

# St Marys Garden Club Newsletter

## April 2019

### **Dates and Events** (events are free unless noted)

**Nassau Extension Plant Clinics- April 1 (10am-2pm):** (Mon.), Yulee County Bldg. (86026 Pages Dairy Rd.)

**Weds. April 3, 10am-11am, “Propagation”,** Yulee County Bldg. (86026 Pages Dairy Rd.), must register at rljordi@ufl.edu. Call 904-530-6353 or 530-6350 for information.

**Sat. April 6, 10am-2pm, Plant Clinic.** Held at Ace Hardware in Fernandina. (On the right soon after the bridge)

**Weds. April 10, 5:30-8 pm, “Birds and Brews”** by Coastal Wildscapes. A program about the red cockaded woodpecker held at **Brackish Brewery, 907 Dilworth in St. Marys!** Register on Coastal Wildscapes website, \$15 members, \$20 non-members.

**Weds. April 17, 10-11:00 am, “Irrigation”.** Yulee County Bldg. (86026 Pages Dairy Rd.)

**Weds. May 1, 10-11am, “Snakes”,** Yulee County Bldg. (86026 Pages Dairy Rd.)

**Tues. April 10, 7 pm, Wild Amelia Wild Nite — “Amelia Island Coastal Engineering and Sand Processes”,** Peck Center, 516 S. 10<sup>th</sup> St., Fernandina.

**Fri., April 26, Sat. April 27, 10am-4pm.** NOGS Tour of Hidden Gardens, Savannah. Six gardens plus tea at Green Meldrim House. Online \$40, day of \$45. Pick up or purchase tickets at Green Meldrim House (on Madison Square). There is a walk and ride trolley for \$28 extra, **MUST BUY TROLLEY TICKETS ONLINE BEFORE 4/23.**

**Sat. April 27, 8am-11:30 am.** St. Marys River (and land) Cleanup. Bring rakes or grabbers if you have them. Sign up on St Marys Riverkeeper Facebook page. Lunch at White Oak for volunteers afterwards.

**Sat. April 27, 10am-4pm—**Tabby & Tillandsia Garden Tour, St. Simons, \$35 advance, \$30 day of. Tickets on Cassina Garden Club website or at Ace St. Simons. Tour of 6-7 gardens and Tabby Slave Cabins, vendors. Pick up or purchase tickets at cabins, 1195 Arthur J. Moore Drive.

**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. Plant bulbs like agapanthus, caladiums, amaryllis, begonias, crinum, rain lilies. Reshape perennials. Fertilize citrus.

**Announcements** Christmas in July – Give your personal care items for local senior care facilities to Joan.

### **The Garden Maven’s Advice to the “Floralorn”**

*Dear Garden Maven,*

How do I prune weeping trees? I have a weeping yaupon that is looking lopsided and driving me to tears!

*Cryin time again....*

*Dear “Cryin”,*

Weeping Yaupon naturally has a somewhat lopsided appearance, but you can try to modify it with pruning. Stand back and look at the tree and do this from time to time as you prune. It is usually grown with several trunks but can be grown with one trunk. Cut back any small branches that spoil the shape back to the trunk. Don’t cut the larger branches (over 2 inches) unless they make it look hideous. Cuts should be diagonal. Remove branches with a “V” joint. These are weaker than those with a “U” joint and can break off the trunk. Cut off any vertical sprouts, and sprouts off bottom of the trunk. As it gets older, take out lower branches so people can walk under it. It will grow 15-20 ft. tall and ten-15 ft. wide. It needs to be pruned to keep it from getting too wide. Thin out the weeping branches a bit and trim them like a knee length (use your imagination to visualize the tree’s knees) or midi length skirt.

*The Maven*

**Plant Hero of the Month:** Most things are emerging from the ground. Enjoy working in your garden in the beautiful April weather!