

FLORETS
Twin City Garden Club
March 2024



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Meeting: 1 pm Tuesday Mar 19 2024 at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 2101 S. Prospect, Champaign

Program: Composting - it's really easy & so good for your plants!

Presenter: Becky Prather

Becky Prather, past co-owner of Ewe Poo Compost Company, will cover how to start composting, type of area needed to get started, benefits to your soil and plants as well as how beneficial sheep's wool is to your container gardens.

Refreshment break

Hostesses: Mary Jane Tuttle and Lynda Brunton

Floral Arrangement: Cheryl Weber

Flower Show 101

The flower show schedule will be distributed to members and we will walk through that document. There will also be a demonstration of horticulture entries including how to complete an entry tag.

Penny Pines jar will be present

Business meeting:

Call to Order

President's Opening Remarks

Recording Secretary Minutes/Approval

Treasurer's Report

Corresponding Secretary Report

Standing Committee Reports

Membership

Facebook

Sunshine

Program

Website

Philanthropy

Yearbook

Social

Sunshine

New Business

Adjourn

Birthdays: Meridee Dornhoff, 3/11 and Martha Tinsley, 3/26

Reminder: if not yet paid, please pay dues by April 1st

TCGC Plant Sale Saturday May 4th 8a - noon

From Nicole Miller and Martha Tinsley:

The highlight of the sale are perennial plants that we share from our own gardens, but we will also have a “garage sale” where you can donate garden items you no longer use anymore (examples but not limited to: tools, pots, lawn ornaments, etc.).

Potted plants should all be labeled, in good shape, and may be dropped off at the front of the church on Friday May 3rd at any time. Leave them to the left of the air conditioners/right along the building to the south of the walkway. Please try to use quart sized pots or larger, because we have trouble selling anything smaller. If you need assistance with lifting plants during the week before the sale, please contact Martha (716-785-4828) or Nicole (217-621-9994) to schedule this well in advance.

IN THE GARDEN WITH NATURAL EASTER IDEAS from Cheryl Weber

Natural Easter Egg Dyes To make natural dyes, gather supplies from your pantry or fridge. Red-cabbage dye is made with 4 cups of chopped cabbage. To make the yellow-turmeric dye, use 3 tablespoons of turmeric. Meanwhile, the onion-skin dye uses 4 cups of onion skins—which is skins from about 12 onions. The beet dye calls for 4 cups of chopped beets, and the coffee dye uses 1 quart of strong black coffee instead of water.

Color Glossary Natural dyes can sometimes produce unexpected results, so don't be surprised if, for example, your red-cabbage dye yields blue eggs. Use the following guide to help you achieve the colors you desire.



Deep Gold: Boil eggs in turmeric solution, 30 minutes.

Sienna: Boil eggs in onion-skin solution, 30 minutes.

Dark Rich Brown: Boil eggs in black coffee, 30 minutes.

Pale Yellow: Soak eggs in room-temperature turmeric solution, 30 minutes.

Orange: Soak eggs in room-temperature onion-skin solution, 30 minutes.

Light Brown: Soak eggs in room-temperature black coffee, 30 minutes.

Light Pink: Soak eggs in room-temperature beet solution, 30 minutes.

Light Blue: Soak eggs in room-temperature cabbage solution, 30 minutes.

Royal Blue: Soak eggs in room-temperature cabbage solution, overnight.

Lavender: Soak eggs in room-temperature beet solution, 30 minutes. Follow with room-temperature cabbage solution, 30 seconds.

Chartreuse: Soak eggs in room-temperature turmeric solution, 30 minutes. Follow with room-temperature cabbage solution, five seconds.

Salmon: Soak eggs in room-temperature turmeric solution, 30 minutes. Follow with room-temperature onion-skin solution.

Easter Grass Decorations

Supplies

- Container
 - Soil
 - Wheat Berries
 - Water
 - Plastic Wrap
-
- Fill your container with dirt. If you have potting soil on hand, use that. If you don't you can just dig some dirt up in the backyard! You don't need to worry about drainage as this is just temporary.
 - Sprinkle a layer of wheat berries over the top of the dirt. A single layer is fine. Wheat berries can be found in the bulk section of the grocery store or you can purchase them at a feed and grain store. You can use hard red or soft white, it doesn't matter.
 - Mist or sprinkle the wheat berries with water. Don't drown the poor little seeds. You just want to keep the dirt damp.
 - Loosely cover the top of your containers with plastic wrap. Just lay it on top. The plastic wrap will help keep the soil moist so that the seeds will germinate. It creates a greenhouse effect. Give your wheat berries a spritz or sprinkle of water every day or so.

