



OVER THE GARDEN FENCE



EVENTS

- February 7 – Entomology – MG Training Class
- February 14 – Integrated Pest Management and Plant Pathology
- February 21 – Diagnostics and Pollinators
- February 26 – Monthly Meeting, 'Gardens of India' Betsy Briju
- February 28 – Herbs and Organic Production
- March – Home Fruit Production and Fruit

February 2018



THANKS



Thanks to Kathy McCorkle for decorating for the 20th Year Master Gardener Celebration

Twenty Years of Master Gardeners

On January 22, the Master Gardeners met to celebrate the 20th anniversary of our group in Athens County. The Master Gardening Program began in Washington State in 1972, when the Extension Officer from Washington State University decided to train community members to field questions on urban gardening. The idea spread and now Master Gardeners are trained and volunteer in all 50 states. At our meeting we recognized our earliest continuing M.G.'s: Mary Culp, Emilie Wood, Helen Slater, Linda Blazier, Marie Barone, Joke Harnish and Lee Gregg.



FEBRUARY GARDEN

Start planning for the new year

1. Keep bird feeders filled
2. Prune fruit trees on a warm day
3. Use dormant oil on fruit trees once temperatures are above 40° and before bud break
4. Make plans and lay out this year's garden
5. Start ordering seeds from your favorite seed catalog



Plant of the Month



Cornus sericea sp.
'Red twig dogwood'

Native to much of North America, with brilliant red branches, red twig dogwood will grow to 8 feet tall with an 8 foot spread. They tolerate full sun to partial shade, are good for erosion prevention, tolerate deer, clay soils, and wet soil. Remove 20-25% of the oldest stems each spring to stimulate new growth and have the best color display. Cuttings are easy to propagate to increase plantings.

Submit your March Plant of the Month to brown.6000@osu.edu

Gardening New Year's Resolutions

New things in:

- more diversity
- more deer resistant plants
- more native plants (Nancy Walker and others)
- try growing fennel, cumin and lentils
- more poop!!
- make that cement block raised bed
- use wood ash
- grow more milkweed and native plants for pollinators, especially a whorled milkweed (Zella Nisley)
- more ferns (Lee Gregg)
- more pollinator plants

Bad things out:

- continue to remove invasive plants
- ditch lilies out of flower beds

Changing our habits:

- spend more time working in the garden (Emilie Wood)
- mulch early and often
- hardscaping before planting
- don't do any more heavy digging in flip flops (Marcia Burchby)
- listen to what the garden has to say before facing my will upon it! (Lina H.)
- succession planting of annual flowers
- don't overcrowd (Kathy Berry)
- always wear a gardening hat or sunscreen to avoid more skin surgery (Bill Rus)
- keep up better with weeding front bed and mulching
- continue no-till gardening
- finally, really, do a soil test (Ceil Weldon)