

# DECEMBER *in the gardens*



## SEASONAL INTEREST

Winter is on the way! Join us in December for our seasonal holiday event Winter of Wonder and our beloved Solstice Walks—back at last. Take a stroll to experience nature's more introverted season, still replete with color, texture, and as always, full of excitement.

- **GARDENS NORTH** With fall color wrapping up for the year, you'll now be able to see the branching structure of our most interesting trees, including the sweetgums and tulip trees up at the Arrival Garden. Ornamental grasses provide habitat and shelter for insects and fauna during the colder months and can be left to overwinter without cutting them back until early spring. Mahonias continue to bloom, providing food for hummingbirds during a time of scarcity.
- **GARDENS SOUTH** Large perennial lupins form green waist-high walls along the Pollinator Meadow trail in December and grey skies stretch wide above the granite overlook in the austere beauty of winter. Cattails dot the Buxton Bird Marsh, providing a burst of blooms and favorable habitat and cover for wildlife and birds.
- **GARDENS EAST** *Garrya elliptica* shrubs along the trail to the Birch Garden are looking fabulous. Their silver tassels are starting to elongate—nature's ornaments. Tree bark provides stunning texture and monochromatic colors throughout the gardens in December and the Residence indoors and out is decorated for all to enjoy!
- **GARDENS WEST** Most leaf fall should finish by the end of December, allowing more sunlight into the Moss Garden. The mosses, already happy with returning rains, are growing again—look closely at some and you'll see the light green tips of new growth. Later in the month, *Camellia sasanqua* blooms will dot the Camellia Trail.



Fountain Grass | *Pennisetum alopecuroides*



Yarrow | *Achillea millefolium*



Oregon Grape | *Mahonia japonica*



Himalayan Birch | *Betula jacquemontii*



Camellia | *Camellia sasanqua*