

St Marys Garden Club Newsletter

June 2016

Dates and Events (events are free unless noted)

Nassau Extension Plant Clinic (Monday at 10am): June 20 -- Yulee County Bldg. (86026 Pages Dairy Rd.) Bring your sick plants in a plastic bag.

Monday, June 20, 10-11am – “Troubleshooting Lawn Problems”, Yulee Satellite Office (86026 Pages Dairy Rd)

Announcements

Christmas in July – Bring your items to the June meeting and give them to Joan. Suggested items include: body wash, shampoo, bath soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, talcum powder, hand cream, face cream, deodorant, combs and brushes, nail polish/remover, cotton balls, tissues, either purse size or regular size, mouthwash, lip balm. This is a wonderful project that helps people in our own community.

Earth Angels are looking for classroom helpers or people to assist the Go Green Club in the coming school year.

Work Day at Pavilion and Presbyterian garden -- **Wednesday, June 15, 8:30 am**, meet at pavilion (by the waterfront at the end of Osborne St.). Bring clippers, gloves, weeders, bug spray, water.

Garden to-dos for June

Plant melampodium, pentas, portulaca, purslane, salvia, zinnia, lantana, buddleia, daylily, verbena, coneflower, plumbago, sun coleus. Plant bulbs like agapanthus, blackberry lily, clivia, achimenes, crinum, iris. Watch for pests like grasshoppers or slugs who chew holes in the plants, aphids, other pests. If ants are running wild on your trees or shrubs, they may be farming aphids. Malathion will take care of both the farmers and the livestock. Some things like gingers, clerodendrum, and caladiums have still not come back. Keep watching for the latecomers. Deadhead, deadhead, deadhead.

The Garden Maven’s Advice to the “Floralorn”

Dear Garden Maven,

I am late planting my garden this year, and would like flowers that will be colorful all season. What are some reliable bloomers?

Procrastination is my Middle Name

Dear Pro,

To get immediate color, buy plants in at least 4 inch pots. Caladiums, begonias, coleus, and impatiens are the old reliables for shade. There are many shade loving foliage plants that add color all season without sprouting a single flower, and your house plants can also add color to the garden. Begonias with unusual leaves, gloxinias, Persian shield and wandering jew can be put out in their pots and moved around as the garden changes. For sun, annuals like vinca, dune sunflower, pentas, purslane, and Angelonia will bloom all summer. We are lucky to have perennials that are easy to grow and bloom for the entire season like plumbago, bush daisies, esperanza, Mexican petunia (yes, I know it is invasive but it blooms a lot, attracts hummingbirds, and is pretty, so I like it anyway), lantana, canna, and landscape roses. Some of the plants like Sun Coleus and Sunpatiens will probably do better in partial sun. Full sun here is pretty hard on them.

The Maven

Plant Hero of the Month: *My angel trumpets are blooming their fool heads off.*