

Westmoreland Garden Council

July, August, Sept. 2025 Newsletter

"Where Gardeners Grow"



Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

This is the final publication of the Westmoreland Garden Council newsletter!!

To better serve our members, we are moving to a Monthly Information Page, emailed regularly to recap the month's events and provide more information on a timely basis. Be sure to send Nicky at the office an updated email address.

The publication will also be available on our website: westmorelandgarden-council.org. If you are not a regular email user, a hard copy of the Monthly Page will be available at the regular monthly meeting or in the office.

This decision moves the Garden Council into the social media age. Thanks to all in advance for your patience as we work out all the little changes.



"A Day In the Tropics"

2025 Garden Tour

July 19, 2025

10:00 AM-4:00 PM

Rain or Shine

Tickets \$25 in advance / \$30 day of event

Tickets available in our office Tuesdays & Thursdays between 9 AM-3 PM.

Tickets will be available in our office the day of the tour between 9:30-11:00 AM.

This is a great way to spend the day by meeting great gardeners in their home environment. It's an ideal way to get new ideas and learn about home gardening techniques.

Calendar of Events

July 19 "A Day in the Tropics" Garden Tour
Aug 5 Membership Meeting—11:00 AM
Patty Schildcamp "No Dig Gardening"
Aug 9 Monarch Butterfly Release
Sept 2 Membership Mtg—11:00 AM
"Annual Plant Auction"

All membership meetings are free and open to the public. A light lunch is also served.

Upcoming events:

Oct 7 Annual Meeting Out at
Rizzo's
Nov 21 Christmas Greens Sale
Dec 6 Christmas House Tour

"CALLING ALL CAR ENTHUSIASTS!" Sunday, October 19, 2025 2:00 PM

This is the area's most intriguing display of cars, both American and foreign, plus an extensive display of memorabilia in a private setting. Listen to a presentation about how this collection of unique vehicles has been acquired and why the owner embarked on this mission.

Tickets cost \$50 each and are limited. Call our office to reserve!

MONARCH BUTTERFLY RELEASE SATURDAY, AUGUST 9, 2025 11:00 AM & 1:00 PM "Release butterflies, not balloons"



Treat yourself and your family to the breath-taking sight of butterflies gliding magically in the air! Reserve your Monarch -- \$5.00 this year -- refundable the day of the release. Choose a release time to attend or pick up your Monarch to release in your own garden.

Again, we are proud and honored to announce that 250 butterflies will be provided by the Second Chance Fund, courtesy of the Sherid family, in memory of Fred and Kimberly Cecchini.

The release will take place in the beautiful **LeFevre Butterfly Garden** where there's plenty of colorful flowers to entice the Monarchs to land and take a sip of nectar.

There will be plenty to see and enjoy:

1. Monarch larva will be happily munching milkweed in one of our troughs.
2. Novelty items will be available for fun and excitement for the little ones.
3. Educational displays and butterfly books are inside the Garden House.
4. A garden flea market offers gently used garden related items for resale.
5. Turner Dairy is donating free drinks.
6. Hot dogs and butterfly cookies will tempt your palate.
7. Buy a flower wand for a butterfly to coax a Monarch to land.
8. Take a picture on the butterfly bench.

There will be a short, lively, educational presentation by Renatta Marino of Westmoreland Theatre Company. After the program, we will distribute the reserved butterflies to release on cue!!

****Releasing balloons at memorials and parties is not an environmentally friendly idea. Live butterflies can be easily ordered online from many sources, a much better option.**

Save that Plant

If you ever wondered how to save an annual, or tender perennial to grow again the following year, here is one way. Take cuttings now (see August 2021 Newsletter) and overwinter them in your cool garage or unheated spare bedroom. Some pots can be stored away from a window, given only a tiny amount of water, and they will go dormant. Or you can put them all in front of a window and keep them watered where they will continue to grow, only more slowly due to the low temperature. Come spring, increase water, move those that were in the dark to more light, then outdoors to semi shade about mid May or so, hardening them off to grow in the garden. Agapanthus, 'Pink Delight' butterfly bush, 'Back in Black' sedum, tropical milkweed, pineapple sage, and chrysanthemums spent the winter in our garage. The beauty of using cuttings is that a 4" pot takes up so much less space than a mature plant in a large pot. Plus they are a lot easier to lift. A quart container is a good size pot for overwintering an early cutting that put on some size; not too big, not too small.

Sandy

SEPTEMBER PLANT AUCTION

Members can bring in something from their garden; perennials, a bouquet of flowers, vegetables or even a house plant. Plants will go to the highest bidder by our favorite auctioneer, Sandy Truckner! If you don't have anything, that's ok! Just come and feel free to bid on anything you like.

Bring a friend for a really good time and stay for lunch.



New Members:

Toni Myers,
Bobbi Fink &
Terril Loos



SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE

The scholarship committee met and selected a winner for our scholarship. The name will be announced at a later date pending notification of the all 6 students. We are currently drafting and sending letters to the applicants.

HOT TIP!!`

Newspaper is effective at removing odors. Crumple black and white newsprint in your old gym shoes, plastic containers or suitcases to remove stale odors.



SAVE THE DATE
CHRISTMAS HOUSE TOUR
December 6, 2025

So far, we have 4 incredible homes to tour, each one unique. Three will be decked out in holiday splendor by the owners. The fourth will be decorated by us, WGC, and all décor will be available for purchase. We are very excited about this tour and you won't be disappointed!

Don't miss out on the opportunity to see these local homes all dressed up for the holidays! Pass the word onto your friends and family.

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WESTMORELAND GARDEN COU 2025
ASSOCIATE MEMBER - NEW MEMBER RENEWAL FORM

Date: _____ Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: Home _____ Cell _____ Email _____
New \$20 _____ Renewal \$20 _____

Annual dues run from January 1 to January 1. Please make checks payable to:
Westmoreland Garden Council, 951 Old Salem Rd., Greensburg, PA 15601

My interests are: _____ Gardening _____ Floral Design _____ Butterfly Garden _____ Workshops
_____ Grounds _____ Social Media

Our Mission Statement

The Greensburg Garden Center is a non-profit educational organization whose goals are to support and educate our members and the community in horticulture, conservation, and related areas and provide an annual scholarship. GGC serves Westmoreland County and surrounding communities.