

# ARAIYS NEWS

SPRING NEWS LETTER 2019



ARAIYS DESIGN

## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Greetings and welcome to our Spring 2019 Newsletter. At Araiys Design we often find ourselves applying traditional garden design methods in our contemporary gardens. This newsletter focusses on the use of espalier and its applicability for your landscape. The first time I saw an espaliered garden was at the Cloisters in NYC. The Bonnefonte garden at the Cloisters replicates a courtyard garden typical of the medieval period where space was limited and where people had to grow their own food, medicine, and materials. Espalier was common in these gardens for its space efficiency and increased crop yields. They are commonly placed against walls as the heat radiating from the wall helps to accelerate the ripening of fruit. However, they also can be used define outdoor rooms and as hedges or living fences. Please read below for more information. Also, take a look at page 2 for inspiring plant ideas for your garden. We here at Araiys wish you and your family a healthy and happy Spring season!

-Steven Nieroda, RLA  
Senior Associate

### Current News Topic: Espalier in Garden Design

The art of espalier is when trees and branches are pruned and trained to be on one plane.

They're commonly found up against a wall, fence or as a free-standing divider.

The practice of training fruit trees dates back to the Romans and Egyptians, but it was actually the French who perfected the designs we see today. Touring around Europe, you will see elaborate and beautiful designs that have grown over hundreds of years. However, you don't have to leave New York to see mature espaliers. Visit The Met Cloisters Courtyard to see many trained grapevines and the beloved espaliered pear that has grown there since the 1940s.

There are many different patterns of espaliered trees to try: horizontal (cordon), candelabra, lattice or fan. They can work in almost any garden style, both small and large, in town or out.

Growing espalier fruit trees is a great way to grow edibles in small spaces in an ornamental way.

In one of our recent projects, we decided to use the horizontal pear espaliers to create the fence around vegetable garden. We choose two different varieties of pear so that cross-pollination can occur. The branches of those were trained into horizontal rows, mimicking the rails of a fence.

Early spring is the best time to plant your tree. Don't forget to pick the right place for your tree, a nice sunny spot will give you the best fruit. You may need to prune two or three times per season to keep the tree in shape. The first pruning should be after it blooms in the spring.



recently installed espaliered pear trees  
define a raised vegetable and flower garden



LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS | SITE PLANNERS | DEVELOPMENT STRATEGISTS

AGAWAM STUDIO, 38 NUGENT STREET, SUITE B, SOUTHAMPTON, NEW YORK 11968

P: 631.283.1131 | F: 631.283.6677 | E: INFO@ARAIYSDESIGN.COM | WWW.ARAIYSDESIGN.



### PLANTS OF THE SEASON

#### Native Plants Of The Season



Common Name: Pagoda Tree  
Scientific Name: *Cornus Alternifolia*

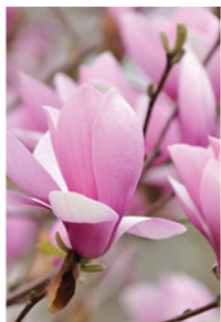
*Cornus alternifolia* is commonly called the Pagoda Tree. This name lends to its tiered, horizontal branching system of this deciduous tree. It is grown as a shrub and a small tree as tall as 25'. It prefers acidic well-drained soil, compliments a shade planting as a centerpiece or part of the layered understory. Tolerates full sun to part-shade. It has four season desirability. The Pagoda Tree structure and dark bark add to the winter scene while blooming beautiful whitish culms from May to June. Dark green persist through the summer to a dramatic fall reddish-purple show. It develops blue-black berries during the summer. The birds enjoy this tree as well as butterflies.

#### Ornamental Plants Of the Season



Common Name: 'Mt. Airy' Dwarf Fothergilla  
Scientific Name: *Fothergilla gardenii* 'Mt Airy'

This shrub blooming April to May white bottlebrush/Callistemon type blooms prior to leafing out. These unique blooms delightfully smell like honey. The shrub itself likes full sun to part shade, tolerates moist, slightly acidic well-drained soil. With luscious dark green leaves it is a compact slow grower, rounded habit to 5-6' tall by wide. It is bird friendly. It has an incredible fall show with leaves turning yellow, orange and red.



Common Name: Jane Magnolia  
Scientific Name: *Magnolia 'Jane'*

This deciduous shrub grows 15' tall by 12' wide. It has a distinguished history alongside her sisters in the Little Girl Series. She is a cross between *Magnolia lilliflora* 'Nigra' and *Magnolia stellata* 'Rosea'. This series came to be in the 1950's at the National Arboretum. One of the desirability's of this series is that the bloom later (2 - 4 weeks) than other Magnolias reducing their potential for bud/flower damage from frost. The blooms present themselves mid-April to early May as glorious reddish - purple, cupped - shaped with potential to re-bloom during the summer. The leaves develop after blooming from coppery into deep green in spring and demonstrate yellow to bronze copper in the fall. Fragrant and large flowers attracts bees, butterflies and birds.



Common Name: Common Lilac  
Scientific Name: *Syringa vulgaris* 'Adelaide Dunbar'

Adelaide Dunbar lilac is an upright vase shaped deciduous shrub growing up to 12' by 8' wide. It has a medium growth rate desiring to live in neutral soils requiring regular watering. It requires at least 6 hours of full sun, however, does not like to be planted near the lawn and receive the nitrogen that a lawn may require. This lilacs fertilizing requires a high phosphorus fertilizer its first year to encourage root growth and a well balanced fertilizer applied in the spring. Adelaide Dunbar has 2 - 5" ovate, dark green leaves and large panicles of double purple, highly fragrant blooms in May. This hybrid has foliage more resistant to powdery mildew. It tolerates: deer. Pollution and slope tolerance. It makes a great hedge, specimen or mixed border planting.