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Spring Arrives at the UNH Greenhouse Open House March 22-23, 2013

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Media Relations

March 4, 2013

Spring Arrives at the UNH Greenhouse Open House March 22-23, 2013



The annual open house at the University of New Hampshire's Macfarlane greenhouses, a popular rite of spring, is March 22 – 23, 2013. Credit: UNH Photographic Services/Mike Ross .

DURHAM, N.H. – Usher in spring with a visit to the University of New Hampshire Macfarlane Greenhouses during the annual open house Friday and Saturday, March 22 and 23, 2013. This year's event will again provide displays and plenty of information to help chase away winter blues and welcome spring. The greenhouses will be open from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. both days.

UNH faculty, staff and students will present colorful displays and educational lectures of interest to home gardeners and landscapers. Visitors can attend seminars to explore new gardening ideas in depth, including gardening in small spaces, safely controlling plant pests and diseases, making a meadow or wildflower garden, and using small fruits or native trees and shrubs in the landscape. The very popular seminar on cooking with herbs returns again this year, along with a new presentation on cooking with mushrooms that will be complemented by a lecture on identifying, picking and cultivating edible and culinary mushrooms.

Garden show-quality displays will showcase "Springtime on Main Street New England" and "A Cabin In The Woods" and poster displays will highlight UNH research and other engaging gardening topics. Visitors may also participate in guided explorations of the conservatory or aquaponics research. UNH experts and master gardeners will be on hand to answer questions that help get gardens off to a great start. Publications by UNH authors also will be available for sale.

Other open house activities include a plant sale hosted by the Thompson School horticulture program and tours of both the Macfarlane Greenhouse and the [UNH high tunnels](#), two greenhouse-style structures associated with the sustainable agriculture and food systems program where students produce greens for on-campus consumption. The popular scavenger hunt and coloring activity for children also return this year. And the Greenhouse Café, hosted by the Thompson School Horticultural Club, will serve coffee, lunch, and delicious homemade treats to fund the club's trip to Longwood Gardens in Pennsylvania.

The UNH Greenhouse Open House is free and open to the general public. On Saturday, March 23, it coincides with the [Seacoast Home and Garden Show](#) at the UNH Whittemore Center Arena.

The UNH Macfarlane Greenhouses (part of the [NH Agricultural Experiment Station](#)) are located off Main Street on the west end of Durham. Seminars will take place in Putnam Hall across the parking lot from the greenhouses. On Friday metered parking is available at the UNH Visitor Center across

from the greenhouses; parking on Saturday is free. Handicap parking spaces and short-term parking for plant pickup will be available near the main greenhouse entrance. The greenhouses are also served by Wildcat Transit's free shuttle service: www.wildcattransit.com.

For more information, please visit <http://www.thompsonschoo.unh.edu/events>, <https://www.facebook.com/UNHMacfarlaneGreenhouses>, or call 603-862-2061.

The UNH Greenhouse Open House is sponsored by the NH Agricultural Experiment Station, the Thompson School of Applied Science, UNH Cooperative Extension, and UNH Biological Sciences and Sustainable Agriculture programs of the College of Life Sciences & Agriculture.

The University of New Hampshire, founded in 1866, is a world-class public research university with the feel of a New England liberal arts college. A land, sea, and space-grant university, UNH is the state's flagship public institution, enrolling 12,200 undergraduate and 2,300 graduate students.

Photographs available to download:

http://unh.edu/news/cj_nr/2012/feb/bp29hibiscus.jpg

http://unh.edu/news/cj_nr/2012/feb/bp29petunias.jpg

Caption: The annual open house at the University of New Hampshire's Macfarlane greenhouses, a popular rite of spring, is March 22 – 23, 2013.

Credit: UNH Photographic Services/Mike Ross

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