REYNOLDA GARDENS
PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE
The property now known as Reynolda Gardens was at the heart of the 1,067 acre Reynolda estate and included the estate’s formal gardens, greenhouses, golf links, woodlands, and lake. The last century has brought physical changes to the estate, but essential elements of the landscape remain and are still in use.
The Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation donates land to create Reynolda Gardens of Wake Forest College through a series of deeds.

1958: 4 acres
Formal gardens and greenhouses

1961: 124.92 acres
Lake, woods, golf links

1962: 1.97 acres
Between boathouse and dam

*Parcel #4, approximately 19 acres, surrounds Reynolda House. It is not included in these deeds.*
The Formal Gardens
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The Formal Gardens
The Formal Gardens
The Greenhouses
The Greenhouses
Reynolda Village Grounds
Greater Gardens and Nature Trails
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Biological Research Station
Reynolda Gardens has been used by faculty and students for research for over 50 years. It is now the only research station close enough to campus to be used by all students.
Students and faculty publish their work on the Science at Reynolda website. Recent studies have included fish diversity, bluebird behavior, invasive plant mapping, and wetland ecology.

*Science at Reynolda* is an extension of the Reynolda Gardens website. It includes a compendium of studies by faculty and students.
Identifying Challenges and Creating Change Through Research, Education, and Outreach
--Proposal and Five-Year Plan for CEES July, 2010

“Our vision is to make CEES an agent for change. …While scientific and academic journal publications and conferences will be the method of transmitting primary results … we need a parallel dialog…between the Center and its public stakeholders. Our programs and activities can help build an educated citizenry by making complex information understandable to non-scientists…through seminars, programs, informal learning, special events, open-air exhibits …With over 100,000 visitors a year, Reynolda Gardens of Wake Forest University will be an important partner in presenting information to the public. Camilla Wilcox, curator of education at RGWFU, participated in the planning of public engagement for the original CEES and offers to partner with the Center to involve Reynolda Gardens.”
University classes/lab/internship instruction and supervision this winter:

History – Lisa Blee
Physics – Richard Williams
Biology – Rebecca Dickson

Taking the classroom outside
Janice Gaston
*Window on Wake Forest* June 1, 2010

“Students in Pat Lord’s biology class learned some things that they hadn’t expected…(She) realized that most of the students in her Biology 101 class this spring were taking it only to fulfill a requirement, so she decided to focus the class on food…to make it more interesting and relevant. … Nearly half of her students did traditional biology lab work to reinforce what they learned in class, while the other half worked in flower and vegetable gardens at Reynolda Gardens or at the campus garden…”
Sustainability

The 24 acres that were the estate’s golf links were converted to a meadow to serve as a model of sustainability; a wildlife sanctuary; and a resource for environmental research. Programs, events, and publications related to sustainability, produced by Reynolda Gardens staff and faculty in collaboration with governmental and other organizations, are expected to be on-going.
The Winston-Salem Science Café began in the fall of 2008, sponsored by Reynolda Gardens, with the support of Sigma Xi, the Scientific Research Society. SciWorks is now an additional sponsor. Events are held in local venues to accommodate increasingly large audiences. Wake Forest faculty from multiple departments and schools discuss research with the public on a range of topics, including biological and biomedical research; nanotechnology; environmental issues; and sustainability.
Student volunteer opportunities
Individual students serve as garden and education volunteers. Student organizations assist with invasive plant removal and other special projects.
Reynolda Gardens has sponsored programs and events with these organizations, and/or staff members have served as consultants, on boards, and advisory committees:

N. C. Cooperative Extension
Winston-Salem/Forsyth County
  Historic Resources Commission
  Keep Winston-Salem Beautiful
  Historic Bethabara Park
SciWorks
Old Salem Museums & Gardens
Forsyth County Audubon Society
Winston-Salem Rose Society
International Science Café
Forsyth Technical Community College

Carolina Butterfly Society
Garden Conservancy
Southern Garden History Society
Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools
Charlotte Arts and Sciences
Wing Haven Museums and Gardens
North Carolina Bonsai Society
Triad Orchid Society
Programs for schools
Field trips are seasonally oriented, science-based. Specialized volunteers work with small groups of students in grades K – 12. Programs offered:

- Art in the Garden
- Ecology of the Piedmont
- Plants and Animals of the Piedmont
- Plants Around the World
- Plants of the Piedmont
- Plant Taxonomy
- Trees of the Piedmont
- Writing in the Garden
Special programs for children
Young Naturalists, a summer program for children ages 7 through 12, includes sessions with staff, as well as visiting scientists and naturalists. All areas of Reynolda Gardens are utilized in this week-long program, which includes hands-on activities, field walks, and special presentations. Wake Forest Biology faculty and students advise and participate in this program.
Support for teachers
Teachers receive continuing education certificates for participation in science-based public programs for adults, such as Science Café. Programs are developed for individual schools and school systems. Classroom teaching materials are published on the Reynolda Gardens and Science at Reynolda websites.
Public programs for adults
Sessions of the Tuesday Gardening Series are held weekly from mid-September through mid-December and from mid-February through mid-May. Topics include environmental issues; horticulture; science; sustainability; garden and landscape history; and local foods.
Volunteers
Garden volunteers learn horticulture techniques under the direction of Reynolda Gardens horticulturists and assist with gardening activities throughout the year, including vegetable and flower gardening; rose maintenance; sales; and greenhouse production.

Education volunteers participate in quarterly learning sessions and are supervised daily. They lead student field trip groups and other programs for children and teachers.
Children and families

Reynolda Gardens is a popular destination for families with young children. Most activities are informal, parent directed. Children and parents are invited to explore the gardens and talk with gardeners. Bird Day, an event for families, featured hands-on activities and included representatives of Audubon Society and the Carolina Raptor Center.
Income from sales supplements endowment income. Plants are grown on-site or selected from vendors to meet the needs of gardeners of all levels, from beginner to connoisseur. Horticulturists advise participants on plant choice, plant care, and planting design.

Orchid Auction  March
Big Spring Sale  April
Tomato Sale  April
Fall Plant Sale  October
The Plant Shop  On-going
Orchid Sale  December
Friends of Reynolda Gardens
Donations from Friends of Reynolda Gardens also supplement endowment income. Friends are invited to attend events planned for them, as well as most public educational programs, free of charge; other programs and events are discounted for Friends.
Communications

Reynolda Gardens website

Science at Reynolda website

Gardener’s Journal

Brochures

E-mail newsletter

Calendar of Events

Facebook
Through stewardship of the property, respect for its history, and support of educational activities, the University helps fulfill the donors’ vision for Reynolda Gardens, as expressed in the Deeds of Gift.