



The Hidden Gem

September, 2022

Town & Country Garden Club of Libertyville celebrates our 70th anniversary of serving the greater Libertyville area with civic plantings, scholarship awards, local charitable donations and our **Hidden Gems Garden Walk.**

- THIS MONTH:
- Summer's Last Acts
 - Bulb Bonanza
 - Upcoming Events

The members of Town and Country Garden Club enjoyed an inspirational tour of the Lake County Forest Preserves Native Seed Nursery. Here, experts and volunteers collect, sort, prepare, and grow rare and hard-to-collect seeds of different native species. The nursery gives forest preserve restoration ecologists access to these rare plants that were previously cost prohibitive or unavailable. The plants grown are used to restore native habitat through the forest preserves. Soon after, as I ran along the Des Plaines River Trail, I was more aware than usual of how we benefit from this work. I saw blooming ironweed, obedient plant, monarda, brown eyed susan - and goldenrod just waiting to burst into autumn grandeur. We value the work of the Lake County Forest Preserves to maintain open spaces and healthy and resilient landscapes with restored and preserved natural lands, waters and cultural assets. Click [HERE](#) to see how National Garden Clubs advocates gardeners "garden with nature". May you enjoy our local natural gardens.

Prairie Dock and Ironweed, Desplaines River Trail, Libertyville



23 CANVA STORIES



Obedient plant patch, Desplaines River Trail, Libertyville

Ann Baker, President

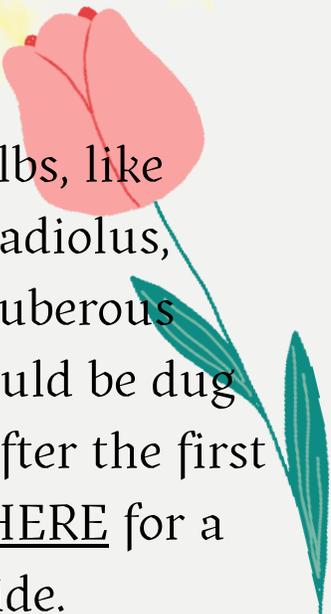
September Tips



Wonder what's
blooming in our
gardens?

Click [HERE](#) to see!

Preview!! We will talk about fall clean up next month. For now, leave those seed heads for the birds. Finches are enjoying the coneflower and zinnia seeds!



Sensitive bulbs, like caladium, gladiolus, dahlia and tuberous begonia, should be dug and stored after the first frost. Click [HERE](#) for a practical guide.

The Saga Continues: Water & Weed

Just when you thought it was safe to lie in the recliner...Water! Weed! Even though the weather is getting cooler, plants still need adequate moisture. If the fall is dry, water well. Otherwise, plants might go into winter dehydrated and stressed, making them more likely to die out by spring. In addition, late summer and early fall are when many of the worst weeds go to seed. Let them go now, and they'll scatter seeds all over your garden. Keeping up with these tasks now will prevent more weeding and plant distress come spring.

Time to start thinking about planting spring-flowering bulbs. These bulbs - tulips, daffodils, hyacinth, crocus - are dormant perennials. In autumn, they begin growing roots in preparation for spring bloom. If you're a beginner gardener, bulbs are easy to plant with great reward. They also feed early pollinators! The best time to plant fall bulbs is when soil temperature is below 60° and several weeks before hard frost. Good bulbs should be fresh and firm with intact husks. Plant immediately or store in a cool, dry place until ready to plant. Deer and rodents will eat crocus and tulip - consider deer-resistant bulbs like narcissus if this might be an issue.

Upcoming Events

Fall Compost Giveaway

Friday, Sept. 30th, 2022
11:00 am to 3:00 pm

University of IL Extension, LC
100 US 45, Grayslake



SOIL LOVES COMPOST...

So Let's Reap All of the Many Benefits of an Autumnal Compost Cover for your Flower Gardens, Vegetable Gardens, Landscaping or Lawn. Your soil will Love you for it!

SWALCO, University of Illinois Extension with the Master Gardeners of LC will be offering

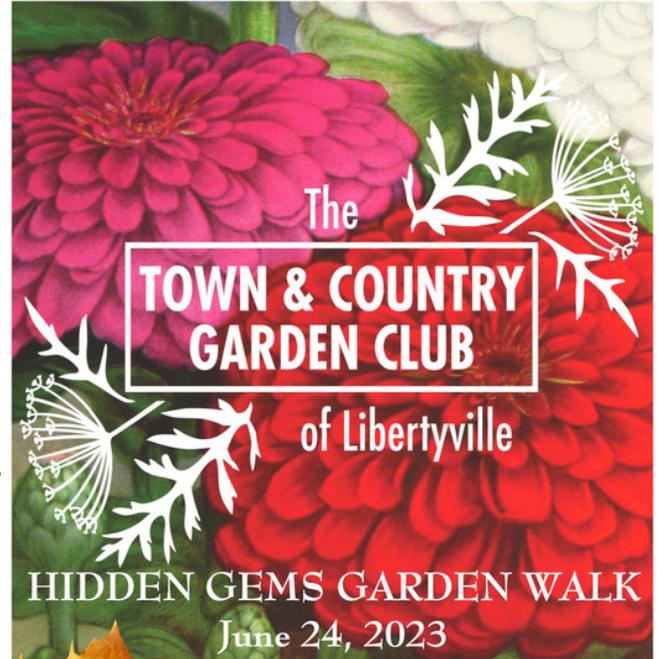
FREE COMPOST

for Lake County Residents
BYOB Bring Your Own Buckets!

Maximum of 10 Gallons per Household
(Bring 2 Five-Gallon Buckets or 1 Ten-Gallon)
Compost is available as supply lasts.
Very limited supply of buckets available.
Call 847-377-4954 for more info.



SAVE
THE
DATE!



Interested in Mushroom Cultivation? Illinois Mycological Association Display & Sale

September 4

Botanic Garden, Burnstein Hall

10 am — 4:30 p.m.

The show celebrates the richness of fall mushrooms in Illinois with exhibits of 50 to 100 varieties of mushrooms foraged from area forests in the days prior to the show. Members of the Illinois Mycological Association provide information and answer questions regarding mushrooms and fungi.



Learn about the Lake County Forest

Preserves efforts to eliminate buckthorn. Experts will share tips for removing this invasive species and suggest great replacement plants. "Healthy Hedges," a free program, takes place 6-7 pm, Thursday, September 19, at the Dunn Museum in Libertyville.



FOR MORE VISIT: www.towncountrygardenclub.com