Greetings!

It's a REALLY busy week for me and the Natureworks staff. Friday night Kassie and I are going to be auctioneers at the CT Horticultural Society Plant Auction in Vernon. Saturday morning I am teaching Dividing Perennials at Natureworks. Then, I high tail it up to co-host Garden Talk with Scott Reil on WTIC radio from noon to 2 pm while, back at Natureworks, Jude Hsiang is teaching a marvelous class: Learn to Dye using Natural Plant Materials. I saw this process in action this summer when my husband and I visited Old Sturbridge Village. We are honored to host Jude at Natureworks. In between, I am doing tons of consultations, garden
Jude Hsiang is back teaching her class on learning to dye using natural plant materials. This Saturday! Sign up today with a friend.

red Persicaria and asters of every sort, my favorite fall perennial. We've got an entire long bench filled with over 18 types of asters! Who does that? We do! Why? Because we are all about providing nectar for pollinators and asters perform this task efficiently and with great beauty.

Fall is about all kinds of colorful plants. We have 3 varieties of late blooming Liatris. Our beautyberry shrubs (Callicarpa) are dripping with dayglow purple berries. October sedum (Sedum sieboldii) is just so pretty with succulent blue-gray leaves and pink flowers. 'Azure Blue' cranesbill geraniums are reblooming strong in our gardens and on our benches, as is Persicaria 'Firetail'. We have a new WHITE Vernonia (ironweed) as well as 'Iron Butterfly', a really pretty compact, threadleaf form. We have Echinaceas in every fall color imagineable. And don't forget all the designs, and bulb plans while supervising landscape installation jobs and rearranging perennials with my crews. I am constantly drawn into my gardens and find myself wandering around, soaking up the beauty and listening to the bees. I said to my husband on Monday "I LOVE the way my garden looks right now." That is because it is soft and full and overflowing with color. Woven into the dramatic "punch" flowers like orange zinnias and dark
Eupatoriums are in bloom in our gardens and on our benches. Eupatoriums- blue, white, pink, tall, short, fluffy, and beautiful. Got shade? We’ve got Chelone lyonii 'Hot Lips', pink turtlehead. You can see it in our shade garden in full bloom along with Japanese anemones and Kirengeshoma.

This week our **Colchicum bulbs** are blooming like crazy in the gardens. NOW is the time to plant them- they will bloom this year, but next year they will be magnificent. Mark your calendars, next weekend (October 8th and 9th) is our 7th annual **Bulbs for Breast Cancer** fundraising weekend. I will be teaching a workshop on how to choose and place spring blooming bulbs in your landscape.

I am eating from my garden every day. This is the first of many Long Island Cheese pumpkins. I stuffed it and baked it. Yum!

I am eating from the garden every day. My green beans are abundant, as is my zucchini, both July crops I planted from seed. I continue to plant fall bearing raspberries each year and I was proud to present a full bowl to my husband for his breakfast cereal earlier this week. My radishes bolted from the September heat so I am planting them again. The 'Mikado' baby turnips didn't bolt- and I am still planting them again as they only take 30 days. I am also replanting lettuce, in hopes that we have a long, lingering, warm fall. My escarole is amazing and my frisee has been adding some *zip* to our salads for over a week now. But the most important edible to get your hands on right now is our **organic, hardneck SEED GARLIC**. Last year, we ran out fast. We have all of the varieties in the shop now. Even if you don't plan on planting it for while, grab it this week to be sure you get what you want. Check out the article below on **How to Grow Great Garlic**. Don't forget to feed it with Pro Gro organic fertilizer and mulch with Lucerne Farms chopped straw. (The straw is on sale for 30% off each bale-see sale section below) It makes a big difference. Diane's son Henry did just that and he won a blue ribbon at the Durham Fair last weekend for his amazing garlic! Congratulations Henry!
Another hot item that sold out last year is in stock: our 2017 Gardening with the Moon Calendar. I have one at home and one in the office at Natureworks. I have written an interesting handout on how and why this works- ask for it when you pick up your copy of the calendar. It also makes a great gift.

Diane is teaching a class on planting milkweed from seed as well as the end of the season Monarch raising wrap up on Sunday, October 9th. Mark your calendars.

We are recuperating from spending four days at the Discovery Tent at the Durham Fair with our Butterfly and Pollinator Booth. We still have almost 200 monarch butterfly chrysalises that haven't hatched (eclosed) yet- some hatch each day and we release them in the afternoon! All of the monarchs that we release now are
Got bulbs? We do! This is *Muscari latifolium*, a wonderful species of grape hyacinth that makes a fabulous cut flower.

To answer your question "are any bulbs native to America?" the answer is yes. Plant Camassias! They are also the only bulb I know of that we sell that can take wet soil.

I look forward to seeing you soon...

Nancy
Check out Solidago caesia, a non-suckering, very ornamental variety of goldenrod.

Two Great Natives

Fall is the time when our ornamental grasses come into their glory. I am in love with native switch grass, Panicum virgatum, and use it in many places in my home landscape. I find it completely carefree, deer proof, and great for flower arrangements. My favorite variety is Panicum 'Ruby Ribbons', bred by Dr. Mark Brand at the University of CT. What makes this variety stand out is that the blue green leaves start to change to burgundy in early summer. By fall, they are so striking that everyone asks about this plant. It grows 4' tall and 3' wide, an ideal size for most yards. It likes full sun and doesn't need to be irrigated or fed in the summer. Totally carefree and beautiful, this is a great grass.

Panicum 'Ruby Ribbons' adds such grace to this combination. Also note the threadleaf dwarf Amsonia 'Spring Sky' to the left of the gourds. It only grows 18" tall. The foliage turns brilliant yellow in the fall.

Do you grow fall Solidagos? Goldenrod, yikes! This native plant continues to get a bad wrap and it is SO TOTALLY not the cause of hayfever-ragwort is. I saw a funny Facebook post that explained it best. Ragweed is wind pollinated, thus the
allergies. Goldenrod is pollinated by bees. This post said that in order to get hayfever from it you would "literally have to shove it up your nose"!!! Ha! There are tons of different kinds of goldenrod. Some are native but also real garden thugs, quickly taking over your garden or meadow because they are so vigorous. Others are not and make really garden-worthy plants. When I was camping in the Adirondacks a few weeks ago, I kept noticing long, wispy sprays of goldenrod in the darkest areas of the woods. We have quite a few varieties on our benches and strongly urge you to try them, perhaps in combination with Panicum 'Ruby Ribbons' and asters, in your fall landscape. You will find, as I do, that as you approach them you will hear the sound of the bees buzzing before you even see them.

How to Grow Great Garlic

1. Plant cloves directly in the ground about 4-6 weeks before the soil freezes (usually not until mid to late December in Connecticut). Each clove will produce one plant with a single bulb - which may in turn contain up to twenty cloves.

2. Choose a garden site that gets plenty of sun and where the soil is not too damp. To avoid disease problems, don't plant garlic in the same spot two years running.

3. Dig to a depth of 8 to 12 inches, and amend the soil with a 2-3 inch layer of compost to ensure the ideal combination of fertility, good drainage and moisture retention. Add a pinch of Pro Gro organic fertilizer to each planting hole.

4. Remove all traces of weeds; they'll easily win out over garlic's grass-like foliage.

5. Plant only the largest cloves from the bulb, and discard any that are pitted
6. Set unpeeled cloves, pointy end up, 2 inches deep and 4 inches apart. Rows should be about 14-18 inches apart.

7. Top-dress the plants with compost. Once the ground has frozen, mulch the bed (chopped leaves or shredded straw are good for this) to protect plants from the cold. If you skip this step, your cloves will heave out of the ground as it freezes.

8. Remove the mulch in spring so the sun can warm the soil, and then feed with Pro Gro organic fertilizer and add a fresh layer of mulch when new growth begins. To ensure large bulbs, cut off any flower stalks that develop (these are called scapes and are not only edible, they are a delicacy) and fertilize young plants with fish emulsion twice during the spring and early summer.

9. Provide an inch of water a week.

10. Clip garlic leaves to use any time, but remove no more than 1/4 of a plant's top growth or you'll reduce bulb size.

11. Begin harvesting bulbs in early summer when the plants have five or six green leaves, with no more than one or two beginning to turn brown. In our area of CT, that is usually in July.

12. To harvest, drive a garden fork beneath the plants (be careful not to damage the bulbs), gently pry them loose, and then pull them out. Shake off any excess soil, and lay the plants in a pile. As soon as you've finished harvesting, move the plants to an airy location that is protected from sun and rain.

13. To cure garlic in preparation for storage, hang the bare bulbs with their foliage in bundles or spread them out on a table or rack. You can begin eating them right away, but bulbs intended for storage must be cured.

14. After a few weeks of curing, clean the bulbs carefully. Trim the stalks to 1 1/2 inch above the bulb, and trim the roots close to the bulb. Rub off the
outer layer of skin around the bulb, and use a nailbrush or toothbrush to gently remove any soil clinging to the base. Try not to remove more wrapper layers than you have to. Store the bulbs in a well-ventilated, dark spot. Set aside the biggest bulbs for planting in the fall.

The information provided was compiled from our experience at Natureworks and several website sources: www.finegardening.com; www.garlic-central.com; and www.garlicfarm.com

2016 Certified Organic Garlic Varieties Offered by Natureworks

**Music:** Hardneck porcelain type garlic with large succulent cloves, usually 4-5 per bulb. Tight white skins make them excellent for storage; although not suitable for braiding they can be tied and hung in attractive bundles.

**Georgian Fire:** Hardneck porcelain type with large cloves. Garlic with blushed inner skins. Described as "fiery", this variety sports large cloves and stores well. Maine-grown!

**German Extra Hardy:** Hardneck porcelain type with large, succulent cloves. 3-5 bulbs per bulb with a strong, robust flavor. Tight, white skin makes it a very good storage variety.

**Russian Red:** Hardneck Rocambole type. Reddish burgundy skin and light brown cloves. Spicy, deep garlic flavor. 6-12 cloves per bulb. Always delicious!

**Garlic Terminology**

Porcelain Type- Larger cloves, full bodied, stores well. 
Rocambole Type-One set of smaller cloves around woody stem which peel easily. Rich, full-bodied taste, stores well.
Bi-Weekly Specials

Thursday, September 29th
through Wednesday, October 12th

Save 20% on
Fall Blooming Anemones

Save 30% on
Lucerne Farms chopped straw
Great for reseeding lawns, mulching veggie beds, especially your garlic.

Save 50% on
Fall Veggie Seedlings

And if that isn't enough... we still have TONS of plants on our Thrifty Gardener's Bench.
Half price! Lots of plants!
WOW!

Sale applies to in-stock items, while supplies last and does not apply to special orders.

Upcoming Events
Scott Reil has asked Nancy DuBrule-Clemente to co-host Garden Talk on WTIC 1080 AM. You can hear their lively discussions on October 1.

NEWS FLASH- tune in to the first hour to hear garden guru Alan Armitage chatting with us. I am SO excited!

Garden Talk airs Saturdays 12:00-2:00 pm.

To listen live or to replay the archived Garden Talk shows on your computer or other device, http://connecticut.cbslocal.com/audio/garden-talk/

You can also listen live on radio.com, http://player.radio.com/listen/station/1080-wtic-newstalk

Saturday, October 1st

9:30-10:30 am  Multiplication by Division: How to Divide Perennials in the Fall
As the weather cools down in October, it is time to dig and divide your spring and summer blooming perennials. Nancy will explain which perennials need division, how often to do it, and the basic techniques based on the type of plant and root system that it has. This workshop is timed so that you can understand the process and work on your own gardens for the rest of October into early November.

11:30 am-1:30 pm  Learn to Dye using Beautiful Plant Materials with Jude Hsiang
Jude Hsiang is bringing her expertise to Natureworks and will guide you through the process of dyeing your own silk scarf. During this workshop, Jude will have samples and finished items to inspire you in your own creations. A "recipe" for dyeing and a
A resource list will be provided for all participants. Judewill also demonstrate activities that can be done with kids. She is a UCONN Certified Advanced Master Gardener and a Connecticut Accredited Nursery Professional. She serves on the boards of the Connecticut Botanical Society and Experiment Station Associates.

Registration in advance is required. FEE: $35, you will be provided with a silk scarf to dye and bring home. Class limited to 12 participants. There is a rain date of Sunday, Oct. 2nd 11:30-1:30 for this event.

---

NATUREWORKS IN HAMDEN AT THE 2016 NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION FAIR

TUESDAY, OCT. 4 (student day for middle school and high school students and the general public), CLICK FOR DETAILS.

Saturday, October 8th and Sunday, October 9th
ALL DAY BOTH DAYS!

7th Annual Bulbs for Breast Cancer Fundraiser: Raffles, Refreshments and more!

10% of all bulb sales during this weekend will be donated by Natureworks to After the Storm, Inc. a local non-profit group that assists cancer survivors to heal emotionally, physically and spiritually. They are well known for distributing funds to local hospitals for these special programs. Make your bulb buying dollars count while creating a beautiful spring garden.

Saturday, October 8th
9:30-10:30 am Falling in LOVE with Bulbs
Join Nancy as she introduces you to her favorite bulbs, many of them little known, underused, and quite unusual. She will then teach you how to decide where to place your bulbs in your gardens and borders for maximum color and effect. End the workshop by picking out some bulbs with Nancy so she can share her tricks of the trade to ensure success.

Sunday, October 9th
1:00-2:00 pm Monarchs and Milkweed - Be Ready for 2017
Join us for a discussion of the 2016 monarch season here in Connecticut. Learn how to prepare your butterfly garden for success in 2017. Since the process appears somewhat involved, we will demonstrate how we sow, stratify and grow common milkweed from seed.
Click a Quick Link for more Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Our Website</th>
<th>Buy a Gift Certificate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employment Opportunities</td>
<td>Landscaping Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Handouts</td>
<td>Natureworks App Details</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organic Lawn Care Info.</td>
<td>Veggies-Incredible Edibles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The DuBrule Diaries Blog</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FALL HOURS**
Monday - Saturday 9-5 and Sunday 10-4

Natureworks Horticultural Services  [map](map)
518 Forest Road, Northford, CT  06472
[ naturework.com ]  |  nature@icnn.net

STAY CONNECTED: