



## KEY DATES

### Next Garden Club Meeting:

Thursday, June 17, 2021

**10 am:** Guided Tour of *Historic London Town and Gardens*, Edgewater, MD.

We will meet in the parking lot across from the clubhouse at 8:45 am. Box lunches after the tour.

For sign-up information, see page 7

**Lunch sign-up** for Club lunches is due the Friday before each meeting, no add-ins, but you can cancel.

**July 15 Program:** Lecture 'Flowers at Hillwood', Hillwood Estate, Museum & Gardens in Washington DC

For more information, see page 4

### District II:

A full list of activities is provided in the Calendar: <https://mdgardenclubd2.org/calendar/>

Liz Johnson [ejjohnson760@gmail.com](mailto:ejjohnson760@gmail.com)  
 Hetty Tegen [hettynl@verizon.net](mailto:hettynl@verizon.net)

**“Protect, Preserve, Promote, Pollinate”**

*“This is the smell of June . . . honeysuckle, green hay, wet linen hung out to dry.”*

*Lisa Kleypas*

**H**appiness to a gardener is to be back full force; choosing and buying new plants, working the soil and watching Mother Nature do her best work. I hope you are having as much fun as I am, to be out and about, especially now that Covid-19 is beginning to enter in our rear-view mirror. We are so lucky to live on this beautiful island, and this spring, in a Centennial year, will absolutely be the best. A lot of island activities are planned, so don't forget to read our GI newsletters and to sign up and enjoy this once in a life-time celebration. HT

## Monthly Gardening

*June is a bridge month. It's a time when spring hands off to summer, and May's flurry garden activity settles into a more maintain-and-monitor place.*

That is a good thing, because June is when the year's first oppressive, *really* hot and humid spells begin showing up, especially in the southern and coastal fringes of our region. Some fairly pleasant day-time highs in the 70s and 80s can still happen, but so can those days



when it seems both the thermometer and the humidity gauge are pushing 100. Rain can start to get iffy this month, too. Some years enough storms occur to keep plants watered without constant hose duty, but others mark the beginning of extended heat waves in which weeks go by without so much as a shower. Most years, June bings a little of all of these.

continued on page 4...

## Committee Reports

**New Members** Welcome *Carlisle Hashim* to the Gibson Island Garden Club. It is nice to have you on board.

**Hostess** Thank you *Colleen* for organizing the exquisite lunch and providing the beautiful centerpieces at our last meeting. *Sarah Kanne* is in charge of the box-lunches for next month's field trip to Historic Lontontowne in Edgewater, MD.



**Gibson Island Club Floral Arrangements** This will provide a floral arrangement for the Clubhouse, to be dropped off on every other Thursday for the following weekend. Each arrangement hopefully will stay fresh for a week. *Cammy Caskin* is covering week 1 and 2 of June, *Dania Blair Schuh*, week 3 and 4 of June. Thank you ladies. We still need volunteers for the 2 timeframes in September. Please contact *Colleen Reed* at [colleenreed@gmail.com](mailto:colleenreed@gmail.com) if you are interested in floral design and adding some color to the foyer of our beautiful Clubhouse..

**Garden Therapy**  **Floral Arranging We are back!** We will be assisting 8 seniors from the Pasadena Senior Center on **June 23** for floral arranging. We need 2 volunteers to assist me in leading the participants in a floral arrangement. This is a very fun activity and the seniors just love it. Just bring your garden shears and wear your GIGC apron if you have one. We will meet at 9:30 am at the Center and will start arranging at 10 am. Please email me, Liz Johnson, at [ejjohnson760@gmail.com](mailto:ejjohnson760@gmail.com) if you would be willing to help out that day. Questions? Call me at 410-255-0727.

**Honey Bees** Our honeybees weathered the winter and are thriving! Last year they produced 30 LBS of delicious honey. But demand was greater than supply so we added 3 established hives in April. We should have plenty of honey for all who want. The honey will be harvested in late July and will be available for sale once we have bottled it. If you would like to help bottle and package, please let us know. If you are interested in learning more about our bees, our beekeeper will be at the hives on Sunday June 6th. See page 7 for time. - Holly Williams

### House and Garden Tour 2022

For those interested in hosting next year, take note when your garden shows best, so we can determine when ideal to schedule.



*A weed is but  
an unloved flower*

-Ella Wheeler Wilcox

### HONEY BEE TERMINOLOGY

- COLONY**  
The colony is the biological living unit of tens of thousands of workers, drones, and a queen.
- HIVE**  
The structure in which bees live and are kept.
- HONEYCOMB**  
A sheet of hexagonal wax cells made by honey bees to store honey, pollen, and brood.
- BROOD**  
Eggs, larvae, and pupae.

### HONEY BEE FACTS

- A worker bee only produces 1/12th of a teaspoon of honey in her lifetime.
- It takes about 250 bees to fill one cell with honey.
- One teaspoon of honey takes 5,000 flower visits.
- A typical colony will visit 225,000 flowers per day.
- Bees visit 2 million flowers to make a pound of honey.
- Honey bees are fuel efficient.
- Honey bees can visit 50-100 flowers during a single trip to collect nectar.
- Honey is a natural product made by bees.
- Bees have been making honey for 150 million years, at least since the time of the dinosaurs.
- The average managed hive collects 70 pounds of pollen during the year.

**Share Your Thoughts** If you have any gardening/environment related articles or tips, recipes, pictures, announcements, or anything else you think our members would be interested in seeing in the newsletter, please send your submission to Hetty at [hettynl@verizon.net](mailto:hettynl@verizon.net) by the end of the third week of each month. Without saying, these contributions are also welcomed and encouraged to be expressed during the Monthly Meeting. Remember, sharing is caring...

## MOTHER'S DAY PLANT SALE



On Thursday, May 6, our Garden Club ladies gathered on a glorious spring morning and filled 55 pots and hanging baskets with blooming and colorful annuals, vines, herbs and strawberry plants at the Eagle School for the Mother's Day Plant Sale.



The sale on Saturday, May 8, was a fun but rainy event. We started setting up at 8 in the St. Christopher by the Sea parking lot and during most of the morning, a steady stream of customers came and went. Most of our plants were sold, as well as some newly arrived GIGC aprons, and a few eye-catching trinkets that were fun to buy and give. We hope you had a great Mother's Day! Thank you all who helped assembling the planters and with the sale. See you next year!



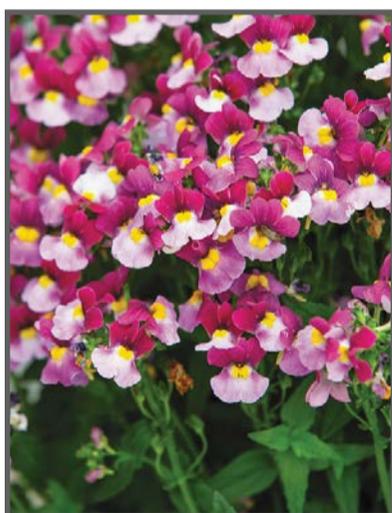
## Programs **Join us Thursday, July 15**

TITLE OF LECTURE: **Flowers at Hillwood**

**M**arjorie Merriweather Post renovated the gardens at Hillwood Estate, Museum & Gardens in Washington, D.C. during the 1950s. Prominent landscape architects and designers expanded the existing gardens to create 13 acres of formal gardens extending from the mansion's terraces into a progression of 'outdoor rooms'. One such room was the cutting garden designed to provide a continual supply of fresh cut flowers for the mansion. Today, the cutting garden grows over 300 varieties of flowers adding an explosion of color to the landscape while organic and sustainable maintenance techniques support a wide array of beneficial insects, pollinators, and birds. This lecture will present a few of the favorite flowers grown in the cutting garden at Hillwood and provide tips for growing and maintaining cut flowers in your own garden. Drew Asbury is the Horticulturist and Volunteer Manager at Hillwood Estate, Museum & Gardens. He joined Hillwood in 2012 and is responsible for the cutting garden, the greenhouses, and the horticulture volunteer program. Drew has worked 'hands-on' in the horticulture industry for nearly 25 years. He graduated from the Longwood Gardens Professional Gardener Training Program in 2006 and obtained a Masters of Professional Studies in Sustainable Landscape Design from George Washington University in 2020. In 2018, he formed his own company, Drew Asbury Garden Design LLC, whose mission is to develop ecologically diverse and productive gardens.



### Garden Care



**C**ontainer-grown perennials, ground covers, shrubs, evergreens, trees, and vines can be planted during June, but it becomes more stressful the hotter it gets, since the young roots haven't yet spread enough to 'mine' much water. Plant on a cloudy day or in the evening. Keep new plants well watered through-out summer. Apply water at the base of the plants, not overhead, whenever possible. Wet leaves are more prone to leaf disease. Two best times to water are early in the morning and early in the evening. Pinch off faded blooms of any flowers as they need it. Some are better at self-cleaning than others. This 'dead-heading' neatens the plants, encourages continuing bloom, and sometimes lessens the odds of mildew disease. If you cool-preferring pansies, viola, lobelia, dianthus, nemesia (see picture), ageratum, and snapdragon are shutting down bloom in the heat, try cutting them back to a low set of leaves rather than yanking them out. Keep them watered throughout summer. And often these will resume flowering when the weather cools. Get stakes in place if annuals

like zinnias, cosmos, and larkspur start flopping. Only a few types of plants benefit from booster doses of fertilizer over summer. If you have topped the soil with compost or organic mulch or gradual release fertilizer in the spring, you're fine now in most of the garden.

Excerpt from 'Month-by-Month Gardening', Mid-Atlantic by George Weigel

...continued from page 1 **Monthly Gardening**

The majority of woody landscape plants finish blooming in June, especially with the month's prolific peaking and waning of roses and hydrangeas. Perennial flowers pick up the slack, with daylilies, coreopsis, astilbe (see picture) and hardy geraniums being one of the more common. May-planted annuals also bulk up enough by June to impress.

Depending on how the weather leans, plant dies can become a June issue. Problems such as blackspot on rose, rust on crabapples, and mildew on hydrangeas can pop up along with humidity readings. Bugs arrive in full force, too, from pesky, in-your-eye black flies to biting mosquitoes to our infamous, leaf-chomping, lawn-killing Japanese beetle that's pretty much everywhere by June into July.

Keep an eye out for four-legged garden pests, in particular rabbits, groundhogs, chipmunks, voles, and deer. These vegetarians appreciate the buffet you've set out for them. It's all so nice,, and tasty this time of year. Weed vermin nation tapers off ever so slightly in June, but enough species continue to sprout in summer that you'll still need to be on alert. Patrol your garden beds regularly, and keep yanking so that no weeds do to seed.



Excerpt from 'Month-by-Month Gardening', Mid-Atlantic by George Weigel

# HOMESTEAD GARDENS NEWS

Gardeners understand how beneficial pollinators are our ecosystem. In fact, we know that pollinators are vital to life. Animals like butterflies, hummingbirds, bats, small rodents and bees spread pollen from all sorts of plants and trees. By carrying pollen from plant to plant, key pollinators help plants to:

- Reproduce and produce enough seeds for dispersal and propagation;
- Maintain genetic diversity within a population - key to plant survival and regeneration;
- Develop adequate fruits to entice seed dispersers



**You can employ some simple, natural strategies to attract pollinators. Try these four tips to get started.**

## 1. Plant Native Flowers

Native plants like Virginia Bluebells, Native Columbine and Purple Coneflower attract pollinators, and because they are adapted to Maryland's environment they are low maintenance. The Maryland DNR offers tons of information and advice on Natives on their website. Stop by your local Homestead Gardens to browse our Pollinator Cafe.

## 2. Choose a Variety of Plants

You'll have the best luck attracting bees, butterflies and hummingbirds if you provide food for a longer period of time. Choose a variety of perennials and annuals to keep your garden blooming as long as possible. Our experts can help you choose the best combination for your backyard.

## 3. Set Out a Supply of Water

Set out a shallow container filled with water or set up a birdbath for a charming accent in your garden. Make sure to place your water source in a shady area where pollinators will feel safe from predators while stopping for a quick drink.

## 4. Provide Protection

Give your pollinators a home to hide and protect themselves. Piles of loose branches and twigs or a wild area of the lawn can be a perfect place for nesting.

## 5. Avoid Using Pesticides

It's important to avoid using pesticides whenever possible. Even certified organic pesticides can have the unintended consequence of killing helpful insects along with the harmful insects.

For more information, go to: <https://homesteadgardens.com>



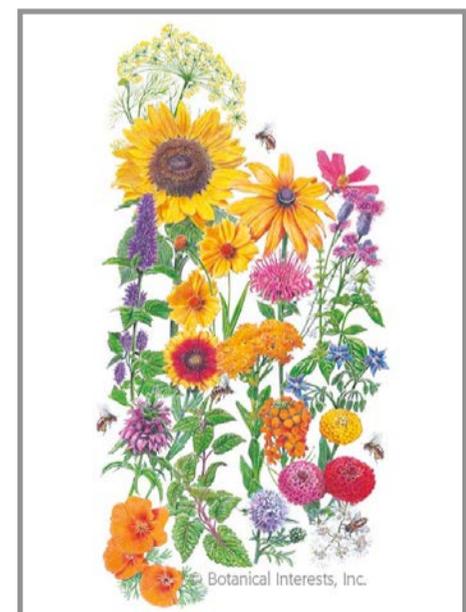
### ANNUALS

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### PERENNIALS

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### Save the Bees Flower Mix Seeds

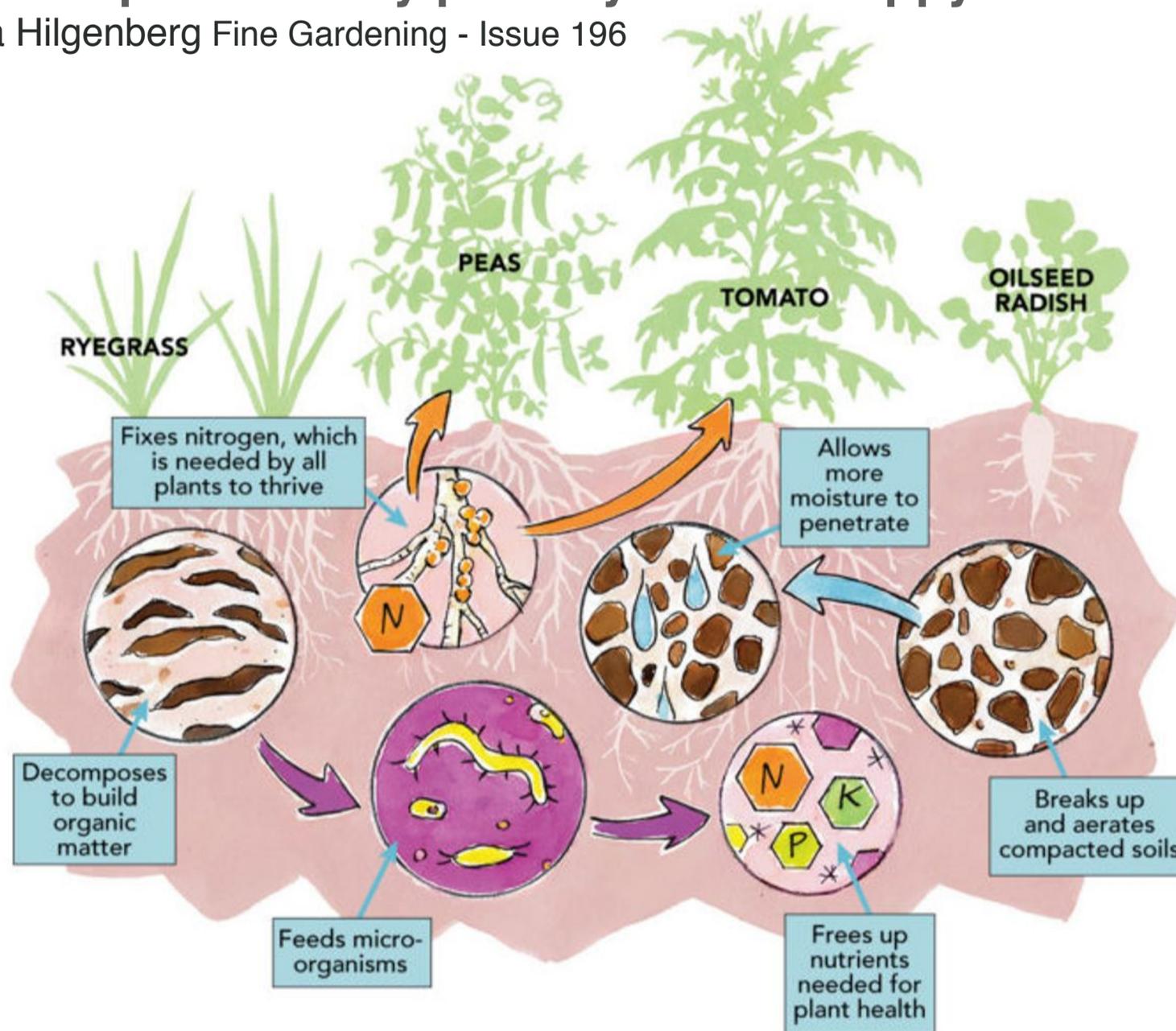


\$2.69 per packet  
**botanicalinterests.com**  
 Contact Hetty to order together  
**hettynl@verizon.net**

# How to Use Cover Crops to Improve Soil

## Cover crops: The only plants you'll be happy to kill

By Lisa Hilgenberg Fine Gardening - Issue 196



### How cover crops work

Productive vegetable gardening is all about soil fertility. The underlining principles of maintaining healthy soil are keeping the soil covered as much as possible, disturbing the soil as little as possible, keeping plant roots growing in the soil throughout the year to feed the soil, and diversifying the plants in the garden. Cover cropping helps achieve all of these goals and ultimately is an economical way to maximize fertility in garden beds while improving the yield and quality of your harvested produce.

Yes, you could haul in aged manure and compost to top-dress your garden beds every year, as many farmers do. But a simpler way of adding organic matter to your garden is by growing it right in place. Cover cropping is an inexpensive technique that involves no heavy lifting or moving of materials. Just scatter the seeds to cover the soil, and keep them moist until germination. Once established, a cover crop reduces weed pressure and nearly eliminates wind erosion of top soil. Moreover, once the cover crop has been turned in, it will decompose, adding beneficial nutrients and organic matter in the form of a nitrogenous material to the garden. Cover crops feed the soil, fostering microbial activity and contributing to overall soil health. And they're planted at times when the garden bed might otherwise be empty. Sometimes called green manure, they can be grown between seasonal vegetables or after a garden is harvested and cleared as an alternative to leaving the beds fallow over winter.



See the rest of the article at: [www.finegardening.com/article/how-to-use-cover-crops-to-improve-soil](http://www.finegardening.com/article/how-to-use-cover-crops-to-improve-soil)

# Honey Bee Talk By Our BeeKeeper Kevin

Sunday, June 6, 2021

3 pm

off Romany Rd. at our beehives location



Look for the yellow arrow on  
Romany Rd.



## Friendly Reminder



If you haven't done so already, now is the time to look for and submit your favorite family recipes for the **Centennial Cookbook** to [Gigccookbook2021@gmail.com](mailto:Gigccookbook2021@gmail.com)

We have 177 recipes. Our goal is 300. We need more recipes for the following categories (current number of recipes in parenthesis):  
Lamb (1) Pork (3) Fish (1) Vegetarian (0)

## How Often Should You Water Herbs?

**I**n general, herbs require less water than flowers and vegetables because most species of herbs have adapted to grow in dry conditions. Some herbs also taste better when they're given their minimum water requirements. Let's not overgeneralize though. The best way to look at your herbs, in this case, is to categorize them into two groups: **moisture-loving herbs and drought-tolerant herbs**.

**Moisture-loving herbs** grow better in wet rather than dry soil. These include mint, dill, chervil, and bee balm.



**Mint**

Interestingly, most of these herbs are annual or treated as such, which means they live only for one year and usually die at the beginning of winter.

### **Drought-tolerant herbs:**

Herbs that thrive in dry soil are considered drought-tolerant or drought-loving herbs. Rosemary, thyme, and sage are all considered to be drought-tolerant herbs.

A few perennials, such as oregano and catnip, are even said to be xeriscape species that can survive on very little water.

Herbs that fall between these two categories can be treated as moisture-loving herbs.

After you have found out into which category a particular herb falls, you can easily decide how to water it. Expert gardeners recommend that you only water herbs according to their needs and not according to a random schedule. A rule of thumb in knowing when to water your **moisture-loving herbs** is to check the first few top inches of your soil. (Don't be afraid to use your finger to feel the soil). If you feel it's dry, then you need to water. Drought-loving herbs have deeper and wider root systems, so you can water them when you feel that the soil is extremely dry.

On the other hand, it's certainly valid to follow a watering schedule as long as you're doing it properly.

It's important to note that herbs growing outdoors in the garden require a different watering schedule than **potted** ones.

In general, moisture-loving herbs need a ½ liter of water for each square foot (nearly 0.1 square meters) of soil **every week**.

However, you can't use that measurement with potted plants.

Instead, you should water your moisture-loving **potted** herbs **once or twice every day**, especially in hot seasons.

You don't need to follow a strict schedule with your **drought-loving potted herbs**. You can water them every few days or each week, depending on the season.



**Rosemary**



**Oregano**

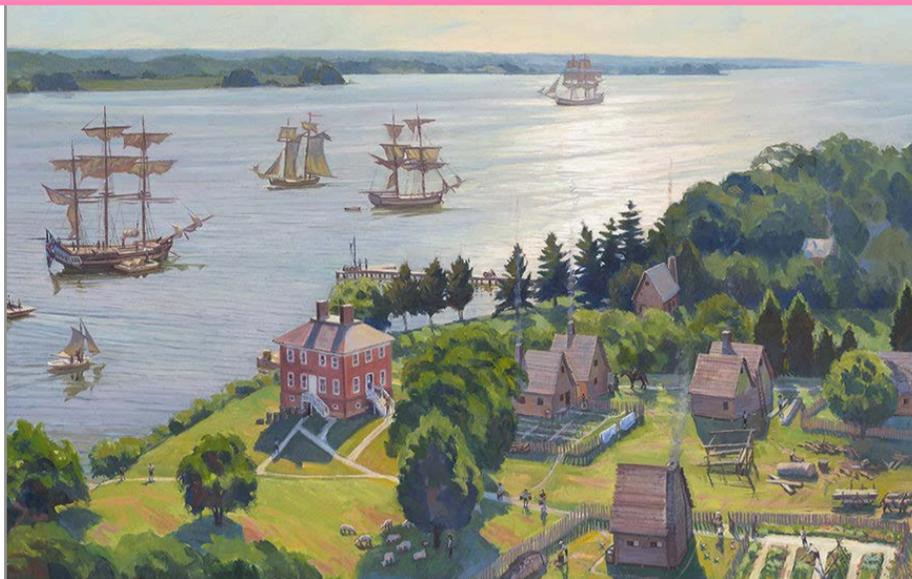
In all cases, remember that the best time to water your herbs is very early in the morning or in the evening so they don't lose water by evaporation.

If you can't monitor your potted herbs daily, you can use a self-watering device that irrigates your plants automatically through drip irrigation. Some of the most famous self-watering devices are called "watering globes". These drippers are very effective, easy-to-use, and affordable. They can keep on irrigating your herbs up to 2 weeks after each time you fill them with water.

Refer to a plant encyclopedia or Google to know your herbs' water requirements.

<https://herbswithin.com/how-often-should-you-water-herbs-learn-all-about-it/>

## June Program: Field Trip to Historic Londontowne



**Historic London Town & Gardens** is a 23 acre park featuring history, archaeology, and horticulture in Edgewater, Maryland. Right, an artist's rendition of London Town (founded in

1683), which began as a port town on the South River. It served as the County Seat for Anne Arundel County until Annapolis took over in 1695. The park is owned by Anne Arundel County and managed by the London Town Foundation. For more information, go to: [www.historiclondontown.org](http://www.historiclondontown.org)

### Guided Tour of Historic London Town and Gardens, Edgewater, MD., Thursday, June 17

We will meet in the parking lot opposite our clubhouse at 8:45 and depart at 9 to start our 45 minute ride to Edgewater. The Tour of the Ornamental and Woodland Gardens (45 mins - 1hr) will start at 10 a.m., followed by a tour of the Historic Area (45 mins), or in reversed order if our group is divided in 2. Cost: \$12.00 per person. We will be ordering boxed lunches, \$ 20.00 per person; you will be billed \$32 for both by the Club. There is a choice of three sandwiches, a pasta salad, a blondie brownie and iced tea, see menu below, to be consumed after the tours at the outside picnic area. Tour and box lunch sign-up deadline is **Thursday, June 10.**

**Please contact the Club** (410-255-1000) to sign up for the tour and:

1. order lunch, see menu right; please specify
  - a) turkey, b) chicken salad, or (c) veggie sandwich
2. need a ride or
3. can drive and take passengers

**Wear comfortable shoes!**  
**We hope to see you then.**

#### Napa Club

Roast Breast of Turkey and Crisp Bacon with Havarti Cheese, Tomato and Sprouts with Avocado Aioli on Croissant

#### Nantucket Wrap Craisin Chicken Salad

with Granola, Lettuce, Raspberry Vinaigrette in a Honey Wheat Tortilla

#### Fire Roasted Veggie (v)

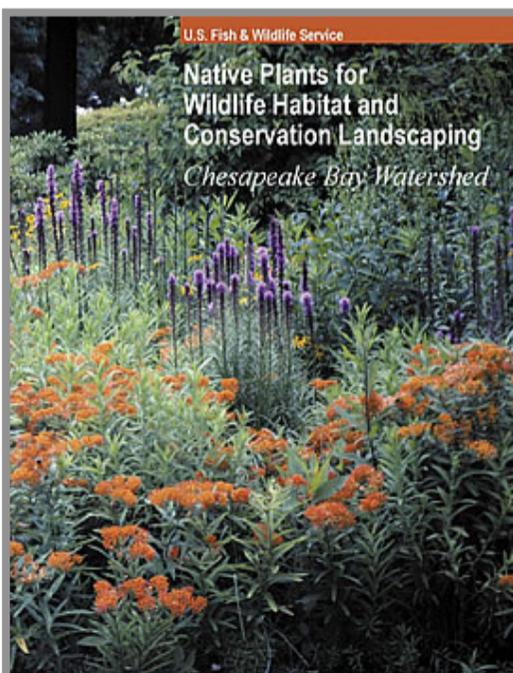
Grilled, Zucchini, Yellow Squash, Portobello Mushroom, Red Peppers, Balsamic Glaze, Garlic Herb Focaccia

#### House Pasta Salad

Tri-Colored Rotini, Feta, Red Onion, Tomatoes, Peas and Shredded Parmesan with Parmesan Pepper Dressing

**Blondie Brownie** and **ICED Tea** Sugar, Sweetener and Lemon Wedges

**QUESTIONS? CALL KATHERINE RAILEY @ [klrails@me.com](mailto:klrails@me.com) or 301-351-8893**



### May Program

**M**aster gardener *Linda Rieger* (right) came to give her lecture on how to develop a **Native Garden**. It was very informative, and, among other things, we learned to provide for sequential bloom in the garden, incorporate perennial natives and prevent invasive plants from spreading. Subsequently, we enjoyed a wonderful lunch, organized by *Colleen Reed*, who also provided the gorgeous centerpieces. Thank you Colleen.

**Note:** the above publication is available free in PDF form. Go to: <https://mdflora.org/publications/forsale/nativeplants.html>



A message from Linda Rieger (May speaker):



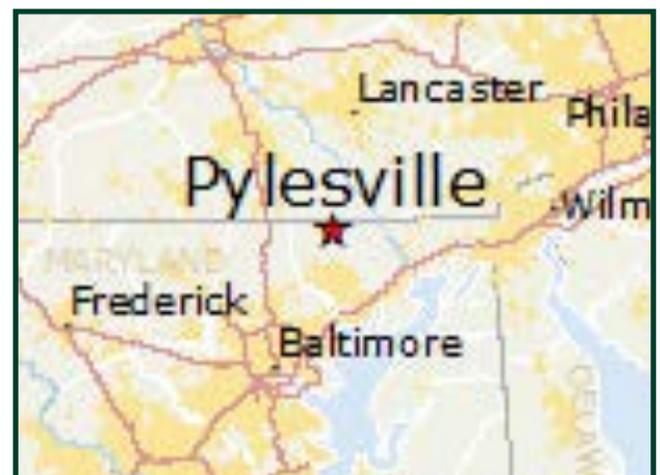
For those interested in visiting an extensive native garden nursery with people who are very knowledgeable and willing to help you, *and* with very reasonable prices, take a trip to **Kollar Nursery**.

## THE BEAUTY OF SPRING!!!

As we transition to summer, the spring flowers will be on the wane and early summer blossoms will be presenting themselves, along with their warm season pollinators. Bluebells (*Mertensia*) and Dutchman's Breeches are now past their prime, and Shooting Stars (*Dodecatheon*), Delphinium and Moss Phlox are finishing up. Soon the milkweeds, *Liatris*, cow parsnip, Joe Pye, *Silphium*, summersweet, and Hydrangeas will be on display. The following plants are just a few of what we have ready for your enjoyment: Native Rhododendrons, Christmas Ferns, Royal Ferns, red maples and their cultivars, American Elms (2 hardy varieties), American Beech, muscledwood, oaks, dogwoods (5 varieties), redbuds (5 varieties), hollies, hazelnuts, red and bottlebrush buckeyes, elegant arbor vitae, bald cypress and Hydrangeas (3 varieties).

We have many earthly delights from which to choose, many of which are not on our website! Come by to see, learn and enjoy.

*Cicada update: The 17 year cicadas are now emerging. Adult cicadas don't eat plants. The female cicadas make slits and lay eggs in small tree branches, preferring stems that are about 1/4- to 1/2-inch in diameter. Most established trees weather the process ok. However, some branch tips will wither and die back. This poses a risk to only the most delicate young trees and shrubs; for others, the damage is cosmetic. The process is sort of a natural pruning in forests, but you may not want cicadas to help prune your favorite woodies. Some gardeners will cover young or prized ornamentals with netting to keep cicadas off of them. Or you can watch your new transplants and cut off any 1/4" branches with slits in them.*



**1 hr 20 min** (63.5 miles) from Gl.

**Our address is 5200 West Heaps Road, Pylesville, MD 21132. (410) 836-0500.**

<https://www.kollarnursery.com>

## In and Around Anne Arundel County



For hundreds of years, over 80% of the American population lived in semi-isolation on small family farms scattered throughout the countryside. Award-winning Hancock's Resolution is one of the very few of those farms still remaining. Due to its authenticity and simplicity it is considered a "National Treasure". It is a small house with a huge story to tell because of its five historic themes. ***This is the place you want to visit.***



For more information, checkout their website: <http://www.historichancocksresolution.org/history>

## Seasonal Recipe

### GRILLED CHICKEN AND SUMMER VEGETABLES

#### Ingredients

- 4 skinless boneless chicken breast halves, pounded to 1/2 inch thickness
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1/2 teaspoon cumin
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/4 teaspoon fresh cracked pepper
- 2 ears of corn, shucked
- 2 zucchini sliced to 1/4-inch thickness
- 1 tablespoon chopped thyme
- 1/4 cup thinly sliced red onions
- 2 tablespoons green onions
- 1/4 cup **Cotija** Cheese
- salt and pepper to taste



#### Instructions

- 1 In a large pot of boiling water, cook the corn for 3 minutes. Remove corn and place corn in a large bowl of ice water to stop the cooking. When the corn is cooled, cut the kernels off the cob. Toss with zucchini and thyme in grilling basket; set aside.
- 2 Drizzle and rub olive oil onto chicken breasts. Combine cumin, salt and pepper and rub mixture onto chicken breast. Spray grill with cooking spray. Heat to medium high heat. Grill for 4-5 minutes, on each side. Remove from heat; set aside. Place vegetable basket on top and grill for 5-8 minutes tossing occasionally. Remove from heat.
- 3 Assemble chicken on a platter. Layer with succotash. Finish with red onions, chives and Cotija cheese. Serve immediately.

**Cotija** is a Mexican cow's milk cheese named after the town of the same name in the state of Michoacán. It's white in color, firm and dry in texture, and salty and milky in flavor. When it's younger (as in, aged for a shorter amount of time), its texture is akin to that of feta: moist and crumbly.

<https://realfoodbydad.com>