



The "Show-Me" Gardener

MAY 2024

Webster Groves Garden Club

www.mgcwg.org

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The Diblik Garden in Spring bloom. Courtesy of SLCC - Meramec

ANOTHER PLANT SALE SUCCESS!

With a dedicated crew our Plant Sale was Outstanding!!! In addition to providing us all our own teachable moments about the plants we were digging, potting and selling, it provided a warm camaraderie and pride in our shared achievement.

So here are 3 metrics that say a lot:

1-most volunteers to participate, 71 vs 52 last year

2- most new members to join at the Plant Sale, 42 vs 19 last year

3- most net revenue, can't tell you yet, the numbers are being reviewed by the Board.

Congratulations to all !!!

Dorothy Lockard

Volunteer Coordinator

Attached are photos of two raffle winners of plants donated by Dave and Joan Poos.



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

YOUR 2024 MEMBERSHIP DUES... OVER DUE?

We love having you as a member of the Webster Groves Garden Club and hope that you were able to enjoy our April plant sale. In mid-May, our program will be a tour of the St. Louis Community College Garden - Meramec Campus for members only and we will include more information in our newsletter. Details below.

If you've already paid your 2024 dues, we thank you, and if you haven't yet, please make your check payable to "Webster Groves Garden Club." and send to Steve Seele, 223 Rosemont Ave, St. Louis, MO 63119. And if you have any questions, please contact - Dorothy Lockard, 314.369.7528

SATURDAY MAY 18, 2024 GARDEN TOUR ST. LOUIS COMMUNITY COLLEGE MERAMEC CAMPUS

Join us for a walking tour of the St. Louis Community College Meramec Campus Garden on Saturday, May 18th at 10 a.m. The tour will last approximately 1 hour and will be led by Joe Enger (Meramec Garden Operations). The free tour will be followed by an optional "Dutch" group lunch at Llywelyn's in Webster Groves. Joe Enger plans on attending the lunch and can continue to discuss any gardening questions the group might have.

"The Garden Classroom at Meramec is a living laboratory for students and a botanical garden for the STLCC community. An extensive tree collection and ten acres of native, woodland and ornamental gardens create a vibrant setting for hands-on-learning and the enjoyment of nature." (<https://stlcc.edu/programs-academics/pathways/s-t-e-m/horticulture/gardens.aspx>)

Please RSVP by clicking here <https://forms.gle/QigiueqNXcKfGzDk7> by Wednesday, May 15th if you plan on going on the tour and if you plan on attending lunch.

MONDAY JUNE 17, 2024 PICNIC DINNER AND ICE CREAM SOCIAL/DESSERT BAR

The WGGC is celebrating our successful plant sale by hosting a garden tour, picnic with an Ice Cream Social and Dessert Bar on Monday evening, June 17th. Dave and Joan Poos' have graciously offered their fabulous garden as the venue. The event will start at 5:30 p.m. Members are invited to bring their picnic dinner and their chair(s) to the garden, and ice cream/desserts, iced tea and water will be provided. This event acknowledges those who contributed to the plant sale (workers and donors) and welcomes all our new and continuing members.

UPCOMING ST LOUIS EVENTS

May 4 –10:30 – 11:45a.m. and 2 – 5p.m.: **EcoTones Concerts: *The Urban Prairie @ Tower Grove Park's Nee Kee Nee* - Tower Grove Park's Nee Kee Nee**

EcoTones Concerts presents imaginative outdoor performances sited in local public nature spaces, exploring connections between humans and the natural world. This event

includes a free* family event for families with children ages 0-7 from 10:30-11:45 am; and an All-Ages Ticketed Event 2:00-5:00 pm.

Registration Required: <https://www.showtix4u.com/event-details/83008>

May 29 – July 31 7p.m.: **Whitaker Music Festival – Missouri Botanical Gardens**

The open-air Whitaker Music Festival presents free Wednesday evening concerts under the stars every summer in the Missouri Botanical Garden. To date, more than one million people have participated in this cherished St. Louis summer tradition.

More details to be found here: <https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/events-classes/signature-events/whitaker-music-festival>.

June 22 – 23, 2024 9a.m. -5p.m. each day: **2024 Pond-O-Rama – Self Guided Tour**

This year marks the 24th-annual pond tour for the Water Garden Society. It is the premier event and fundraiser for SLWGS, with proceeds benefitting SLWGS & The Lily Ponds in Forest Park. Experience the most beautiful, private water gardens and features throughout the St. Louis Metro on this self-guided tour. Ticket booklets featuring information about, maps to, and profiles of the 24 spectacular water gardens on this year's tour are available for purchase using the links below. *Advanced purchase encouraged.*

Register at <https://slwgs.org/event/pond-o-rama-2024/>

GARDENER'S CORNER – MAY 2024

(aka Carol's corner)

Cicadas are coming! Cicadas are coming! And they should be here any day now. To find out more about them and their impact in Missouri, read this article from the **University of Missouri Extension (MU Extension)** service:

<https://extension.missouri.edu/news/billions-of-cicadas-bring-buzzy-magic-to-missouri-in-2024>. **MU Extension** even points you to a map that will let you report and follow the cicadas' emergence: <https://cicadasafari.org/> More about their effect on trees and plants from the **Missouri Department of Conservation**, <https://mdc.mo.gov/trees-plants/diseases-pests/periodical-cicadas>

While we're waiting for the hoards, here are some tips and tasks from the **Missouri Botanical Garden (MBG)**. Azaleas should be fertilized after blooming with an acid slow-release fertilizer if soil test indicates. Scotch and Mugo pines should be monitored for pine sawfly. Pines and junipers should be checked for tip blight, some types of which are common in St Louis. Prune infected branches with Kabatina blight and spray fungicide on those branches with Sphaeropsis tip blight early this month. Destroy eastern tent caterpillars and forest tent caterpillars after pruning them off.

This is also the time to watch for boxwood leaf miner and psyllid. Again, prune affected branches and dispose of leaves before adults emerge. Rose slugs (Hymenoptera) may be feeding on your roses this month. Damage will first show as tan spots, and as the larvae grow, holes will appear as the damage becomes heavier. Euonymus and other rose family shrubs may become infected with crown galls. Prune out infected branches, being sure to sterilize equipment after each cut, and/or destroy the infected plant.

As for annuals and perennials, don't prematurely remove spring bulb foliage or next year's flower production will decline. Allow the foliage to die down naturally. Once

foliage has died, bulbs can be moved or divided as needed. Begin planting non-hardy bulbs such as gladiolus, caladiums, dahlias, cannas, and elephant ears as the ground warms and night temperatures consistently rise to 50°F or higher.

You can begin planting warm-season annuals around Mother's Day. Indoor plants can safely be moved outdoors around the same time and placed in bright, indirect light or direct morning sun. Some perennials such as penstemon, monarda and asters can be pruned to keep them from falling over before they bloom.

If you are looking to make some design changes, **Garden Design** has an interesting article about creating English Gardens. There are many ideas here that can be incorporated into your existing gardens to make them even more exciting.

Find it at: <https://www.gardendesign.com/english/>

Some virtual programs of interest in May are the following:

Tuesday, May 7 – 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. *Summer Crops and Cover Crops* presented by **Seed St. Louis** through the **St. Louis County Public Library**. Discover how to beat the heat of summer gardening and learn techniques that will keep your tomatoes and other summer crops flourishing.

Register at: <https://slcl.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails?EventId=362278>

Thursday, May 9 – 11:00 a.m. – 12 p.m. **Smithsonian Garden's Garden Talk** *Cultivating Wakandan Resilience: Afrofuturism & Gardening* 11:00 a.m. with speaker: **Colah B. Tawkin**. In this exciting webinar, we explore the fascinating intersection of Afrofuturism and gardening, drawing inspiration from the Afrofuturistic vision portrayed in Marvel's *Black Panther*.

Register at: https://smithsonian.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_cFP51W1XQoapsyLA9v-aGA#/registration