



# Emerald Necklace Garden Club

## September 2025 Newsletter

### 2025 General Meeting Schedule \*

September 11	October 9
November 13	December 11

### 2025 ENGC Board Meetings\*

September 8	November 10
October 6	December 8

\* General Meetings begin 9:15AM.  
Board Meetings begin 10AM and are  
the Monday before the 2nd Thursday  
of the month. All meetings held at  
Christ the Redeemer Lutheran  
Church, 9201 Brecksville Rd.,  
Brecksville, unless noted.

### Save the Dates:

September 23 - Rain  
Garden Planting,  
2PM  
September 28 - Fall Fest  
October 2- Rain Garden  
Planting Alt. Date,  
2PM  
November 17 - Youth  
Story Time and  
Craft, Brecksville  
Library, 4PM

### President's Message - Nathalie Petri

I recently came across a phrase that resonated with me. It was in a new book by Thanson Thor - Close to Home: The Wonders of Nature Just Outside Your Back Door. The phrase is “A Student of Wonder”. I’ve been watching the monarchs and swallowtails dance across the yard from flower to flower, the hummingbirds darting from one cardinal flower to the next and chasing each other, the dragonflies sunning themselves in the late afternoon and the lightning bugs as they flash on and off as it gets darker in the evening. Plus the finches eating off my coneflowers! How do these small creatures find these plants, is there enough variety, where do they sleep, how far did they come, where do they go? If there needs to a reason to garden this is it! To see the wonders of nature right outside your living room window.

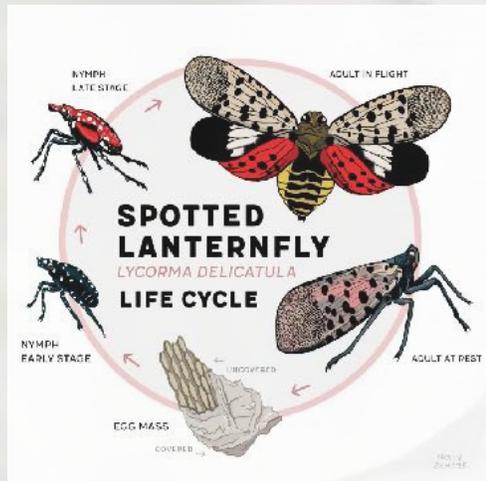
I’m looking forward to our September meeting to see all of you and learn how your summer has been. Plus hear our “Ladies of History” speaker on Rachel Carson, activist and author of Silent Spring. A time many of us lived through with the spraying of DDT in our neighborhoods. I remember the tree canopy on my street slowly dying and wondering why.

Also, plan on attending our September meeting as we have to vote on our officers for 2026. Thank you to those members who have stepped up to help guide us through the next year.

*Nathalie*

## Horticulture - Pat Cotsman

Hard to believe the summer has flown by so quickly. Probably because June was not summer like!! Keep on the lookout for Asian Lantern flies. They look like moths but with a pretty rosy color on the wings. If you see them, KILL them. I have seen their nymphs. They are pretty black things with white polka dots. They get larger and take on the rosy coloration and are now adults. Mine were in my grape vines and I saw a couple in my garden. They are invasive and supposedly have no natural enemies. I have found a bunch of wings, no bodies, so I believe my birds are dining on them. YES!



I have also seen a couple of Monarch butterfly caterpillars dining on my milkweed. This is welcome news.

If your containers are looking a bit ratty, give them a pruning and fertilize them. In a week they should be putting out new growth and reblooming. If you are a vegetable gardener, now is the time to plant lettuce, spinach, kale, and radishes for a Fall harvest. These crops are cold tolerant and do well in the cooler Fall temps.

Fall is the time to divide spring blooming perennials. It is not the time to fertilize plants as new growth will be susceptible to winter kill. Take advantage of end of season sales as September is a good time to plant. Evergreens need 6 weeks to put out new roots so it is better to plant them earlier in Fall.

Now is the time to order spring flowering bulbs. Deer dislike daffodils, fritillaria, leucojum, erantis, and alliums. There are many new alliums on the market. You can plant varieties that bloom in the Summer as well as Spring. It is best to get these bulbs planted by late October.

If you have planted a lot of natives for the pollinators you may want to remove flower heads after blooming. These can seed aggressively and though birds enjoy the seeds too many volunteers can be a problem.

*Pat*

## **Did You Know ...**

Monarch butterflies can fly up to 3,000 miles during their migration from their breeding grounds in North America to their overwintering sites in central Mexico! Plant milkweed varieties and other pollinator friendly plants to help them out!

## 1st Vice Presidents - Jane Petrie and Marlene Winter - March Program

Yes, another season begins, especially with the weather changes. Our September 11th, 2025 program will introduce or remind us that due to important scientific research, we no longer use certain chemicals in our gardens. 'Women in History' will present a portrayal of Rachel Carson, author of the well respected book Silent Spring.

Silent Spring, published in 1962, exposes the detrimental effects of pesticides, particularly DDT, on the environment and human health.

If you have a chance, check out the book.

Also, we needed to make a few changes in our future programs.

- October 9th: "How to become a Master Gardener" presented by Susan Pandoli, MG of Cuyahoga County. Note!! NO FIELD TRIP to pumpkin farm.
- November 13th: "Lavender, Lavender, Lavender" Lorraine Sevich of Chagrin Falls and member of Western Reserve Herb Society. Another program not to be missed!!
- Dec. 11th: No change.

See you soon,

Jane and Marlene W.

## **Happy Birthday**

**Sung Gullifer  
Maureen Michal**

## **Sustainable is Attainable!**

**Bring your own coffee cup to  
ENG C meetings!**

## Sunshine News - Shirley Grispingo



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



Welcome back!  
Looking forward to seeing everyone.

Hope everyone is well. Here are several photos from a visit to the Buffalo Botanical Gardens.

### **2024 Awards**

#### **Award earned from National Garden Club**

Certificate of Commendation for Website, Donna Hessel

#### **Awards earned from GCO**

First Place - 183A

Publications Website, Donna Hessel

First Place - 140C Garden Club Youth, Fall Fest, Maureen Michal

Second Place - 114C Wildlife Survival, St. Basil Owls, Shiela Humphrey

Second place - 112.1C Holiday project - small, Cleveland Botanic Garden, Holiday Tree, Jane Petrie

Second place - 106C - Horticultural, Environmental and Conservation, Butterfly project Stepping Stones Preschool, Pauline Dey

Second Place - 182C Publications, Newsletter, Anne Morrison

Second Place - 181.1B Publications, Card, Donna Hessel

Third Place - 184 Publications, Facebook Page, Donna Hessel

Third Place - 112.2 Holiday Project, Chippewa holiday tree, Jane Petrie

Third Place - 180C Publicity Press Book, Donna Hessel

Honorable Mention - 300C Yearbook, Donna Hessel



Congratulations to our neighboring garden Club, the Chippewa Garden Club! They received a 1st Place award for Outstanding Garden Club at the GCO Convention. Check out the article in the Gazette for more details!

### **Fall Fest:**

Fall Fest is Sunday, September 28th! A sign up sheet for volunteers will be passed at the September meeting so please check your availability in advance. This event is always popular. Thanks!

### **Rain Garden News:**

We are hoping to get our plug plants for our Rain Garden project in early September. We wanted to make you aware of potential planting dates so you could keep your schedules open to help plant. If we don't get the plants by the first date or it rains we will go to the second date. The dates are September 23 at 2pm, or October 2 at 2pm. Hopefully by our September 11 garden club meeting we will have more information. So far the city has cleared the bed of weeds, and applied the organic soil amendment we provided from Espoma and leaf mulch. Debbie and I have also planted some winter sown plants. If you're in the area check it out. Thank you.

**I F**  
**Y O U**  
**C A N**  
**R E A D**  
**T H I S**  
**C L E A R L Y**  
**BUY NEW PLANTS**



## 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!

*Bringing Nature Home*, September 2, 6-7:30PM, Fifth Christian Church, Cleveland, National Wildlife Federation's Sacred Grounds and Meadow City Nursery

*Friendly Fern Hike*, September 5, 10:30AM-12PM, Brecksville Nature Center, Brecksville, Cleveland Metroparks

*Plant Swap*, September 6, 10-11AM, Bay Village Library, Bay Village, Cuyahoga County Public Library

*Native Plant Sale*, September 6, 10AM-2PM, Forest Hill Presbyterian Church, Cleveland Heights, Friends of Heights Parks

*Overwintering Patio Plants*, September 9, 7-8PM, Brecksville Library, Brecksville, Cuyahoga County Public Library

*Rooted for Success: Tree Planting Best Practices*, September 10, 12PM, online, Cleveland Audubon

*Pest Control without Chemicals*, September 11, 7-8PM, Brooklyn Library, Cuyahoga County Public Library

*Perennial Plant Swap*, September 13, 10AM-12PM, Parma-Snow Library, Parma, Cuyahoga County Public Library

*Monarch Madness*, September 13, 2-3:30PM, Meadows Picnic Area, Brecksville, Cleveland Metroparks

*Drop-by: Mushrooms Up Close*, September 19, 2-4PM, Brecksville Nature Center, Brecksville, Cleveland Metroparks

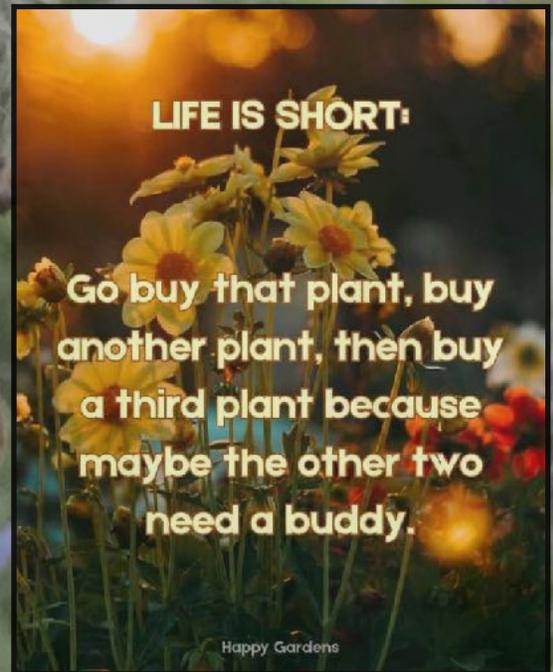
*Exploring Nature's Rainbow Hike*, September 24, 2-3PM, Brecksville Nature Center, Brecksville, Cleveland Metroparks

## 2025 Hostesses

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](mailto:amorrison05@icloud.com). 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](http://www.gardenclubofohio.org)



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