



Evergreen Garden Club

WILD IRIS



November 2018

Hello Evergreen Garden Club members!

By the time you read this letter, our public gardens will likely be in full-on hibernation mode and Winterfest will be just around the corner!

In case you didn't already know, Winterfest is an annual community festival of handmade gifts, gallery fine arts and holiday crafts, held on November 10, from 9 am – 4 pm, indoors on the 'main street' of Evergreen High School. Evergreen Chorale and Evergreen Children's Chorale will be performing this year too! Our new publicity chair, Helen McLeman, has stepped up to coordinate an Evergreen Garden Club information booth at Winterfest. (Thank you, Helen!) She is looking for garden club member volunteers for the day of the festival. There is always time to do a little shopping while you volunteer, so please contact Helen if you can help. Helen can be contacted by e-mail at helenmcleman.com or by cell phone 720-879-8611.

We are looking forward to another enlightening program, "A Bugs Life" at our next meeting November 13th at the Bergen Fire Training Station. Come at 9:00 for social time, coffee and some deliciousness before the meeting starts at 9:30.

Until then, bundle up and take comfort in some warm beverages and foods to balance and hydrate you in the cold weather. Blessings for a Happy November and a Happy Thanksgiving!

Carol
EGC President



NEXT MEETING
TUESDAY NOVEMBER 13, 2018
BERGEN PARK FIRE HOUSE
SOCIAL 9:00 – 9:30 am
MEETING 9:30 am




NOVEMBER'S PROGRAM

A BUGS LIFE!

**Colorado Garden Pests:
Management Techniques
for Homeowners**





Evergreen Garden Club General Meeting Minutes October 9, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m. by President Carol Herczeg. Other board members present were Cherie Luke, Kris Waggoner, Cindy Gibson and Susan Garcia. Mary Twombly was absent. A total of nineteen members were present.

President's Report

New member Janice Theobald introduced herself to the club.

The members born in October were recognized.

Helen McLeman has volunteered to head up the Publicity Committee for one year. She will also lead our participation in Winterfest. This event, held on November 10 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Evergreen High School, is a community event that features local artists and businesses. It provides a venue to promote our club. Members interested in handing out seed packets with Helen should contact her at helen@McLeman.com.

Secretary's Report

The September general meeting minutes were approved.

Cindy is planning to work on organizing Standard Operating Procedures for committee leader positions. This will help the board when recruiting individuals for a position and provide a safety net if a leader is unable to train their replacement. She requests that committee leaders provide her with step by step instructions on how they perform their position.

First Vice-President's Report

As today was scheduled to be a public garden work day, there will be no speaker.

The program for November 13th will be "A Bug's Life" presented by an entomologist.

Cherie reminded members to submit 'a favorite plant or thing' to her for the benefit of the March speaker.

Technology Officer's Report


Susan promoted the Colorado Master Gardener program. A link for the application can be found on our Facebook page.

She has created a slide show of the last two garden tours. They can be found on YouTube and our website.

The forms to nominate a non-profit organization to benefit from our charitable giving program can also be found on the website.

Treasurer's Report

Kris reviewed the proposed budget for the 2018-19 fiscal year. Changes from last year's budget include a readjustment of individual garden funds, an increase in the advertising allotment, an allowance to purchase a microphone, and a new category to supply funds for our Rodeo participation. The budget was approved by the club.



Evergreen Garden Club **General Meeting Minutes (Continued)** **October 9, 2018**

Treasurer's Report (Continued)

Revenue for the budget will be acquired through membership fees, the grocery card program and donations.

It was suggested that our donation to EChO should be given after our June meeting as the funds help with their community garden plot.

Based on established policy, the funds available for charitable giving have been calculated to be \$2245. It is not a requirement of our Bylaws that we donate every year. A non-profit organization that deals with mountain horticultural or conservation of natural resources may be nominated until November 27. A committee of three will be formed to select the top three requests and present the options to the club for a vote in the Spring.

Kris reminded everyone to submit their dues prior to October 31 if they wish to have their names published in the directory.

Natural Resources

Mary Dickoff reminded us that it is now legal in Colorado to collect up to 110 gallons of rainwater.

Hospitality

Annell Hoy passed around a sign-up sheet to bring refreshments in November.

History

Susan Blake took a picture of the attendees.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:08 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Gibson, Secretary
Evergreen Garden Club

EGC's COLD OCTOBER MEETING!

October 9, 2018

With temps in the thirties and a dusting of snow, most of the community garden clean-ups were postponed to better days!



A BEGINNERS GUIDE TO FORCING BULBS

Reprinted from Better Homes & Gardens



Almost everyone recognizes the daffodil and the tulip. They are superstars of the flower bulb world: the easy-to-grow, can't-get-any-sunnier-in-springtime flowers. But before you rush out to add them to your outdoor garden, consider this: You also can have bulbs indoors in those not-so-warm months.

Forcing bulbs inside is a super easy technique that's simply a sleight of hand—a trickster's way to get blooms by faking out your flowers about what season it really is. It involves very little effort and few materials. The biggest exertion? Scheduling their arrival.

TO CHILL OR NOT TO CHILL

Here's the deal: Bulbs that grow indoors sometimes need a reminder that they've been through winter – however fake it is. In fact, all bulbs except amaryllis and paperwhites need a cold-snap. What makes those two different? They don't get cold at home in their native tropics, so they don't need winter wherever you live. For other flower bulbs though, you will have to chill them a little to get them to bloom inside; just how long depends on the bulb. Generally:

Chill in September, bloom in January

Chill in October, bloom in February

Chill in November, bloom in March

Chill in December, bloom in April

Amaryllis: Chill time none; bloom time 6 to 8 weeks

Crocus: Chill time 8 to 15 weeks; bloom time 2 to 3 weeks after chilling

Daffodil: Chill time 2 to 3 weeks; bloom time 2 to 3 weeks after chilling

Grape hyacinth: Chill time 8 to 15 weeks; bloom time 2 to 3 weeks after chilling

Hyacinth: Chill time 12 to 15 weeks; bloom time 2 to 3 weeks after chilling

Iris: Chill time 13 to 15 weeks; bloom time 2 to 3 weeks after chilling

Paperwhites: Chill time none; bloom time 3 to 5 weeks

Snowdrop: Chill time 15 weeks; bloom time 2 weeks after chilling

Tulip: Chill time 10 to 16 weeks; bloom time 2 to 3 weeks after chilling



A BEGINNERS GUIDE TO FORCING BULBS

Reprinted from Better Homes & Gardens

IF YOUR BULBS NEED CHILLING

- Choose a pot deep enough that you have a couple of inches below the bottom of the bulbs for soil and roots but that it is tall enough that you can cover the bulbs up to their necks.
- Fill the bottom of the container with potting soil.
- Use enough bulbs to fill the container. You can crowd them or give them some air. Cover with potting soil just to the necks of the bulbs.
- Chill the bulbs for the recommended time period. The crisper drawer of your refrigerator is just fine for a handful of hydrangea bulbs. An unheated basement, cold space or inside a cold frame also works as a cool spot to keep your bulbs. Keep the soil just damp – not wet.
- Start waking up your bulbs by giving them a few weeks of warmer (not warm) and some indirect sunlight.
- Once the bulbs shoot up and are a couple of inches tall, give them more sun and a warmer spot.



IF YOUR BULBS DON'T NEED CHILLING

- Soak the roots of the bulbs in a shallow pan of lukewarm water for a couple of hours.
- Fill a pot with potting soil or garden pebbles; insert the bulbs but leave the top two-thirds exposed.
- Gently tamp down the soil or pebbles around the bulbs. Water until damp, then place in a sunny, warm spot.





FORCING HYACINTHS WITHOUT SOIL

Hyacinths can be forced in pebbles and water or in glass jars. They still require a cool rooting period if forced this way.

- Place a 2 to 3-inch layer of pebbles such as pea stone, marble chips or river rocks in the bottom of a bowl or pot.
- Set the bulbs on top of the pebbles, and then fill with more pebbles, leaving the top 1/3rd of the bulb exposed.
- Add enough water to create a reservoir for the roots but be sure the base of the bulb stays above water level; if they sit in water the bulbs will rot.
- Place the container in a dark, cool area (40 to 50 degrees) 4 to 8 weeks.
- Check the water level occasionally, adding more water when necessary but keeping the water level below the bottom of the bulb.
- When roots have developed and leaves begin to grow, move the bulbs to a bright window in a cool area (below 65 degrees).

You can keep bulbs cool in a refrigerator, but only if there is no fresh fruit stored inside. The ethylene gas released by fruit during its natural ripening process will interfere with flower development. Better to store bulbs in an extra refrigerator, if you happen to have one.

References: White Flower Farm



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Our new publicity chair, Helen McLeman, has stepped up to coordinate an Evergreen Garden Club information booth at Winterfest. (Thank you, Helen!) She is looking for garden club member volunteers for the day of the festival. There is always time to do a little shopping while you volunteer, so please contact Helen if you can help.

Helen can be contacted by e-mail at helenmcleman.com
or by cell phone 720-879-8611.



Please join
Sundance Gardens
for our
2018 Holiday Open House
November 9-11
from 10-5 Friday & Saturday, 12-4 Sunday
Refreshments & Door Prize Drawing!
27945 Meadow Drive



Help for Winter Burn



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.



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.

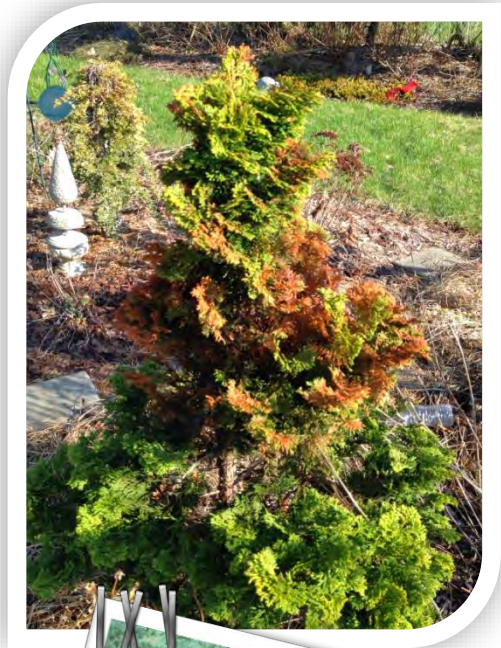
Anti-Desiccants can also be used for:

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.



EGC is accepting requests for Charitable giving again!

Request forms must be received by a board member by Nov 27th (board meeting). If submissions are made, a 3-person committee will be formed to review them. The top 3 requests are chosen. These requests are given to the club to vote in early spring.

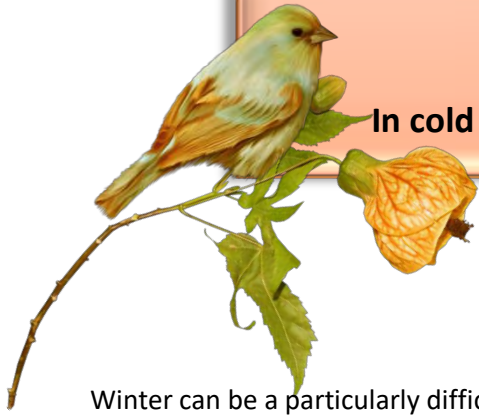
The request forms can be found on the EGC website under the tab "Policies and Forms"

www.evergreengardenclub.org



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.



SOLAR
OPTIONS



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, when 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.



Splish Splash I was taking a bath...



**GROUND
OPTIONS**



References
 The Humane Society of the United States
 Wild Birds Unlimited
 Rockies Audubon

5 DOS AND DON'TS FOR PLANTING HERBS

May 17, 2016 by Sydney Anderson
For Western Garden Center



DO Plant Like Herbs Together. Certain herbs grow better together. Herbs like basil, cilantro and parsley need more water compared to other herbs like rosemary, oregano, sage or thyme who prefer to have a drier soil. You can ask a Garden Solutions Expert at Western Gardens if the herbs you want to grow will work well together, if you're unsure. Also, some herbs don't do well in the cold. Check to see what herbs can handle cooler temperatures.

DON'T Plant Different Varieties of Mint Together. Mint plants including spearmint, peppermint, lemon mint and more like to spread their roots. Because of this, if you plant them together you will get a mix of flavors in the plants and sometimes (well, most of the time) they don't taste right. If you want to plant multiple varieties of mint, make sure to use separate containers!



Make Sure Your Herbs Get the Right Amount of Sun.

All herbs love the sun. I made the mistake of leaving the first herbs I grew on my east facing front porch and they only got about two hours of sun a day. They withered away to nothing within a week. Now I have a lovely herb garden in my southwest facing bedroom. Most herbs like at least 6 hours of direct sun light a day.

DON'T Water Too Much (Or Not Enough). Herbs will thrive best with the correct amount of water. A good rule of thumb is if you put your finger (or a popsicle stick) into the soil and it's just barely moist about 1" down, it's time to water again. I water my cilantro, basil and mint daily but my rosemary and thyme I water only every other day.



DO Get A Pot(s) That Has Enough Room for Excess Water to Drain.

Plants don't want to sit in cold, wet soil. Make sure to get a pot that has a large drainage hole for the excess water to leave. You can also buy liners to put in your pots that help drain water as well. Western Gardens has a huge variety of pots in every size and variety.



Please contact Annell Hoy if you can provide a dish for the November Refreshment Table!
Text/Cell 720-438-5502 or annell517@yahoo.com

Thank you to those who did sign up in October!

Menu

We need your help filling the November Refreshment Table!



GIVE THANKS



Beaujos
Cactus Jacks
Eco Designs
Evergreen Goldsmiths
Evergreen National Bank
Go Paint!
Stephen Parks Goldsmith