

Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden's

Garden Gazette

Welcome to this month's Horticulture Volunteer Newsletter!



Wishing you a Wonderful Winter!

Winter Greetings! Mid-winter is here and, with a mild January behind us, it is tempting to dream of the early-Spring delights that will soon peek out from behind the umber trunks and branches of winter. It won't be long before Hellebores, Snow Drops, and Crocus peer out from their insulated leafy blankets, sparking our hopes for the pastels of Spring.

Though this time of year generally marks a quiet, more restful period in the garden, there are still a few things we can do now to get ahead for Spring. Keep your eyes on your email if you are interested in a little early-season horticulture work. We will have indoor and, weather permitting, outdoor opportunities. Some of our tasks may include:

- Cleaning up plants in the greenhouse & quonsets
- Removal of spent hellebore leaves
- Perennial & grass cutbacks
- Leaf removal
- Selective Pruning
- Symposium folder prep

Save the Dates

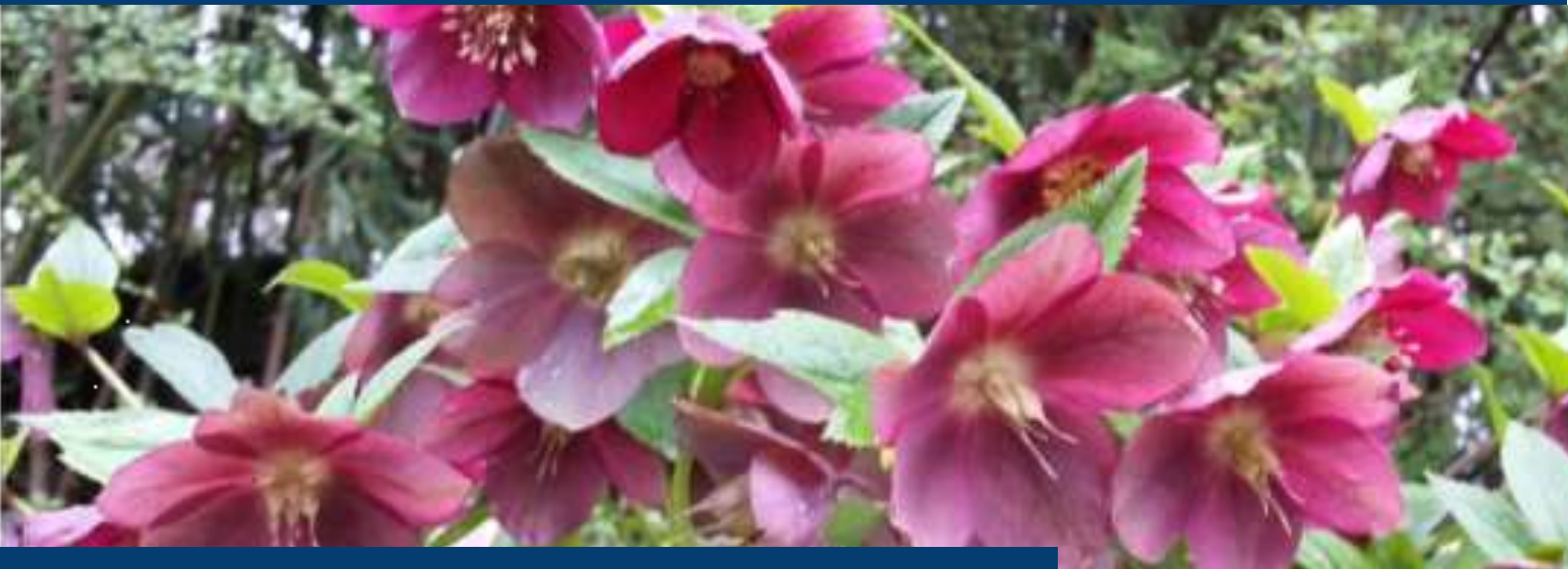
Wednesday, Feb. 5 - 1pm-3pm
*Horticulture Volunteer Round Table,
Tree Tops Garden Classroom*

Saturday, March 7 - 10:30am-noon
*Horticulture Volunteer Brunch &
Awards Ceremony, Safari Lodge*

March—TBA
*Horticulture Volunteer Orientation
(new volunteers)*

Thursday, March 12 - 9am-5pm
*Sustainable Urban Landscapes Sym-
posium, **Frisch's Theater***





Check out the new Orchids in Discovery Forest!

This January, with the help of Jean Rhinehart from the [Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society](#) we added [over 20 orchids](#) throughout the Conservatory in Discovery Forest. Now, in addition to the classic phalaenopsis orchid, visitors will be able to search for [over a dozen other varieties](#), including: *Laelia anceps*, *Bulbophyllum tingabarinum* 'Christopher,' and *Maxillaria tenuifolia* among others. These new orchids



<http://www.orchidspecies.com/>



<https://www.orchidweb.com/orchids/bulbophyllum-cirrhopetalum/species/bulbophyllum-tingabarinum>

have been wired to prop logs, tree branches, and placed in planters. See how many you can find!

Orchids comprise one of the largest families of flowering plants on Earth and can be found across a broad range of ecosystems. Incredibly adaptive, these plants thrive in a variety of habitats. Our new orchids derive from tropical regions, where they primarily grow symbiotically on tree branches and rock structures. These orchids prefer high levels of sunlight, good air circulation, and a steady moisture regime.

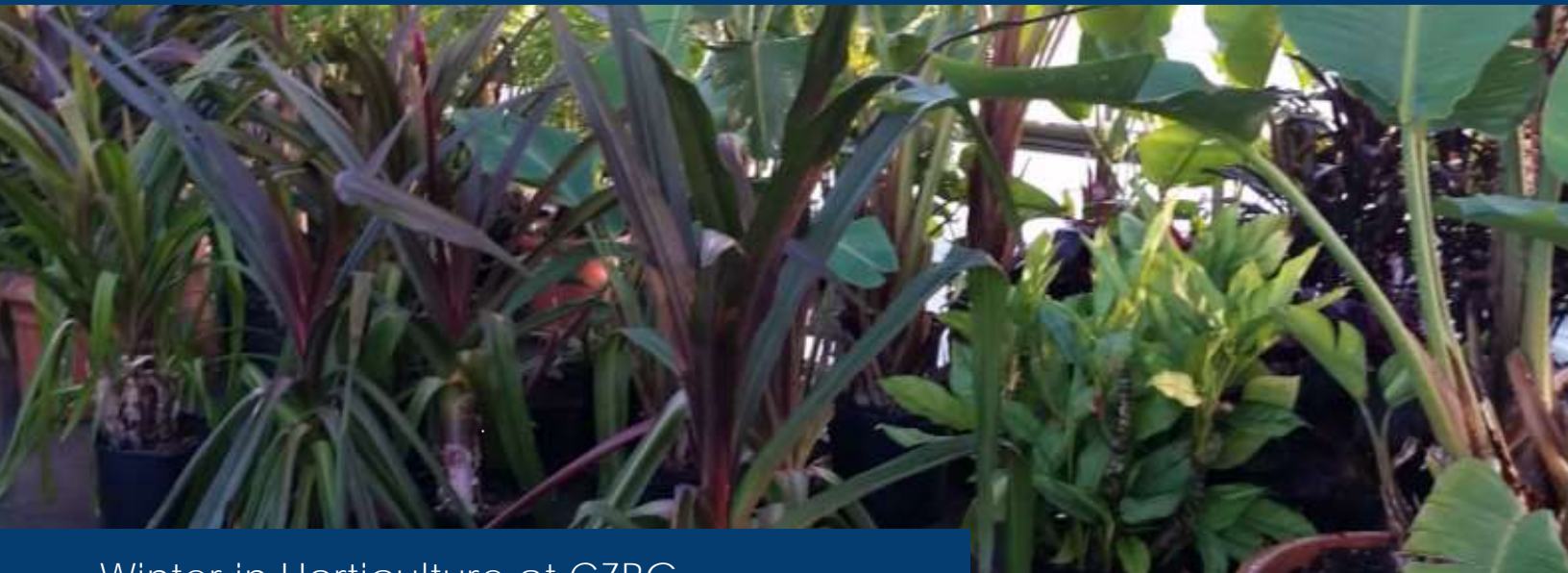
Horticulture Volunteer Round Table

Do you have a great idea for our 2020 volunteer program? Do you want to provide feedback from our 2019 season? If so, please join us on [Wednesday, February 5](#) from 1pm to 3pm at the [Tree Tops Garden Classroom](#) to discuss your ideas. All Horticulture Volunteers are welcome to attend, whether you have been with us for one season or twenty! Please RSVP on MVP if you are interested in participating in this discussion. Have feedback, but can't attend? Email your thoughts to Tosh and she will bring them up at the Round Table Meeting.

Volunteer Brunch & Awards Ceremony

Help us kick off the 2020 season with our annual Horticulture Volunteer Brunch & Award Ceremony on [Saturday, March 7th—10:30am to noon](#) at [Safari Lodge](#). This is an opportunity for us to thank you for your service during 2019 and look ahead to the exciting possibilities of 2020. Please RSVP on MVP if you are planning to join us for this rousing occasion.





Winter in Horticulture at CZBG

We are often asked, *what does Horticulture at the Zoo look like during the Winter?* The answer is surprisingly diverse. For us, the winter season presents an opportunity to plan programs for next season, design display beds, order seed and plant specimens for next year, and gather continuing education credits to maintain our certifications. It is a chance for us to take stock of the previous year and look ahead to the projects that are coming up.

On days with bad weather, we remove snow and keep pathways safe and clear for staff and visitors. On pleasant days, we escape to the gardens to get a jump on Spring maintenance. We clean up perennial areas, cutback grasses, and undertake a number of “back-burner” projects. We remove lights from garden barriers and breakdown heeled in landscapes from Festival of Lights.

We spend significant time in our greenhouses and Quonset huts watering, removing spent foliage, and keeping plants disease and pest free. We begin growing our summer tropicals for display beds and start seed crops. We take inventory of our tropicals, perennials, trees, and shrubs.

With all this, it's no wonder that March often feels just around the bend and, before we know it, we'll be knee deep in the season once again!

Horticulture is Seeking the Following Items:

- Paper Grocery Bags
- Kitty Litter Buckets

Please drop any items off at the Horticulture Shop between 8 am and 3 pm.

Thank you!



CZBG Connect

Check out the CZBG Connect website for additional volunteer opportunities and information about things happening throughout the zoo. You can access the CZBG Connect website by logging in on MVP at www.myvolunteerpage.com

New Horticulture Volunteer Orientation

Considering the limited number of new volunteers that have been accepted into our 2020 gardening program, we will be making a few adjustments to this year's Horticulture Volunteer Orientation. Stay tuned for more information!