

EDELWEISS NEWS



Gardeners of the Bluffton Pandora Area

April 28, 2017

Beneficial Insects:

Many subjects over the years that have been suggested for a topic of a presentation for our garden club and I think this one is a good one for the community at large for one reason, misinformation. All of us have been taught that there are beneficial insects and they help nature to preserve a balance by keeping pests at bay and some beneficial insects that help us produce food. Some people still think that the only good bug is a dead bug and this is most certainly wrong. Some of us believe that certain insects are beneficial when they actually are detrimental and that can also be a problem especially if people release too many of these and produce an overpopulation to the detriment of the natural balance of nature. So if you want to learn about the good bugs join us at the Bluffton Public Library on Tuesday May 2, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. in the lower level meeting room. Please feel free to bring a friend as this meeting will be open to the public and as always it is free.

Cuttings:

Our May meeting was about propagation by taking cuttings. It was presented by Nancy Steinecker, who is an Allen County Master Gardener Volunteer. She talked to us about how to take the cuttings from plants. In some plants the cuttings need to be rooted before they can be cut from the plant. Although most of the ones that were discussed needed only to be properly cut with a growth node for the roots to start at and at least some foliage to keep the plant alive and growing. Some of the more common plants that you can successfully propagate this way are geraniums and coleus. There are many more that can be propagated this could inspire some of us to try it out.



Oh the beauty of the Redbud, very few can match it in the Spring.

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Stop and Think:

Are you about to make a mistake? Is it really time to plant those tender plants outside?

Take a step back and put that tomato down you will not get any tomatoes if you are not ready to protect that young plant. Many people want to get a jump on the season by planting earlier than they should. Remember we can still get a killing frost as late as Memorial Day even though the frost free date is usually May10-15 we are one week ahead of our normal spring and that is by no means a reason to plant now. If you plant tender plants now I would suggest that you use something to protect them like a wall-o-water or a rose cone with the top cut out and if we get a threat of frost all you have to do is, nothing for the wall-o-water but you have to cover the top of the rose cone. Have fun this Spring.

Scheduling the new year:

March 7, 2017	Seed Starting	6:30p.m. B.P.L.	
April 4, 2017	Woody Ornamental Cutting/Propagation		6:30p.m. B.P.L.
May 2, 2017	Beneficial Insects	6:30p.m. B.P.L.	
June 6, 2017	Butterflies and Bees	6:30 B.P.L.	
July 11, 2017	Leaf Casting	6:00p.m. Victoria's	
August 1, 2017	Caladiums,	6:00p.m. meet at Family Dollar	
September 5, 2017	Succulents,	6:00p.m. meet at F.D.	
October 3, 2017	Winter/Bark Tree I.D.	6:30p.m. B.P.L.	
November 7, 2017	Dried Arrangements	6:30p.m. B.P.L.	
December 5, 2017	Party	6:00p.m. B.P.L.	

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Yellow violets, a rare find in our area and I know where they are. Do you?