



FROM THE GROUND UP

FLORENCE COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS

NEWSLETTER

October 2013

"Sowing The Seeds Of Love For Gardening"

From Our President:

Hello to everyone. Hopefully you've had a pleasant and productive summer. As we enter the fall months, we find ourselves getting ready to make our presence known to the community by hosting an information booth at the annual Pee Dee Fall Plant & Flower Festival. I encourage you to be a part of this activity by volunteering to work at our booth for a few hours. Sign-up can be done by logging onto the online [Sign Up Genius](#) or calling Terasa Young at 843-661-4800 ext. 113. Working the booth at this event is a fun way to meet and greet many people in our community who share the same interests in making things grow as you do. During the FCMGA monthly meeting held this past September 16, Tony Melton announced that we would not be able to use the Pee Dee REC to conduct our annual Home & Garden Workshop normally held in March. The unavailability of the REC is due to a massive reconstruction project that will have all of the classrooms and other related facilities shut down for remodeling. Construction is expected to last for approximately 18 months. The 21 attendees at the September meeting discussed possible solutions around this bump in the road but in the end, voted unanimously to postpone the workshop and plant sale in its traditional format until 2015. At this point in time, we are beginning to look at local facilities that could accommodate a keynote speaker and several 'breakout' workshop sessions. This could potentially allow us to hold a symposium which would be much the same as what we did at our spring workshop minus the plant sale. I would ask that any member of the FCMGA who would like to share any of their ideas regarding this situation, to e-mail them to secretary Terasa Young at terasa@clermson.edu. Even though this development may come across as a stumbling block, I feel confident that our Association can turn it into a stepping stone towards something new and better in the future.

See you at the Flower & Plant Festival,
Tom

Highlights From September

The speaker for September was our co-president Bill Duncan. Bill gave a very interesting and entertaining presentation about the medicinal uses of plants. Thanks Bill for sharing your knowledge with the Florence County Master Gardener Association.



One of the plants included in Bill's talk was Castor Bean (*Ricinus communis*). Castor oil is obtained by pressing the seeds. Interestingly enough, ingestion of the seeds can be deadly as they contain ricin which is extremely toxic.



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OCTOBER MEETING.

The next monthly meeting is scheduled for October 21 at 6:30 PM at John Calvin Presbyterian Church. Extension Associate T.J. Savereno will give you tips on gardening for wildlife with his presentation titled "Wildlife Habitat: If You Build It, They Will Come."

Upcoming Events

Fall Plant & Flower Show

The Fall Plant & Flower Show is October 4-6 at the Pee Dee State Farmers Market. The show is open Friday & Saturday from 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM and Sunday from 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM. This is a great opportunity to earn your volunteer service hours.

Moore Farms Botanical Garden

[ColorFall](#) (Garden Open and Plant Sale)
Friday, October 11 & Saturday, October 12
8:30 AM - 3:00 PM
Registration: \$15 per person (includes lunch)

[The Basics of Pruning](#)
Thursday, October 17
9:30 AM - 2:00 PM
Registration: \$20 per person

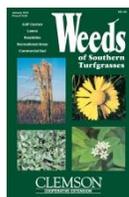
[The Beauty of Bark Short Course](#)
Tuesday, October 29
9:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Registration: \$15 per person

Find out more at www.moorefarmsbg.org

Riverbanks Zoo & Botanical Garden

[Concrete Leaf Castings](#)
Saturday, October 19
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM
Registration: \$20 per person

Reading Corner



Are you plagued with weeds in your lawn? *Weeds of Southern Turfgrasses* is a 208 page book with color photographs that will help you identify your weeds which is the first step in controlling them. The book can be purchased for \$14 from [Clemson's PSA Shopping Mall](#).

Quotation Corner

"My garden is my most beautiful masterpiece."

~Claude Monet



Hurricane Lily
Lycoris spp.

October in the Garden

GENERAL

Rake, weed, and clean the garden, flower beds, and lawn.

Dig and store bulbs.

Divide and transplant perennials.

Bring tender plants inside.

Prepare beds for fall planting.

Take a soil test and make amendments to vegetable and flower beds as indicated.

Check houseplants for insects and treat them with insecticidal soap, if necessary before bringing them indoors.

Watch for aphid infestations as the weather cools.

Improve soil quality in spring garden beds by adding and digging in organic matter now.

If you do not have one already, begin a compost pile and use leaves from your yard for starters.

LAWNS

Planting: Put out pre-emergence herbicide to control spring weeds.

Fertilizing: Do not fertilize warm-season grasses. Overseeding with a cool-season grass such as annual ryegrass or perennial ryegrass can be done when daytime highs are near 70°F and nighttime lows are above 50°F. An established winter lawn requires the same maintenance as a permanent lawn and may retard the warm-season lawn in the spring unless managed correctly.

Irrigation: Water warm season lawns as needed to prevent drought stress until they are dormant. Water cool-season grasses when they show signs of moisture stress (a dull bluish-green color).

Special Care: Rake and clean lawns of leaves and pine straw to prevent smothering.

VEGETABLES & FRUITS

Planting: Plant onion sets now to mid-November. Plant garlic, cabbage, broccoli, collards, and cauliflower. Sow seeds of turnips and radishes. Plant strawberries. Spinach planted the first three weeks of October will do well in the cool fall and can tolerate light frost. Sow seeds of cilantro and coriander.

Harvesting: Pick tomatoes before frost and store in a cool, dry place to ripen. Harvest sweet potatoes before the first frost. Harvest herbs for drying or making herb vinegar.

Special Care: Remove crop debris to discourage overwintering insects and disease.

TREES & SHRUBS

Planting: Continue to plant balled and burlapped (B&B) trees and shrubs. Remember to remove the burlap from the top of the rootball where it is subject to trying out. Transplant trees and shrubs.

Irrigation: Continue to water as needed.

Pruning: Stop pruning any hedges by the first of the month, otherwise you may encourage new growth that will be killed by winter temperatures.

Special Care: Watch for bagworms on pines, junipers, cypress, and other evergreens. Pick off bagworms and destroy or place in a 5-gallon bucket to contain the bagworms but allow beneficial predators to escape.

FLOWERS

Planting: Sow hardy annual, perennial, and biennial seeds outdoors. Plant poppies, peonies, chrysanthemums, and pansies. Dig caladiums. Allow them to dry, dust with sulfur, and store in vermiculite at 50-60 F over winter.

Irrigation: Keep newly-seeded annuals, perennials, and biennials watered.

Special Care: Collect flowers and tie in bundles. Dry them upside down in order to use in arrangements. Place slug and snail bait where needed. Protect container-grown hardy plants from sudden cold snaps.

Fall Colors

Many people enjoy the assortment of colors that appear in autumn. Chlorophyll is the pigment that gives leaves their characteristic green color. As the length of night increases, chlorophyll production decreases and eventually ceases which allows the colors resulting from other pigments to be seen. For more information about fall leaf color and fall leaf drop, check out this Forest Service website:

<http://www.na.fs.fed.us/fhp/pubs/leaves/leaves.shtm>

PROPOSED By-Law Changes

The table below outlines the proposed amendments to the Florence County Master Gardeners Association By-Laws as agreed upon by the By-Laws Committee. Please review the proposed changes. Note the creation of a Volunteer Activities Committee in Article VI; Term of Office in Article IV Sections 1 Para. 3. Discussion of these proposed changes will be included on the agenda for the October meeting and voting will take place during the November meeting.

CURRENT	REVISED	COMMENTS
MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION OF FLORENCE COUNTY BY LAWS	FLORENCE COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION OF FLORENCE COUNTY	Consistency
Article I Name The name of this organization shall be Master Gardeners Association of Florence County. Said organization shall operate as a non-profit organization	Article I Name The name of this organization shall be Florence County Master Gardeners Association (“Association” or “FCMG”)	Consistency
Article II Objectives		No change
Article III Membership Membership shall consist of Certified Master Gardeners who are willing to promote Master Gardener program objectives. A Certified Master Gardener is one who has satisfactorily completed the prescribed number of hours of instruction and passed the examination administered by the Clemson Extension Master Gardener Instructor.	Article III Membership There shall be two categories of Membership in the Association. Voting Members shall consist of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Certified Master Gardeners who have paid current dues; are willing to promote Master Gardener programs and objectives; and working to complete their 40 volunteer hours. 2. Interns who have completed their instruction and passed their examination Non-Voting Members <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inactive Members have been active in the past but are not current in payment of dues and/or have not been active in completing their volunteer hours. 2. Associates who are currently taking instruction and have not taken their examination. 3. Patron Members are members of the Industry and Business who support the FCMG. Patron Membership shall be at the discretion of the President. 	Distinguish between Voting and Non-Voting members. Include students who are currently enrolled in the Master Gardener Certification program Include outside businesses who support FCMG
Article III Membership Para. 2 The Master Gardener graduate donates as lease 40 hours of service to complete the last part of the course. The volunteer activities are coordinated through the Association’s Secretary	Article III Membership Para 2 The Master Gardener graduate donates at least 40 hours of service yearly. The volunteer activities are coordinated through the Association’s Secretary	‘as lease’ corrected 40 hours of service yearly

CURRENT	REVISED	COMMENTS
Article III Membership Para 3 Any member whose dues are not paid by the date of the annual meeting shall be considered inactive and ineligible to vote	Annual dues are payable at the first meeting of the calendar year. Dues must be paid to be eligible to vote.	When dues are due. Covered under Para. 2
Article IV Officers and Elections Section 1, Para. 1 and 2		No change
Article IV Officers and Elections Section 1, Para 3 Election shall take place at the annual meeting held on the third Monday in April by ballot and a majority shall elect. The nominating committee shall present a slate of officers for election at the annual meeting. In the event there is only one candidate for any office, a voice vote can be taken.	Article IV Officers and Elections Section 1, Para. 3 Elections shall take place at the regularly scheduled meeting in April by ballot and the majority shall elect. New Officers will be introduced at the May meeting/Graduation Dinner and preside over the June meeting.	Second sentence is new.
Article IV Officers and Elections Section 2 Term of office shall be one (1) year and begin at the close of the annual meeting	Term of office shall be one (1) year and begin with the June meeting.	New officers will have the time between the April meeting and the June meeting for transition.
Article IV Officers and Elections Sections 3, 4		No change
Article V Duties of Officers Section 1		No change
Article V Duties of Officers Section 2 Vice President shall perform the duties of President when that officer is absent and perform all other duties as determined by the President and will provide by-laws to all members.	“... and will provide By-Laws to all members.”	Capitalization
Article V Duties of Officers Section 3 Secretary shall be both recording and corresponding secretary inform all members of meeting and events keeping accurate minutes of all meeting and take care of correspondence. The Secretary will keep the official copy of the By – Laws and standing committees, and an up-to-date roster of membership.	Secretary shall be both the recording and corresponding secretary; informing all members of meetings and events; keeping accurate minutes of all meetings and maintaining correspondence. The Secretary will keep the official copy of the By-Laws and standing committees and an up-to-date roster of membership.	Spelling, punctuation and grammar corrections.
Article V Duties of Officers Section 4 Treasurer shall be custodian of all funds; will collect dues of \$5 annually for each member and shall disburse money upon proper authorization. The Treasurer will advise the Secretary of members in good standing prior to the annual meeting. All funds shall be deposited in the name of Master Gardeners Association of Florence County in a bank selected by the officers. A	Article V Duties of Officer Section 4 Treasurer shall be custodian of all funds; will collect dues annually for each member and shall disburse money upon proper authorization. The Treasurer will advise the Secretary of members in good standing prior to the elections in April. All funds shall be deposited in the name of Florence County Master Gardeners Association (FCMGA) in a bank selected by the officers. A report of receipts and disbursements shall be presented at	Omit dollar amount of dues rather than amend the By-Laws each time the amount changes All funds shall be deposited in the name of Florence County Master Gardeners Association (FCGMA). Provide consistency

CURRENT	REVISED	COMMENTS
report of receipts and disbursements shall be presented at each meeting and a complete financial report given at the annual meeting. The fiscal year will run May 1 – April 30 each year with the books ready for audit at the annual meeting.	each meeting and a complete financial report given at the April meeting. The fiscal year will run May 1 – April 30 each year with the books ready for audit at the annual meeting.	
Article V Duties of Officers Section 5		No change
Article VI Committees By-Laws, Nominating, Publicity, Historian/Scrapbook, Special Projects Committees		No change
Article VI Committees Programs	Programs: Vice President, Chairperson	Vice President may serve as Chairperson or appoint an Association member to be program Chairperson.
Article VI Committees Volunteer Activities	Volunteer Activities: Chairperson to be appointed by Association Secretary	New committee established to assist members in recording volunteer hours.
Article VII Meetings Meetings shall be held at least bimonthly on the fourth Monday of the month	Monthly meetings will be held at a date, time, and location agreed upon by a majority of voting members.	Allows flexibility in meetings without amending By-Laws.
Articles VIII, IX, X, XI		No change