

Landscape and Garden Committee
Winter and Spring Report
2014

End of Season 2013:

Carolyn worked with Kathy VanGorder to assess 2013 plant liabilities/issues to begin to build a list of plants to order for 2014.

Soil tests were taken on problematic beds in the Terrace Garden and bed 2 of the Entrance Garden.

Tom McIntyre began pruning of ornamentals in the Wild Garden by shed.

Fall leaves were collected and shredded and stored to use as mulch in 2014.

Rosemary plants that could no longer be wintered at Surry Garden were repotted in plastic pots to reduce weight and condensation then wintered inside on a tarp in the bathroom.

Winterization of the Terrace Garden included:

- Burlap screens installed around heather garden
- Deer net installed
- Mulch mounded over roses and styrofoam rose cones
- Brush laid over heathers

January - March 2014

Rosemary pots were checked and rotated on a regular basis throughout the winter. Pruning was done in stages over late winter/early spring to reduce the size of the plants.

Carolyn handled the Terrace Garden plant order working with Islandscaping for part of the order. To hold down costs, plants requiring special handling were shipped directly to her. Seeds for unusual filler plants on Farrand's Terrace Garden were located and ordered.

April - May 2014

The septic field behind the Terrace Garden has been mowed for 2014.

Carolyn has been on site weekly with the gardener to help set priorities for the season, advise on clematis pruning, help prune heather and assist with renewal pruning of the overgrown lavenders. Assistance has also been given evaluating plant material viability as the growing season was delayed and the winter was

harsh. Beds were amended according to soil test results, then top dressed with seafood compost. The ducks (Phoenix and Jemima VanGorder) have returned to manage the snail and slug populations in both the Terrace and Holding Gardens.

Seeds for annual filler plants were sown early April and are currently growing under lights. Replacement plant material and annuals will be planted when the garden soil warms.

Rosemary plants were aggressively root pruned and returned to the original terracotta pots. Plants are sheltered while recovering but will return to the proper site by the Entrance Garden fence before the beginning Open Day.

Dave, Carolyn and Isabel met with Billy Guess to evaluate tree health discuss arborist work for 2014. Dave and Carolyn met with Tom to discuss 2014 priority work and update him on the meeting with Billy. Trees did well over the difficult winter. Billy made suggestions that Dave will cover in the Vice President's report. Wood chips generated from tree work will be used on the Holding Garden paths. Tom's vegetable garden is scheduled for removal.

Brenda Les weeded and cleaned out the Wild Garden (wildflower) area and covered the path with new pine needles. She has reinstalled the plant labels. Tom cleaned brush and branches from the parking field edge. Leaf litter has been composted. Trilliums are magnificent this year.

Carolyn organized a group of volunteers this past week to assist with weeding the holding garden. A second group will be organized to assist the Grounds Manager with the front gardens. Carolyn's goal is several volunteer groups to assist in spring and fall.

Isabel followed up with Mary Roper on the arrangement between BFS and Asticou to propagate two of the Garland Farm Rhododendron. Mary has two "basketball size" *Rhododendron obtusum nana* potted and ready to drop off at Garland Farm.

Isabel will schedule the first Landscape and Garden meeting in the near future.

Carolyn Hollenbeck
Landscape and Garden Co-Chair
May 22, 2014

