



President's Message

What a difference a few days of Missouri weather can make! We were teased with some balmy temperatures only to remind us not to put the winter coats away in the closet. I hope many of you took advantage of those fantastic days in February to prune your shrubs and trees. March is such a transitional weather month that it makes my head hurt. It's the last bit of winter yet just a hint of spring. But seeing those happy little daffodils pop through the earth makes it worthwhile.

It's time to get out of hibernation mode and kick it up a notch. From now until the plant sale in April, I hope many of you are tagging plants in your yard that can be thinned and ready to share to the public for sale. And don't forget the white elephant table! But first we will enjoy a "Spring Fling" at Diana Cooksey's home, 823 Crestland Avenue, on March 11th at 1 pm. Bring a favorite gardening tip to share, or a favorite gardening tool you favor and a wrapped gardening gift to exchange with others. Please make note we are not meeting at Trinity Presbyterian Church in March.

An email blast was sent to club members about proposed By-Laws amendments and a change to the standing rules. A vote will be taken at the April district meeting in Jefferson City so please review the documents. We can discuss the proposed changes at our March meeting if any of you have questions or comments. I hope we have a good representation of Columbia Garden Club members at the district meeting. I haven't received an invitation with detailed information yet but will share it as soon as I do.

Get ready to break out the sunscreen, hat, and gardening gloves. It's just about time to start cleaning vegetable and flower beds...if you haven't already!

Donna



February Minutes

The Columbia Garden Club met on February 12, 2024 with Donna Puleo calling the meeting to order at 1pm. 27 members and one guest, Byron Fulkerson were present. Inspiration was given by Diana Cooksey. Members having birthdays in February were recognized. These members were Lana Baker, Cindy Deegan and Julie Deering, all members were wished a Happy Valentine's Day. Minutes from the January meeting were approved with no changes. Mary Nesladek, treasurer, reported the balance of \$12,444.53.

Thank you to Marie Pasley who presented our program today "Winter Seed Sowing". Such a great activity and hopefully lots of little seedlings will be popping up in a few weeks! Send pics!

Several horticulture questions were asked and discussed.

Committee Reports: Leigh Speichinger shared that today and going forward Melissa Kouba and Linda Antal are providing non-disposable plates and glasses for our refreshments. Rebecca Smith gave an update on Garden Therapy at the Bluffs. We will be meeting at The Bluffs on 2-22-24 at 10am, assisting residents with an easy craft with the theme of "Love". Betty Connelly gave a Membership Committee update. She plans to have a get together for new members and will be sending out information. Betty also gave updates on the Plant Sale scheduled on April 27, 2024, with set up on April 26, 2024. A sign up sheet will be available next month. Note: be sure and gear up for bringing any plants and white elephant items you might have available for the sale. March meeting: Please bring any extra containers you have for other members to use to bring in plants for the sale. A bake sale will also take place the day of the plant sale chaired by Leigh Speichinger and Kay Kern. Betty also gave updates on our Garden Tour scheduled in June. We still need several volunteers to share their gardens. Please let Betty know if you are interested in having us visit your garden. Marie Pasley gave updates on the State Convention. Registration forms were available and are also available in "THE garden forum" along with details and schedules of events. Volunteers for captains on the tour buses and registration sign-in are needed. Marie also noted volunteering at the Food Bank is scheduled on Tuesday, February 27, 2024 and will continue to be scheduled on the 4th Tuesday of each month.

March Meeting: We will meet at Diana Cooksey's house for a Spring Fling. Anyone wanting to participate in a gift exchange should bring a garden related gift costing \$10 or less. CGC received 100% on our 2024 Yearbook evaluation. Thank you to all those who contributed!

Up Coming Events:

*Art in Bloom-March 1-3, 2024 at The St Louis Art Museum

*Art in Bloom- the last weekend in April at the MU Campus Museum of Art and Archeology

*Spring Central District Meeting – April 4, 2024 in Jefferson City at McClure Park. Cost is \$15.00. Mary will need our payments at the March meeting.

*91st Annual FGCM State Convention – May 6-9, 2024

*Recycling Ambassadors Volunteer Training, Tuesday, February 20, 6 – 8 pm, ARC, 1701 W. Ash. Email volunteer@CoMo.gov to register.

*Mizzou Botanic Garden Brown Bag Seminar, March 12, 11:30 – 1 pm, DBRL, Friends Room. "The Science of Compost: How to create "Super Soil" presented by Brenda Peculis, a City of Columbia Compost Ambassador as well as a MU retired Biochemistry professor.

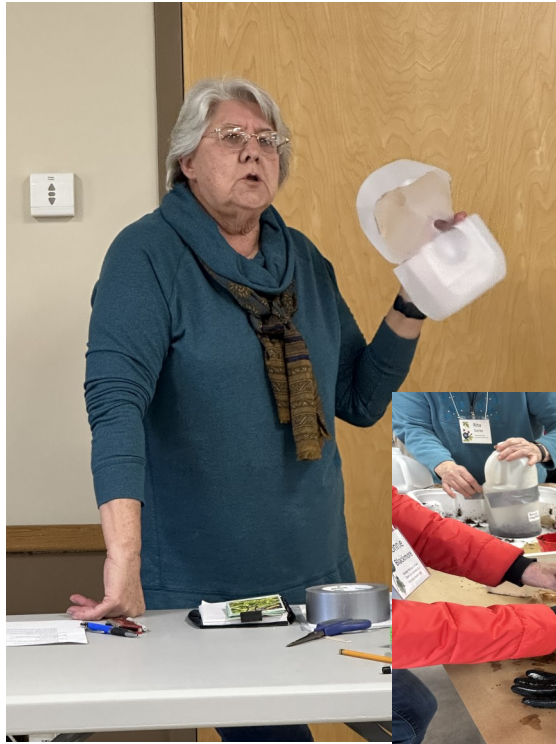
*TreeKeepers Tree Give Away, Saturday, April 20 at the Columbia Farmers Market, 1769 W. Ash.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Linneman



Photos from February Meeting



Plant Sale

Our annual plant sale will take place on Saturday, April 27th from 9:00-2:00 at Trinity Presbyterian Church. Set up will be Friday, April 26th from 12:00-3:00. That is when you should bring your items.

Members are asked to bring plants, bulbs, shrubs or trees from their garden for the sale. We will also have a place for garden related items that you might want to bring. Please price those items. The work crew at the sale will price the plants. There will also be a bake sale for those of you who would like to contribute baked goods.

Please bring any empty pots you might have to the March meeting to share with people that might need them to bring their plants to the sale.

There will be a sign up sheet at the March meeting for those that can work on Saturday.



FGCM State Convention

With the FGCM State Convention being held at Stoney Creek Hotel here in Columbia on May 7-9th I hope that all members will consider registering to attend at least part if not all the convention. CGC members have the luxury of staying at home and driving to the convention if they don't want to get a hotel room. This hasn't been the case for over 25 years. We have put together a great convention. CGC will even have a special table on Wednesday for all our members to celebrate our 90th anniversary being an NGC garden club. All anniversary members attending will get a corsage, I think. So come to the convention and enjoy your fellow gardeners from other areas of the state. Registration information is available in The Garden Forum. Marie Pasley

2024 Hosta of the Year

2024 Hosta of the Year

'Mini Skirt'

Color - Variegated

Size - Mini (7"ht x 14"w)

Habit - Mounding

Bloom - Purple

Parentage - sport of 'Mighty Mouse'

Wavy, thick, blue-green leaves with creamy yellow margins in spring turning to creamy white by summer. Pale purple flowers on short scapes.





A Grow Native! Top 10 List

FEATURED CATEGORY:
**TOP 10 NATIVE PLANTS
 TO SUPPORT BEES IN SPRING**

Attracts Abundant, Diverse Native Bees & European Honey Bees • Tried & True

	NATIVE PLANT NAME	HEIGHT	SUN	UNIQUE QUALITY
1	American plum (<i>Prunus americana</i>)	15-25'	Full/ pt. shade	Attracts a variety of bees, especially spring mining bees. Edible fruit.
2	Blue wild indigo (<i>Baptisia australis</i>)	4'	Full/ pt. shade	Excellent plant for bumble bees, especially new queens.
3	Foxglove beardtongue (<i>Penstemon digitalis</i>)	4'	Full/ pt. shade	Attracts diverse bees from bumble bees to small carpenter bees.
4	Golden Alexanders (<i>Zizia aurea</i>)	3'	Full/ pt. shade	Attractive to early mining bees and sweat bees.
5	Lance-leaf coreopsis (<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>)	2'	Full	Likes hot, dry sites.
6	New Jersey tea (<i>Ceanothus americanus</i>)	3'	Full/ pt. shade	Compact, mounding shrub.
7	Prairie willow (<i>Salix humilus</i>)	5-7'	Full	Unlike other willows, prefers dry conditions.
8	Redbud (<i>Cercis canadensis</i>)	12-30'	Full/ pt. shade	Flowers attractive to a variety of bees. Leafcutter bees use leaf cuttings for making their nests.
9	Robin's plantain (<i>Erigeron pulchellus</i>)	1'	Full/ pt. shade	Very attractive to small bees. Blooms earlier and is much shorter than daisy fleabane (<i>E. strigosus</i>).
10	Round-leaf groundsel (<i>Packera obovata</i>)	1'	Full/ pt. shade	Evergreen groundcover. Prefers drier conditions than golden groundsel (<i>P. aurea</i>). Both attract many smaller bees.

Contributed by Linda Antal



Supertunia Vista®
 Jazzberry®
 (Petunia) - Proven
 Winners® 2024
 Annual of the Year



Gardening for Wildlife

As garden club members we should be aiming to practice sustainability in our personal landscapes. Habitats are being lost to development and we can hold the key to preserving them for future generations. As development pushes natural habitats further and further back, we can encourage wildlife to co-exist with us in our own landscapes. Biodiversity is a key to successful wildlife habitat. You get to choose the wildlife you want to encourage. It may be only birds, small mammals, and insects. You can provide food, water, cover and places for animals and insects to raise their young. Work to reduce areas of lawn. Make conscious choices when choosing plants for your garden. Look for plants that are native and keep away from invasive species. Good plant choices provide fruit and seeds for native wildlife. Native trees make good choices. Keep a clean water source such as a small fountain or birdbath, or if you have enough property, build a pond. Provide a wood pile or leave a dead tree. Check the NGC website for the application and get your garden registered as a National Garden Club Certified Wildlife Habitat. You will receive a certificate and may purchase a plaque to display in your garden.

Barbara Campbell-Wildlife Habitat Certification Chairman

From National Garden Clubs website.



Bluebird Suet No-Melt Peanut Butter Suet

1 cup crunchy peanut butter
2 cups cornmeal
1 cup white flour
2 cup quick-cook oats
1 cup lard
1/3 cup sugar
Optional: chopped currants, cherries, and other fruit.

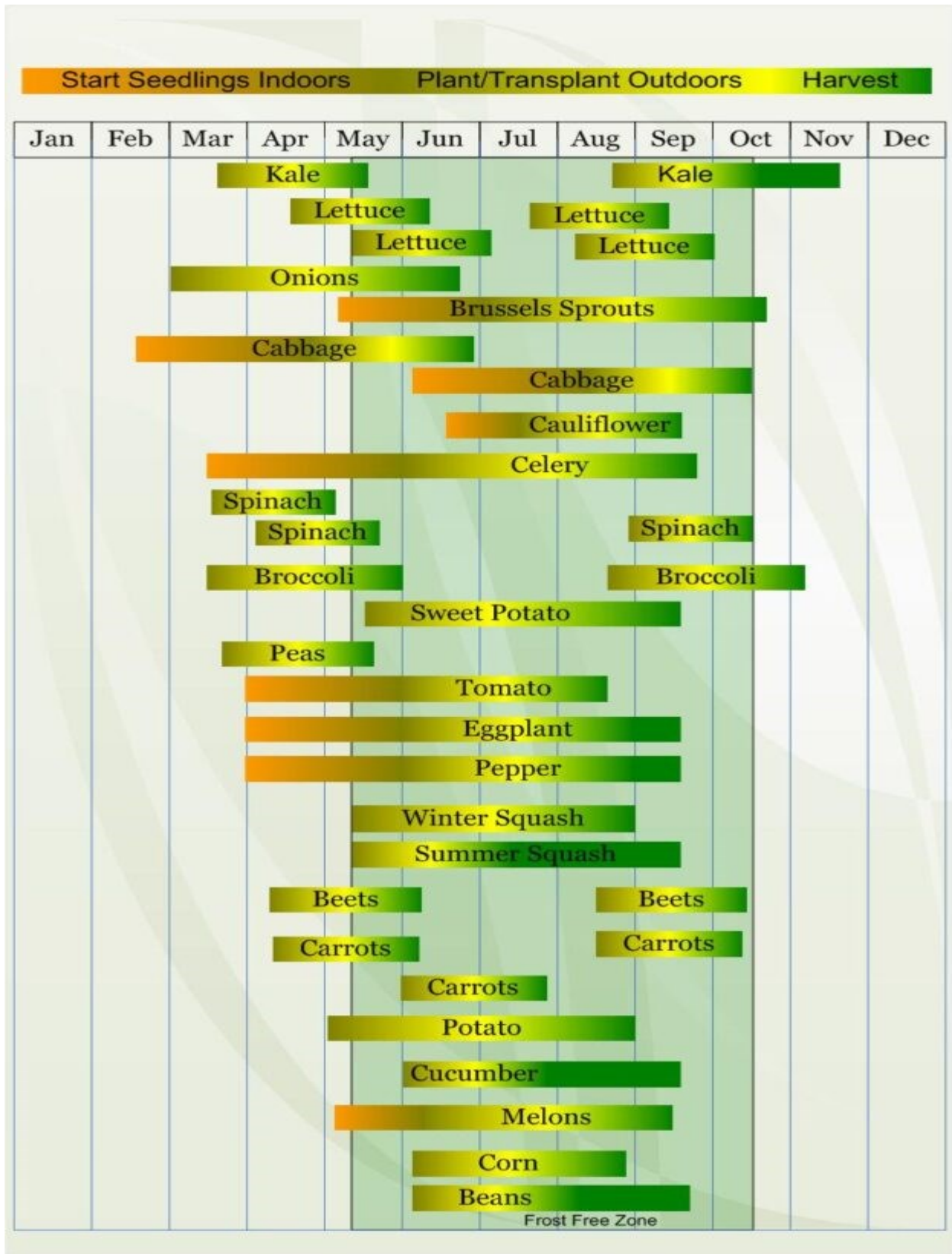
Directions

Melt Lard and peanut butter, then stir in remaining ingredients. Pour into square freezer containers about 1-1/2 inches thick. Cut to size, separate blocks with wax paper and store in freezer.

Songbird Station



Zone 6 Vegetable Planting Guide



Insect ID

Periodical Cicadas

Brood XIX (19) periodical cicada will emerge in May and into June in Missouri. It comprises 4 species of 13-year cicadas. We last saw this brood in 2011. This brood is sometimes called the Great Southern Brood because it occurs throughout much of the southeastern United States, including 15 states. The brood's range includes much of Missouri, southern Illinois, and Arkansas, east to Virginia, North Carolina, and Georgia, and south to Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama.

Adult periodical cicadas have blackish bodies, red eyes, and 4 membranous wings with a gold, orange, or red tinge. They crawl and fly, but they do not jump. The mouthparts, tucked beneath the head, are like a small, sharp straw. The antennae are short, and there are 3 ocelli (eyespot) in addition to the 2 larger, compound eyes. Compared to annual cicadas, periodical cicadas are smaller.

Adult males have a sound-producing organ that emits a loud, raspy call used to attract females. Adult females have a curved ovipositor at the lower end of the abdomen, used to insert eggs into slits in twigs.

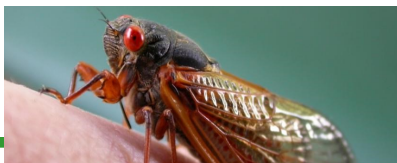
Nymphs are tan or brownish, wingless, stout, with the front pair of legs specialized for burrowing in the soil and for clinging onto trees as they undergo their final molt into adults. Neither nymphs nor adults are capable of harming people.

Periodical cicadas make a sudden, massive appearance, usually in areas with trees, with loud raspy choruses and a multitude of shed skins left behind on tree trunks.

They are common throughout the state, but especially in areas where trees are abundant and soil left relatively undisturbed for 13 or 17 years. Because the nymphs live underground, suck juices from plant roots, and then must crawl out of the ground, large earthworks, deforestation, insecticides, enormous paved parking lots, and residential and commercial developments can decrease populations locally. Different broods in different regions each have their own schedule.

The broods of periodical cicadas live underground for either 13 or 17 years, and all of the same type in an area emerge to become adults the same year — in fact, the same week. One trigger for emergence is when the soil temperature (as measured 8 inches below the surface) reaches 64 F. This often occurs after a nice warm soaking rain, usually in May, but possibly as early as late April or as late as early June. Scientists are still trying to learn how cicadas synchronize their life cycles so exactly. One possible explanation is that the nymphs' bodies may sense seasonal changes in the chemical composition of the tree juices they consume from roots, especially in the spring when trees leaf out. A kind of molecular clock in the cicadas is triggered by each leaf-out period, and once it's been triggered 13 or 17 times, the nymph will emerge the next time the soil warms to the emergence-trigger temperature.

Keep in mind that cicadas are not venomous; they do not sting and only rarely, accidentally, could poke you with their mouthparts. You can try protecting small trees by hosing away the insects with water, wrapping foil or sticky insect-barrier tape around the trunk, or covering the tree with netting.



Missouri Department of Conservation

March Gardening Tips

- Trees, shrubs, and perennials can be planted as soon as they become available at garden centers and as the ground can be worked.
- Maples (*Acer* spp.), weeping cherries (*Prunus pendula*), cornelian cherry dogwood (*Cornus mas*), and forsythia (*Forsythia* spp.) are in bloom this month.
- The pruning of trees should be completed before new growth occurs. Trees should not be pruned while the new leaves are growing.
- If dogwood borer has plagued a dogwood tree in the past, early to mid-March is the time to apply chemical controls if necessary. However, pruning out infested branches in late winter is more effective.
- If pruning is needed on oaks, do so before mid-March. Avoid pruning from mid-March through late June as insects that can transmit oak wilt are attracted to the sap from wounds during this time.
- If you didn't clean up irises in late summer, now is the time to check for iris borer damage. Clean up and dispose of any affected old foliage before new growth begins.
- Hellebores and Virginia bluebells are blooming this month.
- Clean up garden beds by removing any weeds and dead foliage. Mulching will assist in weed suppression throughout the growing season.
- Summer and fall blooming perennials, such as black-eyed Susans, should be divided as needed as new growth starts to emerge.
- Ornamental grasses should be cut to the ground and large clumps divided just as new growth appears.
- Spring bedding plants, such as pansies, violas, snapdragons, sweet alyssum, dianthus, and annual primrose, may be planted outdoors now.
- Perform soil and soil pH tests to determine the nutrient needs of the soil. Apply appropriate amendments and fertilizers as needed.
- Some blooms you'll see this month: glory of the snow, crocuses, snowdrops, hyacinths, daffodils, and muscari.
- Dormant plants ordered through the mail/online should be unwrapped immediately. Keep them from drying out, store in a cool and protected space, and plant as soon as conditions allow.
- Frost is still possible throughout the month. Keep a careful eye on the weather and cover plants as needed. Avoid planting tender plants too early.
- Although it may be tempting on warm days, it is still too early to set out your tropical houseplants. Nightly temperatures need to be consistently above 50F. In the woods, spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*), the harbinger of spring (*Erigenia bulbosa*), and bloodroot (*Sanguinaria canadensis*) can be seen blooming.
- Be sure to remove the dead foliage of plants such as roses, peonies, daylilies, and apples, if this was not done in the fall or winter. These plants often have foliar fungal issues and disposing of the foliage will reduce the risk of infection.
- Be sure to cut back liriope early March before new growth appears. Missouri Botanical Garden

March Meeting

We will meet on Monday, March 11th at 1:00 at Diane Cooksey's home for a Spring Fling. The address is 823 Crestland Avenue. Anyone wanting to participate in a gift exchange should bring a garden related gift costing \$10 or less. Come with your favorite gardening tip to share with the group.

Upcoming Events

March 9-Garden Tea and Orchid Symposium-Powell Gardens

March 9-Terrarium Workshop-Helmi's

March 12-Science of Compost-11:30-Columbia Public Library

March 16-Annual Seed Exchange-Lebanon

March 23-Jeff City Native Plant Sale-Runge -10-2

The Daffodils By William Wordsworth

I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden daffodils;
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

Continuous as the stars that shine
And twinkle on the Milky Way,
They stretched in never-ending line
Along the margin of a bay:
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

The waves beside them danced, but they
Out-did the sparkling waves in glee:
A Poet could not but be gay,
In such a jocund company:
I gazed—and gazed—but little thought
What wealth the show to me had brought:

For oft, when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude;
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the daffodils.



Columbia Garden Club
President: Donna Puleo
1st VP: Diana Cooksey
2nd VP: Linda Antal
Secretary: Diane Linneman
Treasurer: Mary Nesladek
Parliamentarian: Carolyn Doyle

Columbia Garden Club meets the second
Monday of each month at 1:00 at Trinity
Presbyterian Church

Website:

<https://www.kewpie.net/colgrdnclub/cgc.html>

Facebook: Columbia Garden Club

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