



Town and Country Garden Club of Williamsville

Founded April 1, 1960

17 Active Members and 4 Associate Members

Member of:

- National Garden Clubs, Inc.
- Central Atlantic Region of State Garden Clubs, Inc.
- Federated Garden Clubs of NYS, Inc. - District VIII, Section Erie V

Club President: Deborah Wixson

Purpose: The purpose of this organization shall be to encourage interest in all phases of better horticultural practices and the art of arranging plant material. We foster measures for the conservation of natural resources and to encourage civic beautification.

Club Flower: Violet

Membership: A prospective member must attend two meetings to be eligible for full club membership. We are a fun club with a common interest in our gardens. Come join us!

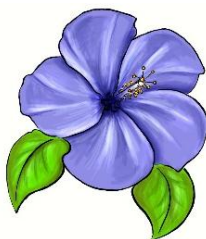
Please contact Membership Chairperson Linda Anscombe for information at:
townandcountrygardenclubofwmsv@gmail.com

Regular Meetings

Second Thursday of each month,
1:00-4:00pm

Ransom Oaks Community Clubhouse
101 Ransom Oaks Drive
East Amherst, NY 14051

(Unless noted otherwise on the list of events)



Events and Meetings for 2026-2027

This year our garden club will celebrate our nation's 250th Anniversary with programs, tours and social activities with a focus on the history of gardens.

April 16, 2026: Installation Luncheon

12:00pm at Linguine's Italian Restaurant, 5354 Genesee St., Bowmansville

After lunch, our new slate of Officers for the year will be installed by Joy Sarkisian, Past President and Life Member of the Federated Garden Clubs of NYS. Reservations are required.

April 23, 2026: Tour of the Cherry Blossoms in Delaware Park

1:00pm - Meet in the parking lot of the Buffalo History Museum, 1 Museum Court

This is an optional event for interested members. We will tour the Japanese Gardens, along Mirror Lake, behind the museum. There are nine types of Cherry Trees planted in the garden. Most trees were planted between 1971 and 1974, but 20 more trees were added in 2012. If the cherry blossoms are delayed, the date of this event is subject to change.

May 14, 2026: "Legendary Ladies of the Garden"

Master Gardener Peggy Koppmann will present a program on the legendary female gardeners who have shaped our gardens from generation to generation, through an understanding of plants, garden design and conservation.

June 11, 2026: "A Garden Tea Party in 1912"

Please note: The time is changed to 2:00pm to allow for set up time.

A comedy skit was written by Club Member Rosemary Jordan to provide attendees with a look into a tea party set in the garden in 1912. You will learn how tea parties relate to the Women's Rights Movement. Following the skit, Club Members will hold a book swap of garden-related books and magazines.

Friday, July 10, 2026: Lunch and Tour of Open Gardens in Lockport

The meeting day is changed to Friday based on the "Open Garden" schedule.

Each year, Club Members tour gardens which are participating in "Open Gardens" through Gardens Buffalo/Niagara. This year we have selected five gardens to visit in the Lockport area. We will begin our tour at 10:30am at a fabulous garden on Ernest Rd. After that, we will take a lunch break at the Village Eatery, 429 Davison Rd. Over lunch, maps of the remaining gardens to be visited will be distributed.

Friday, July 17, 2026: Visit to the Blueberry Treehouse Farm and an Open Garden in West Falls, NY

This optional event is on a Friday based on the "Open Garden" schedule.

We will meet at the Blueberry Treehouse Farm, 1897 Davis Rd., in West Falls, at 11:00am to visit a historic blueberry farm. The fields have been producing organic blueberries for over 35 years. Club Members can pick their own fresh blueberries to take home. We will have a Dutch-treat lunch in the Blueberry Café. After lunch, we will visit a nearby "Open Garden" in West Falls.

August 13, 2026: Annual Garden Club Picnic

4:00pm in the garden of one of our Club Members

Each August, we have a picnic in the garden of a different Club Member. Members bring a dish to share. The summer picnic is always a fun event to socialize and demonstrate members are great cooks and bakers, as well as great gardeners!

September 10, 2026: "Fall into Gardening"

3:00pm at the Hon. Shirley Chisholm Library (Audubon Branch), 350 John James Audubon Parkway, in Amherst

This is a "Special Event" which is open to the public at no charge. Our speaker for the event is horticulture specialist David R. Clark, CNLP. He was awarded the distinction of Certified Nursery and Landscape Professional (CNLP) of the Year, for 2023-2024, by the NYS Nursery and Landscaping Association. David is a former horticulture instructor at SUNY Niagara County Community College and currently teaches at the Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens. He will share his expertise on what to do in the garden this Fall.

October 15, 2026: Iroquois Gardeners

This presentation by Jack Kowiak combines the spiritual beliefs of the Iroquois with a deep knowledge of both wild and cultivated plants. His talk will explain how the beliefs of the Iroquois influenced their approach to agriculture. You will learn about a particular plant that was as important to our local Native Americans, as the buffalo was to the Plains Indians.

November 12, 2026: Pottery Painting

1:00pm at Clay Hands Pottery, 10085 Main St., in Clarence

Each year, we have a workshop activity before the holidays. This year attendees will pick their own piece of pottery to paint as a gift or to put in their own garden. We will be instructed by staff members about how to paint the item and, once finished, they will fire the piece in their kiln. Pieces will be ready for pick-up later.

December 10, 2026: Holiday Luncheon

Club Members will celebrate the holidays with a luncheon and a chance to sit back and relax with fellow gardeners. As always, we will take up a collection for a local charitable organization. Details will be available later in the year.

January 14, 2027: Planning Meeting

This is a working session to plan the 2027-2028 club year. The agenda includes: nomination of Officers and Committee Chairs; review of the proposed budget; and, identifying the programs, activities and workshops for the upcoming year.

February 11, 2027: The Benefits of Garden Club Membership

There are a number of new members in our club who are familiar with what we do at the local club level, but they aren't aware of the benefits club members have through our affiliations with the Federated Garden Clubs of New York State, Inc. (FGCNYS); the Central Atlantic Region of State Garden Clubs, Inc. (CAR-SGC); and, the National Garden Club, Inc. (NGC). There are a number of resources Club Members can take advantage of which will be discussed, along with how to navigate their websites to find the information.

March 11, 2027: Breakfast, Learning & Shopping at Plantasia

Members will meet for breakfast and a business meeting at the Pegasus Restaurant before heading to WNY's Premier Garden & Landscape Show, Plantasia. We will attend educational seminars, shop at vendor booths, and enjoy the flower show offered by the Federated Garden Clubs of NYS, District 8.



Town and Country Garden Club Members at the Installation Luncheon, April 2025.

Special Projects and Activities

Clearfield Library Garden

In 2018, Town & Country Garden Club adopted the Clearfield Library, at 770 Hopkins Road, in Amherst. Over the past seven years, Club Members removed the original overgrown plantings and replaced them with an assortment of trees, shrubs, perennials and annual flowers. Dedicated project team members maintain the garden year-round, from Spring clean-up and fertilizing, through Summer planting and watering, and providing seasonal decorations in the Fall and Winter.



In 2025, our club donated a bronze statue, "Sharing Knowledge," to the library in memory of Maria Gerbracht, a 49-year member of our garden club who passed away.

To celebrate our nation's 250th Anniversary this year, our garden theme will be "Red, White and Bloom." Our garden project community volunteers will plant a patriotic color pallet of red, white and blue flowers at the Clearfield Library.

Dash's Markets Tape Saver Program

To fund the Clearfield Library Garden, indoor plants and other special events, the Town & Country Garden Club participates in the Dash's Markets Tape Saver Program offered to 501(c)(3) organizations. The library has a collection box set up where library patrons can drop off their receipts.

Horticulture Project

Each year a new project is selected. In 2026, we will be growing Indian Pink. This North American native plant serves as an early season nectar source for hummingbirds, butterflies and some bees. It is highly deer and rabbit resistant.

Holiday Collection Drive

Each year a new project is selected to support the community. In 2025, we collected bed linens for Sleep in Heavenly Peace, a non-profit organization that builds beds and provides bedding items to families with children without a bed of their own. Their motto: No Kid Sleeps on the Floor in Our Town!

Federated Garden Clubs of NYS

Club Members support the activities of District 8; including, attend meetings, luncheons and presentations and flower shows; donate to the FGCNYS World Gardening Fund's "Dig Deep" Project; and, submit photos and articles to the FGCNYS District newsletter, "Figure 8."