



Staff & Volunteer FAQs

The American Horticultural Society's (AHS) Reciprocal Admissions Program (RAP) promotes horticulture across North America, encouraging people to visit gardens and other horticultural institutions. Launched in 1990, this program currently counts **more than 330 participating horticultural institutions** in 48 states and the District of Columbia plus Canada and the Caribbean.

Who receives benefits?

Any card-carrying member of the participating gardens or the American Horticultural Society is entitled to receive benefits with the Reciprocal Admissions Program. Gardens may have exceptions for special events or exhibits, or if the 90-mile exclusion is enforced.

How many people receive benefits?

Each member card will only admit the individual(s) whose name is listed on the card. In the case of a family, couple, or household membership card that does not list individual names, the garden must extend the benefit(s) to at least two of the members. It is at the garden's discretion to extend benefits to more than two individuals.

How can a garden's status be verified?

The AHS website, www.ahsgardening.org/rap, will always offer up-to-date information on current participating gardens.

What is the 90-mile Exclusion?

The 90-mile Exclusion allows gardens to exclude members of other gardens within 90 miles of them from receiving their reciprocal benefit(s) unless the gardens mutually agree to lift the exclusion. For AHS members, the exclusion is based on their home address. Visit www.ahsgardening.org/rap to see if your garden enforces the 90-mile Exclusion.

How should RAP be promoted online and in print?

RAP is administered by the American Horticultural Society and should always be connected with the AHS. **When referencing RAP on your own website and materials please remember to use the following language:** *"The American Horticultural Society's Reciprocal Admissions Program offers free admission and/or additional benefits at more than 330 gardens throughout North America and the Caribbean."*

How can I order printed RAP Guides?

A free PDF is available for download at www.ahsgardening.org/rap, along with state by state listings which can be printed from our website. Printed RAP Guides will not be available to purchase in 2021. AHS may have a limited supply of 2020 RAP Guides still available. To inquire further, email rap@ahsgardening.org.

Who can be contacted at a participating garden if questions arise?

Questions that can be answered on-site should be directed to the membership, development, or administrative departments. For the most part, AHS works with the membership department for RAP-related issues. Be sure to check with your garden first to answer any questions.

How can AHS be contacted for program related questions?

Program information is available at www.ahsgardening.org/rap. Email rap@ahsgardening.org or call 703-768-5700 ext. 119 with questions.