The Bloomin' News

June, 2022, Vol. XI, 6

Alan Howland, Chairman **Thomas Perez, Editor**

Member of FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS

Chairman's Message – Alan Howland

Fellow Gardener's,
Summer is upon us and it seems like we either get a lot of rainfall or we are in a drought. Out next meeting is on June 14th and lunch will be served. Jen was nice enough to take a water sample from our deep well and have it analyzed. The results were a little disturbing, the water has a high salt content. The salt content is above acceptable limits for watering plants. We will have to reevaluate our water sources at our next meeting and try to figure out what we can do to improve the quality of the well water. We will be performing the same test on the reclaimed water in the near future.
A couple of important notes. First, When you finish using a garden hose make sure you shut the water off to the hose and drain the pressure off. The hoses are sitting in the sun and I noticed that they are starting to bulge from the heat of the sun. Remember, the water pressure may be around 40 psi on a regular day but in the sun the pressure can climb to over 100 psi. Hoses are expensive, please drain your garden hose when you are done. Second, people are operating water valves and not putting them back in their proper positions. Last week I found a valve partially open and our pump worked for a week pumping water into the city water supply. Thank you to Buck for replacing our pressure switch last Tuesday. If we continue to overwork our pump, then we will be replacing it soon. From now on no one touches a valve without asking me first unless it's an emergency. We are working hard to replace faulty sprinkler heads so if you see plants that have dried out, please let the farm managers know.
Please be patient with our chipper, we are working hard to keep it running. At the next meeting we will discuss purchasing soil supplements for the soil that we are making. Thank you to everyone for working so hard each week, we have a good crew and we get along real well. Regards, Ala



JUNE IN THE GARDEN

Although May surprised us with some showers, June should give us even more rain. In a normal year, we get about 7 Inches, mainly as afternoon and evening showers. An unobstructed rain gauge can save guess work, and sometimes a good deal of watering. Our flowerbeds and lawn need a minimum of 1 inch of water a week in our hot weather. If you do not get about ½ inch of rain during each 3 to 4 day period, you should water until about ½ inch of rain and irrigation has been applied.

Applying and/or renewing mulches and weeding will reduce water needs and help control summer weeds.

The increased rain and higher humidity will increase Black Spot and Powdery Mildew on ROSES, CRAPE MYRTLE, ZINNIAS and other similar plants. Start a weekly fungicide spray program. This will also help control Spider Mites.

If you have Bahia lawn, June is an excellent time to seed bare and thin spots. After sowing seed, apply a thin layer of soil, water well, frequently when it does not rain.

June is one of the most active months for Mole Crickets the scourge of Bahia lawns. Follow label instructions when you begin spraying or putting out bait. Mole Cricket bait applied on a damp lawn in the evening is also effective. Mole Crickets are usually active on the surface after dark.

Pinch back the tips of bushes and shrubs to develop more compact plants. Use the cuttings to root new plants for our plant sale. Do not prune or pinch AZALEAS or GARDENIAS after the end of June, or you will sacrifice some of next year's blooms. If plants are not a deep rich green, feed with Chelated Iron, Iron Sulphate and/or Manganese Sulfate. Manganese Sulfate will also cure "frizzle top" on Palm Trees.

Root tip cuttings of CHRYSANTHEMUMS and POINSETTIAS – use 4 to 6 inch long cuttings with all the leaves left on the MUMS. Remove all but the tip leaves on the POINSETTIAS.

Fruit drop from Citrus and some other fruit trees can be expected this month. The trees shed the fruit they can not support. To reduce drop, follow an established fertilizer and watering program. Feed bananas monthly.

Brighten your yard with warm season plantings of BEGONIA, BLUE DAZE, CALADIUM, CELOSIA, VINCA, COLEUS, IMPATIENS, MARIGOLD, PENTA, SALVIA, PORTULACA, PERIWINKLE, VERBENA and ZINNIA. June is also a good time to plant bulbs of DAY LILIES, RAIN LILIES. IRIS, CANNA, CRINUM and SOCIETY GARLIC.

NOTE: Above mentioned chemicals may no longer be available. Replace with Natural or Organic sprays.

Become a New Member!! YOU Are Welcome!

We are always looking for new members and have great opportunities for learning at our monthly meetings, at the Tree Farm and at special events.. We have facilities to start plants from seeds/clippings. For more information, call Rose at 321-289-8388.



Five plants that naturally repel mosquitos:

Catnip and catmint: not only attract cats, but also repel a variety of insects, including aphids, squash bugs…and mosquitos. Scatter pots of this hearty plant around your yard, balcony or home.

(Citronella grass, Geraniums, Lantana and Lavender are the other 4 repellent plants!)

Garden Club Web Sites

National Garden Club: www.gardenclub.org
Florida Federation of GC: www.ffgc.org
TGC site: http://www.nbbd.com/npr/tgc/
TMGC site: http://www.nbbd.com/npr/tmgc

Community Calendar

Florida Native Plant Society – Sea Rocket Chapter

For information on The Sea Rocket Chapter's meeting contact the Enchanted Forest at 321-264-5185. The Enchanted forest is located at, 444 Columbia Blvd (Hwy 405). The public is welcome.

http://www.nbbd.com/npr/SeaRocket/

For information on local events this month see:
http://nbbd.com/events/

Joanie's Corner -- SUCCULENTS

Succulents store water in their thick leaves, so they do not rely on a large root system. Take advantage of this unique quality by planting in small containers crevices of rocks or any small space. For containers, use a high quality potting soil. It is not necessary to use expensive cactus potting soil if you reduce the water and ensure good drainage.

For large containers, fill the pots up halfway with empty milk jugs, soda bottles or cans or packing peanuts to take up space, increase drainage and keep the pots a bit lighter. Saving money on potting soil is an added bonus.



Succulents will grow well in full sun to part shade. You can add beautiful topdressing to accentuate the color and texture, such as stones, pebbles, shells, gravel or tumbled glass. Propagate by setting leaflets on the top of a pot or tray of soil. Avoid temptation to "stick" them in – they will root if left just resting on the soil. A light misting every few days will be needed.

Over several weeks you will begin to see small roots growing down from the cut end and new baby plants will begin to grow. Let these small plants reach dime size before trans-planting into their own pots.

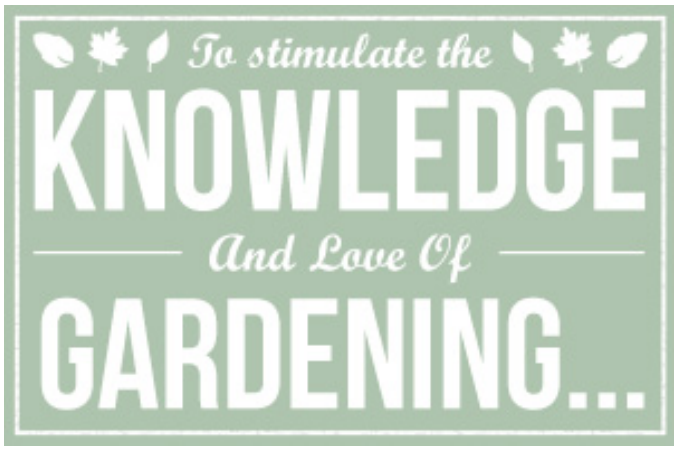
Titusville Garden Club Tree Farm

Meets 2nd Tuesday of each month at 9:30 am.
"At the Tree Farm" next to Stuart Park
1230 Thoreau St
Our next meeting will be
June 14th, 2021

The public is welcome to join us. Work at the Farm is conducted on Tuesday Thursday and Saturdays in the morning.

The Bloomin' News
Titusville Garden Club Tree Farm
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Email: tntsservice@gmail.com

Please send your articles to be included in next month's Bloomin' News.



GARDEN CLUB



The Titusville Garden Club Tree Farm

Titusville Garden Center, 5275 Sisson Road, Titusville, FL 32780

Next Meeting: Second Tuesday of the Month, -- 10:00 a.m.
(@ "the Farm" Behind Stuart Park)

INVITATION TO JOIN THE TITUSVILLE GARDEN CLUB TREE FARM

Who We Are: A non-profit club that enjoys gardening and contributing to our City's beautification and our environment.

What we Are: As a part of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, we are a partner of the Titusville Garden Club.

What We Do: We educate and help each other to enjoy gardening, teach and learn to enjoy plants. We assist others to propagate, grow and distribute trees and plants to non-profit organizations. We participate in voluntary efforts to help Titusville's "Tree City" initiative to plant 2,000 trees per year.

Where We Meet: We meet on the second Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. at our Tree Farm near the Titusville Water Maintenance Facility, next to Stuart Park. Members adopt trees and plants to grow and have fun.

How We Operate: We presently sponsor a March and an October Tree and Plant Sale. The sales receipts are used to support the Club, purchase materials, and donate plants to the City and other worthy non-profit causes. Some members grow plants to landscape their own homes (all are welcome to do so). With permission from a plant's adoptee, members may take plants for personal use. Dues are $30.00 annually, due in April.

For more information Phone Rose @ 321-289-8388.

Titusville Garden Club Tree Farm Application

Send application below to Titusville Garden Club Tree Farm, P. O. Box 1783, Titusville, FL 32780.

Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Street: _____ City _____ Zip _____