



BLACKSTONE VALLEY GARDENERS

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Add to your "FAVORITES" list

October 2008

Volume XII - No 23

October Meeting

Thursday, October 9th
Sutton Senior Center
19 Hough Road, Sutton, MA
7:00PM

"The Mysterious Art of Bonsai"

Lou Carreiro, a long time bonsai enthusiast, will discuss the origin of bonsai and how to raise them successfully. He will also demonstrate how to develop a bonsai from a small nursery shrub. He'll be bringing some of his own trees for you to view – they are lovely!

MEETING PLACE

Sutton Senior Center
19 Hough Road, Sutton MA

From Rte 146 take exit 5 (Main Street Sutton & Northbridge)
Go west, the first left is Hough Road.
There are signs on Route 146 for Sutton Senior Center

October Munchies:

Carol Bowen, Marion Desmond & Patty Deveau

Don't forget! ☺

Fall Clean Up at Tri-River

We're looking for volunteers to meet at the Tri-River garden on Saturday, October 18th, at 9AM for fall weeding and cutting back the spent perennials. For new members who have not yet had the opportunity to visit this garden, it's located at the back of the Tri-River Health Center at 281 E. Hartford Ave, in Uxbridge (right next to River Bend Farm). Many hands make light the work – your help would really be appreciated and it's a nice time to chat with other garden club members. Bring your gloves, clippers, rake, and cup of coffee!

Welcome New Member

Gladys McKinstry

OCTOBER – NOVEMBER TREK

"American Hydroponics, Inc - Hopkinton"
A Saturday – Date TBD, based upon interest

We've recently become aware of an interesting hydroponic gardening facility (*pesticide-free*) in Hopkinton that is willing to open its doors to tour groups on a Saturday. Pat Stellato will organize the trek if there is enough interest in advance – look for a sign up sheet at the October meeting. Please check your calendars for open Saturdays in late October – early November and post your availability if you would like to go.



Blackstone Valley Gardeners Logo Gear

We'll have our custom made logo items available for sale at this month's meeting
They make really great gifts!

Visors.....\$15	Baseball Caps.....\$15
Aprons.....\$15	Canvass Bags.....\$17
Polo Shirts.....\$19 (Available in Navy or Butter)	

A Gardener's Diary...

Fall is here and, while much of the garden may still be blooming, it is time to start putting the garden to bed for winter. Here is a check list for October (then you can relax and turn your attention to the holidays):

- Fertilize the lawn for winter no later than October 15th. Continue mowing the lawn until the grass stops growing — sometime in mid-October.
- Clean up fallen leaves and plant debris and put everything in the compost pile except leaves of plants that were diseased, especially with fungus.
- Don't be in a rush to cut back all the perennials. Seed heads and foliage that's coloring up can be beautiful, and the seeds provide food for migrating birds. Just cut back plants that are diseased, those looking past their prime, or those that may become "weeds" if allowed to self-seed freely.
- Do soil preparation for any new beds you want to start planting in the spring.
- Continue to water your evergreens so they are well hydrated for winter.
- Mulch the garden beds to protect plant roots.
- By the end of the month, wrap any evergreens that are exposed to wind using burlap. An alternative is to erect wind screens with burlap, hardware cloth, pine boughs, or other material.

Planning for the December Meeting



The December meeting will be a workshop for members who would like to decorate a wreath for a public location in their community. In order to facilitate our planning, we would like your suggestions on where the wreaths could be donated (e.g., libraries, firehouses, nursing homes, senior centers, town halls, etc.). Additionally, we need a count of how many members would like to participate in the workshop. This is a great civic beautification project and one that will be fun to work on together. There will be a sign up sheet for participation as well as suggested locations at the October meeting. If you won't be attending this meeting, but you're interested in participating, please ask a friend to sign you up, or contact Linda Hamm. Linda can be reached via email at lindahamm@aol.com or call her on 508-529-6293.



WANTED: Your Input

Share your interesting gardening experiences right here!
Email patricia.a.stellato@verizon.com or snail mail to
56 West River St, Upton, MA 01568

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