



April 2007 "The Dirt Worth Printing"



Douglas County Dirt

Douglas County Master Gardener Association Newsletter



Volume 10, Issue 4

News from the President of DCMGA

Hello fellow gardeners,

I am so excited! The plants in my yard are starting to blossom, the azaleas are blooming and everything is leafing out.

The most excitement is our new greenhouse. It is now up with 2 roofs and 9 plant benches. Douglas County Master Gardeners never cease to amaze me with all they accomplish. What started as an idea about 2 years ago is now up and ready to house our plants and give us workspace and a classroom area. I am so proud to be a part of such a wonderful group. Hope to see you at the next meeting, Thursday, April 5th and at some of our many projects.

Let's all go play in the Dirt!

Sharon Morton



Hello All,

In order to accommodate a few of our interns who are working on the vegetable garden, we will move the work days to Thursday and Saturday until they finish their class in April. Since they have classes on Wednesday, and are working on the garden committee, we felt this change was necessary.

Hope everyone will help them whenever they can.

Jan Thomas

Next Meeting:

April 5, 2007

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.

April 5, 2007



COWETA COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS' PLANT SALE – A TREASURE HUNT FOR GARDENERS JUST IN TIME FOR SPRING PLANTING

Plan to attend the fourth annual Master Gardeners' Plant Sale rain or shine on Saturday, April 14th. The event will begin at 8:00 a.m. in the Ag. Building at the Coweta County Fairgrounds located at 275 Pine Road in Newnan, GA. The event will feature a beekeeping demonstration as well as gardening related items for sale such as Master Gardener cookbooks and discounted Garden Tour tickets. In addition, take part in the grand opening of the state-of-the-art Coweta County Extension Greenhouse. For more information, contact the Coweta County Extension Office at 770-254-2620.

FOR THE GARDEN OF YOUR DAILY LIVING

PLANT THREE ROWS OF PEAS:

1. Peace of mind
2. Peace of heart
3. Peace of soul

PLANT FOUR ROWS OF SQUASH:

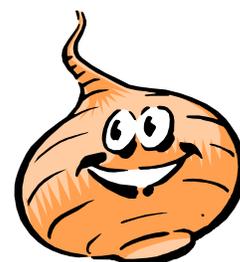
1. Squash gossip
2. Squash indifference
3. Squash grumbling
4. Squash selfishness

PLANT FOUR ROWS OF LETTUCE:

1. Lettuce be faithful
2. Lettuce be kind
3. Lettuce be patient
4. Lettuce really love one another

NO GARDEN IS WITHOUT TURNIPS:

1. Turnip for meetings
2. Turnip for service
3. Turnip to help one another

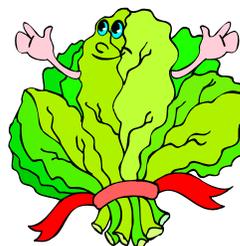
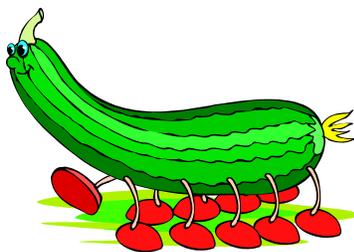
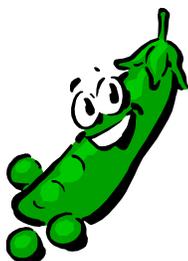


TO CONCLUDE OUR GARDEN WE MUST HAVE THYME:

1. Thyme for each other
2. Thyme for family
3. Thyme for friends



Water freely with patience and cultivate with love. There is much fruit in your garden because you reap what you sow. Not bad, huh?!



Upcoming Gardening Events: Mark your calendars!

10TH ANNUAL GEORGIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY NATIVE PLANT SALE

Piedmont Park, Magnolia Hall Lawn, Park Drive, Atlanta, GA

*** Saturday, April 21, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm***

The Georgia Native Plant Society (GNPS) has again teamed with Piedmont Park Conservancy (PPC) to provide this yearly opportunity to purchase extraordinary native plants. The plants come from our plant rescue program, our members' gardens, or nursery donations. We will have many uncommon plants you won't find anywhere else! Here's a special MG hint--bring your own wagon to gather your plants. There will be hold area as well, but a wagon will help you get the plants you want easily! And this is a great time to buy plants for your native plant projects. Please bring your checkbooks or cash as we cannot accept debit or credit cards. Don't miss the fun! For more information, please go to www.gnps.org or contact Lynn Almand, lynnalmand@mindspring.com or Marcia Winchester, winc@comcast.net

From the Plant Sale Flyer... Come to Piedmont Park on Saturday April 21st and let GNPS help you select all the right plants for your garden or woodland habitat project. Choose from hundreds of native plants—many not available commercially **Woodland perennials:** Trillium, Jack-in-the-Pulpit, Bloodroot, Celandine Poppy, Mayapple, and Foamflower

Sunny perennials: Coreopsis, Coneflower, Bird's foot violet, Iris, Hibiscus, and Asters
Ferns: Christmas, Royal, Cinnamon, Maidenhair, Broad Beech, and Lady Fern

Shrubs: Native Azalea, Buckeye, Hydrangea, Clethra, Virginia Sweetspire; 2007 GNPS Plant of the Year; Vines, Grasses, Bog plants... and many, many more!

Insider Tip: A hold area for your selections will be available, but bring your own small wagon or wheeled cart to make shopping easier

Talk to one of our volunteers about

Butterfly gardening;

Exotic invasive species elimination or control;

Gardening for birds and wildlife;

Controlling your garden's effect on rivers & streams;

The right plant for your conditions;

Wetland and bog gardening

DATE: Saturday April 21st

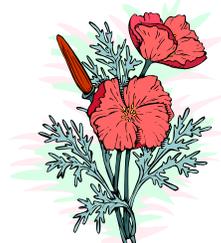
TIME: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

(Note: line will begin forming by 8:30 am for this popular sale)

LOCATION: Piedmont Park - Magnolia Hall Lawn Park Drive, Atlanta, GA

Directions: Exit I-75/I-85 at 10th/14th Street Exit. Left on 10th St, left on Monroe Dr, left on Park Dr into park. Go to

<http://www.gnps.org> or call 770-343-6000 for more info.



PULMONARIA

PULMONARIA- lungwort, bethlehem sage, cowslip lungwort

In late winter and very early spring, before most spring perennials even have poked out of the ground, lungwort, *Pulmonaria* sp., is starting to flower. First almost at ground level, then the flower stalks get taller and the flowers keep blooming, until it is about 10 to 15 inches high. There are about 12 different species native to parts of Europe and Asia. The species cross pollinate freely, so it is not likely we would find any true species available for sale here. However, there are many named cultivars to choose from. The following is taken from an article written by Dan Heims of Terra Nova Nurseries in Canby, Oregon.

The lungworts are a nice group of plants for the semi shady garden. They like moist soil but do well in average garden soil. Most are fast growers. The early spring blooming flowers resemble 'Virginia blue-bells', which are in the same plant family, the Borage family. Plants start to flower in early spring and bloom for a few weeks (April-June). Flower colors can be red, blue, white, or violet, with some species having red-pink flower buds, opening up to reddish-violet, and then turning blue as they age.

The flowers close at night and open again in the morning. New leaves begin to grow a few days to weeks after the first flowers open. The first flowers may open when the stems are only 1 inch out of the ground and more flowers open over the next few weeks as the stems reach their full height, which is generally around 10-18 inches for most forms. *Pulmonaria* should be planted in a somewhat shady area, like under deciduous trees. They like spring sunshine and morning light. They do not like hot afternoon heat, wilting under the intense heat and light of the summer sun. *Pulmonaria* are valuable shade to semi-shade plants with showy early spring flowers and attractive rosettes of basal leaves. (Some plants have green leaves, some have green leaves with silver spots, and some have leaves that look almost all silvery) Lungworts make great ground covers when grown well. Mix with hosta, astilbe, epimedium, or grow under daylilies or peonies or any large shrub. Great under oak trees.

Plant in humus rich, moist, well draining soils. Full to part shade. Divide every 3 to 5 years. Mulch in the fall to protect plants over winter in exposed locations. Water in mid summer to keep plants from going dormant in the summer heat and to keep actively growing. Spray with a fungicide if mildew becomes a problem.--Dan Heims

For pictures go to: www.terravanurseries.com and under the main menu, click **All Plants** then click **Pulmonaria**

YOU WILL WANT SOME LUNGWORTS FOR YOUR GARDEN!

Submitted by Randy Cooper, MG

DC MG Plant Sale May PLANT SALE INFO:

**May 5 at the new greenhouse near the
Woody Fith Senior Center past the
Douglas County Court House on Dorris
Road. Hours: 8:00—4:00**



Douglas County Master Gardener Association

President: Sharon Morton 770-949-4797

Vice President: Jan Thomas 770-489-9276

Treasurer: Judy Cole 770-489-0567

Newsletter: Melanie Cardell 770-920-1278

Web site: Fred Finch

Secretary & Archivist: Rachel Hendee 770-577-3493

Yard of the Month: James Kirkwood 770-942-1663

Douglas County Extension Office: 770-920-7224

Douglas County Court House

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.



Hello All!

As many of you know, the greenhouse officially got its roof put on. It was a long day, and a huge thank-you to all who participated! We also got 9 tables built to put plants on. Our plan was to start potting plants for the plant sale this week, but that has been put on hold. We still need to have the electric run inside, fan motors installed, the louvers put in, and the water worked on. SO, we will have a work day Wednesday at the greenhouse, but please DO NOT bring plants. It is too hot in there, and there is not enough water to make up for the heat.

Tuesday anyone who would like to help can work at the Cultural Arts Center at 9:00
Wednesday we will work on the greenhouse at 9:00 Thursday is a vegetable garden day at 10:00... bring gloves, and water to drink Saturday is also a vegetable garden day at 10:00.
Hope to see you there!

Please call Randy with questions on the Cultural Arts Center 770-920-2193

Jan for the greenhouse 770-489-9276 and James for the veggie garden at 770-489-4680 or MaryJane at 770-944-2780

Thanks everyone! Jan

www.dcdirt.org

Our annual plant sale is set for May 5.

Putting Knowledge to Work