

# The Columbia Underground

Newsletter from the Columbia Garden Club  
A century club, established in 1919  
Member of National Garden Club  
Federated Garden Clubs of Missouri  
Central District



April,  
2023

Editor: Melissa Kouba

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## Calendar

Year-long native garden calendar:

<https://grownative.org/learn/native-landscape-care-calendar/>

**April 1:** Seasonal events return at Missouri Botanical Garden

**April 10**-CGC meeting begins with program at Shelter Garden, a tour followed by refreshments at the church hall

**April 14**-Central District Meeting in Fortuna; carpool planning at CGC meeting

**April 17-20** Federated Garden Clubs of MO State Convention, St. Louis, MO.

**April 27 and 28**- 9am-4pm plant sales at Ag building University of Missouri

**April 28-29** CGC Plant and Bake Sale

**May 2- Oct 15:** Chihuly in the Garden (Missouri Botanical Garden)

### Membership form

If you are interested in joining Columbia Garden Club, complete the information below and mail it to:

Carolyn Oates, 6302 S. Old Village Road, Columbia, MO, 65203. Include a \$25 check payable to "Columbia Garden Club."

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred phone: (circle) cell or home \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ I approve of the above information being printed in the annual club yearbook.

For questions about membership, feel free to contact Linda Antal at 573-819-4502 or lga4588@yahoo.com

## A note from President Betty:

Hello Everyone,

April is almost on us, and a busy month it will be! We'll start on April 10 with a guided tour of Shelter Gardens. Who knows what will be blooming, but it will surely be something beautiful! When we made our plans, we were hoping for tulips. After the tour we will make our way back to the church for refreshments and business.

I am not having luck getting homes for the Garden Tour in June. I am very sad to think that we are going to let that go. We have garden tours for several reasons:

For fun and fellowship (It is always a highlight of the year!)

Educational value

Promote civic beauty

To be rated a Purple Ribbon Club

To get ideas for your own gardens

Columbia has been a Purple Ribbon Club for many years. There are several requirements, and one is that you have a Small Standard or Standard Flower Show and sponsor a 5-member garden tour.

It may be that being rated as a Purple Ribbon Club isn't important to our members now. That is ok (Although it will feel awfully bad to lose the rating on my watch!) It's only been 2 years since my yard was on the tour, so I'm afraid you'll be bored, but I'll do it again. It is a good incentive to get things cleaned up early. Please consider letting us visit your yard. It's not about everything being perfect. It's just about sharing your gardens and even yourself.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the April 14 District meeting. We'll talk about carpools at the April meeting.

Betty



# March CGC meeting

The Columbia Garden Club met at 1 p.m. on March 13, 2023 with Diana Cooksey calling the meeting to order. Mary Nesladek gave the inspiration: "The only thing different about having a green thumb is that you don't get discouraged by failure. When something doesn't work, you try again" by Beth Weidner. We recognized March birthdays: Carolyn Doyle, Melissa Kouba, Diane Linneman, Marie Pasley, and Leigh Speichinger. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved by Carolyn Doyle and seconded by Rita Gerke. Carolyn Oates, treasurer, reported the checking account balance is \$12,656.33. We still have an outstanding check of \$500 to the University of Missouri for the scholarship in the Spring of 2022. Carolyn and Rita are working on getting this resolved.

Committee Reports: Barb Rothenberger reported that we will meet at The Bluffs on March 16 to make floral arrangements with green carnations with the residents. Clean-Up Columbia will be Saturday, April 15 at 9 a.m. We will meet in the Park DeVille area; details available at the April meeting. Members will meet on March 23 from 11-1 at the Food Bank to volunteer. Members need to volunteer their garden for the June tour. Karen Blackmore mentioned that we need to think of worthwhile projects since we have a surplus of money. Marie Pasley said another thought is to put more funds into the projects that we already have in place. The FGCM Spring District Meeting is Friday, April 14 in Fortuna. You need to pay \$15 to Carolyn Oates by March 23. Each person attending needs to register on-line for this event; Betty Connelly can help you get registered. Carpools will be arranged for this at the April meeting. The FGC is sponsoring a tour to Niagara Falls from July 9-14 at a cost of \$1,399. A flyer with details will be emailed to everyone.

Plant Sale: Friday, April 28 from noon to 4 p.m. will be the set-up time. Plant Sale is Saturday, April 29 from 9-2. Dig up your garden plants about a week ahead of time so roots get established and plants look healthy. Do not price your plants. Put labels on plants, including pictures when possible. Bring any extra pots you have to the April meeting to share with others. We are going to use colored popsicle sticks to differentiate the various prices on plants; bring any colored popsicle sticks you have to the April meeting. We will also have a bake sale; do not price those items. We will have a white elephant sale; do price your items.

Design Workshop: After some delicious snacks, Carolyn Doyle, Karen Blackmore, Marie Pasley, and Alice Havard presented tips for designs for the flower show on May 20 with a theme of "Summer Camp." Everyone got a schedule; this is your "guide" for the show. Pay attention to the sizes given in the schedule and plan accordingly and pay attention to scale. Various design ideas were presented. When using fresh materials, remember that those cannot be colored or dried. When dried materials can be used, those can be colored materials. Members then took home materials to practice making designs.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Mary Nesladek

Warm Season  
**PLANT SALE**

**THURSDAY APRIL 27TH  
TO FRIDAY APRIL 28TH**

**9:00 AM TO 4:00 PM**

**IN THE AGRICULTURE  
BUILDING**

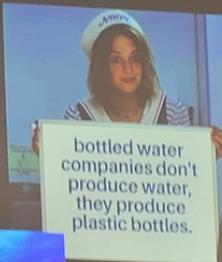
**TOMATOES, HERBS, VEGGIES,  
ANNUALS & PERENNIALS!**



# You may be Interested:

## Things we can do right now

- Inform ourselves & others
- Community Science data programs
- Corporate Advocacy
- Legislative Advocacy



Mizzou Botanic Garden presents  
**2023 Brown Bag Seminar Series**

Please join Mizzou Botanic Garden for our inaugural brown bag seminar series featuring presentations by speakers on current environmental topics. The series will lead up to MEBG's 2023 Jacquelyn Jones Lecture in September.

**The Ecological Imperative to Move Beyond Plastics**  
March 16 • 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Bottle Lounge on the first floor of the Memorial Union on the MU Campus  
Jenaeane Evans Dwyer a wildlife ecologist who co-founded the Missouri River Bird Observatory (MRBO), a nonprofit organization dedicated to conservation of Missouri's migratory and resident birds via science, education and advocacy. As an affiliate organization of the National Audubon Society, one of Dwyer's major emphases is wildlife education to create the next generation of birders and advocates for the protection of birds.  
Co-sponsored by the Missouri River Bird Observatory

**Bird-Friendly Landscapes**  
May 10 • 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
Center for Urban Agriculture's Schoolhouse at 1769 W Ash St.  
Jenaeane Evans Dwyer a wildlife ecologist who focuses on birds and their conservation and a co-founder and director of the Missouri River Bird Observatory  
Co-sponsored by the Missouri River Bird Observatory and the Columbia Center for Urban Agriculture

**Adapting Home Landscapes to a Changing Climate**  
July 18 • 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
Daniel Boone Regional Library Friends Room  
Florencia CB via Barlock, an ornamental plant specialist with the MU Division of Plant Science & Technology, whose expertise is mostly ornamental plants.  
Co-sponsored by Daniel Boone Regional Library

Free and open to the public.  
For more information, please call (573) 882-4240.

Mizzou Botanic Garden  
University of Missouri  
garden.missouri.edu

## From the March program about Plastic waste:

The plastic waste problem is a waste management problem

While plastic is durable, this also means plastic waste can be trapped in our environment for centuries, if not managed well. While plastics deteriorate into fragments easily through wear and tear, their polymer chains only break down into other smaller components at very high temperatures, such as during some chemical recycling processes. However, today **only 15% of plastic waste is recycled.**

The world still largely operates on the 'linear economy' model—sometimes known as 'take-make-discard'—where raw materials are used to manufacture products, only to be disposed of at the end of their short lifetimes.

Transitioning to a more sustainable model is not rocket science, if we can remember the 3 Rs: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle—in that specific order of priority!

1. Reducing our overall consumption is about respecting our natural resources, only using what we need, and refusing unnecessary excess. Take the Japanese 'Mottainai' lifestyle approach—which teaches respect for the planet and its natural resources by reducing wasteful behaviour, using only what is needed.
2. Reuse is key to increasing the lifespan of the things we use. This includes repairing or upcycling our items to give them a new lease on life.
3. Recycling the waste we eventually generate is key to closing the loop in a circular economic model.

May's program will be the Bird-Friendly environment



# Companion Planting

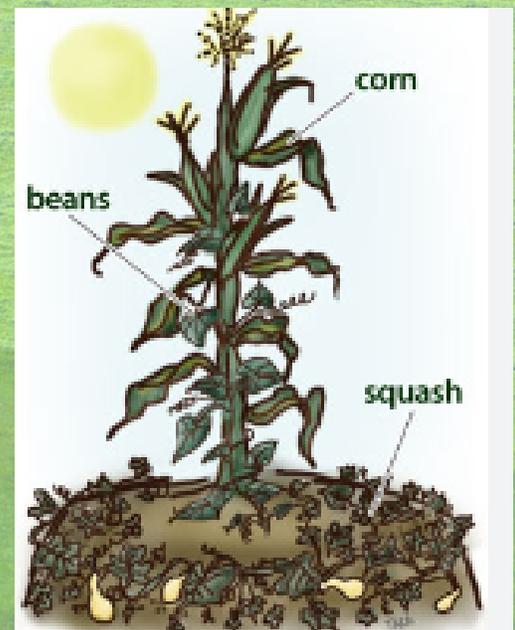
Companion planting is when two plants are grown near each other for the benefit of one of those plants or both—so the benefit can be one way or mutual. Companion planting could be as simple as growing flowers near your crops to attract pollinating insects or growing two vegetables alongside each other to confuse or repel pests.

There are plenty of good reasons to plant certain crops together:

1. **Deterring pests:** Certain plants act as insect repellents or deter critters. For example, garlic's smell is unappealing to many pests.
2. **Attracting beneficials:** Some plants also attract beneficial insects. For example, borage attracts pollinating bees and tiny pest-eating wasps.
3. **Shade regulation:** Large plants provide shade for smaller plants in need of sun protection. For example, corn shades lettuce.
4. **Natural supports:** Tall plants, like corn and sunflowers, can support lower-growing, sprawling crops such as cucumbers and peas.
5. **Improved plant health:** When one plant absorbs certain substances from the soil, it may change the soil biochemistry in favor of nearby plants.
6. **Improving soil fertility:** Some crops, like beans, peas, and other legumes, help to make nitrogen more available in the soil. Similarly, plants with long taproots, like burdock, bring up nutrients from deep in the soil, enriching the topsoil to the benefit of shallow-rooted plants.
7. **Weed suppression:** Planting sprawling crops like squash with tall, upright plants minimizes open areas, where weeds typically take hold.

More information at:

<https://www.almanac.com/companion-planting-guide-vegetables>



## Planting calendar:

Home production of vegetables has been increasing in popularity in recent years. In addition to saving on the family food bill, the availability of fresh, inexpensive produce from the family garden is conducive to maintaining good dietary habits by eating more vegetables. Planning is the first step in establishing a vegetable garden.

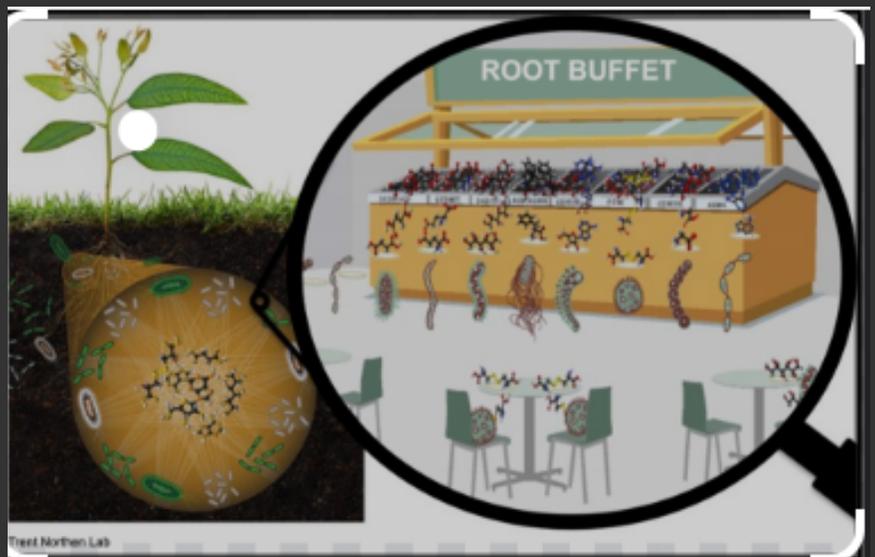
For planting calendar and varieties of recommended plants, see tables at: <https://extension.missouri.edu/publications/g6201>

- In selecting varieties, we primarily consider yield, quality and disease resistance as experienced under Missouri conditions.
- Planting dates depend on where you live. Some vegetables may be planted for a fall crop. When a fall crop is possible, a second set of dates is listed under the dates for spring planting.

# Soil

...We might say that the earth has the spirit of growth: that its flesh is the soil..."

Leonardo da Vinci



"For all things come from earth, and all things end by becoming earth."  
Xenophanes of Colophon ca 580 B.C.

**"A cloak of loose, soft material, held to the earth's hard surface by gravity is all that lies between life and lifelessness."**

Wallace H Fuller

"The soil exists in a state of constant change, taking part in cycles that have no beginning and no end."

Rachel Carson, Silent Spring