

The Bloomin' News



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Les Leckron, Chairman

Joanie Opperman, Editor

Member of FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS



Chairmans Message

The Men's Garden Club Fall Tree and Plant Sale will be over by the time we meet in October. Tell your Friends & Neighbors about the sale! Thanks to Buck and others who proposed, researched and coordinated with the City to have the sale "on-site" and eliminate loading and transporting plants! Thanks also to everyone who has been doing a great job preparing the Tree Farm and plants for the sale. There are plenty of opportunities to help with the Sale – show up and ask what needs done!

Our Speaker at the September meeting did a great presentation on Grafting Techniques. It's always great to have a speaker to enlighten us and give us ideas of new things to try! See you at the Tree and Plant Sale! Remember to get the word out about our sale! Keep it Growing! Les

OCTOBER IN THE GARDEN

Nights are slowly turning cooler, and days are shorter and slightly cooler—a relief to us and to our plants.

October normally brings less rain than September, so you will need to watch your lawn, shrubs, annuals and potted plants and water them when needed.

This is the last month to fertilize your lawn, palms and shrubs. If not already done, give shrubs and hedges a final fall pruning. Remove suckers, low limbs and trim or remove unwanted growth.

Any pruning done after mid-October will stimulate new growth that could suffer cold damage this winter. Delay all pruning of vines and fruit trees until mid-winter. Operate sprinkler systems manually to conserve water. Water lawns when grass shows signs of stress.

Renew mulches as needed to conserve moisture during the dryer Fall and Winter months. To assure holiday blooms, relocate POINSETTIAS, CHRISTMAS CATS and KALANCHOES so no artificial light will fall on them. If you expect to plant Winter and Spring bulbs such as TULIPS, CROCUS, DAFFODILS and HYACINTH, this is the time to begin the 12 weeks of refrigeration required by the bulbs in our climate.

If you like to pick your own strawberries, now is the time to start a bed with a bundle of 25 fresh, healthy plants from a nursery or garden center. Varieties that have given good yields in central Florida gardens include Florida 90, Tioga, Dover, Florida Belle and Douglas. They will also do well in full sun in a large wooden barrel,

a pyramid, or hanging baskets using a good potting mix. Three plants in a 10" or 4 in a 12" basket will flourish in full sunshine if given adequate water and fertilizer.

If not already done, give Citrus and grapes a final feeding of special Citrus fertilizer before October 15. Feed cool-season annual plants monthly for winter blooms. Replant flowerbeds and hanging baskets with cool-season plants such as ALYSSUM, CALENDULA, CLEOME, CHRYSANTHEMUMS, CORNFLOWER, DIANTHUS, GAILLARDIA, GERANIUM, PANSY, PERIWINKLE, PETUNIA, PHLOX, SNAPDRAGON AND VERBENA.

*URGENT FERTILIZER INFO: Sharon A.

The high number in the middle of most fertilizers is the main cause of Lagoon death; and for 3 years or so now they recommend "0" Phosphate, and.....only slow- release Nitrogen! Fast Nitrogen is also killing our Lagoon. Only apply when rain is not expected, and water down ¼". I know, nag, nag; but I think we all need to do our part to save our resources, as dolphins and manatees and grass are all sick and dying. We can and will reach a tipping point where all is dead, and we will have no seafood resources to eat or draw tourists.

The Titusville Men's Garden Club

Titusville Garden Center, 5275 Sisson Road, Titusville, FL 32780

INVITATION TO JOIN THE TITUSVILLE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB

Who We Are: A non-profit club that enjoys gardening and contributing to our City's beautification and our environment.

What we Are: As a part of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, we are a partner of the Titusville Garden Club.

What We Do: We educate and help each other to enjoy gardening, teach and learn to enjoy plants. We assist others to propagate, grow and distribute trees and plants to non-profit organizations. We participate in voluntary efforts to help Titusville's "Tree City" initiative to plant 2,000 trees per year.

Where We Meet: We meet on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Garden Center, 5275 Sisson Road (south of SR 50 / north of SR 405). We also meet at our Tree Farm near the Titusville Water Maintenance Facility. Members adopt trees and plants to grow and have fun.

How We Operate: We presently sponsor an April and an October Tree and Plant Sale. The sales receipts are used to support the Club, purchase materials, and donate plants to the City and other worthy non-profit causes. Some members grow plants to landscape their own homes (all are welcome to do so). With permission from a plant's adoptee, members may take plants for personal use. Dues are \$25.00 annually, due on April 1st.

Send application below to Men's Garden Club, P.O. Box 1783, Titusville, FL 32781

For information , please call: RoseMarie @ 385-9051

Name: _____

Email: _____ **Phone:** _____ **Cell:** _____

Street: _____ **City** _____ **Zip** _____