



GARDENEWS

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office@fgcofmd.org

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4915 Greenspring Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21209

Mailing Address
P.O. Box 65172
Baltimore, MD 21209
410-396-4842

President
Carolyn Braverman
carolynb28@gmail.com

Editor
Liz Williams
gardenews@fgcofmd.org

Gardenews Representatives

District I
Trish Reynolds
pk26998@gmail.com

District II
Carolyn Leahy
cleahy09@verizon.net

District III
Nancy Null
nnull@verizon.net

District IV
Michele Pappas
mmpappas1@verizon.net

District V
Tina Swanson

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President Carolyn Braverman

It is hard to believe I will be “graduating” this March. The past two years have sped by. I read in a recent issue of *The Nature Conservancy, Maryland/DC* that 20/20 is perfect vision, but that the year 2020 proved the opposite. It certainly has been a tough year. Many of us have not seen our fellow garden club members for almost a year. We are challenged in ways we never thought about.

But you are a resilient bunch! I commend you for your creativity and your perseverance. “Circumstances alter cases” was a theme in a J.M Barry play, “The Admirable Crichton”. You proved the point. You have learned to Zoom, have published newsletters, have held virtual flower shows, have made masks and distributed them, have shared photos of your gardens, floral arrangements, holiday decorations on your Facebook pages and through email. You have found ways to keep in touch, to carry on with some of your projects. And you have gardened!

Thank you for your support in my term as President. My regret is that I was not able to travel to your clubs and districts to meet more of you in person. You have been very generous in your donations for The President’s Project, which as it happens, is in line with a Nature Conservancy program launched in the city of Baltimore whose focus is to find nature-based solutions to stormwater management. Who knew?

We look forward to meeting in person again, and recently the vaccine distribution has given us hope we will be able to do that again sometime soon. We hope to see some of you at the Annual Meeting, either in person or virtually.

All the best in 2021! Keep up the good work.

Carolyn Braverman

Meet the Slate of Officers for 2021–2023



Anna O'Kelly President Elect

Born and raised in southern Illinois, and following moves to St. Louis, Kansas City, and New Jersey; Anna O'Kelly landed in Maryland in 1989. The gardens of the home she and her husband purchased were developed by the previous owners, and a friend suggested that she join a garden club to learn how to maintain her new landscape. She joined Crofton Greenery Garden Club and embarked on a journey of learning.

She has held numerous positions within Crofton Greenery, District II, and has served as 2nd and 1st Vice President of the FGCMD. She is an accredited NGC Flower Show Judge, Gardening Consultant, Environmental Consultant, and is working on completing the Landscape Design School.

She enjoys the creative outlet of floral design and has presented programs to clubs across Maryland. She is the past President of Ikebana International Baltimore Chapter #118 and a student of the Sogetsu school of Ikebana.

When not working on her garden or creating floral designs, she and her husband enjoy traveling and spending time with their family.

Susie Middleton 1st Vice President

Susie's career included time heading Human Resources for several Fortune 500 companies. In 2001, she and her husband retired to a 120-acre farm on the Eastern Shore...largely because her husband is a waterfowl hunter and she loves to garden. Last year they downsized to a home on 1/3 acre outside of Easton so she knows how to create gardens of all sizes.

She joined the Dorchester Garden Club 17 years ago and since then has served in a number of Officer and Committee positions for her Club, District I and the State. Since moving last year she has also joined Oxford and Talbot Garden Clubs.

She has a passion for learning and has taken courses in all of the council schools. She is currently an accredited Master Flower Show Judge, Landscape Design Consultant, Environmental and Gardening Consultant as well as a Master Gardener. Fortunately for us she also loves to share what she has learned and is a frequent speaker at Garden Clubs across the State.



Marcia Richard 2nd Vice President



As an army brat raised on different continents, gardens were places one visited with your parents. I never thought of "gardening" as something one did, since we were always on the move. After retiring from a school counseling career, I was invited to join the Crofton Village Garden Club (CVGC).

The "Garden World" opened up to me. I learned so much about flower arrangements, how to make your yard a garden, using native plants, avoiding invasive plants, and be mindful of BayWise. I had a great deal to learn and I did! Along the learning path, I became club Vice President in charge of programs and then President of the CVGC, for three years, during which time the club membership grew and the talents of the members brought the CVGC many awards. I became Awards Chair for FGCMD, an honor to be at the State level. I am finishing my term as Recording Secretary and feel so privileged and honored to be serving as 2nd Vice-President for this wonderful organization of volunteers.

My Garden World is still growing!

Slate of Officers cont'd



**Donna Miller
Treasurer**

Originally from the Big Apple, Donna Miller moved to Garrett County 23 years ago. She has experience in the insurance and banking industries. A member of the Mountain Laurel Garden Club, she has served as Treasurer, Co-Vice President, and currently Co-President. In addition, she is a member and Treasurer of the Environmental Consultants Council and her women’s church group.

Donna resides at Deep Creek Lake with her husband, Vaughn. Their two children have recently made them empty-nesters! Aside from gardening, she also enjoys Jazzercise, bowling, singing in the choir, learning the piano and travelling the country with Vaughn on a Harley.

**Trish Reynolds
Recording Secretary**

Trish, originally from Long Island, moved when she was 16 to Oxford, MD when her parents purchased a 300 acre farm. She worked for what is now M & T Bank for almost 30 years...where she was the first female Vice President. Trish and her husband Tom returned to the Easter Shore where she expanded her love of gardening and joined the Talbot County Garden Club (TCGC) in 1996. She became a member of Oxford Garden Club in 2010.

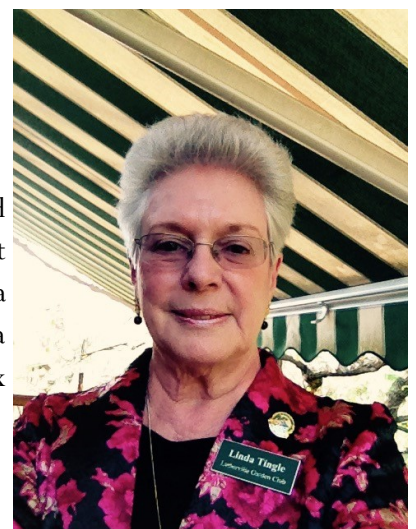
Trish has held many offices at the club, district and state level including club treasurer and president and District I Director . This will be her second tour as Recording Secretary for FGCMDC. Trish has held Horticulture Workshops for other clubs; is a Flower Show Judge and a member of the Judges’ Council and Landscape Design Consultant (NGC).



As Chairman of TCGC’s Horticulture Committee Trish is the editor and contributor for TCGC’s Horticulture Newsletter “Can You Dig It”, and a weekly Horticulture Newsletter, “TidBits”.

**Linda Tingle
Corresponding Secretary**

Linda Tingle has served as President, Recording Secretary, Parliamentarian and Chair and member of many committees in Lutherville Garden Club for the past twenty-three years. She has also served as District III Director and Advisor. Linda is active in church and for many years was a Leader in the Boy Scouts of America program. Linda and husband, Norris, live in Baltimore and have five sons and six grandchildren.



Councils and Schools

Continuing Education Opportunities Sponsored by the Councils

Environmental Consultants Council

The Environmental Consultants Council hopes to take a trip to tour the Patuxent Research Refuge in Laurel this spring. We were not able to go on any field trips in 2020, but are looking forward to getting back on our schedule of two relevant destinations per year. We had a program and meeting via Zoom in November with Scott McGill, a Restoration Ecologist who spoke to us about beavers, one of the Chesapeake Bay's most important keystone species; we had a Council meeting after Scott's presentation. The Nominating Committee presented us with a slate of officers for the next term and the Council voted them in. Our new officers as of March will be: Council Chair, Jackie Handley; Assistant Chair, Marie Davis; Secretary, Betty Reeves; and Treasurer, Donna Miller.

Judges Council

Thanks to a successful Flower Show School led by Susie Middleton and Judy Slaughter, we now have a number of student judges. One of the requirements for becoming an accredited Flower Show Judge is to judge five shows with a minimum of three classes in Design and three classes in Horticulture. Please plan to ask them to judge your flower shows. Credentials Chairman Joan Bender can give you their names and contact information.

Our next meeting is May 6, 2021. If we are able to meet in person it will be at Chartwell Country Club.

Landscape Design School

Course 2 will be held in Columbia at the DoubleTree by Hilton on **April 13 & 14th**. The new course brochure is available on the FGCMMD website. This is a very interesting and relevant set of courses that now includes more about landscaping and designing with nature and ecology in mind. We have some excellent instructors scheduled for this course, all of which have amazing backgrounds and education in landscape design.

"Structures in the Landscape" and "Redesign of Areas"; instructor Cheryl Corson, Owner of Cheryl Corson Design with teaching experience at GWU, UMD & US Botanic Gardens

"Accessible, Enabling & Therapeutic Gardens"; instructor Jack Sullivan, Associate Professor of Landscape Architecture, UMD

"Landscape Design Process I" and "Designing for Pollinators & Wildlife"; instructor Colleen Vacelet, President, Intreeque Design Landscape Architecture; Adjunct Professor, UMD

"Development of North American Landscape Design"; instructor Sarah Trautvetter, Assistant Professor Graduate Program, Landscape Architecture, Morgan State Univ.; Principal, Traut Landscape Studio

"Preservation of Historic Sites & Structures"; instructor David Scheid, Landscape Architect instructor at Northern VA Community College

"Overused, Often Invasive Plants & Native Alternatives" and "Woody Plants for Wildlife"; Instructor Kerry Wixted, Education & Outreach Specialist, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife & Heritage Service

"Plants in the Landscape"; instructor Kelley Okleson, Owner Groundsmith Collective; Adjunct Professor of Landscape Architecture, UMD

In Memoriam

Pauline Vollmer

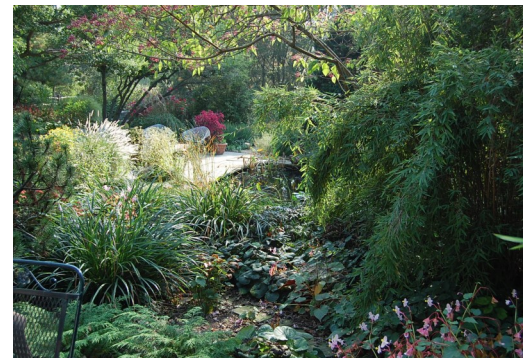
1916—2021



Pauline Vollmer, a founding member of Woodbrook-Murray Hill Garden Club and horticulture enthusiast who later became the benefactor for the visitor’s center at the Cylburn Arboretum, died January 11, 2021 at her Murray Hill home. She was 104.



A native of Kansas, Pauline and her husband, Leo Vollmer, settled in Murray Hill in the early 1960s. She soon commissioned Wolfgang Oehme to design a garden for her home. The result was a series of terraces or ‘rooms’ filled with massed perennials and specimen shrubs. This also launched Oehme’s career in landscape design. Over the



years, visitors ranging from landscape architects to garden club members were warmly welcomed to tour the gardens.

One of Pauline’s many lasting accomplishments was establishing the Robert Lewis Baker Scholarship Fund in the 1981. In a 2007 article that she wrote for *Gardenews*, Pauline described the collaboration between the Maryland Horticulture Society and Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland in organizing a lecture series on topics related to landscaping. Funds

Above and above left. The Vollmer Garden



raised by these lectures were added to donations made to FGCMMD in Dr. Baker’s memory, thus creating the Scholarship Fund. The scholarship continues to be available to students interested in careers in landscape architecture.

In 2005 Pauline offered the City of Baltimore a \$1million gift for the construction of a visitor’s center at the Cylburn Arboretum. The only condition was matching funds should be raised. And, initially, she did not want to be publicly named as the benefactor. The groundbreaking was held in 2008 and the opening of the Vollmer Center was celebrated in April of 2010. It is a model of green technology illustrating how to reduce energy use and conserve water and represents the forward thinking of an individual who made a lasting impact on the world of gardening.

Pauline Vollmer, FGCMMD; Richard Cole, Maryland Horticultural Society & Wanda S. Durden, Director Baltimore City Recreation & Parks at Cylburn Groundbreaking on June 3, 2008

News from Around the State

District I - Eastern Shore

Caroline, Cecil,

Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Talbot, Worcester

Trish Reynolds precynolds@goeaston.net

Doris Key, District I Director

The highlight for me as District Director is that I feel honored to have been part of District I as we learned to adapt in a crisis.

Early in the pandemic, face masks were extremely hard to come by, we were all on a stay at home order and unable to meet. I was helping a friend with her start up organization Face Masks for Maryland to seek out people to make face masks and donate them to

Anne Arundel Medical Center and later assisted living centers, military members, nursing homes, and more. I sent an e-mail to garden club presidents asking for volunteers to sew face masks. I was stunned at the responses by so many members who have sewing machines (who knew???) and happily traded in their garden gloves to sew face masks for donation. District I garden clubs across the shore made face masks, as well as found other ways to support their local hospitals, nursing homes, assisted living centers, and more. As I drove to various safe outdoor destinations to meet members to drop supplies or pick up face masks for donation, I had the opportunity to get to know more District I members than I may not otherwise have been able to meet during the pandemic.

The amazing members of District I quickly adapted to changing times and rose to the challenge of keeping members active and engaged, whether it be from making face masks in those early months of the pandemic, holding "Mo Wine Monday's at a President's house, generating the most awesome newsletter "The Garden Basket," or a fun growing challenge, virtual meetings and presentations, District I is innovative to say the least.

District I is holding a Zoom meeting for its Annual meeting on Tuesday, March 9th. The 2021-2023 District I officers will be installed during this meeting. The new officers are:

Director: Jeanne Bernard Dorchester Garden Club
 Asst. Director: Terry Holman Oxford Garden Club
 Rec. Secretary: Linda Elias Kent Island Garden Club
 Cor. Secty: Ann Street Four Seasons Garden Club
 Treasurer: Pat Jessup Oxford Garden Club

District II - Southern Maryland

Anne Arundel,

Calvert, Charles County, Prince George's, St. Mary's County

Carolyn Leahy cleahy09@verizon.net

Donna Roberts, District II Director

Hitting us right before the 2019 Annual Meeting, Covid stole our chances of our customary social meetings. In the midst of a pandemic, Clubs have found a way to do their Garden Therapy, Special Projects, and Programs in the best way possible. Judy Moe (St. Mary's Garden Club) found a way to make Alice Rush

McKeon Tree Planting happen at the entrance to Flag Ponds Nature Center in Calvert County in spite of the many zigs and zags in the road to completion. Calvert Garden Club hosted their Annual Art Blooms at Ann Marie Gardens. Sixteen Garden Clubs participated in the Naval Academy Wreaths at State Circle. I could go on.

Our Theme for 2019-2021 was "Cultivating the Garden Club" and Covid made sure we did just that. I am proud of all the Clubs in District II for finding their way to stay motivated and acting proactively and with positivity. I am proud of the DII Clubs kindness shown to each other, the eagerness to learn Zoom, and the summer outdoor meetings.

Our District II Annual Meeting is scheduled for March 12, 2021 via Zoom. Our Business Meeting is scheduled for 10 am-11 am and will include the Installation of Officers for 2021-2023 term. Incoming Officers for 2021-2023 are:

Director, Carolyn Leahy (Chesapeake)
 Asst. Director, Rose Gazarek (Crossroads of Hughesville)
 Recording Secretary, Beth Havlik (Moonflower)
 Cor. Secty. Peggy Turnblacer (Hollyberry)
 Treasurer, Tammy Fawcett (Shipley's Choice)

Our program "**Welcome Daffodils – Messengers of Spring!**" will begin at 11:00AM. Our speaker is Jane Godshalk AFID a wonderful designer who teaches at Longwood Gardens. Jane is an outstanding presenter - her special gift is the art of explaining the how's and why's of creating a floral arrangement. Jane will review the 13 Divisions of Daffodils, explain special conditioning requirements, and will design three unique arrangements using daffodils. You don't want to miss this!

- Carolyn Leahy, Assistant Director

News from Around the State

District III - Baltimore and Harford Counties

Nancy Null nnull@verizon.net



Ana Marie Colwill, District III Director

District III's 68th Annual Meeting on March 5th 2021 highlights "A Bouquet of Spring-time". The meeting honors Susan Palmer, a treasured resource-guardian of old and new traditions.

Claire Jones, York Manor Garden Club, will present "Home-Grown Bouquets: Designs, Growing, Mechanics," showcasing florals Claire has grown in her greenhouse or gardens. Claire, the incoming Director of District III, is uniquely qualified to provide leadership for the District. Chosen to decorate the White House for Christmas in 2011, 2015, and 2017. Claire is a horticult-uralist, landscape design consultant and floral designer. Owner of Claire Jones Landscapes, LLC, Claire's designed gardens have been featured in *Chesapeake Home*, *Style Magazine*, *Garden Design*, *Wall Street Journal*, and national garden tours. Claire shares her horticultural and design knowledge through frequent presentations around the country. Claire has won numerous design awards in floral design competitions. Claire is also a Master Judge and a past FGCMMD District III Director. Claire maintains three honeybee hives in a meadow at her home in Mary-land.

Supporting Claire for 2021-2023 are Assistant Director Mary Carol Bruff, past President and current member of Glen Arm Garden Club; Recording Secretary Patricia Vandrey, current President of Evergreen Garden Club; Corresponding Secretary Mary Ellen Pluemer, past President of Hampton Garden Club and current Recording Secretary; and second-time Treasurer Naureen Fisher, Country Garden Club of Harford County.

I am proud of the creative ways our clubs are coping with this trying year. Keeping our connections and commitments has been a struggle, but we are surviving!

District IV - Baltimore City



Eleanor Oster
District IV Director

The new officers for District IV who will be installed at the March 17 Annual meeting are:

- DISTRICT IV DIRECTOR: Maidie Podles
- ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: Eleanor Oster
- TREASURER: Brian Causey
- SECRETARY: Kathrine Edwards

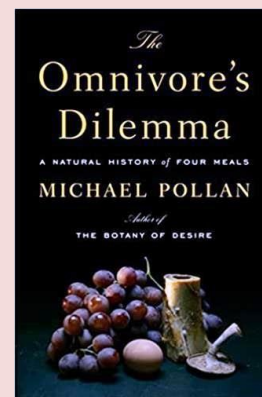
FGCMD Virtual Book Club

April 9, 2021

1:00 PM.

The book will be "The Omnivore's Dilemma"

by Michael Pollan



News from Around the State

District V - Western Maryland Allegany, Carroll, Frederick, Garrett, Howard, Montgomery, Washington



*Tina Swanson
Acting District V Director*

Many may not know that Marjorie Schiebel resigned as District V Director in early January 2021. Thank you, Marjorie for your service to FGCMMD. As Acting Director, I will finish Marjorie's term ending at the March 23, 2021 FGCMMD Annual Meeting.

The incoming District V 2021-2023 officers are: Sue Christensen- District V Director; Shelley Johnson - Assistant Director; Donna Fuss - Treasurer; Christa

Pusateri - Recording Secretary; Mikki Stratmeyer - Corresponding Secretary.

It has been a year since District V members gathered in person at Holly Hills Country Club for our March 2020 Annual meeting. At that time, we had no idea how the pandemic would change our lives. A year marked by fundraiser, field trip, and flower show cancelations was held together by outdoor gatherings, zoom meetings, virtual workshops, and newsletters. Our clubs found ways to keep members in touch and involved in Garden Club and their communities.

Some highlights: At a local senior center's request, Howard Count GC presented virtual online educational programs including "Herbs for the Senses", "Flowers and Feathers" and "Bee Friendly Plants" for the EC50+ Center. Town & Country GC

met at Brooke's House, a home for adult women recovering from addiction, to hear how the Club's newly planted butterfly garden symbolized recovery at Brooke's House. The GC of Cumberland worked in collaboration with the "Let's Beautify Cumberland" project in historic Cumberland. Green-walled GC held 4 successful fundraisers during the pandemic and will donate some of the funds, \$200 a month, to different non-profits in their community for the next 6 months. The fundraisers included a "Fall Plant Sale", a local nursery "Gift Cards Sale" earning the club \$5 for each \$25 gift card sold, a joyful club virtual Christmas Auction of donated items, and a local florist virtual flower arranging program for the club in which the designs were auctioned off. The Club also has an ongoing "ShopWithScrip" fundraiser with many retailers on the list indicating how much the club will earn in rebates! Looking to a brighter vaccinated future, plants sales and other events are in the planning by our clubs. Mountain Laurel is working on their annual Country Gardens Tour featuring a farm theme with two unique farm setting gardens plus one extensive residential garden. \$10 tickets: bhpotts04@hotmail.com.

We were thrilled to hear that our friend and frequent Club and District Program Speaker Carrie Engel, also know as the Plant Lady and Gardening Expert on Channel 11 News, was awarded the 2020 Professional Achievement Award from the Maryland Nursery, Landscape and Greenhouse Association. Carrie is the third female to earn this award since 1946. A well-deserved recognition to an outstanding Gardening Expert!

TURF VALLEY SAFETY PROTOCOLS

- ◆ Increased amount of **hand disinfecting** stations throughout the property and complimentary disinfecting wipes.
- ◆ Face masks are required for all staff, in accordance with CDC Guidelines. Some employees may wear gloves as appropriate
- ◆ Signage and distance indicators will be used throughout the hotel in high-traffic areas to allow for proper social distancing.
- ◆ Minimized contact points throughout several departments through wireless technology.
- ◆ Increased our cleaning schedules & procedures to ensure high-touch areas are attended to more regularly, with even more vigorous cleaning methods.
- ◆ Modified queues & reconfigured floorplans to allow six feet of distance, as well as elevator occupancy limits.

FGCMMD REQUESTS:

Everyone is asked to wear cloth face coverings when moving from their seat.

DO NOT ATTEND IF YOU HAVE A FEVER ABOVE 100 DEGREES. CDC DOESN'T RECOMMEND IT.

2021 Annual Meeting



The Call

92nd Annual Meeting Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland Tuesday, March 23, 2021- Turf Valley Resort and Hotel

All FGCMD members are invited to attend the State’s Annual Meeting and welcome NGC President-Elect Mary Warshauer. You may attend in person or via Zoom.

There will be two links via Zoom:

1) for AWARDS PRESENTATION/INSTALLATION Cost: \$10.00. 2) for PROGRAM Cost: \$20.00.

| | | |
|--|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Registration | 8:00 AM – 11:45 AM | Outside Grand Ballroom |
| Vendor Shopping | 8:00 AM - 12:30 AM | |
| Awards Presentation & Officers Installation | 9:30 AM – 11:00 PM | Grand Ballroom |
| Open Bar | 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM | Grand Ballroom |
| Luncheon | 11:45 AM – 12:45 PM | Grand Ballroom |
| Program | 12:45 PM – 1:30 PM | Grand Ballroom |

AWARDS: The State Awards will be presented at this time. District and Youth Awards will be presented at each District’s Annual Meeting.

REPORTS: District Directors’ reports will be posted on the website. With the exception of the Treasurer, all Officers and Chairmen are asked to submit written reports to the Recording Secretary. A request for oral report time must be submitted to the President by March 5th.

INSTALLATION: NGC President-Elect Mary Warshauer will install the new officers for 2021-2023

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| President | Anna O’Kelly |
| 1 st Vice President | Susie Middleton |
| 2 nd Vice President | Marcia Richard |
| Treasurer | Donna Miller |
| Recording Secretary | Trish Reynolds |
| Corresponding Secretary | Linda Tingle |

| |
|---|
| LUNCHEON: Cost, \$45.00 |
| House Salad, Chicken Marsala with Asparagus, Mini Roasted Potatoes, Lemon Raspberry Cake, Coffee and Tea |

PROGRAM: Summer Rayne Oakes will be the featured speaker. Summer Rayne Oakes is a Media Influencer, an American fashion model, environmental activist, author, and entrepreneur, known as the world's first "eco-model". She will be telling us, “How to Make a Plant Love You”. Summer's book will be available for purchase.

VENDORS: Selected VENDORS for your shopping pleasure.

| | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| <i>Support for the FGCMD’s Annual Meeting provided by The Graham Group of Robert W. Baird & Company Inc.</i> | |
| <i>Special gift provided by Espoma</i> | |
| For Turf Valley Room Reservations: Group Code 28A1LK | Cut-off Date: 2/23/2021 |
| NOTE: Please follow Turf Valley’s Pandemic Protocol concerning the COVID virus. | |