



Plan Your Holiday Visit



Season's Greenings: All Aboard!

November 22, 2018 - January 1, 2019

This year, take a train ride across America as our annual holiday show *Season's Greenings* showcases train stations! Plant-based recreations of iconic train stations across the United States will be represented in the train room. Explore classic stations like New York City's Grand Central Terminal, St. Louis' Union Station, and more. Poinsettias and other holiday blooms will be on display throughout the Conservatory, including a showcase of heirloom and newly developed poinsettia varieties. Our collection of D.C. plant materials will return to fill the Garden Court, this year including a botanical version of Washington, D.C.'s Union Station. Join us as we celebrate the railroad history. Please note: Due to the ongoing roof and facade project in the Conservatory, waiting time to enter this year's holiday show may be longer than previous years.

Hours and Holiday Concerts

The Conservatory is open every day of the year, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., free of charge. The best times to visit *Season's Greenings* are weekdays and select Tuesday and Thursday evenings in December, the Conservatory is open until 8 p.m. with live seasonal music. Please travel lightly, as the Conservatory is not equipped to store personal items. You must keep strollers and all personal items with you at all times. More information about visiting (directions, hours, etc.) is available on our [Season's Greenings](#) page.

- [See the holiday evening concert series schedule >>](#)

Accessibility - Access Pass

The popular model train display requires a separate entry point often resulting in a line. Individuals and caregivers of visitors that are unable to wait in line and/or cognitive developmental disabilities may request, in advance, an easy access pass to advance through the line. As a courtesy, we ask that you limit the number of individuals. Sensory-friendly programs are scheduled during the holiday show that provide entrance for registered participants, pre-visit materials, and a contact Maura Nelson, mnelson@aac.gov or 202-226-1047 for more information on the easy access pass or sensory-friendly programming. For additional information, visit our [Accessibility](#) page.

Photography

We welcome - and encourage - personal photography at the U.S. Botanic Garden. Due to the increased number of visitors to the Garden during *Season's Greenings*, photography may be used on throughout the run of the exhibit.

We do not allow visitors to do photoshoots or videoshoots at the Garden. Please read the full Photography and Art Policy for more details.

Entrances

During *Season's Greenings*, there are two entrances to the Conservatory on Maryland Avenue SW.

- The **Model Train Entrance** provides entry to the model train exhibit. After you've seen the trains, you can view the rest of the *Season's Greenings* Conservatory.
- The **Conservatory Entrance** bypasses the main train display and provides entry to the rest of the Conservatory. You'll find seasonal plant displays in the Conservatory, replicas of the capital's landmark buildings in the Garden Court and two of the largest indoor decorated trees in Washington, D.C. Due to ongoing restoration work, the large trees are in the Garden Court and not the West Gallery. As such, there is no train around the tree this year. Find all the trees in the West Gallery using the Model Train Entrance.

In short, if you want to see the model trains, please use the Model Train Entrance.

Tours

Group tours are not offered during *Season's Greenings*, but resume in January each year after the holiday exhibit is over.

Attractions Featured in the 2018 "All Aboard!" exhibit at U.S. Botanic Garden

Building Guide - Materials and Trivia

This year's holiday show will feature models representing more than 30 train station models from around the United States -- all made from recycled building materials! Coming soon: Explore a guide to see all of the attractions; all the plants used to make them; and trivia about each one!

- **DC Landmarks Building Materials Guide** (U.S. Capitol, Washington Monument, Lincoln Memorial...)
- **Train Station Models Building Guide 2018 [PDF]** -- *learn about the history and associated agriculture and plant stories of all 31 models featured in this year's train show!*



Poinsettias

Learn about our 3,000+ plant poinsettia display -- showcasing heirloom varieties all the way to newly developed ones yet to come onto the market!

[Learn more >](#)

Archive of previous holiday shows

Looking for information about previous Season's Greenings shows? Check the archive:

- **2014: Season's Greenings: Lighthouses** (November 27, 2014 - January 4, 2015)

Holiday cheer abounds at the U.S. Botanic Garden! Despite the cold winter outside, the Conservatory boasts a tropical paradise, one of the largest indoor conservatories in Washington, D.C. and a showcase of poinsettia and their plant cousins. It wouldn't be the winter holiday season without the fantasy train display in the E. A. Mather Conservatory, along a track through imaginative structures created with plant materials. Explore the seven seas, using lighthouses to navigate your way through this year's display. Many of the capital's landmark buildings, all made from natural materials, will be on display in the Garden Court. Come in from the cold and enjoy the sights and sounds of Season's Greenings.

- **2015: Season's Greenings: Pollination Station**
- **2016: Season's Greenings: National Parks and Historic Places**
- **2017: Season's Greenings: Roadside Attractions**

More photos and videos on Facebook

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