



# SPOHR GARDENS

SPRING 2025

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## GREETINGS FROM SPOHR GARDENS

2025 is going to be an exciting year in the gardens. Our waterfront project was completed in time for the 2 week Daffodil Daze celebration of the new daffodil plantings. Work will continue on the Pollinator Pathway throughout the summer, and we are looking forward to our August 2<sup>nd</sup> Family Fun in the Pollinator Pathway Day. There will be many different activities—something for everyone. Watch our website for a schedule of events. There have been changes in responsibilities on the board of Trustees. We have added new Board member, Denis Toner, to replace Keith Schwegel. Denis grew up locally, and resides in Woods Hole with his wife, Karen, and their 2 daughters. William Guggina is now Treasurer, and Ellen Vaream is Recording Secretary.

We can never thank Keith enough for the many hours he gave to the gardens, especially in managing the house renovations. Special thanks to Cathy Offinger for updating our website and taking over monitoring our email. We no longer have a phone in the office but we can be reached via email.

As always we depend on your support and generous donations to sustain this very special place. Thank you from the entire Board of Trustees.

Hila Lyman  
Chairman, Board of Trustees



## BUILDING & GROUNDS

Great gardens are never finished. Great gardens evolve. Charlie and Margaret Spohr were constantly adding, changing, and improving their gardens over their lifetime, and we proudly carry on that work today. We currently have three major projects.

The first is the daffodils. Having planted 3,200 daffodil bulbs over the past three years, it was decided that this year we would celebrate their beauty during Daffodil Daze—a 2 week period in April when they are at their peak. Many visitors came through the gardens, and we will make this an annual event. We are committed to planting 1,000 bulbs each fall. This fall we will be planting 'Ice Follies', a large cupped daffodil with a ruffled yellow cup and 'Dutch Master', a large cupped beauty.



Daffodil 'Dutch Master'



Daffodil 'Ice Follies'

## MORE BUILDING & GROUNDS

Secondly, our most visual and important project to date has been the restoration of the waterfront along Oyster Pond. The shoreline in front of the anchors had become full of invasive plants, and the cobblestone edging had fallen into disrepair. Invasive plants were dug out, soil was amended to prevent the return of unwanted vegetation, and the cobblestones were straightened and reset in cement. Many of the anchors were realigned and adjusted along the rip rap wall to remove them from the water and create a better visual display. Finally, anchor chains hidden in the gardens were gathered and displayed in front of the anchors.



Last, but not least, our work on the Pollinator Pathway continues. This spring a donation of twelve mature, native, pollinator friendly shrubs were dug and transplanted along the Pollinator Pathway. The plantings were placed strategically along the path to help define the way and show how group plantings will be added in the future. This summer Volunteer Workdays will concentrate on moving perennials from the original Butterfly Gardens into group plantings along the Pathway.

For several years, we have been monitoring our beech trees for BLD, beech leaf disease. It weakens the trees over time and may lead to decline and death. While chemical companies are developing injections for the trees, there is no proven effective treatment. The heat and drought conditions of the past summer, fall and winter have added stress to the trees, so we are hoping for more moderate conditions this season.

George Chapman,  
Chairman  
Building & Grounds



### Save the Date

Family Fun Day in the  
Pollinator Pathway  
August 2, 2025  
Watch the website for  
further details

### SUPPORT SPOHR GARDENS FINANCIALLY

Donate whenever you visit  
Newsletter Donations  
Fall Appeal  
Fundraisers  
Website

### VOLUNTEER

Work Day  
1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month,  
May-November, 8am-12noon  
  
Give guided tours-  
we'll train you  
  
Help with special events  
Publicity