



January 16, 2018

Dear South Sound Garden Volunteers,

Our six South Sound public gardens will once again share a booth at the **2018 Northwest Flower & Garden Show**. We hope that you will take part in this effort with a shift at the booth, encouraging show goers to visit each garden. Please visit www.southsoundgardens.com for more about our partnership:

- ❖ **Chase Garden**
www.chasegarden.org
- ❖ **Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden**
www.rhodygarden.org
- ❖ **Soos Creek Botanical Garden**
www.sooscreekbotanicalgarden.org
- ❖ **Powells Wood**
www.powellswood.org
- ❖ **Lakewold Gardens**
www.lakewoldgardens.org
- ❖ **Old Goat Farm**
www.oldgoatfarm.com

As a South Sound Gardens representative, you will extend a welcome to visitors at the Washington State Convention Center in Seattle. Thousands will attend the biggest garden show on the west coast from **February 7th - 11th!** In return for a shift at the booth, South Sound Gardens will provide a free entrance wristband to explore the Flower & Garden Show.

Volunteer Selection

This is a wonderful opportunity for all of our gardens to connect with the public. We will be selective in choosing volunteers who can successfully represent all six gardens. Previous representatives will be given the first opportunity to sign up. If you are a potential first-time representative, talk with the staff at your garden about participating before signing up.

In advance of volunteering at the booth, it is important you visit each website to refresh your knowledge about our participating South Sound gardens, and the collaborative effort we will present at the Northwest Flower & Garden Show.

Please find more details below about volunteering for this collaboration.

Expectations of Volunteers

As a volunteer at the booth, you are expected to represent all six South Sound gardens to the best of your ability. Present yourself professionally, and actively engage with visitors to the booth. Our goal is to successfully represent all six gardens – communicating the message that we have amazing gardens to visit in the South Sound.

- Dress code: Business casual or garden glorious – presenting yourself and our gardens well.
- While at your shift, we ask that you not engage with a computer, phone or texting, tablet, etc.
- While you are at the exhibit, please be aware that you may be photographed or videotaped by the Show's management for promotional purposes. This is a term of our participation.

Exhibition Hours

The 2018 Northwest Flower & Garden Show will be held in the Washington State Convention Center, with exhibition hours:

9:00am-8:00pm Wednesday, February 7th

9:00am-8:00pm Thursday, February 8th

9:00am-8:00pm Friday, February 9th

9:00am-8:00pm Saturday, February 10th

9:00am-6:00pm Sunday, February 11th

The Show

The display gardens will share in the show theme of "Garden Party" by celebrating the show's 30th Anniversary with a Fabulous Floral Festival.

This year's seminar schedule can be found at <https://www.gardenshow.com/seminars/> so you can look ahead at the offerings on the day you volunteer.

Container gardening has never been so informative, entertaining and competitive! "Container Wars" is back, featuring demonstrations by gardening luminaries—accompanied by a little friendly verbal jousting.

Stroll the show while enjoying regional wines, craft beers and cocktails, plus tasty new gourmet food items at several locations throughout the show. <https://www.gardenshow.com/the-show/food-and-beverage/>

Volunteer Shifts

This year again, we will be providing online scheduling for the show. You may sign up for your shift(s) at <http://signup.com/go/uZFaSjK>. Please be sure to include a valid e-mail and phone number and Garden name. Your privacy is important and this information will only be used to contact you regarding this event. Shifts will be three-hours long except for Sunday. There is a 15 minute overlap between shifts to allow for stocking supplies and transition between volunteers. You are free to leave once your relief arrives and the booth is stocked and clean.

Shifts will be daily from 8:45am-11:45am, 11:30am-2:30pm, 2:15pm-5:15pm, and 5:00pm-8:00pm. The last two sessions on Sunday are two hours in length and the show ends at 6:00pm. With limited shifts available and so many amazing garden volunteers, we encourage you to get out those 2018 calendars and sign up ASAP. Please note: shifts will be strategically scheduled to ensure participation and representation, throughout the show, by all gardens.

If you have any questions or difficulty signing up, please contact Carol Manos, Volunteer & Outreach Manager at Lakewold Gardens.
Phone: 253-584-4106 x108
Email: <mailto:cmanos@lakewoldgardens.org>

Location

The Northwest Flower & Garden Show is located at:

Washington State Convention Center, North and South Halls
800 Convention Place, Seattle, WA 98101
Phone: 206-694-5000

Driving Directions from I-5 Southbound:

- Stewart Street exit from I-5 (#166)
- Left on Boren Avenue
- Continue on Boren Ave to Seneca Street
- Right on 8th Avenue
- Convention Center garage entrance on the right

Driving Directions from I-5 Northbound and I-90 Westbound:

- Madison Street exit from I-5 (#164A) takes you to 7th Avenue
- Right on Madison Street
- Left on 8th Avenue
- Continue past Seneca Street on 8th Avenue
- Convention Center garage entrance is on your right

If you will be taking public transportation, the King County Transportation Link will help you find the appropriate information:

<http://tripplanner.kingcounty.gov/hiwire?.a=iScheduleLookup&.s=2138bd97&RouteStop=ON>

Sound Transit has routes from Pierce County into Seattle:

<http://www.soundtransit.org/schedules/st-express-bus>

Parking

The Convention Center has two affiliated garages, but please be advised that during the Northwest Flower & Garden Show, both could possibly be full and unavailable for parking. The Show encourages the use of other options. An interactive map of paid parking options around the Convention Center, including rates, can be found at: <http://web6.seattle.gov/SDOT/seattleparkingmap/>

NEW SYSTEM FOR PARKING AT REDUCED RATES Reserve your parking in advance and get there on time, stress free! We're teaming up with **SpotHero** to help our attendees reserve a parking spot prior to arrival at the show! To book convenient and affordable parking for the show, we recommend using SpotHero, the nation's leading parking reservation app. To reserve your parking spot today, visit the **SpotHero Washington State Convention Center parking page** and book a spot with rates up to 50% off drive-up. New to SpotHero? Download the SpotHero **iPhone | Android** app and enter promo code **NWFLOWER** for an extra **\$5** off your first park!

The **Washington State Convention Center parking garage** on 8th Avenue is open 5:30am-Midnight, every day, and staffed 7am-midnight. Regular drive-in rates run from 3-4 hours of parking at \$12, 5-6 hours of parking at \$15, 8-10 hours of parking is \$18 and 12-14 hours of parking at \$22. Parking after 5pm is \$7.

The **Freeway Park Garage**, with an entrance between Pike and Seneca on Hubbell Place, is another parking garage with a walk-through into the Convention Center. It is open Wednesday-Sunday from 5:30am to 10:00pm. Rates are \$1 cheaper than those at the Convention Center garage for the same time increments, and parking is FREE after 5:00pm.

Thank you for all you do to support our public gardens. It's the heart of the volunteer that inspires us all!

The South Sound Garden Team

Greg Graves, Old Goat Farm

Cora Wells, Lakewold Gardens

Monte Powell, Justin Henderson, PowellsWood Garden

Atsuko Gibson, Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden

James Daly & Linda Hallberg, Soos Creek Botanical Garden

Chase Gardens

www.southsoundgardens.com