



FAIRFIELD GLADE GARDEN CLUB



2023 NEWSLETTER

From the President

Good morning gardeners,

I want to thank everyone for submitting questions for our Master Gardener Panel at our April meeting. Several were not answered at the meeting but the panel will get their answers back to me and we can put it in an email.

I know it is feeling less like Spring with the cooler temperatures and we all have plants to plant. Just remember to cover these tender plants if the temperature forecast is in the 30's. I have a wagon full of plants and I am itching to get them into the containers but I know they will not be happy if the soil is still very cold.

Here is a picture of my shade garden this morning. These plants love this weather and are very healthy.



Speaking of plants, the UT plant sale will be held on May 6 at the Plateau Discovery Gardens, 320 Experiment Station Rd. Visit www.ccmga.org for info and prices.

We are also looking forward to meeting our Scholarship recipients and hearing about their plans for the future.

Rhoda

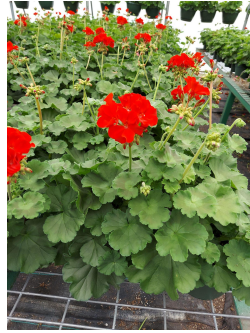
May 17th's Meeting
will be the
Scholarship Luncheon
sponsored by the
First National Bank. ***It is a
member only event and you
must have previously signed up
to attend as attendance is
limited.***

Our June 21st meeting
at the FG Community Church
will feature John Conrad
speaking about
The Friends of the Trails.

SHARING TABLE.....SHARING TABLE.....SHARING TABLE

We **will not** be having the Sharing Table for the May Meeting because of the Scholarship Luncheon. Looking forward to wonderful things at the June Meeting.

Debora Boyle



Fern & Geranium Sale

We had another banner year with our Fern & Geranium Sale! A BIG thank you goes out to all of you who helped make this happen by either volunteering or buying plants – or both! Monday at the Greenhouse was a record breaking day of sales. Between the Plant Sale, the Bake Sale, miscellaneous donations, and the BirdDog Marketing donation, over \$6000 was added to the Helena Schmidt Scholarship Fund

Our next plant sale will be the Poinsettia Sale the week following Thanksgiving. More details will come closer to the date.

Darlene Petersen

From the Travel Committee:

Coming soon!

May 2nd – Genesis Garden – Crossville – Beautiful azalea and rhododendron garden run by Bill Pinkerton who has been gardening for over 30 years. While the garden did have a tough winter like us all, his garden is still a must see in Crossville. And meeting Bill is definitely an experience.

May 23rd – Plateau Discover Gardens – Crossville – UT Gardens – This is part

of the state Botanical Gardens of Tennessee and is a collaborative effort of the Plateau AgResearch & Education Center, UT Extension Cumberland County and the Cumberland County Master Gardeners. This 1 ½ - 2 hour tour will take us through the garden where we can learn about some of the exciting research they are doing there and see the beautiful spring flowers. We will have a master gardener accompany us on the tour and can answer some of your burning questions. If you have been here before, each time is a little different as the garden changes through the seasons and is always something new. I will have sign up sheet available at the May meeting, but if you would like to attend, feel free to drop me an email or a text with your name and I will add your name to the list. We will follow this tour with lunch at the Long Road Café just a short distance from the garden.

June 22nd - Fair Wind Lavender Farm - Jamestown, TN - This trip includes a workshop where we will be making a lavender wand (there will be a \$5.00 charge for supplies). Following our workshop we will tour their production facility where they produce various products with the varieties of lavender that they grow. We will also get to taste their lavender lemonade and lavender ice cream and will have an opportunity to visit their store if interested in purchasing any lavender products. June is absolutely peak time for lavender, and I have met painters who go there just to paint the beautiful fields of lavender. Another must see trip. We will follow with lunch, but I have not zeroed in on a restaurant yet. Details will follow on that.

July - I am still working on putting together an exciting trip for July including the Knoxville Botanical Gardens & Arboretum, Baxter Gardens, and the Ivan Racheff House & Gardens and Arboretum which is a national historical landmark. Watch for more details coming soon!

Please feel free to reach out to me via email (petersendarlene@hotmail.com) or text/phone 847-714-2153. I look forward to seeing you all at these and other future trips.

From the Environmental and Conservation Committee

Suzanne's Low Impact Lawn Care Tips

Are you looking for ways to reduce how much your lawn affects our lakes and streams, here are some easy-to-do ideas for you to consider. I will be posting short articles for the next couple of months. Let me know if there are any topics you would like me to cover. Please note, these tips are for those of you who have the typical cool season grass lawns. If you have zoysia grass, please look up the specific needs of warm season grasses.

Yours Suzanne Wade, FGGC Environmental Chair

Suzanne's Low Impact Lawn Care Tips

You learned tips #1 and #2 in April here are a few more

#3 Mow High and Let it Lie

Tall thick grass shades and cools the soil, fosters deeper roots and shades out weeds.

Mow High: Your mower should be set at the highest setting possible, at least 3 inches and 4 is better. If you use a yard service, check with them as to the mower height they use.

Let it Lie: Mulching your grass and leaves is a great way to get a free fertilization, plus it adds important organic matter and improves moisture retention. It does not result in thatch.

Thatch is a layer of living and dead organic matter that occurs between the green matter and the soil surface. Heavy nitrogen fertilizer applications or overwatering frequently contribute to thatch, as they cause the lawn to grow excessively fast. Thatch can be a problem with warm season grasses, but almost never a problem with cool season grasses.)

NEVER MOW INTO THE STREET: All those good nutrients wash down the street to the storm drain or ditch and right to the lake, creek or river! This results in algae and weed growth – yuck. Plus it's slippery and can be a problem for bikers, cyclists and walkers.

Sharpen those blades: Sharp mower blades prevent tearing of grass blades. A torn grass leaf can lose a lot of water and turn brown.

Mow Often: Never cut more than 1/3 of the grass blade at a time, it stresses the plant.

Credits: Low Maintenance Lawn Care from UK Extension, plus information from other Kentucky Extension materials: AGR-50, AGR-209, AGR-212, ID-154 with assistance from Greg Upchurch, Cumberland County Extension.



Spring Hours:
Mon - Fri 8-5pm
Saturday 8-4pm
Sunday 12-4pm

Come see us!
3321 Peavine Rd
Crossville, TN 38571
931-456-9050

Remember to bring your Garden Club badge to receive your 20% off on plants



Look what I dug up by Nathy Hill

Sending Love or Death Threats? The True Azalea Flower Meaning!

Azaleas are beautiful flowering plants that can tolerate almost any type of growing conditions. These hardy plants can produce colorful flowers even when they don't get enough water!

Azaleas are often grown in gardens, but they can also grow perfectly fine indoors. Their lovely

blooms are used for decorations and bouquets.

Before you give someone azaleas, you should know the true Azalea flower meaning. Their symbolism might vary based on the flower color. Nonetheless, most of them have positive connotations.

Abundance, elegance, fragility, and homesickness can be found amongst several other meanings.

Symbolism Of Azalea Flower

There are different interpretations when it comes to Azalea flower meaning. The first symbolism is **homesickness** or fond memories of home and a desire to return to it. Azaleas are often gifted to family members as a way to tell them that you miss them.

When used for decorative purposes, Azaleas flowers exude **elegance and wealth**. They also represent **feminine beauty and gentleness**.

If you know someone who is trying a new career path and hopes to be successful, then giving them Azaleas might be a perfect gift since they also represent **abundance and good luck**.

However, there's also another side of the symbolism.

In many cultures, Azaleas are sent as a **death threat**. This is because they are highly toxic, which means that whoever receives them should take it as a warning, especially if they are gifted in black vases.

As these flowers easily fall off, they also symbolize fragile love. However, this is not necessarily a bad thing because they can still flourish and produce numerous blooms in the future.

Symbolism Of Azalea Flower Based on Color

Red and dark pink Azaleas symbolize **true love and passion**. These varieties are often gifted for Valentine's Day. Purple Azaleas represent **royalty and gratitude**, as well as cheerfulness and friendship.

White Azaleas are associated with **purity and innocence**. These are used frequently as wedding decorations.

Besides adding color to your room, yellow Azaleas can add some color into your life as well because they represent **happiness, positive energy, and relationships**.

Now that you know the true Azalea flower meaning, I'm sure that giving presents to someone special is going to be a lot easier (just make sure that they don't come in black vases!).

Even if you are a beginner gardener, buying Azaleas and growing them by yourself is quite easy. All

you have to do is make sure that they grow in slightly acidic soil. Give them water from time to time and ensure that they receive plenty of bright indirect sunlight.

For even more interesting facts about Azaleas, check out this link.

https://positivebloom.com/azalea-flower-meaning/?fbclid=IwAR2OhS_hbDgZFHxoQgWZP6v9DdwKKc2XFPdWkmNrN2TpMq4KgrAi_cJ_b8A

Soil3 Big Yellow Bag Compost Promotion:

Soil3 is an organic humus/compost which can be used on lawns, raised beds, and garden beds with no other soil additive. It does not require fertilizer during the growing season. It helps to retain water with no mulch required.

The **Big Yellow Bag** – 1 cubic yard (27 cubic feet) will be delivered to your driveway. The soil can be stored in its re-sealable bag and used over several months' time. Other bagged soil bought locally may be a little less expensive but some are not for lawns and need to be mixed with garden soil for raised beds and mulch is recommended for water retention.

Plus if you use the link or code below you will receive \$5 off regular pricing!

As an added bonus the Garden Club will earn \$15 for each product ordered which will go into our Scholarship Fund. And, for returned empty bags a Big Yellow Bag will be donated to the Plateau Discovery Gardens.

Go to www.Soil3.com for more info; make sure to enter **Promotion Code FGGC2023** in order for the Garden Club to get credit for the sale. You can also go to the <https://shop.soil3.com/discount/FGGC2023> link which automatically applies directly to our promotion code.

Please save your bags! Sometime in July Rhoda Hiller will collect your bags and return them to Knoxville for credit benefiting the UT Discovery Garden.

Submissions for publication in this newsletter should be emailed to

Kathy Spancake at kathy.spancake@gmail.com by the 28th of each month.

Website - fggardenclub.com email -
fggardenclub@gmail.com

Leader Board Meeting - Friday before General Meeting - 9:00 am

General Meeting - 3rd Wednesday of month - 521 Snead Drive - 9:30 am

Coffee & Socializing - 9:00 am - Bring your own coffee mug

September - off site meeting - December - no meeting

attachment(s): April 2023 General Meeting Minutes