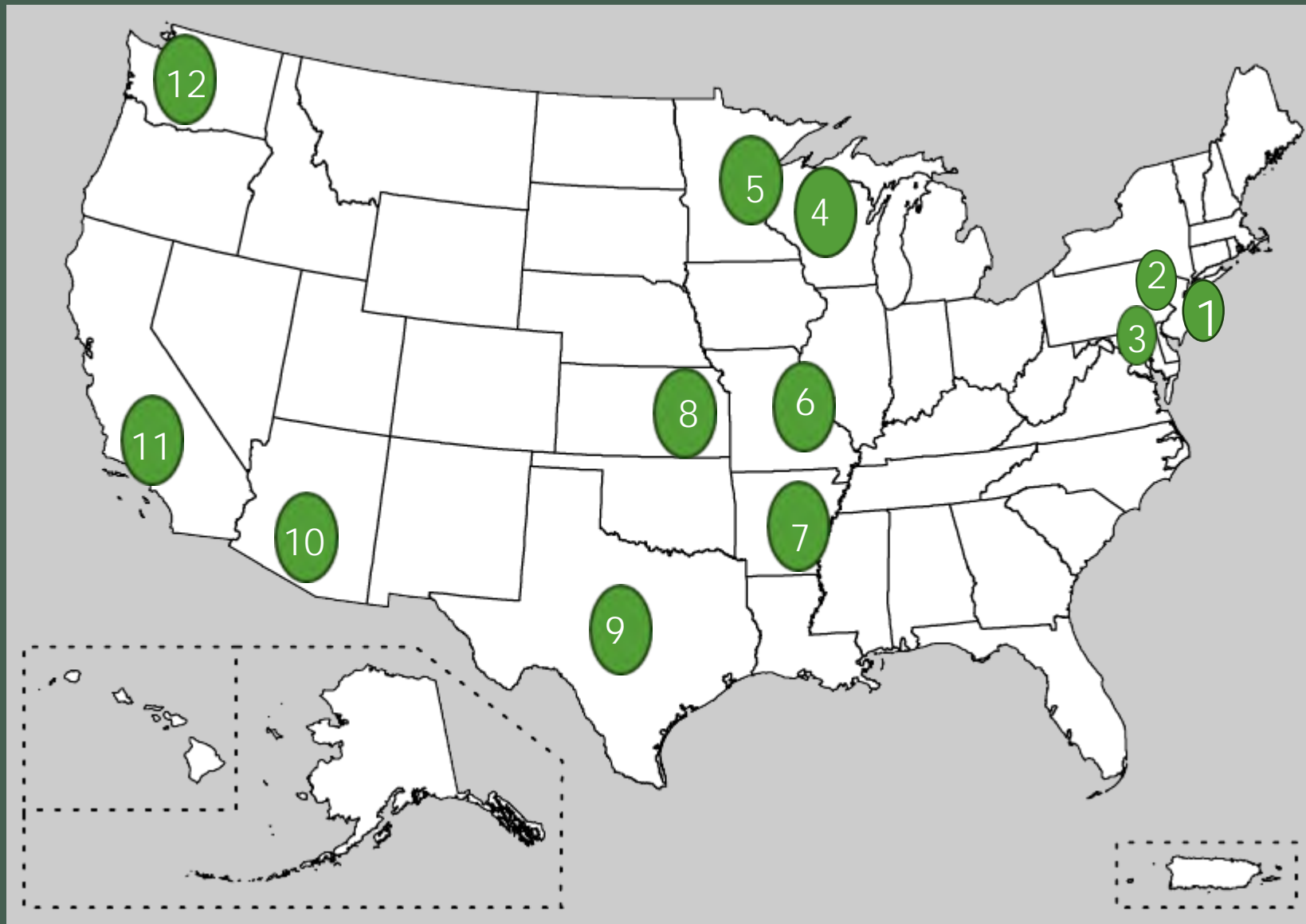


A woman with short brown hair, wearing a dark jacket over a light-colored shirt and grey pants, stands in a garden. She is positioned in front of a rustic stone wall. To her right, a vintage-style lantern is mounted on the wall. The background is filled with lush green foliage and trees. The entire scene is framed by a white border.

# TRAVELOGUE PUBLIC GARDENS ACROSS AMERICA

Sue Reinardy  
UW-Extension  
Master Gardener



1. Delaware: Mt. Cuba Center, Winterthur
  2. Pennsylvania: Morris Arboretum, Longwood Gardens, Chanticleer Garden
  3. Virginia: Monticello, Mt. Vernon
  4. Wisconsin: Boerner Botanical, Green Bay Botanical, Olbrich Botanical, Rotary Botanical, Payne Art Center & Gardens, Spooner Ag Teaching & Display, Allen Centennial
  5. Minnesota: Minnesota Arboretum
  6. Missouri: Missouri Botanical
  7. Arkansas: Garvan Gardens
  8. Kansas: Botanica the Wichita Gardens
  9. Texas: Dallas Botanical, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center
  10. Arizona: Sonora Desert Museum
  11. California: Balboa Park Gardens
  12. Washington: Chihuly Gardens & Glass
- Bonus: Butchart Garden, Victoria

# Join a public garden

Showcase plant conservation, educate on sustainability, improve local environments (air/soil quality, biodiversity)

Act as living museums, research centers, and community hubs, promoting health, environmental stewardship, and social equity

American Horticultural Society (AHS)-  
Your membership gains entry to over 400 public gardens in the U.S.

# Experiencing a Garden

- The story: every garden represents someone's dream
- Nature & being Outdoors
- Peacefulness & time for reflection
- Physical exercise
- Designer's creativity
- Inspiration for your own garden
- Homes, castles, museums that host the garden
- Works of art
- Changing seasons & passage of time
- With a loved one or friend



# Piedmont Region

NJ to AL

- Zone 6a to 8b
- thick, red clay soils that are often nutrient-poor and hold water.
- Summers are hot and humid, requiring drought-tolerant, resilient plants.

1. Delaware: Mt. Cuba Center, Winterthur
2. Pennsylvania: Morris Arboretum, Longwood Gardens, Chanticleer Garden
3. Virginia: Monticello, Mt. Vernon



*The Brother Gardeners: Botany, Empire and the Birth of an Obsession* by Andrea Wulf

1. Hockessin, Delaware

# Mt. Cuba Center

**Extensive Native Plant Collections**

**Focus on Conservation**

**Engaging Visitor Experiences**

Scenic walking trails, educational programs, and wildflower displays







CAREX (sedges)  
Wisconsin natives: *grayi*, *lupulina*, *pensylvanica*, *stricta*

1. Winterthur, Delaware

# Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library

## Naturalistic Garden Design

organically designed, flowing landscapes that blend with nature

## Seasonal Plant Displays

## Museum and Educational Experiences

Winterthur Garden connects with a museum. Digital library dedicated to tools for the study of decorative and fine arts.

Owner: Henry Francis du Pont passions: gardening, cattle breeding, and collecting American antiques. Influenced by William Robinson's book -

*The Wild Garden* c) 1870





## 2. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

# Morris Arboretum & Gardens

- Part of University of Pennsylvania, on the National Register of Historic Places
- Significant collections: native azaleas, conifers, hollies, magnolia species, maples, roses, and witchhazels.
- Identified 17 trees in collection as outstanding specimens, including massive katsura-tree and a magical grove of dawn redwoods
- Contains more than 11,000 labeled plants of over 2,500 types,



\* Not a part of American Horticultural Society reciprocity



2. Kennett Square, Pennsylvania

# Longwood Gardens



- Over 1,100 acres, legacy of Pierre S. du Pont
- 200 acres of lush, formal gardens, open meadows, and winding paths
- Gardens on the property range from formal, natural, test, and conservatory





2. Wayne, Pennsylvania

# Chanticleer Garden



- A Pleasure Garden
- Seven Horticulturists, each responsible for the design, planting, and maintenance of an area
- Instead of labeling every plant, guests are encouraged to speak with the gardeners about the 5,000+ plants. Plant lists and photographs are in handmade boxes and available online.





### 3. Charlottesville, Virginia

# Monticello Historic Gardens

- Flower, vegetable & fruit gardens
- Jefferson grew approximately 105 species of herbaceous flowers.
- The 1,000-foot long garden terrace served as both a source of food and an experimental laboratory where Jefferson experimented with 330 vegetable varieties.
- "Fruiteries" as Jefferson called it, included the 400-tree South Orchard; two small vineyards; "berry squares" of currants, gooseberries, and raspberries; strawberry patch



Photo: Monticello.org

3. Mt. Vernon, Virginia

# Washington's Gardens



- Includes Greenhouse, four garden areas, historic trees
- Website has an extensive plant finder

A photograph of a lush green cornfield in the foreground. In the background, there are several large, cylindrical metal silos and a building with a blue roof. A wind turbine is visible on the right side of the horizon under a clear blue sky. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent dark green filter.

# MISSISSIPPI RIVER VALLEY

Corn Belt, Zones 3-8a

4. Hales Corner, Wisconsin

# Boerner Botanical

- A Milwaukee County Park
- Includes: Shrub Mall, Trial Garden, Perennials, Daylily Walk, Arboretum, Roses, Bog, Annuals, Herbs, Rock Garden, Peonies, Kids (Margie's)





4. Green Bay, Wisconsin

# Green Bay Botanical Garden

- 47-acre nonprofit botanical destination featuring over 120,000 plants.
- Originally a historic apple orchard, the site now includes 33 specialty gardens designed to showcase the four seasons of the upper Midwest.





4. Oshkosh, Wisconsin

# Payne Art Center & Gardens

- a historic English country estate featuring a 1920s Tudor Revival mansion, world-class art collections
- Four acres of diverse botanical gardens



4. Madison, Wisconsin

# Olbrich Botanical Garden



- 16-acre public garden
- Known for its diverse themed outdoor landscapes and its indoor tropical conservatory
- Voted one of the top 10 most inspiring gardens in North America





4. Madison, Wisconsin

# Allen Centennial Garden

- A free, 2.5-acre garden located on the UW-Madison campus
- It serves as a living laboratory for the Horticulture Department and features over 20 distinct garden styles, including Victorian, Japanese, and rock gardens.



Photo Credit: UW-Madison

4. Janesville, Wisconsin

# Rotary Botanical Garden

- 20-acre, award-winning nonprofit botanical showcase
- Established in 1988 on the site of a former sand and gravel quarry
- features over 26 different garden styles and 4,000 varieties of plants



4. Spooner, Wisconsin

# Spooner Ag Teaching & Display Garden

- Award-winning public garden managed by the UW-Madison in partnership with local Master Gardener Volunteers
- Serves as a living classroom to demonstrate plants and techniques suitable for the northern Wisconsin climate (Zone 3)
- Features native plants in the Monarch Way Station and All America Selections of vegetables and annuals
- Twilight Garden Tour is usually in mid-August



5. Chanhassen, Minnesota

# Minnesota Landscape Arboretum

- 1,200-acre premier public garden and research center managed by the University of Minnesota
- Features over 1,100 acres of display gardens, specialized tree collections, and natural areas accessible via year-round trails





6. St. Louis, Missouri

# Missouri Botanical Garden

- 79-acre National Historic Landmark, founded in 1859 by Henry Shaw, it is one of the oldest botanical institutions in continuous operation in the US
- Recognized for its botanical research and horticultural displays

Photo: CC BY-SA 3.0,  
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=936479>





# WEST/SOUTHWEST

7. Hot Springs, Arkansas

# Garvan Woodland Gardens

- A 210-acre botanical and woodland garden owned by the University of Arkansas
- It is known for its architectural masterpieces, diverse plant collections, and seasonal displays, particularly the spring tulips and winter holiday lights





8. Wichita, Kansas

# Botanica the Wichita Gardens

- an award-winning, 20-acre garden located in Wichita's Riverside neighborhood
- Opened in 1987, it features over 30 themed gardens and 4,000 plant species, serving as a year-round hub for horticulture, art, and family-friendly activities

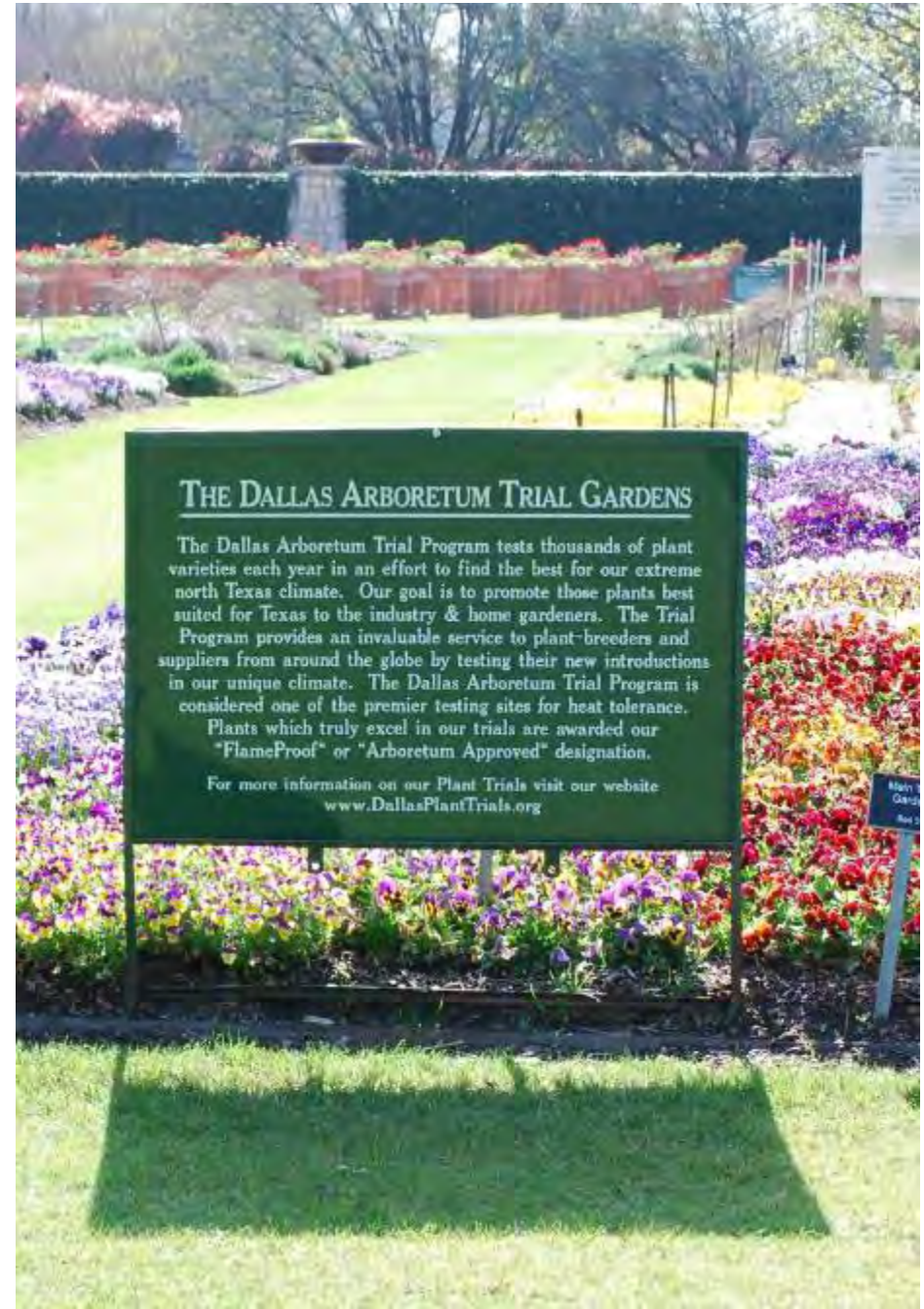


9. Dallas, Texas

# Dallas Arboretum & Botanical Garden



- A 66-acre destination on the shore of White Rock Lake in East Dallas
- It is internationally recognized for its 19 named gardens, including the Crape Myrtle Allee, a natural tunnel of trees, and the 8-acre Rory Meyers Children's Adventure Garden, which features 17 interactive indoor and outdoor galleries.



## THE DALLAS ARBORETUM TRIAL GARDENS

The Dallas Arboretum Trial Program tests thousands of plant varieties each year in an effort to find the best for our extreme north Texas climate. Our goal is to promote those plants best suited for Texas to the industry & home gardeners. The Trial Program provides an invaluable service to plant-breeders and suppliers from around the globe by testing their new introductions in our unique climate. The Dallas Arboretum Trial Program is considered one of the premier testing sites for heat tolerance.

Plants which truly excel in our trials are awarded our "FlameProof" or "Arboretum Approved" designation.

For more information on our Plant Trials visit our website  
[www.DallasPlantTrials.org](http://www.DallasPlantTrials.org)

9. Austin, Texas

# Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center



- The Center is the State Botanic Garden and Arboretum of Texas
- Dedicated to the conservation of native plants and sustainable landscapes
- 284-acre site features over 900 species of native Texas plants and serves as a major research unit for The University of Texas

10. Tucson, Arizona

# Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum

- 98-acre "fusion" attraction that combines a world-renowned zoo, botanical garden, aquarium, natural history museum, and art gallery
- it is primarily an outdoor experience with two miles of walking paths traversing diverse desert habitats.





# WEST COAST

11. San Diego, California

# Balboa Park

- 13 distinct gardens ranging from formal historic landscapes to natural preserves
- Most gardens are free to the public, offering year-round displays of over 350 plant species

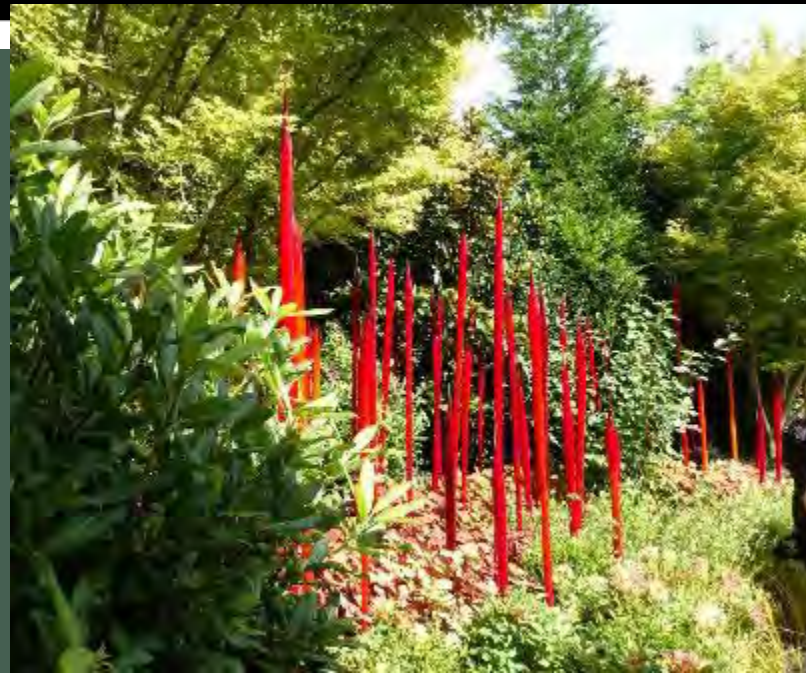


12. Seattle, Washington

# Chihuly Gardens & Glass

- Art museum and sculpture garden located directly adjacent to the Space Needle
- The long-term exhibition showcases the work of world-renowned glass artist Dale Chihuly, featuring a mix of indoor galleries, an outdoor garden, and a centerpiece glass conservatory





Bonus: Victoria, British Columbia

# Bochert Garden



- National Historic Site of Canada, is a world-renowned 55-acre botanical display
- Originally a limestone quarry, it was transformed into a series of themed gardens starting in 1904
- About 1 ½ hour ferry from Seattle

Photo: Tourism Victoria



THANK YOU

Sue Reinardy

Wisconsin Extension Master Gardener

[sreinardy74@gmail.com](mailto:sreinardy74@gmail.com)

[GardenTrueNorth.com](http://GardenTrueNorth.com)