



The “Show-Me” Gardener

APRIL 2024

Webster Groves Garden Club

www.mgcwg.org

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president@mgcwg.org

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WGGC Plant Sale

April 25 - 27, 2024

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Dorothy Lockard, our volunteer coordinator, with the Plant Sale committee is reaching out for volunteers to join in the fun. We have good processes and leaders for every task needed to pull it off, now just looking for additional willing hands to join us.

We all find the plant sale ends up being a learning experience... picking up something about the plants we're digging or potting or selling.

Contact Dorothy Lockard, 314.369.7528

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- **April 2024:** Digs, potting, labeling, and pricing scheduled based on plants coming out of the ground and cooperative weather.
- **Set-Up Day, Thursday April 25:** Numerous set-up tasks beginning and ending at different times of the day.
- **Full Day Sale, Friday April 26:** 8am - 6pm - working in shifts, assisting customers, refreshing inventory on tables, check-out, running carts of plants to customer cars as necessary.
- **Half-Day Sale, Saturday April 27:** 8am - 12pm (same as Friday, then limited clean-up duties)

Other

Plant Sale

Plant-Sale@mgcwg.org

Turn Around Garden

Turn-Around-

Garden@mgcwg.org

Facebook

<https://m.facebook.com/WebsterGrovesGardenClub>

Unsubscribe

Unsubscribe@mgcwg.org

PRE-EVENT VOLUNTEER AT FRANK'S GARAGE

The month of April is when we dig, pot, label, price and foster all the plants sold for the WGGC plant sale, over 2000 last year. As a guideline we keep the amount of time for a single task to 2 hours, so our treasured volunteers feel able to give multiple times during the month.

The sale itself is at Webster Groves Recreation Center, Thursday April 25, Set-up Day (8:30 am-3ish), April 26 the Full Day sale (8 am-6 pm), and April 27 a Half Day starting at 8 am and ending when we sell out or noon, whichever occurs sooner. We work in shifts for many tasks. If you can help with digging, potting, labeling, or working at the sale, please email Dorothy Lockard at dglockard2@gmail.com.

HELP SPREAD THE WORD

POST A YARD SIGN

If you are willing to put a plant sale sign in your yard or ask a neighbor if they would, please contact Dick Lockard at ralockard2@gmail.com to arrange to pick up a sign to be placed in April.

DONATE PLASTIC POTS

if you have any extra clean plastic pots 4 - 6 inches wide, please contact Frank Peterson at fpeters@swbell.net.

Gardener's Corner – April 2024

(aka Carol's corner)

Spring has sprung, as they say. It's time to get busy in the garden. So to get started, below are some tips and tasks from the **Missouri Botanical Garden (MBG)**.

You can plant trees and shrubs as soon as you can work the soil. Some of those best planted in spring are butterfly bush (Buddleia), dogwood (Cornus), rose of Sharon (Hibiscus), black gum (Nyssa), redbud (Cercis), Magnolia, tulip poplar (Liriodendron), birch (Betula), Ginkgo, hawthorn and most oaks (Quercus). Check for Eastern tent caterpillars which may be in the forks of tree branches.

MBG also suggests if you grow roses, you can fertilize them with a balanced formulation when they have about 2 inches of new growth. Also, remove winter mulch from roses and work in some compost into the soil. Prune the dead and weak wood from broadleaf evergreens. Evergreens and deciduous hedges can be pruned now but wait on boxwoods until after the last average frost date, April 15. Weigela, Viburnum, Rhododendron, and Lilacs should be pruned after they finish flowering.

Now is the time to transplant hardy annuals. Perennials such as Virginia bluebells can be transplanted after they bloom but prior to the foliage disappearing. Easter lilies can be transplanted about 2-3 inches deeper than they grew in the pot once they finish blooming. In late April, you can start planting summer bulbs such as caladiums, gladioli, and cannas.

For those relatively new to gardening, there is a timely article about creating a garden in the latest issue of **Garden Design**. You can find *How to Build a Flower Garden in 3 Steps* here: https://www.gardendesign.com/how-to/start-a-flower-garden.html?utm_source=article-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Flower-Garden-101-3-28-24#google_vignette

Hostas are very popular in the garden--they grow in shade, come in many varieties and are green and lush throughout much of the hot summer season. While the article focuses on growing in Minnesota, many good tips are here on growing these plants including when and how to divide them and their overall care. They can be found on the **University of Minnesota Extension's** website: <https://extension.umn.edu/flowers/growing-hostas-minnesota>.

Tuesday, April 23rd is the annual Pear Buy Back! Day sponsored by the **Missouri Invasive Plant Council** in partnership with **Forest ReLeaf** and the **Missouri Department of Conservation**. The partnership will host "buyback" events in locations around the state. Show a photo of a cut-down Callery pear from your property and you will receive a free native tree when you register from March 15 to April 15 at the following site: <https://moinvasives.org/2024/01/12/callery-pear-buyback-2024/> While it looks like the St. Louis site is sold out, there are some relatively close sites where you still may be able to participate.

Some virtual programs of interest in April are the following:

Wednesday, April 3 – noon to 1:00 p.m. K-State Garden Hour Webinar Series: Companion Plants in Your Garden. Check for additional programs and register at: https://ksu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_IXIjvtedRu-pvfFA6Kzvxw#/registration

Saturday, April 20 – 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Flowers and Their Meanings (Online Lecture) offered by the **US Botanic Garden** and presented by Karen Azoulay, author. Register at: <https://app.livestorm.co/u-s-botanic-garden/flowers-and-their-meanings-online-lecture?s=28eac601-4d59-4859-a2d6-93fa861b079a>

BUSINESS NOTE

Membership

2024 membership dues are \$15 per person or \$20 per family. If you have not yet renewed for 2024, please make your check payable to "Webster Groves Garden Club." and send to Steve Seele, 223 Rosemont Ave, St. Louis, MO 63119.

New Board Members

Tim Arnold
Doug Mager
Inga Mockapetris
Rob Telker