

## Red Alert: Poinsettia Open House at Cantigny on November 27

**WHEATON, IL, November 15, 2012** — The Cantigny Park Horticulture Department invites the public to its annual *Shades of Crimson Poinsettia Display* on Tuesday, November 27. Hours are 10 am to 2 pm for this free holiday event at the park's greenhouse.

Visitors will see 14 varieties of poinsettias in full bloom and about 3,000 plants in all. Horticulture staff members will be on hand to discuss the plants and answer questions.

"This is a wonderful annual event that seems to jump-start the holiday season," said Joy Kaminsky, Cantigny Park director of horticulture. "It's quite a spectacle to see so many poinsettias in one place, at their peak, before they leave the greenhouse."

Cantigny's plants are purchased as three-inch-long cuttings and then carefully nurtured and groomed by the park's expert horticulture team for over six months. Water, fertilizer, light and temperature are each regulated to achieve the spectacular results that visitors will see at the greenhouse.

A new page with information about poinsettias, including how to care for them and history about the plant, is posted on the [Cantigny Park website](#).

Nearly half of the Cantigny poinsettias are destined for the Rotary Club of Central DuPage, which uses them for fundraising. Another 400 plants are for holiday decorating in the museums, restaurants and other buildings throughout the 500-acre Cantigny estate.

Poinsettias will be offered for sale at *Shades of Crimson*. Prices are \$5.50 for a small plant, \$15.25 for medium and \$34.95 for large.

After the event, sales to the public will continue at the Cantigny Shoppe in the Visitors Center and the Cantigny Golf Shop. Any unsold plants are donated to local nursing homes and care centers.

*Shades of Crimson* will include self-guided tours of the greenhouse and light refreshments. Garden clubs and senior groups are welcome. There is no fee to attend but advance registration is requested for groups of 10 or more. Forms may be downloaded at [Cantigny.org](#) or guests may call 630.260.8162.

Parking (no fee) will be at the greenhouse, so visitors should enter Cantigny from the east at Shaffner Road.

Cantigny Park is open daily in November and December from 9 am to sunset. More information is online at [Cantigny.org](#).

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**About Cantigny Park**

Cantigny Park, part of the nonprofit Chicago-based Robert R. McCormick Foundations, is the 500-acre Wheaton (Illinois) estate of Robert R. McCormick (1880-1955), longtime editor and publisher of the *Chicago Tribune*. It is home to 30 acres of spectacular gardens, the Robert R. McCormick Museum, the First Division Museum and a 27-hole championship golf course. All are open to the public. Cantigny also is a favorite destination for special events, weddings, concerts, lectures, workshops and other recreation and learning opportunities for all ages. Full-service banquet and dining facilities are on site. More information, including hours, directions and a calendar of upcoming events is online at [Cantigny.org](http://Cantigny.org). For details about Cantigny Golf, including the Cantigny Golf Academy and 9-hole Cantigny Youth Links, please visit [CantignyGolf.com](http://CantignyGolf.com).

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