



The Quarterly Newsletter of the Virginia Society of Landscape Designers

Spring 2013

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President's Letter:

April, 2013

Happy Spring to Everyone! What a busy spring this has turned out to be! Your VSLD Board has also been busy with so many exciting ideas and changes. First, I would like to thank the new board members (as well as the existing

ones!) for traveling so far to meet with us and for working to create a unified professional organization that will serve us all well.

I am happy to report that we are welcoming in a new certified member to the VSLD, Bruce Clay of the Stockner Group.

Monit Rosendale has been diligently working to improve our presentation of photos on our VSLD website. You will see these changes shortly; they are designed to improve clients' ability to select a designer. This will definitely provide an incentive to us all to submit photos from our own designs.

Kay Moore organized a regional meeting at RVA Rain Systems on April 16th. We spent the evening socializing and learning about rain



Acer palmatum „Ukigumo“ (Floating Clouds) with Fothergilla gardenii and Camellia japonica „Jacks“
Photo: Helen Janele

available through the RVA Rain System. Thank you Kay, and thank you also to Matt Tankersley for inviting us to your new office.

Because our membership is so important to us, the Board, as a group, felt it was important not only to mail annual renewal forms, but also to e-mail a reminder with a link that would let members renew online. This year you should anticipate your annual renewal form to arrive in mid-October with an e-mail reminder to follow

inmid- November. We hope this will prove more convenient and efficient for our members.

Michele Fletcher has been working hard to update our VSLD Facebook page as often as possible and has done an amazing job! She is very much interested in finding someone that would be interesting in assisting in this important VSLD project. If you are interested, please contact Michele or myself.

With that in mind, we, as a board, are strongly emphasizing marketing and a marketing budget for the association. We are working on many ideas and would welcome (and encourage) any input from our membership. Please e-mail or call me with any thoughts you may have.

Chris Coen is taking on the task of digitizing our past and current meeting documents to improve accessibility and our ability to reference the impressive work of previous boards.

Kim League and Tom Thompson are working in conjunction with Sonya Westervelt, of the VNLA, to provide an exciting 2013 Summer Tour. This year we will be participating with the VNLA on their Field Day and tour in August. The VSLD will be sponsoring some of the activities provided at Brent & Becky's Bulbs and/or surrounding gardens. Details will be announced soon.



Orchids

Photo Credit: Katie Sokol

In closing, thank you for the opportunity to serve you as VSLD President. I am always available for thoughts, suggestions, or feedback. Happy Designing,...Eve



Clematis at Cheekwood Mansion- Nashville"

Photo: Chris Coen



Syringa x prestoniae „Miss Canada"

Photo: Helen Janele

Town of Luray Development Concepts Report

By Katie Sokol

The small town of Luray is once again getting some great design concepts through the Community Design Assistance Center (CDAC). Landscape Architecture students at Va. Tech designed concept sketches for two separate projects in Luray which they presented at a March meeting to members of the Tree & Beautification Committee, Hawksbill Greenway, and other interested members of the community. The students will return at the end of April to present finalized their plans for the Town Council.

The two projects were Phase 4 of the Hawksbill Greenway and a pocket park for the Main St. Bridge area. The proposed 1 mile greenway extension to Ralph Dean Park includes such amenities as a dog park, overlook sitting area, school zone area with murals, and a small pocket park. Since part of the trail links residential areas to a school zone, VDOT funding would be available through the Safe Routes to School program. Approximately half of the proposed trail lies within a township right of way, but the remaining lands are privately owned, which could be problematic if the property owners are opposed to vacating portions of their properties.

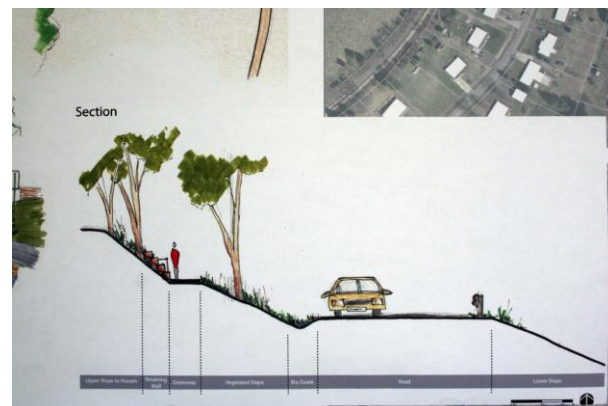


Figure 2: Elevation View of Greenway

The Main St. Pocket Park proposes two concepts for the lower areas adjacent to the Greenway and one concept for the upper area adjacent to the bridge which is slated for replacement in 2015. It is anticipated that these plans can be implemented during the construction of the bridge if funding is available.



Figure 3: Proposed Greenway Sketch

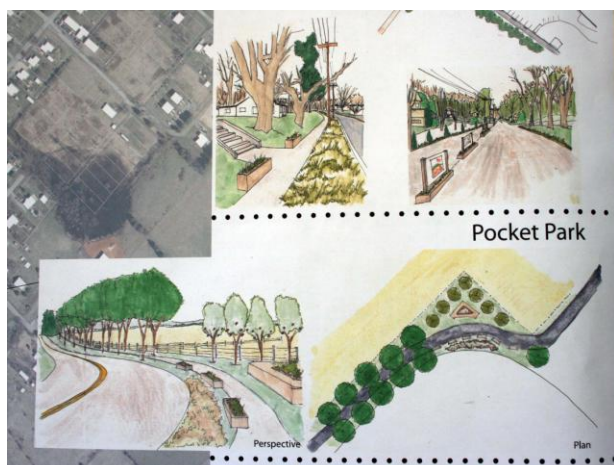


Figure 1: Composite sketches of Phase 4



Figure 4: Conceptual View of Pocket Park from Greenway

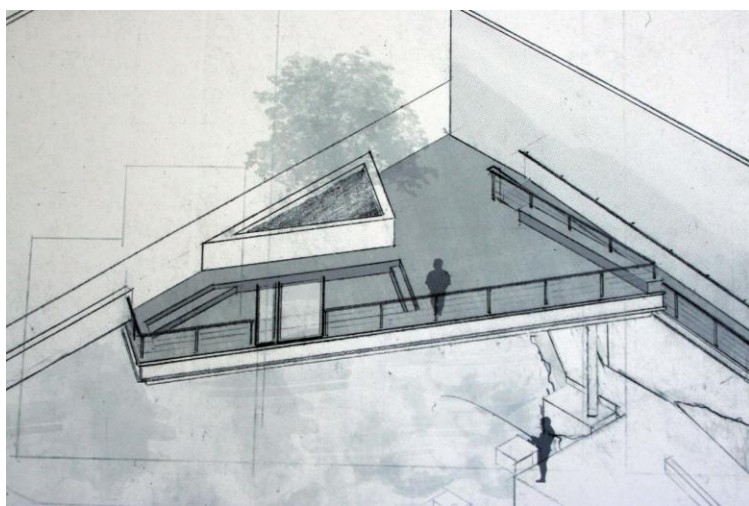


Figure 5: Conceptual View of Proposed Pocket Park from Elevated Deck

Main St. Bridge Pocket Park – An elevated deck adjacent to the bridge has views to the proposed lower pocket park. This project is located in the heart of the Luray downtown and would be a great asset in linking Main St. with the recreational use of the Hawksbill Greenway.
- Katie Sokol

Regional Meeting Report:

Kay Moore, Central Region Chair

Matt Tankersley of RVA Rain Systems hosted a meet and greet on April 16th at his new office at 119 E. Main St. in Richmond for members and guests of VSLD. After socializing for a while, Matt gave a presentation to introduce us to his rain harvesting systems. He showed examples of large and small ways homeowners and businesses can make use of his systems to clean and capture rain water.

His enthusiasm for the idea of sustainable land use was obvious. He showed pictures of some great ways to capture rain water for reuse. His systems can not only be functional but also very esthetically pleasing. He partners well with us to create sustainable and lovely

landscapes. You might want to visit his website at www.rvarain.com to see possibilities.

As water becomes more and more scarce and localities put more pressure or taxes on homeowner water use, his system offers some exciting possibilities.

He also mentioned his involvement with River Hero Homes and the James River Association at www.jamesriverassociation.org. To be Certified as a River Hero Home, the owner must show ways he has made his site more river friendly. Matt offers a discount to certified homeowners.

Thanks to Matt for his hospitality and his enthusiasm and thanks to those of you who attended.



Calycanthus floridus

Photo Credit: Chris Coen



Massanutten Mountain Spring Controlled Burn

Photo: Katie Sokol

Our New VSLD 2013 Board



Left to Right, First Row: Michele Fletcher, Marketing/Social Media Chair & Official Photographer; Susan Kappel, Treasurer; Chris Coen, Secretary; Second Row: Monit Rosendale, Website Chair; Kay Moore, Central Region Coordinator & Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden Liaison; Eve Willis, President; Jane Abbott, Certification Chair; Kimberly League, Director; Last Row: Michelle Baudanza, Director; Tom Thompson, Past President; Christie Fargis, Membership Chair; Katie Sokol, Vice President; Theresa Biagioli, Director. Missing from Photo: Denise Greene, Public Relations Chair; Carol Pilgrim, Scholarship Committee Chair; Helen Janele, Newsletter Editor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Norfolk Botanical Garden Plant Sale

Reminder:

Don't overlook your plant purchasing opportunity on Mothers Day weekend, Friday through Sunday May 10-12- NBG will hold their annual plant sale! Brian O'Neil says the staff at NBG is constantly updating their plant listings on their website-

<http://norfolkbotanicalgarden.org/events/annual-plant-sale-2013-05-12/>.

Members get in at 9:00; the general public is allowed entry at 10:00.

Treasurer's Report: --Susan Kappel--

1st Quarter- 2013

Beginning Balance- \$19,123.32

Ending Balance - \$16,736.10

Membership Report: --Christie Fargis--

Certified Members:	90
Associate Members.....	1
Student Members.....	4
Honorary Members.....	6

Total Membership.....101

Preface to the “Facebook Is Spying on You” Article

By Michele Fletcher

The title of the following article – **“Facebook is Spying On You”** - is carefully designed to grab your attention and perhaps even to panic you about Facebook. Most of the points laid out in this article are just common sense. For example, the first point it makes is that in Facebook’s new page layout, “Timeline” people can more easily go back through the things you’ve posted. So if you posted something stupid about yourself, they might find it more easily. Duh! **Common sense is that you don’t post photos of yourself doing something idiotic.**

It IS wise to be aware of some of these things, but do keep them in perspective. If you put any apps on your phone or on the computer, whether it is on Facebook or somewhere else, then information is already being gathered about you. **If you’re online socially, researching for information via a search engine or just shopping for something, you can bet data is being gathered on you - specifically when you’ve provided personal information or just in aggregate.** Heck, you probably have a ton of **“cookies” on your computer right now** as various websites record your browsing habits.

I will add that the whole point of Facebook is to interact socially. So, it is not a stretch to realize you should be selective about your friends if you have a personal page just as you would do in your physical community.

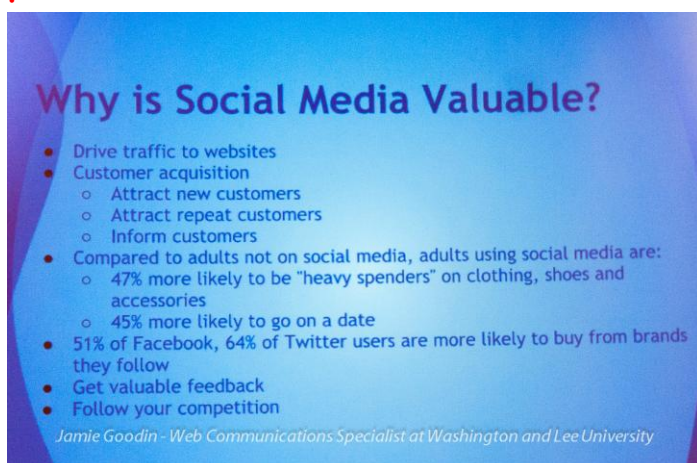
And, for our purposes, Facebook is here to market your business, to make connections and to show people that you are an expert in your field and can be trusted to provide helpful information. So, some of the points made in the **article to follow won’t even apply.**

*I, for one, don’t have time for apps like Games. I don’t post much on my personal page. My time is spent on my business page, <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Michele-Fletcher-Landscape-Designs/230948441558?ref=hl> . and, on the VSLD Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Virginia-Society-of-Landscape-Designers/251805784884503?ref=hl> , as well as several non-profits that I help out with locally. Check them out. **You don’t have to have a Facebook account you can still view its business pages. Business pages are, by design, public.** Duh! We are marketing **to** the public. Would you ask the newspaper to hide your advertisement on a back page? And your personal page, if you want one, can be as private as the settings that you select, and the information that You decide to put into it. Be personally social or not, but do take advantage of Facebook’s power for your own business.*

You may set Facebook up so that any tagging in photos of you must be OKed by you before it goes into effect. When it comes to a business page, **I’m pleased to be tagged doing some good or as part of a professional photograph.** On a personal page, you may divide up your **“friends” into different groups, and then, when you post a photo you can choose whether they may view it or not.**

Whenever a **“Social reader” pops up with a request, I just say “no.”** Some of my “friends” allow the posting of many articles they read; that is a personal decision. **If I find something interesting that I want to share, then I’ll share it, but not otherwise. Just say No.**

I can go on, but space and time are short. If you have other concerns or questions, call me or email me. Just remember:



*See you all on Facebook,
Michele*

Facebook Is Spying on You

Six Ways Your Privacy Could Be Compromised

By John Sileo

A billion people worldwide use Facebook to share details of their lives with their friends. Trouble is, they also might be unintentionally divulging matters they consider private—to friends...coworkers, clients and employers...marketing companies...and even to competitors, scammers and identity thieves.

Six ways Facebook could be compromising your private information and how to protect yourself...

1 The new Timeline format exposes your old mistakes. Timeline, introduced in late 2011, makes it easy for people to search back through your old Facebook posts - something that was very difficult to do in the past. That could expose private matters and embarrassing photos that you've long since forgotten posting.

What to do: To hide Timeline posts that you do not wish to be public, hold the cursor over the post, click the pencil icon that appears in the

upper-right corner, then click "Hide from Timeline" or "Delete."

2 Facebook apps steal personal details about you—even details that you specifically told Facebook you wished to keep private. Third-party apps are software applications available through Facebook but created by other companies. These include games and quizzes popular on Facebook such as *FarmVille* and *Words with Friends*, plus applications such as Skype, TripAdvisor and Yelp. Most Facebook apps are free—the companies that offer them make their money by harvesting personal details about users from their Facebook pages, then selling that information to advertisers.

Many apps collect only fairly innocuous information, such as age, hometown and gender, that probably is not secret. But others dig deep into Facebook data, even accessing information that you may have designated private, such as religious affiliation, political leanings and sexual orientation.

What to do: Read user agreements and privacy policies carefully to understand what information you are agreeing to share before signing up for any app. The free Internet tool Privacyscore is one way to evaluate the privacy policies of the apps you currently use (www.Facebook.com/privacyscore). You also can tighten privacy settings by clicking the lock icon in the upper-right-hand corner. Select "See More Settings," then choose "Apps" from the left menu. Under "Apps You Use," click "Edit" to see your privacy -options.

3 Facebook "like" buttons spy on you—even when you don't click on them. Each time you click a "like" button on a Web site, you broadcast your interest in a subject not just to your Facebook friends but also to Facebook and its advertising partners.

But if you're a Facebook user and you visit a Web page that has a "like" button, Facebook will record that you visited that page even if you don't click "like." Facebook claims to keep Web-browsing habits private, but there's no

guarantee that the information won't get out.

What to do: One way to prevent Facebook from knowing where you go online is to set your Web browser to block all cookies. Each browser has a different procedure for doing this, and you will have to re-enter your user ID and password each time you visit certain Web sites.

Alternatively, to eliminate cookies created during a specific browser session, you can use the "InPrivate Browsing" mode (Internet Explorer), "Incognito" mode (Google Chrome) or "Private Browsing" mode (Firefox and Safari).

There also are free plug-ins to stop Facebook from tracking you, such as Facebook Blocker (www.Webgraph.com/resources/facebookblocker).

4 "Social readers" tell your Facebook friends too much about your reading habits. Some sites, including *The Washington Post* and *The Huffington Post*, offer "social reader" Facebook tools. If you sign up for one, it will tell your Facebook friends what articles you read on the site.

Problem: The tools don't share articles with your Facebook friends only when you click a "like" button—they share everything you read on the site.

What to do: If you've signed up for a social reader app, delete it. Click the lock icon in the upper-right-hand corner, select "See More Settings," then choose "Apps" on the left. Locate the app, click the "X" and follow the directions to delete.

5 Photo and video tags can hurt you. They could let others see you in unflattering and unprofessional situations. If you work for a straight-laced employer or with conservative clients or you are in the job market, you already may realize that it's unwise to post pictures of yourself in unprofessional and possibly embarrassing situations. But you may fail to consider that pictures that other people post of you also can hurt you.

A Facebook feature called photo tags has dramatically increased this risk. The tags make

it easy for Facebook users to identify by name the people in photos they post, then link these photos to the Facebook pages of all users pictured.

What to do: Untag yourself from unflattering photos. Hold your cursor over the post, and click the pencil icon. Select "Report/Remove Tag," then follow the directions to remove the tag. Enable review of all future photos you're tagged in before they appear on your Timeline. Click the lock icon in the upper right, then "See More Settings" and select "Timeline and Tagging." Then click "Edit" next to "Review posts friends tag you in before they appear on your Timeline," and click "Enabled" on the drop-down menu.

6 Your Facebook friends—and those friends' friends—may reveal too much about you.

Even if you're careful not to provide sensitive information about yourself on Facebook, those details could be exposed by the company you keep.

Example: A 2009 Massachusetts Institute of Technology study found it was possible to determine with great accuracy whether a man was gay. This was based on factors such as the percentage of his Facebook friends who were openly gay—even if this man did not disclose his sexual orientation himself.

If several of your Facebook friends list a potentially risky or unhealthy activity, such as smoking or bar hopping, among their interests—or include posts or pictures of themselves pursuing this interest—an insurer, college admissions officer, employer or potential employer might conclude that you likely enjoy this pursuit yourself.

What to do: Take a close look at the interests and activities mentioned by your Facebook friends. If more than a few of them discuss a dangerous hobby, glory in unprofessional behavior or are open about matters of sexual orientation or political or religious beliefs that you consider private, consider removing most or all of these people from your friends list or at least make your friends list private. Click your name in the upper right, then click "Friends,"

then "Edit" and select "Only Me" from the drop-down menu.

Bottom Line/Personal interviewed John Sileo, president of The Sileo Group, a Denver-based identity theft prevention consulting and education provider that has worked with the Department of Defense, the Federal Reserve Bank and many other clients. He speaks internationally about online privacy, social-media exposure and digital reputation. He is author of *Privacy Means Profit: Prevent Identity Theft and Secure Your Bottom Line* (Wiley). www.Sileo.com

See John Sileo's U-Tube 60-Minute Video at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W1ldgMTWKSc>

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[Dr. Hong, Mary Ann Hansen, and Eric Day granted us permission to reprint this article in our VSLD newsletter. It provides valuable information about yet another imported threat to our landscape plantings. Since this disease is untreatable, it is important to recognize its presence in rose plantings immediately in order to prevent its spread to other landscape roses in the area. Norfolk Zoo lost an entire hedgerow of Knock-out Roses last year and one of Tidewater's premier garden centers no longer sells roses due to this new threat.]

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Rose Rosette Disease

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Pathology, Physiology, and Weed Science, Virginia Tech

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VT/0812/PPWS-10NP

Introduction:

Rose rosette disease (RRD), a disease believed to be caused by the recently identified Rose rosette virus, has been spreading through much of the wild rose population of the Midwestern, Southern, and Eastern United States for years. It has been

confirmed in cultivated roses in Virginia and other states. RRD is of great concern to the nursery industry and to many home gardeners because it is known to be lethal to the wild multiflora rose (*Rosa multiflora*), and it is potentially lethal to many ornamental rose species and cultivars. It has long been known that the eriophyid mite, *Phyllocoptes fructiphilus*, spreads the disease, but the likely viral pathogen was only recently identified.

Symptoms:

Symptoms of RRD are highly variable, depending on the species or cultivar of rose affected. This variability can complicate diagnosis. Some of the more recognizable symptoms include rapid elongation of new shoots (fig. 1),



Fig.1 Leaf reddening and distortion, (Photo by M. A. Hansen)

followed by development of witches' brooms or clustering of small branches (fig. 2).



Figure 2. Clustering of small branches (witches' broom). (Photo by M. A. Hansen)

Leaves in the witches' broom are small, distorted, and may have a conspicuous red pigmentation (fig. 3), although red pigmentation is not a consistent symptom.



Figure 3. Distorted/stunted leaves. (Photo by M. A. Hansen)

Canes on some species or cultivars develop excessive growth of unusually soft and pliable red or green thorns that may stiffen later (fig. 4). **When this symptom is present, it is diagnostic for**

RRD. Symptomatic canes may also be noticeably thicker than the parent cane from which they emerged, or they may grow in a spiral pattern.



Fig. 4. Excessive thorniness on swollen stem. (Photo by M. A. Hansen)

Flowers may be distorted with fewer petals than normal (fig. 5), and flower color may be abnormal. For example, flowers that are normally a solid color may be mottled. Buds may abort, be deformed, or be converted to leaf-like tissue.



Fig. 5. Deformed flowers. (Photo by M. A. Hansen)

Infected rose plants often die within one to two years.

When all of the above symptoms are present, diagnosis is relatively straightforward. However, a

diseased plant may exhibit few of these symptoms, especially in the early stages of the disease. By the time symptoms are severe and recognizable, the disease is likely to have already spread to neighboring plants. Some symptoms, such as leaf coloration, may be subtle. Although some diseased plants develop very obvious red pigmentation, others exhibit a less striking reddish-pink color on leaf undersides or along the margins of otherwise green leaves. Because the new leaves of many rose cultivars normally have reddish pigments, it may be difficult to determine whether the reddish color is abnormal or not. **Therefore, it is important to continue to monitor symptoms on suspect roses.**

On RRD-infected plants, the reddish color does not go away, whereas on healthy plants, the reddish color usually disappears as the leaf matures. Witches' brooms on some diseased plants may be an unusual color of green that can be mistaken for symptoms of a nutrient deficiency. However, nutrient deficiency should affect the whole plant. If these symptoms appear only on parts of the plant, they are probably not due to nutrient deficiency and RRD is more likely.

The witches' broom symptom itself is not necessarily diagnostic for rose rosette disease. This symptom can also occur in response to certain types of herbicide injury. For example, if glyphosate, the active ingredient of the herbicide Roundup, contacts green tissue of rose plants in the fall, it is translocated to the buds, and symptoms do not become evident until those buds emerge the following spring. Witches' brooms with **yellow, narrow leaves on clusters of shoots** are typical of glyphosate injury (fig. 6).

The commonly used broadleaf herbicide 2,4-D can also cause leaf distortion on roses. Unless plants are injured again, symptoms of herbicide injury should disappear by the following year.



Fig. 6 Glyphosate injury to new growth in spring

Other symptoms of rose rosette disease that may be expressed include:

- Blackening and death of the canes on some cultivars.
- Short internodal distances.
- Blind shoots (shoots that do not produce a flower) that remain blind.
- Greater sensitivity of reddish purple tissue to frost.
- Roughened, "pebbly" texture to leaves.
- Increased susceptibility to the fungal disease, powdery mildew. This is especially evident when nearby roses known to be highly susceptible to powdery mildew do not develop signs of this disease.

History of Rose Rosette Disease:

Symptoms that were undoubtedly due to rose rosette disease were described in the United States as early as 1941. Spread of the disease in the U.S. was linked to the history of the multiflora rose, an exotic plant that was introduced from Japan in 1866 as a rootstock for ornamental roses. During the 1930s through the 1960s, planting multiflora rose was recommended for erosion control, as a bird sanctuary and food source, as a living fence for cattle, for strip mine reclamation, and as a crash barrier on highways. This recommendation ultimately backfired because multiflora rose can produce a million or more seeds per plant and can propagate itself vegetatively as well. It quickly spread and is now declared a noxious weed in several states.

Multiflora rose is **highly susceptible to RRD** — so much so that the disease was initially considered a potential biological control for multiflora rose. Even now, some people suggest introducing RRD-infected plants into areas with multiflora rose as a way to reduce spread of this invasive plant. Most rose growers, however, are very wary of this recommendation because RRD can spread quickly from multiflora rose to cultivated roses.

Disease Cycle:

Rose rosette disease is most likely caused by the newly named Rose rosette virus, an Emaravirus. In 2011, researchers at the University of Arkansas showed a strong correlation between the presence of symptoms of rose rosette disease and the presence of Rose rosette virus: The virus was present in 84 of 84 rose plants showing symptoms of RRD but not in 30 of 30 asymptomatic plants. Now that the putative virus has been identified, it should be possible to use more rapid tests to confirm rose rosette virus in plant diagnostic labs. In the past, the disease was diagnosed based on a preponderance of characteristic symptoms or by grafting suspect plant material onto known healthy roses and demonstrating transmission of symptoms after a period of weeks to months.

The disease is transmitted by the eriophyid mite, *Phyllocoptes fructiphylus*, or by grafting. The wild multiflora rose is very susceptible to the disease and is a common source of inoculum. Cultivated roses planted downwind of infected multiflora rose are especially at risk because the mite vector travels on wind currents from infected to healthy plants. Some growers have observed symptoms on previously healthy plants within four weeks of being planted downwind from diseased multiflora rose.

The causal agent of rose rosette disease is not soil-borne, so it is possible to successfully plant healthy roses in beds where diseased plants have been removed. However, because the pathogen is systemic in infected plants, the virus may persist in RRD-infected root pieces that remain in the soil. If plants regrow from these old root pieces, as multiflora rose is apt to do, they can serve as an inoculum source for healthy plants. Therefore, it is important to thoroughly remove symptomatic plants and ensure that infected plants are not allowed to regrow from old, infected root pieces.

Control:

No effective control is available for rose rosette disease in existing infected rose plants, but the disease may be prevented from spreading to healthy plants by using a combination of the following approaches.

1. Resistance:

R. multiflora is the species that appears to be most susceptible to RRD. However, many species and

selections of cultivated roses are also highly susceptible, and no cultivars have been proven to be resistant. Although the native species *Rosa setigera* is reported to be resistant to the disease, one grower has reported increased susceptibility to powdery mildew on plants of *R. setigera*, which could indicate some level of infection by the RRD pathogen.

A species called the McCartney rose, which exists as a weed in Texas, is susceptible to RRD but resistant to feeding by the mites that transmit the disease. It may be possible, through breeding techniques, to incorporate this mite resistance into cultivated roses in the future.

In the meantime, it would be wise to assume that all cultivated roses are potentially susceptible to the disease and to be on the lookout for symptoms of rose rosette.

2. Cultural Control:

Early detection of the disease is the key to effective cultural control. Any suspect roses should be removed and destroyed immediately or monitored for continued symptoms and removed as soon as presence of RRD is ascertained. In some areas, burning is permitted and can be used to destroy diseased plants. If burning is not allowed in the area, plants should be bagged and removed. Diseased plants that have been uprooted should not be allowed to remain in the vicinity of healthy roses because they can continue to serve as a source of inoculum. If possible, *R. multiflora* plants — which frequently serve as the source of inoculum — should be eliminated from the immediate vicinity (100-meter radius) of rose nurseries and gardens. Locations where individual multiflora rose plants have been removed should be monitored for regrowth, and any re-growth should be removed and destroyed. Multiflora rose over larger areas is difficult to control and complete removal may not be practical.

To prevent infection of new transplants, avoid planting cultivated roses on hilltops or downwind of known multiflora rose plantings where the cultivated rose transplants are more susceptible to invasion by the mites.

Space plants so that canes and leaves do not touch each other. Eriophyid mites do not have wings and must crawl from plant to plant. Proper spacing makes it more difficult for the mites to move within a planting.

3. Chemical Control:

Although there is no compound that will directly control Rose rosette virus, effective control of mites with certain miticides can reduce the risk of spread. Be aware that miticides registered for control of spider mites do not control the eriophyid mites that transmit RRD. Some researchers have obtained reasonable control with either carbaryl or bifenthrin insecticides; however, mites are very small and it can be difficult to get complete coverage. Also, use of carbaryl to control eriophyid mites can lead to outbreaks of spider mites. The insecticide **Avid** is registered for control of both eriophyid and spider mites on roses.

Use of miticides in the absence of cultural controls is not recommended. One way to use a miticide as an additional tool in a control program is to focus sprays on plants that surround spots where diseased plants have been removed. These are the most likely plants to which mites from within a planting would have moved.

Spraying every two weeks from April until September should significantly reduce the mite population and the risk of transmission. Additional sprays may be needed **during hot, dry weather when eriophyid mites are most active.**

Resources:

Amrine, J. W., Jr., and D. F. Hindal. 1988. *Rose Rosette: A Fatal Disease of Multiflora Rose*. West Virginia University Circular 147. Morgantown: West Virginia University.

Amrine, J. W., and S. Zhao. 1998. "Research on Aerial Dispersal of *Phyllocoptes fructiphilus* (Acari: Eriophyidae), Vector of Rose Rosette Disease." *American Rose*, March 1998, 28-29.

Laney, A. G., K. E. Keller, R. R. Martin, and I. E. Tzanetakis. 2011. "A Discovery 70 Years in the Making: Characterization of the Rose Rosette Virus." *Journal of General Virology* 92:1727-32.

Peck, A. 2007. *Rose Rosette: A Web Book*. Updated May 2007. www.rosegeeks.com.

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ucts that also may be suitable.

[See the original Web-e article at <http://pubs.ext.vt.edu/450/450-620/450-620.html>

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New Facts on Honeybee Populations

*Honeybee colony losses over the winter routinely average 15% and beekeepers consider this shrinkage to be sustainable. However, in the past six years, losses have climbed to around 30%. Hope surfaced in the 2011-2012 winter, when losses fell to 22%, but this past winter, they rose again to 31%.

*Honeybee losses in China have already forced farmers in the pear-producing regions of China to mount ladders in order to reach flowers with pollinating feathers. This spring, in the California almond orchards, crop catastrophe was narrowly avoided when an unusually warm and clement spring provided more "flying" days for the reduced numbers of honeybees available.

*Rather than the sudden colony collapse disorder seen previously, beekeepers are now observing a gradual decline in numbers over time as well as a serious drop in colony vigor. In addition to chronic exposure to pesticides, varroa mites in bee airways and the steady loss of summer foraging habitat are thought to be other factors contributing to honeybee declines. Colonies are barely able to keep their hives warm through winter and in early spring when broods are being raised.

*Pesticide use continues to remain a critical issue for all beneficial insects, especially a new class of pesticide known as **neonicotinoids** now being promoted by pesticide manufacturers. Europe is preparing to ban the use of these chemicals so damaging to pollinators. Severe drought in the Mid-west last year dried up crops and natural areas and starved the bees. That was a natural disaster, but the intense pressure now being placed on pollinators has a lot to do with the decisions made by people on what to do with their land.

Beekeepers are hoping to encourage landowners with fallow fields and homeowners to plant more wildflowers and be more tolerant of weeds. They also would like to see tighter pesticide regulations and more governmental support for farmers and landowners who plant bee foraging cover in the form of tax incentives and other forms of remuneration.



Spring Photos



Our First Day of Spring in Virginia- 2013 Photo Credit: Katie Sokol



Clematis armandii „Apple Blossom“ Photo Credit: Helen Janele



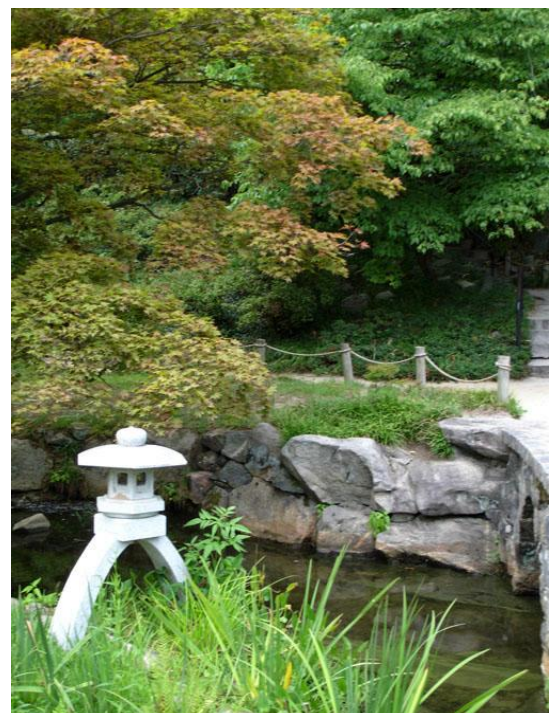
Sanguinaria canadensis „Multiplex“ Photo Credit: Helen Janele



February Forsythia Photo Credit: Michele Fletcher



Acer japonicum „Itayo“ Photo Credit: Helen Janele



Maymont Lantern in Spring Photo Credit: Chris Coen

2013

Calendar of Events & Meetings

May 10-12, 2013

Norfolk Botanical Garden Annual Plant Sale, NBG, Norfolk, VA
<http://norfolkbotanicalgarden.org/events/annual-plant-sale-2013-05-12/>

May 17-18, 2013

Just Gardens Tour, Northern Neck, Lancaster County, VA
10 AM-4 PM-Rain or Shine, 5 Gardens, Tickets \$15 in advance or \$20 at gardens,
Phone 804-333-1099 Ext. 12, Proceeds benefit The Haven (domestic violence et al shelter)
Tour held every two years, Suggestion: bring your own lunch

May 23, 2013

Potomac Bonsai Festival, U. S. National Arboretum; Washington, DC Registration by Phone- 202-245-4521 or on-line - <http://www.usna.usda.gov/Education/lafr2013.pdf>

June 8, 2013

Virginia Tech Hahn Horticulture Garden Gala, Virginia Tech Hahn Center; Blacksburg, VA
Registration (540) 231-5970, e-mail - vtgarden@vt.edu On-line at <http://www.hort.vt.edu>

June 08, 2013

VNLA Summer Board Meeting, Blacksburg, VA
E-mail: info@vnla.org 800-476-0055

August 8-9, 2013

VNLA Annual Field Day & VSLD Summer Tour, Hosted by Brent and Becky's Bulbs, Gloucester, VA
On-line: <http://www.vnla.org> E-mail: FieldDay@vnla.org Phone: 800-476-0055

Calendar of Events & Meetings (cont.)

August 28, 2013

Stormwater Wetland Design Workshop, New Bern, NC; Registration by Phone- 919-515-6780 or 919-513-2192 (Cathy Smith or Christina Shepard) or on-line - <http://www.ncseagrant.org/home/about-ncsg/news-events?task=showArticle&id=1402&category=events&limitstart=0>

October 14- 15, 2013

MAC ISA Annual Meeting, Fredericksburg, VA,
Save the Date!- Details on Speakers to Follow

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