

# NATUREWORKS



## Seedy Sunday This Weekend!

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Greetings!

Every gardener keeps track of time based on certain milestones. For me, the first snowdrop is one sign that spring is coming. Tossing out vases of greens and replacing them with branches of pussywillows and witch hazels is another. The smell of the intoxicating flowers on my winter jasmine plant (*Jasminum polyanthum*) filling my home office is another. But the FIRST sign for Natureworks customers has got to be the first official email of the year and the announcement that Seedy Sunday is this weekend! Yay!



Check your snowdrops folks. I have had a few reports of flowers opening. Mine are up and budded.

We know how important this day is to you because so many of you said goodbye at Christmas time by saying... "See you on Seedy Sunday!". It truly is a celebration. Happy, excited gardeners cram the shop from morning till late in the afternoon, shopping seeds, talking gardens, and make decisions that will determine what their gardens will be like for the growing season ahead. My staff is very busy restocking the organic seed starting soil, trays, cow pots, heat mats, soil thermometers, organic fertilizers, and everything else needed to get growing. I take on the job of loading the racks. We have SIX seed suppliers this year and I have



**Seedy Sunday Special:\$5 off Germination Station-see coupon below**



spent countless hours carefully choosing the seeds to assure a wide and diverse selection. There are over 22 varieties of zinnias, 19 varieties of nasturtiums, 14 types of sunflowers, 17 kinds of lettuce and mesclun, 10 varieties of radishes and nearly 30 types of tomatoes! Who does this? We do, total garden geeks hopelessly devoted to growing plants from

seed.



Not only do we focus on seeds to grow all sorts of food, we have a full rack of flowers, including 5 kinds of Asclepias, including milkweed and butterfly weed. We have seeds for pollinators, edible flowers, and those that butterflies need for larval food or nectar. We have old fashioned flowers like annual bachelor's buttons and foxgloves, cutting flowers

such as cosmos and Verbena bonariensis, flowers for drying like globe amaranth and strawflowers... you get the picture. Herbs too- lots of different basil, 'Grandma

Eincks' heirloom dill, giant heirloom Italian parsley, and unusual herbs such as Perilla and Stevia.

At this time of year, we are all craving fresh food. One of the quickest, easiest, and best ways to assure fresh greens right now is to grow **microgreens** in the house. We have not only restocked our microgreen seeds, we have many new blends to offer you as well as the trays and containers and **INFORMATION** you need to grow them.



I think growing plants from seeds is a miraculous process. It is also a way to get lots of plants inexpensively. When you buy heirloom, open pollinated seeds, you are taking part in an important ritual-

saving our genetic diversity for future generations. The large corporations that have bought up so many seed houses focus on complex hybrids and genetically engineered plants that are sterile. You have to buy the seeds every year. That is not sustainable, and I certainly don't want my food in their control. Do what centuries of gardeners and farmers have done. Grow plants, save the seeds of your best varieties, and replant them. Pass them along. Trade with friends. It's an ancient cycle of life that we can all participate in.



**Got Zinnias?**



**Verbena bonariensis**



This Sunday is also your opportunity to buy **Discount Ct Flower and Garden Show tickets** (priced at \$14) as well as grab your copy of our **Gardening with the Moon Calendar** before they sell out. Looking to do some indoor gardening? Pick up the supplies that you need to plant a terrarium or a miniature garden- we actually have some really nice Itty Bitty plants in stock and all the supplies you need. Grab a couple of Amaryllis bulbs and pot them up while you're at it. You can never have enough color on your February and March windowsill. Those months can be so long.



With the start of the 2017 year, welcome our customers to enjoy the sense of hope and positive change that Natureworks represents. It has been a difficult January, and the world just seems to be going a bit crazy. Let nature be your grounding force. We will share with you ideas that promote sustainability and teach you how to make your world a better place. We will continue to work tirelessly for organic growing methods. We know that climate change is real and is affecting us.

Natureworks is a safe harbor from the world. So is your yard and garden. Unplug as often as you can, even if it means sitting down at your kitchen table and sowing some microgreen seeds or wandering outside and counting how many different birds you see in your backyard. I take long walks with my husband up and down the hills of our neighborhood in the winter; it is a blessing to have the time to join him on these walks and we talk about so many things. Of course, as I walk, I am constantly observing the woods, the side of the road, and people's yards to seek out signs of spring and see what my neighbors have planted.



**We will be open this Sunday, February 5th, from 9 am until 4 pm.** I do hope you can stop in and share in the festivities as we once again host our annual Seedy Sunday party. It's an event that we all need right now.

I'll see you then...

*Nancy*

P.S. When you stop in, you'll see we have some great items marked as half-off their original prices. Those are Amaryllis bulbs, Hyacinth bulbs as well as Fairy and Miniature Gardening items. And we may have a few more items to surprise you!



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**What to Do in your Garden NOW**



**Pick winter witch hazel branches and force them in vases in the house. You will be surprised that it will only take a few day for them to pop open.**

I mentioned to my husband that I was writing an email this week and was going to include an article on what to do in the garden now. He said "only YOU could come up with something to do outside in the winter". Ha! He's right. There are a few things that we should and could do. I am a believer in getting outside on any mild, sunny day at this time of year, soaking up vitamin D and breathing in fresh air.



**Cut down and discard any bearded iris foliage you have as it harbors iris borer larvae. Do this before the next snowstorm and you will be very proud of yourself!**

1. The one thing you really SHOULD do right now is cut down any bearded (German) iris foliage still remaining in your gardens. We tend to leave the leaves up on this perennial as they are green and growing as we head into December. BUT, the iris borer is a night flying moth that lays its eggs on bearded iris foliage in the fall. If you don't remove and DISCARD (not compost) this foliage, the larvae hatch in the spring, tunnel down the leaves, and end up destroying the rhizomes. Grab your garden sickle and get out there. If you can't burn the leaves, throw them in the garbage.

2. Pick some branches of winter witch hazels, quince, hardy yellow winter jasmine

(Jasminum nudiflorum), and winter honeysuckle (Lonicera fragrantissima) and bring them in the house to force into bloom. Any shrubs that bloom in March or April will force well. The general rule is to cut them six weeks before their regular bloom time.



**You can force quince branches now**

3. Check your pussywillows. Mine are just beginning to crack and I am bringing them in the house, opening them all the way in water, and then dumping out the water so that they dry as a catkin. If you leave them in water, the fuzzy catkin becomes a yellow flower and they won't last.



**My fasciated pussywillow branches are starting to open.**

4. Check your Hellebores. Many of mine are budded. I peek at them, say hello, then tuck the leaves and branches back around them if it looks like it's going to be very cold or snowy.



**Hellebore buds are starting to show in my shade garden**

5. Check the gardens on the sunny side of your house. With alternate warm and cold temperatures, some of your newly planted perennials may have heaved up out the ground. Reset them and tuck them back in for a few months more of rest.

**SAVE \$5 on your Germination Station**



## One Day Only

This year we are offering a boxed kit called Germination Station. The kit contains a plastic tray and vented cover as well as a plastic 72 cell insert. An electrical heat mat, sized for the tray, is also included. On Seedy Sunday, the kit will sell for \$39.99 and you can use this coupon to save \$5 off that price.

Offer is good while supplies last and expires at 4pm on 2/5/2017.

[Click Here](#) to print this coupon  
or just show an electronic version to our cashier when making your purchase.

## This is where you can find us during the Winter and early Spring.



Classes are held at the Zion Episcopal Church and they are very popular. Sign up early to get a discount.

**Our Natureworks 2017 Winter and Early Spring Class Brochure is ready!**  
Click here to download the brochure and register for classes. Invite your friends and neighbors to attend our classes- change is made one garden, one yard at a



time.

[Click Here](#) to download the full Class Brochure pdf.

If you'd like to download the registration page alone, [Click Here](#).

Prefer to pay on-line? Our gardening classes web page now accepts on-line payments for classes. [Click Here](#) to view class information and pay on-line.



Some people think we slow down when our landscape crews finish for the year and the retail shop doors close for the Winter, but that's not the case. Below you will see a list of events that we are participating in. Please check with the organization hosting the event for up to date details and directions. Garden club dates have been included in this list, but some garden club meetings are not open to the public, so please check with them first.



Sunday, February 5, 2017 9 am - 4 pm

### **Seedy Sunday at Natureworks**

This is the one day that we are open during the Winter. Stop in for your seeds and seed starting supplies.

Tuesday, February 7, 2017 approx. 2 pm lecture

Greens Farms Garden Club

### **The Healing Power of Plants**

Please check with the garden club to see if there is a fee and if the general public is invited.

Thursday through Sunday, February 23-26, 2017

Connecticut Flower and Garden Show

[www.northeastexpos.com](http://www.northeastexpos.com)

[www.ctflowershow.com](http://www.ctflowershow.com)

Natureworks will have a vendor booth and an educational booth. Nancy will be lecturing in multiple time slots so please check the Seminars page for dates/times/topics. You can stop in at Natureworks on Seedy Sunday to

purchase \$14 discount admission tickets (while supply lasts).

Monday, March 6, 2017

2 pm lecture

Essex Garden Club  
and Essex Land Trust

**Save the Monarchs**

Please check with the garden club to see if there is a fee and if the general public is invited.



Saturday/Sunday, March 11 & 12, 2017

CT NOFA Winter Conference (Northeast Organic Farmers Assn.)

This conference is being held in Danbury, Ct and Natureworks will have a vendor table. You can find all of the details at [ctnofa.org/winterconference](http://ctnofa.org/winterconference)

Tuesday, March 14, 2017 approx. 12:45 lecture

Garden Club of Madison

**Simplifying your Garden (plus new plant recommendations for 2017)**

Please check with the garden club to see if there is a fee and if the general public is invited.

Wednesday, March 15, 2017 7 pm lecture

Country Gardeners of Glastonbury

**Simplifying your Garden**

Please check with the garden club to see if there is a fee and if the general public is invited.

Saturday, March 18, 2017

CMGA Symposium (Ct. Master Gardener Association)

[www.ctmga.org](http://www.ctmga.org)

Natureworks will have a vendor booth and Nancy lecture is **The Bookends of the Gardening Year: Planting for early and late season pollinators.**

Thursday, April 13, 2017 6:30 pm lecture

Arbor Garden Club of Clinton and Westbrook Garden Club

**Superior Plants for Connecticut Gardens**

Please check with the garden club to see if there is a fee and if the general public is invited.

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Click a Quick Link for more Information

[Our Website](#)

[Buy a Gift Certificate](#)

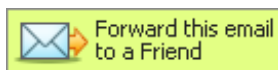
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<a href="#">Organic Lawn Care Info.</a>	<a href="#">Natureworks App Details</a>
<a href="#">The DuBrule Diaries Blog</a>	<a href="#">Veggies-Incredible Edibles</a>

### RETAIL SHOP HOURS

Seedy Sunday, Feb. 5th 9 am-4 pm

Join us on this one day during the Winter when we will be open.

*If the weather is bad, we will post an update on Facebook alerting you to the fact that we will be rescheduling to the following Sunday, February 12 9 am-4 pm.*



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