

BRIGHT SPOTS

CURRENT GARDEN HIGHLIGHTS

August 22, 2018

<p>Four Seasons</p>	<p>Elderberry, <i>Eutrochium fistulosum</i>, 'Lemony Lace', the feathery foliage is the show stopper, appearing in Spring with red tinged edges, transitioning as we see it now to a glowing chartreuse and as Fall approaches, a tint of coral. It produces clusters of white flowers in early Spring, before the stunning foliage takes pride of place. As a bonus, it should prove deer resistant and is described as cold hardy.</p>	
<p>Healing Garden</p>	<p>Angel Trumpet, <i>Brugmansia</i> 'Snow Fall', is a plant of dramatic proportions. It is native to the tropical areas of South America where it can reach to 20'. Here in the chilly north land it can be grown into a splendid specimen in pots. The example in the Medicinal Garden has 8"-10" ivory trumpets dangling among the large deeply veined bright green leaves. These flowers are fragrant in the evening to attract moths, their natural pollinators. Avoid touching the plant, as the sap is less heavenly, and can cause irritation.</p>	
<p>Rose Garden</p>	<p>Shrub Rose, <i>Rosa</i> 'Radyod' The Blushing Knockout[®] Rose, is noted for its beautiful single shell pink flowers growing in clusters above blue-green foliage. Knockouts have excellent resistance to black spot, powdery mildew and rose rosette. They could also be a nice selection for those who want to grow roses but have less than full sun in their gardens.</p>	
<p>West Island Healing Garden</p>	<p>Beauty Berry, <i>Callicarpa dichotoma</i>, is a real beauty! Clusters of showy lilac-violet fruit form along the long arching stems of this small shrub. One of the best ornamental fruiting shrubs, try planting in combination with Hollies, <i>Ilex</i> (red berries) or <i>Pyracantha</i> (orange berries) for a spectacular display.</p>	

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<p>West Island</p>	<p>Purple Sneezeweed, <i>Helenium flexuosum</i>, ‘Tiny Dancer’, features small purple-brown spherical cones surrounded by bright yellow reflexed petals. Some say they look like hundreds of yellow skirted dancers in motion. The movement comes from leggy stems that blow easily in the wind. As petals fall, the seed cones are a welcome lunch for our resident songbirds.</p>	
<p>West Island and Throughout</p>	<p>+Joe Pye Weed, <i>Eupatorium spp.</i> buds open to clusters of flat mauve flowers on sturdy stems. This native perennial is deer resistant and attracts all sorts of pollinators, especially monarch butterflies, as you can see. Joe Pye Weed likes to keep its feet wet, which makes West Island Garden and the wetlands along Lake Sydnor the perfect place for it. Blooms last until early fall and seed heads provide winter interest in the garden. +Native Plant</p>	
<p>Flagler, Woodland Walk, and Asian Valley</p>	<p>Japanese Windflower, <i>Anemone spp.</i> has long arching stems and flowers with five pink or lavender petals around a yellow fuzzy center. It’s as popular with pollinators as it is with our visitors. After it blooms it holds a white seed puff that strongly resembles a small cloud on a stem. Take note, the back of the bloom is just as lovely as the front.</p>	
<p>Cherry Tree Walk, Upper Fountain Garden</p>	<p>Panicle Hydrangea, <i>Hydrangea paniculata</i> ‘Dvppink’ PINKY-WINKY is an upright shrub with oval dark green leaves and lime green panicles that turn pink as they age. Flowers at the base of the panicles vary from white to pink. Because Panicle Hydrangeas bloom on new growth, they typically flower normally even if the twigs have been killed back by frost. Plant in a sunny, well- drained spot; some early afternoon shade is beneficial.</p>	