

Our Beginnings

THE LANDIS ARBORETUM features cultivated and native trees, shrubs, and perennials on the site of a 19th Century farm, the home of Fred Lape, the Arboretum's founder.



The Lape homestead was called Oak Nose Farm—named for a large 400-year-old white oak on a point overlooking the historic Schoharie Valley's picturesque agricultural landscape. The "Great Oak" has been adopted as the symbol of the Arboretum.

Fred Lape—musician, poet, English professor, and writer—established the Arboretum in 1951. The plantings began in the 1930s in collaboration with George E. Landis, a faculty colleague at RPI. Their search for unusual trees and shrubs became a passion. The Arboretum, incorporated in 1961, is a memorial to Landis, who died in 1950.

Lape died in 1985. The Landis Arboretum lives as a laboratory, a classroom, a nature center... and more. What began as an experiment became the gardens, trails, and grounds now open to anyone who enjoys natural beauty and the inspiration of plants.

BECOME A MEMBER OF THE

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Landis Events and Activities

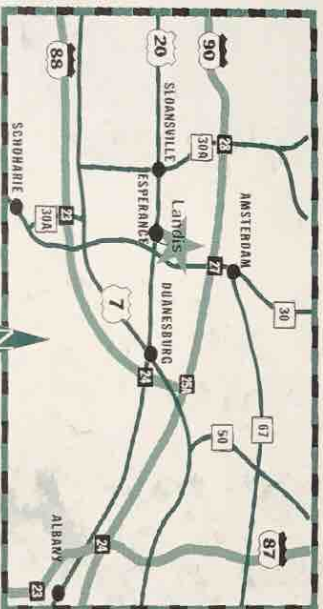
- Plant sales in May and September
- Programs and workshops
- Nature programs for families
- Spectacular views of the Schoharie Valley and beyond
- Bus trips
- Albany Astronomers stargazing
- Special events and tours

For more information about events and programs, please refer to the *Calendar of Events*, published in the January issue of the newsletter, or go to www.LandisArboretum.org.

The quarterly *Newsletter* with articles of horticultural interest is published to acquaint members with Arboretum activities.

Membership is the most important component in the Arboretum's financial support system. The work of our volunteers is greatly appreciated and essential to the well-being of the Arboretum.

The Arboretum is located one and one-half miles north of Route 20 in Esperance. Follow the signs from the village to Lape Road. The Arboretum is one-quarter mile straight ahead.



THE LANDIS ARBORETUM



Arbor-etum (n):
A place where trees and shrubs are grown for study and display. A garden of trees.

Seasonal Highlights

WINTER

- Holiday Luncheon • Bird Watching • Snowshoeing
- Hiking • Wildlife Tracking • Spectacular Views
- Horticulture Certificate Classes
- early spring bulbs • early willows
- flowers of Chinese witchhazel

SPRING

- Spring Clean-Up Day • Acorn Gift Shop opens (May)
- Hiking • Bird Watching • Spring Plant Sale (May)
- Programs and Workshops • Spectacular Views
- daffodils and other spring bulbs • flowering quince
- shadbush • rhododendrons • azaleas • crabapples
- magnolias • viburnums • cherries • mountain laurels
- lilacs • mountain ash • spirea • redbud
- clematis • irises • peonies and other perennials

SUMMER

- Programs and Workshops • Hiking • Bird Watching
- Shopping at the Acorn Gift Shop • Picnics
- Spectacular Views
- stewartia • weigela • fruiting trees • lilacs • late irises
- daylilies • clematis • meadow flowers • perennials

FALL

- Fall Plant Sale (September)
- Horticulture Certificate Classes • Shopping at the Acorn Gift Shop • Hiking • Programs & Workshops
- Bird Watching
- fall crocus • asters • sedums
- flowers of native witchhazels
- colors of red leaf Japanese maple, dogwoods, viburnums, cut leaf Norway maple • grasses
- fruits of hollies, crabapples, viburnums and dogwoods

General Information

- THE FARMHOUSE contains offices and the Acorn Gift Shop.
- THE MEETINGHOUSE is used for classes and gatherings and may be reserved for meetings and special events. Wheelchair-accessible parking and restrooms are available May through October (check in the office when you arrive).
- THE HARKNESS LIBRARY is used by staff and volunteers.
- THE WILLIAM T. RAWMOND GREENHOUSE is used to propagate plants for the plant sales.



A few guidelines for ENJOYING THE ARBORETUM

- The grounds are open every day of the year from dawn until dusk. Please sign in each time you visit.
- The Arboretum is free to the public. A donation of \$5 is suggested from non-members to help maintain the grounds.
- Motorized vehicles are allowed only in the parking lots.
- There are no trash facilities. Please carry out what you bring in.
- Dogs are welcome but must be leashed, and kept away from the flower gardens.
- No guns
- No horses
- Collection of flowers, cuttings, seeds or other plant material is prohibited without prior approval from Arboretum staff.

Old Growth Forest

THE LANDIS ARBORETUM'S 2005 land acquisition contains a horticultural treasure, a stand of old growth forest that has remained untouched since before the American Revolution.

- Eastern hemlock, American beech, and sugar maple are the dominant trees, but a total of ten species have attained old growth status.
- Landis is one of only three arboreta in eastern North America that have old growth forests.
- This unique tract is accessible by trail.

Another old growth forest of hemlock, sugar maple, and oak is a part of the original Lape woodland and is also accessible by trail.

Be sure to visit these ancient forests at Landis—and step back in time.

