



Evergreen Garden Club

WILD IRIS



December 2018



NEXT MEETING
TUESDAY DECEMBER 11, 2018
BERGEN PARK FIRE HOUSE
SOCIAL 9:00 – 9:30 am
MEETING 9:30 am



DECEMBER'S MEETING ANNUAL HOLIDAY GATHERING



The December program will be our Annual Holiday Celebration! Please bring a \$5.00 wrapped gift for the Farmer Right game.

Please don't forget to bring cans of hearty soups (5 grams of protein) and boxes of corn bread mixes to donate to the Echo Food Bank.

Have a craft to sell? There will be a crafts table available! (10% of all craft sales goes back to ECG).

**Evergreen Garden Club General Meeting Minutes
November 13, 2018**



The meeting was called to order at 9:32 a.m. by President Carol Herczeg. Other board members present were Cherie Luke, Mary Twombly, Kris Waggoner, Cindy Gibson and Susan Garcia. A total of twenty-six members were present.

President's Report

New member Mary Patton introduced herself to the club. Helen McLeman reported that she received positive feedback from those who attended Winterfest, stating that many expressed interest in joining the club.

Secretary's Report

The October general meeting minutes were approved. A sympathy card was passed around for Bev who has just lost her husband.

First Vice-President's Report

Cherie announced that besides our plant sale at the June meeting, we will also have a crazy hat contest. Decorate your garden hat and bring it to the meeting! The Jefferson County Master Gardener's 2019 Calendar is available for purchase. It provides money for a scholarship for students pursuing a horticultural related career.

Second Vice-President's Report

Linda Berteau passed around the draft for the directory and asked members to check their contact information. The directory will be printed soon, and then passed out at the December meeting. She thanked all members who contributed to the directory.

Treasurer's Report

Kris reviewed the expenditures made so far this calendar year. As of October 31st, 63 members and 7 businesses have paid their dues. The Charitable Giving Policy was summarized. The application forms are available on our website and are due by November 27th. A suggestion was made to save the funds instead of donating them for the purpose of only presenting the garden tour every three years. Kris will calculate if this is financially feasible. Members are encouraged to bring a small wrapped gift (suggested value of \$5) to the Holiday Party for one of the games. Everyone will leave with a gift!

Hospitality

Annell Hoy thanked everyone who provided food for the hospitality table. She passed around a sign-up sheet for everyone to bring a side dish, dessert, etc. for our Holiday Party luncheon. The Club will provide ham and salmon. Please bring in a can of hearty soup and a box of cornbread mix next month. Two people are needed to volunteer to head up the donation table and transport the donations to EChO.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:58 a.m.

Program:

Cherie introduced Sarah Wong Cooper, entomologist, whose presentation "Colorado Garden Pests: Management Techniques for Homeowners", was very informative.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Gibson, EGVC Secretary

Members Enjoying
Food & Fellowship at
the November EGC Meeting



Entomologist, Sarah Wong Cooper, gave members an informative presentation on Colorado Garden Pests



Pictures by Susan Blake





CARING FOR POINSETTIAS



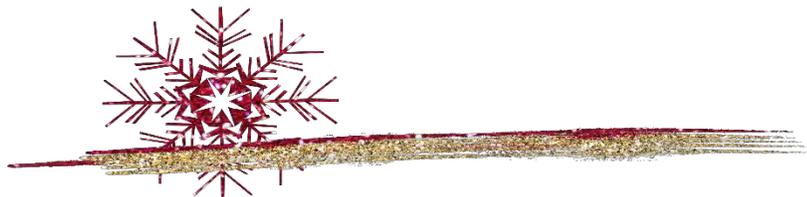
By Jennifer Webber, head grower at Rambo Nursery in Dallas, Georgia.

1. Treat poinsettias just like houseplants. Put them in a sunny spot in your home, preferably near a window.
2. Water once a week when the soil is dry to the touch or the pot is lightweight. Avoid over-watering; excessive amounts of water will cause root diseases resulting in leaf drop or may even kill the plant.
3. The easiest method of watering poinsettias requires ice cubes and knowing the size of the pot your plant is in. A 6-inch requires six ice cubes every three to five days. An 8-inch pot requires eight ice cubes every three to five days, and so on. If your poinsettia gets a lot of sun, water more frequently.



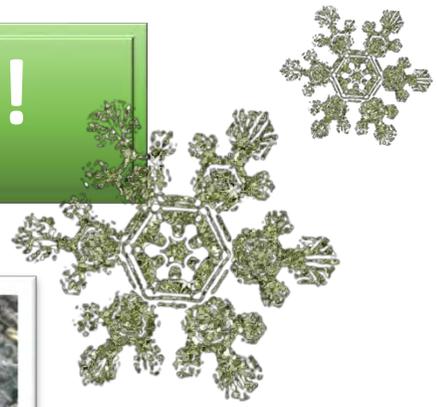
Poinsettias are lovely flowers, but the pretty parts that we think of as the bloom are really bracts. The colorful bracts are leaves, and the poinsettia flower is the smaller green or yellow flower in the center of the bracts.

After the holidays, you can treat poinsettias the same as annuals in most areas of the country. Once they start dropping leaves and looking unkempt, add them to the compost pile and recycle the containers. If you live in an area where they are grown outdoors as ornamentals, then plant in a partly shaded area.





Those Vile Voles!



MEADOW VOLES AND PINE VOLES

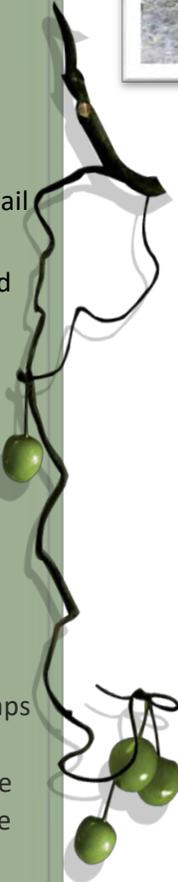
Meadow voles are most active above ground. They sometimes live underground where the soil has been cultivated or where a burrow system is already present; for example, an abandoned pocket gopher burrow.

Pine voles favor open woodlands and spend most of their time in underground burrows. They usually have an extensive subsurface trail system that is excavated about 1 to 2 inches deep. These burrows open to the surface and often connect to above-ground runways.

Voles are active day and night and do not hibernate. They have three to six young per litter and have approximately 12 litters per year. Fallen birdseed in winter can attract voles.

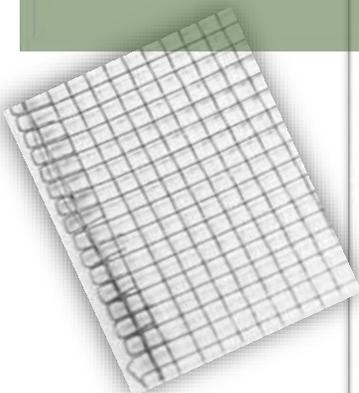
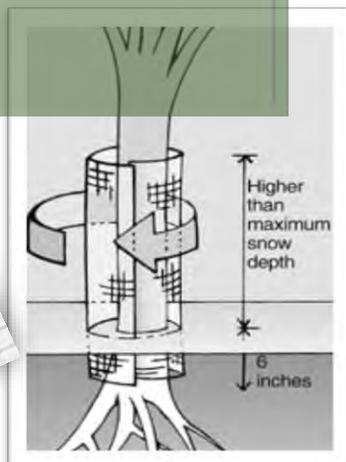
Both eliminating voles and preventing vole damage is the most effective way to keep things under control. Yellow-tabbed snap traps work great for eliminating voles. Poisoning voles is not recommended as a poisoned vole can sicken natural predators, and poisons are dangerous around pets and children.

Tree damage from voles can be prevented by wrapping the tree trunk with hardware cloth. Ensure the squares are no larger than ¼ inch and bury the cloth at least six inches below the ground.



YELLOW-TABBED SNAP TRAPS WORK GREAT!

Place traps perpendicular to runways with the trigger end in the runway and bait with small amounts of rolled oats or peanut butter. Set traps in the fall before most damage occurs. Cover the hole with a tent or an inverted flower pot to avoid harming non-target critters.

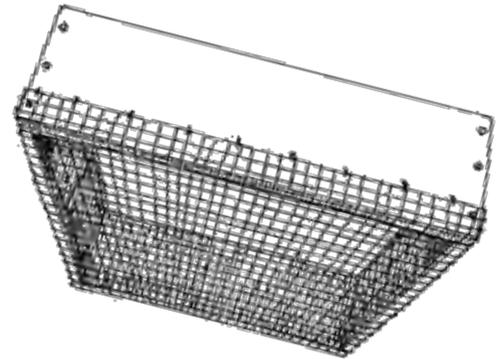




Protect the roots of shrubs and perennials from vole damage by planting the main root-ball in a basket made of hardware cloth or purchase wire baskets from the *Dollar Store* and bury them directly into the ground. Leave a couple inches of the basket above the surface and hide with mulch if the plant doesn't cover it. Larger wire baskets for plants like rose bushes can be purchased at Target. The baskets have an advantage because they have a bottom. Pocket gophers can burrow deeper than voles and can come in from underneath. Below is a picture of a burrowing tunnel that came in from under the fence and completely surrounded the protected plant. Thanks to the basket, this plant survived!



Wire baskets from the Dollar Store come in two sizes



Line the bottom of raised beds with hardware cloth before filling!

Plantskydd is known to be an effective deterrent and comes in granular or spray forms. Safe around pets!





**IMPORTANT
ECG REMINDERS FOR THE
DECEMBER MEETING!**

Please remember to bring cans of hearty soup and corn bread mix to the December meeting for the Echo Food Bank!

Have a craft to sell? There will be a craft table!
Please return 10% of craft sales to EGC.

Please bring a wrapped, \$5.00 gift to pass for the Farmer Right Game.
Everyone will leave with a gift!

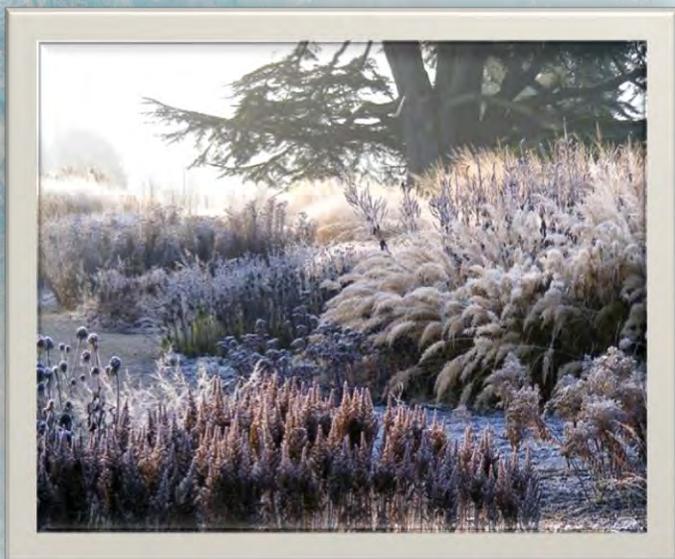
**Jefferson County Master Gardener 2019 Calendars
will be available at the December meeting for \$14.00 each.**

The calendar feature's monthly gardening tips
and lovely photos taken by the Master Gardeners.
Please see Cheri Luke or Paul Luzetski if interested.



NO COLOR IN WINTER – TEXTURE BECOMES THE FOCUS

Notes from Landscape Design 101



Just a reminder!

The Evergreen Garden Club will cancel its meeting if Jefferson County Schools or Jefferson County Mountain Schools are closed due to inclement weather. Tune in to any local television station for school updates.



**MARK YOUR
CALENDARS!**

for EGC's
**CRAZY GARDEN HAT
CONTEST**

**JUNE 11, 2019
EGC MEETING**



Forest Heights Lodge Christmas Party

The Evergreen Garden Club is hosting a party for the boys at Forest Heights Lodge, a Residential Treatment Center for boys in Evergreen, on Friday December 7, at 3:00 pm. EGC has done this for over 30 years!

We buy a plant for each boy so they can learn to care for them. We are giving them a rosemary plant shaped as a Christmas tree, so we will be talking about herbs and how to care for them.

Tupper Briggs will be presenting a program about bees and how they impact the environment and how the environment impacts them. We also bring cookies for the boys to celebrate the season.

Space is limited, so please contact Peggy Fetchenhier at 303-674-4759 if interested.



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Sundance by Design



We are OPEN Monday-Saturday 10-5, Sunday 12-4.

And we carry lots more than plants and mulch!
We have added several new lines, and now have great
bags (from recycled tarps & tents), jewelry,
Colorado jams & candies, and many locally made
artisan gifts (like the beautiful wreaths above).

And of course great gifts for gardeners
(check out the gnome ornaments).

Mention you are a member of the Evergreen Garden Club
and you saw this post to take 20% off a single item*.

One time use, good through December 20, 2018.

* artist consignment not included



May all your holiday dreams come true!

Please send any corrections, submissions, ideas or stories for
the Wild Iris to louiseheern@gmail.com