



*"Autumn is a second spring
when every leaf is a flower"*
~ Albert Camus

PROGRAMS

Fran McIntyre and Lisa Schieman

October Field Trip

Our October 8th field trip to Ben Franklin Community Garden is for members only. The 5-acre eco-friendly site features over 200 individual plots, a children's garden, perennial plots, and dedicated "Hunger Gardens" that donate thousands of pounds of fresh produce to local food pantries.

The school address is 1905 Spring Rd., Cleveland 44109. **Follow the driving directions below to get to the gardens, which are behind the school.**

The best place to park is on Tampa Ave., (intersection is Tampa and Broadale Rd.) at the south end of the garden where the access gate is located. **Members who wish to carpool are to meet at Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church parking lot by 9:30 AM.**

Driving Directions

From the church, go to I-77 N (Wallings Rd. entrance). Take Exit 156 to merge onto I-480 W. Take Exit 17-A-B to merge onto SR 176 N toward Cleveland SR 17. Take Exit 16 onto Hinkley Parkway toward Spring Rd. Turn left into parking lot. Gardens are to the right of the school. Drive through the parking lot to the side street and park on Tampa Ave.

Emerald Necklace Garden Club

**October 2026
Newsletter**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Nathalie Petri

I recently came across this quote and thought it applied to the hobby of gardening as well as to the rest of life. "You can't plan your way into wisdom, you have to grow into it!"

I can't tell you how many plants I've killed (quite a few) or how many times I've moved a plant 'till I found a place where both were happy. As the summer season comes to an end, it makes me reflect on the past season of gardening -- of what I learned, what failed and what succeeded. I think that's one aspect I enjoy about gardening. One is always learning.

Nathalie

DATES TO REMEMBER

**October 5 ~ 10:00 AM
ENG C Board Meeting**

**October 8 ~ 9:30 AM to Carpool
ENG C Field Trip**

**October 17 ~ 10:00 AM-3:00 PM
Western Reserve Herb Fair
Cleveland Botanical Garden**

**October 18-20
CAR-SCG Convention
Independence Holiday Inn**

**October 21 - RSVP Deadline
GCO Holiday Meeting on November 5
Info and RSVP Form Attached**

Daylight Savings Ends November 1

HORTICULTURE

Pat Cotsman

October is the time to plant bulbs. They need time to grow roots before the ground freezes for the best flowering in Spring. Use a bulb fertilizer or bone meal mixed into soil in the beds. If you have had rodents eating certain bulbs, use paver base or aquarium gravel around the bulbs when planting.

Garlic is also planted at this time. Separate into individual cloves (unpeeled) and plant pointy side up in a sunny spot. They need to be 2"- 3" down and 6" apart. Use bulb fertilizer or bone meal and amend clay soil with compost. Mulch with straw, shredded leaves or compost. In early Spring, use 10-10-10 fertilizer; and in late Spring 5-10-10 fertilizer. Remove scapes (flowering stalks), which can be eaten, so the bulb grows bigger. In July leaves will turn yellow, signaling you can dig them up. Deer don't bother garlic.

Many perennials and grasses provide shelter and food for animals and insects during the cold months. We have all heard "leave the leaves," or at least some, to provide cover for beneficial insects and pollinators. There are some things that do need to be cut down and discarded in the trash in Fall. They are the ones with fungal diseases or ones known to harbor pests. For example, squash vines can have eggs of the vine borers and tomatoes can have blight spores. Removing this foliage in Fall can help break the pest and disease cycle. Do not compost these; discard them in the trash. These are some plants prone to harboring pests or disease: beans, cucumbers, melon, squash, eggplant, pepper, potato and tomato in a veggie garden. These are some ornamentals: bee balm, peony, phlox, zinnia and rose leaves.

If you grew tropicals, you can overwinter them in a dormant state to save money (to spend on other plants in Spring!). Here is how to do this:

- Cannas: Carefully dig after a hard frost. Shake off soil, cut off tops, allow to dry a few days. Pack into a breathable container in peat moss or wood shavings. Store at around 50 degrees.
- Caladiums: Dig before frost. Discard any tubers smaller than a quarter. Cure in a warm dry spot for a few weeks. Remove leaves, store in a breathable container in peat moss, vermiculite or shredded paper. Store at 60 degrees. You can also treat them like a house plant.

- Gladiolas: Dig corms after light frost and cure in a warm airy spot for a couple of weeks. Remove leaves and store in paper or mesh bags in a cool, dark, frost free area.
- Tuberous Begonias: If in pots, move under eaves now to dry out the soil. Dig after light frost. Cure in a warm spot a couple of weeks. Store in a paper bag or cardboard box in dry peat, vermiculite or shredded paper at 40-50 degrees.
- Dahlias: Dig tubers after frost. Remove stalk 4" above tubers. Let dry upside down for a few days. Store in a cool, frost free area in a breathable box with wood shavings or peat moss. Check monthly and mist with water if shriveling occurs.
- Callas: Dig after light frost. Cure for a couple of weeks and pack in a breathable container in peat moss or shredded paper. Store in a 40-50 degree area. I have had them overwinter in soil if winter is mild or the snow cover is deep.
- Elephant ears: Dig before a killing frost or before temps fall into the 30s. Cut back foliage 3"-6" above tuber and brush off soil. Dry in an airy, warm spot for a week. Store in a dark, dry spot at 40-50 degrees. They can be stored in cardboard boxes filled with peat moss, saw dust or shredded newspaper.

When storing any of the above, dusting with sulphur (fungicide) when packing them away can help prevent rot. Checking monthly to remove any that rot and misting any that are shriveling is helpful. A garage that doesn't freeze is ideal for storage of all but caladiums. A basement is better for them as they need 60 degree temps.

Some plants like fuchsias, lantanas, or Vermillionaire cuphea can be stored dormant in a frost free garage and watered once a month. Rosemary can be also stored in a window of the garage that is frost free or stays above 20 degrees. Again, water once a month. Rosemary doesn't overwinter well in our dry, warm houses. It is hardy to about 15 degrees as it is a Bay tree.

Enjoy the Fall colors,
Pat



Multiple Generations of Elephant Ears...Wow!

The elephant ears in Maureen Michal's garden in 2026 originated in retired member Elaine Geringer's garden. Tubers moved to Mary Drumm's garden and then to Maureen's. You can pick up tubers from this plant for your garden at our Plant Sale in May.



Library Workshop Dates

Sheila Humphrey

We helped adults make pressed flower arrangement on cards and bookmarks at the Brecksville Library on Monday, September 28 at 7:00 PM.

On December 8, 4:00-5:00 PM, children will hear a story and participate in a project.

Volunteers are needed to assist with library programs. Email Sheila: sleeha@gmail.com if you can help.

Update on the Holiday Tree

Treasures from Down Under: From Reef to Rainforest

Rosanne Radziewicz

We had a very successful crafting day after the September general meeting. Just a few more flowers, schools of fish, ornaments and coral and we will be ready to decorate our tree at the Cleveland Botanical Garden on November 15th. Please let me know if you would like to help decorate the tree. More details will follow about meeting, but we are scheduled to decorate our tree at 1:00PM on November 15th. Thanks to everyone who has contributed in some way to our creation!



Meet Our Newest Member

We welcome Atlas Cooper as our new member to ENG. Atlas first heard about us when she saw the article in the Brecksville/Broadview Heights magazines about our field trip to the Meadow City native plant garden center. She showed up on her



Atlas Cooper

e-bike, (which she loves), and joined us as we carpooled for our field trip. Atlas's horticultural interests include hydroponics, fermenting and vegetables, which she cans/preserves.

Atlas loves to be outside and considers herself an "adventurer," riding her e-bike and exploring the great outdoors. She grew up in Kentucky and has lived in this area for about 1-1/2 years. You might see her at the CVS pharmacy where she works as a pharmacy technician. She is excited about joining ENG and hopes to learn a lot about horticulture and embrace a new community of gardener friends.

Getting Ready for Porch Pot Weather?

Rosanne Radziewicz

Here's a little advance notice about our annual Porch Pot Workshop Day! This is a member-only event. This year, we are hoping to make porch pots after the November 12th General Meeting. The location is to be determined.

If you would like to participate this year, bring an empty porch pot(s), some material to fill the pot(s), gloves, cutting tools, decorative holiday bows and dried flowers, evergreen branches, and other plant material. We share ideas and each other's finds to decorate a pot or two for our homes.

As you notice the leaves in your yard drying and starting to fade, consider whether there are interesting branches, woody items, pine cones, etc. that would contribute to a beautiful arrangement. More information will follow next month.

COMING IN NOVEMBER

Payment for 2027 Dues

Yearbook Contact Information Confirmation

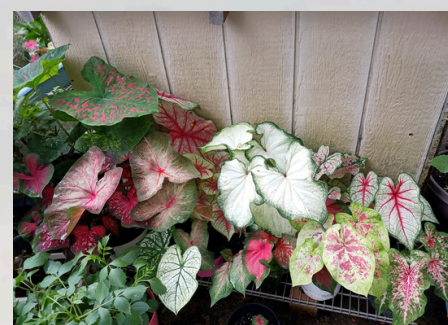
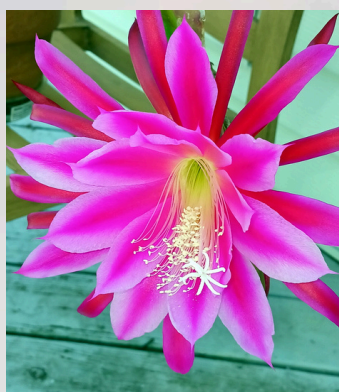


Spreading Mulch at the ENG C Rain Garden

In mid-September, ENG C members worked with the Broadview Heights service department to spread mulch on the rain garden. It will help to retain the water runoff, keep the weeds from sprouting and protect plants over the winter.

Patience Pays Off! Cheryl Schmidt

A friend gave me a single leaf of the Night-blooming Cerius. I left it in the same terracotta pot in which I received it. It continued to produce new leaves. It summered outdoors and wintered in a very cool but sunny spare bedroom. FINALLY, after 5 years, it produced multiple buds that grew rapidly and produced beautiful blooms that lasted 2 days (as opposed to the WHITE variety that blooms late at night and are gone within about 6 hours). Patience pays off!!



*In Cheryl's garden ~
clockwise from left: Red
Night-blooming Cerius,
Caladium and Cactus
Flowering Dahlia*

Foster Brown Loves Weeds



Weeds or flowers? The presentation "Some of our Favorite Weeds" by Foster Brown, Naturalist with Brecksville Metroparks, at ENG C's September meeting introduced members to three "weeds" that historically have provided multiple benefits.

- Cat Tails — Did you know there are two types, differentiated by stem and leaf size? The native, thin stems, can even be eaten and taste like cucumbers. Historically cat tails have been used for torches, stuffing, flour made from roots, leaves woven for mats, decoys, baskets, and cord. Birds use for lining nests.
- Dandelions! This self-pollinator spreads from rhizomes and blooms in spring and again in the fall. The white chemical in the stems was developed into latex. Flowers and leaves are used to make tea, wine and salad.
- Chicory — this common weed can be eaten (made into "coffee" in wartime); roots are used for cattle fodder; it can be used as a soil test and withdraws heavy metals from the soil.

So next time you see what you think may be a weed...look it up. It may have hidden benefits!

FALLFEST

Maureen Michal

562 “posies in pots” arrangements completed; beautiful flowers from gardens and red roses galore; a perfect fall day; continuous crowds; appreciative parents; proud kids with their arrangements. One of our best Fallfest celebrations! Many thanks to members who contributed flowers and helped throughout the day, to Kennicott Bros., The Schoen Family and Donna Shirer, Roots Community Garden, for flower donations. And to April Roth who took the leftover roses to make floral arrangements for hospitals and nursing homes.



Just a few of our satisfied customers

AROUND TOWN

October 10 ~ 10:00 AM - Noon

Brecksville Photo Walk & Explore & Capture
Phone or Camera; Register by October 9
URL in online newsletter
9000 Chippewa Rd., Brecksville 44141

October 16-18 ~ 4:00 - 9:00PM

Kingwood Center Gardens
50 N. Trumble Rd., Mansfield 44906
The Great Pumpkin Glow Family Event
Tickets \$12 Adults; \$6 Kids 7-12; Younger Free
Details: kingwoodcenter.org

October 17 ~ 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Master Gardener Volunteers of Cuyahoga County
FALL PLANT SALE
Lyman Steel Greenhouse, 4947 Commerce Pkwy.
Cleveland 44126; Natives, houseplants, trees, shrubs,
succulents, perennials

October 20 ~ 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Western Reserve Land Conservancy Virtual
Presentation: Ohio Raptors: Remarkable Rulers of the
Natural Realm, Judy Semroc, presenter
To register for event:
<https://wrlandconservancy.org/events/>

October 24 ~ 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Garlic Fest, Mulberry Creek Herb Farm
3312 Bogart Rd., Huron

Every Saturday in October ~ 10 AM - 3 PM

Skeleton Saturdays, Holden Arboretum

Newsletter deadline is 25th of the month. Send articles to bowlerd@roadrunner.com;
images to hessel0722@gmail.com

Emerald Necklace Garden Club is a Member of



Garden Club of Ohio, Inc.

www.Gardenclubofohio.org



Central Atlantic Region of
State Garden Clubs Inc.

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Holden Gardens & Forests
(Cleveland Botanical Garden)

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