

Massachusetts Nursery and Landscape Association presents...

# Plant Geek Day



**Wednesday, August 28, 2024 ■ 8:00AM–1:30PM**  
**Zoo New England: Franklin Park Zoo**  
**1 Franklin Park Road ■ Boston, MA**

**Sponsored by the MCH Board!—sharing a great educational opportunity with all nursery and landscape professionals within the green industry!**

## Knowledge, networking & fun!

Receive 2 MCH credits toward continuing education for attending.

### Our Day's Agenda

#### 8:00AM Gates Open

**Zebra Gate**—Wristbands will be given out at the gate to pre-registered attendees only, no walk-ins. Attendees will be directed to the Pine Knoll where program registration and education will be held.

#### 8:30AM Welcome & Recognition of New MCHs for 2024

Join us as we welcome attendees and speakers while recognizing the newest MCHs of 2024 from the January 31st & August 7th exams.

#### 9:00AM Planting 300 Bare Root Trees in 72 hours: A case study in canopy health, new approaches, practicality and resiliency

Hosted by Josh Meyer, Curator of Horticulture and Sustainability at Zoo New England.

#### 9:45AM Tours and Plant I.D.

**Attendees will be broken up into three groups to explore several themes:**

- Zoological Horticulture Principles in Design and Operations
- Arthur Schurcliff Historic Rock Garden
- Sustainability Initiatives: Tree Canopy, Food Forests, Rain Gardens
- Plant I.D. Team Challenge: Weeds & Unique Plants of Franklin Park Zoo

#### 11:15AM Healthy Soils Support Healthy Trees: The Amazing Soils Genomics

Hosted by Wei Zhang, Ph.D., Vice President for Research and Development at Zynnovation LLC.

#### 12:00PM Lunch & Education Program

Join the MCH board for our final speaking presentation, fun horticultural challenges & networking.

#### 1:30PM Adjourn

Take this time to continue networking with peers and wander the grounds on your own.



Photo courtesy of Zoo New England.

### Franklin Park Zoo

Managed and operated by Zoo New England.

Franklin Park Zoo is a 72-acre site nestled in Boston's historic Franklin Park, long considered the "crown jewel" of Frederick Law Olmsted's Emerald Necklace Park System.

The zoo was founded in 1912 and was managed by the City of Boston until 1958, when the Metropolitan District Commission (MDC), a state agency, assumed management. The MDC managed the zoos—which included the Stone Zoo in Stoneham—until 1991, when Governor William Weld signed legislation to create the private Commonwealth Zoological Corporation (CZC). In July of 1997 the CZC changed its name to Zoo New England to reflect the regional appeal of the zoo.

Visit the Butterfly Hollow exhibit and stroll through a tranquil environment filled with garden beds of native flowers. Learn more about the vital role of pollinators in maintaining healthy ecosystems and ways we can help them thrive.

For more information visit [zoonewengland.org](http://zoonewengland.org).

### Sponsors:



### Special thanks to the MCH Board!

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**What to wear: Green industry professionals are always prepared and today should not be an exception. We highly recommend bringing bug spray and suntan lotion. Be sure to wear your most comfortable walking shoes, and be prepared for all types of weather. This is a rain or shine event!**

**The Massachusetts Certified Horticulturist (MCH) is a program of the Massachusetts Nursery and Landscape Association, Inc. (MNLA).**

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