

Welcome to Bayard Cutting Arboretum



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TRY THE TREE EXPLORER

Scan the QR code above and explore the gardens and collections with our interactive map. You can search by garden, genus, species, or cultivar, as well as discover new specimens and appreciate mature ones.



Great Lawn (.1 miles | 2 min.)

Connecting the Manor House to the Connetquot River, the lawn features some of the Arboretum's most iconic trees. The large Black Oak (*Quercus velutina*) predates the estate itself, while the European Weeping Beech (*Fagus sylvatica* 'Pendula') is more than 100 years old.

Paradise Island (.7 miles | 15 min.)

This wildlife sanctuary and native Long Island forest features Pitch Pine and Swamp White Oak. If you look carefully, you may see bald eagles. Always tread carefully to avoid disturbing the wildlife in this native habitat.

Holly Walk (.1 miles | 2 min.)

Winding paths reveal the diversity of colors, textures, and shapes among over 100 types of hollies in this collection. Red, orange, and yellow berries brighten the winter landscape.

Pinetum Extension (.4 miles | 7 min.)

Began in 1970 on the site of the former vegetable garden, this collection features unusual conifers, magnolias, and maples planted around a looping pathway. Notice the blue-green, sword-like foliage of the rare Blue China Fir, one of the largest specimens of its species in the Northeast.

Breezy Island (.25 miles | 5 min.)

Created around 1900 using soil dredged from the Connetquot River, this island was a favorite of Mrs. Cutting's. Today, diverse native plants surround a rustic shelter reminiscent of the tea house originally constructed on the site, making it a great place to observe local wildlife.

CSA Farm (.5 miles | 9 min.)

Since 2012, the self-sustaining, three-acre Community Sponsored Agriculture Farm has provided organic vegetables and educational programming to the community. Younger visitors will especially enjoy the chicken coop, beehives, and children's programming.

Manor House & Café (.1 miles | 2 min.)

Guided tours of the Cutting family's historic home are offered regularly, while the café offers light refreshments. Check the Arboretum website for up-to-date opening hours and tour schedules.

River Walk (.1 miles | 2 min.)

Take a leisurely walk on scenic path that winds along the edge of the Connetquot River. See Bald Cypress and alder trees interspersed with native plants and American Holly, and remember to look for osprey flying high along the water's edge.

Carriage House (.13 miles | 3 min.)

Workers once cared for the Cutting family's horses and carriages in this turn-of-the-century building. Today, it is a multifunctional building hosting events, educational programming, and work spaces.

Dahlia Garden (.4 miles | 8 min.)

Volunteers from the Long Island Dahlia Society maintain this garden celebrating the dahlia, popular for its dramatic blossoms, wide diversity, and ease of propagation and cross-breeding. Hundreds of plantings bloom throughout the summer months, while colorful birdhouses delight visitors in other seasons.

New Pinetum (.3 miles | 5 min.)

Unusual firs, spruces, and pines populate this collection of rare trees, originally planted in 1946 to provide replacements for the aging original specimens of the Old Pinetum. Golden Larches are especially eye-catching in late fall due to their extraordinary yellow needles.

Royce Rhododendron Garden (.2 miles | 4 min.)

Colorful flowering shrubs including azaleas, rhododendrons, and andromedas are the focus here, particularly in spring. Smaller accent trees provide dappled shade and beautiful fall color.

Conifer Garden (.05 miles | 1 min.)

This garden, planted in 2016 in acknowledgment of Mr. Cutting's keen interest in conifers, features cone-bearing trees from around the world. Winding pathways provide close-up views of these diverse specimens, complemented by perennials and shrubs.

Four Season Garden (.05 miles | 1 min.)

This garden, originally planted in 2012, features unusual conifers, perennials, grasses, and bulbs which provide color, texture, and visual interest throughout the year. Return again and again to discover standout plantings in different seasons.

Oak Park (.05 miles | 1 min.)

Frederick Law Olmsted modeled this elegant landscape of rolling hills and mature oaks after Victorian-era English parks. Today the collection showcases more than 30 species of oak, including Black Oaks, which are some of the oldest trees in the Arboretum.

Westbrook Wall Garden (.1 miles | 2 min.)

This mixed border garden was designed in 2014 to highlight Frederick Law Olmsted's original brick and wood wall. The flowering perennials, along with bench seating, make this a serene place to take a break.

Cornell Lab (.4 miles | 8 min.)

Home gardeners and professionals alike may contact the Diagnostic Lab with questions about plant and landscape care, plant disease diagnosis, and pest identification. Submit questions by phone or drop off samples and specimens; no appointment necessary.

Friendship Garden (.25 miles | 5 min.)

Native drought- and flooding-resistant species take center stage in this planting area, where the Arboretum experiments with different strategies to adapt the waterfront landscape to climate change and sea level rise.

Old Pinetum (.2 miles | 4 min.)

This collection of mature conifers from around the world dates to the very beginning of the Westbrook Estate. Standout species include the iconic Sargent's Weeping Hemlock and Blue Spanish Fir, one of many fir species in the collection.

Woodland Garden (.2 miles | 4 min.)

In this naturalistic wetland, native and unusual woodland and shade-tolerant plants line streams and ponds originally designed by Frederick Law Olmsted. Keep an eye out for ducks, turtles, and migrating birds, as well as surprise views of the Connetquot River.



BAYARD CUTTING ARBORETUM



Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation



PLEASE REMEMBER...

-  Carry out all trash.
 -  Stay on the marked trails.
 -  Walks, public buildings, and restrooms are accessible.
 -  Take precautions for ticks.
 -  NO swimming.
 -  NO pets are allowed.
 -  NO recreational activities.
 -  DO NOT remove or destroy plants, wildlife or artifacts.
 -  NO picnicking allowed. (Heckscher State Park provides for picnicking and recreation.)
 -  Emergency phone number 911
- Park Police phone number (631) 321-3700
- Bayard Cutting Arboretum (631) 581-1002

General Information

For Arboretum Visitor Information—including hours of operation, transportation options, and other tips—please call (631) 581-1002.

A parking fee is collected from April through November each year.

Visiting the first floor of the Manor House is free. Tours of the second floor are offered Thursday–Sunday at 1pm for an additional fee.

All posed photography requires a permit, which can be obtained from the arboretum office. Please call (631) 581-1002.

The Hidden Oak Café is located in the Manor House; it serves freshly made lunches and desserts from 11am—4pm each day the park is open. Advance reservations are necessary for events such as Victorian teas, wedding showers, and other special occasions. For additional information, please call the Hidden Oak Café at (631) 277-3895.



Some History

The Bayard Cutting Arboretum, originally the state of William Bayard Cutting and Olivia Murray Cutting known as Westbrook, was donated to New York State by the Cuttings in 1936. It is an outstanding example of the scenic private properties developed along the south shore of Long Island in the late 19th and early 20th centuries and is particularly noteworthy for the cultivation over many decades of several fine pinetums, an oak park, collections of flowering shrubs, and woodland flora.

Horticultural development of the estate was begun in 1886 under the design guidance of Frederick Law Olmsted and was nurtured by the Cuttings and their daughter Mrs. Bayard (Olivia) James for the first half of the 20th century with advice and guidance from such notable horticulturists as Charles Sprague Sargent and Beatrix Farrand. Mr. Cutting was a passionate collector of conifers and some of the trees he planted are still on the estate. The handsome Jacobean revival house was built in 1886 to the design of architect Charles Haight.



The Bayard Cutting Arboretum
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