

# The Bloomin' News

June, 2020, Vol. VI, 149

Alan Howland, Chairman

Thomas Perez, Editor

Member of FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS



## Chairman's Message – Alan Howland

Thank you all who paid their 2020 dues and we look forward to another fantastic year at the tree farm. Things are still busy with the construction of our new shed extension and clearing out more area underneath our shade trees to protect our plants from the summer heat.

Things to plant in Central Florida during the month of June include okra, eggplant, peppers, sweet potatoes and certain varieties of tomatoes. You may need a little shade cloth, which helps reduce the stress on the plants from the summer heat. Tom was able to obtain Everglade tomato seed and now we have one started and it is growing in leaps and bounds. Everglade tomatoes are small cherry tomatoes that love the summer heat and will grow up to 6' tall and 8' wide. The Everglades tomato, also known as the currant tomato, is well adapted to Florida's scorching summers. Plants will set dime-sized fruit in about 50 days, and you'll enjoy zillions of tiny, sweet tomatoes, even in the summer. It is also a perennial. We will keep you posted on this developing story.

Thank you Buck for bringing your mower out until we can finish the shed. Rose is doing a wonderful job of working in the quonset hut and the surrounding area. Thank you Diana for all the up potting you do each week. George tells me you are a slave driver. Rick and Cat still making the farm more beautiful. Marianne says she just planted her garden in Minnesota and tells everyone she misses us.

That's all for now and stay safe in the garden. Regards Alan



## **JUNE IN THE GARDEN**

Although May surprised us with some showers, June should give us even more rain. In a normal year, we get about 7 Inches, mainly as afternoon and evening showers. An unobstructed rain gauge can save guess work, and sometimes a good deal of watering. Our flowerbeds and lawn need a minimum of 1 inch of water a week in our hot weather. If you do not get about ½ inch

of rain during each 3 to 4 day period, you should water until about ½ inch of rain and irrigation has been applied. Applying and/or renewing mulches and weeding will reduce water needs and help control summer weeds.

The increased rain and higher humidity will increase Black Spot and Powdery Mildew on ROSES, CRAPE MYRTLE, ZINNIAS and other similar plants. Start a weekly fungicide spray program. This will also help control Spider Mites.

If you have Bahia lawn, June is an excellent time to seed bare and thin spots. After sowing seed, apply a thin layer of soil, water well, frequently when it does not rain.

June is one of the most active months for Mole Crickets the scourge of Bahia lawns. Follow label instructions when you begin spraying or putting out bait. Mole Cricket bait applied on a damp lawn in the evening is also effective. Mole Crickets are usually active on the surface after dark.

Pinch back the tips of bushes and shrubs to develop more compact plants. Use the cuttings to root new plants for our plant sale. Do not prune or pinch AZALEAS or GARDENIAS after the end of June, or you will sacrifice





Succulents will grow well in full sun to part shade. You can add beautiful topdressing to accentuate the color and texture, such as stones, pebbles, shells, gravel or tumbled glass. Propagate by setting leaflets on the top of a pot or tray of soil. Avoid temptation to “stick” them in – they will root if left just resting on the soil. A light misting every few days will be needed.

Over several weeks you will begin to see small roots growing down from the cut end and new baby plants will begin to grow. Let these small plants reach dime size before trans-planting into their own pots.

### **Titusville Men’s Garden Club**

**Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 9:30 am.**

**“At the Tree Farm” next to Stuart Park**

**1230 Thoreau St**

**Our next meeting will be**

**July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**The public is welcome to join us. Work at the Farm is conducted on Tuesdays and Thursdays.**

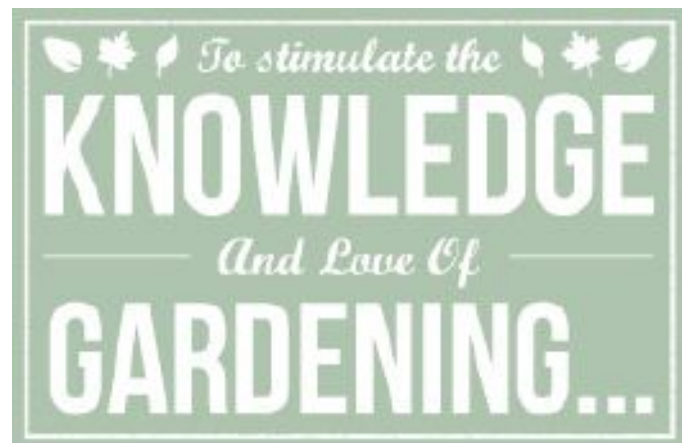
*The Bloomin’ News*

*Titusville Men’s Garden Club*

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**Please send your articles to be included in next month’s Bloomin’ News.**



# The Titusville Men's Garden Club

Meetings are on the Second Tuesday of the Month at 9:30 a.m.

**Location: "At the Tree Farm" next to Stuart Park, 1230 Thoreau St**

## 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 Tuesday of each month at 9:30 p.m. at "the Tree Farm" next to Stuart Park, 1230 Thoreau St. near the Titusville Water Maintenance Facility. The Tree Farm is open on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, our workdays.

**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. Members adopt trees and plants to grow and have fun. Member dues are \$30 for individuals and \$50 for a couple per year, and are due in April.

**Send application below to Titusville Men's Garden Club, P. O. Box 1783, Titusville, FL 32780.**

**For more information phone Rose at 321-289-8388.**

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

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Street:** \_\_\_\_\_ **City** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_