



Evergreen Garden Club

# WILD IRIS



NOVEMBER 2016

Hi Gardeners,

I have been having fun putting the last of my bulbs in the ground. I am very hopeful that the critters will not attack them. The last days of fall here in Evergreen have been beautiful.

I hope to see you at the next meeting November 8<sup>th</sup> at the Bergen Park Fire Training Station. Come at 9:00 for some goodies and coffee before the meeting starts at 9:30.

The program will be a short class on flower arranging. Please bring a large soup can you can use as your container. The fresh flowers will be provided for you.

I wish you a Happy Thanksgiving and hopefully the snow will stay away for the day.

Joan Evashevski  
President

**NEXT MEETING  
TUESDAY  
NOVEMBER 8, 2016  
BERGEN PARK FIRE  
HOUSE  
SOCIAL: 9:00 TO 9:30**

## **NOVEMBER'S PROGRAM FLOWER ARRANGING**

The November Program will be a short class on flower arranging. Mary Mitchell will be the presenter and she will teach us some simple rules and tricks for making an arrangement. This will be a "hands on" program and you will go home with your very own creation. Please bring a large soup can which will act as your container. The fresh flowers will be provided. If you have questions please call Lindy Doty at 303-759-9389 or email her at [lindydoty@aol.com](mailto:lindydoty@aol.com)





**2017 CO Master Gardener Calendars have arrived!**

The calendar again contains useful “To Do List” information for each month.

Photographs courtesy of CO Master Gardeners.

Calendars prepared and designed by:  
Master Gardeners of Jefferson County,  
Colorado...A Non-Profit Organization,  
And Native Plant Masters.

Price \$12.00, cash or check payable to “Master Gardener Fund”  
Proceeds go towards scholarships for area students  
who are pursuing education/careers in horticulture.

Please contact EGC member, Paul Luzetski  
if you would like to arrange for calendar purchases.

Thanks very much for your support!

Paul Luzetski  
Email: [PaulL4@msn.com](mailto:PaulL4@msn.com)  
Cell Phone: [303-229-9073](tel:303-229-9073)



# *Evergreen Garden Club Minutes*

## *October 11, 2016*

The meeting was called to order by 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Lindy Doty at 9:37 a.m. Board members present were Jane Wingquist, Treasurer, Gloria Owens, Secretary, and Susan Garcia, Technology Officer. Absent: Joan Evashevski, President, Annell Hoy, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President Mentor, and Linda Berteau, 2nd Vice-President.

New visitors, Bonnie Miolick and Janet Lisk were introduced.

Lindy announced the October Birthdays: Meredith Bossert, Sylvia Brockner, Margo Constable, Laura McReynolds, and Marva Zima.

**Secretary Report:** The minutes of the September meeting were approved as printed in the Wild Iris.

**Treasurers Report:** Jane Wingquist asked for approval for the 2016-2017 Evergreen Garden Club budget. There was discussion on the liability forms as well as membership applications. Checking account balance: \$2,370; Savings account balance: \$16,823. The budget was approved following discussion.

In regard to the public gardens, Gloria Owens gave a report on the Metro Dam Garden. While working there the water district told Dee Sacks that the rose bush near the NE wall needed to be pruned due to obstruction to the other plants. They were also concerned about the Crab Apple tree and additional pruning of trees near the building. Barbara Steger stated she would check with the Water District regarding these issues.

**Directory:** The welcoming committee passed out the new Membership Directories. There was discussion about the Waiver and Release for the Evergreen Garden Club, Inc. The new form is now printed on the back side of the membership forms. It was advised all members fill out the form and turn in to Linda Berteau.

**Hospitality:** Leslie Jordan and her volunteers presented a delightful breakfast for the members. She requested three additional persons to volunteer for the November meeting.

Marva Zima and Cindy Gibson presented the board suggestion to donate \$750 to the Fire Department for a 40 cup coffee maker and regular size pots and pans. There was discussion and the item was tabled until the next meeting.

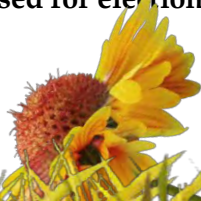
**Tech Officer:** Susan Garcia asked who was in charge of Facebook. If she had any questions she was to contact Paul Luzetski.

**Publicity:** No report

**Community Gardens:** Lynn Dimmick announced this month's meeting was work day at the gardens and members were to go to their respective gardens to clean up and get the gardens ready for winter. Jo Powers was assigned responsibility at the Dam Garden.

It was brought to our attention that the November meeting was on Election Day. The board will check if the meeting place was being used for elections. With no further business the meeting adjourned at 10:05.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gloria Owens, Secretary



**October Work Day!  
Putting the Community Gardens  
To Bed for the Winter**

**Diana Aldridge, Mary Ellen Putnam, and  
Jane Wingquist at the Traffic Garden Circle**



**Beth Feldcamp and Barbara Steger  
At the Metro District Garden**



**Flowers at the Metro District Garden**





**Working on the  
Dam Garden**



Susan Garcia & Friends at the  
Bergen Fire & Rescue Garden



Mary Ellen Putnam



Dee Sacks & friend inspecting a fall blooming Crocus!



# Help for Winter Burn



Since moving here 6 short gardening seasons ago, I have learned much by trial and error. Living in a clearing, without any trees very near to the house, I potted small evergreens, junipers, arborvitae (tried them all) and the like in large pots on our deck and by the front door, to bring the illusion of green trees closer to the house. Unfortunately, three quarters of the way through the winter, despite the winter watering, they would turn brown and by spring would often have to be replaced. At first I thought it was because they were planted in pots, but we also had this problem with some of the newer evergreen trees and shrubs we planted in the ground. It seemed impossible to get them established and through that first winter.

The main cause of winter damage to trees and shrubs is through desiccation, or drying out. When the ground freezes, plant roots are unable to take up water from the soil, so they quickly begin to use up all the water stored in their leaves and stems. This is very damaging, particularly to evergreen trees and shrubs that don't protect themselves by dropping their leaves in winter. Examples: Junipers, Arborvitae, cedars, holly, etc.

Anti-desiccants, also called anti-transpirants, are sprays that provide a protective coating to evergreen foliage that reduces the amount of water that escapes. Anti-desiccants such as Moisturin are made of chemical polymers, and products such as **Wilt Pruf** are made from pine oil. A relatively safe way to reduce moisture loss and protect plants against the cold drying winds of winter

Anti-desiccants are gradually washed and worn away over several months, so by springtime they are gone. While all anti-desiccants are marketed as biodegradable, the ones with the most natural ingredients will be safest for you and your plants. **I used Wilt Pruf with very favorable results.**



**HELPFUL INFORMATION TO KNOW BEFORE  
YOU APPLY AN ANTI-DESICCANT!**

**Follow all package instructions with your anti-desiccant.**

**DON'T SPRAY TOO EARLY!** Wait until at least December to spray conifers, because these plants can be damaged if you apply the anti-desiccant too early. These plants must be completely dormant (which involves moving water down to the roots) before applying, or else the spray will trap water in the leaves that will freeze and burst the plant cells later.

**PICK A NICE DAY!** We get lots of them during the winter season! Anti-desiccants are best applied when temperatures are in the 40s-50s, with no rain forecast for a few days. Foliage needs to be dry when applied, and the spray needs time to dry afterward.

**DON'T SPRAY WAXY BLUE CONIFERS** such as blue spruce – they already have a natural coating that you don't want to damage.

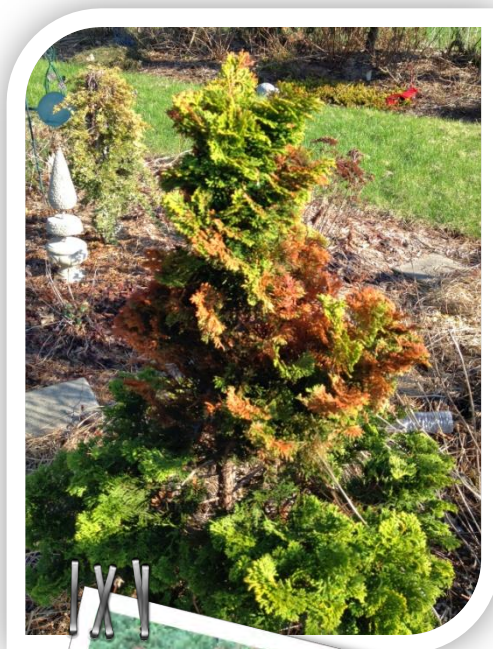
**Anti-Desiccants can also be used for:**

**Bulbs:** You can apply an anti-desiccant to tender bulbs before storing.

**Transplanting:** If you find yourself transplanting a stressed shrub in midsummer, an anti-desiccant can help hold in moisture until the plants put out new roots.

**Pumpkins:** Apply anti-desiccant to your carved jack o'lantern to help it last longer.

**Christmas Trees, Wreaths and Garland:** Anti-desiccant can help keep your cut Christmas trees, wreaths and greens from drying out as fast.



**ABOUT WILT PRUF**

Wilt-Pruf® is a natural pine oil emulsion that is organic, non-hazardous and biodegradable. Wilt-Pruf® spray dries to form a clear transparent and flexible protective coating without interfering with plant growth or materially affecting respiration, osmosis or photosynthesis.

Ultraviolet rays from outdoor daylight react with our film forming polymer which produces a continuous flexible film which forms a coating similar to having numerous bed sheets on a bed. When the top sheet is removed, there are still many more sheets left. The same phenomenon is true with Wilt-Pruf®. As the outside layer wears off with the sun, wind and rain and powders away, another layer forms. This process continues until all the layers have worn off which takes three to four months and sometimes longer depending on climatic conditions. Wilt-Pruf® is the only horticulture antitranspirant that has the ability to provide this long lasting protection.

This information and more is available on their website.





# Just Add Water!

In cold weather, a heated bird bath can be a bird's best friend

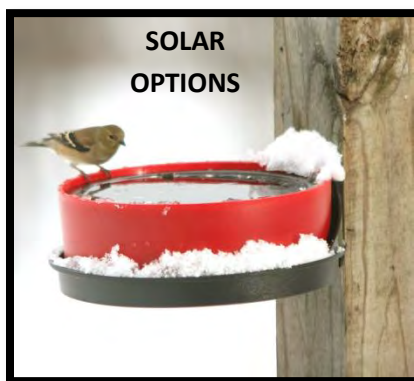
Winter can be a particularly difficult time for wildlife and most gardeners love to feed the birds. But did you know that open water may be more difficult for birds to find in winter than food? Many times reliable water sources can be frozen with or without snow on the ground, or evaporated by the cold, dry wind.

When water suddenly disappears, animals expend valuable energy and risk dangerous exposure searching for other sources—which might mean the difference between life and death in the coldest season.

Water sources in winter are a wonderful way to attract a variety of birds that don't normally visit feeders. At a time when natural water sources may be frozen, they provide a reliable source of water for bathing and drinking. Bathing is especially important in cold weather in order to keep feathers in top condition.

***Research has shown that a chickadee with well-maintained feathers can sustain a 70 degree layer of insulation between the outside air and its skin.***

The easiest way to provide ice-free water in a bird bath is to use a heat source. You can find birdbaths with built-in heating elements (generally set to 40–50 degrees Fahrenheit) at online retailers and home and garden specialty stores. You can also purchase water-heating units designed to float on the surface of ponds or to rest on the bottom of birdbaths. These heaters usually cost little to run and safely shut off automatically when pulled out of the water.



Important Safety Tip: Be sure your outdoor outlets are protected by a ground-fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) to cut off the electricity in case of a short.

Use solar energy to your advantage: Put water sources on the south or southwestern side of your property, preferably sheltered from the wind.

However you provide water, remember that sanitation is important year-round. Locating water sources close to your house makes cleaning and maintenance much easier—and you won't have to carry buckets of water far. Be sure the containers are regularly cleaned and replenished with fresh water—more often as more animals use them—to prevent the spread of disease.

Rinse a birdbath daily before refilling it, and clean it once a week using a solution of one part chlorine bleach to nine parts water and a scrub brush to loosen debris. Rinse again thoroughly before refilling with fresh water.

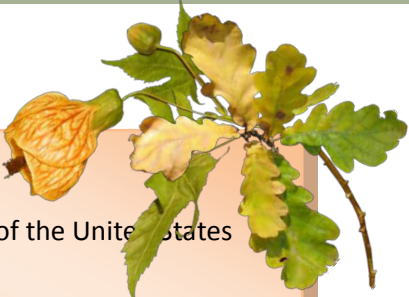


References

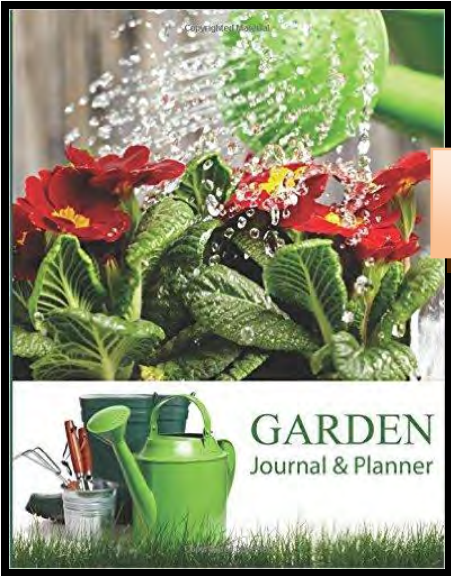
The Humane Society of the United States

Wild Birds Unlimited

Rockies Audubon



# Gifts for Gardeners!



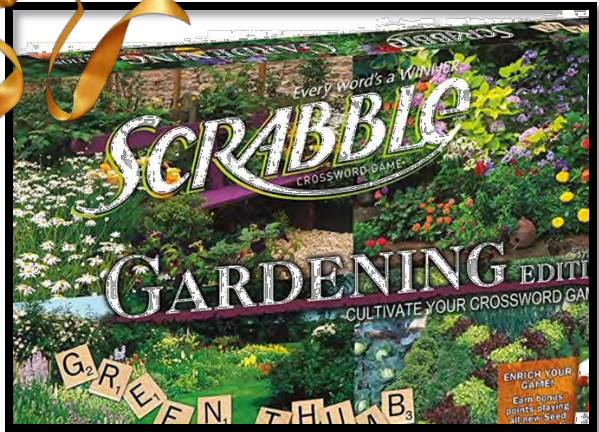
**GARDEN Journal & Planner**  
 \$8.59 Paperback. Amazon.com Space for Pictures, Journaling and More.



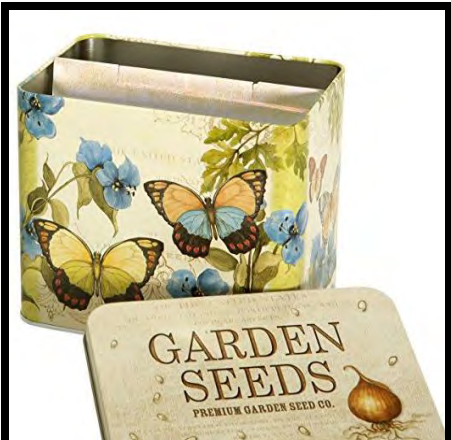
**GARDEN ORNAMENTS \$6.00 – 20.00 Etsy.com**



**SEED KEEPER**  
 Organize, Record and Store  
 \$15.31 Amazon.com



**SCRABBLE GARDENING EDITION**  
 \$19.95 Amazon.com



**TIN GARDEN SEED STORAGE BOX**  
 Comes with 20 tabbed and lined divider cards  
 \$19.99 Amazon.com





**MAKE A WISH NECKLACE**  
\$15.00 and up – [Etsy.com](https://www.etsy.com)  
Search *dandelion necklaces*



**CELL PHONE CASES**  
\$9.00 and up [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)



**For someone new to Evergreen!**





Rustic Garden Stone \$22.00 Etsy.com



Peace Sign Fingers Fork \$15.75 Etsy.com



Bee Coasters \$11.95 Etsy.com



Haiti Metal Garden Art \$19.95 Etsy.com





 Nellybelle General Store

