

MISSION OF THE GARDEN

The mission of the Hahn Horticulture Garden is three-fold:

1. As part of the inclusive Virginia Tech community, the HHG provides experiential and service learning opportunities for students. It serves as a living laboratory for instructional faculty and staff to better serve the landscape, nursery, and public horticulture sectors.
2. We strive to enrich and enlighten both youth and adults of our community and region with diverse educational programs.
3. We apply sustainable horticultural and environmental principles in the acquisition and dynamic display of plants from the world over.

We utilize sustainable gardening practices. All leaves, branches, and other plant debris are chopped and used as mulch or composted either onsite or at the Virginia Tech composting facility. We do not use insecticides or fungicides, and Herbicides are used minimally.

HOURS

The Peggy Lee Hahn Garden Pavilion is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, and has restrooms, water fountains, and staff offices.

The rest of the garden is open every day of the year from dusk to dawn, free of charge.

STAFF

The Horticulture Garden is staffed by a team of highly passionate and talented individuals. Some of our most important staff members include:

Dr. Holly Scroggins: Director
Stephanie Huckestein: Outreach Coordinator
Paul Chumbley and **Lisa Lipsey:** Horticulturists
Dr. Alex Niemiera: Woody Plants Curator

We also staff student interns during the summer, as well as student and community workers and volunteers during the school year.

CONTACT US

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WELCOME TO THE HAHN HORTICULTURE GARDEN

The garden was founded in 1984 by Horticulture faculty members Robert Lyons and Robert McDuffie. Numerous people over the years have contributed to the garden: students, faculty, staff, community volunteers, nursery and greenhouse growers, landscapers, and so many more. Some of our garden components and structures have been designed and built by Horticulture faculty and students.

The current garden, including new construction, covers 5.8 acres. It was renamed the Hahn Horticulture Garden in November 2004 in honor of Peggy L. Hahn, in thanks for the generous gift and bequest for expansion from T. Marshall and Peggy Hahn. Peggy was a terrific gardener in her own right, and her love of plants still inspires us today.

The garden features hundreds of species of woody and herbaceous plants from around the world, showcased in various features: a multi-acre shade garden, a “hot” perennial border, a spectrum mixed border, the xeriphytic garden, two water features including the Jane Andrews Memorial Stream Garden, the Pavilion tent lawn and folly, the meadow garden (new in 2008), and the Peggy Lee Hahn Garden Pavilion (special event facility and staff offices).

HAHN
HORTICULTURE
GARDEN

Entrance: Two dry-stacked walls of Hokie Stone pieces and slabs form Entrance Beds Street. Masses of tulips brighten the scene each spring, then the warm season features a new and different palette of plants each year—mostly annuals and tropicals. Exciting new hybrid dogwoods (*Cornus* x ‘Venus’), added in 2008, make a splendid backdrop to the riot of color along the walls.

Bright Border: The Garden is separated from the **Greenhouse Complex** by the **Bright Border**—a festive array of perennials and flowering shrubs. It is especially breathtaking in the early summer.

Spectrum Border: A rainbow of shrubs and perennials comprises the circular **Spectrum Border** in the front of the garden. Three trellises, graced with climbing roses, help define this small garden.

Conifer Display: The **Conifer Display** features delightful dwarf evergreen conifers as well as full-sized specimens. Originally planted in 2001, it serves as a great reference for growth rates of various species suitable for the home landscape. The bed is anchored by our most iconic tree - the majestic Alaska cedar.

Xeriscape Garden: The **Xeriscape Garden** is one of our oldest areas. Constructed in the 80’s, this is a creative combination of plants that all require very little water to survive.

Small Pond: Newly renovated to be bolder and brighter, the **Small Pond** includes dramatic tropicals as well as two glorious Japanese maples.

Trident Maple Allee: Ten trident maples form the Trident Maple Allee—a towering arch of branches that welcomes visitors to our **Shade Gardens**. Paved and grass paths wind through mature shade gardens, taking our visitors past hundreds of trees, shrubs and perennials from all over the world. Benches throughout create an inviting place to linger, eat lunch



or read a book, all within earshot of a small burbling water garden. Here also resides our “garden sprite”—a sandstone rendition of Frank Lloyd Wright’s “Maid in the Mud”—donated by Warren and Margie Kark.

Jane Andrews Memorial Stream Garden: The stream garden is an extraordinary two-hundred foot long water garden. A Hokie Stone bridge provides a view of the ten foot waterfall and pool below. The stream widens to a large pond with an overlooking deck. Goldfish and large koi swim among more than twenty species of emergent (bog) and aquatic plants.

Hahn Amphitheatre: The amphitheatre, which is constructed entirely of Hokie Stone, overlooks **Hahn Meadow Garden** and **Peggy’s Meadow** and provides hillside outdoor seating for up to seventy-five people. Dedicated in June 2008, **Hahn Meadow Garden** is our newest garden feature. It covers two-thirds of an acre and features native perennials, grasses, trees and shrubs planted in the sweeping “New American Garden” style. The center field is buffalo grass—a native no-mow, warm-season alternative to bluegrass and fescue.

Peggy Lee Hahn Garden Pavilion: Gracing the crest of the hill, the pavilion is a perfect multi-purpose, special-events facility for receptions and meetings. The front beds feature outstanding landscape plants, including the hottest new annuals and tropicals. The southwest-facing patio and surrounding landscape was dedicated in 2008 as the **Jocelyne Couture-Nowak Memorial Terrace Garden** in honor of our department head’s wife who was lost in the April 16, 2007 tragedy.

Utility Line Arboretum: The arboretum is a display created and maintained by Urban Forestry faculty and students as a demonstration of species that are best for planting under power lines.