



FROM THE GROUND UP

FLORENCE COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS

NEWSLETTER

September 2013

"Sowing The Seeds Of Love For Gardening"

From Our Co-President:

Greetings fellow Master Gardeners. My name is Bill Duncan and Tom Pantos and I are serving as leaders of the Florence County Master Gardeners Association. I'm really more of an assistant to Tom since I'm new at being a Master Gardener and have a lot to learn. Hopefully all of you more experienced members will help other newer members and me get adapted to being more informed and helpful to those seeking information and guidance concerning their yards and gardens.

Tom and I are both looking forward to serving all of you this year. There are several fall events coming up soon. The Pee Dee Fall Plant & Flower Festival is October 4-6 at the Pee Dee State Farmers Market. Also, on October 21, we will meet at the Pee Dee Research and Education Center (Pee Dee REC) greenhouse off Pocket Road to plant cuttings for our annual plant sale in conjunction with the Home & Garden Workshops.

Our first meeting will be on Monday, September 16 at 6:30 PM at John Calvin Presbyterian Church. The church is on the corner of Marsh Avenue and 3rd Loop Road and the meeting room faces 3rd Loop. I will be presenting a short program on the medicinal uses of plants. Please make plans to attend and remind your fellow Master Gardeners to attend as well. Hope to see you there!

Happy Gardening,
Bill Duncan
Co-President



Eastern Tiger Swallowtail on
Buttonbush



Monarch caterpillar on
Butterfly Milkweed

FLORENCE COUNTY MASTER GARDENER OFFICERS:

Co-Presidents:
Tom Pantos 317-1730
mtp@earthlink.net

Bill Duncan 662-7635
wbduncan@hotmail.com

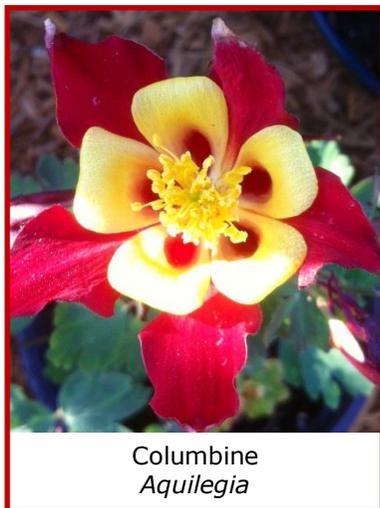
Co-Vice Presidents:
Susan Lander LeBase 662-2149
slp1122@aol.com

Christine Petrush 617-5147
ccp1@sc.rr.com

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

Secretary:
Terasa Young 269-5904
terasa@clermson.edu

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



Quotation Corner

"Plants give us oxygen for the lungs and for the soul."

~Linda Solegato



SEPTEMBER MEETING

It is time for monthly meetings to resume. Our next meeting is scheduled for September 16 at 6:30 PM at John Calvin Presbyterian Church. Co-President Bill Duncan will give a program on the medicinal uses of plants.

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. Master Gardeners are needed to cover all of these hours as well as setup on Thursday and cleanup on Sunday. Please sign up for time slots using [Sign Up Genius](#).

Moore Farms Botanical Garden

Growing Healthy: Making fall delicious and beautiful!
Thursday, September 5
9:30 AM - 2:00 PM
Registration: \$20 per person

Everyday Concepts of Garden Photography
Thursday, September 12 from 1:00 PM - 6:00 PM OR
Friday, September 13 from 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Registration: \$40 per person

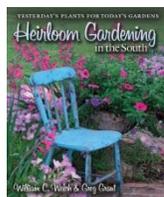
The Greatness of Grasses Short Course
Friday, September 19
9:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Registration: \$15 per person

Find out more at www.moorefarmsbg.org

South Carolina Midlands Master Gardener Symposium

The South Carolina Midlands Master Gardeners Association is hosting a Fall Garden Symposium on Thursday, October 17 from 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM at the Columbia Conference Center in Columbia. They have lined up excellent speakers including Doug Tallamy and Allan Armitage. More information including registration can be found on their website scmmga.org.

Reading Corner



Would you like to know more about Heirloom Gardening? *Heirloom Gardening in the South - Yesterday's Plants for Today's Gardens* has been described as a masterful compilation of many years of saving, growing, and educating others on the value of heirloom plants. ISBN: 9781603442138

September in the Garden

GENERAL

Keep spent blooms cut off.
Prepare garden soil for fall planting.
Divide and transplant spring-flowering perennials.
Apply slow-acting fertilizer to perennials beds.
Aerate lawns if needed.
Harvest herbs to dry for winter and freeze chives.
Weed, water, and clean debris from flower beds and shrubs as needed.
Pinch back tall-growing plants.
Apply phosphorus sauce to flower beds.
Condition soil of flower beds by using compost.
Divide ground covers and perennial ornamental grasses.
About two months after gladiolus finish blooming, they should be mature enough to dig, cure, and store.

LAWNS

Planting: Lay sod where needed.
Fertilizing: Have your soil analyzed. A fall application of lime may be beneficial, if indicated by soil analysis.
Mowing: Adjust blades to raise fall-cutting height.
Irrigation: Typically, lawns need 1 inch of water per week during the fall in the event that rainfall is insufficient. Please note the nitrogen containing fertilizer should NOT be used after August 15.
Special Care: Apply a preemergence herbicide to control winter annual weeds when nighttime lows reach 55-60° for four consecutive nights.

VEGETABLES & FRUITS

Planting: Continue planting cool-season vegetables. Consult the [Planning a Garden Fact Sheet](#) for crop specific planting dates. Plant perennial herbs and nasturtiums.
Fertilizing: Fertilize vegetables as needed keeping in mind a soil test is always the best method for determining fertilization needs. Prepare strawberry beds.
Irrigation: Maintain watering schedule of at least 1 inch every three days in sandy soil, as long as plants are producing. Keep strawberries well watered when plants are set, during dry periods following setting, and when fruit buds are forming.
Special care: Yellowed leaves on blueberries may indicate an iron deficiency or a pH problem. Cure pumpkins and other winter squash

TREES & SHRUBS

Planting: Plant balled and burlapped (B&B) or container-grown trees and shrubs. Be sure to plant at the correct depth. Azalea cuttings should be taken as semi-hardwood cuttings which usually corresponds to mid-July through early September.
Irrigation: Keep berry-producing ornamentals well-watered to prevent berry loss.
Pruning: Remove dead and diseased wood from trees and shrubs.
Special Care: Check azaleas for lacebugs, caterpillars, and scale. Treat accordingly.

FLOWERS

Planting: Plant potted mums for color. Plant container-grown roses. Sow seed for cold-hardy annuals. If not previously done, lift overcrowded bearded irises. Discard diseased or leafless sections, trim foliage to 6-inch fan and replant irises to 1-3-inch depth.
Fertilizing: Feed annuals with water-soluble fertilizer. Apply a slow-release fertilizer over newly-planted ground cover and ornamental grass. Do not feed roses after September 15th.
Special Care: Remove all dead and diseased plants, blooms, and foliage. Rake up and dispose of leaves under roses for disease control.