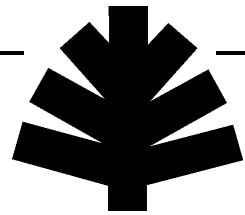


U.S. National Arboretum

3501 New York Ave., NE Washington, DC 20002
Phone: (202) 245-2726 www.usna.usda.gov



The U.S. National Arboretum is a Department of Agriculture research facility and living museum. It is dedicated to serving the public and improving our environment by developing and promoting improved landscape plants and new technologies through scientific research, educational programs, display gardens.

The National Arboretum is a unique Federal institution linked by partnerships to many governmental agencies, the scientific community, other arboreta and botanical gardens, and private-sector groups. As a national center for public education, the Arboretum welcomes visitors to a stimulating and aesthetically pleasing environment.

Fast Facts

Establishment	Established in 1927 by an Act of Congress. Administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service.
Mission	To serve the public need for scientific research, education, and gardens that conserve and showcase plants to enhance the environment.
Location	Northeast Washington, DC, with entrances on New York Avenue and R Street. There are research locations in Washington, DC; Glenn Dale, Maryland; Beltsville, Maryland; and McMinnville, Tennessee.
Size	446 acres with 9.5 miles of winding roadways.
Annual Visitation	500,000 to 600,000
Budget	Federal Appropriation FY 06: \$12,800,000
Support Organizations	American Nursery and Landscape Association, Friends of the National Arboretum, Garden Club of America, Herb Society of America, National Bonsai Foundation, National Capital Area Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc., National Capital Orchid Society, National Garden Clubs, Inc., Society of American Florists, and Woman's National Farm & Garden Association.
Staff	99
Volunteers	Over 150, working in all areas of the Arboretum.
Interns	Internship positions are in horticulture, research, education, facilities management, and public garden administration and are supported by non-profit organizations, and privately donated funds.
Research	Wide-ranging basic and developmental research on trees, shrubs, turf, and floral plants. Development of new technologies for the floral and nursery industries. Development of plants with superior characteristics through a program of testing and genetic improvement. Development of new methods of pest and disease detection and control. Taxonomy and nomenclature of ornamental plants and their wild relatives. Collection and preservation of plant germplasm with ornamental potential.

Programs

Gardens	Single-genus groupings include: azalea, boxwood, daffodil, daylily, dogwood, holly, magnolia, maple, and peony. Major garden features include: aquatic plants, the Asian Collections, the Fern Valley Native Plant Collections, the Flowering Tree Collection, the Flowering Tree Walk, the Friendship Garden, the Gotelli Dwarf and Slow-Growing Conifer Collection, the Introduction Garden, the National Bonsai & Penjing Museum, the National Capitol Columns, the National Grove of State Trees, and the National Herb Garden.
Education	Public education programs, including symposia, lectures, workshops, and demonstrations; plant, flower, and art exhibitions; interpretive brochures and signs; group tours; public relations.
Publications	Over 130 scientific articles in professional and trade journals in the last 3 years. Various program aids for visitors. Eight publications in the National Arboretum Contribution series.
Plant Introductions	678 official plant releases. Eight patents and two EPA biopesticide registrations.
Cooperative Programs	Agdia, Inc., Iowa State University, Michigan State University, North Carolina State University, Oregon State University, Tennessee State University, University of California, University of Florida, University of Maine, University of Maryland, University of Missouri, University of Tennessee, University of Wisconsin, and Holden Arboretum, Mentor, Ohio.
International Cooperative Programs	Austria, Israel, Japan, People's Republic of China, Russia, South Africa, South Korea, Taiwan, and Ukraine.
Herbarium	Established around 1900 as the Economic Botany Herbarium of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. A permanent reference collection of dried plant specimens necessary to taxonomic studies relating to agriculture, medicine, science, and education—fields where documentation and correct identification of plants is essential. Serves as a descriptive index for the identification and verification of plants. Over 650,000 specimens of dried pressed plants, serving as a reference collection for scientific studies in agriculture, horticulture, botany, medicine, and other fields where documentation and correct identification of plants is essential. The collection contains plants from around the globe, with a special emphasis on cultivated plants. Groups which are especially well represented include azaleas (<i>Rhododendron</i>), cherries (<i>Prunus</i>), daffodils (<i>Narcissus</i>), daylilies (<i>Hemerocallis</i>), hollies (<i>Ilex</i>), oaks (<i>Quercus</i>), viburnums (<i>Viburnum</i>), and willows (<i>Salix</i>).
Library	10,000 volumes and approximately 90 publications concentrating in botanical literature. Affiliated with the National Agricultural Library.

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