

2023- 2024 Calendar for Business/Board Meetings, Trips, Workshops, Activities, May Market and Pop Up Sales, Programs

[Click here to be taken directly to VSP for the December - February Calendar without having to login](#)

[Click here to be taken directly to VSP for the March - May Calendar without having to login](#)

[Click here to access a printable pdf of the Activities Calendar](#)

SEPTEMBER 2023

SEP 11: Mon, noon - 3:00 pm **Annual Meeting and Luncheon followed by September Business Meeting at Essex Yacht Club**
SEP 25: Mon, 10:00 am **Horticulture Spotlight: Summer's Bounty**
Board Meeting at Town Hall, Conference Room A

OCTOBER 2023

OCT 2: Mon, 1:00 pm **Business Meeting at Town Hall Auditorium**
Horticulture Spotlight: Under the Water OR Pumpkin and Plant Combinations
Program 2:00 pm: "Watershed Gardens: Protecting the Connecticut River Starts in your Backyard" with Judy Preston, Estuary Magazine/Estuary Ventures

OCT 6: Fri, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm **Fall Pop-Up Sale Preparation**

OCT 8: Sun, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm **Fall Pop-Up Sale at Town Park**

OCT 11: Wed, 10:00 am - 12 noon **Horticulture Workshop: Creative Flower Design with Cathy Ritch, National Garden Club Judge. Fee: \$25. Location: Town Hall Auditorium**

OCT 12: Thurs, 9:00 am **Fall Clean-Up Activity (Active Members Required Activity)**

OCT 13: Fri, 9:00 am **Rain date for Fall Clean-Up Activity (Active Members Required Activity)**

OCT 25: Wed, 9:30 am **Horticultural Field Trip: The Farmer's Daughter and the University of Rhode Island Botanical Garden**

OCT 30: Mon, 10:00 am **Board Meeting at Town Hall, Conference Room A**

NOVEMBER 2023

NOV 6: Mon, 1:00 pm

Business Meeting at Our Lady of Sorrows (lower level)

Horticulture Spotlight: Nature's Bounty

Program 2:00 pm: "Holiday Decorations from Nature's Bounty" (demonstration) with Carol King Platt, former Contributing Editor for House & Garden, and writer for the New London Times (Garden Column)

NOV 10: Fri, 1:00 pm

Holiday Pop-Up Sale Preparation

NOV 13: Mon, 1:00 pm

Holiday Pop-Up Sale Preparation

NOV 13 - NOV 15: Mon - Wed

Members' Greens Donations and Drop Off at Dickinson Park (Active Members Required Activity)

NOV 13: Mon, 9:00 am

Holiday Greens Gathering Activity (Active Members Required Activity)

NOV 14: Tues, 9:00 am

Holiday Greens Gathering Activity (Active Members Required Activity)

NOV 16: Thurs, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Town Holiday Decorating Activity (Active Members Required Activity)

NOV 17: Fri, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Rain date for Town Holiday Decorating Activity

NOV 17: Fri, 9:00 am

Holiday Pop-Up Sale Preparation

NOV 20: Mon, 10:00 am

Holiday Pop-Up Sale Preparation

NOV 21, Tues, 10:00 am

Holiday Pop-Up Sale Preparation

NOV 22, Wed, 10:00 am

Holiday Pop-Up Sale Preparation

NOV 25: Sat, 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Holiday Pop-Up Sale, Town Park (Two Days)

NOV 26: Sun, 9:00 am - 12 noon

NOV 27: Mon, 10:00 am

Board Meeting at Town Hall, Conference Room A

DECEMBER 2023

DEC 5: Tues, 5:00 - 7:00 pm

Holiday Party at Essex Yacht Club. Spouses and significant others welcome. Fee: TBA

DEC 13: Wed, 10:00 am - 12 noon

Horticulture Workshop: Boxwood Trees led by Sandy French and Jane Dickinson. Fee: TBA.

Location: Town Hall Auditorium

JANUARY 2024

JAN 29: Mon, 10:00 am

Board Meeting at Town Hall, Conference Room A

FEBRUARY 2024

FEB 5: Mon, 1:00 pm

Business Meeting at Town Hall Auditorium

Horticulture Spotlight: Photos of your garden, planters, flower arrangement AND/OR arrangements based on a hobby (hiking, sailing, reading, etc)

Program 2:00 pm: "Spring Things Workshop/Demonstration" with Colleen Martell, Bramble Collective in Chester

FEB 7: Wed, 10:30 am - 3:00 pm

May Market Planning Meeting #1 - (Three Groups)

FEB 15: Thurs, 10:00 am - 12 noon

Horticultural Workshop: Repotting Orchids and Basic Orchid Care led by Coral Rawn,

Fee: \$10. Location: Town Hall Auditorium. Maximum 15 people.

FEB 21: Wed, 10:00 am

75th Anniversary Discussion at Town Hall, Conference Room A

FEB 26: Mon, 10:00 am

Board Meeting at Town Hall, Conference Room A

FEB 28: Wed, 9:30 am

Horticulture Field Trip: Logee's Greenhouses

MARCH 2024

MAR 4: Mon, 1:00 pm

Business Meeting at Town Hall Auditorium

Horticulture Spotlight: Drought Tolerant Plantings

Joint Program with Essex Land Trust, 2:00 pm: "Planting in a Time of Climate Change" with Christine Darnell, Christine Darnell Gardens, Landscape Designer and Author

MAR 6: Wed, 9:30 am - 1:30 pm
MAR 14: Thurs, 10:00 am - noon

MAR 23, Sat, 11:00 am
MAR 25: Mon, 10:00 am

May Market Planning Meeting #2 - (Two Groups)
Horticulture Workshop: Creating Birdhouses from Gourds led by Patty York. Fee: \$10.
Location: Town Hall Auditorium
Essex Go Bragh Parade. Meet at Town Hall at 11:00 am
Board Meeting at Town Hall, Conference Room A

APRIL 2024

APR 1: Mon, 1:00 pm

APR 3: Wed, 9:30 am - 12:00 pm
APR 8: Mon, 9:00 am - 11:00 am

APR 8: Mon, 12 noon - 2:00 pm

APR 9: Tues, 9:00 am - 12 noon

APR 18: Thurs, 9:00 am

APR 19: Fri, 9:00 am

APR 22 - APR 26: Mon - Fri,
9:00 - 11:00am

APR 22 - APR 26: Mon - Fri,
12 noon - 2:00 pm

TBA

APR 29: Mon, 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

APR 30 -MAY 1, Tues - Wed, 9:00 am -
11:00 am RAIN DATES

Business Meeting at the Essex Corinthian Yacht Club (note new location)
Horticulture Spotlight: Miniature Gardens
Program 2:00 pm: "Connecticut Gardens: A Celebration of the State's Public, Historic & Private Gardens" with Caryn B Davis, Caryn B David Photography, Author and Photographer
May Market Planning Meeting #3 - (One Large Group)
Garlic Salt Production Session 1 (Valley Regional High School) (Active Members Required Activity)
Garlic Salt Production Session 2 (Valley Regional High School) (Active Members Required Activity)
Garlic Salt Production Session 3 (Valley Regional High School) (Active Members Required Activity)
Spring Clean-Up Activity (Active Members Required Activity)
Rain Date for Spring Clean-Up Activity (Active Members Required Activity)
May Market Digs (Morning Shifts)

Divide and Pot (Afternoon Shifts)

Board Meeting at Town Hall, Conference Room A

May Market/Business Meeting at Town Hall Auditorium. Don't forget to wear your May Market hat. No program

May Market Digs/Divide and Pot (Morning Shifts)

MAY 2024

MAY 2 - MAY 3, Thurs - Fri,
9:00 am - 2:00 pm

MAY 9: Thurs, 8:00 am - 6:00 pm

MAY 10: Fri, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

MAY 10: Fri, 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

MAY 11: Sat, 8:00 am - 2:00 pm

MAY 11: Sat, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

May 16, Thurs, 10:00 am - 12 noon

MAY 17: Fri, 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

MAY 20: Mon, 10:00 am

Members "Perky Plant" Donations Drop Off at Cross Lots

Town Park Set Up. Tents, Tables, Chairs, Signs - MM Co-Chairs/Team
(Transport of items from Cross Lots begins per confirmed plan)

Retail Booths finalize Set-Ups of Displays - Lead/Co-Lead/Team

May Market "Members Only" Pre-Sale (Check Guidelines: Cash/Check Only)

May Market Day - The Big Event!

May Market Shut-Down (Per Closure Plan/MM Chairs)

Spring Planting of Annuals (Active Members Required Activity)

Post May Market Party at Essex Place

Board Meeting at Town Hall, Conference Room A

JUNE 2024

JUNE 1 - AUGUST 31:

JUNE 3: Mon. 1:00 pm

JUNE date TBA: 9:30 am

Summer Watering and Weeding Activity (Active Members Required Activity)

Business Meeting/Luncheon. Location: Dickinson Park

Horticulture Field Trip: Emily Dickinson's House and Garden

AUGUST 2024

AUG 26: Mon, 10:00 am

Board Meeting at Town Hall, Conference Room A

SEPTEMBER 2024

SEPT 9: Mon, 12 noon - 3:00 pm

Annual Meeting and Luncheon, followed by September Business Meeting at Essex Yacht Club
