



Brunswick County Master Gardener Volunteer Association

Upcoming Events...

We host a plant clinic **every Wednesday** at the **Southport Farmers Market from 9-12**. A great chance to meet people and assist them with their problems. Also, it's a beautiful place under a huge oak tree!

Oct 16, 17 & 18th Plant Sale

Dec 10th Christmas Party

Upcoming Speakers

Oct 23rd Toby Bost

Nov. 20th updates by horticulture staff

Jan. 22nd Dr Bruce Williams

Feb. 26th Lisa Wimpfheimer Tryon Palace

March 26th Jim LeTendre Tomato Growing

April 23rd Kent Kolbe NC DOT Landscape

May 28th Anne Pendred Photography

June 25th Graduation/Social

July 23rd Keith Baldwin NC A&T Soils and Plant Growth

From the Presidents Desk ...

Shirley wants to thank EVERYONE who volunteered to help make the 2008 Master Gardener Conference the great success it was. It could not have been accomplished without your many volunteer hours. Mother Nature even cooperated and gave us perfect weather. From the facilities to the guest speakers, everything was perfect.

Remember the plant sale October 16, 17 and 18. Charlie will be giving information regarding times volunteers are needed.

Cathie Rod has agreed to become the Corresponding Secretary for the BCMGVA. She will be sending cards to MG members

who are ill or have had a death in the immediate family. Let me or Charlie know such information and we will pass this on to Cathie. I also want to thank Peggy Meinzer for fulfilling this duty in the past.

If you are interested in serving as a BCMGVA officer, contact a member of the nominating committee. They are Dominique Loewenstein, Joe Loughlin or Cathie Rod.

I hope everyone is ready for fall gardening. Now is the time to plant those shrubs you have wanted. Remember the plant sale is a great spot to do some shopping.

See you at the October membership meeting. **There may be something different at this meeting so plan on attending.**

In Remembrance

It is with regret that I have to announce that we have lost two of our members in the past couple of weeks. Happy McCrary and Maureen More have gone to a better place where there are no weeds in the garden and all the tomato plants grow the best tomatoes ever.

Happy was in the class of 2007 and Maureen was a graduate of the class of 2008. Take a moment and wish them Good speed and a prayer for their families. This is the hardest part of my job when I have to make these types of announcements.

**Will we see you at the October Meeting
on the 23rd at 9:00 am ?**

Charlie's message...

The Conference was A TREMENDOUS success. I received many compliments on the entire conference from speakers, to facilities, tours, vendors and even the food. Each and every one of you needs to give yourself a large pat on the back for "A job well done". Let's not forget what our leaders, Al Hight and David Barkley did to help insure the success of the conference. Their efforts were way over and above what is required. We all owe a debt of gratitude to our President, Shirley, who really make all this possible. I know there were many others of you that put in many hours and lots of worry and panic at times and to those, I really want to thank you for all you accomplished. The folks that attended will not soon forget their visit to our lovely County.

Now that the conference is past history, it's time to plan your schedule for the upcoming Plant Sale. Oct. 16, 17 and 18. We need help on all shifts for all three days. If you have not signed up and can help, please call me and get scheduled. Thank heaven; this is the last big function of the year except for the Holiday Party. Please give me a call or e-mail me for working on the Plant Sale.

Last but surely not least, Al Hight wants to provide a lunch for the Association in appreciation for the Association's efforts on behalf of the Cooperative Extension. The Extension staff will provide a Lasagna dinner with salad and desert on October. 23rd right after the monthly meeting. As the staff will be preparing the food, it is important that we know how many people will be attending. Please call either Betty or me and let us know if you are planning on joining us. This action is known as "RSVP". You will be receiving a postcard invitation to this event also. We will even have chicken and vegetable lasagna!!!! How's that for variety!!!



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Extension Horticulture Agent
Brunswick County Cooperative Extension Service
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Extension Horticulture Agent
Brunswick County Cooperative Extension
Service
October 2, 2008

Many gardeners like to have a list of things to do for the start of each month. Hopefully they will be able to check off the list before the month is up and this will provide them with a sense of accomplishment. Still, others need to have a list just to remind them of gardening things to do before the weather sets in and it is too late. Whatever the reasons you need to tack a list to the refrigerator as a reminder, I offer these suggestions for things to do this month.

Gardening Tips for October

- Apply the appropriate pre-emergent herbicide(s) to all plant beds and turf areas, to avoid the cool season weeds. You may need to do post emergent herbicides if the weeds have already germinated.
- Check your azaleas for lace bug damage. Look for specks on the underneath sides of the foliage. They will perform better without the lace bugs!
- No foliage! Could be Azalea Redheaded Caterpillars have eaten all the foliage off your azaleas. Find them and shake them off the plant or shoot them down with a stream of water.
- Overseeding your bermudagrass lawn with annual rye is an option for Bermudagrass lawns only. Avoid overseeding Centipedegrass with rye since it will interfere with next season's growth.
- Take a look at how the trees are growing as you are admiring the fall foliage. The leaves will soon be falling and it is a good time to evaluate the health of the tree. One of the best indicators of a sick tree is tip dieback.
- Prepare beds or natural areas for spring flowering bulbs to be planted later on this fall.
- Buy and store bulbs in a cool dry place. Wait until December to plant them though.
- October is a good time to divide and transplant spring- blooming perennials. The general rule is to divide spring-blooming perennials in the fall and divide fall-blooming perennials in the spring. Some perennials can be divided anytime.
- It is hard to resist doing a lot of pruning when you are cleaning up in the fall, but now is not the best time to do major pruning. You can remove 10 percent or less of a plant's canopy but resist removing more as we move into fall. Excessive pruning now can reduce winter hardiness on marginal plants. Even if winter injury isn't a problem, the plants will not grow new leaves and shoots until next spring. The best time of the year to do major pruning on overgrown foundation shrubs is in late March.
- Start taking cuttings of your annual plants to bring indoors for the winter.
- Now is a good time to remove any dead plants.
- Several caterpillars appear in the fall. Unless they are creating a problem with their droppings, caterpillars eating deciduous tree leaves do not require action on your part. Losing leaves this time of the year isn't that much of a problem. The leaves are going to fall anyway in another month. If a tree defoliates now, it should come back next spring.

2008 Dues Notice

Dues are payable by January 1 each year.

(But we will accept them now!) (Hint! Give us a twenty and forget it for 4 years)

Make checks payable to: Brunswick County Master Gardener Volunteer Association (BCMGVA)
\$5.00 per Individual

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Mail checks to: **Allen Smith**

4515 Fieldstone Cir SE
Southport, NC 28461

NAMETAG; you have earned it, now wear it.
We would all like to know your name.

If you have an item for the newsletter, submit it to Joe Loughlin (jloughlin@ec.rr.com)

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