

Chicago Botanic Garden  
2016 Operating Plan  
Horticulture

Goal	Objectives	Deliverables
<p>I.1 The Chicago Botanic Garden will be a model for excellence in horticultural design and planning.</p>	<p>1. Achieve the highest standards in horticultural excellence by updating select gardens with their designers and implementing improvements throughout the Garden.</p>	<p><b>Planning/design</b></p> <p>Review the Krasberg Rose Garden with Will Radler.</p> <p>Review the English Walled Garden and Rose Garden with John Brookes.</p> <p><b>Garden improvements</b></p> <p>Continue the renovation of the stone fruit orchard at the Regenstein Fruit &amp; Vegetable Garden (back to stone fruits) by adding ten trees.</p> <p>Replace the declining white pine hedge at the Fruit &amp; Vegetable Garden with western arborvitae.</p> <p>Renovate the carnivorous plant display in the Greenhouses.</p> <p>Replace declining spruces at the Fruit &amp; Vegetable Garden using spruces from Wonderland Express.</p> <p>Remove ash trees killed by emerald ash borer. Replace trees located in display areas and high-impact areas on the general grounds.</p> <p>Complete the last planting phase of the Spider Island planting renovation.</p> <p>Replace 54 declining serviceberries at the Administration Building with new serviceberries.</p> <p>Renovate the Aquatic Garden by adding soil and new plants to the planters in the lake and purchasing new containers for the boardwalk.</p> <p>Change one annual bed in the Bulb Garden to a permanent bed of bulbs and complementary perennials.</p> <p>Repair beds in the Bulb Garden after new brick walks are installed.</p> <p>Ensure that construction of the Learning Campus Garden is done properly.</p> <p>Finish the implementation of John Brookes's design suggestions for the English Walled Garden.</p> <p>Implement Lisa Delplace's design recommendations for Evening Island, the Lakeside Gardens, Kleinman Family Cove, and the Green Roof.</p> <p>Refine the yellow/silver and pink/silver perennial beds at the Fruit &amp; Vegetable Garden.</p> <p>Prune all flowering crabs and hawthorns around the Administration Building.</p> <p>Renovate the Smelcer Garden along the North Lake, just southeast of the Kleinman Family Cove.</p> <p>Improve the landscape along the walk that passes by parking lots 1 and 2 to the Visitor Center by adding tall shrubs to screen the parking lots and reconfiguring beds.</p> <p>Hire an outside company to assist with weeding during the two-week period when the staff is focusing on changing annual displays from spring to summer.</p>
	<p>2. Improve the spring bulb display.</p>	<p>Plant 9,000 Chionodoxa, 5,500 Tulipa, and 11,300 Narcissus to enhance the early spring bulb display on Evening Island.</p> <p>Add 2,500 Muscari, 1,000 Puschkinia, 1,000 Narcissus, 1,200 Tulipa, and 500 Galanthus to enhance the early spring display in the Lakeside Gardens.</p> <p>Plant 12,000 Iris and 1,000 Narcissus to enhance the early spring bulb display in the Sensory Garden.</p> <p>Add 5,100 bulbs to the Green Roof Garden.</p> <p>Add 1,000 Lycoris (resurrection lily) to Bird Island to create a summer "wow."</p> <p>Add 10 new taxa of hardy connoisseur bulbs to the Bulb Garden.</p> <p>Add 3,000 Narcissus for a spring bulb display in the lawn south of the English Walled Garden and 1,000 Chionodoxa to improve the early spring display in the garden.</p> <p>Add 16,500 Tulipa to fill in the large parking lot islands along the lots.</p> <p>Add 1,000 Puschkinia to enhance the early spring displays in the Waterfall Garden.</p>

		Add 1,000 Crocus to enhance the early spring display in the bed along the east side of the Regenstein Building.
	3. Upgrade the Bonsai Collection and its display.	Replace three lesser-quality bonsai with three new, high-quality display bonsai donations to the Garden. Deaccession the three lesser-quality bonsai. Attend the National Exhibition in Rochester, New York, and the American Bonsai Society Symposium in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and enter one of the Garden's bonsai in each show.
I.3 The Garden will thoughtfully advance progress to complete the projects detailed in the Master Site Plan.	1. Support design development.	Monitor construction of the Regenstein Learning Campus. Assimilate the maintenance of the new Regenstein Learning Campus garden into Horticulture operations.
I.4 The Garden will be a model for the thoughtful use of natural resources, achieving beauty through energy-saving, environmentally sensitive methods whenever possible.	1. Continue the removal of plants from the collection classified as "R" for removal and "P" for phase-out on the invasive species list.	Replace 14 Autumn Blaze pears at the Visitor Center plaza with a new type of small flowering tree.
	2. Reduce predictable pesticide usage annually by 2 percent over ten years. The reduction goal will focus on decreasing planned/predictable pesticide applications; seasonal needs may influence the yearly overall percentage achievement.	The Plant Health Care Department will reduce pesticide use by 2 percent.
IV.10 The Garden will lead the world in living-plant record keeping and public access, both physically and virtually. It will also be an essential resource about plants and plant science for its many constituencies, including the public, educators, landscape architects, scientists, and local agencies and municipalities.	1. Horticulture staff will submit plant data on a timely basis to the Plant Records Department.	Changes in plant data (acquisition, death, removal, relocation) will be submitted within one month. Four more horticulturists will be added to the self-editing plant records process.
II.9 The Garden will be a four-season destination by creating year-round programs that give visitors the opportunity to experience and understand nature and the natural world, indoors and out.	1. Accomplish the following.	Implement plans for Wonderland Express, extending from November 27, 2015, to January 3, 2016. Implement plans for the Orchid Show, extending from February 13 to March 13, 2016. Ensure that the Garden Greenhouses look great after the orchids from the Show are removed and that all records reflect changes. Add 15 new winter flowering orchid taxa to the orchid trees in the Greenhouses.
A.1 The Garden will remain committed to serving the needs of all its partners and advocates, in particular the people of Cook County. The Department will proudly communicate the model public-private partnership that the Chicago Horticultural Society and the Forest Preserves of Cook County have built together.	1. Implement a comprehensive supplier diversity plan that meets the President's goals.	25 percent minority-owned. 10 percent woman-owned.

4/4/2016