

Flower of the Year 2026
Tulipa 'Kingsblood'



GARDEN CLUB
OF VIRGINIA

Historic Garden Week

**93RD ANNUAL
HOME &
GARDEN TOUR**

Presented by
SPOTSWOOD GARDEN CLUB

Harrisonburg, Virginia
Wednesday, April 22, 2026
10am – 4pm

PROCEEDS FUND THE RESTORATION OF VIRGINIA'S PUBLIC
GARDENS AND LANDSCAPES AND THE GCV LANDSCAPE
ARCHITECTURE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM.

GCVirginia.org/historic-garden-week

HOSTED BY THE SPOTSWOOD GARDEN CLUB

TOUR CHAIRS

Sherry Leffel & Betty Ann Galway
harrisonburg@vagardenweek.org

TICKET CHAIR

Barbra Manicini 571.237.5264

TOUR HEADQUARTERS

Lindale Mennonite Church
6255 Jesse Bennett Way, Linville, VA

TICKET INFORMATION

Advance Tickets \$35 per person

available at GCVirginia.org/historic-garden-week and at *Blakemore's Flowers, Ten Thousand Villages* (in Harrisonburg), and *Zola's* (in The Dayton Market)

Same-Day Tickets \$45 per person

available at GCVirginia.org/historic-garden-week and at the Tour Headquarters and at all tour properties (cash or check only)

Ticket price includes admission to *By the Side of the Road, The Bergey Residence, The Earlynn Miller house, Sycamore Gardens* (Garden Only), and *Lindale Mennonite Church*

This is a self-driving tour

Properties may be visited in any order
(Check in at Tour Headquarters is NOT required)

Please note that there may be limited accessibility at some properties as well as uneven terrain.

Walking shoes are recommended.

FOLLOW US ON:

 Historic Garden Week in Harrisonburg

 @historicgardenweekharrisonburg

Images of some arrangements will be made available online

NO PHOTOGRAPHY ALLOWED



Spotswood Garden Club

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

Free saplings courtesy of Bartlett Tree Experts at Tour Headquarters (while supplies last)

FACILITIES & PARKING

Ample parking is available at all tour locations
Facilities ONLY available at Tour Headquarters

Children 17 years of age and under must be accompanied by a parent or other responsible adult at all times

POINT OF INTEREST

Breneman-Turner Mill

5001 Turners Mill Ln., Harrisonburg, VA

This is the only surviving Grist Mill in Rockingham County that still has its original equipment. Constructed in 1800, this mill was in continuous use until 1988. It is still open for demonstrations.

Singers Glen

Rockingham County, VA

Home to Joseph Funk, a Mennonite pastor and music teacher. Known by many as the Father of American Gospel Music. When he realized his students and choir members couldn't read music, he developed a system called shape notes to make complex musical pieces easier to sing and understand.

Jesse Bennett Way

Linville, VA

This road a historic road named for Dr. Jesse Bennett, a pioneering physician, passes through the community of EDOM where the first successful American cesarean section was performed that saved both his wife and child in 1794.

Brethren & Mennonite Heritage Center

1921 Heritage Center Way, Harrisonburg, VA

Tour the campus, which includes a shoe-maker shop from the 1790s, a pre-Civil War log house, and a one-room school house from the early 1900s.

DINING SUGGESTIONS

The Bistro at CrossKeys Vineyards (reservations suggested)

6011 E. Timber Ridge Road, Mt. Crawford 540.234.0505

The Mission of the Garden Club of Virginia

To conserve the gifts of nature, to restore and preserve historic landscapes of the commonwealth, to cultivate the knowledge and love of gardening, and to lead future generations to build on this heritage.

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Photo courtesy of Betty Ann Galway

BY THE SIDE OF THE ROAD

491 Garbers Church Road, Harrisonburg

Welcome to By the Side of the Road Inn and Cottages, a beautiful Airbnb with a rich history here in the Shenandoah Valley. This property began as an early home, with the first portion constructed in 1789, then added on in 1840. It was originally the home center for a large working farm. Its strong stone foundation and thick brick walls (even on the interior) allowed the buildings to withstand three burning attempts during the Civil War. Due to its indestructibility, it ended up serving as a hospital for the wounded. And after the war, as a refuge for lingering Union soldiers.

The property continued as a residence, although most of the farmland was sold off through the years. In 1999, then owners, Dennis and Janice Fitzgerald, updated it and turned it into the first Bed and Breakfast in the Harrisonburg area. Now the property has been taken over by their daughter, Anna Bergey, and her husband, Jesse. After another modernization of both the house and some of the outbuildings, the home now continues to serve travelers as an Airbnb.

Great care was taken in the update to ensure that the rich colors and décor showcase original woodwork and architecture. The effect is warm, cozy, comfortable interiors that feel like a home away from home.



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Photo courtesy of Betty Ann Galway

THE BERGEY RESIDENCE

411 Garbers Church Road, Harrisonburg

The private home of Jesse and Anna Bergey stands adjacent. This home is also old, having been built in 1840. Originally it was two rooms constructed over two rooms with a central hallway. But it too has been adapted through the years to make it suitable as a modern family home. However, just as they did in the Inn, the Bergeys chose colors and furnishings that feature and focus on the interesting structural details of this home.

The yards of the two properties connect and center around the lake. The whole property was and is still being landscaped by Jesse. He has used many native plants, placed in natural settings to make the whole space a cohesive refuge for the wildlife and also the humans—both those that visit as well as those that live here.

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Photo courtesy of Betty Ann Galway

THE EARLYNN MILLER HOUSE 1587 Hillcrest Drive, Harrisonburg

This house began as a modest 1970s split-level perched on a ridge with a stunning view across the valley behind it. The owner, a dance instructor and artist, lived here while working at James Madison University. While she worked, her focus and energy were on her career. But once she retired, her creative drive was redirected to her home. Walls are layered with rich reds, blues, greens, and yellows, creating dramatic backgrounds for an impressive collection of artwork. In retirement, Miller and her partner, Don, traveled extensively and made a point of meeting artists in each area. Collected pieces, tiles, and commissioned sculptures were integrated into the house's design, transforming normally plain spaces (such as a bathroom) into creative yet functional areas. The back of the home is wide open to showcase the view, with cozy sitting areas. Patios and pathways feature tiles, paving designs, and boulders, while the steep slope at the rear is terraced using a mix of natural stones and paving. Sculptures are nestled among natural stones, emphasizing art, while seasonal blooms and foundational plants add color and texture to the garden.

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Visit the Gardens and See Where Your Flowers Grow



Photo courtesy of Joy Coakley

SYCAMORE GARDENS **(GARDEN ONLY)**

1341 Lincolnshire Drive, Harrisonburg

Established foundation plantings by the front door set the stage for the garden oasis at the back of this one-acre property. The owners built the house in the late 1980s and moved in right after their marriage in the spring of 1989. Since then, they have added to the house to create extra living space and a fully furnished basement apartment, which is now rented as an Airbnb. Over nearly 40 years, the Coakleys have transformed their landscape. From clearing out weeds and unwanted trees, they have created paths, plant beds, and patios, accented with comfortable seating areas designed to take in the surrounding beauty. The lightly wooded land slopes down into a small valley behind the house. The plantings are mostly native, carefully selected to attract pollinators, birds, and other wildlife. Some of Joy's favorite spring bloomers include her lilacs, twenty-year-old tree peonies, and 'Popcorn' Viburnum. At the bottom, a meadow softens the view, with a wooded area beyond, making the yard appear much larger than it actually is. On the way back up, visitors can enjoy a water feature and Joy's she-shed, which was repurposed from their daughter's playhouse. The garden includes many different hellebores and hostas, as well as naturalized 'Celandine' poppies, grape hyacinth, and wood spurge.



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Photo courtesy of Betty Ann Galway

LINDALE MENNONITE CHURCH

6255 Jesse Bennet Way, Linville

Located in the small historic town of Edom, this church is one of the largest Mennonite meeting houses in the Shenandoah Valley. Mennonite settlers arrived in the region during the mid-1700s. In 1788, Abraham Brenneman set aside a plot on his farm to bury his recently deceased wife and daughter. This plot is one of the oldest Mennonite cemeteries in Virginia and remains active today. In 1826, local townspeople built a meeting house for their church and named it Brenneman's Church. In 1898, a new building was constructed, which became the Lindale Church. The original Brenneman's closed in 1919, and services moved to the newer building adjoining the cemetery. Additions have been added to the building over the years as the congregation grew. Also of interest is a sloped area that was excavated to allow for building expansion. Instead of leaving the space unused, it was terraced to create an outdoor amphitheater for musical or theatrical events hosted by the church.

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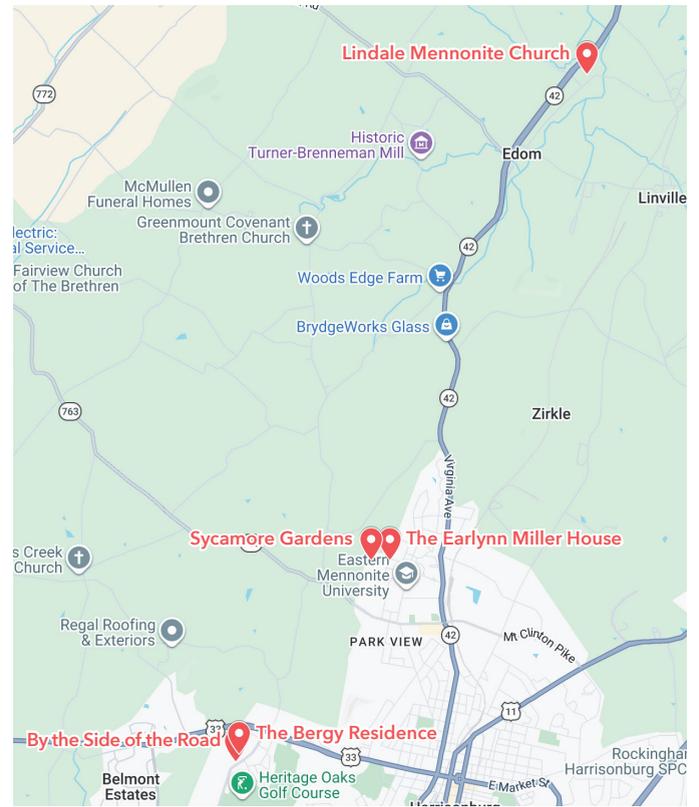
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PROPERTY MAP

By the Side of the Road
491 Garbers Church Road, Harrisonburg

The Bergy Residence
411 Garbers Church Road, Harrisonburg

The Earlyynn Miller house
1587 Hillcrest Drive, Harrisonburg

Sycamore Gardens
(Garden Only)
1341 Lincolnshire Drive, Harrisonburg

Lindale Mennonite Church
6255 Jesse Bennet Way, Linville



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