Gardens Highlights

1 Native Butterfly House & Gardens
Our Native Butterfly House and Gardens is a singular experience—a garden of nectar plants for butterflies interplanted with host plants for caterpillars, it’s a wonderful place to begin. Open summer through early fall.

2 Lerner Garden of the Five Senses
Cross under the larch arch and enter the Lerner Garden of the Five Senses, designed for universal accessibility. Featuring a section for every sense, it also houses our Horticultural Therapy classroom. From fragrant flowers to a variety of edible herbs and blooms, a reflexology labyrinth to a pair of sound stones, this is the perfect entreé to your Gardens experience.

3 Cleaver Lawn
Past the Slater Forest Pond is our Cleaver Lawn. This area was designed to showcase our collection of dogwoods. In keeping with the celebratory theme of this garden, the planting design relies heavily on whites, pastel pinks, yellow, and blue-flowered species. A focal point is the dawn redwood grove on the far end, near the Reiser Woodland Garden.

4 Alfond Children’s Garden
The Bibby and Harold Alfond Children’s Garden is a garden for all ages, featuring sculptures representing story characters by Maine authors, a rainbow terrace of colorful blooms, the Coloring Cottage playhouse, and story time and puppet shows in the Story Barn. A treehouse and the rustic Back Woods lend an extra air of adventure.

5 Haney Hillside Garden & Shoreland Trail
Immerse yourself in the beauty of the Haney Hillside Garden. Discover swaths of cultivated plantings seamlessly transitioning to natural woodland. At its base, find the Vayo Meditation Garden, designed as a quiet place to enjoy the tranquility of the shore. From there, walk along the riverside’s Shoreland Trail until you arrive at The Landing.

6 Giles Rhododendron & Perennial Garden
From the Café, take a 20-minute walk down the Birch Allée to the Giles Rhododendron and Perennial Garden. Our first planned garden is also the first to bloom. Spectacular in June when the rhododendron and azalea are blossoming, it remains stunning year round with its magnificent waterfall, and winding walking paths.
Accessibility

The Visitor Center, Education Center, and central gardens are accessible to people of all abilities. Due to the nature of our property, outlying areas may not be accessible to all. Ask at the information desk about options for getting around the Gardens:

- Courtesy shuttle
- Wheelchairs and scooters
- Accessible cart tours