

CLIPPINGS



Wareham Garden Club Newsletter

March 2021

President's Corner

Do you ever feel like a swan on ice?

Trying to stay balanced, but not sure where you're going to wind up?

Or maybe you just



keep your head down and skate along, patiently waiting for this all to go away?

It's been that kind of a year., but I think we're turning the

corner. My witch hazel is just popping into bloom; I see daffodils peeking out of the ground and the daylight hours are lengthening.

I've started perennial seeds outdoors in milk jugs, just waiting for the spring warm-up. I have pansies and geraniums growing nicely in my basement under grow lights. I can't look at any more seed catalogs! They're too tempting.

I hope you're growing grass in a bowl. I already have to give mine a haircut. Please send my a pic by St. Patrick's Day or post to our Facebook page.

Diane has a virtual design contest for April, as well as info on next week's program. Judy has the spring plant sale and a design show in the works, Mike is working on Arbor Day activities. Pam and Donna have been focusing on garden therapy; Norma has begun the search for new scholarship applicants.

Stay busy! Stay involved!

Hope to see you in person soon,

Barb



March Program

Our speakers Brooke Johnson and Shannon Piehler will share ideas about how "Sustainable Landscape Design" - permaculture principles can be introduced into your yard.

Learn how home gardeners can become more sustainable in their own backyards by creating simple spaces that include native species and pollinator friendly plants, as well as productive vegetable gardens and encouraging eco-friendly gardening ideas. Brooke and Shannon's talk will include a PowerPoint presentation and some photos as well.

Diane

Spring into Bloom

I am starting to see signs of spring in my yard and I hope everyone is getting ready to start their seedlings for the plant sale on May 15th. Please try starting some herbs as they are always a big hit at the sale.

Also, just a reminder to look around your yard and see what can be divided or just must go. I believe Sandy said she has some pots available for cuttings. We will also be offering a craft table and this is a great time to put together any idea's you have, just give Diane Cook a call she is our craft table hostess and I should mention, very crafty.

May 15th is our Spring Plant Sale, one of our two major fund raisers. It will be our first in-person event in a while; it will be great to see everyone.



Thanks to all of those who step up every year to help make this a successful sale. Give me a call or email if you can help.

Judy Morgan

April Challenge

Diane is giving you plenty of time to create a fabulous entry for our April virtual challenge:

Making dining tables special with Covid isolation is a sweet way to brighten your home and welcome spring.

Create a special design for your own home to celebrate Easter.



There will be no rules other than no silk or plastic in the floral arrangement.

Tables for one, two, four or more people according to whatever COVID restrictions you are implementing at this time.

1. Members, please submit photos of your tables by Monday, April 5th by 5:00 pm to Barbara Van Inwegen via email.
2. We'll send out photos of all submitted designs via email. Vote for your favorite by Wednesday, April 7th.

We can't wait to see your creativity and hope this adds to the joy of the season.

Diane

Upcoming Events

Arbor Day activities are ramping up. Stay tuned for ways you can help.

Hort Hint

March's hort hint: If there wasn't time to add soil amendments last fall, this month is the "drop dead" time to do so. As Jim Crockett (Crockett's Victory Garden) wrote once, "...nothing matters as much as soil preparation". If the garden is ready—that is, crumbly like cake when you squeeze some in your hand—peas, lettuce, onions, other cool weather crops can be planted outside.

Late winter (mid Feb ..—early March before the sap rises) is also the other best time to prune trees and . Be careful though, no pruning flowering shrubs until after they bloom*, unless you intend to reduce the plant's volume. (Folks with tiny yards like mine know what I mean!)

Kathleen

Conservation

March 1st, meteorological spring will arrive. I was driving down route 58 yesterday. The cranberry bog work has begun. They are still red from cold. One grower is laying new water lines for the vines to be planted and grow.

Some things you may already have noticed are daffodil leaves growing, woodpeckers knocking for breakfast and rain, not snow. Oak buds are swelling Take a stroll in the yard for signs of growth and change. Snowdrops are up and so are hellebores And what area are you going to plant for nature? Why not try a milkweed patch? See how many butterflies come.

It's a great time to sign up for the U Mass landscape message. This will let you know ground temperature, insect and disease activity. It comes weekly during the growing season. Just google U Mass Landscape message and sign up. Just one more thing- dandelions are one of our earliest flowers. Why not let them bee?

And watch out for early growth of Japanese knotweed. It can grow several feet in a day.

Joyce

