

Emerald Necklace Garden Club

November 2025
Newsletter

2025 General Meeting Schedule *

November 13
December 11

2025 ENGC Board Meetings**

November 10
December 8

* 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.

President's Message - Nathalie Petri

Gems in our own backyard! Do you watch gardening YouTube videos? I have about a dozen garden videos I follow pretty regularly. One of them is HortTube with Jim Putnam, with over 30 years experience in the green industry, and having worked in high end garden centers, residential and commercial landscaping. Now, he is based in Raleigh, NC not our zone at all however he stills provides a lot of useful information. But what I wanted to make you aware of: he just did 3 videos on our own Holden Arboretum and Gardens! I urge you to check them out. It's like getting a personal guide pointing out all the fascinating plants we have growing here. Two of them are on Holden and one on the Botanical garden. These visits were in late Sept. early Oct. so not the prime time of year but very worthwhile. Sometimes we take for granted and criticize what we have available to us and it takes an outsider to show us the beauty and possibilities available to us.

Save the Dates:

November 10 - Workshop: Porch Pots, 12:30PM
November 16 - CBG Frost Tree Decorating, 1PM
November 17 - Youth Story Time and Craft, Brecksville Library, 4PM
December 4 - Chippewa Place Tea and Tree, 10:30AM
December 11 - Pot Luck

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

Such a treat awaiting us to meet and hear Lorraine Sevich, as she shares the family journey of a large land purpose in Pennsylvania, and turning it into a Lavender Farm. We call her story "LAVENDER, LAVENDER and MORE LAVENDER!"

Lorraine also happens to know a few things about the who, what and whys of growing one of our most lovely of plants.

Do bring a guest and a reminder the program begins at 11AM.

ALSO...sign up sheet will be there for our Decorating Tree and Tea Party at Chippewa Place Independent Living on Thursday December 4th, at 10:30AM for set up.

A reminder of our Pot Luck Holiday meeting, which will include the installation of our new officers on Thursday, December 11th, time TBD.

Jane and Marlene W.

Sustainable is Attainable!

**Bring your own coffee
cup to
ENGC meetings!**

Horticulture - Pat Cotsman

If you haven't planted your spring bulbs try to do it soon. Add bulb fertilizer or bonemeal to the soil. Pay attention to the recommended depth when planting. Too shallow may shorten the bulbs life.

Cutting down all perennial stalks is not now recommended as the dried stalks are a habitat for native bees and other insects. If you find them too unsightly cut down but leave 8" of the stalks until mid March. Any foliage with fungal diseases should be removed and disposed of in trash, not composted. Praying Mantis egg cases are attached to stalks and look like beige plastic blobs. Leave them to hatch in late Spring.

Lantern flies lay eggs on tree trunks and other vertical surfaces. They favor red and silver Maples, Tree of Heaven (native to China), and willows. The egg mass is a 1 1/2" long oval that resembles a smear of gray or brown mud. Use something like a plastic putty knife to scrape them off and place into a jar with rubbing alcohol. This will kill the eggs. Each egg mass contains around 50 eggs which will hatch in late May. This insect is invasive and has no native enemies here.

After frost hits the foliage you can dig up and overwinter non-hardy bulbs, rhizomes, corms and tubers. Here is how:

CANNAS: Dig, wash, dry a week or two. Pack into a container and cover with damp peat moss, leaves, or shredded paper. Store at 40 to 50 degrees.

CALLAS: Dig, wash, and dry. Store in a cool dark and dry location 50 to 60 degrees packed in newspaper, peat moss, or vermiculite. Check periodically and moisten if shriveling.

DAHLIAS; Dig, wash, cut stem to 2", and dry for a few days. Remove any damaged or rotted tubers. Store in box, milk crates, paper bags or plastic bins with space between clumps. Cover with shredded newspaper, leaves or peat moss. Check periodically and if shriveling mist with water. Store above freezing.

CALADIUMS: Dig and let cure a week in warm area. Remove leaves and stalks. Store in peat moss or vermiculite in a cool dark place 45 to 60 degrees. Tubers should be bigger than a quarter to do well next year. They can be overwintered as a house plant and replanted next year when soil temp is above 65 degrees and night temps are above 60 degrees.

TUBEROUS BEGONIAS: Dig, dry one week. Store in a dark area, around 45 degrees packed in peat moss, wood shavings or vermiculite.

GLADIOLAS; Dig, dry and store in a paper bag or mesh bag like onions come in. Store cool and above freezing.

ELEPHANT EARS: Dig, dry a few days, remove leaves. Store in cool area in a container filled with peat moss dry sand, or vermiculite. Check monthly to ensure they don't shrivel. If in pots can be stored in a garage that doesn't freeze and kept barely moist.

Fuchsias can be pruned back by 2/3rds and kept in a garage that doesn't freeze. Water once a month to prevent drying out totally. They will sprout leaves in the Spring and can be returned outside in May.

If you grew Sweet Potato vines check the soil after the leaves are frosted. If there is a tuber it can be dug up. Wash it and cure in a warm spot for ten days. I put them in front of a furnace register. They can then be stored in a basket in the basement until they sprout in the Spring. They can then be replanted or each of the sprouts removed when 3" long and put in water to grow roots. These are called slips and can be replanted when soil warms. One tuber can yield many slips.

Enjoy the season, *Pat*

SAVE THE DATE- WORKSHOP!

Make a Holiday or Winter Porch Pot!



PORCH POTTS CREATED BY MEMBERS AT NOVEMBER 14th MEETING

From a mélange of contributed greens, dried florals, seed pods and accessories, members created beautiful winter porch pot arrangements that will last the whole season, providing cheerful accents to their porches and entrances.



With the holidays fast approaching, could you use some fresh ideas to make a porch pot to decorate your home? Would you be willing to share some greens or other dried outdoor plant material that would add eye-catching elements to a pot? This will be an event for members only, where you can create your own porch pot and share extra greens and items with others in the club. We will share our ideas and you will take home something that will last through the holidays and beyond!

Date/Time: Monday, November 10 after the ENGC Board Meeting at 12:30PM

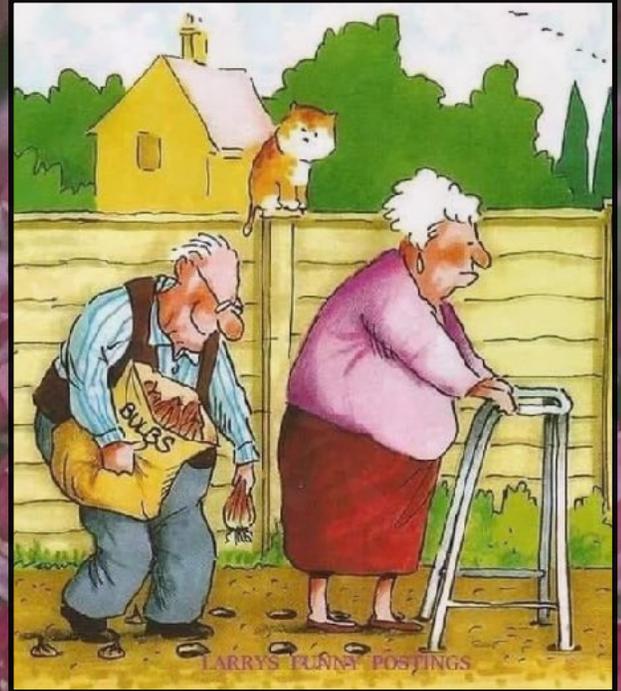
Location: Helen Keeler Memorial Picnic Shelter

What to Bring:

- Porch pot
- Garden Gloves
- Cutting tools (be sure to label your tools)
- Greens (e.g Fir, Noble, Balsam, Douglas, Silver, Pine, Cedar, Juniper, Spruce: tips and branches)
- Other plant and woody items (e.g. Winterberry, Curly Willow, twigs or taller branches, Birch poles, Magnolia, Eucalyptus)
- Pine cones, berries (blue, white, red, gray), dried hydrangea and coneflower, red yarrow
- Outdoor bow or ribbon, Wilt Stop

Membership - Maureen Michal

2026 Membership Dues are \$30 and will be collected in November and December.



Did You Know ...

There are over 7,500 apple varieties grown worldwide. Approximately 2,500 of those are grown in the United States, with only about 100 grown commercially. Only about a dozen varieties make it to supermarkets.

Concert By Kirk Kupensky, Harp November 9th, 4PM; Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church, Brecksville, OH

Hear familiar and long forgotten works for the harp. Kirk's passion for reinvigorating compositions for the harp has led to his most recent release *Ghost of Christmas Past - Victorian Rarities for Solo Harp*.

Kirk has performed on the harp at home and abroad with Broadway stars, such as Bernadette Peters and Josh Groban.

Sunshine News - Shirley Grispio

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

Hope everyone is staying healthy during the flu season.



My trip to Portugal was beautiful, spiritual and fun. Visited Lisbon, Fatima, and Porto.

Mary Ellen was back in the hospital. She had blood tests done and found out she had a lone star tick. She stayed 5 days in the hospital and was given antibiotics. Send your get well wishes to her.

Pauline is waiting for the doctor's approval to have surgery. Her sodium levels are good now.

Joan is having knee surgery at the end of October.

Peanut Butter Power Poppers

Recipe shared by Joy Grad

Preparation time: 10-15 minutes

Cook time: 8 minutes for oats

1 hour refrigeration time broken into sections

1 cup rolled oats
1 cup peanut butter
 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup ground flaxseed
 $\frac{3}{4}$ cup raisins
1 cup dry roasted peanuts, chopped
 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup maple syrup
Water as needed

Toast rolled oats in 350° oven for 8 minutes.

Combine peanut butter and about $\frac{1}{4}$ cup water in a large mixing bowl. I find it easier if I microwave the peanut butter and water for 30-45 seconds to warm the water and soften the peanut butter, making it easier to mix.

Add the remaining ingredients to the bowl and mix well. Cover and refrigerate about 30 minutes. If mixture is too dry and crumbly after refrigeration, add more water as need to make it smooth and creamy.

Scoop about 1 Tablespoon of mixture and shape into a ball.

Place on parchment lined baking sheet.

Refrigerate another 30 minutes. Transfer to an airtight container.

Can freeze for up to 6 months.

Options:

Use instant oats rather than rolled oats.

Use whatever dried fruit you have (craisins, blueberries) in place of or with the raisins so it equals $\frac{3}{4}$ cup.

Use dates and walnuts rather than dried fruit and nuts.

Use pumpkin seeds or sesame seeds rather than nuts.

Use unsalted mixed nuts.

Add 1 Tablespoon cocoa powder, rough cut almonds, and coconut.

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!

Holiday Premier Weekend, November 1-2, Petitti all store locations

Natural Areas Field Trip: Autumn on the Astabula, November 1, 10AM-1PM, Stanton Forest, Cleveland Natural History Museum

Fall Garden Clean Up, November 5, 5:30-6:30PM, Community Christian Church, Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District

Seed Exchange, November 10, 2-3PM, Brecksville Library, Cuyahoga County Library

Brown Bagging it in My Backyard: At Home with Native Nut Trees, November 12, 12PM, virtual, Cleveland Audubon

Winter Woodland Wreath Class, November 12 & 13, 6:30-8PM, Norton, Winery at Wolf Creek

Curious Naturalist Hike, November 15, 9:30-11:30AM, Brecksville Nature Center, Cleveland Metroparks

Living in the Liberated Landscape: My Yard, November 20, 7PM, virtual, Wild Ones

2025 Hostesses

November 13 Donna Hessel
Denise Bowler
Nathalie Petri

December 11 Cheryl Schmidt
Anne Morrison
Marlene Winter
Sung Gullifer

Plant History

Amaryllis has origins in ancient Greece, where it was celebrated through myths and poetry.

It gained broader popularity in the Victorian era as beloved greenhouse flower and the trend of forcing bulbs. Viewed as a symbol of luxury, wealth and refined taste, collectors and botanists raced to cultivate new varieties and hybrids.

Still popular today, they are often associated with the winter season due to their ability to bloom indoors, offering a bright spot of living color.

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

Please email articles to 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

www.gardenclub.org

