

APRIL *in the gardens*

SEASONAL INTEREST

Visit the gardens this month to see a full show of rhododendrons, camellias, magnolias, and an explosion of flowering ground covers.

GARDENS NORTH Buds are beginning to open on our Olympic Lady rhododendrons in the Arrival Garden with neighboring swathes of blooming *epimediums* and *omphaloides* filling in the surrounding beds. Ornamental grasses continue to emerge throughout the garden as winter flowering bulbs make way for spring blooms.

GARDENS SOUTH Across the grounds this month, delicate white serviceberry blooms are lovely signposts of spring, and pendulous clusters of yellow-green flowers decorate bigleaf maples. In the woodlands, look out for white-flowered avalanche lilies and daffodils. Pale yellow biscuitroot blossoms will be the first of the Pollinator Meadow's spring show to appear. Our baby chicks are growing strong and will be ready to find their permanent home in the Meadow in June to help us control the non-native, invasive pasture grasses that have overtaken much of this area.

GARDENS EAST The plantings and beds around the Residence are undergoing a face-lift. Visit this April to see our Japanese flowering cherry (*Prunus 'Tai-Haku'*) before it gets removed due to old age, leaving room for rhododendrons and camellias to fill in behind the hedge. A new group of espaliered camellias grace the right-hand wall of the Residence and the beds surrounding the front have been cleared out, lying dormant until new fall plantings are introduced. In the meantime, updated container plantings will showcase dark foliage and red blooms through the summer.

GARDENS WEST This is magnolia season! Star magnolias at the edge of the Japanese Garden are beginning to bloom, creating the illusion of pure, fallen snow. Later this month, Dawson's magnolias (*Magnolia dawsoniana*) in the Japanese Garden and next to the Swan Pond will put on a spectacular, but brief, show.



Rhododendron Olympic Lady Group
Arrival Garden



Barrenwort | Epimedium x versicolor
'Sulphureum'
Gardens-wide



Fernleaf biscuitroot
Lomatium dissectum
Pollinator Meadow



Japanese flowering cherry
Prunus 'Tai-Haku'
Residence



Star magnolia
Magnolia stellata
Japanese Garden