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The Andover Garden Club's tree pruning workshop will be held at the Ratzki's orchard in East Andover. Photos: Mary Lou McCrave

**Andover Garden Club Plans
Pruning Workshop**

Business meeting
on Tuesday, March 23

Press release

Fruit Tree Pruning Workshop

The beginning of March marks the start of pruning season in New Hampshire, when many fruit trees and berries remain dormant. Pruning helps maintain plant vigor, creates and preserves good structure, increases flower and fruit production, improves health, enhances appearance, and manages size.

Join homeowner Mario Ratzki and member of the International Lilac Society, John Bentley, in a fruit tree pruning demonstration at Ratzki's orchard. Learn the different kinds of cuts, techniques, and the proper tools to use. The workshop will be held on Saturday, March 19, from 10 AM to noon, with a rain/snow date of Sunday, March 20, from 2 to 4 PM.

Bring sharpened hand tools – pruners, loppers, and limb-type saws – if you wish to try your hand at cutting. Isopropyl alcohol will be available for disinfecting tools. Bring your own water/snack, and dress for the weather and field walking conditions.

The demonstration is \$5 for Club members and \$10 per person for non-members; cash or check only. Advance payment by check is much appreciated. Email AndoverNHGardenClub@gmail.com for reservations and directions. The Andover Garden Club is a program of the Andover Community Hub and membership is free and open to all.

Business Meeting on March 23

The Andover Garden Club members will gather for the first meeting of 2022 on Wednesday, March 23, from 2 to 4 PM at the Andover Community Hub, 157 Main Street. Hear committee

reports and learn about upcoming projects, outings, and events. Participate in a "seed swap" and "show and tell" of favorite garden tools and books.



Garden Club meeting attendees are encouraged to bring a favorite tool to discuss and display at the first business meeting of 2022.

Bring a viable packet of labeled vegetable or flower seeds for a blind drawing during the meeting, and trade with other members if you like. Also bring along a favorite garden tool to share its merits with others. Tools will be displayed for all to view, so please be sure to label your tool with your name.

The meeting is free, however donations and purchase of raffle tickets are greatly appreciated. This meeting's raffle item is a hand-crafted Bluebird Nest box made to North American Bluebird Society standards. You must be present to win.

New club members are always welcome. For more information, email AndoverNHGardenClub@gmail.com. The Andover Garden Club is a program of the Andover Community Hub, and membership is free and open to all.

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