

TRIPS AND TOURS COMMITTEE

The Weeders Trips and Tours Committee arranges tours for The Weeders general membership to visit gardens as a group. These are usually trips involving bus transportation. Both public and private gardens offer good opportunities for visits. (Weeders Trips and Tours trips differ from Horticulture Committee trips, that usually involve local gardens and where transportation is by carpool.)

In 1999, pursuant to a survey which determined that Weeders wanted to tour gardens within two-hours of travel time, either by car or bus, daytrips were arranged to visit gardens in Northern New Jersey, Monkton and Chestertown, MD, Greenville Delaware and New York City. Both public and private gardens offer good opportunities for visiting and identifying individuals living in a given area. Determining with whom to work is important. The day-trip concept seems to work well.

Procedure for group Weeders Trips and Tours:

- Once the outline of a tour has been decided, and several months ahead of the date of a tour, a dry run should be made to review the gardens, and to determine route and timing.
- Once a date has been decided upon, necessary reservations should be made, and a committee assembled to work through logistics and costs including transportation, guides, food and beverages. If a bus is being engaged, it is most important to be sure that that it can traverse the roads included in the itinerary. If carpools will be the means of transportation, clear travel directions must be provided to all participants. The Treasurer must be informed of the financial needs of the tour and how and when any payments are to be made.
- The Weeders Trips and Tours Chair is responsible for making sure that appropriate emails are sent out describing the tour including costs and logistics. The person collecting responses is to be determined so an accurate tally of attendance and payments can be kept.

AD HOC Trips over several days:

- In the event that a Weeder has an idea for a trip extending over several days and nights, she should first propose the idea to The Weeders Trips and Tours Committee, providing as many details as possible. The Chair may then put together a task force to further explore the feasibility and to gauge interest among the membership. If a decision is made to move forward with the trip, the Weeder(s) proposing the idea should take the responsibility to Chair and/or Co-Chair the event and do the necessary planning and logistics.

At the end of each program year the Chair is responsible for preparing a year-end report of the activities of the committee to be presented at the Annual Meeting. This should be provided to both the President and the Recording Secretary 1) electronically in advance of

the meeting and 2) brought to the meeting aa hard copy. A hard copy should be handed or sent to the Archivist/Historian. Confer with the Archivist/Historian about providing her with hard copies of other materials to be archived.

After the Annual Meeting each year and before July 1, the Chair should confirm with all those listed on her committee to be sure they want to remain active. She should take this opportunity to add to the committee as appropriate. The list of committee members, as it is to be printed in the Program Book, should be forwarded by the Chair to the President, who will approve it and forward it to Print and Publications.