



# “What’s Growing On...”

Volume 16 Number 1 Spring 2013 Edition Published Quarterly

**Inside this issue:**



**RUTGERS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION  
ON THE RADIO**

For agriculture news and horticultural tips, listen to me, Viola Carson, on the RCE Agricultural Program on Monday, Wednesday & Friday on WSNJ AM 1440 & 1240 at our new time **11:35 pm** announcing local workshops, seminars, and horticultural tips.

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**FROM THE DESK OF VIOLA CARSON**

This newsletter represents the calls and visits that come into our office. The Master Gardeners are here to serve you in Cumberland County starting March 15th. The new class has three more months until graduation and they look very promising. We have several new beautification projects in the county and we would like to make a visual difference.

We hope to see you at the Eco Fair Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at WheatonArts and Cultural Center and the Millville Flower Show, Saturday, May 11th on High Street. The Master Gardeners will have Ramapo tomato plants, native plants and a children’s table. Be sure to visit the Cumberland County Fair July 1-6

If you haven’t made a rain barrel yet, we are taking registrations for the Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> class here at the Extension Center. See the attached flyer for further details.

We sponsored a bus trip to the Philadelphia Flower Show and hope to get inspired for the next growing season. Remember everyone is invited to come to the Master Gardener trainings by the class, we still have some great topics. Spring is just around the corner.

<b>Attachments</b>	
Rain Barrel Class flyer	
Master Gardener class schedule	

## Boxwood cuttings

Boxwoods have been growing in NJ since colonial times. The two most widely cultivated boxwood varieties are the English box and the common box. Both are members of the botanical species *Buxus sempervirens*. The English box is a dwarf shrub, often less than 3 feet tall at maturity. The common box is larger usually attaining the height of a small tree. Both have standard boxwood characteristics: dense foliage and full, rounded shapes.

Taking cuttings is fun and easy and they root readily. Cuttings of some evergreens-holly, yew, arborvitae, and juniper-root best if taken from the plants in late fall or early winter, after they have been subjected to several heavy frosts. Boxwood cuttings can be taken at any season.

One way to root cuttings is in a flower pot that is kept covered with a plastic bag. The plastic cover allows the cuttings to "breathe" but prevents loss of water. For a rooting medium, use a mixture of 1 part clean sand and 1 part peat moss. When the mixture has the proper amount of moisture, only a drop or two of water will come from a handful that is squeezed tightly. If mixture is too wet add dry sand and peat to it. Fill flower pot. Take cuttings and use right away. Make a slanting cut through the stem 2-6 inches from the tip of the cutting.

Strip the leaves off the lower half of each cutting and dip the base of the cutting in a rooting hormone. Insert the cutting to about half its length in the rooting medium. Put the cuttings close together; a 6 inch pot will hold 10-12 cuttings. When the flower pot is full, spray the cuttings lightly with water. Place the flower pot inside a plastic bag, close the top of the bag. This forms a mini greenhouse that is vapor proof: the cuttings will need no more water until they are rooted. Set the cuttings in a window where they are exposed to daylight but never to direct sunlight. Heat from direct sunlight may kill cuttings.

Cuttings of most plants will form roots within 2 months. After they have been in the flower pot for 2 months, very carefully dig one of the cuttings and inspect it for rooting. If no roots are visible, replant the cutting, close the bag, and set the flower pot back in the window. Inspect again in a few weeks or until the cuttings root or turn brown or black, indicating death of the cuttings.

After cuttings have rooted, grow them in a cold frame or protected area for one winter before planting them in their permanent location. Harden the plants for moving to the cold frame by opening the plastic bag for an hour or two each day. After a week of this, the plants should be hardened enough to move safely.

The above information has come from archived Growing Boxwoods, US Dept. of Ag Home and Garden Bulletin # 120 and Home Propagation of Ornamental Trees and Shrubs Home and Garden Bulletin # 80 and Michael Dirr's Manual of Woody Landscape Plants. We also have done this in our propagation class and with horticulture therapy groups over the years.

## Brown Rot

Rutgers FS113

When the leaves are off the fruit trees you may notice dried up brown rotted fruits still hanging on your plum, peach, nectarine, or apricot trees. These are called mummies and should be removed. Sanitation is essential if your home orchard is going to be low risk for brown rot. All dropped and rotted fruit should have been picked up and destroyed right away. At the same time remove all mummies. This practice prevents the situation where over-wintered mummies within the tree would be in close proximity to young blossoms in the spring. The goal is to keep removal of mummies separate from spring pruning so you lower the risk of blossom infection. Prune all cankers and dead branches during the dormant season and burn them. If not burned they will be a source for rot spores for several years.

The brown rot fungus survives the winters in mummified fruit and in twig and branch cankers produced the year before. Both produce spores that can infect blossoms and young shoots. One mummified fruit left on the ground or hanging on a tree can produce up to 20 tan cup-like structures on slender stalks that are called apothecia. As they become thicker and mature the cup opens up to a bowl like disc filled with spore sacs waiting for the slightest movement to forcibly discharge millions of spores like a giant sneeze in a bowl of talcum powder.

These spores are carried by wind to open or unopened blossoms and young shoots. If rain or dew is present for 5 hours or longer the spores can germinate and penetrate the plant. Infected blossoms soon wilt and tan gray tufts, composed of masses of another spore, develop on the outside of the flower shuck. If the infected blossom does not drop off, the fungus soon grows through the pedicel to the twig and forms a canker. Remove wild or neglected stone fruit trees that can harbor disease. Use fungicide as an important part of fungus disease control. Control insects that feed on fruit. Any wound they make will increase the cause of brown rot.



## Camellias Pruning

Pruning is not usually necessary, but plants can be trimmed after flowering or cut back hard if rejuvenation is required. Inside branches should be removed to reduce the accumulation of pests, scale in particular.

Camellias are usually planted in the late fall and the early spring. If there are brown leaves all over your camellias, but new growth is pushing forth, it is probably winter burn. It is brought on by a combination of frozen soil with little moisture, constant winds, and strong sun. Wind and sun increase transpiration, and if the soil is frozen the plant cannot take up moisture from it. This causes dehydration, which in turn causes the plant to wilt.

To help prevent winter burn or frost damage:

- Use good cultural practices to keep the plant healthy. A slow steady supply of nutrients over the growing season is good. Three small feedings from March to September for example. Do not fertilize late in the fall season, bringing on late new growth, which is more easily damaged than well-seasoned wood.
- Give natural protection such as overhead trees or windbreaks. Plants in a northern or western exposure of a building or fence will usually stand more cold weather than those in an eastern or southern exposure.
- Mulch to conserve water in the root area and maintain an even temperature for the roots.
- Select cold resistant plants. Buy plants from the area where they will be grown.

The first flush of growth in the spring sets the next season's flower buds, the heaviest application of fertilizer is given at the end of the blooming season and before the new growth cycle starts. An azalea fertilizer is a good choice. Follow the directions on the bag.



## Managing Downy Mildew of Impatiens

New Jersey Department of Ag

Impatiens downy mildew is a destructive foliar disease of garden *Impatiens* (*Impatiens walleriana*). While downy mildew of Impatiens is parasitic on *Impatiens*, *I. balsamina* (balsam impatiens, garden balsam, or rose balsam) *I. pallida* and *I. capensis* (native wild impatiens known as jewelweed) are also susceptible; it does not threaten other flower or vegetable crops. *Impatiens* x New Guinea Hybrids (New Guinea impatiens) are not affected.

While there have been sporadic reports of this disease in production greenhouses in the United States since 2004, widespread regional outbreaks of impatiens downy mildew were observed for the first time in North American landscapes in 2011. The first reports of Impatiens downy mildew in New Jersey landscapes came in late June 2012, largely in Monmouth and Ocean counties.

The organism that causes downy mildew is a type of "water mold" or oomycete, formerly referred to as a fungus. Other similarly classified pathogens include *Phytophthora spp* Downy mildew that can spread by two different types of spores. One is easily airborne and remain viable for just a short time; and the second, a zoospore, which moves through a film of water.

The spores develop and infect *Impatiens* when a film of water is present on the plant tissue, and the relative humidity in the air is high, during cool or warm periods. Sporulation and infection will not occur under hot or dry conditions.

Downy mildew symptoms on infected plants begin with leaf stippling, downward curling of leaves and leaf yellowing. A white, downy-like growth may be present on the underside of yellow leaves, but can also be found on the underside of green leaves. As the disease progresses, leaf drop occurs resulting in bare, leafless stems.

Remove and dispose of infected plants (roots included) immediately. Do not compost the infected plant material. A wide range of commercial fungicides can offer short-term protection (check Rutgers Recommendations) and need to be reapplied regularly throughout the season, but products available to homeowners provide little control. Avoid overhead irrigation (especially nighttime irrigation) and any conditions that result in long periods of leaf wetness.

Plant growers in New Jersey have applied fungicides to protect the plants from downy mildew throughout their production cycle, but that protection only lasts a few weeks after the plants leave the greenhouse or garden center.



## Magnolia Leaf Miner

A call was received about Magnolia Leaf Miner on a young swamp magnolia. They are widespread in our area though I have never had a call about leafminer on this tree. Boxwood, birch, holly and columbine are usually the ones that have been presented to this office. The Serpentine Leafminer feeds between the leaf's top and bottom surface. After hatching, larvae make 3-4 tight spirals and then feeds across the leaf in a winding serpentine pattern that ends near the leaf edge. Pupae may be the overwintering state of this caterpillar. Affected leaf tissue become necrotic, scorched looking and curled. Larvae are active and mines are apparent in early July.

Leafminers are pests of annual flowering plants, perennials, shrubs and trees. Leafmining behavior is found among the larvae of certain moths, sawflies, flies and beetles. The majority of leafminers damaging trees and woody ornamentals are moth larvae: most leafminers attacking herbaceous perennials are fly larvae.

Moth females lay their eggs on the leaf surface. Egg-laying behavior should be kept in mind when targeting ovipositing females, eggs, and hatchling larvae for insecticide treatment.

Colorado State Extension states that few, if any, leafminers pose any significant threat to the health of trees or shrubs. Injuries are cosmetic and treatment decisions are based on plant appearance.

Furthermore, most leafminers have numerous natural enemies that normally well regulate their populations. Outbreaks, if they occur, are usually very short-lived. However, exceptions to this can occur among the non-native species that are not as well regulated by natural enemies.



## Newsletter Renewal

We are required to renew our newsletter mailing list each year.....now is the time for us to update. Please return the attached renewal form if you wish to continue receiving "What's Growing On....."

Your subscription can be renewed one of three ways:

- Return the attached form to the Extension Center
- Call Tammy at the Extension Center 856-451-2800 x1, or
- Fax back your renewal form at 856-451-4206

If you have any questions concerning the renewal of your subscription, please feel free to contact the Extension Center.

## Pruning Blueberries

The Fruit Growers News

All cultivated species require annual pruning to manage bush height and shape. Pruning also prevents over-cropping, increases berry size and removes dead, diseased or insect-infested wood.

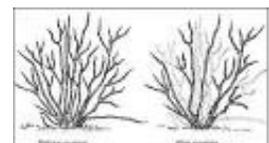
Most blueberry pruning is done during the dormant season with long handled loppers capable of cutting stems up to 2 inches in diameter. Make flush cuts to avoid leaving stubs. Pruning cuts are not treated, though some authorities recommend timing standard fungicide sprays to occur immediately after pruning, especially when late spring and summer cuts are made on actively growing bushes.

### Pruning steps:

- Define the crown. Visualize a circle 12-18 inches in diameter around the crown of the bush, and remove all shoots of any age that have emerged from the ground around the circle.
- Remove low angled canes and crossovers. Low angled canes that are too close to the ground are undesirable because the fruit is more likely to contact the ground, or to be contaminated by rain splashed soil. Remove these low lying branches, and also any canes that angle through the bush ( crossovers). What remains is a narrower bush consisting of the most upright canes.
- Open the center. If needed, remove one to three large canes from the center of the bush to reduce crowding, improve air circulation and phase out older canes. Old canes to target for removal are larger and grayer in color and are more likely to be covered with a fuzzy growth of foliose lichens.
- Thinning and heading back. As a blueberry cane ages, it branched repeatedly, resulting in smaller and smaller-diameter lateral twigs in successive years. If left in-pruned, this results in excessive numbers of unproductive, matchstick-sized shoots, each with a few tiny berries. To avoid reaching this stage, thin canes by making cuts at picking height to selectively remove twiggy, brushy-looking clumps of matchstick-sized laterals. At this time, also cut (head back) any long whips or canes that are too tall.

Your goal should be to have a multi-trunked bush with strong canes of all different ages emerging from the ground, so that as each older cane is removed a younger cane is already there to replace it.

Flower buds are readily visible during winter pruning, and it is tempting to leave too many. This is a mistake. Expect to remove at least a third of the flower buds during pruning. Why? Because overloading the bush in one year will cause reduced yields the following years, and will eventually require even more severe pruning to bring the bush back into production.



## The Climate Friendly-Gardener

Union of Concerned Scientists

Seventy percent of American homeowners do some kind of gardening. It may be growing flowers, a lawn, a fruit and vegetable garden or a bird and butterfly garden.

But there is another reason to garden- we can help combat global warming. Gardeners can do more than adapt to this problem, we can make choices in our garden that that don't add to the problem. Each patch of soil and the vegetation that grows there takes in and gives off heat trapping gases. Careful attention to the world's soils is one piece of solving the climate problem.

Global warming is a result of a buildup in the atmosphere of carbon dioxide and other heat-trapping gases generated by human activities including the burning of fossil fuels. Carbon is constantly on the move from the air into plants and soil; then back into the air. Global warming is largely a result of an imbalance in this carbon cycle, due to the release of vast quantities of ancient carbon that have been burned as fossil fuel.

Recent studies suggest that urban green spaces have the potential to capture CO<sub>2</sub> and store that carbon over time. Practices that maximize carbon storage without generating too much global warming pollution in the process can help slow the pace of climate change. Thoughtful management of our soils by crop rotation, cover crops, tree planting, and low-input lawn and garden maintenance will do it.

The Union of Concerned Scientists put out a booklet, "The Climate-Friendly Gardener" that lists 5 steps we as homeowners can do. A garden is climate friendly if it stores or prevents the release of more heat-trapping gases than it generates.

- Minimize Carbon-Emitting Inputs
- Don't Leave Garden Soil Naked
- Plant Trees and Shrubs
- Expand Recycling to the Garden
- Think Long and Hard about Your Lawn

### **Minimizing carbon-emitting inputs:**

The kinds of tools and chemicals used in the garden can affect the amount of heat-trapping gases your garden absorbs or emits. Gasoline powered tools are sources of CO<sub>2</sub>. Common garden chemicals can also contribute to the problem. Synthetic fertilizers, especially nitrogen based ones, require a lot of energy to manufacture. Even organic nitrogen based fertilizers can create additional heat trapping gases if the timing and the amount is not right.

#### **What to do:**

- Weed, prune and rake by hand whenever possible.
- Choose non-synthetic products
- Rotate annual crops
- Know your fertilizer needs
- Avoid peat

### **Don't leave garden soil naked:**

Bare soil is vulnerable to erosion, weeds and carbon loss.

#### **What to do:**

Use a cover crop as a winter blanket for the soil. They suppress weeds, buffer soil from rain and wind, increase the soils water holding capacity and improve the soil which will store carbon for years while providing nutrients for the next planting and a variety of beneficial organisms.

**Plant Trees and Shrubs:**

All plants absorb CO<sub>2</sub> through their leaves, storing the carbon in their tissues. Trees and shrubs are large and live a long time so they can store larger quantities of carbon for longer periods of time. As a second bonus, trees prevent CO<sub>2</sub> because they reduce energy use in nearby homes and buildings. A well placed tree can shade buildings from the summer sun or buffer them from cold winter winds, reducing the need for air conditioning and heating. And the cooling effect of evapotranspiration (the movement of water from the soil, through the plant leaves, and into the air), in urban and suburban trees can lower an entire neighborhoods temperature in the summer. Trees also remove toxic pollutants from the air.

**What to do:**

Cities and towns in the US have adopted tree-planting goals, and the Environmental Protection Agency has suggested tree planting as a way for cities and states to help meet their clean air targets. Choose trees that grow larger as they will store more carbon over their lifetime. Native trees are long lived, low maintenance, and moderate to fast growing. Sweet Gum, tulip poplar or white oak are three good choices. Plant deciduous trees on the south side to shade in summer and allow the warming sun in during the winter. Evergreen planted where the wind blows from will provide a protected wind break.

**Expand Recycling to the Garden:**

Why not let the landfills compost all the yard trimmings, and why do we have to do it? When these organic wastes are disposed of in the landfill, much of the carbon is stored underground, but the waste that breaks down releases methane—a heat trapping gas 23 times more potent than CO<sub>2</sub>. As we turn our home compost piles air is added. In landfills there is no oxygen so organic materials are broken down primarily by bacteria that thrive in the absence of oxygen and produce methane.

**What to do:**

Balance carbon and nitrogen. Weather in a centralized composting area or your backyard, a ratio of carbon to nitrogen of 25:1 or 30:1 is optimal. Carbon materials are dry and brown, (leaves, straw, wood chips) and nitrogen rich materials are wet and green (fresh grass clippings and food waste). Let it breathe. Oxygen is the key. Fold the compost pile like you fold egg whites gently adding air to keep it fluffy. Compost is finished when it looks dark and crumbly and smells pleasantly earthy. Some of the most beautiful compost I have made came from my oak leaves and a Master Gardener's bagged grass clippings. I just mixed them as I got them and the next spring it was beautiful. The only problem is deciding what plants got the good stuff.

**Think long and hard about your lawn:**

Soils covered in turf grasses can capture and store significant amounts of carbon. Maximizing lawn growth and health with minimal inputs of fertilizer and water may achieve the best balance of carbon storage and nitrous oxide emissions. The lawn is made up of many thousands of individual grass plants, each of which absorbs CO<sub>2</sub> from the air and converts it into carbohydrates through photosynthesis. Because lawns are in place for the long term they can store carbon for a long time.

**What to do:**

Minimize watering. Water deep and infrequent of at least 1 inch a week (rain or irrigation).

Fertilize carefully. Grass clippings are free lawn food. Only trim off 1/3 of the grass plant. Feed according to a soil test. Be efficient.

Mow high. Taller grass shoots means deep healthy roots that require less watering. Set mower 3 inches or higher. Keep mower blades sharp.

Choose the right grass for the right spot. Use varieties that will flourish in your conditions with a minimum of inputs.

## Garden Tips for March



- Till or turn the vegetable garden soil when it's at the proper moisture level. FS129
- Add lime to lawns and gardens only when a soil test recommends it. FS797
- Sow seeds of dahlia, snapdragon, verbena, and leaf lettuce.
- Use dormant oils to combat scale insects and mites when the temperature is above 40° and when freezing temperatures are not predicted for a few days and before the buds begin to open. FS866
- For full-sun border, mix colors of perennial coneflower and Shasta daisy with annual globe amaranth. Place taller coneflower toward the rear of the bed and Shasta daisy toward the front, with the globe amaranth mixed in between.
- Rake and remove debris from the lawn when it's dry.
- Have the lawn mower serviced and the blade sharpened.
- Fertilize your lawn. FS633
- Remove dead asparagus shoots from last year's growth. NE221
- If you want to raise fruit in your garden, try grapes, raspberries, or strawberries. It is much less difficult to succeed with them than with tree fruits, and you'll get much faster results. FS354, 214, 97 & 98
- Submit a soil sample for testing to determine how much lime and fertilizer your lawn and garden areas need. Soil sampling packets with instructions are available at Extension. Cost is \$20.00.
- Prune grapes, raspberries, blueberries, fruit trees and summer-flowering shrubs early in the month when the temperature is above freezing.
- Remove black knot fungus 18" below the growth on cherry, peach and plum trees.
- Grapevine prunings can be made into attractive wreaths.
- If soil dries out against a house under the eaves where rain rarely reaches, water well during a thaw to prevent loss of plants.
- Sow grass seed as soon as possible. FS584
- Pinch off early buds from developing pansies to encourage plants to branch and form more buds.
- Watch for sale prices on fertilizers and pre-emergent crabgrass killer.
- Cut back the dried foliage of ornamental grasses.
- Good choices for your cutting garden are phlox, daisy, dahlia, cosmos, aster, gladiolus and lily.
- Have your garden and lawn soils tested to determine pH levels (for liming needs). A pH test can be done at the Extension Center for \$3.00.
- Start broccoli, cabbage and other cabbage family crops indoors by the middle of the month. They should be planted outdoors between the middle and end of April.
- Check stored bulbs, tubers and corms. Discard any that are soft or diseased.
- Check any vegetables you have in storage. Use or dispose of any that show signs of shriveling or rotting. Many herbs including chives, parsley and thyme are also well suited to pots.
- Plant pea and spinach seeds and onion, shallot and garlic sets on St. Patrick's day, weather permitting.
- Branches of forsythia, pussy willow, spirea and dogwood can be forced for indoor bloom. Make long slanted cuts when collecting the branches and place the stems in a vase of water. Change the water every four days. They should bloom in about three weeks.
- Mulch heaved perennials; replant them when the weather is more settled.
- Late winter is the time to prune deciduous trees. Look at your plants and remove dead, dying, unsightly parts, sprouts growing at or near the base of the trunk, crossed branches, and v-shaped crotches.
- Repot and begin fertilizing houseplants.
- Avoid walking on grass or ground covers while they are frozen.

### Garden Tips for March (Cont.)

- Fertilize woody plants and fruit trees.
- Purchase new 40 watt, cool-white fluorescent bulbs for starting your seedlings.
- Keep the bird feeder filled.
- *Enjoy the early spring season!*



### Gardener's Checklist for April

- Seed bare spots in the lawn early in the month. FS584 & 108
- Prune ornamental grasses.
- Prune your roses, except the climbing varieties. FS944
- Remove the winter mulch from roses after the middle of the month.
- Follow Extension's fruit spray schedules. FS112, 101, 115, 113, 114 and 116
- Divide summer and fall blooming perennials.
- Rake winter debris from your lawn before mowing.
- Apply dormant oil sprays for insect control when temperatures are above freezing at least 24 hrs. FS866
- Start celosia, cosmos, marigold, annual phlox and zinnia seeds indoors at mid month.
- Repot your houseplants; begin fertilizing them.
- Are those swarming insects termites or ants? Can you tell the difference? FS338
- Apply pre-emergent crabgrass killer when forsythia is in full bloom.
- Fertilize established trees and shrubs. FS31
- Harden-off or condition transplants prior to moving them to the garden. Plant cabbage, broccoli and collards the third week.
- Direct seed beets, carrots, leaf lettuce, mustard greens, bok choy and radishes around the middle of the month.
- Plant strawberries, rhubarb, asparagus, and small fruit plants as early in the month as possible.
- Plant gladiolus corms.
- Plant daylilies, delphiniums, painted daisies and phlox.
- Remove spent flowers from spring flowering bulbs. Fertilize with 5-10-10 at 2 pounds per 100 square feet.
- Sharpen the lawn mower blade. Mow the lawn no shorter than 2½ ". FS119
- Sow hardy annual flowers like calendula, clarkia, larkspur and sweet pea.
- Turn the compost pile and keep it moist. FS74 & 117
- Protect well-developed strawberry buds from frost injury by applying straw mulch or blankets when freezing temperatures are forecasted.
- Start eggplant, pepper and tomato seeds indoors at the middle of the month. FS787
- Do not fertilizer newly planted trees or shrubs.
- Have a soil sample analyzed. FS797
- Prune early flowering shrubs immediately after flowering/before new growth begins.



## Gardener's Checklist for May

- Mow the lawn at a height of 2½-3" while never removing more than 1/3 of the leaf blade. Leave the clippings on the ground.
- Water the lawn deeply, applying a half to one inch of water at a time. Your lawn needs one inch per week during dry periods. FS829
- Apply broad-leaf herbicides to control weeds in the lawn. FS119
- Check lawn for turfgrass insect pests and apply correct control according to label directions. FS814
- Remove flowers from newly established strawberry plantings. Let them become established this year and form fruit next year.
- Remove seed stalks from rhubarb as soon as you see them. Harvest rhubarb through early June.
- Harvest mature asparagus beds for 6 to 8 weeks only.
- Lift and divide old chrysanthemum plants or set out new plants purchased or grown from cuttings. Pinch them back when they are about 6" tall for bushier plants and continue to pinch back until mid-July.
- Plant gladiolus corms every two weeks for continuous bloom.
- Remove daffodil and tulip flowers as they fade. Leave the foliage in place until it turns brown and dies. Dig bulbs for storage after the leaves die.
- Plant dahlia and canna tubers mid to late May.
- Control euonymus scale now before their hard shells forms.
- Prune spring-flowering shrubs after the flowers fade.
- It is not too late to sow directly into the soil seeds of sunflower, zinnia, morning glory, portulaca, marigold, cosmos, periwinkles and gourds. Achimenes and other summer-flowering bulbs can also be planted in May.
- Pinch back the terminal growth on newly planted annual and perennial plants. This will result in shorter, more compact, well branched plants with more flowers.
- Time to plant caladium tubers, impatiens, coleus, begonias and pentas in shady areas.
- Replace and replenish mulch materials in flower beds and shrub borders to conserve moisture and reduce weed growth.
- Prune climbing roses as they complete their spring bloom season. Remove dead or weak wood as needed.
- Take a critical look at your landscape while at the height of summer development. Make notes of how you think it can be better arranged, plants that need replacement, overgrown plants that need to be removed and possible activity areas that can be enjoyed by family members.
- Check for insects and diseases. Destroy badly infested plants. Spider mites can be especially troublesome at this time. Select a chemical or organic control, or use insecticidal soap.
- Use the right tool for the job and make sure each is in top working condition. A sharp edger makes short work of edging, whereas a dull one can double your time.
- Stake your flowers now. They will be much easier to train.
- Weed now to eliminate an abundant crop of weeds later. Use a solution of scalding water and vinegar to kill many down to the roots.
- Transplant on cloudy days and make sure you keep the delicate exposed roots of your seedlings and plants protected from drying out.
- Harvest some of your well rotted compost to make high grade soil for your transplants. Make compost teas and give a good bit to your young plants after transplanting. Use it immediately, it doesn't keep.

## Rutgers Cooperative Extensions Fact Sheets

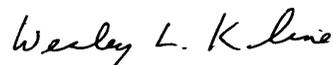
FS #	Fact Sheet Name
Fact Sheet 2	Brown Marmorated stink bug-a non native insect in NJ
Fact Sheet 20	Weed control around the home grounds
Fact Sheet 31	How to fertilize shade trees
Fact Sheet 58	Mulches for vegetable gardens
Fact Sheet 74	Backyard Leaf Composting
Fact Sheet 97	Strawberries in the Home Garden
Fact Sheet 98	Strawberries in the Home Garden II
Fact Sheet 101	Bramble Pest Control Schedule for Home Gardens
Fact Sheet 102	Your lawn and its care
Fact Sheet 112	Apple Pest Control Schedule for NJ Home Orchards
Fact Sheet 113	Peach and Nectarine Pest Control Schedule for NJ Home Orchards
Fact Sheet 114	Pear Pest Control Schedule for NJ Home Orchards
Fact Sheet 115	Cherry Pest Control Schedule for NJ Home Orchards
Fact Sheet 116	Plum Pest Control Schedule for NJ Home Orchards
Fact Sheet 117	Using leaf compost
Fact Sheet 119	Weed control in home lawns
Fact Sheet 129	Planning a vegetable garden
Fact Sheet 137	House ants and their control
Fact Sheet 214	Raspberries in the home garden
Fact Sheet NE221	Asparagus tips for the home gardener
Fact Sheet 523	Grow your own vegetable and flower seedlings
Fact Sheet 562	Growing beets and carrots in the home garden
Fact Sheet 626	Fertilizing the home vegetable garden
Fact Sheet 633	Fertilizing the home lawn
Fact Sheet 681	Varieties for NJ home vegetable gardens
Fact Sheet 684	Turfgrass seed selection for NJ homes
Fact Sheet 786	Six ways to keep your newly planted tree alive and healthy
Fact Sheet 787	Starting Vegetable Seeds indoors
Fact Sheet 797	Soil Testing for Home Lawns and Gardens
Fact Sheet 814	Managing diseases of landscape turf
Fact Sheet 829	How to protect water quality and have a beautiful lawn
Fact Sheet 944	Roses and Their Care
Fact Sheet 988	Picking vegetables in the home garden
Fact Sheet 1123	Vegetable insect control for home gardens
Fact Sheet 1124	Vegetable disease recommendations for home gardens
Fact Sheet 1140	Incorporating native plants in your residential landscape
Fact Sheet 1163	Mail Order Vegetable Seed Sources for the NJ Gardener

*Call 856/451-2800 ask for Viola Carson. When calling to request a fact sheet refer to the Fact Sheet by FS# or by name. All fact sheets are free unless otherwise noted.*

*What's Growing On* is prepared by Viola Carson, Horticultural Assistant, Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Cumberland County.



Sincerely,



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For important announcements concerning the Cumberland County Extension Center visit:  
<http://Cumberland.njaes.rutgers.edu>

Visit the newly activated website to see what activities are happening in the  
Home Horticulture and Agriculture Departments.

If you have any questions concerning the website, please call our office at  
856-451-2800 x1 for agriculture and  
856-451-2800 x4 for Home Horticulture and Master Gardeners

#### Public Notification and Non-discrimination Statement

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**RUTGERS**  
New Jersey Agricultural  
Experiment Station

# Rain Barrel Workshop

Saturday, April 6, 2013

9:00 am - 11:00 am

Join Rutgers Cooperative Extension and Citizens United to Protect the Maurice River for a hands-on workshop on the benefits of rainwater harvesting.

**Workshop participants will build a rain barrel to take home!**

The workshop will be held at Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Cumberland County, Education Center  
291 Morton Avenue,  
Millville, NJ 08332

To register call Viola at Rutgers Cooperative Extension, phone: (856) 451-2800 ext. 4

A \$40 registration fee includes instruction and materials for building one rain barrel. Checks should be made payable to Extension Services Program Account.



*Rain barrels are a great way to capture and recycle rain water for gardening.*

**RUTGERS**

New Jersey Agricultural  
Experiment Station



## 2013 Cumberland County Master Gardener Program – Classes Tuesdays 9am-12pm

DATE	TOPIC	SPEAKER	LOCATION	READING
January 8 Credits 6 each: 13, 1A, 3A & PP2	Managing Insect & Diagnosing Plant Disease	Jim Johnson	Ext. Ed. Center	Chapter 8 for next week
January 15	Soil & Fertilizer	Bill Banka	Extension Ed. Center	Chapter 15
January 22	Composting	Viola Carson	Extension Ed. Center	Chapter 20
January 29	Animals: Friend and Foe	Dr. Brooke Maslo and Viola Carson	Extension Ed. Center	Chapter 18
February 5	Woody Ornamentals	Nancy Walsh	Extension Ed. Center	Chapter 12 Quiz
February 12 Credits 6 each: 13, 1A & PP2	Tree Fruit & Grapes	Jerry Frecon	Extension Ed. Center	Chapter 14
February 19	Pruning	Nancy Walsh	Extension Ed. Center	Chapter 6
February 26 Credits 6 Cat. 13; and 3 each: 7A & 7B	Basic Entomology	Joe Mahar	Extension Ed. Center	Chapter 10
March 5 Credits 6 each: 13, 3A & PP2	Vegetable Garden & Weed Management	Wes Kline	Extension Ed. Center	Fact Sheet 513
March 12	Rain Garden	Sal Mangiafico	Extension Ed. Center	Chapter 4 Quiz
March 19	Propagation	Viola Carson	Extension Ed. Center	Chapter 21
March 26	Native Plants	Kim Conner	Extension Ed. Center	Chapter 17

<b>DATE</b>	<b>TOPIC</b>	<b>SPEAKER</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>READING</b>
April 2 Credits 6 each: 13, 3C & PP2	Indoor Plants	Vi Carson	Extension Ed. Center	Hand out
April 9 Credits 6 Cat. 7A	Structural and Household Pests	Heather Lomberk	Extension Ed. Center	Chapter 7
April 16 Credits 6 each: 13, 3A & PP2	Plant Diseases	Andy Wyenandt	Extension Ed. Center	Chapter 13 Quiz
April 23	Small Fruit	Shirley Kline	Happy Valley Berry Farm, 187 Buckhorn Rd., Bridgeton	Chapter 5
April 30 Credits 6 CORE	Pesticide Safety	Pat Hastings	Extension Ed. Center	Chapter 16
May 7	Landscape Design	Ken Tatt/Vi Carson	Extension Ed. Center	Chapter 9
May 14	Turf Culture	Steve Rettke		Chapter 9 Take home test
May 21 Credits 6 each: 13, 3B & PP2	Turf Pest Management	Steve Rettke	Extension Education Center	<b>Collect Test</b>
May 28	Master Gardener Awards Luncheon	11:00am	Extension Education Center	

**Master Gardeners 2006-2012 please register for continued education**

**All adults 18 years old and up are welcome to join us by the class - \$20.00 per class**  
**Pesticide credits available as indicated - \$20.00 per class**  
**Call to register 451-2800 ext. 4 Monday-Fri 8:30-4:30**