

Membership Requirements

Wilton Garden Club

Membership in the Wilton Garden Club focuses on education and participation. The club's purposes are:

- to stimulate interest in and knowledge of horticulture, conservation, and floral design;
- to assist in civic planning and to be a community asset;
- to aid in the protection of native plants and wildlife;
- to raise awareness of environmental concerns;
- to participate in the preservation and natural beauty and resources of the Town of Wilton.

Each provisional and active club member is required to:

- 1.) Demonstrate an interest in horticulture-related subjects and a commitment to participate in the Club's work.
- 2.) Participate in the Annual Plant Sale by both working on the event and donating or caring for plant material suitable for sale.
- 3.) Participate in a Flower Show (not held annually) by working on some aspect such as the set-up, administration, hospitality, floral designs, donating horticulture specimens, or preparing and educational exhibit.
- 4.) Assist the Hospitality Committee with a luncheon at one general meeting each year.
- 5.) Attend at least three of the nine general meetings a year.
- 6.) Pay Annual Dues
- 7.) Participate in at least one of the following committees:

CIVICS: This committee maintains gardens around town. In addition to the gardens, civics conducts events such as the annual holiday wreath making workshop to decorate buildings around town.

CONSERVATION: The Conservation committee dedicates its efforts to educating the public regarding conservation issues, native plants, and enhancing the natural environment.

FLORAL DESIGN: Floral design workshops are open to all members throughout the year. Help may be needed to plan, teach, set up and/or clean up at each workshop.

GARDEN THERAPY: This committee hosts a monthly luncheon and craft/horticulture workshop for senior citizens at Comstock Community Center.

GREENHOUSE/HORTICULTURE: This committee manages and operates the Club's greenhouse at Comstock Community Center. Members learn basic and specialized growing techniques for the propagation of plants through participation in the hands-on daily care of plants in the greenhouse. This committee also holds a variety of educational workshops throughout the year open to all members of WGC.

HOSPITALITY: Responsible for providing and overseeing the lunch service at our general meetings.

MEMBERSHIP: Oversees the recruitment and retention of provisional, active and sustaining members. Welcomes prospective new members at monthly meetings and helps provisional members transition into active membership.

NEWSLETTER: The WGC Monthly newsletter, *Garden Variety*, includes a calendar of events, description of each month's program and highlights of committee activities. It is automatically emailed to each member September-June and all past issues are also available on our website in the members only area <https://www.wiltongardenclub.org/member-login/>

OLD TOWN HALL: WGC is the steward of OTH. **The building committee** oversees rentals and supervises the maintenance of Old Town Hall. **The grounds committee** maintains the health and beauty of the gardens surrounding the building. **The monitor committee** organizes and participates in the scheduling of monitors.

PHILANTHROPY: This committee helps to plan and ensure that the club directs its charitable contributions to organizations that reflect and support the club's cornerstones of education, conservation, preservation and beautification.

PUBLICITY: This committee creates public awareness and shares information on club activities and accomplishments through local and social media. They also maintain a Facebook page to engage and educate our members and the community in the hopes of developing a love of plants, gardening, nature and gaining prospective members.

PROGRAMS: This committee is responsible for planning the programs and guest speakers for our general meetings.

SUNSHINE: This group reaches out to our members facing challenging times in their lives to offer support and encouragement.

TRIPS: Plans and executes excursions to both public and private gardens as well as horticultural events and destinations.

WEBSITE: The club's official website is www.wiltongardenclub.org and it contains general information for the public about our club's history, events, membership, photos and educational videos and activities in the community

YOUTH and FAMILY GARDENING: This committee oversees the planning, planting and maintaining of the Youth Gardening Program located at the Trackside Teen Center. They work with Ambler Farm, Wilton High School and Trackside to bring the love of gardening to middle school aged children by holding weekly workshops on designing and planting garden beds, weeding, watering and harvesting, learning how to cook the produce grown in the gardens and hand delivering produce to the Wilton Food Pantry.