



A Garden Of Friends Is Always In Bloom

Defiance County Master Gardeners



January Information

Hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas, and upcoming Happy New Year with your family, friends and loved ones.

Thank you to the 2017 officers for your time, work, & dedication. Please welcome your 2018 officers; Diane Clark - President, Jamie Walters - President Elect, Gwen Anderson - Treasurer, Laurel Brehler - Secretary, Doreen DeLisle - Historian.

Ohio State Master Gardener dues of \$10.00 are due by February 17th. Your welcome to stop at the Extension Office to pay Deb Walters or we will be collecting dues at the January 16th meeting too.

The OSUE Master Gardener Volunteer recertification agreement will be active in January. Please go to <https://ohio.volunteersystem.org/UniversalLogin.cfm> This is the same 3 page documents; Volunteer Agreement and Release, OSUE Standard of Behavior/MGV Name Usage and Pesticide Management Policy. Please follow directions on page 2, if you have any questions, contact Deb Walters 419.782.4771.

November's Recognition Party - thank you to everyone that made it out for the evening of fellowship. Congratulations to Anne Kohout-Chase and George Stuckey on fulfilling their volunteer hours and graduating. Thank you to the 2017 Officers; (L-R)Secretary Laurel Brehler, Secretary Linda Maag, President Jean Bremer, and Historian Linda Hoffman. Not present; President Elect Diane Clark.



Planning Ahead



Happy New Years

MG Meeting Extension Office Jan 16 @ 6:30pm

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 Defiance County Master Gardeners



- 12/9 Mirta Fuentes
- 12/23 Jane Claussen
- 12/26 Janice Kline
- 12/29 Margaret Grimes
- 12/31 Dwyn Lichty
- 1/6 Barb Coolman
- 1/25 Gwen Anderson
- 1/29 Judy Hasch

January Newsletter Continued

Some of the upcoming monthly meeting events / presenters;
January 16, 2018, Speaker/Program: Jamie Walters on Pollinators
February 20, 2018, Speaker/Program: George Stuckey, Geologist, Ground Water In NW Ohio
March 20, 2018, Speaker/Program: Stephanie Singer, Watershed Coordinator/Environmental Education, Defiance Soil & Water. WOW: Wonders of Wetlands. This program is in preparation for the 2nd Annual River Fest Booth at Pontiac Park on June 23.

Poinsettia Pointers

- #1 Buy healthy plants. Poinsettias usually come foiled so peel it back if you can & check the lower foliage to make sure it looks good & that the leaves haven't yellowed & started to fall off. The plants should have lots of colored leaves (technically called bracts) with the small yellow flowers in the center still intact & just opening or partially open. If your Poinsettias have come in sleeves, be sure to remove them as soon as you get home so that plants are exposed to light & air.
- #2 Place them in a bright spot. They like as much light as you can give them, just not next a hot or cold window. Near a sunny window, but not in, would be fine.
- #3 Temperature fluctuation is best. Poinsettias like it on the warmer (not hot) side during the day & cooler at night. It can be tricky to find that balance but do your best. If you turn your heat back at night to say 60° F, then your Poinsettias will be happy.
- #4 Strike a balance with watering. Surprisingly, these plants with the large, smooth colored leaves are actually Euphorbias which means they're succulents. Unlike the Pencil Cactus I just gave you care tips for, you don't want Poinsettias to dry out. You want the soil to feel slightly moist to the touch. They will lose their lower leaves & shrivel if too dry. Conversely, if you keep them too wet, they'll also lose their lower leaves. The soil becomes water logged & the roots can rot because people don't take off the foil or decorative pot when watering.
- #5 Remove the foil. You want to take your Poinsettias out of the foil (or decorative pot) & remove them from the saucer so you can give it a good drink. Water the soil thoroughly & let it all drain out before placing it back them back in the decorative pot.
- #6 Keep them away from heaters & cold drafts. Plain & simple, Poinsettias don't like hot or cold air blasting at them.



Volunteer Agreement and Release

1

Click Annual Agreement and Request for Recertification

Select Completed Hours and Seeking Recertification

Read & Click I ACCEPT THE TERMS PRESENTED HERE

OSUE Standard of Behavior/MGV Name Usage

2

Click OSUE Standard of Behavior/MGV Name Usage

Read & Click I ACCEPT THE TERMS PRESENTED HERE

Pesticide Management Policy

3

Click Pesticide Management Policy

Read & Click I ACCEPT THE TERMS PRESENTED HERE

Make this year a year of finding, of fulfillment, of joy, peace, and purpose.