

The Wayland Garden Club presents



A NATIVE WILDFLOWER DEMONSTRATION GARDEN AT THE WAYLAND DEPOT

If you are walking or bicycling on the Rail Trail, you probably enjoy the beauty of nature – plants, flowers, bees, butterflies, and birds.

The continued health of the natural world depends on us. The Wayland Garden Club is committed to practicing conservation of and gardening with native plants. It is our hope to inspire gardeners to grow native plants in their own gardens to support healthy ecosystems that sustain our natural world.

A garden that contains native plants provides the foundation for a healthy ecosystem. Native plants require less water, fertilizer, and maintenance to thrive. They are important hosts for many beneficial insects including the caterpillars that turn into butterflies. In turn, these insects provide food for our melodious songbirds.

Adding Native Plants to Your Garden is good for everyone!

“Earth laughs in flowers”

Ralph Waldo Emerson



The Depot: A Place to Share Wayland's Bounty

When the railroad started service to Boston, Wayland gardeners and farmers were able to quickly and efficiently ship food and flowers to the Big City of Boston. Many greenhouses were built in this region and fresh flowers were shipped to town to grace dinner tables, beautify altars in houses of worship, drape coffins of the recently departed, and fill the bouquets of brides. In addition, farmers produced a range of animal and plant products which filled hungry stomachs in the growing city.

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The Depot has created opportunities for the residents of Wayland to do good works for the betterment of the community. Between the years 1930-1951 the Wayland Garden Club sent baskets of fruits and vegetables to the Robert Gould Shaw settlement house in Boston to improve the lives of the poor in Lower Roxbury, MA. A garden club member would meet the conductor for the 10:20 a.m. train each week to send the basket of bounty into town.

In 1980 just a year before the train station's 100th Birthday, the Wayland Depot opened its doors as a consignment craft shop. The shop, a member of the National Federation of Women's Exchanges, is staffed by community volunteers. Their Mission state, "...our mission is to help support women in their homes who make handcrafts and to donate the proceeds of the sales to charity. As an added mission the volunteers and board of the Wayland Depot pledge to preserve the historic 1881 train station that houses our shop."

In 2018 the Wayland Garden Club funded and installed an educational Wildflower Demonstration Garden on the Depot site to encourage interest in the use of native plants in domestic gardening. It is located just beyond the west end of the Depot. When first planted it looked like this:

