

**Do you have a passion for plants? Well, so do we!**

**The JC Raulston Arboretum is a nationally acclaimed teaching and research garden dedicated to promoting a greater diversity of landscape plants. It's named in honor of its late director and founder, Dr. J. C. Raulston, renowned plantsman and professor of horticultural science at NC State University.**

**Explore the ten acres of beautiful gardens and discover plants collected from around the world. Take time to visit and return as often as you like. You'll find something different and exciting each time.**

## Mission

The mission of the JC Raulston Arboretum is to introduce, display, and promote plants that diversify the American landscape, thereby benefiting our communities economically, environmentally, and aesthetically, as well as, provide educational experiences to the general public, students of all ages, and the green industry.

## Guidelines for Your Visit

- Please respect the gardens. This is a teaching and research facility. Do not pick or remove anything from the Arboretum and please stay on the paths.
- Pets are not allowed, except service animals.
- Smoking is not permitted within 25 feet of a building.
- Please supervise your children at all times for their safety and the welfare of the plants.
- Please use the trash receptacles and recycling bins.
- No bicycling, skating, skateboarding, or roller-blading
- Photographers are welcome, but please do not move the benches or labels, stage anyone in the plant beds or trees, or block pathways with equipment.

## Join Today

Membership gifts are the most important source of operational revenue for the JCRA. Friends of the Arboretum (FOA) enjoy exclusive member discounts while supporting and growing the gardens.

Member Benefits Highlights:

- Free plants in fall at the Annual Plant Distribution
- Advanced shopping at our Spring Plant Sale
- Free admission to FOA Lectures and discounted registration fees to many JCRA programs and events
- Discounts and special offers from local businesses
- Newsletters and electronic communications
- Reciprocal privileges at over 300 gardens and arboreta

Become a Friend of the Arboretum. Complete a membership application or visit: [jcra.ncsu.edu/join/](http://jcra.ncsu.edu/join/) Our membership coordinator is happy to help at (919) 513-7004.



**ADMISSION:** No charge. Donations are appreciated.

**HOURS:** Open seven days a week, including holidays. The Arboretum is closed for certain special events.

Grounds:

April–October: 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM  
November–March: 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Ruby C. McSwain Education Center:

Monday–Friday: 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
Closed weekends and holidays.

Bobby G. Wilder Visitor Center:

Hours of operation are posted on the door.

**ACCESSIBILITY:** We continually work to improve accessibility. Wheelchairs can access the education center, visitor center, rooftop terrace, and the necessary. Paths throughout much of the JCRA are not paved, but are partially accessible, ground conditions permitting.

**TOURS:** Free guided tours are available on Sundays at 2:00 PM from March–October. Guided tours are available year-round when arranged one month in advance

**VOLUNTEER:** Many different volunteering opportunities are available. Contact our volunteer coordinator at (919) 513-7004.

**FACILITY RENTALS:** The JCRA offers a variety of options for hosting group events, meetings, and special parties. Contact facilities coordinator at (919) 513-7457 or [jcra rentals@ncsu.edu](mailto:jcra rentals@ncsu.edu)

**CONNECT WITH US:** [f](#) [t](#) [v](#) [w](#)

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NC STATE UNIVERSITY

# JC Raulston Arboretum Visitor Guide



Plant collections are the foundation of the JC Raulston Arboretum (JCRA). Some of the collections are the most comprehensive in the Southeast, the United States, or even the world. Over 6,000 different kinds of plants (taxa) are currently in the JCRA's living collection.

The JCRA holds the redbud collection and the magnolia multisite collection for the Plant Collections Network. This organization promotes a continent-wide approach

to plant germplasm preservation.



# JC Raulston Arboretum



- ① **Bobby G. Wilder Visitor Center** Start your visit here. Pick up a map or a self-guided tour.
- ② **Ruby C. McSwain Education Center** This facility has event rooms, York Auditorium, offices, and Garden Club of North Carolina.
- ③ **Xeric Garden and Scree Garden** Explore the variety of drought-tolerant plants native to areas like South Africa, Mexico, and southwestern United States.
- ④ **A. E. Finley Rooftop Terrace** Enjoy the stunning view of the gardens from the McSwain Education Center's green roof.
- ⑤ **Geophyte Border** Thriving here are plants with underground storage organs (e.g. bulbs, corms, and tubers).
- ⑥ **Asian Valley** Discover species new to cultivation and novel selections introduced by plant collectors and breeders.
- ⑦ **Japanese Garden** Relax and enjoy quiet contemplation.
- ⑧ **Lath House** Many new plants are sheltered here before being moved to other areas.
- ⑨ **Klein-Pringle White Garden** This elegant formal garden is popular for weddings.
- ⑩ **Winter Garden** A superb garden any time of year, showcasing plants that dazzle in winter.
- ⑪ **Perennial Border** This mosaic of herbaceous perennials, shrubs, grasses, and bulbs has changing colors and textures all year.
- ⑫ **Mixed Border** Follow a winding path through a series of vignettes of trees, shrubs, ground covers, perennials, and bulbs.
- ⑬ **Finley-Nottingham Rose Garden** These roses are being evaluated for their performance using little or no chemicals.
- ⑭ **Color Trials** The All-America Selections trial garden evaluates new bedding plants during the summer and winter months.
- ⑮ **Conifer Garden** This garden showcases the diversity of conifers adaptable to the Southeast.
- ⑯ **Monocot Garden** Discover the plant grouping called monocots. Look for their distinct features such as, leaves with parallel veins and floral parts in threes and fives.



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