

The Bloomin' News

October, 2019, Vol. VI, 143

Alan Howland, Chairman Thomas Perez, Editor

Member of FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS



Chairman's Message

Hello everyone,

Just a reminder that our fall sale is next week October 11th and 12th from 9 am to 4pm. We would like to see everyone make an effort to attend. We all have been working extra hard to clean up the plants and have them ready for sale. Our thoughts go out to our tree farm manager Rick McEntire who has been in the hospital. We wish you a speedy recovery. Thank you John Shaffer for fixing so many of the items that are broken at the farm, it has eased the burden on Buck. Buck still finds plenty of things to fix. We will begin planting the vegetable gardens within the next week, so if any members want to plant something let us know. Thank you Buck for rototilling. Cat has been working tirelessly in the field arranging plants and planning for the sale. Thank you Rose, Kathryn and Patti for your extra efforts in weeding and repotting. Tom has grown mangroves from seeds he found on the beach. They are now tall enough and he is going to turn them over to Indian River State College to join their mangrove nursery. If you are at the beach please be on the lookout for the mangrove pods. If you find some we will stop by and pick them up.

Just a note saying how valuable liquid seaweed is to the Indian River Lagoon and your plants. This all natural fertilizer should be mixed in a sprayer and sprayed on lawns and plants once a week. Liquid seaweed is a valuable source of trace minerals. See you at the sale, Alan

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 CACTUS 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.

***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.



Florida Native Plant Society – Sea Rocket Chapter
The Sea Rocket Chapter’s meetings are held on the 4th Wednesday of the month; 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Enchanted Forest, 444 Columbia Blvd Hwy 405). For info, please call: 264-5185. The public is welcome.
<http://www.nbbd.com/npr/SeaRocket/>

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CALENDAR OF UPCOMING 2017 EVENTS

October 11 & 12: Titusville Garden Club Fall Sale at “the Farm”– 1230 Thoreau St.
Nursery Sale Hours - 9am – 5pm

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Five Plants that Naturally Repel Mosquitos
Research shows the following 5 plant species make particularly potent natural insecticides that help zap mosquitos.

Catnip and catmint – These members of the mint family not only attract cats, but also repel a variety of insects, including aphids, squash bugs and mosquitos.

Citronella Grass – The oil from this tall, ornamental grass is a proven mosquito repellent. Just make sure you’re using the true varieties, Cybopogon nardus or Citronella winterianus. Place a perimeter of these plants around your porch, patio or swimming pool to provide natural barrier.

Geraniums – These flowering plants contain both citronella and geraniol, shown to be an effective mosquito repellent. Put in planters or pots around your outdoor living areas.

Lantana – Researchers found that homes with lantana contained an amazing 50% fewer mosquitos that homes without the plant. It is best to keep it in containers or hanging baskets. It can be invasive.

Lavender – This plant provides powerful but pleasant aroma, as well as medicinal properties for aromatherapy. The oils keep away pests ranging from mosquitos to rabbits. Lavender can be planted in your garden, and can also be kept in pots in your home. It’s hardy, resists drought, and only requires good drainage. (www.DrMicozzi.com)



For Hibiscus Information:

- <http://americanhibiscus.org/>
- <http://cflhibiscus.org/>
- <http://unbelievablehibiscus.com/mixonteam@yahoo.com> or call 813-355-6966
- <http://www.hiddenvalleyhibiscus.com/>

More Gardening Resources:

- Florida Master Gardener**
<http://mastergardener.ifas.ufl.edu>
- Gardening in a Minute**
<http://gardeninginaminute.com>
- Florida School Gardens**
<http://gardeningsolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/schoolgardens>
- Florida Friendly Landscaping**
<http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu>
- Solutions for your Life**
<http://solutionsforyourlife.com>
- EDIS**
<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu>
- Univ. of Florida, IFAS Extension**
<http://brevard.ifas.ufl.edu>

Potential New Members, YOU Are Welcome
We are always looking for new members and have great opportunities for learning at our monthly meetings, at the Tree Farm and at special events. We have facilities to start plants from seeds/clippings. For more information, call Joanie at 480-8807.



Titusville Garden Club Tree Farm

Members meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 10 am at “the Farm”, located next to Stuart Park, at 1230 Thoreau Street.

Our next meeting is October 8th, 2019

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The Titusville Garden Club will host their Fall Plant Sale October 11 and 12, 2019 at their nursery location, adjacent to Stuart Park, 1230 Thoreau Street. **Sale Hours are 9 am to 4 pm**

Our plants have weathered the summer. Some of the varieties available are - Agapanthus, Amaryllis, Boxwood, Canna, Crepe Myrtle, Hibiscus and lots of perennial bulbs, shrubs and trees.

Master Gardeners and club members will be available to answer questions and help with purchases. Children are encouraged to come and will receive a free plant. Applications for membership will be available.

Proceeds from the sale enable the club to offer college scholarships to students of Titusville and Astronaut high schools. In addition we offer a scholarship for children to attend Wekiva Springs Summer Camp.

For further information - contact Buck Cowen at 321-537-8262 or Kathryn Woidtke at 321-269-2338.



The Bloomin' News
Titusville Men's Garden Club

Tom Perez, Editor; 240-285-6189
Email: Tomp@MountAiryAlpacas.com



The Titusville Garden Club Tree Farm

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

Next Meeting: Second Tuesday of the Month, -- 10:00 a.m.
(@ "the Farm" Behind Stuart Park)

INVITATION TO JOIN THE TITUSVILLE GARDEN CLUB TREE FARM

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 Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. at our Tree Farm near the Titusville Water Maintenance Facility, next to Stuart Park. 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 in April.

For more information Phone Rose @ 321-289-8388.

Titusville Garden Club Tree Farm

Application

Send application to Titusville Garden Center, P. O. Box 1783, Titusville, FL 32780.

Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Street: _____ City _____ Zip _____