

West Newbury Garden Club Newsletter • September, 2016



ENDURING DROUGHT!

Unless you're extremely lucky, we have all been challenged this summer to keep garden plants and flowers green and flourishing. Still, the daily efforts have required a lot of time and attention. Following are a few general tips to lessen the impact of drought:

- Many recommend giving plants an inch of water a week, but this generalization varies widely depending on factors such as plant type, whether established or new, amount of sun, temperature and wind, soil type and more.
- Avoid daily light sprinkling as it encourages shallow roots (less problematic for container plants).
- The only way to tell if a plant is in need of water is to check soil moisture. Plant roots can also be damaged from too much water.
- Avoid watering on sunny afternoons. Water left on leaves at night can encourage disease.
- Maximize water absorption by mulching around plants and over soaker hoses.
- Stop fertilizing in ground plants. Plants need the moisture but not the harmful build-up of fertilizer salts.
- Pull out weeds, errant grass, and anything else that lessens moisture in the soil.
- Deadhead your flowers to keep the plants from expending energy-setting seeds.
- The biggest tip of all is plant drought-resistant plants. For a generous list: www.perennialresource.com/articles/ and search on "drought".

NEXT MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Sept. 1, 2016, 6:00 pm

Town Offices Annex
381 Main Street, W. N.

Hosting the meeting

Chair: Anne Jarzobski,
Dot Cavanaugh
Evelyn Thornton
Dianne Faulkner
Jeanne Pucci
Carrie Hometh
Carrie Crowley
Peg Duchemin

Welcome Back Celebration ~ Pot Luck Dinner and Cake

Make sure to mark your calendars for the first meeting of our 2016-17 program year. (The event will take place BEFORE Labor Day weekend, as the Massachusetts Primary Election is on Thursday, September 8th and the Annex was booked.)

Please remember to bring an appetizer, side dish or entrée to share. Thanks in advance to the 80th Anniversary Committee for planning decorations and festivities.

Please also remember to bring your annual dues payment of \$30.

www.wngc.org

2017 Plant Sale

Think Ahead to our
May 20, 2017 Plant Sale!

We are all aware that we have an annual May plant and bake sale, and that as members, we all contribute to its success. What can we do NOW to spread out the worry and work before early Spring?

Thanks to last year's Plant and Bake Sale Committee Chairs and members, recommendations were compiled on how the sale could be even better organized for 2017. These recommendations will be added to our Club's Operation Manual for everyone's reference.

What can you do now?

- Volunteer to Co-Chair the Plant and Bake Sale Committee – shared responsibility and plenty of planning time make this project reasonable and successful.
- Plan ahead and label which perennials you might donate from your garden in the Spring.
- Purchase good quality perennials that are on sale now to plant and prepare for next year's sale.
- Think about other quality items that our garden club might craft together and sell. Carrie Hometh's delicious pies and Kathy Krajski's decorative birdhouses were wonderful additions, attracted buyers, and contributed to our profits. The club can reimburse for materials.



BE ON THE LOOKOUT! Mile A Minute Vine

An annual herbaceous plant with triangular leaves and blue fruits, *Persicaria perfoliata* can grow up to 26 feet long. It was accidentally introduced from Eastern Asia. It grows rapidly, covering and smothering native vegetation. For small populations, hand pulling and repeated mowing can be effective. Pre-emergent herbicides may prevent seed germination. Read the full article with pictures at [Mass Audubon](#).

June 2017 Garden & Arts Council Tour

In May, members of the West Newbury Arts Council met with the WNGC Board and proposed a collaborative event between the Council and the West Newbury Garden Club. They proposed that we join together on an arts and garden tour in June 2017. Each garden would feature performing and visual art and artists from West Newbury. The event would be consistent with the missions of each group, and support visibility and fundraising. Tasks, expenses and profits would be shared, and the Arts Council could create a scholarship for a local student entering the arts. The Council has already offered six gardens for our consideration, and contributions of time and talent.

The WNGC Board voted on supporting this collaboration. The date will be on Saturday, June 17th, 2017. WNGC members Helena Dion and Dot Cavanaugh also serve on the West Newbury Arts Council, but we need additional WNGC members to be on the Committee – especially those who've worked on previous WNGC tours. Please contact Kathy Mandeville 978-510-1159 or kmandeville2@comcast.net if you would like further information, or would like to consider serving on this Committee.

Board Meeting Highlights

The Board met on August 11th. New club President, Kathy Mandeville thanked current Board members for their continued leadership, and welcomed new Directors Lynn Boyd and Peg Duchemin. At the recommendation of 2nd Vice-President and Membership Chair, Linda Schaeffer, Board members voted enthusiastically in favor of promoting Ellie Bragg (member since 1970) and Mary Jarvis (member since 1987) to Honorary Member status. 1st Vice President, Joan Tranfaglia, presented information on this year's programs and workshops – details of which will be listed in the Yearbook.

An issue initiated at the June Board meeting regarding the need for additional revenue for the Club was re-visited. Though the Club is financially sound and the plant sale made a profit, expenses related to the plant sale and speakers' fees have risen, and the Board opted to reduce the amount of the 2016 scholarships to local students. Following considerable discussion, the Board approved an increase in annual membership dues from \$25 to \$30, and will provide further details to members at a future club meeting.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

(Green titles below are hot web links)

Arnold Arboretum Guided tours on Sat. at 10:30 and Sunday at 1:00. Tours last appx. 90 minutes. Meet at the Hunnewell Building, unless otherwise noted. (Check the website). Free

Mass Hort: Seed to Table Talk

Every Sunday, 10:00 AM through Columbus Day
Gardens at Elm Bank
900 Washington St., Wellesley, MA 02482
Mass Hort Members - Free; non-members \$5

Not Your Grandmother's Hosta

Enjoy a talk by Steven Shaw, Master Gardener, on the number one selling perennial - hosta.
Gardens at Elm Bank 900 Washington St., Wellesley, MA 02482
Thursday, Sept. 8, 2016 7:00- 8:30 PM
Mass Hort Members - \$12; non-members \$20

Garden Conservancy

Sunday, Sept 18, 2016. Visit the Gardens at Clock Barn, home of Maureen and Mike Reuttgers
Open 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Tickets \$7.00, non-members.
453 Bedford Rd, Carlisle, MA 01741

Rogers Spring Hill Nursery

Saturday, Sept 17, 2016. Fall Festival & Arts in the Garden
Workshops, games, food and artisans
Open 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
1269 Boston Road, Ward Hill, MA 01830

Gardening Colloquium

October, 20, 2016 at the Red Lion Inn in Stockbridge, MA
8:30 to 12:30 with optional lunch, Cost for program is \$56; optional lunch \$32
Featured lectures: 'Late Summer and Fall – The Seasons of Garden Delight', 'Jazzing Up the Garden with Color, Contrast and Movement' and 'Tips for Thriving, Sustainable Flower Gardens'
Preregistration required. Contact pyours@roadrunner.com

GCFM Events and Courses (see also sidebar)

GCFM Fall Conference October 25, 2016

Back to Basics: Designing Principles in Floral Design

Three sessions for \$45.00. Monday, Sept. 19, 2016
Monday, Nov. 14, 2016 Monday, May 1, 2017
Time: 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM
The Espousal Center
554 Lexington St, Waltham, MA 02452
Registration required. See GCFM.org.

Updates and Details

Anne Burrill fell in July, had surgery on her shoulder, and is now home. Get well soon, Anne!

We're always interested in keeping our members informed and included. If you know of any members who have special events going on in their lives, please tell one of the Board members.

As members of the WNGC, we are also members of the GCFM. Their quarterly publication, The **Mayflower** has articles and information of interest which can be accessed at: <http://gcfm.org/Mayflower.aspx>

Full details and registration of each item below at gcfm.org

Flower Show School Course IV
October 4-6, 2016 \$135.

Landscape Design School
October 27 to 29, 2016, \$110

Environmental Studies School
Series 5, Course 1 - The Living Earth Nov. 3 and 4, 2016

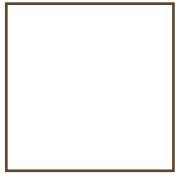
2016-17 Newsletter Team

Layout: Alison Scher
Contributors: Kathy Mandeville, Virginia Hallman and Jeanne Pucci (articles) and Jane Jeffers (upcoming events)

We welcome ideas for articles and other local news happenings for the newsletter. The monthly deadline is typically the 19th of each month. Contact Alison Scher mrcwebmaster@comcast.net



West Newbury Garden Club
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West Newbury, MA 01985



Visit our website
www.wngc.org

Facebook
www.facebook.com/westnewburygardenclub

HAPPY 80TH ANNIVERSARY!

2016 marks the 80th anniversary of our club's founding! Please take the time to go to our website, and read the history of the club – the earlier history prepared by Mary M. Conley, club President from 1972-75, and the more recent history from Virginia Hallman, club member since 1998, and former editor of our newsletter. www.wngc.org/History.html

The club continues to this day with its purpose of encouraging and cultivating an interest in gardening, aiding in the protection and conservation of natural resources, encouraging the study of horticulture and flower arranging, and promoting civic beauty. As important as our carrying out our purpose are the friendships we grow, the joy we derive from working together, and the pride that comes from our shared achievements.

Happy Anniversary, West Newbury Garden Club, and congratulations to all who have created its history and continue to work on its future.

Kathy Mandeville, President

