



Newsletter April 2023



Dates and Events -- free unless noted.

NOGS Tour in Savannah is sold out!

Sat., April 29, 10 am - 4pm --Cassina Garden Club is having its Garden Tour of 6 private gardens on St. Simons. They also have a plant sale, plus tours of the historic cabins and Butterfly garden. Tickets (\$35 in advance, \$40 day of) are available online at Cassina Garden Club website or at St. Simons Ace. 1195 Arthur J. Moore Drive, St. Simons.

Sat. Apr. 8, 9am –11am. Coastal Wildscapes Spring Native Plant Walk and Seed Swap. Altama Plantation, Darien. Go to Coastal Wildscapes website to register. \$10 for non-members. Also, Coastal Wildscapes,

Thurs. April 13, 7:30-9 pm. Frogwatch, Ford Field and River Club, Richmond Hill. Register on website.

Wild Amelia Wild Nite – Tues. Apr. 11, 7pm. "Earth Kinship". Peck Center, 516 S. 10th St., Fernandina.

Camden County Extension (Jessica Warren) zoom programs:

Register at uge3039@uga.edu Phone 912-576-3219

Thurs, April 6, 12 – 1pm. "The Amazing Octopus"

Thurs., May 4, 12-1pm. "Basic Rose Culture"

Garden to-dos for April

Deadhead cool season annuals. Pick up old camellia and azalea blooms and discard to prevent blight. Clean up cold damaged plants, gingers can be cut back to the ground. Cut back those deciduous vines that have held onto their leaves all winter so they can put out some new growth. Plant bulbs like agapanthus, caladiums, amaryllis, begonias, crinum, rain lilies. Reshape perennials. Fertilize citrus. Plant single (not double) zinnias to feed monarchs. Prune azaleas after they bloom.

Announcements

Our plant sale is April 22 at Orange Hall, 9 am to noon.

The Garden Maven's Advice to the "Floralorn"

Dear Garden Maven:

My garden is still a mess after the brutal winter we had. I go out there and don't know where to begin. What kind of a plan can I use to tackle this giant mess?

Overwhelmed and Undermotivated in St. Marys

Dear Overwhelmed,

I feel your pain. My yard is looking like a disaster has befallen it and it seems to be taking forever to clean up. As far as a plan goes, tackle a couple of things that will immediately look better, like clearing out the dead branches. My turks cap was sporting about 100 six foot long dead stems from last year. When they were cut, that part of the yard looked much better, even though nothing else was done and the weeds are having a wild party. If you get the obviously dead stuff cut back around the whole yard, it will make a quick improvement. It's like tight shoes, take them off and you feel a lot better immediately. Then get onto the weeds. If you weed a certain area, put down some mulch so you can see where it's done, and it will also keep new weeds from coming in before you finish the rest of the yard. Do one section of the yard at a time, and finish it before moving on. Start with the part of the yard where you spend the most time. After the weeds are out of each section, plant whatever you are planning for that area and move on. Eventually it will be completed and looking good again.

The Maven

Plant Hero of the Month: The oak leaves seemed to finish up a little early this year, and the jasmine is blooming earlier than usual.