

# Colonial Williamsburg

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The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation  
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## **ArbNet Upgrades Colonial Williamsburg to a Level II Arboretum**

*Colonial Williamsburg's Historic Area and landscape joined ArbNet, the Morton Arboretum's global community of arboreta and gardens dedicated to woody plants, in 2018* ■



WILLIAMSBURG, Va. (July 22, 2019) – Colonial Williamsburg's Historic Area and commercial properties have been upgraded to a Level II arboretum by ArbNet's global Arboretum Accreditation Program.

Colonial Williamsburg's landscape staff and volunteers demonstrated stewardship of more than 100 species of trees and woody plants to secure Level II accreditation. The Foundation's living

history museum and arboretum is made up of a variety of trees and woody shrubs including more than 30 historic gardens, 18 Virginia state champion trees and 1 national champion tree.

Level II accreditation also requires additional educational and public programming, reflected in a new arboretum-focused tour expected to launch this fall.

“We are excited that Colonial Williamsburg’s Historic Area and surrounding commercial properties are now formally recognized by ArbNet as a Level II arboretum,” said Charles Gardner, Colonial Williamsburg certified arborist. “We look forward to continuing in our mission to educate guests and the public about plant conservation and tree science.”

The [ArbNet Arboretum Accreditation Program](#) is sponsored and coordinated by the Morton Arboretum in Lisle, Illinois in cooperation with American Public Gardens Association and Botanic Gardens Conservation International. The program offers four levels of accreditation.

Colonial Williamsburg’s accreditation was made possible by a core group of dedicated landscape volunteers and the generosity of BrightView Landscape Services, Inc., who sponsored various stages of the Level I and Level II accreditation application process.

Access to Colonial Williamsburg’s landscaped properties and iconic historic gardens is included with museum admission.

More information on Colonial Williamsburg’s landscape and garden programs is available by visiting [www.colonialwilliamsburg.com/arboretumandgardens](http://www.colonialwilliamsburg.com/arboretumandgardens), by downloading the free Colonial Williamsburg Explorer app via the Apple App Store and Google Play, and by following Colonial Williamsburg on [Facebook](#) and @colonialwmsburg on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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*The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation preserves, restores and operates Virginia’s 18th-century capital of Williamsburg. Innovative and interactive experiences highlight the relevance of the American Revolution to contemporary life and the importance of an informed, active citizenry. The Colonial Williamsburg experience includes nearly 600 restored or reconstructed original buildings, renowned museums of decorative arts and folk art, extensive educational outreach programs for students and teachers, lodging, culinary options from historic taverns to casual or elegant dining, the Golden Horseshoe Golf Club featuring 45 holes designed by Robert Trent Jones and his son Rees Jones, a full-service spa and fitness center, pools, retail stores and gardens. Philanthropic support and revenue from admissions, products and hospitality operations sustain Colonial Williamsburg’s educational programs and preservation initiatives.*