



FAIRFIELD GLADE GARDEN CLUB



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JULY 2023 NEWSLETTER

From the President

I hope everyone is enjoying the summer. I cannot believe it is almost July. This year seems to have flown by. The rain was a welcome relief and I could hear my plants shouting "Thank You". Our yard is so thick and lush this year. I'm not sure whether this is the result of a new fertilizer schedule or if the many rabbits are fertilizing it naturally.

I have been traveling and right now I am in Ohio, visiting family. Yesterday I visited the Miller Nature Preserve in Avon, Ohio. They have a huge greenhouse with topicals, succulents and cacti. My favorite area was the Butterfly House.

I am including some pictures of the Butterfly House, a couple butterflies and my great grandson, Mason. The kids were so excited and so gentle with the butterflies.

I learned so much at the Pollinator Give Away at the Discovery Gardens so this little excursion was great. I was able to talk to the attendant about the exhibit and showed her how to determine the sex of the Monarch Butterfly by the markings on their wings.

Enjoy your gardening and remember to take breaks and drink plenty of water.



July 19th meeting

The guest speaker will be
Mark Baldwin, Meteorologist
 and he will be
 speaking about
**“The Weather on the
 Cumberland Plateau”**

July 19th meeting

at the
FG Community Church

The August Speaker will be Robert Lauf, “the Lily Guy”	
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Member Only Event at Jake’s Barn

PLEASE NOTE:

THIS YEAR’S EVENT WILL BE ON

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH.

This is NOT our regular meeting date, but the Barn wasn’t available that day, so we had to change the date this year. Please write it on your calendars. **There will not be a meeting on September 20th!** Hopefully that won’t inconvenience too many Members.

There will be sign-up sheets at the July and August General Meetings for attending the event and for bringing food. *Please remember that the Barn can only accommodate 100 people so you must sign up for this event!*

We are in the planning phases for this event. There will be a **second planning meeting in Room C at the All-Purpose Building on Lakeview Drive on Thursday, July 20th at 9:00 am.** If you are interested in being on this fun committee, please email Kathy Spancake at Kathy.spancake@gmail.com to let her know if you will be at the meeting. If you can’t make the meeting but still want to help just let Kathy know.



The Hospitality Committee is currently looking for members to host the Hospitality Table. It takes two people per month, and we are only asking you to volunteer for one month (or more if you really want to). You would be responsible for being at the church at 8:00 on meeting day, making the coffee and setting up, “hosting” the table during the social time and cleaning up at the end. The items needed will be brought downstairs and returned upstairs for you. Complete instructions will be provided. Other people will have signed up to bring the goodies. The months left this year are August, October and November. If you have a friend and want to do it together that’s great! If you would like to sign up as just half of the duo that won’t be a problem. We will match someone up to be the other half. We all love our goodies, but we can’t have them without the help to put them out there. Please email Kathy Spancake at Kathy.spancake@gmail.com if you are able to help.

From the Travel Committee:

Upcoming trips:

July

Details have been finalized for the July bus trip to the Ivan Racheff Historic Home, Garden & Arboretum where we will get a tour of the garden and enjoy a nice lunch in the garden. Following that we head over to the Knoxville Botanical Garden where we will get a private tour of some of their 47 acre garden by one of their Directors of Horticulture. Unfortunately if you have not signed up and confirmed, there are no openings available at this time. If you have signed up, you will be receiving an email from me a few days prior to the trip with all the details. Thank you for all the interest in this trip.

August

Date: TBD

Time: TBD

Location: Highland Manor Winery – 2965 South York Highway – Jamestown, TN

Currently working on securing a date to visit and tour the vineyards and sample some wines. More details will follow once confirmed.

October

Date: Thursday, October 5 th
 Time: 10:30 am
 Cost: \$15.00 pp – Payment will be due by the August Garden Club meeting.
 Limit: Unfortunately this trip is limited to the first 25 people that sign up.
 Location: Erin’s Meadow Herb Farm – “Herbal Teas for Health & Happiness”
 132 England Drive, Clinton, TN

This 12 acre farm is located just outside the city of Oak Ridge and sells fresh cut herbs at local farmers markets. They specialize in herbal education classes and workshops, as well as cooking classes. We will be welcomed to the farm with a tea party followed by a class on herbal teas, and how they can affect our health and happiness. We will also learn how we can grow some of these herbs at home. Don’t miss this opportunity.

December

Date: Tuesday, December 5 th
 Location: Christmas at the Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center –
 Nashville, TN

There was a separate email with details and sign up sheet sent out on June 28 th .
 Check your inboxes!

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

The sharing table brought in more than \$270.00 at the June meeting!

Bring your fun and interesting items each month and don’t forget to purchase a little something too. We at the Sharing Table cannot put prices on the items there. We find though, that our members are more than generous with their offerings. If you do not know how much to offer, we can provide you with a subtle hint.

Those bluebird boxes sell out quickly at the modest donation of \$20.00. (there is a subtle hint, ol) The volunteer who makes these boxes will continue, but he would like to know about how many. If you would like to pre-order a bluebird house, please email Deb Boyle Debgolfs@comcast.net

Stop by the table to see what “finds” you can bring home. All donations go directly to the Helena Schmidt Scholarship Fund. Hoping for a record-breaking year and lots of fun!

Debora Boyle

From the Environmental and Conservation Committee

Suzanne's Low Impact Lawn Care Tips #3

Previous newsletters had tips 1-3.

#4 Water Wisely

Most lawns are composed of Cool Weather Grasses – honor that and let them go semi-dormant in the hot summer. Unless drought and heat are extreme it will green up again when it gets cool in the late summer or early fall. This is when allowing grass to grow high really pays off, as the roots go as deep as the blades are tall.

Water Deeply: You should also water infrequently and deeply, if you choose to water in mid-summer. Then, if you see your footsteps when you walk across the lawn, it is becoming drought stressed, turn the sprinklers on and let them go until you see small puddles. The best time to do this is just before dawn, the earlier the better.

Watering early allows leaves to dry, preventing fungal diseases. Don't water again until you see those tell-tale footprints.

Water Slowly: Especially important if you have clay soils this allows the water to soak in and prevents run-off.

Don't let it run-off! You're paying for it, so make sure it isn't rushing to the storm drain or ditch and on to a lake or river!

Water with rain water: Why put water that has been pulled from deep underground or from our local streams, treated with chlorine and fluoride to make it safe for humans to drink, and then pumped through the country-side, which is costly and uses a lot of energy - on your lawn? So instead take the water that nature has freely moved to your yard, store it and use it. You'll probably need a 250 gallon system for lawn watering. If you live in 'The Glade', getting a large enough system approved could be a problem, check with the ACC first.

Added Benefit 1). Your plants, especially flowers and fruit hates hard water, they

love slightly acid rain water.

Added Benefit 2). You'll help our lakes out too as all that excess rain water isn't washing downstream.

Added Benefit 3). Save taxpayer money - moving water around is the single biggest energy expense for most cities.

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.



Look what I dug up by Nathy Hill

11 Deer Resistant Herbs To Plant This Season

It seems like deer here in Fairfield Glade will eat just about anything, but there are some plants that they don't usually mess with. Planting these herbs may help keep deer away from your garden. Here are the top 11 herbs that deer seem to avoid!

Lavender

Thanks to its powerful aroma, lavender is a naturally deer-resistant plant. Even when it isn't flowering, the foliage of lavender has a pungent smell that deer do not like. You can plant lavender along the outside of your vegetable garden as a companion plant. The camphorous smell of the leaves and the floral aroma of the booms can help deter deer (and other pests) from eating your crops while simultaneously attracting beneficial insects.

Rosemary

Another drought-tolerant Mediterranean favorite, rosemary is repulsive to deer. The potent aroma of rosemary can help mask the smell of other plants they may be seeking, like your freshly-sown lettuce or fruiting tomatoes. Deer also dislike rubbing against the rosemary plant because of the essential oils that can rub off on their fur.

Sage

Sage plants are among the most popular deer-resistant ornamentals because they offer a diversity of floral colors along the margin of a woodland. This popular herb is actually part of the *Salvia* genus, which includes hundreds of varieties. From white sage to Russian sage to blue sage, all of these shrubs produce beautiful blooms and aromatic leaves that repel deer. As a bonus, the leaves have a wooly or fuzzy leaf texture that hungry deer do not want in their mouths.

Oregano

Oregano contains two strong essential oils called carvacrol and thymol. When the fragrance of this herb hits a deer's nose, it often sends them off in the other direction. Like rosemary, deer really hate rubbing up against oregano or stepping on it.

Thyme

Thyme is an extremely low-maintenance herb that thrives in poor soils without much fertility or water. As an herbaceous perennial deer barrier, thyme's fragrant leaves are not appetizing to deer. When blooming, the strong smell of the flowers can also repel deer. Use creeping thyme as a ground cover around your garden beds and it may prevent deer from walking in.

Lemon Balm

Known for its delicious tea-making capacity, lemon balm is not quite so tasty to deer. The animals have an aversion to the fragrant leaves and flowers of this herb. Lemon Balm is a perfect low-growing border plant to keep deer out of your garden. However, it can be slightly invasive in some regions, so plant wisely.

Mint

You will notice that all of the above herbs belong to the mint family. Mint and its relatives are the backbone of a deer-resistant herb garden. Peppermint, spearmint, ginger mint, and any other variety of mint can easily be added to the blend to add olfactory shock value to your local deer noses. Grow mint in great abundance around the borders of your garden, but avoid planting it in your garden beds. Mint is a natural spreader that can out-compete your vegetables. However, it makes great ground cover in moist, partially shaded soils along a forest or grassland border.

Chives

Chives are a perennial onion-family herb that turns away deer as well as aphids and Japanese beetles. Because of the strong taste and onion-y smell of chives, you can reliably plant them out

in the open. They make a delicious garnish for meals and a low-maintenance, cold-tolerant ornamental. Be sure to plant perennial chives, not annual green onions. Both are deer-resistant, but the perennial chives will grow as a clump that comes back year after year.

Dill

Any gardener who loves pickles needs to have a self-seeding dill patch. This resilient herb is smelly and strong tasting, which makes it yet another deer-deterrent. Sometimes known as dill weed, both blue-green foliage and yellow umbel flowers of dill have a distinctive fragrance. The plant can naturally spread into small patches and remains biennial in zones 2-8.

Horseradish

Deer avoid horseradish at all costs. The spicy aroma of this perennial Brassica keeps most pests away. The large bushes look like weedy dock plants but smell strongly of mustards. Deer avoid the foliage as well as the spicy roots.

Tarragon

Whether it's Mexican or French tarragon, this herb has a distinctive anise smell that deer strongly dislike. They tend to avoid eating or stepping on the plant. The licorice flavor is surprisingly delicious as a garnish on chicken, fish, or vegetables. Thankfully, deer don't find it nearly as appetizing as we do. If you have pets, keep in mind that tarragon oils can be toxic to dogs, cats, and horses. Most animals avoid the plant anyways.

Final Thoughts

As a rule of thumb, smelly, fragrant, or strong-tasting plants repel deer. The primary exceptions are basil and parsley, which deer will happily chomp up. If you want to keep deer out of your garden, plant a border landscape of aromatic perennial herbs. To take it up a notch, interplant with other ornamental plants like daffodils and foxgloves that are well known to send those deer looking for food elsewhere.

If you are interested in more info here is a link to the article.

<https://www.allaboutgardening.com/deer-resistant-herbs/?fbclid=IwAR1RMBcfwf3WbvemQTUE3kjH0X6kglakJQ2BSKO-1gTCzLlOAwX-tyelylI>

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 **PromotionCode 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! Rhoda and her husband will be collecting empty Soil3 bags and returning them to Knoxville for credit benefiting the UT Discovery Garden. If you have a bag to return, please drop it off at her house, 3P meeting on July 19th and place them in her truck.



Question?

Who to call if you have questions about:

General Information: Rhoda Hiller, (931) 456-7732

Membership: David Dean, (503) 928-1867

Travel: Darlene Petersen, (847) 714-2153

Sharing Table: Deb Boyle, (847) 924-2112

Hospitality: Ali Reader, (815) 353-1997

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): June 2023 General Meeting Minutes