

# NEW ENGLAND CARNIVOROUS PLANT SOCIETY

necps.org



**November 2016**

This month's meeting will be held on  
**Saturday, November 5 at 12:30 PM**  
At the [Roger Williams Park Botanical Center](#)  
1000 Elmwood Ave., Providence, RI - ([directions](#))

Please note the change of date to Saturday, November 5th

## Meeting Agenda

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NECPS President **Dave Sackett** will be giving a presentation on Heliamphora.

There will be a silent auction.

All are encouraged to bring their Heliamphora to show off and any plants they may wish to contribute to the silent auction.

**"How is Your Water?"** If you would like to know how your home or plant water measures up, **bring a 3 to 4 ounce clean sample, (no suspended solids)**. After the formal meeting NECPS Librarian **Don Gallant** will be available to test your sample for pH and TDS, (Total Dissolved Solids). Charts of pH and TDS will show where your sample's measurements fall in the pH and TDS scales and what those values mean.

**Next month:** Our annual Holiday Gathering and Yankee Swap!

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**Protect the Venus Flytrap - Endangered Species Petition**  
[Sign The Petition](#)

# Announcements

- **Newsletter Changes**

**Richard Yerry**, after undergoing a large increase in both his personal and professional responsibilities has decided to step down as our Newsletter Editor. We appreciate all of the effort he has put into this Newsletter over the past year and are happy that he will continue to be an active member of the NECPS and will be attending our meetings as often as he can. Our webmaster, **Ken Matteson** will manage the newsletter in Rich's absence

- **Dues Reminder**

Membership dues are payable at or before the January meeting.

- **Akillian Gallery Exhibition**

NECPS Vice President **Emmi Kurosawa** will be presenting her first CP watercolor painting a 'Pinguicula ramosa' in a joint exhibition between the New England Society of Botanical Artists and the Guild of Natural Scientific Illustrators at the [Akillian Gallery](#) at Massasoit Community College, Canton MA, Nov. 2-Dec 2.

- **A volunteer is needed for a NECPS Booth at Tower Hill Botanic Garden**

We are looking for a volunteer to staff a NECPS booth at the [Tower Hill Botanic Garden](#) on **November 15-17**, between **10:15am and 11:30am** for 7th grade students. 100 students each day will be divided into 3 groups of ~30 and have a rotation tour around Tower Hill. We are to be there to provide our service for 20 min per session x 3 each day.

- **Volunteers are needed for the Connecticut Flower & Garden Show**

We have the opportunity to set up a booth at the [Connecticut Flower & Garden Show](#) at the Connecticut Convention Center in Hartford, CT on **February 23-26 2017**. The theme this year is "**Woodland Enchantment**". We are looking for volunteers who can help us with set up and tear down and to man the booth during the show. We need a contact person and ideas for a 10x10 exhibition booth.

- **NECPS in the News**

**John Twomey**, NECPS Secretary and URI Master Gardener was the subject of an interview by **Walt Buteau** of [WPRI Channel 12](#) Providence, RI. The interview aired on Friday October 14th at 6 PM and again on Saturday morning and again once more on Monday in a segment they call The Rhode Show. You can read the article online and view the video below.

[Meat eating plants are not just science fiction](#)

- **CAPTIVATED: The Allure of Carnivorous Plants**

**CAPTIVATED: The Allure of Carnivorous Plants** tells the stories of four people whose lives were affected in different ways by the cultivation of these many fascinating plants. Learn about the many of the wide ranges of carnivorous plants out there as each person tells the story of their journey. **The New England Carnivorous Plant Society** was a sponsor of this currently in production film.

**Current status:** Pre-production - [Summer Update](#) - [Media Gallery](#) - [Credits](#)

# Indoor Dormancy

by Michael and Andreia Stiffler, and George Stiffler

## General information

Temperate-growing carnivorous plants (including all North American carnivorous plants) require a cool winter dormancy period. Carnivorous plants that grow in climates with cold winters and shortened daylight periods stop actively growing during this time. In the spring, as weather warms up and the daylight period lengthens, the plants resume growth. Improper handling of dormancy is a common reason for failure with temperate-growing carnivorous plants. In general, the dormancy period should last three to four months. Watering should be decreased during this time, keeping the medium damp only. The plants should experience a decreased photoperiod; light intensity is not important as long as additional unwanted heat is not produced. Most importantly, the plants should experience a decrease in temperature. Temperatures above freezing to 45°F are ideal, although most plants will survive brief periods of freezing.

Here we outline our techniques for indoor dormancy, and provide some advice for situations that are not exactly the same as ours.

## Refrigerator method

Generally, this method involves first uprooting plants and carefully clipping all leaves. Dust plants lightly with a fungicide. Then, place plants individually or in small groups in plastic bags, including some moist long-fibered sphagnum moss. Then simply place plants in the refrigerator. Check plants periodically for dryness or fungus. Alternatively plants can be left in their pots and covered with plastic bags. Or, if room permits, leave the plants in their pots and place them in a small terrarium with a cover and lightstrip, leave the lights on for 8-10 hours per day. It's not entirely necessary to clip leaves, but clipping leaves does provide less substrate for fungus growth. The refrigerator method typically works well, but frequent losses can occur with smaller plants usually due to fungus attacks. This method is recommended if no other option is open.

## Garage method

This method requires access to a garage, one that is attached to the house. Using an unattached garage may also work, use of a heater to prevent freezing of the plants would be required though. Simply place plants in their pots in a convenient location in the garage. It's best if the plants receive some light from a window, otherwise one could use a standard shoplight fixture held a few feet above the plants and set on an 8-hour photoperiod. Water plants very lightly. If the outdoor temperature is expected to fall much below freezing, bring the plants inside for a few days and place them in a cool basement.

This method is preferred over the refrigerator method, the main reason being that fungus is less of a problem due to the air circulation. Also, the plants get to experience a more natural dormancy-wake cycle with gradual changes in temperature and light duration.

## References and for more information

1. D'Amato, Peter. 1998. *The Savage Garden*. Berkeley, California: Ten Speed Press.
2. The Carnivorous Plant FAQ. <http://www.sarracenia.com>.

**For more growing tips visit:** [Growing Guides and Plant Care Sheets](#)

# NECPS 2016 Calendar of Events

Meetings unless otherwise noted are held from **12:30 pm - 2:30 pm** on the second Saturday of the month at the [Roger Williams Park Botanical Center](#), 1000 Elmwood Ave., Providence, RI - ([directions](#)). Regular program segments may include: guest speakers, workshops, demonstrations, plant displays, a silent auction, refreshments and informal social discussion. Meetings are free and open to the public who are warmly welcomed.

- January 9 - Annual "Nepenthes Cutting & Propagation Workshop" by Dave Sackett
- February 13 - Introduction to "Tuberous Sundew" by Johnny Maiocci
- February 15-21 - [RI Spring Flower and Garden Show](#), Rhode Island Convention Center, Providence, RI
- March 12 - To be held at [Logees Greenhouses](#), Danielson, CT
- March 16-20 - [Boston Flower and Garden Show](#), Seaport World Trade Center, Boston, MA
- April 9 - Bog Building Workshop by John Twomey
- April 22, 10am -3pm - Party for the Planet, [Franklin Park Zoo](#), Boston, MA
- April 23, 1pm – Bog Building Class, [Lake Street Garden Center](#), Salem, NH
- May 1, 1:00pm - 2:30pm (Registration required) - Carnivorous Plants Mini Bog Workshop, Wellesley College Botanic Gardens, Wellesley, MA
- May 14 - To be held at the [University of Connecticut Conservatory](#), Storrs, CT
- June 11 - Bog Walk at [Ponemah Bog](#), Amherst, NH
- July 9 - Bog Walk at Mother's Bog, Brewster, MA
- August 12, 2:00pm - 3:30pm - [The Wonderful World Of Carnivorous Plants!](#), The Gardens at Elm Bank, Mass Hort, Wellesley, MA
- August 13 - Show Planning and discussion, Tower [Hill Botanic Garden](#), Boylston, MA
- **September 10-11 - Annual NECPS Carnivorous Plant Show**, [Tower Hill Botanic Garden](#), Boylston, MA
- October 8, 10am - 12 pm - Bog Building Class, [Audubon Environmental Education Center](#), Bristol, RI
- October 8 - Post Show Discussion, [Audubon Environmental Education Center](#), Bristol, RI
- **November 5** – NECPS President **Dave Sackett** will be giving a presentation on Heliamphora.
- December 10 - Holiday Gathering and Yankee Swap



**Kadeem Gilbert** is seen here discussing his research on Nepenthes pitcher morphology at the [Audubon Environmental Education Center](#) during the October meeting.



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**"The mission of the New England Carnivorous Plant Society shall be to share, to gain knowledge of, and to achieve expertise in all phases of growing, education, appreciation, and conservation of carnivorous plants in both culture and in native habitats."**

## Resources

- NECPS on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/necps>
- NECPS Website: <http://necps.org>
- NECPS Forum: <http://necps.proboards.com/>
- NECPS Flicker Group: <https://www.flickr.com/groups/necps/>

## NECPS Membership

**Membership is open to people of all ages who have an interest in carnivorous plants. Whether you have years of experience, or just a vague curiosity. We offer individual, family and student memberships.**

### Member Benefits

In addition to our monthly newsletter, membership brings with it many benefits such as our monthly meetings, where you can regularly meet and take part in informal discussions with people from all walks of life who share a common interest and passion for carnivorous plants. Our meetings also regularly include program segments such as guest speakers, demonstrations, workshops, silent auctions or plant displays. Not to mention the always popular **Yankee Swap** held during our annual Holiday Social.

Members have access to our extensive [Library of books and dvds](#) which contain a wealth of knowledge on all aspects of carnivorous plants for both the novice and expert alike. Not to mention our own [Growing Guides and Plant Care Sheets](#) authored by some of our most experienced growers.

And members also have the opportunity to take part in our popular **Annual Carnivorous Plant Show**. Where you can display your own plants and share your knowledge and passion for carnivorous plants with the public.

You can join at any one of our monthly meetings or download our [Membership Form](#) and return it with your check to the Membership Secretary.