



Douglas County Dirt

Douglas County Master Gardener Association Newsletter



Volume 11, Issue 4

Total Watering Ban in Douglas County~ began 7/1/07

Hello Fellow Master Gardeners,

The focus of GMGA to "stimulate the love for and increase the knowledge of gardening, and to voluntarily and enthusiastically share this knowledge with others" certainly continues to apply to the DCMGA. We are very visible with our time and energy in this community. Many of you might not know that in addition to our regular projects, James Dickinson and Betty Jo Ridgeway have helped the clients at S.H.A.R.E. House get a vegetable garden started. Rachel Hendee helped the young girls at Inner Harbor learn about planting and taking care of flowers.

Many of our projects are continuing, however it was decided at the last meeting to cancel the plant sale due to the drought. Therefore, the greenhouse workdays are sporadic and will be noted by email. There is maintenance that needs to be done, so keep tuned for further information.

If you would like to conduct a class at the Woodie Fite Center let me know. This would be a one-time deal. People are needed for July through December for one hour the last Monday of the month.

Hope to see you all at our next meeting, April 3.

Pat

April Speaker and Topic: Eddie Rhoades on "Yard Art"

DCMGs are in for a treat at our April meeting when Eddie Rhoades presents his slide show and humorous presentation on his "Yard Art". He is the proprietor of Bittersweet Gardens in Marietta, GA, a Lifetime Master Gardener in Cobb County, and has a myriad of garden interests, including native plants, edible landscaping, herbs, fruit, berries, Oriental gardening, veggies, water features, attracting wildlife and Yard Art. He has given presentations at several national conferences in Georgia and Alabama. His hobbies also include multimedia art, playing guitar and writing songs. Be sure to attend the April meeting and enjoy Eddie's presentation! We are very fortunate to have him as our April speaker.

Next Meeting:

April 3, 2008

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 1/2 miles on the right.

April 3, 2008



Garden Faire- What's a Buzz in the Garden?



North Fulton Master Gardeners
Present 2008 Garden Faire
What's a Buzz in the Garden?
Historic Bulloch Hall, Roswell,
Georgia
Saturday, April 26, 2008
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Demo: 11:00 AM Raffle 1:00 PM Rain or
Shine

Old Thyme Pass-A-Long Plants,
Specialty Herbs and Cutting Edge Cultivars
Organic Food Stuffs
Garden Vendors, Roses, Perennials, Garden
Art, Tools, Furniture and Pottery.
Picnic Lunch and Bake Sale
A Boutique of Unique Creations

"What's Cookin' in the Garden?"
Award winning Chef Hopkins will be sharing
his concept of locally grown produce from
"Market to Table", at the 11 AM demonstra-
tion

"Gardening in Georgia"
A new season of "Gardening in Georgia with
Walter Reeves," premieres April 9 at 7 p.m. on
Georgia Public Broadcasting stations.

The show is hosted by Georgia gardening guru
and retired University of Georgia Cooperative
Extension agent Walter Reeves.

From creating a waist-high raised bed for those
who cannot bend down, to building a rain bar-
rel, Reeves will demonstrate a wide variety of
do-it-yourself projects.

Viewers can check out the show's archives or
find publications referenced on the show at the
Web site
www.gardeningingeorgia.com.

Shows will air each Wednesdays at 7 p.m. on
GPB.

Beginning April 19 shows will repeat Satur-
days at 12:30 and 6:30 p.m. through October.



BEER MAKES FOR HAPPY COMPOST!

Ah yes, not only do slugs and some gardeners think a good
brew is the perfect aperitif, compost critters do too! There
is no need to spend money on those expensive compost acti-
vators. Beer can act as an activator. Pour a bottle or can
over compost every month or so to keep
the process moving along – the yeast in
the beer feeds the beneficial bacteria
and fungi in the pile. You could also
just dump a packet of yeast on your
compost. . . but what's the fun in that! Pull a chair up to your
pile, pop the top on one for the pile, another for yourself, and
have a conversation over cocktails on the virtues of the
perfect food for plants and people.

Rachel Hendee





Bringing Out the Best in People, Part 2,

By Debbie Jones

As we begin another year of mission work, I hope if you are incorporating McGinnis's rules in how you relate to others. In a previous newsletter, I provided a summary of some key points from Alan Loy McGinnis' book titled, *Bringing Out the Best in People*. As you may recall, McGinnis presents twelve rules for working effectively with people. In the last article, I presented six of the rules presented by the author:

Rule 1. Expect the best from the people you lead

Rule 2. Make a thorough study of the other person's needs

Rule 3: Establish high standards of excellence

Rule 4: Create an environment where failure is not fatal

Rule 5: If they are going anywhere near where you want to go, climb on other people's bandwagons

Rule 6: Employ models to encourage success

I know I have seen several examples of these rules being applied. Take some time to review the rules and see if you are incorporating them into the way you work with others. In this article I plan to continue discussing the book, *Bringing Out the Best in People* by providing an overview of the remaining six rules offered by McGinnis:

Rule 7: Recognize and applaud achievement: All of us like to receive praise for our efforts, and people will support a leader who recognizes the value of expressing appreciation in highly public ways.

Rule 8: Employ a mixture of positive and negative reinforcement: McGinnis certainly suggests that praising should outweigh scolding. However, on occasion it may be necessary to refocus the teams' effort on the standards of the organization. This can be accomplished by discussing the mission versus expressing displeasure.

Rule 9: Appeal sparingly to the competitive edge: This implies that healthy competition is okay as long as the team maintains a sense of cooperation. Used correctly competition can pull people together to accomplish awesome goals.

Rule 10: Place a premium on collaboration: Most people are successful when they are teamed up with others. The group solidarity that occurs enables the team to surmount obstacles and remain committed to the mission. This collaborative spirit can be enhanced by maintaining integrity, being committed to quality, treating others fairly, and having fun together.

Rule 11: Build into the group allowance for storms: Every leader will encounter organizational conflict at some point and time. The leader must be prepared to deal with complaints and people who may lose sight of the mission. The leader must respectfully address complaints and work with others to develop shared solutions. However, the leader cannot allow disruption to seriously jeopardize the mission.

Rule 12: Take steps to keep your own motivation high: The leader has a difficult responsibility and it requires energy to sustain momentum. The leader must find ways to continually renew the spirit that keeps the morale of the organization high. This can be accomplished by surrounding yourself with the right people, continually developing your leadership skills, and maintain positive self-talk.

Georgia Native Plants By Janet Deal



In 2008, the Douglas County Master Gardener Interns participated in a field trip to McIntosh Reserve. The walk was led by Wendell Hoomes, a local native plant expert and enthusiast. If you have never been to the reserve, put on your calendar to visit the reserve and walk the trails around mid April. Be sure to make your way to the shelter on the hill that overlooks the river. Last year there was a breathtaking display of Lady Slippers and wild iris. You can sit on the rocks overlooking the river and enjoy the beauty of these wonderful native plants.

Wendell Hoomes is speaking to the 2009 intern class this year also. He has graciously agreed to assist in plant identification on some of the many trails at Boundary Waters. Boundary Waters is one of the many Douglas County Parks and is a 500+ acre park located at crossing of Hwy 166 and Hwy 92 in Douglas County. This will be a great opportunity to learn from one of the best.

The walk will be held in late March 2008. Information will be distributed via email and the DC website on the specific date. A group of the DC Master Gardeners has volunteered to assist by labeling the trail map with names of plants identified by Mr. Hoomes on the walk. If you are interested in participating, contact Janet Deal at jdeal@bellsouth.net or 770 489 7551.

To learn more about native plants go to the Georgia Native Plant Society at www.gnps.org. The Georgia Native Plant Society (GNPS) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to championing the native plants of Georgia. We involve ourselves in all sorts of activities to promote appreciation and conservation of Georgia's plants and their habitats. Some of our activities include:

- Plant rescues (saving plants threatened with destruction)
- Partnership with communities and public places to establish/restore native plant preserves
- Education – speakers, workshops and symposia
- General meetings – held every other month at the Atlanta Botanical Garden
- Grants for research
- Annual Plant Sale
- NativeSCAPE Newsletter – published quarterly
- Field trips
- Garden tours

General meetings are open to everyone and are a wonderful opportunity to hear great speakers. If you have questions or want additional information you can reach GNPS via phone at: 770-343-6000 or send a message to

Webmaster@gnps.org

If you want to learn more about native plants GNPS is sponsoring the following event.

Plant Classification/Taxonomy Walk at Atlanta History Center's Quarry Garden -

April 20, at 2:00 p.m. A joint Georgia Botanical Society - Georgia Native Plant Society Program lead by Rich Reaves and John Manion.

DESCRIPTION: The Quarry Garden at the Atlanta History Center grows nearly 500 plants native to Georgia and this workshop in taxonomy will be conducted while viewing many of them. This event will be geared toward those with little or no knowledge of plant classification and we will learn some identifying characteristics of some of the plant families found growing there. Many of the numerous taxa growing in the Quarry Garden should be in bloom for this event. The walking is easy on maintained garden paths and there are facilities in the History Center. The program is limited to 30 participants. Contact Rich Reaves, 770-827-5186, Email: rpreaves@earthlink.net; John Manion, 404-814-4073, Email: jmanion@atlantahistorycenter.com

Meet at the Atlanta History Center's Quarry Garden entrance (way-finding signs will be posted that day to direct you from the parking structure).

DIRECTIONS: The Atlanta History Center is located in Buckhead at 130 West Paces Ferry Road NE, Atlanta, GA 30305 From I-75 at Exit 255 in Atlanta, go east approx. 2.7 miles on West Paces Ferry Rd. Turn right (south) on Andrews Drive and immediately turn left into History Center parking lot/garage. From Peachtree St. in Buckhead, go west on West Paces Ferry Rd, through 2 lights to Andrews Dr. Turn left on Andrews and immediately left again into History Center parking lot/garage. There is also an entrance on West Paces Ferry Road NE.

You will find an extensive list of plants that bloom in the spring on the website. Hopefully, we will be fortunate to find some on our walk.

Douglas County Master Gardener Association

www.dcdirt.org

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Secretary & Archivist: Rachel Hendee 770-577-3493

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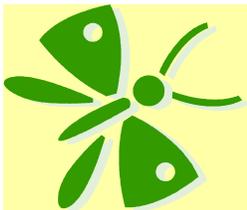
Douglas County Court House

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.

Garden Knowledge pointed out by Walter Reeves in his newsletter:

My friend Dave Funderburk recently emailed me to gently correct my pronunciation of "dioecious". I enunciated all five syllables....but Dave pointed out that "ioe" is a diphthong and that the word "dioecious" correctly has only three syllables. Do you wonder how to pronounce "peony" and "liriope" correctly? Click on the link below if you think a diphthong is a type of underwear...and if you would like to learn about other garden words. <http://www.gardenword.com/>

