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**NEXT WEEK: FEB. 23<sup>rd</sup> OPENING OF CONNECTICUT FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW  
AT CONNECTICUT CONVENTION CENTER IN HARTFORD**

***Discounted On-Line Admission Tickets On Sale Now through Final Day of Event***

**HARTFORD, CONN., February 13, 2023 – On Thursday, Feb. 23 through Sunday, Feb. 26, the four-day “Connecticut Flower & Garden Show” brings spring inside the Connecticut Convention Center, 100 Columbus Blvd. in Hartford, Conn. Event Dates/Hours: Opening Day/Thursday, Feb. 23 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Friday, Feb. 24 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 25 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; and Sunday, Feb. 26 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. **Discounted admission tickets are on sale now: \$17 for Adults and Seniors at [www.CTFlowerShow.com](http://www.CTFlowerShow.com).****

**New England’s only 2023 flower exhibition show** covers almost 150,000 square feet, and will offer a wide variety of ideas for house, apartment, and condominium dwellers. **“Gateway to Spring” is the theme** of this year’s show that features **expansive live gardens, a nonstop schedule of seminars and demonstrations, the Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut’s annual Standard Flower Show, and hundreds of vendors** displaying and selling all types of items.

**“Whether you are a gardening beginner or an expert, or just enjoy seeing and smelling beautiful flowers and plants, this event is a great way to gear up for Spring** by discovering new ways to enjoy your home, garden, and other growing spaces,” says Kristie Gonsalves, President of North East Expos, Inc., producer of the 41<sup>st</sup> annual show and a past president of the National Association of Consumer Show Producers. **“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.”**

**As soon as attendees enter the Exhibition Hall, they are welcomed by 23 live gardens and landscape exhibits** by professional landscape designers and nonprofit organizations, including naturalistic, low maintenance, native, containers, vegetables, organic, herb, and pollinator gardens.

**The Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut’s annual Standard Flower Show** showcases 12,500 square feet of beautiful design, horticulture, botanical arts, and photography competition with entries from members in its garden clubs across the state – all themed **“Gateway to Spring”**.

**Over 80 hours of seminars and demonstrations**, presented by an impressive roster of expert horticulturalists, landscapers, and industry professionals, are ALL Free with admission. **This list of speakers (in alphabetical order) and their topics also is posted at [www.CTFlowerShow.com](http://www.CTFlowerShow.com):**

- Lorraine Ballato: Easy Breezy Plants; and Shady Characters.
- Ruth Bennett: Irises New Introductions & Interspecies Crosses.
- Pamm Cooper: Good Bug, Bad Bug, or Benign Bug?
- Rich Cowles: Climate Change & Impact on Rose Culture.
- Christine Darnell: Radically Re-thinking Garden Design.
- Nancy DuBrule-Clemente: Native and Non-Native Plants for Sustainable Landscapes; and Curb Appeal for Pollinator Gardens.
- Kim Eierman: Pollinator Victory Gardens with Native Plants; Unlocking Mysteries of Native Plant Selection.
- Dr. Nick Goltz: House Plant Diagnostics.
- Len Giddix: The Reflection in Your Garden.

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## Next Week: Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> Opening of Connecticut Flower & Garden Show...Page 2

- Larry Huzi: Spring Floral Designs with PAZAZZ!
- Rachael LaFlamme: Flower Crowns.
- Trish Manfredi: Easy Creative Floral Designs.
- Laurie Masciandaro: Connecticut's Historic Gardens.
- Owen McLaughlin: Introduction to Rhododendrons & Azaleas.
- Kerry Ann Mendez: Gardening Simplified; and Hydrangeas Demystified.
- Jana Milbocker: Gardens of the Gilded Age; and Artists Gardens in New England.
- Amanda Morris: Gardening With Chickens.
- Charlie Nardozi: No Dig Gardening.
- Ellen Ecker Ogden: 6 Steps to a Successful Kitchen Garden Design.
- Dawn Pettinelli: Successful Seed Starting.
- Peter Picone: Ways to Create & Enhance Wildlife Habitat in Your Surroundings, 1 Native Plant at a Time.
- Paul Split: Organic Container Gardening.
- Diane St. John: Every Yard Matters - How to Create a Healthy Monarch Butterfly Habitat at Home.
- Rob Townsend: Water Garden Basics.
- George Trecina: A Tree For Every Yard; and Embracing Volunteer Seedlings & Aggressive Plants.
- Dennis Tsui: Low Light Houseplants.
- Steve Walowski: Organics 101 - An Organic Approach To Lawn Care.

**Returning this year is the popular Barnes & Noble Center**, selling flower, plant, and garden books, including those written by the show's seminar speakers.

**Always popular are hundreds of booths with displays, activities, shopping:** handcrafted gifts, flowers, plants, artisans, ornaments, metalwork sculptures, herbs, bulbs, seeds, fertilizers, soils, gardening books, patio furniture, lawn/garden tools, equipment, more. **Bring 1/2 cup of soil for Free testing** at UConn Co-op booth. **Returning this year is the popular Barnes & Noble Center**, selling flower, plant, and garden books, including those that have been written by the show's seminar speakers.

### Admission for February 23-26, 2023 Event:

**Discounted Tickets:** \$17 for Adults & Seniors are on sale now at [www.CTFlowerShow.com](http://www.CTFlowerShow.com) and can be purchased online through the final day of the show.

**Tickets at the Door:** \$20 Adults & Seniors; \$5 Children 5-12; Free for Children Under Age 5.

### Parking:

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

### Thursday & Friday ONLY:

**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 Organics (a division of Connecticut Mulch Distributors, Inc.); 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 general information**, visit [www.CTFlowerShow.com](http://www.CTFlowerShow.com) or [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/CTFlowerShow), or call 860-844-8461.

**For full schedule of seminar speakers and topics**, visit [www.CTFlowerShow.com](http://www.CTFlowerShow.com).

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