

Needham Garden Club FAQs

Things you may be wondering about joining Needham Garden Club.

1) I am not an expert Gardener- can I still join?

Absolutely! All are welcome, from those with a brown thumb to those whose gardens are a sight to behold, and everyone in between. The Needham Garden club is more focused on fostering the appreciation of all things related to gardening, flower arranging and native species conservation. The meetings are an opportunity to meet and greet likeminded people, and to learn something new with each meeting.

2) How do I join the Needham Garden Club?

There are several ways! All involve eventually filling out a Membership Application Form.

If you have found us through our website, you can click on the "Contact Us" to send an email to the website administrator or fill out a brief information sheet, and the info will be sent to the Co-Chairs of Membership.

~Or you could directly contact one of the Membership Co-Chairs:

Diana Conroy conroyjd@rcn.com and Lynne Braley lynne.braley@gmail.com

~Or you could come to a meeting! Many of our meetings are open to the public and we always have membership forms available. (COVID restrictions may interfere with this) The information as to the next meeting is on the website.

3) I've decided to join and filled out the Membership Information Form, now what?

One of the membership chairs will contact you and will start the process of introducing you into the club. You will be assigned a mentor. This person can be as much involved or as little involved as you wish - they are a resource for answers to questions, and for introduction to other members.

4) What responsibilities should I expect?

The Garden Club calendar year is from June 1 to the end of May. During your first year, you will be assigned to one committee selected from your areas of interest that you indicated on your membership form. It may or may not be the same committee as your mentor. The Co-Chair of your committee will be contacting you regarding an in-person meeting. If you are especially enthusiastic, you may find that you would like to join another committee. After your first year, you will be expected to participate in 2 committees. Generally, members are expected to try something new after about two years on any one committee, but this is not a hard and fast rule. Committee work is a fantastic way to get to know people better. Other than committee work, there are only 2 club-wide required events: The annual wreath and arrangement sale (taking a shift of 2 hours for either the preparation or the sale is the minimum requirement.) This is also one of the most social events of the years, and most members quite enjoy it- even those who do not celebrate Christmas. The other is the annual plant sale for which members are expected to provide several plants either from their gardens or purchased at a nursery. This is another event that is quite a social gathering.

5) I'm getting tons of emails and I'm so confused! What am I supposed to do?

First of all, relax! You will get many emails about opportunities out there- either from our committees just letting you know that there is a chance to participate or from other "opportunities" out there. These can range from other garden clubs' offerings to interesting programs a member has found, to asking if anyone could help with a project. If you are not interested in a program or are unable to assist with a project, there is usually no need to even reply. Again- your mentor is available as a resource to help clarify any confusion.

We hope to hear from you!

Lynne and Diana
Membership Co-chairs