

# **EDELWEISS NEWS**

Gardeners of the Bluffton Pandora Area

## Co-op Garden Tour:

Our meeting this month is going to be a tour, Tuesday 6:30 p.m. July 7th at the "Co-op Garden" that is on Ray Person's farm. Ray gave a good presentation at our April meeting on the co-op garden that he started. It all basically began with the inspiration to have control over what and how the members want to grow for food and the desire to have as little detriment on the land as possible. The co-op started with a group that wanted to try to work together to make a difference in how they take care of the land. If you use the land properly it can sustain a healthy source of food without the use of sometimes harmful chemicals.

The co-op garden has twenty garden plots with each plot containing a crop or several that grow good together. They practice crop rotation so that they can help to keep the soil healthy and can somewhat control any possible disease problems that some of the plants have a tendency towards. This also means that no crop is planted in the same plot for two years in a row.

They also have free range chickens for eggs and meat and pigs, sheep and goats. If you weren't there you missed a good one.

We will leave the library parking lot at 6:00 p.m. and should arrive at the co-op garden on Putnam Rd/Rd R by 6:15 p.m. If you know where it is you can meet us at Ray's farm by 6:30. If you know of someone that would like to join us on this tour please invite them.

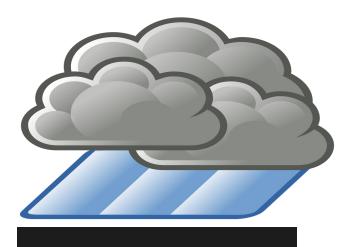


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#### Weather to plant:

June has been such a wet month that anything that was not washed away or drowned should be well established and ready to grow. The only thing that may be adversely affecting them would be the coolness that seems to have settled in this area. Still if you need to plant something and you can get it in the ground it should grow. Now would be a good time to prepare for the fall plantings so you can be ready when the time is right to plant.



Wet, wet June. How will July be?

### Cindy's greenhouse:

I think we all had a good time at "Perennials and More" Cindy Basinger's greenhouse and plant business. She told us that she had always been involved with plants and needed something to do when her boys were at school so she started this business and only in the last few years she has started to see some monetary rewards from building it up from the ground. Although her greenhouse is small she does a lot with it. The mini cupcakes and refreshments left over from her son's graduation party were very good.

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