ESTATE GARDENS OF SOUTH EAST MICHIGAN

This trip is brought to you courtesy of The Dow Gardens.

The Dow Gardens were started in 1899 by Herbert Dow, founder of The Dow Chemical Company. The Gardens, originally developed on eight acres of flat, sandy land, provided a creative outlet for Herbert Dow and his interest in agriculture and design. He created gardens, ponds and hills according to a simple philosophy that we still follow to this day: “never reveal the gardens’ whole beauty at first glance.”

Alden B. Dow, Herbert’s youngest son and an experienced architect, continued his father's work on the Gardens. The family connection continued with the involvement of Herbert Dow’s grandson, Herbert Dow II.

Thanks to the dedicated guidance of the Dow family, the Gardens have grown to 110 acres. Today, the creativity of Herbert Dow is still revealed to all those who visit Dow Gardens.

On The Dow Gardens property is also The Pines Home. The Pines and its surrounding property were a secure and loving home for Herbert H. Dow and his family but also a haven to let his mind take other creative paths besides his chemical industry interests. Experiments with changing the landscape, discovering which flowers, shrubs, and trees would grow well in the sandy soil, and developing new methods for fruit culture all gave Herbert Dow another outlet for his far-reaching talents.

The Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow family and The Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation have continued this tradition of experimentation, exploration, and providing visually exciting landscapes by preserving the home and the gardens and by making them available for the community at large to enjoy through the Dow Gardens.

Today’s tour was designed to give you a taste of other estate gardens within the state of Michigan and hopefully give you great appreciation for what is right in your backyard.
**DOCENTS FROM THE DOW GARDENS**

**CHUCK MARTIN**

**SENIOR HORTICULTURIST**

Chuck Martin is a senior horticulturist at Dow Gardens. His areas of expertise include: woody plants, perennials, rose care and culture, native plants of Michigan, vines, invasive plants, ground maintenance, and pruning. Chuck has been with the gardens since 1984. He received his Bachelor's degree in ornamental horticulture from Michigan State University and a Master's degree in ornamental horticulture from the University of Wisconsin in Madison. During his time at the University of Wisconsin, Chuck was selected to do an internship at the Arnold Arboretum in Boston, Massachusetts. To continue his education, Chuck earned an MBA from Northwood University. Chuck also serves as a garden journalist for the Midland Daily News. Through his numerous lectures and presentations, many schools, gardening clubs and civic groups have been enriched by his passion and enthusiasm for his work in horticulture.

**KARIN JOHNSON**

**CURATOR AND COLLECTIONS MANAGER**

Karin Johnson is the curator and collections manager at the Dow Gardens. She graduated from the University of Minnesota at Morris with a Bachelor’s degree in English and from the University of Minnesota with a Master’s degree in horticulture. In addition to curating the plant collection of over 1800 taxa, Karin also maintains the database of plants, updates the map of the garden in GIS and labels over 1,000 seasonal plants each year. She also supervises the maintenance of the herb garden, secret garden and the area around the Dow Foundation’s office.

**SCHEDULE OVERVIEW**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pick up from Dow Gardens</td>
<td>7:30AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cranbrook Garden Tour</td>
<td>9:45-11AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cranbrook House Tour</td>
<td>11AM-12PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Travel to Meadow Brook</td>
<td>12-12:30PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>12:30-1:30PM* Please see “Dining Information” for more details</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meadow Brook Garden Tour/ House Tour</td>
<td>1:30-2:30PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Travel to Applewood</td>
<td>2:30-3:30PM * Please note that you must be on the bus at 2:30PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applewood Garden Tour/ House Tour</td>
<td>3:30-5:30PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Travel to Birch Run</td>
<td>5:30-6:00PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dinner in Birch Run</td>
<td>6-6:45PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drop Off at Dow Gardens</td>
<td>7:30PM</td>
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TOUR SUMMARY

The Dow Gardens invites you along on a day trip tour through Estate Gardens of South East Michigan. Join Senior Horticulturist Chuck Martin and Horticulturist, Curator and Collections Manager Karin Johnson as they highlight three of Michigan’s historic estate gardens: Cranbrook, Meadow Brook and Applewood.

These gardens and homes are extraordinary in both horticulture and historical presence...

Cranbrook is the oldest manor home in southeastern Michigan, Cranbrook House offers a distinctive glimpse into a time when décor, artistry and nature merged. The surrounding gardens, tended by hundreds of volunteers throughout the year, are filled with colorful scented blooms and a tapestry of greenery, side by side with exquisite fountains, sculptures, shaded dells and mossy bogs.

Meadow Brook is a National Historic Landmark, Meadow Brook is the historic home built by one of the automotive aristocracy’s most remarkable women, Matilda Dodge Wilson, a widow of automobile pioneer John Dodge, and her second husband, lumber broker Alfred Wilson. Constructed between 1926 and 1929 for $4 million, Meadow Brook represents one of the finest examples of Tudor-revival architecture in America.

Applewood, with previously very limited access, is now available for your viewing. Charles Stewart Mott built Applewood Estate in 1916, engaging his sister’s husband, architect Herbert E. Davis, to design the 21-room family home. The three-story house is a Jacobean Revival with a basement, attached greenhouse, and garage. It has changed very little in the century since it was constructed.

The gardens of South East Michigan will stimulate your horticultural, architectural and historical appreciation... and hopefully give you greater insight into what is in your own backyard.

CRANBROOK HOUSE & GARDEN

The home of Cranbrook’s founders, Ellen and George Booth, Cranbrook House today serves a dual purpose. Its gardens, works of art and first-floor appointments are preserved as a testament to the Booths’ gracious lifestyle, their interest in landscape gardening and their involvement in the American Arts and Crafts movement. Its upper floors house the executive offices of Cranbrook Educational Community, the internationally-renowned cultural center the couple created on the grounds of their country estate.

HOUSE & GARDENS

AS THE OLDEST MANOR HOME IN SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN, CRANBROOK HOUSE OFFERS A DISTINCTIVE GLIMPSE INTO A TIME WHEN DÉCOR, ARTISTRY AND NATURE MERGED. THE SURROUNDING GARDENS, TENDED BY HUNDREDS OF VOLUNTEERS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, ARE FILLED WITH COLORFUL SCENTED BLOOMS AND A TAPESTRY OF GREENERY, SIDE BY SIDE WITH EXQUISITE FOUNTAINS, SCULPTURES, SHADED DELLS AND MOSSY BOGS.

MEADOW BROOK

Meadow Brook hall is the historic home built by Matilda Dodge Wilson, widow of auto pioneer John Dodge, and her second husband, Alfred Wilson. Constructed between 1926 and 1929 for $4 million, it
was the center of a country estate that included 1,500 acres, numerous farm buildings, recreational facilities, several residences and formal gardens. The rich Meadow Brook history spans from its origins with the Dodge and Wilson families to the founding of Meadow Brook hall and Oakland University today.

HOUSE


APPLEWOOD

Ruth Rawlings Mott (1901–1999) was raised in El Paso, Texas. Her father was a family practice physician who served those in need on both sides of the border. Her mother was a businesswoman, kindergarten teacher, and founder of the El Paso YWCA.

Ruth went east to study physical education, became a teacher in the Baltimore Friends School, and returned to El Paso to open her own dance studio. It was there that she met and married Charles Stewart Mott and then moved to his estate, Applewood, in Flint, Michigan. She became a mother, an active partner with her husband in the community, and prominent in her own right as a local leader, foundation trustee, and national philanthropist.

Mrs. Mott established the Ruth Mott Foundation as a means of extending the reach of her philanthropy beyond her lifetime with a continued presence in Flint. Ruth Mott’s values and conduct inspire the Foundation to be inclusive, welcoming, and egalitarian, to act with kindness and good humor, treat all people with respect and dignity, and encourage personal responsibility, practice prevention, and maintain “the long view”.

In addition to an elegant home with an attached greenhouse, the 34-acre estate includes an apple orchard with 29 heirloom varieties, extensive gardens, a gatehouse, barn, and chicken coop. Applewood Estate is a Michigan Historic Landmark and is listed on the National Register of Historic Sites.

HOUSE & GARDENS

CHARLES STEWART MOTT BUILT APPLEWOOD ESTATE IN 1916, ENGAGING HIS SISTER’S HUSBAND, ARCHITECT HERBERT E. DAVIS, TO DESIGN THE 21-ROOM FAMILY HOME. THE THREE-STORY HOUSE IS A JACOBEAN REVIVAL WITH A BASEMENT, ATTACHED GREENHOUSE, AND GARAGE. IT HAS CHANGED VERY LITTLE IN THE CENTURY SINCE IT WAS CONSTRUCTED. THE HOUSE AND GROUNDS ARE MAINTAINED BY A STAFF OF SIX EXPERTS IN HORTICULTURE, PEST MANAGEMENT, AND FLORICULTURE WHO WORK OUT OF MODERN SUPPORT BUILDINGS SCREENED FROM THE HOUSE BY TALL TREES. MANY OF THE STAFF HAVE WORKED AT APPLEWOOD FOR DECADES AND KNEW RUTH MOTT WELL.
DINING INFORMATION

Being that the tour begins at 7:30AM and we plan to get right on the road, we will not be providing breakfast however we will have packaged snacks for your nourishment. Please note that food and beverage are allowed on the motor coach understanding that you are responsible for any trash and additional mess that may occur.

Lunch is included with your tour and will be provided by Meadow Brook Hall. It will be Salad Danny which is grilled sliced chicken on a bed of hearty greens, baby corn, artichoke hearts, fresh basil, roasted walnuts, shaved parmesan and a balsamic vinaigrette. If you have any food allergies or special dietary needs please make us aware as soon as possible in order to ensure accommodation of your request.

Supper is not included with your tour, however there will be opportunity along the way to purchase a light dinner. Birch Run will most likely be the exit for dinner and just off the highway are a McDonalds and Taco Bell.

TRANSPORTATION

Mitchell Motorcoach LTD. will be providing transportation services for the Estate Gardens of South East Michigan Tour hosted by Dow Gardens. For your comfort, you will find Reclining Seats, Air Conditioning, and Accessible Restroom. Smoking is not permitted on the motor coach, however food and beverage are allowed understanding that you are responsible for any trash and additional mess that may occur.

WEATHER

This trip will be held rain or shine so please dress for the weather. Dressing in layers is suggested as well as water resistant footwear.

REGISTRATION FEES

Early Bird registration is $85 per person, after July 18th the fee will be $100 per person. Registration includes transportation to and from the Dow Gardens with stops at Cranbrook, Meadow Brook and Applewood, morning snacks, admission and tour fees for each garden and estate, lunch at Meadow Brook, and a certificate for a free “Pines Tour” which is the home of Herbert and Grace Dow located at Dow Gardens.

CANCELLATION POLICY

FULL payment is due at time of registration. If you must cancel and your spot is filled from the wait list, the registration fee will be refunded. If your spot isn’t filled, and you cancel less than one month prior to the trip your registration fee will be forfeited.
TRIP PARTICIPANT PROFILE

PLEASE NOTE TO REGISTER WE WILL REQUIRE THE FOLLOWING PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name_________________________________________ Phone Number__________________________

I am sufficiently fit and healthy to participate in this bus trip. If I have any health concerns or illnesses that occur after signing this document that could inhibit my in the trip I will inform the bus trip leader. I give permission to the bus trip leader to administer first aid and seek emergency medical services if I am ill or injured, as they see fit and at my cost.

Signature____________________________________ Date_____________________

Emergency Contact ___________________________ Relationship_________________

Emergency Contact Phone______________________________________________________________

TRIP EVALUATION

Have you ever attend a tour like this before? If so, please explain.

What was your favorite part of the tour?

What changes could we make to make the tour even more enjoyable?

How did you hear about the bus tour?

Would you consider going on a tour again?

Other Comments: