



The DGC Buzz

June 1, 2025

June 1 -7, 2025 National Garden Week

June 6-9, 2025 Volunteer Opportunities with the Eagleman Race.

Actual race day is Sunday, June 8th. There still may be some slots available. Be sure to indicate your affiliation with DGC so that we can earn some money for our efforts!

<https://ironman.volunteerlocal.com/volunteer/?id=88302>

June 7, 2025 5th Annual Pollinator Garden Tour in Berlin, MD.

Sponsored by the Lower Shore Land Trust which states: *The theme this year is "Small Spaces, Big Impact" highlighting the fact that whether you have a tiny container space or a full-sized garden, you can make a significant impact on the health and survival of our essential pollinators.* For information, contact the Trust at

www.lowershorelandtrust.org or call 443-234-5587. In conjunction with

the tour are Plein Air activities throughout the month.

June 10, 2025, 11:30am–12:00 pm
of the Cutting Garden

Hillwood Museum Gardener's Focus Tour: Bounty

This summer, unearth the boundless beauty of the cutting garden and explore sustainable gardening practices at Hillwood. From sunflowers and zinnias to eucalyptus and lisianthus, a weekly harvest supplies a bounty of flowers that are used in arrangements throughout the property. Learn about sustainability at Hillwood through insider information about green initiatives and ecological horticultural practices. Tour the garden in all its glory and learn a few tips and secrets from a Hillwood gardener along the way. Details at <https://hillwoodmuseum.org/estate>.

June 14, 2025 Smokey Cat Lavender Farm 2025 Festival in Federalsburg. 10 am-4 pm.

Lavender UPick, Music, Food, Vendors and More. www.smokeycatlavender.com for more information about events and to shop their on-line store.

June 14, 2025, 10–11:30am

Ikebana Floral Design Workshop at Green Spring Gardens

in Annandale, VA. Discover the elegance and simplicity of Ikebana, the traditional Japanese art of flower arranging, Alice Buch, Second Degree Master of the Ohara School, will teach the basic techniques and principles of Ikebana while demonstrating a Hana Isho Rising Form arrangement that participants will then get to make themselves. No prior experience necessary. Please register for both the class and the \$30 supply fee. \$46 per person. Register

online at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes> or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173. Code 3FB.WB70.

July 2, 2025 **DGC Board Meeting, 12 pm – 2 pm** in the Library Meeting Room

Save the Dates

September 6-7, 2025 **Annual Conference of the Maryland Native Plant Society,**
Washington College in Chestertown. Details yet to come.

October 19 – 23, 2025 **CAR-SGC Conference & Tri-Refresher**
(Central Atlantic Region-State Garden Clubs) at the Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay.

DGC Member News:

Yearbook Corrections:

Jan Sondberg

jlsondberg@aol.com

Mary Slacum

slacummary@gmail.com

Karen Cartwright and Donna Dunlap are now *Active* members

Membership cards:

Emily's produce is offering 10% off only on cut flowers.

ESHC Thompson Shop: 10% off

Chesapeake Seed and Feed 10% off

We welcome our newest member—

Barb Brooks

703 Radiance Drive

Cambridge, MD 21613

410-463-3631 barbbrooks703@gmail.com

birthday - 3-28

Committee Reports:

Horticulture

Some gardening questions and answers from your Horticulture Chair--

- *The Grumpy Gardener (aka Steve Bender)*, who pens a Q&A article on gardening for Southern Living Magazine recently addressed this question:

"Some of my Purple Coneflowers are blooming green. What does this mean? Are they diseased?"



"Indeed they are. The culprit is called aster yellows, and this is a malady caused by an organism called a phytoplasma that's spread by leaf hoppers, and it can affect more than 300 different plants, including asters, chrysanthemums, zinnias and marigolds. The plant I see it on most often are purple cone flowers. Now, the telltale signs are flowers with green petals or it can have stalk, little green flowers growing from the central cone. It looks really bizarre and weird. Unfortunately, this disease is systemic and there's no cure for it. You can't spray anything. And infected plants gradually decline and die. So, when you find these in your garden, the best thing to do is to pull them up and throw them away so that the leaf hoppers don't spread the phytoplasma to all your other susceptible plants." S.B.

Steve also has a very useful podcast, *Ask Grumpy*. It's a great resource, especially for novice gardeners.

- This is interesting....from Brent Heath of Brent and Becky's Bulbs

Do you know the right way to pick a daffodil?



long."

"Everyone does it the wrong way," he says. "They take their pruning shears and just clip it off, so on the bottom, you just see this hollow tube." Turns out, that's not the way you should do it.

Heath advises: "What you want to do is reach down onto the base of the stem where it's coming out from the leaves, and give it a little twist. It will snap off, and the bottom will be solid. The way you cut the daffodil affects how long it's going to last in the vase. And if you reach down and snap it off versus cutting it off with the pruning shears, it'll last twice as

- Another question recently raised in a gardening blog:

Is a sport the same as a hybrid?

No, a sport and a hybrid are distinct concepts in plant breeding and cultivation. A hybrid is created by cross-breeding two different plants, while a sport is a naturally-occurring genetic mutation within a single plant. Sport mutations can add specks of white to a flower (many new petunia cultivars have white specks) or double the amount of flowers on a stem

- **For those of you who grow strawberries at home....here's a good tip From Kathy Jentz, *The Washington Gardener***

Painted strawberry rocks are meant to fool creatures that attack your berries just as they start to ripen. The theory being that birds and squirrels try to bite into the "ripe strawberry" and find it rock-hard and then move on.



News from one of our Business Sponsors

Simmons Center Market wants their loyal customers to know they still have many flowers, plants, roses, and shrubs as well as beautiful ceramic pottery. You'll notice the greenhouse and nursery areas have a new look this year to better showcase all their plants and gardening supplies. New this year is a bright red trailer called "Simmons Scoops" filled with 16 flavors of Hersheys Ice Cream. Details on times and locations (special events) is available on their Facebook page.

Message from your President:

Hello everyone,

Well, we have been having some crazy weather lately !! First we had summer with the temperatures in the 80's and then today it was barely 60! Just makes it more interesting being a gardener 😊

We had a great time at our May meeting at Harvest Drive Nursery....thank you Kim for your hospitality and your great presentation! We were like kids in a candy store when we were looking and purchasing our flowers to make our container garden. Remember if you want to "give back" to the Club your 10% discount that Kim gave to us for our flower purchase, Cindy Burns will gladly take it...please do it in cash.

This month we will hold our Annual Picnic on June 13 at the lovely home of Cindy Burns at 20 Bellevue Ave. Please do not park out front...we don't want to block the beautiful view! Make sure when Sue Lachenmayr sends out an email to see if you are attending, that you RSVP promptly. Everyone is asked to bring a covered dish or dessert and we will have our "Bring One,

Take One” plant event. Be sure to label your plant. There will not be a Mini Flower Show, but you may bring an exhibit for an entry point (no judging). Please bring a lawn/camping chair for extra seating.

We will also have a sign up sheet for our July 11 Flower Camp program “Color My World” at the picnic. This will be a workshop where we will be learning another NGC design, a Monochromatic Floral Design. We will all make a floral design to take home. There will be a fee of \$35 for this workshop. This will cover the cost of the container, frog and flowers. Please be ready to pay when you sign up.

Keep blooming.....Sandy