





BRIGHT SPOTS





CURRENT GARDEN HIGHLIGHTS

March 23, 2021

+ Virginia Native Plant

*Location of Bright Spots Sign

<p>North Fountain Terrace, *Flagler Garden along the Woodland Walk</p>	<p>Spring Ephemerals, delicate woodland wildflowers, are native perennials that pop out of the rich, moist ground during the brief period when they receive warming sun - yet before the canopy of trees' leaves cover them in shade. They take this fleeting opportunity to sprout & be pollinated by bees prior to going completely dormant. Some flowers last only for days; the leaves remain only for weeks. Catch these little harbingers of the coming season while you can. +Bloodroot, <i>Sanguinaria canadensis</i> is pictured.</p>	
<p>*Asian Valley, Main Garden Walk</p>	<p>Bell-flowered Cherry, <i>Prunus × incam</i> 'Okamé' is a small deciduous tree with a rounded canopy. One of the earliest blooming of the flowering cherries it's noted for its abundant rosy pink, mildly fragrant flowers and cold tolerance. Introduced in 1947, 'Okamé' received the Royal Horticultural Society Award of Garden Merit. Grow in moist, well-drained soil with full sun for best flowering.</p>	
<p>*Upper Asian Valley</p>	<p>Bridal Wreath, Baby's Breath, <i>Spiraea thunbergii</i> 'Ogon' is flush with delicate white flowers pouring down its gracefully arched stems. The genus is from the Greek for 'wreath'. The golden color of the young leaves explains this cultivar's name; "Ogon" means gold in Japanese. Maturing leaves turn green and then orange in fall. <i>S. thunbergii</i> are native to China and Japan. This hardy deciduous shrub grows to 3'-5' height and width. It prefers full sun and well-drained soil.</p>	
<p>*Asian Valley, Flagler Garden & Throughout</p>	<p>Camellia, <i>Camellia japonica</i> cv. is blooming all over. This evergreen, long-lived and bird-friendly shrub enjoys winter sun, allowing it to blossom before the trees leaf out. Summer shade then protects its glossy leaves. They are best planted under a deciduous tree canopy and in well-drained acidic soil. Look throughout the Garden to see its various flower forms (single, double, anemone) and the white, red, rose and variegated flower colorations.</p>	

<p>George Bragdon Daffodil Garden, *Flagler Garden & Throughout</p>	<p>Daffodils, <i>Narcissus</i> cv. Originally from Spain, Portugal and North Africa, daffodils were prized in ancient times as a symbol of rebirth. Named for conceited Narcissus of Greek mythology, today more than 32,000 registered cultivars have been selected and classified into 13 categories based on features of the petals, cup shape and size. See our 270+ varieties throughout the Garden – such as this featured swath of ‘Jetfire’ in the Flagler Garden.</p>	
<p>*Flagler Garden</p>	<p>Winter Hazel, <i>Corylopsis sinensis</i> var. <i>calvescens</i> is in the same family (<i>Hamamelis</i>) as our native witch hazel, but sports much showier clusters of yellow flowers. It is a multi-stemmed shrub (10’-15’ tall). The group along the Flagler path was accessioned in 1990. It prefers acidic, well-drained soils in sun to part-shade. This particular cultivar received the Royal Horticultural Society’s Award of garden Merit.</p>	
<p>North Terrace, *Flagler – Dot’s Garden</p>	<p>Winter Daphne, <i>Daphne odora</i>, is a native of China and Japan that is a small shrub with dark glossy, leathery leaves and intensely fragrant reddish-purple flowers. Best grown in moist, rich, well-drained soil and part shade to shade. Full sun will burn foliage in hot climates. Plant near entrances and walkways where the fragrance can be enjoyed. Temperamental if the soil is wet, but worth the effort.</p>	
<p>*Asian Valley, Flagler Garden, Streb Conifer Garden</p>	<p>Paper Bush, <i>Edgeworthia</i>, is heralding spring, sporting clusters of tiny cream and gold trumpets dangling from dark bare branches. The blooms fill the air with intoxicating fragrance, alerting winter pollinators to a feasting opportunity. The inner bark was used to make paper in its native China, hence the common name. This shrub will do well in Virginia when provided with some shade and rich soil.</p>	
<p>*Flagler Garden across from Bloemendaal, Streb Conifer Garden and Throughout</p>	<p>Lily of the Valley Bush, <i>Pieris japonica</i>, is an evergreen shrub that blooms in early spring with pendulous clusters of lightly scented white, rosy or raspberry flowers that resemble a string of pearls or little bells. The genus is named after Pieria, the home of the 9 Greek Muses. This elegant but slow-growing Asian native lives best in some shade and rich soil and is deer resistant. Pictured here is the heat tolerant <i>P. japonica</i> ‘Planow’ Mountain Snow™ Pieris, found in Flagler.</p>	