



HORTICULTURE NEWS

Watertown Garden Club Newsletter

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January 21, 2021 10 a.m.
WGC Board Meeting—Zoom

February 11, 2021 Noon
WGC Member Meeting—Zoom

March 11, 2021 Noon
WGC Membership Meeting—

Commentary from the Editor:

My First Days of 2021

A friend from Florida asked me about my garden plans for 2021 and if my seed searching was successful. I believe her questions stemmed from my stated desire, voiced near the end of the 2020 growing season, to refocus my gardening time and energy on growing cutting flowers instead of vegetables.

Now, really, how appropriate would that be in the middle of a pandemic and after spending a fortune before, during and after the last growing season buying fresh vegetables from an open farm market. Yes, I grew a large variety of veggies in my own backyard, but not everything. All too often the garden grew too much of some things and not enough of what I needed. My pleasure at sharing those extras served me well, relieving more stress than the growing itself; and providing a driving destination (an excuse to leave my safe haven) of another relatively safe haven was also worth every penny spent at that market.

Admittedly, I hadn't even started seed searching when my friend raised the question, but immediately I devised a game plan: buy all new seeds from almost every vegetable that can grow in Zone 5-6, replace my seed growing equipment, have a greenhouse installed and find suitable garden planning software. When I game-plan, I do not mess around.

My financial adviser is pleased that some degree of common sense prevailed. I did, in fact, buy new seeds, wait, let me count...54 packages of seeds, tried out a free trial of a garden planner (waste of time), replaced most of my equipment and will forego the greenhouse for another year.

Anyone have a cold frame—or two—they don't need? I promise to share the bounty!

Shelley



Excerpts from UConn Home & Garden Education Center Newsletter:



The spotted lanternfly is an invasive sap-feeding planthopper that was discovered in Berks County, Pennsylvania in 2014. It is native to China, India and Vietnam. It attacks many hosts and has the potential to severely impact Connecticut’s farm crops, particularly apples, grapes, and hops, as well as a number of tree species like maple. In the fall, adults can often be found congregating on tree-of-heaven (Ailanthus), willows and other trees. They will lay egg masses on trees and almost any nearby surface. The public is urged to report

ARTICLES OF INTEREST:

Eat SMART In the New Year! Goal Setting, Written by UConn registered dietitian-nutritionist Donna Zigmont, RDN, DC-N
www.news.extension.uconn.edu/2021/01/01/eat-smart-in-the-new-year/

UPCOMING EVENTS:

January 21, 2021 “Confessions of a Plant Nerd” with Joseph Tychonievich. 7 p.m. Connecticut Horticultural Society register: www.cthort.org (virtual)

January 21, 2021 “Out with Invasives! In with Natives!” Renee Marsh. Naugatuck Garden Club Register: mccabegerry765@gmail.com (virtual)

February 9, 2021 “How to Prevent Lyme Disease” Rika Keck 10 a.m. Pomperaug Valley Garden Club Register: guest@pomperaugvalleygc.org by Feb. 7th (virtual)

February 18, 2021 “Farming the Land” Roger Phillips 7 p.m. Connecticut Horticultural Society Register: Mary Anna at office@cthort.org (virtual)

Visit following for additional events thru February:

www.ctgardenclubs.org/events/

JOB OPENING: Newsletter Editor

A Watertown Garden Club member is needed for the continue production of this newsletter. The Web-site will remain rather static, except for this post.