You'll see in the following pages that many of our positions are holding training and gatherings for new/current volunteers. Join them and grow a new hobby alongside our flowers this spring.*

*The month of April is National Volunteer Month, ending with National Volunteer Week from April 21-27. Holden will be collaborating with other local institutions (including the Natural History Museum, MOCA Cleveland, Cleveland Botanical Garden, Cleveland Metroparks Zoo and others) and The Forum for Volunteer Administrators (FVA) to offer all volunteers of FVA member organizations (which Holden is) free or reduced admission during this last week in April. Details will be sent out in late March for this special promotion. It is our way of saying thanks to you, and thousands of other volunteers making a difference across Northeast Ohio.*

*Appreciating spring and you,*

*robin m. ott*

Robin M. Ott  
Volunteer Coordinator  
440.602.8003 /rott@holdenarb.org

## Staff Updates

Former marketing manager and director of guest relations Dave Desimone, left Holden at the end of January. While finding his next big adventure, Dave is currently showing his visual artwork at Arts Collinwood.



Julia Viel left her position as horticulturist at Lantern Court at the end of February to move to Colorado after accepting a job with the city of Boulder as a horticulturist. She said she's,

"...very excited for this next step but will truly miss everyone [at Holden]."



Education Intern Luke Williamson is moving this month to Asheville, NC, to serve as the seasonal environmental education specialist at the North Carolina Arboretum.

In March, Juliana Medeiros, PhD joined Holden as our new research scientist. Medeiros is a plant physiologist who most recently worked in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the University of Kansas as a postdoctoral researcher. Her work examines plant physiological and morphological adaptations to a changing environment, and has implication for our understanding of how plants may be affected by global climate change.



## Volunteer Opportunities and Trainings

To sign up or for more info about any of the following opportunities and trainings, check out VicNet or contact the volunteer office at 440.602.8003 or email [rott@holdenarb.org](mailto:rott@holdenarb.org).

### Bluebird Project

Kick-off: March 2, 9:30am-noon  
Hear about last year's great bluebird numbers and the predictions for 2013, review policies and get a trail assignment! Current bluebirders watch your email or regular mail for an invite and RSVP form. New volunteers who are interested in becoming a bluebird monitor should contact the volunteer office.

### Lantern Court Private Event Support

Season Kick-off Meeting: Saturday, March 9, 9am-noon, Lantern Court  
Private event volunteers lend a hand to staff, answer guest questions and keep an eye on the estate when private events, such as weddings, are held at Lantern Court. This is a fun position for volunteers that are available on nights and weekends who enjoy working with people and are interested in local history.



New and returning volunteers interested in helping this year are required to attend the kick-off meeting where staff will review the house history, highlights, volunteer policies and plans for the 2013 season.

## Tree Tale Tellers

Kick-off Meeting/Training: Thursday, March 14  
9:30-11am, Thayer Center

Love books, goofy songs and interacting with young children? Join the Tree Tale Teller team! Tree Tale Tellers present tree-themed story times and information about Holden's Arbor Day Celebration at area libraries throughout April. Story hours last about 30 minutes and are offered in Geauga, Lake and eastern Cuyahoga counties. Weekday availability and reliable transportation required.

## EBTA Trail Monitors

Do you have a horse and are a current member of Holden and the East Branch Trail Association (EBTA)? Holden Police have a trail monitor program for our horse trails. This program again helps the police department monitor what is happening out in our natural areas and also reports trail maintenance issues to the association. *Interested individuals should contact Officer Tony Piotrowski at 440.478.1291 or by email at [tpiotrowski@holdenarb.org](mailto:tpiotrowski@holdenarb.org).*

### Trail Monitors



Training/Refresher: April 6, 9am-noon  
Trail monitors assist the Holden police by patrolling the gardens in two-hour shifts on weekends from May through September to help visitors with directions or answer questions they might have about the property. Another group of monitors walks the longer trails twice a month to help with the removal of tree branches that have fallen across the trail and to report items requiring more extensive work by Holden staff. Get great exercise and volunteer when it's most convenient for you! New volunteers should attend on April 6; returning volunteers are not required but are welcome. *If you are a current trail monitor and plan to return, or are interested in signing-up for this year, please contact Chief David Frank at 440.602.3846 or by email at [dfrank@holdenarb.org](mailto:dfrank@holdenarb.org).*

## School Guides

Tuesday, April 16, 9am-3pm

School Guides lead children through an activity-based educational exploration of Holden's plant and wildlife communities. Guides facilitate activities based on planned science curriculum. Teaching experience helpful, but not required.

Anyone who enjoys discovering new things with children, is a good communicator and physically capable of being outside and walking for up to two hours is welcome.



## VIP Guides

Training: Saturdays, April 20, May 11, June 1 and Sept. 28, 9am-4pm  
Highlights VIP Guides lead guests on a 1- to 1.5-hour tram or walking tours providing an overview of

Holden's history and seasonal horticulture highlights. Highlights VIP Guides enjoy talking with people, sharing their knowledge and love of nature, and learning new things. No teaching experience necessary; staff will provide training and opportunity to shadow veteran guides. Driver's license and background check required at no cost to volunteer. Guides should be in good physical condition, willing to lead tours rain or shine and able to put enthusiasm into presentation.

## Invasive Earthworm Surveyor

Conservation biologist Mike Watson is seeking volunteers to assist with an invasive earthworm survey he's conducting in Holden's natural area to look at the interactions between deer and invasive earthworms. Volunteers will go out with Watson to collect earthworm samples and record pertinent data. Training provided, but you must be able to hike 3-5 miles off trail while carrying two gallons of water. Weekday daytime availability a must.

## Volunteer Gardeners

Weed, water and plant alongside expert staff horticulturists. A knowledge of and interest in perennials and gardening experience is helpful, but no experience is necessary. Come get some exercise, learn a few things to take back to your home garden and enjoy working with fellow garden lovers. Work session days and times (subject to change) are as follows:



### *Display Garden*

Tuesday or Thursdays, 9-11am

### *Holden Butterfly Garden*

Tuesdays, 9-11am

### *Layer Rhododendron Garden*

Weekdays, 9-11:30am

### *Rhododendron Discovery Garden*

Weekdays, 9-11:30am

### *David G. Leach Research Station (Madison)*

Wednesdays, 8:30-11:30am or Noon-3pm

### *Lantern Court Gardens*

Wednesdays, 9-11:30am

**Holden Special Events =  
Blooming Good Fun!**



*Sign-up on VicNet, email [rott@holdenarb.org](mailto:rott@holdenarb.org) or call 440.602.8003 if you can help:*

**Arbor Day Celebration**

Saturday-Sunday, April 27-28

9:30am-1pm and/or 12:30-4pm each day

Assist with family activities, pass out tree seedlings, shuttle guests, help park cars and more. Complimentary refreshments provided.

**Plant Sale**

Friday-Sunday, May 3-5

11:30am-2:30pm and/or 2:15-5:15pm - Friday

9:30am-1pm or 12:45-4:15pm - Saturday/Sunday

Assist vendors/staff, park cars, take plants from vendors to holding tent, sell raffle tickets, answer phones and more. Complimentary refreshments provided.

**Rhododendron Discovery Garden**

**Opening Celebration**

Saturday, May 18, 9:30am-1pm or 12:30-4pm\*

Assist with family activities, help serve refreshments, park cars and more. Complimentary refreshments provided.

*\*Subject to change*

**Bouquets Wine Tasting**

Saturday, May 25, 4-8pm

Pour wine, register guests, help staff with clean-up and more. Dinner provided.

**2013 New Volunteer Orientation  
Group Sessions**

Saturday, April 13, 9am-noon

Thursday, May 23, 9am-noon

Sunday, June 23, 1-3pm

Thursday, July 18, 9am-noon

Saturday, Aug. 17, 9am-noon

Tuesday, Sept. 24, 9am-noon

Saturday, Oct. 26, 9am-noon

*Attendance at one session, held in the Corning Visitor Center, is required for all new volunteers and staff. Register by calling 440.602.8003 or sign-up on VicNet.*

**Woodland 5K Race and Walk**

Sunday, June 23, 7-10am

Cheer on runners, serve water, register participants and more. T-shirt provided.

**Woodland Twilight Benefit**

Saturday, July 13, 5-10pm

Serve beverages, assist with auction, register attendees and more. Dinner provided.

**Save the Date**

**Bluebird Project Kickoff Meeting**

Saturday, March 2

**Lantern Ct. Private Event Support Kick-off Mtg,**

Saturday, March 9

**Tree Tale Tellers Training**

Thursday, March 14

**Pancake Supper/Breakfast**

Friday, March 15

Saturday and Sunday, March 16 and 17

**Trail Monitor Kickoff Meeting**

Saturday, April 6

**School Guide Training**

Tuesday, April 16

**Highlights VIP Guide Training**

Saturdays, April 20, May 11, June 1 and Sept. 28,

**Arbor Day Weekend Celebration**

Friday-Sunday, April 26-28

**Plant Sale and Wood Artisans Weekend**

Friday-Sunday, May 3-5

**Rhododendron Discovery Garden**

**Opening Celebration**

Saturday, May 18

**Woodland 5K Race and Walk**

Sunday, June 23

**Woodland Twilight Benefit**

Saturday, July 13

**Annual Volunteer Recognition**

**Program and Clambake**

Saturday, Sept. 14