

Emerald Necklace Garden Club

February 2025 Newsletter

2025 General Meeting Schedule *

February 13	September 11
March 13	October 9
April 10	November 13
May 9 (Friday)	December 11
June 12	

2025 ENGC Board Meetings**

February 10	September 8
March 10	October 6
April 7	November 10
May 5	December 8
June 9	

* General Meetings begin 9:15AM at Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church, 9201 Brecksville Rd., Brecksville, unless noted.

**Board Meetings are the Monday before the 2nd Thursday of the month. Meetings start at 10AM, same location, unless noted.

Save the Dates:

Feb 13 - Winter Sowing Workshop
May 9 - Plant Sale set up
May 10 - Plant Sale
June 12 - Field Trip

President's Message - Nathalie Petri

Baby it's cold outside! One of the things I like to do when it's the dead of winter is plan for the coming season. In reviewing plant magazines, websites, etc. I discovered the 2025 Perennial Plant Association plant



of the year is *Pycnanthemum muticum* or Short Toothed Mountain Mint.

Several years ago I grew this plant from seed and it's a good time to get seeds and

start this plant. Now let me tell you about this bee and butterfly magnet! It's a perennial native plant, with heads of tiny white to light pink flowers, surrounded by silver bracts, grows in full sun to part shade, dry to moist soil, deer and rabbit resistant, spreads slowly from underground rhizomes but is not invasive and easy to care for. What's not to like? It's not the show stopper plant in your garden but a filler plant providing a textural interest and has a minty fragrance when touched. I love it and your pollinators will too!



Nathalie

Horticulture - Pat Cotsman

If your yard is covered in deep snow be aware that rabbits will eat the bark off some shrubs and young tree trunks. If you see lots of tracks and notice damage use wire fencing or plastic tree trunk wraps to protect your plants before they have more damage. Girdling or removal of all bark on a tree trunk will result in the death of the tree or death of all parts above the girdled area. I have noticed rabbits eating stems of my roses.

Salt spray from the street can damage some conifers. Junipers tolerate it well but white pines are damaged and can lose their needles. If you have small pines and evergreens near the street, cover them in burlap or put up burlap attached to stakes (like a fence) along the street side.

For your walks, calcium chloride is less harmful than salt, but both are detrimental. Consider using sand or paver base (crushed rock) if your path is lined with prize specimens. Don't use clay cat litter as when wet it is a slimy, slippery mess.

Being covered in deep snow doesn't harm perennials and actually insulates them from below zero temps and drying winds.

Make sure to keep your bird feeders filled as birds eat more in cold temps. Without food they can freeze to death at night. They also need a water source. They can eat snow but again it lowers their body temperatures putting them at risk. Birds are beautiful to watch and hear singing but they also eat tons of insects that would damage our gardens.

Snowy Owls have made an appearance in Ohio again this year. I have been lucky in past years to see them on two occasions in my backyard. The males are white, while juveniles and females have darker markings. Their eyes are yellow and they have a very wide wingspan.

Stay warm,
Pat

Did You Know ...

The color of gifted roses has different meanings?

Red for passion, pink denotes appreciation and grace, yellow indicates friendship and happiness, and white for innocence.

1st Vice Presidents - Jane Petrie and Marlene Winter - February Program

Our speaker for February will be Foster Brown, Naturalist from Cleveland Metroparks. "Plants that Changed the World"

There are many plants throughout the world that have changed the course of history. During this presentation by Cleveland Metroparks - Naturalist Foster Brown, he will explore the impact, history and science of coffee and cacao (chocolate) in the United States and across the earth. I think everyone will be surprised at how influential and sometimes controversial these tree-based food products have become.

Jane and Marlene W.

Cleveland Botanical Garden/Holden Forests and Gardens - Jane Petrie

Mark your calendar for the beautiful Orchid Show, February 14 - March 30.

You will see the flowers in a more natural display, especially in the Glass House. You will see varieties not available at local shops and many will be for sale. At certain times growers will be there to give us more information, which only adds to our appreciation of their long lasting beauty.

Afterwards enjoy a snack in the cafe or take a walk to the CMA or there is always Little Italy! Oh, how fortunate we are!!!

Regarding a few stats about CBG "FROST": In case we think we were the only club working for several months deciding on our tree subject, making decorations, decorating our "Are You My Mother?" Tree, then finally taking it apart ... well, we are not! In all, a total of 5,347 hours were spent among the 40 clubs participating, at a cost of \$9,227.

Yes, that is real dedication for a wonderful jewel our city is proud to embrace. Our club has been part of this project for over 10 years.

Thank you for keeping this in our budget and your support in the many ways needed.

Jane Petrie

Membership - Maureen Michal

Meet Our Newest Members!

Joy Grad: Joy lives on a large piece of property in a house that she and her husband built in Seven Hills. When I say “built,” I mean literally! She and her husband did a lot of the construction themselves and have “rebuilt” various houses in the past. Joy is a retired paralegal and now spends a lot of time in the “craft world.” She is a member of various craft groups (Knitwits for one) where she can use her crochet/sewing skills to provide various handcrafts (including fidget quilts) for the needy through various churches. Gardening is also an interest and she enjoys working on her property.

David Kazik: David has been in the “gardening world” for many years. He is a member of the Cleveland Botanical Garden and has been involved with them for over 20 years. His special gardening interest leans toward a traditional English garden. He grows roses, many perennials and starts many of his plants from seed. His garden has blooms and interesting foliage all year long. David is a very busy guy. In addition to his gardening activities he works part time at a local school and Gale’s Gardening Center. Some of his hobbies/talents include crafts, singing, floral design, antiques and astronomy!

Kathy Pierce: Kathy is a very experienced, entrepreneurial, dynamic business woman. She has owned her own company that was in the construction business, renovating hotels, for the past 40 years. She recently sold her company and is semi-retired but is still very involved as a speaker (all over the world) regarding women in business and entrepreneurship. She has a passion for gardening and when she saw our meeting notice in “Mimi,” thought that we might be just the group she would like to join. To quote her, “There is nothing I won’t try to do!” Way to go Kathy!!!

A Big Thank You!

As I have been healing from eye surgery for several weeks, know your cards and kindness have been so much appreciated. I now am learning to adjust to seeing the world with one eye. If at times it feels like I’m giving you the cold shoulder, it’s only that I do not see from that side! It is ok... life could be worse!!

Thank you,
Jane Petrie

Rain Garden: *Winter Sowing Workshop*

After our February meeting we will winter sow seeds for our rain garden project. Please let Nathalie know via email if you can attend and care for seeds. The workshop should not be longer than an hour. Thank you!

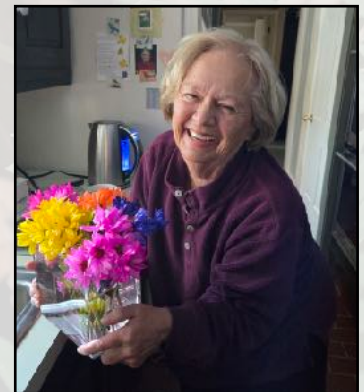
Sunshine News - Shirley Grispino

If you are aware of any sunshine news throughout the year, please contact our 2025 Corresponding Secretary, Shirley Grispino.

Lisa Schieman fell and broke her wrist on her dominant hand. She is recuperating from surgery. She is recovering with the help of a splint and physical therapy. Shirley and Nathalie went for a visit!



Jane Petrie is recovering from a successful eye surgery and doing well. Shirley visited! (Note from Jane opposite.)



Sustainable is Attainable!

Bring your own coffee cup to
ENG C meetings!

Plant History

New Jersey Tea is native shrub found across the Eastern United States. During the American Revolution it was used by the colonists and American soldiers as a substitute for black tea which was in short supply and often boycotted.

Its history goes back further with the indigenous people as a tea and treatment of digestive ailments.

As a native plant it is a great source of food for pollinators, and the seeds are often enjoyed by wild turkeys and quail.



February Fun Fact!

There are about 30,000 cultivated varieties of roses and roughly 150 wild species!

Around Town

Fun classes, workshops and good deals offered around town. Please check in advance for any class pre-registration requirements. Find one? Send it in!

Native plant seed mixes available year round through Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District packaged by OPN Seed

BOGO 50% Off Indoor Plants, going on now, Petitti's Garden Center

20% Off Botanical Interest Seeds, going on now, Gale's Garden Centers Westlake Location

Ask the Naturalist Hour; Feb 1, 10am; Brecksville Nature Center, Cleveland Metroparks

Second Saturday Science; Feb 8, 8am; Mentor Marsh, Cleveland Museum of Natural History

Shade Gardening; Bringing Home Nature Series; Feb 8, 10am; Cleveland Heights, Friends of Heights Parks and the Cleveland Heights Parks & Recreation Department

Orchids!: Winter Seminar Series; Feb 8, 11am; Westlake location, Gales Garden Center

Will it Be Beautiful?: Brown Bagging it in My Backyard Series; Feb 12, 12pm; Online Zoom meeting, Cleveland Audubon

Inspiring Biodiversity in Our Gardens: Virtual Symposium, registration now open runs through Feb 15, virtual, Western Reserve Land Conservancy

Get a Head Start & Grow Your Vegetable from Seed: Winter Seminar Series; Feb 15, 11am; Westlake Location, Gales Garden Center

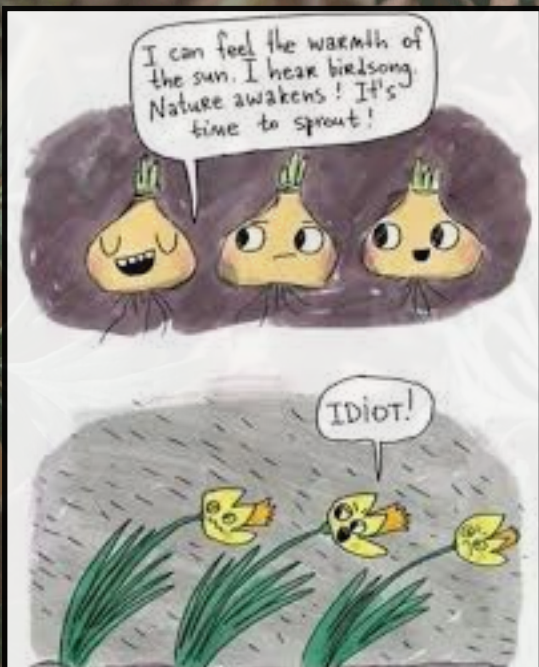
Zoom into Nature: Trees with Ian Adams; Feb 18, 6:30pm; virtual, Western Reserve Land Conservancy

Hike Amongst the Hemlocks; Feb 23, 2pm; Brecksville Nature Center, Cleveland Metroparks

A Garden Party for Butterflies: How to Be an Ideal Host - registration open Feb 9, class Mar 8, 10AM Cleveland Heights; Friends of Heights Parks and the Cleveland Heights Parks & Recreation Department

Pre-Order Plants now available through Prairie Moon Nursery
2025 CSA shares now available through Crown Point Ecology. USDA certified organic.

Local Lessons for Growing Minds, available now, online, Spice Field Kitchen



Invasive Insect Control:

Spotted Lantern Fly

Winter and early Spring are a good time to kill Spotted Lantern Fly eggs before they hatch. Check tree trunks, branches, rock and equipment stored outdoors, even underneath vehicles and wheel wells.

They can be scraped off and bagged for disposal, sprayed with rubbing alcohol or hand sanitizer. Eggs can also be sprayed with mineral or horticultural oil. Spotted Lantern Fly has caused widespread damage to trees and fruit crops. They should be eliminated at any stage when found.



2025 Hostesses

February 13	Dianna Kulwicki Fran McIntyre Joan Castelucci
March 13	Sheila Humphrey Shirley Grispino Lisa Schieman
April 10	Marlene Helm Paul Helm Pauline Dey
June 12	Laurie Siebert Rosanne Radziewicz
September 11	Pat Cotsman Mary Ellen Isaac Debbie Apple
November 13	Donna Hessel Denise Bowler Nathalie Petri
December 11	Cheryl Schmidt Anne Morrison Marlene Winter Sung Gullifer

The Newsletter deadline is always the 25th of the month.

Please email articles to amorrison05@icloud.com to Anne Morrison. Gardening tips, websites to browse, and recipes always welcome.



Emerald Necklace Garden Club is a member of
Garden Club of Ohio, Inc., (Cleveland District) affiliated with National Garden Clubs, Inc.
www.gardenclubofohio.org



www.gardenclub.org