



**FLORENCE COUNTY
MASTER GARDENERS
ASSOCIATION**

FROM THE GROUND UP

"Sowing The Seeds of Love For Gardening"

October 2014

From Our President: Janet Bugbee

Greetings Master Gardeners,

Well fall is here and you sure can tell by the weather. I love those cooler temperatures. Remember now is the time to put some of those garden beds to rest, while this is the perfect time to plant your shrubs and trees. I hope you got your fall vegetables in this month to be enjoyed later this season, or through the winter.

I want to thank everyone that came to the last meeting and brought with them some fantastic plants to swap. I think everyone enjoyed that part. It's always nice to share your extra plants with someone else.

We had a lot of other things to talk about, along with discussing all the events coming up. I hope to see a lot of you signing up for the Farmer's Market Plant Festival. That is always a nice ending to a bountiful summer.

Some changes are taking place at the PDREC now. Some of the master gardeners are in the process of implementing projects that can take place at a "hoop" greenhouse in the future. Interested parties can contact Happy Powell (happygregg@mac.com or call 843-245-4872). She has a lot of good ideas for master gardeners to participate in if you are interested.

I want to thank Echo MacDonald for her little segment at our last meeting that pertained to Herbs. Be sure to look for a follow up coming soon, at our next meeting. There are so many events taking place

all the time that I suggest you watch your email for them. You never know when there might be something you would enjoy being a part of.

A Garden Is A Friend You Can Visit Anytime -
Anonymous

Happy Gardening,

Janet Bugbee

New this month
"Print this Newsletter"
We've added a tab at the top of the page
so you can print your newsletter .

FCMGA Meeting

Monday, Oct. 20, 6:30 PM
John Calvin Presbyterian Church
Park in the Third Loop Road lot
Enter through the double red doors

Fall Plant Sale

Pee Dee Farmers Market
October 3-5, 2014

Pecan Festival

Saturday Nov. 1

Volunteer Master Gardeners needed in the Kid Zone
Assisting children in potting their own plants
Watch for a Sign-up Genius email

FROM THE GROUND UP

FCMGA OFFICERS

President:
Janet Bugbee
319-1105
janetbugbee@gmail.com

Vice President:
Susan Lander LeBase
662-2149
slp1122@aol.com

Treasurer:
Janet Smith
2544 Kingston Dr
Florence, SC 29505

Secretary:
Christine Petrush
617-5147
christine.petrush@gmail.com

Master Gardener Coordinator:
Anthony 'Tony' Melton 661-4800 x112
amelton@clermson.edu

DUES REMINDER

The FCMGA By-Laws require a member's dues be paid in order to vote on any issue brought before the Association. Dues are \$10 and can be paid at the next meeting or mailed.

Upcoming Events

The Pee Dee Farmers Market Fall Plant Sale is October 3, 4 and 5.. Be sure to wear your name tag or Master Gardener T-shirt. You only have to sign up for an hour at the booth which leaves you plenty of time to visit the vendors. If you haven't done this before, I can tell you from experience it's quite rewarding. We have reference books there to help you. Janet needs help with set-up and tear-down. Please contact her directly if you are able to assist.

What would you do if you had access to a hoop house? The Master Gardeners have been given use of a Hoop House at PDREC. If you'd like to try a project of your own or maybe join some of the others in their project, please contact Happy Powell happygregg@mac.com



Bog Gardens

On September 11, 5 of our Master Gardeners attended a class in Bog Gardens at Moore Farms. We learned about natural and man-made bogs; what types of plants live in bogs including the carnivorous Venus Flytrap; and how to build our own bog garden. Following the presentation, the class went outside and each of us planted our own bog garden.



FROM THE GROUND UP

24th Annual SC Midlands Master Gardener Association Symposium

October 23, 2014; 8:00am to 4:30 ;m

Columbia Conference Center

169 Laurelhurst Avenue

Columbia, SC 29210

Jenks Farmer and Yancey McLeod are the Featured Speakers for the “Gateway to Gardening – Tomorrow and Beyond” Garden Symposium

Symposium fee covers admission to all presentations, demonstrations, plant and garden art vendor sales, buffet lunch, morning refreshments, handouts, silent auction and door prizes.

For detailed information and registration form visit www.scmnga.org

Moore Farms Botanical Gardens

<http://www.moorefarmsbg.org/>

Friday, October 17 and Saturday, October 18

Color Fall Plant Sale

\$15 registration includes lunch served from 11:30 -3:00

Thursday, October 23 9:30 – 2:00

Bulbs, Bulbs, Bulbs

\$25 registration

Thursday, October 30 9:30 –Noon

Spooky Species

\$20 Registration

Riverbanks Botanical Garden

Saturday, October 18 9:30 – 11:30 Garden Photography

Saturday, October 25 10:00 – 11:00 Terrarium Workshop

Brookgreen Gardens

Wednesday, October 22 at 3:00 and Thursday, October 23 at 11:00

Andrea Wulf talk “Founding Gardeners”

\$15 members and \$20 regular

Cypress Gardens

October 24 and 25, 7:30 – 11: Halloween in the Swamp

Kalmia Gardens

Thursday, October 16, 6:30 – 8:30

Wine Tasting Under the Stars

\$30 members and \$35 non-members

FROM THE GROUND UP

Guidelines for the Raised Beds at PDREC. We have created a few simple guidelines and a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) page to clarify the use of the raised beds at PDREC. The beds will be reassigned in October. If you are interested in creating a garden in one of the raised beds at PDREC, take the time to read the Guidelines and FAQ. You might also want to look at the raised beds. PDREC is open Monday through Friday from 8 to 4:30. The September 9 Field Day is an excellent opportunity to visit.

Guidelines for Master Gardener garden areas at PDREC

1. Show respect to all living things, plants and people.
2. Share the benefits, including flowers, vegetables, and seeds, of gardening with others.
3. Clean up any debris, weeds, etc, before you leave.
4. Leave the BS on the compost pile.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Who can be a part of the group working the Master Gardener area?

A. Anyone who has completed the Clemson Master Gardener Program and is certified or working to complete their certification hours can be a part of the groups.

Q. What areas are covered?

A. The areas surrounding the fenced garden along with the raised beds are the responsibility of the FCMGA. PDREC welcomes the MG's assistance in maintaining all the garden areas.

Q. How do I get a bed at PDREC?

A. At the October MG meeting, groups can request a raised bed for the following 12 months. MGs who worked a bed last year will have the first option to keep that bed.

Q. Does it have to be a group?

A. Yes. The beds require attention weekly at the least. A group can share the responsibility and provide coverage during vacations, a change in work hours, illness etc. A Master Gardener can be in more than one group.

Q. Why does the group need to submit a garden plan?

A. The beds are meant to be educational and groups need to show how their bed meets that requirement. We want to see a diversity in the usage of the beds

Q. When can our group start?

A. As soon as your plan has been reviewed by the president, the group can begin preparing the bed for planting.

Q. What about the plants already in the bed?

A. Try to relocate existing perennials. Ask the previous MGs of that bed, other MGs if they want them for their beds or transplant them to an unused MG area. Do not plant them in another group's bed

Q. Who provides the funding for the plants and other expenses of the bed?

A. All monies spent on your raised bed should be considered as a donation. FCMGA cannot reimburse expenses.

Q. How should plants be labeled?

A. These beds are educational. We expect both children and adults to be attracted to them and to walk through the garden. All plants should be labeled for proper identification.

Q. What if we have other questions?

A. For consistency, please bring your questions to the president for resolution.

Q. What if our group needs help maintaining our bed?

A. Situations change. If your group needs help with their bed, let the president know.

Send comments or suggestions to: Happy Porter Powell happygregg@mac.com or Susan Lander LeBase slp1122@aol.com or Christine Petrush Christine.petrush@gmail.com Thank you.

FROM THE GROUND UP



This photo shows a few creative uses for your pumpkin this year.

October in the Garden

MONTHLY TO DO LIST • 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 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. Fertilize cool-season grasses about one month after seeding, using 16-4-8 fertilizer at the rate of 12-15 lbs. Per 1000 sq. ft. • **Irrigation:** Water warm-season lawns until it is 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, cloves, cabbage, broccoli, collards, and cauliflower. Sow seeds of turnips and radishes. Plant strawberries. Spinach planted the 1-3 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-&-burlapped trees and shrubs. Remember to loosen the burlap at the top after planting. Transplant trees and shrubs.

•**Fertilizing:** Trees with 16-4-8 or 10-10-10 fertilizer.

•**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 spray with *Bacillus Thuringiensis*.

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