

December 2023

The Friends
of the Public Gardens



Newsletter

P0 Box 36013 • 5665 Spring Garden Road • Halifax, NS • B3J 3S9 www.halifaxpublicgardens.ca



Newsletter Topics

- Security
- Q & A
- Previous Newsletters
- The Trees of the Public Gardens
- Lighting in the Gardens
- Event Committee
- Advent Calendar

Security

24-hour security continues to the end of the fiscal year and is in the 2024 budget. Open hours until spring will be 8 AM to 4 PM.

Q & A

Q & A will be a standard item. If you help by asking the questions, we will give you the answers. Just email your question to info@halifaxpublicgardens.ca. Please put in the subject line "Newsletter Question."

Previous Newsletters

You could also peruse our newsletters starting at March 2020 by Barbara Carleton. Copy the link <https://www.halifaxpublicgardens.ca/new-page-2> or go to the website and click 'About', then click Newsletters



Chamaecyparis pisifera 'Plumosa'

False cypress 'Plumosa'

The Trees of the Public Gardens #17

Chamaecyparis pisifera 'Plumosa'

False cypress 'Plumosa'

The False cypress 'Plumosa', *Chamaecyparis pisifera* 'Plumosa', belongs to a Genus of evergreens common to Asia and Western United States. The Genus comes in many forms and many species are highly valued for their landscape value, providing year-round colour, disease resistance and relatively easy-care.

There are numerous False cypress in the Public Gardens and the accompanying picture illustrates one identified just to the East of Horticultural Hall.

Interestingly, the term False cypress and cypress are used to describe different genera of coniferous plants and although they share similarities, the false cypress belong to the *Chamaecyparis* genus and the true cypress belong to the *Cupressus* genus. Many, but not all true cypress are not hardy in zone 6 in which Halifax resides.

So what is so wonderful about our Japanese False cypress? It is prized for its fine, feathery foliage which gives it a soft and delicate appearance. The foliage typically exhibits various shades of green which contribute to its aesthetic appeal. It is adaptable to various soil conditions and growing conditions and its hardy nature make it a low maintenance plant. The tree is quite versatile and as can be seen in our Public gardens, as it is employed as a specimen tree, in groupings and as a screen.

The different varieties of *Chamaecyparis* have a large footprint in our gardens and I encourage you to read our Pocket Guide and Map to see what a substantial contribution they make throughout our landscape.

Lighting in the Gardens

Subdued lighting, the mode for 2023, is not what we hoped for although, from the photos taken at the Members' event, the bandstand, in particular, is beautiful. As, we all have said many times, "Who would think that the Gardens would need 24-hour security?" That's what ate the Lighting the Gardens budget and more so. So we make do with "subdued" and no extension of hours, except what TFPG requested. HRM granted an opening of all gates until 8 pm on December 12 for the Members Reception and Carolling for all. HRM and TFPG let people know through Social Media. Glad we had a great turnout!

Events Committee

The Events Committee has designed and executed both a smashing Volunteer Recognition and the successful Christmas Member Events with only a "catch your breath and get on with the next" space between them. Perfect organization! Please acknowledge Skana Gee's stellar steering of her great Committee, Lia Beveridge, Rick Rivers and Katherine Deturbide. Hats off to them!

VICTORIAN HISTORY ADVENT CALENDAR 2020



Enjoy the 2020 Advent Calendar

December 10 – 18

December 19 – 25

and

Holiday Contest 2020 – Questions and Answers

at

www.halifaxpublicgardens.ca/advent-calendar

