

January 2024

The Friends
of the Public Gardens



Newsletter

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



Photo by Mario Rodrigues

Newsletter Topics

- Q & A
- Previous Newsletters
- The Trees of the Public Gardens
- Diversity and Inclusion
- Spread the Word
- TFPG 40th Anniversary
- Supportive Contributors

Q & A

Q. "Can we book the Bandstand for a Wedding?" "Can we have our Wedding ceremony in the Gardens?"

A. Probably the most asked Question and the answer is - No. The main reason is that there are no private functions in the Gardens .

However, Bridal Parties are invited and encouraged to take their Wedding photos in the Gardens. There is no fee and no reservation is required.

Q. How large is the Public Gardens?

A. 16 Acres.

Looking for more questions - send to:
info@halifaxpublicgardens.ca

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.



Pinus nigra

Austrian Pine

Photo by David Kerr

The Trees of the Public Gardens #18

Pinus nigra

Austrian Pine'

As the common name suggests, the Austrian Pine is not a native species to North America. It has its roots in Southeastern Europe and on the slopes of the Alps. It was introduced to our shores in the mid 18th century primarily for ornamental and timber purposes. Its typically straight trunk and fast growth made it quite useful in furniture and construction activities. Its pyramidal shape when young, growing to large flat topped tree when mature made it an attractive choice in the landscape and a useful tree as a windbreak.

Although marginally naturalized, Austrian pines in the Maritimes will largely be found where they have been planted by humans in urban settings. It is well adapted to urban pollutions and salt spray, but does tend to be more susceptible to disease, fungal and insect issues than other pine species. The number of insect pests that attack Pinus nigra make it a favourite haunt for Yellow Bellied sap suckers, who can cause significant damage to the tree on their own. A bird to watch for!

Under perfect conditions the tree can grow to 100 feet and live 200 years. The wonderful example of this species on the East side of the Public Gardens near the Grand Allee may not be that old but it is a lovely large specimen nonetheless.

David Kerr

Diversity and Inclusion

The Friends of the Public Gardens is planning a training seminar for the Board and Volunteers in 2024 to take place as a mandatory endeavour to be completed before we open Tours and Information services in the late Spring.

Spread the Word

We offer FREE Tours of the Halifax Public Gardens 4 times a day from late May/early June to the end of October .

A rarity in most attractions worldwide to have FREE Entrance and FREE Tours. The approximately 1 hour Historical and Horticultural Tour is available twice in the morning and twice in the afternoon. NEW in 2024 is a Wednesday evening tour from 7 to 8 PM. In addition reservations can be made for groups at reserved times.

We urge you to take a tour and then tell your friends and family about this fabulous and Free experience.





TFPG 40th Anniversary

**2024 is the 40th Anniversary of
The Friends of the Public Gardens ,
a registered Charity!**

LET'S CELEBRATE !!

We are looking for ideas on how to mark our 40 year history with the Halifax Public Gardens!

Who wants to help?!

Could we grow our reach in Membership and Awareness of this treasure and oasis set in the centre of a bustling, vibrant community? Double it maybe?!

Have a Birthday Party like we did in June 2017 to mark the 150th Anniversary of the Gardens?

Find ways to bring more Nova Scotia residents in through the Gates? Take in a project that will leave a legacy to make our 40th year notable?!

Send us your thoughts, suggestions and ideas to our email address at info@halifaxpublicgardens.ca

Supportive Contributors

TFPG thanks the following organizations and persons who supported our November 14th Volunteer Appreciation Evening at **Bliss Caffeine Bar** on South Park Street.

Ambassatours

Atlantic Film Festival

Bookmark

Communications Nova Scotia

Credit Union Atlantic

Dalhousie Arts Centre

Dalhousie Athletics

Donald Marks

Ellemenno Textiles

HRM

Legendary Hospitality Group

Neptune Theatre

Quinn's Arms Restaurant

Scotia Bank

Spring Garden Area Business Association

The Lord Nelson Hotel

The North Grove

Uncommon Grounds

Verisk Analytics

Councillor Wayne Mason

Writers Federation of Nova Scotia

YMCA Halifax

ON THE WILD SIDE



Pheasant



Mink

Photo by Mario Rodrigues



Mink

Photo by Mario Rodrigues