

March 22, 2011

Next meeting : Tuesday April 5, 6:30 p.m. at the Extension Office.

Have you ever wanted to travel to another country to see the native flowers of that area? Well Bruce and Sharon Beck as well as Jane Arnold did just that and they will present an interesting program of their trip to Nicaragua.

Poplar Bluff Beautification Project: We will soon be getting ready to plant the bed at Burger King. The shrubs need to be planted in March, the date TBA. The plants have been ordered. Love the narcissus that are in bloom now in the Burger King bed.

Master Gardener Core training class started February 17th 4:30-7:30, we have twelve enrolled. The training classes are a great way to get continuing education hours for master gardeners.

Advanced Master Gardener Training—Classes for (April are 19th ---Vegetable Grafting, location TBA)—(23rd—Shitake Mushroom—At Cape County Extension)---(April 7,---Organic Gardening---at Mineral Area College).

It's time for the “**In-school Program**” . Pat Henthorne will be calling for assistance with packing seed etc. Connie Cox will be calling the schools for dates. This program works with second graders and is a very rewarding experience, if you have not signed up before plan to join us this year.

Recycle question—What does a rain gauge and a tuna can have in common...
What does an onion bag have to do with bird nests?

What is blooming in your garden? Look around you might be surprised.

So plan to be at the next meeting April 5th at 6:30 pm at the extension office.

Barb Gray
President



Sustainability, are you doing it?

Quiz

How many of these 10 steps do you do as a conscientious gardener?

1. Compost to build the soil?
2. Reduce synthetic fertilizer and go organic?
3. Water wisely and use the best water management practices?
4. Reduce soil compaction for healthy soil?
5. Harvest rainwater more than one way?
6. Manage turf and mow less or not at all?
7. Buy natives and control or replace invasive?
8. Create a wildlife habitat that is pollinator friendly?
9. Improve outdoor lighting to restore the view on the night sky?
10. Improve indoor air quality by adopting a houseplant?

If you scored 3 or less make a “to do” list.

If you scored 5, pat yourself on the back.

If you scored 7 congratulate yourself to a glass of tea in your favorite spot in your garden.

This is from the “Missouri Gardener” magazine: --- by the way Sarah writes some of the articles

What native plants and trees are in bloom now?

You might see service berry, redbud, wild sweet William, common blue violet, henbit, just to name a few. Look at the trees, are they in bloom or leafing out?

Tell us what you have seen...