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ONE WEEK UNTIL FEB. 24TH OPENING OF CONNECTICUT FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW AT CT CONVENTION CENTER IN HARTFORD

Discounted On-Line Admission Tickets On Sale Now through End of Event

HARTFORD, CONN., February 17, 2022 – On **Thursday, February 24th**, the four-day “**Connecticut Flower & Garden Show**” brings an early spring to the **Connecticut Convention Center, 100 Columbus Blvd. in Hartford, Conn.** **Dates/Hours:** Thursday, Feb. 24 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Friday, Feb. 25 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 26 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; and Sunday, Feb. 27 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

New England’s only 2022 major flower exhibition and show is themed “**Rhythm & Blooms**” to feature expansive live gardens, nonstop seminars and demonstrations, The Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut, Inc.’s annual Standard Flower Show, and hundreds of vendors displaying and selling all types of items.

“**Gardening has been proven to reduce stress, elevate moods, help with socialization and self-esteem, and provide exercise, so this colorful event is exactly what we need right now,**” says Kristie Gonsalves, President of North East Expos, Inc., producer of the 40th annual show and a past president of the National Association of Consumer Show Producers.”

The moment attendees step inside the Exhibition Hall, they will be welcomed by more than a dozen live gardens in full bloom by professional landscape designers and nonprofit organizations, including naturalistic, low maintenance, native, containers, vegetables, organic, herb, and pollinator gardens. A fanciful Hobbit House also will be on display.

The **Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut’s annual Standard Flower Show** will showcase over 12,000 square feet of beautiful design, horticulture, botanical arts, and photography competition with entries from its members across the state. Since the theme is “**Rhythm & Blooms**”, that section of the Exhibition Hall explores the music in our gardens as created by wind, water and wildlife in individual mini-parks with distinct musical genres.

New Show features include a Demonstration Area where creative experts show their work, from floral design to bonsai care to starting of wildflower seeds, to canning of fruits and vegetables; a **Barnes & Noble Center**, selling flower, plants, and garden books including those written by the show’s seminar speakers; and **Online Discounted Admission tickets for safer, faster entry that are on sale now through the end of the event** at www.CTFlowerShow.com.

Over 80 hours of seminars and demonstrations will be presented by horticulturalists, landscapers, and industry professionals, and are **free with admission inside the Exhibition Hall. Every day, Mar Jennings, America’s Top Lifestyle Expert** and a **10-time Emmy-nominated and Telly Award-winning TV host and best-selling author** will speak. **The impressive speakers and topics include:**

- Mar Jennings - *How to Best Increase Your Home’s Value;*
- Charlie Nardozi - *Grow a Pollinator Garden;*
- Bob Buettner - *Floral Arranging;*
- Karen Bussolini - *Gardens in the Winter and Where Bulbs Shine;*

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- Denise Ciastko - *Starting Your Native Wildflower Seeds*;
- Pamm Cooper - *Gardening for Butterflies, Bees & Birds*;
- Jeffrey Eleveld - *How to Kill A Houseplant*;
- Len Giddix - *Rain Gutter Gardening with Sprouts, Herbs and Greens, without Draining your Wallet*;
- Dr. Nick Goltz - *Plant Problems*;
- Anna Hackman - *Culinary Herbs for Year-Round Enjoyment*;
- Trish Manfredi - *Creative Floral Design with Fun and Flair*;
- Laurie Masciandaro - *Connecticut's Historic Gardens*;
- Thomas Mickey - *Victorian Flowers We Still Love*;
- Amanda Morris - *Gardening with Chickens*;
- Dawn Pettinelli - *When Good Worms Go Bad and The Dirty Dozen: 12 Facts about Soil that Every Gardener Should Know*;
- Peter Picone - *Plants Make a Difference for Wildlife*;
- Jen Plasky - *Perfect Performing Planters*;
- Diane St. John - *How to Create a Healthy Monarch Butterfly Habitat at Home*;
- George Trecina - *Diverse & Versatile Succulents and A Walk Through the Seasons in My Garden*;
- Rob Townsend - *Water Garden Basics*; and
- Steve Walowski - *An Organic Approach To Lawn Care*.

The full schedule of seminar speakers and topics is at www.CTFlowerShow.com

Always popular are **hundreds of booths** of displays, activities, shopping: artisans, handcrafted gifts, fresh flowers, plants, garden ornaments, metalwork sculptures, herbs, bulbs, seeds, fertilizers, soils, gardening books, patio furniture, lawn and garden tools, equipment and more.

At the show entrance will be an eight-foot-tall live fairy house sculpture, enhanced with illuminated florals and plants, by artist Shauna Shane of FentonRiver Studio in Storrs, Conn. **Bring 1/2 cup of soil for free PH testing** to the UConn Home & Garden Education Center booth.

Admission:

Discounted online tickets are \$16 for Adults and Seniors and are on sale now at www.CTFlowerShow.com and can be purchased online through the end of the show.

General admission at the door: \$20 Adults & Seniors; \$5 Children 5-12; Free for Children Under Age 5.
No re-entry once inside the Exhibition Hall.

Parking:

Daily parking in the Connecticut Convention Center Garage: \$9 all day; or \$3 first hour and \$2 each additional hour.

Thursday & Friday ONLY (Location Change):

Free parking with Free shuttle at Propark South Surface Lot, 63-89 Capitol Ave. (and Hudson St.) in Hartford (several blocks South of the CT Convention Center).

Saturday & Sunday ONLY:

\$5 all-day parking in the Front Street North and South Garages (across street from CT Convention Center).

Show sponsors include: Connecticut Mulch Distributors, Inc.; Kasheta Farms; Maple Meadow Farm; Renewal by Anderson; WFSB-TV Channel 3; WRCH Lite 100.5; The Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut, Inc.; the Connecticut Convention Center; and North East Expos, Inc.

For show information, visit www.CTFlowerShow.com or 860-844-8461. [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#)

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