

Edith J. Carrier Arboretum

Frequently Asked Questions: Membership

How do I join or renew a membership?

Join or renew through our membership sign-up page if you would like to pay with a card. Alternatively, you can mail in your membership dues or visit our office at the Frances Plecker Education Center at:

**Edith J. Carrier Arboretum, MSC 3705
780 University Blvd,
Harrisonburg, VA 22807**

If you choose to pay for your membership with a check, please make it payable to James Madison University with Arboretum membership in the memo.

[Purchase or renew a membership](#)

Do you offer discounted memberships?

We offer a discounted membership for any student with a valid student ID or email address.

Can I pay in advance for a multi-year membership?

Yes! When making your payment online, by mail or in person, simply multiply your donation by the number of years you'd like to maintain your member status. For example, donate \$1,250 if you'd like to become a Patron Member (\$250/year) for 5 years.

Inform us of your generosity with a call (540-568-3194) or email us at ejcarboretum@jmu.edu.

Will I receive a membership card?

Yes! It'll come along with your new member letter 2-4 weeks after your donation. Only donations of \$50 or more qualify to receive a membership card.

When will I receive my membership material?

Please allow 2-4 weeks from the date of payment to receive your new membership packet. Unless notified, we will assume all new member materials have been received. If you haven't received your membership packet 4 weeks after payment, please notify us at ejcarboretum@jmu.edu or call us at 540-568-3194

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When can I begin using my member benefits?

Even if your membership card hasn't arrived yet, you can utilize your member benefits at the EJC Arboretum. Just provide us with your name and your payment confirmation email when you stop by the Frances Plecker Education Center.

However, until you have your physical membership card in hand, you won't be able to use your reciprocal admission privileges.

Will my membership renew automatically?

No, we do not retain credit card information, so you will need to manually renew your membership every year. You can do so online, in person (cash or check only), or by mail (check is advised over cash). Please refer to the first question for mailing information.

How do I know when my membership expires?

Membership is for 12 months from the date you join or renew. Please refer to your membership for the expiration date. If you have lost your membership card, please send an email to ejcarboretum@jmu.edu or call us at 540-568-3194.

How do I receive a free plant as a member benefit?

Your new member packet will include a coupon for the value of a quart-sized plant. You can redeem this coupon during our seasonal plant sales in April and September!

What if I can't make it to the seasonal plant sale to redeem my free plant?

No worries! The coupon will be good for a full year. We typically have a runoff sale for a few weeks following the conclusion of our seasonal sales. Using your coupon during the sale ensures that you get the best pick of the bunch.

Can I visit other places with my EJCA membership?

Yes! All members gain reciprocal admission privileges and/or discounts at 380+ affiliate gardens and arboreta in the US, Canada, the Cayman Island, Guam, Puerto Rico, and Virgin Islands. This benefit is offered through the [American Horticultural Society Reciprocal Garden Network](#)

Members at the Patron level or above also have access to admission benefits offered by the [North American Reciprocal Museums \(NARM\) Association](#). Through NARM, you are granted reciprocal membership benefits across the US, Bermuda, Canada, the Cayman Islands, and Mexico.

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Please note: Some participating locations may have restrictions on local visitors. Please call ahead to get the most current information.

How does the reciprocal program work?

Before visiting any participating location, call ahead to inquire about their admission and parking policies. Upon visiting, present your membership to enjoy the benefits listed for that location. Some gardens may require a photo ID. Each card will only admit the individual(s) listed on the card, but in most cases the participating location will make exceptions for those not listed on the card.

How do I update my contact information?

Please send an email to ejcarboretum@jmu.edu or call us at 540-568-3194. Contact information includes members' names, email, phone numbers and mailing addresses.

I lost my card. How do I get a replacement?

You can request a replacement card via email (ejcarboretum@jmu.edu), over the phone (540-568-3194) or visit us in the Frances Plecker Education Center (780 University Blvd, Harrisonburg, VA 22807)

Can I downgrade my membership?

The Arboretum does not permit membership downgrades to a lower category once the membership materials have been sent out and/or benefits have been used.

Are memberships transferrable or refundable?

Memberships are not transferable or refundable.