

THE EARTHWORM:
NEWSLETTER OF THE WINDSOR GARDEN CLUB
NOVEMBER 2015

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

“HELP ONE ANOTHER; THERE'S NO TIME LIKE THE PRESENT AND NO PRESENT LIKE THE TIME” JAMES DURST

Hello,

Please welcome to our membership **Robyn Wahl**, Windsor, CT and **Kathleen Carrol**, Windsor, CT. Please add their complete membership information to your membership booklet, available at the check in table at our regular meetings.

Our October 12, 2015 program “Farm to Pharmacy”, Herbal Plant Medicine, drew in a great attendance and many accolades. What a wonderful presentation!

Please mark your calendar for our next meeting scheduled for **November 2, 2015**...and note that it is the 1st Monday of the month.

“HYDROPONICS: GARDENING FOR THE FUTURE”
Presented by the University of CT

Just a reminder, on Sunday, DECEMBER 6, 2015 we will be gathering at the Nutmeg, for “THE WINDSOR GARDEN CLUB HOLIDAY BRUNCH” starting at Noon. For those that have not attended a Sunday Brunch at the Nutmeg ...you will be pleasantly surprised of their bountiful brunch....it is AMAZING!

Members are requested to RSVP and payments of \$28.85 (made out to the Windsor Garden Club) will be collected at our November meeting. If you have any questions or what to RSVP please contact me at **860-305-7306**.



LAURA
LAURA JARY, WGC PRESIDENT

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

November 2nd ****First Monday**** Meeting

Hydroponics, Gardening for the Future

Our November 2nd meeting will feature George Elliott, a professor from the University of Connecticut. He will discuss the benefits of growing plants in water. He will share with us research being done at the University and farms around the state that are using hydroponics successfully.

These meetings are free of charge. The programs will begin at 7:00PM.

DECEMBER 7th Meeting

There will be no business meeting in December, just creativity, food and FUN!

HOLIDAY WREATHS & CRAFTS

The holiday season is upon us. As one of our ongoing civic endeavors, we will create holiday wreaths that will be given to local service agencies, nursing homes, and other Windsor organizations.



The WGC will purchase already made fresh wreaths. All we need is for members to bring your GREENERY, PRUNING SHEARS, GLOVES, RIBBONS, ORNAMENTS, and OTHER SEASONAL CRAFTY ITEMS you may have.

Bring your favorite baked goods, or snacks to share and help us in bringing the holiday season to many nonprofit facilities.

MEETING INFORMATION

- Club meetings are *typically* conducted on the second Monday of the month.
 - Meetings begin at 6:30 PM with social time, followed by the evening's guest speaker beginning at 7:00 PM. The business portion of the meeting completes the evening.
 - New members are always welcome.
 - Meetings take place at the L.P Wilson Community Center, 599 Matianuck Avenue, Windsor, CT, in the Senior Center Room, which is located on the front left side of the building.
 - During the months of June, July and August, club meetings are informal and are typically held at member's homes.
 - Please check the calendar page to verify all meeting dates.
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THE WINDSOR GARDEN CLUB HOLIDAY BRUNCH

DECEMBER 6, 2015

****Reservation deadline - November 2nd meeting**



We will gather at **The Nutmeg**, a local restaurant, on Sunday, December 6th at 12 Noon for a bountiful brunch to help usher in the holiday season.

The Nutmeg is located at **297 South Main Street (Route 5) in East Windsor.**

The cost with tax and gratuity comes to **\$28.85 per person.**

This includes: 1 complimentary beverage: champagne, mimosa, Bloody Mary or juices. The carving station has hickory smoked ham, leg of lamb and roast beef. Omelets made to order.

Breakfast items: French toast, bacon, sausage, muffins, bagels, Eggs Benedict. Luncheon items: fish, chicken, pasta, potatoes, vegetables. A large selection of pastries and desserts will be offered. Coffee and tea is included.

RSVP and payments (made out to The Windsor Garden Club) are due by November 2, 2015.

42nd ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF TREES & TRADITIONS” December 4-13*

Museum open 10am – 5pm

*Closed Monday, December 7 & Tuesday, December 8

A \$3 surcharge is added to regular admission during FOTT. Ticket includes admission.

The Women’s Committee of the Wadsworth Atheneum is holding its 42nd annual festival of trees this December. Sharon Ahearn and Laura Jary will be creating a themed wreath for our annual contribution. Festival donations will be sold throughout the event, and the profits help fund the museum’s special exhibitions, educational programs, and operating expenses.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION



Food Donations: Please remember to bring a non perishable food item for the Windsor Food bank. Donations can be left at the table where you check in.

Thank You Hospitality Volunteers for November 2nd: Ann Mazza, Barbara Stavens, Margaret Taff, Laurie Durant and Alice Lang.

Hospitality Volunteers for December 7th: Judy Linton, Margaret Lagan, Cindy Daniels, Jim Bennett, Laurie Durant and Joan Lynch

Committees: Please review their purposes and consider signing up for one of the important committees in our club.

GARDEN TOUR 2017 COMMITTEE MEETING

On October 6, the Tour Committee had its first meeting for the July 15, 2017 Garden Tour:

***Down Memory Lane, And Still Growing
Celebrating 80 Years of the Windsor Garden Club***

The committee decided on which pattern will be used for the stakes that will be put at each tour participant's home for the next tour. They will be made by students from Windsor High School.

FIELDTRIP FUN

On Friday October 2, members and friends of the Windsor Garden Club traveled to Cato Corner Farm in Colchester CT, to view the farm, taste some of their wonderful cheese and hear all about their operation. The cheese tasting and following lunch were greatly enjoyed. A good time was had by all travelers!

WGC SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORTS BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT AT JFK

Michaela Fissel, co-president of the PTO JFK Elementary School followed up with a report on the use of their \$250 portion of our annual scholarship. The donation enabled the completion of their project.

The October 17th beautification project was a huge success. Volunteers were able to till two large flower beds, plant over 300 bulbs, plant two large flower bins, and cleared out the shrubbery by the flag pole that was neglected for years. Ms. Fissel says, "We are so excited for our little ones to begin their spring term with blossoming flowers."

One of the PTO goals this year is to prioritize the school-family community partnership. Partnering with the Windsor Garden Club would be a wonderful connection that would enhance the overall experience of the students. The PTO would be very pleased if we could participate in their spring clean up. They have plans for cleaning up around already planted trees, planting a few new trees, and a few bushes. They are also seeking plant donations.

Town of Windsor Information for Homeowners

Home Repair Loan Program

The Town of Windsor is providing low interest loans for homeowners in Windsor who need to make repairs to their homes. Home improvement loans include items such as new roofs, boiler/furnaces, siding, waterproofing basements, plumbing, hot water heaters, electrical upgrades and other miscellaneous repairs. The program is income based, and for a family of four the maximum income allowed is \$65,800. Please call Diane McDougald for more information at (860) 285-1984. Ms. McDougald will be happy to assist anyone with the paperwork.

GARDEN TIPS

From “Putting the Garden to Bed” *By Marie Iannotti*

Protect

1. Shield plants animals might eat. Put fencing around shrubs. Use tree guards for trees pothered by deer, rabbits and voles.
2. Make sure all tender bulbs are stored for the winter. Most like to be hit by a frost, before you dig and dry them.
3. Mound soil or mulch around the base of grafted roses. Remember to remove it in the spring.

Prep for Spring

1. Weed, especially perennial weeds. I know, you thought you were done with weeding. But pulling those weeds now, when the conditions are poor for them to fill back in, will cut down on problems in the spring.
2. Tag plants you want to divide in the spring. You won't remember when the time comes. I like to label plants while they're still in bloom, so I know what colors are where.
3. Compost & Soil
 - o Test and amend your soil. At least test it for pH. Amendments can be slow acting and adding them now will make them available in the spring.
 - o Prepare your planting beds now, with compost and manure, for planting in early spring. The freezing and thawing will work it into the soil for you.
 - o Till the soil to expose insects trying to burrow in for the winter. You'll disturb their dormancy and put them in view of the hungry birds.
 - o Start a compost pile. You've got all the stuff you've pulled out of the beds, why not?
 - o Shred or mulch your leaves. They are free fertilizer; don't send them to the landfill. They practically compost themselves and the result, leaf mold, is the most beautiful soil you've ever seen.
 - o Consider mulching for less weeds in the spring and better soil. A layer of mulch in the fall will suppress weed seed germination in the spring, while it's protecting your plants. Just make sure you weed first.

For the full article and more advice, go to:

http://gardening.about.com/od/fallinthegarden/a/Putting-the-Garden-to-Bed.htm?utm_content=20151014&utm_medium=email&utm_source=exp_nl&utm_campaign=list_gardening&utm_term=list_gardening

TIPS: If anyone has any helpful gardening hints, horticultural places to recommend, or links worth sharing, please send the information to me at rosenick10@yahoo.com. They will be listed here and will be most appreciated. Share those new and old ideas with other members.

Submission Deadline for December 2015 Earthworm: November 20th.

If you would like to include one of your garden or event photos, an announcement, or any suitable information, please email it by this month's deadline.

Thank You! Rose
Rosenick10@yahoo.com