

Emerald Necklace Garden Club

December 2025 Newsletter

2025 General Meeting Schedule *

December 11

2025 ENGC Board

Meetings*

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 at 10AM.

Save the Dates:

December 4 - Chippewa
Place Tea and Tree,
10:30AM

December 11 - Pot Luck
January 5 - 1st 2026 Board
Meeting

January 8 - 1st 2026
General Meeting

**Sustainable is
Attainable!**

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

President's Message - Nathalie Petri

Greetings Members! Thank you for all of your support and participation over this past year for our variety of club events and projects. I enjoy participating in these events with our diverse membership. Each of you brings a special touch to our club. I am very thankful to be surrounded by so many interesting and engaging people. Wishing everyone a happy, beautiful holiday season with your family and friends.

Sincerely,
Nathalie

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

Holiday Potluck Luncheon!

Thursday, December 11th, Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church.
Doors open 11:30AM and the buffet begins at noon.

If bringing a guest, contact Marlene or me so we have a name tag for them as well. We are so pleased to have several past club members joining us, also, as our guests. Bring food ready for buffet tables, complete with serving pieces. Nothing from the church kitchen is being used.

Remember your donation of a hard covered children's book appropriate up to young adult. These will be given to an organization working with handicapped children in Solon. Please do not wrap.

Installation of our new officers will be conducted by Pauline Dey.
No meeting to take up conversation time! Looking forward to being together following another active fulfilling year.

Jane and Marlene W.

Membership - Maureen Michal

2026 Membership Dues are in the process of being collected. Membership is \$30 for the year and payment can be brought to the December meeting.

Horticulture - Pat Cotsman

If you enjoy watching birds in your yard you can help them survive frigid temperatures a couple of ways. One is planting perennials and shrubs that have seeds or berries late in the season. Another is having a bird feeder. Lastly, a source of water when temperatures fall below freezing is really important to help them survive frigid weather. I use a bird bath heater that resembles a flat gray rock and turns on when the water temp drops below 35 degrees. I put it in a large plastic saucer (like you'd use under a large flower pot) on a table on my deck. I plug it into the GFCI receptacle that runs a small pool pump in summer and heating cables in my cold frames in spring. My bird baths are pottery or ceramic so they overwinter in my shed. It is fun to watch all the birds that come for a drink. My favorite are bluebirds which I don't have in summer but show up for berried vines in winter.

Now and in winter is the time to do dormant pruning of trees and some shrubs (those that bloom on new wood) When the leaves have fallen you can easily see branch structure. It is also easier on the plants as they won't bleed sap. In oak trees this can attract sap sucking beetles that spread oak wilt disease which is fatal. It's best if tree pruning is done before April.

When you are snowbound take a look online at various seed catalogs to see what is new and dream of next year's garden.

Happy Holidays,
Pat

Sunshine News - Shirley Grispingo

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

Mary Ellen is feeling better but is still weak.

Joan Castelucci is recovering from knee surgery. She is going for physical therapy. Went to visit her and brought a mini orchid.



Chippewa Place Tea and Tree

Much going on in the holiday season! This includes the ENGC annual Tree Decorating and Tea Party at Chippewa Place, Thursday, 12/4/25. Set up starts at 10:30AM. It is located on Stadium Dr. off Rt.21 near the Methodist Church. Residents look forward to our homemade sweets, tea sandwiches and fresh fruit. Serving platters will be in place awaiting your goodies!

We have been doing this event since 2017 following the donation of the tree we used to decorate at the Brecksville Library. But, libraries stopped recognizing religious holidays, so what to do with our tree? (tree was so sad looking, we purchased a new tree and moved on!!) A bit of history.

Thank you for signing up. Drop off at my home if you're not planning to stay by 10AM.

Jane Petrie

Happy Birthday!

Pauline Dey

Holiday Plants and Pets

Some popular holiday plants are highly toxic for our furry friends and some are considered safe. This is by no means a complete list and plants and greenery used for decoration should be researched for safety!

Toxic

Lilies (life-threatening)
Holly
Amaryllis
Snow Drops
Kalanchoe
Mistletoe
Orange Star Plants
Yew (life-threatening)
Christmas Rose
Azalea
Pointsetta (mild)
Holiday Tree Water
Paperwhite (severe)
English Ivy

Safe

Christmas Cactus
Rosemary plant
Moth Orchid
Boston Fern
Camellia
Winter Jasmine
African Violet
Norfolk Pine

2025 Frost Tree Decorating!



2025 Hostesses

December 11 Cheryl Schmidt
Anne Morrison
Marlene Winter
Sung Gullifer

2026 Hostesses

January 8 Dianna Kulwicki
Laurie Siebert
Debbie Apple

The Newsletter deadline is always the 25th of the month.
Please email articles to amorrison05@icloud.com.
Gardening tips, websites to browse, and recipes welcome.

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!

Pre-Cut and Cut Your Own Christmas Tree, Swan Farm, Valley View, check Facebook/Instagram for dates and times

Puritas Nursery Holiday Train Display, open now through December 31st; during open hours, Puritas Nursery and Garden Center, Cleveland

Eagle Weekend, December 6th; 10AM-4PM, Canal Way Center, Ohio & Erie Canal Reservation

Knowing Your Backyard Birds, December 6th; 10:30-11:30AM, Trailside Program Center, Brecksville Reservation, Cleveland Metroparks

Mentor Marsh Guided Nature Hike: Winter in Our Wetland, December 7th; 2-3:30PM, Mentor Marsh State Nature Preserve, Mentor, Cleveland Museum of Natural History

Fresh Wreath Workshop, December 7th, 5PM, Broadview Heights, Growing Chaos Flowers

Turn That Patch Into a Plan, December 9th; 6PM, virtual, Wild Ones

Brown Bagging it in My Backyard: Wild About Winter, December 10th; 12PM, virtual, Cleveland Audubon

Anatomy of a Feather and More, December 13th; 1:30-2:30PM, Trailside Program Center, Brecksville Reservation, Cleveland Metroparks

Wildlife Folklore Evenings, December 17th; 7-8:15PM, Trailside Program Center, Brecksville Reservation, Cleveland Metroparks

Bird Bonanza Camp, December 30th; 12-4PM, Trailside Program Center, Brecksville Reservation, Cleveland Metroparks

Winter Luminary Hike, December 29th; 5:30-7:30PM, Brecksville Nature Center, Brecksville Reservation, Cleveland Metroparks



Emerald Necklace Garden Club is a member of
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www.gardenclubofohio.org



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