



The “Show-Me” Gardener

Webster Groves Garden Club

www.mgcwg.org

Email: Webster-Groves-Garden-Club@mgcwg.org

President
Mary Telker

1st Vice-President
Open

2nd Vice-President
Joan Tilford

Secretary
Open

Treasurer
Steve Seele

Board of Directors

2023

Lucia Oswald
Frank Peterson
Kathy Rowe

2024

Alice Sargent
Mike Tierney

2025

Chris Kunz

President Ex-Officio
Carol Evans

Other **Plant Sale**

Plant-Sale@mgcwg.org

Turn Around Garden

Turn-Around-Garden@mgcwg.org



April Plant Sale

April 28th, 2023 – 8:00 a.m.- 6:00 p.m.

April 29th – 8:00 a.m. – Noon*

Webster Groves Recreation Center



Our biggest event of the year will be held at the Webster Groves Recreation Center, 33 E. Glendale Rd. on April 28 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and April 29 from 8 a.m. to noon or sell out. If you can help with setting up plants or working at the sale, please contact Dorothy Lockard at dglockard2@gmail.com.

Over 2,000 plants will be available, both natives and non-natives. In the non-native category, there are many varieties of hostas, ferns, daisies, hellebores, astilbes, and others. Natives include such plants as Celandine poppies, Virginia bluebells, coneflowers, Monarda, spiderwort, goldenrods, and blue cardinal flowers.

Save the Dates!

There are also a couple Save the Dates for us in the coming months. These include going as a group to the Chihuly exhibit at the Missouri Botanical Garden on the 22nd of May with the possibility of lunch following. Contact Mary Telker at mary.f.telker@gmail.com if you are interested in attending.

We are also planning a WGGC member family picnic on June 11th - at Blackburn Park's Main Pavilion starting at noon. Details will be provided in the June newsletter. This event is to celebrate the plant sale.

We will resume our second Monday of each month meetings starting in September. We hope to schedule an exciting group of speakers for the coming year.

Unsubscribe

Unsubscribe@mgcwg.org

Annual Membership Dues:

Don't forget to pay your dues. Club dues for 2023 are \$15 per person or \$20 per family. If you have not yet renewed for 2023 please make your check payable to "Webster Groves Garden Club." You can either pay dues at the plant sale or send them to: Steve Seele, 223 Rosemont Ave, St. Louis, MO 63119.

Community Outreach

The Webster Groves Garden Club (WGGC) supports our local community in several ways. Part of our annual plant sale proceeds provides scholarships to Meramec Community College horticulture majors. WGGC also maintains the Turn-Around Garden (TAG) at the W. Lockwood-Rockhill Rd. Bus Stop. WGGC members have also supported local elementary school boy scouts with gardening activities.

Gardener's Corner (formerly President's Corner)

I think Spring may finally be here and now the work begins. There are so many tasks that need to be accomplished in the garden. Before even planting another flower or vegetable, the weeding alone can be daunting. Weeding, however, can be good exercise and gives such a feeling of accomplishment.

There are many tips and tasks for the month from the **Missouri Botanical Garden (MBG)**. Now is the time, as apples, crabapples and hawthorns begin blooming, to spray protective fungicidal sprays to prevent rust disease. Take the blossoms off azaleas and rhododendron bushes as they fade. Azaleas can be fertilized after they bloom with an acid formula.

To assure flowers next year, don't remove spring bulb foliage too soon. Removing it prematurely will cause next year's flower production to decline. Bulbs can be moved or divided as the foliage dies.

You can begin to plant gladiolus bulbs as the ground warms, continuing at 2-week intervals. Other summer bulbs such as caladiums, dahlias, cannas and elephant ears can also be planted at this time.

Begin planting warm-season annuals. (We usually say Mother's Day is the best time to begin). Once planted, you can begin to fertilize them, continuing this process at regular intervals.

MBG also reminds us that birds eat many insect pests. So, providing good nesting habitats is an important way to attract birds to our gardens. Finally, houseplants can be moved outdoors when nights remain above 50 degrees.

While we are talking about attracting birds, we might also include bees. **Garden Design** has a nice article about planting flowers for a bee-friendly garden. The article is complete with pictures of flowers, especially helpful if you are new to gardening. Find it here:

https://www.gardendesign.com/flowers/bees.html?utm_source=article-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Flowers-for-Bees-4-13-23

The **University of Minnesota Extension** has some tips about how much compost you should apply to your garden this spring. You can find this information at <https://extension.umn.edu/yard-and-garden-news/how-much-compost-should-you-apply-your-garden-spring>. Among the important tips here are to have your soil tested. As we often state in this column, soil testing can be done through the **MU Extension**. Directions are at <https://extension.missouri.edu/counties/st-louis/soil-testing>

There are a couple programs of interest this month. They include the following.

Thursday, May 11 – 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. *Everyday Environment: Learning Lessons from Nature in Your Home Landscape*, a program from the **University of Illinois Extension**. This webinar will teach some basic ecological concepts and help you apply them to decision making in your own landscape. Register at: <https://registration.extension.illinois.edu/start/everyday-environment-learning-lessons-from-nature-in-your-home-landscape>

Wednesday, May 17 – 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. *Summer Crops and Cover Crops* presented by **Seed St. Louis** through the **St. Louis County Library**. Discover how to beat the heat of summer gardening and learn techniques that will keep your tomatoes and other summer crops flourishing. Register at: <https://slcl.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails?EventId=327865>