



Plan Your Holiday Visit



Season's Greenings: America's Gardens!

November 28, 2019 - January 5, 2020

Join us to explore botanic gardens from Hawaii to Maine in this year's Season's Greenings holiday show! Plant based recreations of conservatories, four model train rooms, and a model train room. These will include iconic gardens scenes like Brooklyn Botanic Garden's vibrant red Japanese torii gate, Franklin Park Conservatory's flamingo topiaries, Missouri Botanical Garden's famous Climatron conservatory, and Huntsville Botanical Garden's Rocket Garden featuring NASA space conservatory. The Conservatory will be filled with thousands of flowers, including a showcase of heirloom and newly developed poinsettia varieties. Our collection of D.C. landscape materials will return to fill the Garden Court, and the West Gallery will feature a decorated tree with its own model train. Join us as we celebrate the holiday season and diverse public gardens.

Hours and Holiday Concerts

The Conservatory is open every day of the year, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., free of charge. The best times to visit *Season's Greenings* are weekdays early in the morning. On Tuesday and Thursday evenings in December, the Conservatory is open until 8 p.m. with live seasonal music. Please travel lightly, as the Conservatory does not accept personal items. You must keep strollers and all personal items with you at all times. [More information about visiting \(directions, etc.\) >>](#)

- [See the holiday evening concert series schedule >>](#)
- **The Conservatory will close at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 4, due to an official government function.**

Holiday Gift Shop and Hot Beverages

Two new elements this year courtesy of the Friends of the U.S. Botanic Garden (Friends) will be a gift shop and coffee, tea, and hot chocolate available on the terrace near the wait line for the model train display. The Friends' gift shop will offer items such as ornaments, post cards, chocolates, books, and other holiday gift items, and will be open every day from Dec. 5 through Dec. 23. The Friends' hot beverage stand will be run by local coffee roaster Zeke's Coffee and will be open throughout the exhibit and daily December 13-January 1. Proceeds from the gift shop and beverage stand will benefit education programs at the USBG.

Accessibility - Access Pass

During Season's Greenings, the annual holiday show, the U.S. Botanic Garden experiences high visitation, especially through the model train display which is the main entry point. Individuals that are unable to wait in line due to physical, sensory-processing and/or brain-based disabilities and their companions, may require

pass to advance through the line. As a courtesy, we ask that you limit the party size to six individuals. Please contact Maura Nelson, mnelson@aoc.gov for an access pass for a specific date of visit. Please note: After December 20, 2019, all access passes must be requested in-person at the information desk. Sensory-friendly programs are scheduled during the holiday show that provide early entrance for registered participants, pre-visit materials, and a take-away. For more information, please visit our [Accessibility](#) page.

Photography

We welcome - and encourage - personal photography at the U.S. Botanic Garden. Due to the increased number of visitors to the Garden during *Season's Greenings*, photography will not be used on throughout the run of the exhibit.

We do not allow visitors to do photoshoots or videoshoots at the Garden. Please read the full [Photography and Art Policy](#) for more details.

Entrances

During *Season's Greenings*, there are two entrances to the Conservatory on Maryland Avenue SW.

- The **Model Train Entrance** provides entry to the model train exhibit. After you've seen the trains, you can view the rest of the *Season's Greenings* exhibit in the Conservatory.
- The **Conservatory Entrance** bypasses the main train display and provides entry to the rest of the Conservatory. You'll find seasonal plant displays in the Conservatory, replicas of the capital's landmark buildings in the Garden Court, and one of the largest indoor decorated trees in Washington, D.C.

In short, if you want to see the model trains, please use the Model Train Entrance.

Tours

Group tours are not offered during *Season's Greenings*, but resume in January each year after the holiday exhibit is over.

Attractions Featured in the 2019 "America's Gardens" exhibit at U.S. Botanic Garden

This year's holiday show will feature models representing 24 public gardens from around the United States -- all made from plants and natural materials!

Building Guide - Materials and Trivia

Learn about the plants that make up our famous DC landmarks buildings:

- **DC landmarks Building Materials Guide** (U.S. Capitol, Washington Monument, Lincoln Memorial...)



Poinsettias

Learn about our 3,000+ plant poinsettia display -- showcasing heirloom varieties all the way to newly developed ones yet to come onto the market!

[Learn more >](#)

Ornaments from Gardens across America

Public gardens are a crucial place for educating people about plants. We have two special trees decorated with ornaments representing the diversity of public gardens found across the United States. The U.S. Botanic Garden is a member of both American Public Gardens Association and Botanic Gardens Conservation International, two professional organizations for the field of public horticulture. Explore the ornaments from gardens across the country:



Gardens with ornaments on our special trees:

[Archive of previous holiday shows](#)

Looking for information about previous Season's Greenings shows? Check the archive:

- **2014: Season's Greenings: Lighthouses** (November 27, 2014 - January 4, 2015)

Holiday cheer abounds at the U.S. Botanic Garden! Despite the cold winter outside, the Conservatory boasts a tropical paradise, one of the largest indoor conservatories in Washington, D.C. and a showcase of poinsettia and their plant cousins. It wouldn't be the winter holiday season without the fantasy train display in the E. A. M. along a track through imaginative structures created with plant materials. Explore the seven seas, using lighthouses to navigate your way through this year's

Many of the capital's landmark buildings, all made from natural materials, will be on display in the Garden Court. Come in from the cold and enjoy the sight of the capital's greenery in the heart of the city. Join us for the 2018 Season's Greenings.

- **2015: Season's Greenings: Pollination Station**
 - *2016: Season's Greenings: National Parks and Historic Places*
 - *2017: Season's Greenings: Roadside Attractions*
 - *2018: Season's Greenings: All Aboard!*
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