



A Garden Of Friends Is Always In Bloom

Defiance County Master Gardeners

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Officers

President:
Jamie Walters
j.walters1054@yahoo.com
419-438-7335

President Elect:
Marjorie Wilson
lilredmarge@frontier.com
419-636-3686

Secretaries:
Laurel Brehler
ljbrehler@gmail.com
248-515-1244

Historian:
Doreen DeLisle
ddelisle@chasebrass.com
419-572-0747

Treasurer:
Gwen Anderson
andgwen@roadrunner.com
419.782.0578

Keeper of the Garden
Bruce Clevenger
clevenger.10@osu.edu
419-782-4771

Garden Angel
Deb Walters
walters.269@osu.edu
419-782-4771

Newsletter
Jamie Walters
j.walters1054@yahoo.com
419-438-7335

 Defiance County Master Gardeners



- 2/1 Gerald Short
- 2/1 Virginia Mackling
- 2/12 Mike Nix
- 2/18 Norma English
- 2/27 Gwen Haller

Minutes from February Meeting

- The Defiance County Master Gardeners met in the small Extension Conference Room on February 19, 2019 with 10 members and 2 guests in attendance.
- Meeting was called to order by President Jamie Walters.
- Secretary's Report: The January 2019 Minutes were accepted as written.
- Treasurer's Report: Gwen Anderson had nothing new to report. She will reimburse Jamie for the soil he purchased for the milk jugs.
- Historian's Report: Doreen DeLisle says to keep sending any articles you see in the paper.
- Communications: Deb Walters says that everyone needs to complete the "Volunteer Agreements" (there are 3) for this year by the end of March.

Committee Reports

- Defiance: Marge Wilson gave an update on the "5th and Jefferson Committee". She passed around the park book that she has compiled so far. The soil test showed that the soil is totally depleted and needs amending first thing in the spring. Also, she is still planning on a pruning and clean-up day for the beginning of March, date TBD. She hopes that Bob Larson will come through with some funding from Businesses in the area for some improvements.
- Sherwood: It was mentioned that Sherwood is not having a plant sale this year.
- Hicksville: None
- Community Garden: Mary Brubaker and Jean Bremer reported that the 18 plots will be adopted at a meeting on April 11. Times are 9:30-noon and 6:30-8:00 at the District Court East garage. They would like to have mulch for the paths and want to enlist the help of the people who will garden there. Jamie said he will put the info on Facebook.
- Plant Sale: The plant sale will be on Saturday May 18, 2019 in the parking lot of Eric's on Clinton. At tonight's meeting we planted 30+ milk jugs of vegetables and herbs for the sale. We will dig raspberries from George Stuckey's yard closer to the sale. Since Diane Clark will not be here in April we will not dig plants from her yard as we have done in the past.
- Old Business: Not enough people signed up to go on the bus trip to Philadelphia so it was cancelled.
- New Business: There was a lot of discussion about the care of city parks. In the past we have had enough people to care for several of the parks. Since we have fewer people able to keep up with so many parks, we have decided to concentrate our efforts on the Depot and the 5th and Jefferson parks. If anyone needs to get more hours in feel free to work at any of the parks.

Planning Ahead

**MG Meeting
Extension Office
March 19 @ 6:30pm
Small Conf. Room**

**Landscape Design
Workshop
March 16, 2019**

**2019 Tree
Survival School
March 27-29, 2019**

**Community Gardens
Meeting & Sign-Up
April 11, 2019**

"There are no gardening mistakes, only experiments." ~ Janet Kilburn Phillips

January Newsletter Continued

It was decided to reinstate refreshments at our meetings. Doreen DeLisle will bring them for next month's meeting which is March 19, 2019 at the small Extension Conference Room. Our speaker is Rob Cereghin from the Defiance Parks Department. Another date to put on your calendar is Wednesday May 8, 2019 when we will wrap Lilacs for the Lilac Festival. Please meet at Laurel Brehler's, 706 E. High Street, Defiance at 3:00pm. It takes around 3 hours to wrap 500, so bring a friend.

The meeting was adjourned, moved by Doreen and seconded by Tammy.

Respectively submitted, Laurel Brehler



Judy McCalla demonstrated how to plant our milk jug greenhouses.

Thank you to everyone that brought jugs, helped distribute soil, planted seeds and adopted them to their home.

If you have more milk jugs, please bring them with you for March 19th meeting. We will have plenty of soil and seeds to plant more jugs.

YMCA Kids Day

The YMCA is asking the Master Gardeners to come join them once more on April 27th, 10am till 4pm. They would like us to create an activity as we have done in years past. I will present this at the March 19th meeting for volunteers. If anyone would like to help brainstorm & create these activities, it will be greatly appreciated.

Chilling Seeds Indoors

Running out of time to plant? Try freezing seeds inside an ice cube for a fast stratification. Don't freeze seed just in a package unless it has a thick coat or the moisture content is low, because water in the embryo cells can burst when frozen. But encasing it in ice protects the seed from freezing damage.

How to chill seeds with ice cubes

1. Fill an ice cube tray half full of water and freeze.
2. Set it on the counter a few minutes, just enough to get a film of water on top, then drop two to four seeds on each cube.
3. Carefully add more water to the top of the cubes and refreeze.
4. Leave it in the freezer two to three days, then pop the iced seeds out of the tray.
5. Push the cubes into potting medium. Sprinkled soil on top sticks to the ice, which covers the seed as it melts. Dust with a bit of potting soil on top if the seed needs to be covered. Ice melts and seed will settle in.

Tree Survival School

This three-day school will be helpful to anyone who purchases, plants, or cares for trees in a commercial or public landscape. The three days are divided between classroom and hands-on outdoor learning experiences including a tour of North Branch Nursery. Public service directors/administrators, field staff, tree commission members, cemetery workers, professional groundskeepers/landscapers/arborists, and school groundskeepers should consider attending this program. Participants are asked to dress for the weather and bring proper pruning tools (hand saw, hand pruner, pole pruner, pole saw) and eye protection. The class is limited to the first 35 paid applicants. This program typically fills to capacity early. Qualifies for 15 Arborist CEUs.

For more information, please visit <http://forestry.ohiodnr.gov/portals/forestry/pdfs/events/19-0327tssnw.pdf>

Topics - Emphasis on trees from planting time to 10 years of age

Introduction and Tree Biology
Proper Transplant & Care of Trees Before They are Planted
Developing a Tree Maintenance Program Before You Plant
Watering Requirements
Proper Pruning of New and Established Trees Proper

Buying and Selecting Trees in the Nursery
Proper Planting Methods
Protecting Trees
Insect and Disease Problems in Trees
Mulching and Fertilization