

The "Show-Me" Gardener

Webster Groves Garden Club

www.mgcwg.org

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Turn Around Garden

<u>Turn-Around-</u> Garden@mgcwg.org



Webster Groves Garden Club (WGGC) Meeting October 9th, 2023

The October 9th, 2023 meeting of the Webster Groves Garden Club will feature Susan Ehlenbeck of the Missouri Department of Agriculture Plant Industries division. Susan's presentation will be on "MDA - What Do We Do and What Do We Look For?".

We met Susan last April when she came to inspect our plants at the WGGC plant sale. She is a Horticulturist and Plant Protection Specialist assigned to MDA's Area 1 location which includes Franklin, Jefferson and St. Louis counties. Susan is also a member of the Missouri Invasive Plant Council (MoIP).

Do you have pest or invasive plant questions? We can discuss them at the meeting with Susan. Bring your cell phone photos if you need help identifying a pest and/or pesky plant.

The October 9th meeting will be held at the Webster Groves Recreation Center and will start at 7:15 pm. Refreshments will be served.

Metro Garden (TAG) Fall Clean-up - Sat. Oct. 21

Volunteers are needed for the Metro garden fall cleanup to be held from 9:00 am on at the Metro garden located at the corner of Rock Hill Road and Lockwood Avenue in Webster Groves on Saturday, October 21, 2023 with a rain date of Sunday, October 22nd.

Volunteers should bring hats, gloves, long pants and bug repellent. Longhandled pruners, hedge clipper style pruners and shovels will be needed. The cleanup mainly involves cutting back the **native plants** by half so that they do not go to seed and cause a weeding problem next spring. Some mulching may be done as the ground is exposed by the pruning. The Metro garden does have nice restrooms for use during the event. Doughnuts, bagels and water will be provided for volunteers.

This is a great opportunity to meet other WGGC members, socialize and learn about native plants. Please contact Mike Tierney at 314-308-1117 or at michaeljtierney@sbcglobal.net for more information.

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Congratulations to Mike Tierney!

Michael Tierney was nominated for the Missouri Good Neighbor Award from the City of Webster Groves. This was in recognition for his work on the beautiful Metro Garden in Webster Groves located at the corner of Rock Hill Road and Lockwood Avenue - in Webster Groves; informally known as the Turn-Around-Garden (TAG). The recognition ceremony was part of the City Council meeting on October 3rd and we congratulate Mike on winning the award!



Mike Tierney with WG Councilmember Emerson Smith (right)

Garden Club of America Flower Show - Fri. Oct. 13 - 9 am to 1 pm

The Ladue Garden Club has invited the Webster Groves Garden Club to a Garden Club of America Flower Show called, *Forests & Parks Forever*, presented by Ladue Garden Club next Friday, October 13th from 9am until 1pm. The show is free of charge and open to the public at 1600 Log Cabin Lane 63124. Attached is an invite with more details. We hope to see you there!



FS show invitations to Clubs.pdf

Upcoming Events - Save The Date!

Mon. Nov. 13th - next program meeting

Mon. Dec. 11th - Holiday party at Cyrano's

Gardener's Corner - October 2023

It's time to ready the garden for winter. There are many tasks that must be accomplished to make sure you get a good start next spring. A very timely article entitled "A Successful Spring Garden" appeared in the Washington Post on September 28, 2023. The article identifies 7 helpful steps for you to follow. These include:

- 1. Remove diseased material. They suggest you clean up leaves, branches, and seed pods on the ground to keep them from infecting them as winter brings rain and snow.
- 2. Check trees for disease and cut back dead branches to the branch collar.
- 3. Pull blooming weeds to remove them before they go to seed. This will help you with maintenance in the spring.
- 4. Don't forget to mulch. A couple inches of mulch, either regular or disease-free leaves, will do the job.
- 5. Fill in bare spots in the garden so that in the spring there is less chance the weeds will take over. You may be able to find plants at bargain prices now that will fill in the gaps.
- 6. Now is the time to spread grass seed. As noted in the Missouri Botanical Garden (MBG) Tips and Tasks, below, the type of lawn you have will dictate which grasses should be spread.
- 7. Protect your spigots and don't forget to drain your hoses.
- 8. Above all, clean your tools (loppers, trowels, pruners, rakes, etc.) with isopropyl alcohol. This will help to prevent the spread of disease as you prepare the garden for winter. Tips and tasks from the Missouri Botanical Garden include continuing to plant evergreens. Some herbs (parsley, rosemary, chives, thyme, chives and marjoram) can be dug and planted in pots for inside winter growing. Perennials can be divided now as can peonies. Remember to enrich the soil with compost before replanting.

As for grass, cool-season lawns are best fertilized in fall. Also, thoroughly water established lawns if soil is too dry. If you reseed your lawn, don't cut it until the grass is at least 2 or 3 inches tall. For more information on what to plant now, Garden Design has an article entitled, What to Plant in Your Fall Garden. You can find it here:

https://www.gardendesign.com/autumn/planting.html?utm_source=article-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Fall-Planting-9-28-23

There is one online program and one in person program of interest this month. They include:

Thursday, October 12 – 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. Container Gardening offered by Seed St. Louis through the St. Louis County Library. Register at:

https://slcl.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails?EventId=339253

The St. Louis Herb Society will present a program on Indigenous Use of Native Plants, 3 different times at the St. Louis County Library Florissant Valley Branch, 195 New Florissant Road. These will be on:

Wednesday, October 18 – 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, October 18 – 2:00 p.m. and Thursday, October 19 – 10:00 a.m.