



Douglas County Dirt

Douglas County Master Gardener Association Newsletter

Volume 9, Issue 9



News from the President of DCMGA

Hello Fellow Gardeners,

The field trip to the Southern Nursery Association went well. There were a lot of new plants there and some supply ideas for our Greenhouse. Just a reminder the Georgia Master Gardeners Association (GMGA) fall conference is September 30, 2006 in Augusta.

Randy Cooper volunteered to take the garden at the Cultural Arts Center. He will be getting it together this fall. Anyone who would like to assist him we will post his workdays at our meeting and through email. Thanks Randy.

The Greenhouse is moving along. John Cardell obtained the Building Permit. Next up is the water and electric. Further details will be discussed in our next meeting.

Our guest speaker for September will be Jack Driskell on drought resistant plants.

HOOAAH

Judy

Next Meeting:

September 7, 2006

Douglasville, GA

6:30 for pot-luck

dinner

7:00 meeting

begins

How to get to the meeting site:

St. Julian's Episcopal Church

5400 Stewart Mill Rd



Take Chapel Hill Road to Stewart Mill Road (Intersection at Target and Shell gas station) From I-20 turn right on Stewart Mill Road. Church is about 1 ½ miles on the right.

September 7, 2006



Remember:
School is in session in Douglas County

September To Do List



This month's newsletter from Pike's Family nursery has some good info about two types of lawn fungi to keep an eye out for this time of year. One is dollar spot which appears on lawns as a round, brown to straw-colored spot about the size of a silver dollar. Dollar spot is sometimes confused with brown patch, which has noticeably larger marks than dollar spot. Brown patch will cause turf grass to turn brown, wilt, and dry up. Green Light Fung-Away is recommended and it can also be used for problems like powdery mildew on roses, shrubs, and trees. If you plan on planting fescue seed this fall, wipe out the weeds with a weed killer (Round-Up, Finale, etc.) and you can then put the seed down in seven days. Established fescue needs to be fertilized four times a year--in September, November, February and April. Violets, wild strawberry, and wild onion can be controlled with a broadleaf weed killer. September is important for lawns because about mid-month is when a pre-emergent winter weed preventer should be applied. I learned the hard way not to forget this important part of lawn care!

With cooler weather on the way, get ready to plant trees and shrubs but wait until the soil temps are cooler (October, at least) to plant spring-flowering bulbs. Trees and shrubs need a planting hole 3 times as wide as the root ball. This is also a good time to replace the mulch under roses, shrubs, etc. to help prevent diseases next year. Warm, sunny afternoons are a great time to clean out perennial beds by cutting off dead flowers and brown foliage. Divide day-lily, iris, and monkey grass while the weather is still warm enough to promote root growth. If you don't have any fall-blooming perennials, plant Sedums, Joe-Pye Weed, and Chrysanthemums for next fall. Instead of fertilizing, topdress perennials and shrubs by spreading a 2-3 inch layer of mushroom compost or cow manure on top of the soil around the plants.

You might want to be sure and wear gloves when working outside this time of the year because of the saddleback caterpillar. This insect is greenish-yellow with black stripes that run horizontally instead of lengthwise with a purplish-brown saddle on its back. They eventually turn into beautiful monarch butterflies but as a caterpillar they have a really, painful sting. I know this because I learned the hard way!

Your Sister in Soil--Elaine



Hills and Dales Estate in LaGrange

A Historic Property of Fuller E. Callaway Foundation

If you are interested in learning about garden design, growing orchids, creating gourd art, or Christmas decorating, Hills & Dales Estate has a workshop for you. These workshops will be conducted by special guests and the staff of Hills & Dales Estate in LaGrange. Call 706-882-3242 to register. Workshop space is limited, and pre-registration is required.

Fees for the individual workshops include garden admission. Annual Pass holders receive a 20% discount.

Saturday, September 16th, from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m., award-winning Atlanta garden designer Brooks Garcia will discuss the elements needed to create a successful garden design and demonstrate how to create a design for your own home. Afterwards, you will walk through Ferrell gardens with Mr. Garcia, who will point out design features and give design advice. \$75.00 per person, box lunch included. We are, of course, holding several other workshops this fall, and will pass along that particular information closer to the event date.

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*The Friday, September 29th DDDI Advanced Training is being held in conjunction with the Saturday, Sept 30th GMGA Fall Conference in Augusta. Columbia County Extension is the site of the training and it is part of the greater Augusta area. The Fall Conference is at the Augusta Marriott on the riverfront.

* Spaces are limited in the DDDI Advanced Training, so don't delay in sending your registration to Columbia Co. Registration form-

http://extension.caes.uga.edu/mastergardener/9_29_06.pdf

* You can get directions (and contact info) for the Columbia County Extension office Advanced Training site and all other Extension Offices here

<http://www.caes.uga.edu/extension/statewide.cfm> click on 'Columbia' under 'Northeast District' then you can get Google or Mapquest maps or directions under 'general information'.

* Info and directions to the Marriott Hotel and Suites conference location

<http://marriott.com/property/propertypage/AGSM>
C

* The Master Gardeners of Richmond and Columbia Counties have a great program for the conference lined up- Ted Stephens, Pat Henry, Linda Copeland, Tony Mills and Joe LeVert plus vendor shopping, door prizes and more.

* Early conference registration for the GMGA Fall Conference must have been postmarked by Friday August 26th to get the \$50 rate. After that date, registration is \$60. Registration forms are in the GMGA Scoop or online at

<http://extension.caes.uga.edu/mastergardener/fallcon06.pdf>

* GMGA has blocked rooms at the Marriott for the Conference and these are good for the Friday night as well (as long as they last) at a \$99 rate. 706-722-8900 or 800-228-9290

* The Rockin Rib Music Fest with Martina McBride has unfortunately been rescheduled from the conference weekend to the weekend of Sept 22 & 23.



Vegetable Garden Bounty

Did you see the article in the Atlanta Journal Constitution article about the rivalry between Douglas and Fayette County?

By [DANNY C. FLANDERS](#)
The Atlanta Journal-Constitution
Published on: 08/25/06

“They’re not tossing tomatoes at each other yet, but a little friendly rivalry between Douglas and Fayette county gardeners has helped a metro food drive harvest a record crop of 10 tons of fresh vegetables before Labor Day.

More than 20,273 pounds of produce have been donated to Plant a Row for the Hungry, exceeding this year’s goal of sharing 20,000 pounds with area charities.”
For the whole article, go to

<http://www.ajc.com/living/content/living/homeandgarden/stories/0825LVrow.html>

Zoning in on Hardiness

Zone	Fahrenheit	Celsius
1	Below -50	Below -45.6
2	-50 to -40	-45.5 to -40.0
3	-40 to -30	-39.9 to -34.5
4	-30 to -20	-34.4 to -28.9
5	-20 to -10	-28.8 to -23.4
6	-10 to 0	-23.3 to -17.8
7	1 to 10	-17.7 to -12.3
8	10 to 20	-12.2 to -6.7
9	20 to 30	-6.6 to -1.2
10	30 to 40	-1.1 to 4.4
11	Above 40	Above 4.5

This USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map divides the country into 11 different zones. These zones are based on the lowest average temperature each area is expected to receive during the winter. The averages used to develop the current map are based on winter temperatures from 1974 through 1986.

Each zone represents a span of 10 degrees. Zone one has the coldest winter temperatures while zone 11 has the warmest winter temperatures.

Web address for information: <http://www.provenwinners.com>

Great New Plants You Want for my garden

Click on the links or plant names to see their photos at Burpee or Dutch Gardens.

COLUMBINE LIME SORBET

New color! Soft lime green blooms nod above traditional blue-green foliage.
Partial-shade.

http://www.burpee.com/features/columbine_lime_sorbet_thurs.html

Deer-Resistant

Dog-Tooth Violet

Lovely fringed yellow flower and tulip-like foliage

New for 2006

Autumn Blush Coreopsis

Creamy ivory with a deep red center.

Coreopsis 'Heaven's Gate' #47801

Vigorous and super long-blooming, this is the richest rosy-pink coreopsis yet



Douglas County Master Gardener Association

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Your input is needed.

For newsletter articles, tips, hints, anecdotes, recipes, book reviews, website reviews, gardening and/or shops or online sources, and ideas: Email: MJ_Cardell@yahoo.com
Newsletter deadline is the 20th of each month.

Did you know this newsletter is also posted at our web site in full color, so you can get your dirt online?



GMGA Mission Statement:

To stimulate the love for and increase the knowledge of gardening, and to voluntarily and enthusiastically share this knowledge with others.

WELCOME



Did you know that the public is always welcome to attend our monthly meetings?

See the first page for times, program topic, and location.



Butterfly Garden at Deerlick Park ~ Generally Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m.

Continuing Projects & Works Days

Children's Garden at DC Library ~ Generally Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.

Nature Trail Work Day ~ Generally Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m.

Vegetable Garden Work Days ~ Every Wednesday & Saturday at 9:00 a.m.

Greenhouse Work ~ On Hold at the present

www.dcdirt.org