



The 1127<sup>th</sup> meeting of the New England Botanical Club, Inc. will be held  
Friday, **4 May 2018, at 6:45 p.m** at Garden in the Woods,  
New England Wild Flower Society, Framingham, MA



**“Patterns and Changes in the Flora of Franklin County, Massachusetts”**

**By Dr. Robert Bertin**

**Anthony and Renee Marlon Professor in the Sciences, Biology Department  
College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA**

**PLEASE READ (LOTS of INFO for you to know):**

- 1) **ABSTRACT OF ROBERT BERTIN’S TALK:** A group of botanists has intensively examined the flora of Franklin County, in western Massachusetts, since 2010. We have logged over 42,000 field observations, collected over 3600 specimens, examined over 16,000 herbarium specimens, and recorded over 10,400 records from the literature. Many species show distinctive distributional patterns in the county, tied to bedrock geology, topography, and history of human use. Non-native species have increased dramatically in frequency over the past century relative to native species. Several native taxa appear to be in decline. Flowering times have become earlier, especially for spring-blooming species. Northern species, as a group, appear to be declining relative to southern species. We hope this work will serve as a benchmark to evaluate future changes in the county's flora.
- 2) **LOCATION OF MAY MEETING IS AT GARDEN IN THE WOODS (GITW), FRAMINGHAM, MA:** GITW is at 180 Hemenway Road, the headquarters for the [New England Wild Flower Society](#). Admission will be free starting at 5:00 p.m. Members and guests may tour the garden and bring a picnic supper to eat at the Education Building, where the presentation will be at 6:45 p.m. [Visit GITW](#) for more information.
- 3) **NEWFS SHOP OPEN UNTIL 6 PM FOR NEBC MEMBERS:** NEBC members may purchase native plants, books, and other botanical items at Garden in the Woods in Framingham until 6 PM. Download the 2018 [plant availability and price lists](#) in PDF or Excel format. NEWFS books written by authors who are also NEBC members include the just released *Native Plants for New England Gardens*, as well as *Wildflowers of New England*, and *Flora Nova Angliae*.
- 4) **SPECIAL SALE ON SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS AT MAY MEETING:** At the May 4th meeting, Robert will have a few copies of the following Special Publications, and these will be sold at discount.
  - Bertin, R. I. and T. J. Rawinski. 2012. Vascular Flora of Worcester County, Massachusetts. 289 pages. (\$20 paper)
  - Bertin, R. I. 2000. Vascular Flora of Worcester, Massachusetts. (\$10 paper, \$1 CD) 155 pages.
- 5) **ANNOUNCEMENT OF FERNALD AWARD WINNERS:** Congratulations to Jesse Bellemare, Bryan Connolly, and Dov F. Sax, winners of the Fernald Award for their paper published in Volume 119 of *Rhodora* (2017). The paper can be found [here](#). [Read more...](#)

- 6) **ANNOUNCEMENT OF GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD WINNERS:** Congratulations to the 3 winners of Graduate Student Research Awards this year: James Mitchell, Anatasia Mozharova, and Steven Ballou Jr. [More about Graduate Student winners](#) and abstracts.
- 7) **MANAGING EDITOR OF RHODORA:** Congratulations to Kathleen McCauley, the new Managing Editor of our journal. And many, many thanks to Toni Hartgerink, who has served in this capacity for 20 years. Please see the [What's New](#) page for more about Kathleen and some heartfelt thanks from Editors-in-Chief Janet Sullivan and Nishi Rajakaruna.
- 8) **SUMMER 2018 DAY FIELD TRIPS:** Day-long field trips are scheduled for **May 13** (Dalton, MA), **June 23** (Pepperell, MA), and **August 18** (Phillipston, MA). Each trip is limited to 12, so field trip leaders (Karro Frost, Lisa Standley, Matt Charpentier) must be contacted at least 1 week in advance. Details can be found on the [Field Trips Web Page](#) or this [PDF for printing](#).
- 9) **JUNE “AWAY” MEETING DETAILS AND REGISTRATION COMING IN MAY:** See the [Upcoming Meetings](#) page for more about the June 1-2 meeting at Smith College, including scheduled workshops and field trips. Please watch for a separate email in May with full details and a registration form.
- 10) **MORE RECOGNITION OF THE LATE ELIZABETH FARNWORTH:**  
 a) NEBC has recently published an [In Memoriam](#) in *Rhodora* 119 (980): 368-272 for Elizabeth.  
 b) Biological Invasions (Feb 2018) has published a [Tribute](#).  
 c) On National Endangered Species Day, New England Wild Flower Society will be honoring the memory of their late colleague through an exhibition of her drawings, her music, and a talk by Arthur Haines. While the event is sold out, Arthur’s talk titled “Around the Region on a Spore: The Diversity of New England’s Ferns” will be [live streaming](#) at 2 pm, May 18<sup>th</sup>. You may register at that link.
- 11) **EAGLE HILL INSTITUTE DISCOUNTS & NEBC STIPENDS:** Eagle Hill Institute, Steuben, ME, is again offering NEBC members a 20% discount for the 2018 Workshops and Seminars. Also, NEBC will give a **stipend of \$150** towards costs for the next 5 NEBC members who register for a summer botany course. Contact John Burns at [nebc@rhodora.org](mailto:nebc@rhodora.org) for details. [Eagle Hill 2018 calendar](#).
- 12) **VIDEOS of PAST PRESENTATIONS:** Please see [Past Meetings](#) for videos of past lectures, including James Lendemer’s April presentation. No password required for access to videos.

*The Council will meet 4 –5 PM in the Education Building, NEWFS, Garden-in-the-Woods*