



Beltsville Garden Club Newsletter

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March General Meeting

The Beltsville Garden Club will meet on Wednesday, March 22, 2006 at 7:30pm in the cafeteria of the James E Duckworth School at 11201 Evans Trail in Beltsville, Maryland.

The speaker for this month is Miri Talebec and her topic will be **"CREATING A BUTTERFLY GARDEN"**. Ms Talabec is a graduate of the University of Maryland, where she completed her BS in Entomology. She is also certified as a Professional Horticulturist by the State of Maryland. Miri has been with Behnke Nurseries for 6 years. She has extensive plant knowledge, particularly in perennials and woody plants.

Please join us to hear this informative speaker. As always we have plants for our door prize table and refreshments after the meeting. Please remember to bring a plant for the door prize table. The public is welcomed and admission is free.



Lewis Ginter Garden Trip

See page 3 of the newsletter for important information on this upcoming BGC day trip!

Roadside Pick-Up

Our first roadside pick-up for 2006 will be held on Saturday, April 1st. Meet at the McDonald's on Powder Mill Road at 9:00 a.m. to help clean up our section of Powder Mill Road between Calverton Boulevard and Evans Trail. In past years we have had some pretty amazing finds (as well as some pretty amazing tall tales of what was found!). Come dressed for work and bring gloves. Sue Shawhan is negotiating with McDonald's for breakfast after the pick-up.

Volunteers at the Roadside Pick-Up are eligible for priority door prize coupons which allows them first pick at the door prize table during our general meetings. Come join our committed group of clean-up volunteers on Saturday, April 1st. If you have any questions, please contact Geoff White, 301-937-1539.

Spring Plant Sale

The first plant sale of the 2006 season will be held on Saturday, April 22, 2006. Let all your friends and neighbors know. This sale will feature shrubs, perennials and plants from our greenhouse. The sale starts promptly at 8:00 am in the parking lot of High Point High School and goes until noon (or until the crowds disappear).

The May sale is scheduled for Saturday May 13, 2006. At this sale we will have annuals, perennials, vegetables, shrubs and plants from the greenhouse. Start time is 8.

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BELTSVILLE GARDEN CLUB

The Beltsville Garden Club is a not-for-profit organization designed to promote gardening interests of its members, increase their knowledge of horticulture, add to their enjoyment of gardening, and to encourage ornamental planting by individuals, community and business groups.

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Submissions to the newsletter are due by the second Wednesday of the month and should be submitted to the editor at 12217 Castle Pines Drive, Beltsville, MD 20705 or by e-mail.

FloraBytes

Using native plants makes good garden sense. For those who want information on putting more native plants into their landscape, there is a two-day American Horticultural Society symposium in Alexandria for gardeners on April 6 & 7 on the subject of Gardening with Native Plants. For more information on this symposium, go to the AHS website:

http://www.ahs.org/events/garden_schools/06/060406_information.htm

The links below are for the VA Native Plant Society and the MD Native Plant Society:

<http://www.vnps.org/>

<http://www.mdflora.org/>

In addition, here are some links to landscaping with native plants:

<http://www.nps.gov/plants/pubs/nativesMD/info.htm>

<http://www.epfl.net/subjects/subjectguide.cfm?cid=541&sid=24&pid=534>

Hospitality for March

A special thank you to everyone who helped with hospitality at our February meeting. We also appreciate the response from our newsletter call on our hospitality crisis. The following people helped with hospitality in February: Marcy Marinelli, Geoff White, Eleanor Butler, Katherine Fitzgerald, Elizabeth Ogden, Susan Burge, Maggie Smith, Jan Kochansky, Shirley Zimmerman, Sue Shawhan, and Allan Ballard. As a result of their efforts, we had a lot of great food.

The following people have volunteered to bring refreshments for the March meeting: Mercedes Seman, Marie Bolt, Charlotte Schomburg, Mary Margaret Freeburne, Helen Pechacek, Elaine Jones and Anne Hoffman. Thanks for volunteering. See you at the March 22 meeting!

Lewis Ginter Garden Trip

BGC will be sponsoring a day trip to Lewis Ginter Garden in Richmond, Virginia on Thursday, June 1, 2006. We will leave from the Calverton Shopping Center parking lot at 8:00 am and travel by bus to Richmond. There we will have a box lunch and enjoy a guided tour of the spectacular 40 acre gardens and classical conservatory. Following the tour we will have the opportunity to visit the Great Big Greenhouse to purchase plants. If you've never been to Lewis Ginter Gardens you will surely enjoy the trip. At this time of the year they will be wrapping up their display of spring flowering plants so it should be a terrific trip. We will return to Beltsville around 6:30 pm.

The cost for the day is \$65.00 and includes admission to the gardens, a box lunch and bus transportation. You must be a member of BGC to go on this trip so if you haven't renewed your 2006 dues, add an additional \$7 to the cost. Seats are limited to send your reservation early. Fill out the form below and return it to Louise DeJames no later than May 22, 2006.

(<http://www.lewisginter.org>)

Brookside Gardens Green Matters Symposium

Brookside Gardens recently held their annual "Green Matters" symposium. These symposia focus on environmental matters that home gardeners can control. This year's topic was stormwater management. Sandy Lange attended the symposium and reports that the keynote speaker, Neil Weinstein, executive director of Low Impact Development Center in Beltsville, provided many suggestions for things we home gardeners can do.

An interesting idea is to create a rain garden. Rain gardens function as miniature wetlands. Rainwater from paved surfaces and downspouts is directed to a low-lying area where it is stored temporarily until absorbed by plants and soil. Pollutants such as fertilizer and pesticides are trapped in the soil and root systems. Different speakers at the symposium talked about the importance of minimizing lawn areas, decreasing the use of fertilizers, planting a large variety of native, non-invasive species and recycling and reusing natural materials.

Reservation Form for BGC Ginter Garden Trip (detach and return)

Name: _____ **Number of people @ \$65 each:** _____

Telephone Number: _____ **Total Remittance:** _____

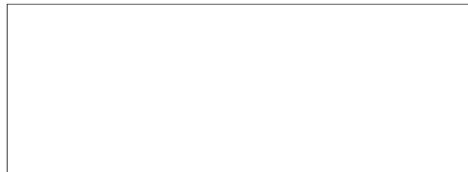
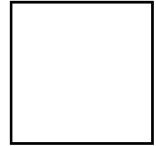
E-mail Address: _____

Lunch preference: Turkey _____ Chicken Salad _____ Ham _____

Note: Include \$7 per person/family to join the Beltsville Garden Club if you are not currently a paid up member. All those going on the trip must be BGC members.

Mail form to: Louise DeJames, 2912 Marlow Road, Silver Spring, MD 20904. Reservation must be received by May 22, 2006.

Beltsville Garden Club
P. O. Box 1953
Beltsville, MD 20704-1953



2006 Plant Sale Dates

***Mark Your Calendars!
Tell Your Friends!***

Saturday, April 22, 2006

Saturday, May 13, 2006

***All Sales will be Located
In High Point High School's
Parking Lot***

Starting time: 8:00 am

BGC Calendar of Events

- Wed. 3/22/06 7:30 pm General Meeting, Creating a Butterfly Garden, Miri Talabec, Duckworth School
- Sat. 4/1/06 9:00 am Roadside Pick Up, Meet at McDonald's on Powder Mill Road
- Wed. 4/5/06 7:30 pm Executive Meeting, Home of Louise DeJames
- Sat. 4/22/06 8:00 am Plant Sale, High Point High School Parking Lot
- Wed. 4/26/06 7:30 pm General Meeting, The Fungus is Among Us, Mary Williford Bair, Duckworth School
- Wed. 5/3/06 7:30 pm Executive Meeting, Home of John and Martina Lydon
- Sat. 5/13/06 8:00 am Plant Sale, High Point High School Parking Lot
- Wed. 5/24/06 7:30 pm General Meeting, Getting the Most from Your Compost, Dr. Gouin, Duckworth School