

GREEN THUMB PRINTS

Gardening is our Passion Education is our Purpose

October 2019

**Please plan on attending the
October 10th Master Gardener
Volunteer meeting as we will be
voting on the Constitution and
Bylaw Revisions.**



Upcoming Events:

- | | |
|----------|---|
| Oct 5 | <u>Courier Article Due</u> |
| Oct 7-10 | <u>Protecting Pollinators in
Urban Landscapes</u> |
| Oct 10 | <u>Brown Bag-Plant ID
MG Monthly Meeting</u> |
| Oct 11 | <u>Plants for Your
Landscape</u> |
| Oct 12 | <u>The Monarch</u> |
| Oct 17 | <u>MG Executive Committee
Meeting</u> |
| Oct 23 | <u>Library Presentation-
Young Tree Pruning</u> |
| Nov 5 | <u>Forcing Bulbs for Winter
Bloom
Courier Article Due</u> |

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Coordinator's Corner

In review our statistics with the Executive Committee and Ed Lentz in September, I noted that there have been 22 speaker bureau meetings through August. I am aware of several more to continue through the end of the year. There have been almost 700 contact made through these speaking arrangements. Many thanks to Tim Brugeman for his leadership and those of you who have taken the time and volunteered to present topics to the public.

I also heard about the plans of the upcoming wreath class and how we plan to collect monies ahead of time using a new tool called Eventbrite. Much thanks to Ann and Betsy for their leadership in this area.

Some interns are making up classes in Logan County this month. Putnam County is starting a class on October 1 and I hope to get the other interns needing to make-up some classes to these sessions. I will forward the agenda to everyone and it is possible for anyone to sit in on these classes. We will have 2 new trainees from Hancock County in this class. Tim Brugeman has assigned mentors already and has talked to them to get them on board.

In the next few weeks, I will be sending an email to any member who has not met the hour requirement to re-certify for next year. Every active member must complete at least 10 hours of education and have at least 20 hours of volunteer service time to the community or organization.

The state conference is on Friday, November 8 at The Ohio State University. I will get information to each of you when I receive it. The cost is \$100. Please let me know if you plan to attend.

Much work has been completed to review and revise our Constitution and By-Laws. The result of this work gives us a solid document for the Officers and Volunteer Coordinator to use as they manage the organization. Many thanks to this team.

I hope to see you at the October meeting as things have started to slow down a bit for me.

Karl Farwig



Rambling Rose

October 2019

Fall is here! I am sure that you too have been spending your days doing fall clean-up and thinking about next year's planting season! We MGV's never stop!

The September meeting was very productive. I want to thank the following individuals for volunteering to take the helm of MGV Projects; Brint Simmons, Service Committee and Community Gardens; Jerry Lenhart; OSU Front Gardens, Doris Salis, Fair Booth; and all that volunteered to continue in their current positions. Tim Brugeman is stepping back from the Speakers Bureau and needs a MGV to volunteer to learn the Speakers Bureau process. Please talk to Judy Clymer if you are interested. If you were not able to attend September meeting and would like to step up or down, please call your Committee Chairperson.

The final revision of the MGV Constitution and By-Laws have been sent and the vote for approval will be during the October 10 MGV Meeting.

Eventbrite is to be live October 1 with the first event the Wreath Classes. Thank you to Ann Woolum and Betsy Martindale-DeFrancesco for the hard work in creating this opportunity to advertise and pay in advance for any event planned by the Hancock Master Gardeners

At the October meeting, the final nominations for Vice President and Secretary will be announced. I am very excited that so far we have 2 candidates for each position. If you are still interested in being nominated, please contact Noreen Walters or me. It is very exciting to have more participation in elections.

See you October 10 at 6:00 pm for a brown bag presented by Marlene Brunswick followed by the regular MGV meeting. Refreshments for meeting will be provided by Marilyn Beltz, Randy Greeno, and Barb Phillips. Thank you to all who provide the refreshments each month! I know it is my favorite part of the meeting!

Rose



HANCOCK COUNTY MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS
MEETING MINUTES
September 12, 2019

The brown bag session starting at 6:00 p.m. was devoted to updating the Leadership, Committee Chairperson, and Project Leads roster for 2020.

President Rose Morrison called the monthly business meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. with 27 Master Gardeners in attendance.

Secretary's Report: Rose asked for review and approval of the August 8, 2019 secretary's minutes. Noreen Walters and Peggy Biolchini 1st and 2nd the motion to accept the minutes. By a voice vote the minutes were approved.

President Updates: Rose thanked Doris Salis and Marilyn Beltz for organizing the 2019 Master Gardener Fair Booth.

Rose also thanked Lisa McClain for the September issue of the Green Thumb Prints. She also asked that the following areas submit articles to Lisa McClain by September 25, 2019 for the October issue of the Green Thumb Prints newsletter. Area included – By Laws Update (Tim Brugeman), MGV Intern Article, Wreath Classes (Betsy Martindale-DeFrancesco), and Community Garden Wrap Up (Linda/John Leiendecker).

Rose shared that Marlene Brunswick will be presenting the October 10, 2019 brown bag session entitled Plant ID for Beginners.

Rose reminded everyone to continue to post their volunteer hours to the VMS system.

COMMITTEE UPDATES –

Service Committee: Linda Leiendecker reported that the Community Garden had donated 1555 pounds of produce thus far this growing season. She reminded everyone to remember to share with her or John the amount (by pounds) of any produce you have grown and donated to a local charity. A date for the 2019 cleanup of the community garden had not been set.

Teaching Committee: Judy Clymer and Tim Brugeman (Speakers Bureau) reported MGV presentations made to the community with two additional programs to be presented in November 2019. One presentation will be made at 50 North entitled Winter Bird Feeding. The second presentation will be made to the Bluffton Garden Club entitled Bulb Planting for Indoor Blooms.

(Continued)

HANCOCK COUNTY MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS

MEETING MINUTES (Continued)

Education Committee: Peggy Biolchini asked for additional volunteers who are willing to help with responding to questions asked by community residents through our Ask a Master Gardener activity.

Old Business: Tim Brugeman reviewed the revised Constitution and By Laws. It is planned that approval will occur at the October 10, 2019 MGV meeting. He stated that a 2/3 vote of the membership attending the meeting is required for approval.

Rose gave an update on the MGV Event Brite site stating that the planned start up date is October 1, 2019.

Rose reviewed the officer positions to be elected in 2019 are Vice President and Secretary. Both terms are for two years. The Vice President takes over in the absence of the President. The Secretary attends both regular and executive meetings, transcribes and distributes minutes from the meetings, and handles any condolence communication.

New Business: Rose reviewed the two events that Ed Lentz had requested volunteers for. She thanked those who are volunteering for the programs. For the Wilson Vance program the volunteers will be contacting the school directly for further information on the proposed student activity.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Lynn Farwig and seconded by Bill Jones. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Next Meeting: Thursday, October 10, 2019. Brown bag at 6:00 with Marlene Brunswick presenting Plant ID for Beginners.

Respectfully submitted Cheryl Miller

Refreshments for October 10th Meeting:

Marilyn Beltz

Randy Greeno

Barbara Phillips



Take a Closer Look:
The Ask-A-Master Gardener Program
By Peggy Biolchini, AMG Chairperson

Life in the great outdoors seems to be just about perfect, trees leaf out every year, the grass grows, and flowers appear. Take a walk around the block, drive down a residential street, or take a walk in one of Findlay's many fine parks and everything appears just fine or is it? Take a closer look.

Let's take a walk down a residential street and take a closer look. Notice the leaves on the maple trees; they don't seem as green as usual. Most of the maple trees appear to have a yellow cast to them. Take a closer look. They have irregular brown spots on them, they are curled and some are dropping to the ground before September. What is going on?

Notice the Blue Spruce tree near the next house, it was beautiful last year. There are new bare spots and many, very little brown pine cones hanging off the branches. Why does the tree look like this? Are those really pine cones?

Look at the grass in another yard, notice that the grass isn't growing in several places? How can the homeowner get the grass to grow?

The vegetable garden in that yard looks awesome! Let's take a closer look. Notice the leaves on the zucchini plant are dying out and the stem is shriveled and has powdery patches along it. What is causing the plant to do this?

Clearly not all plants, trees and grass grow without any problems. Being astute to notice changes in your landscape is the beginning to thwarting off some pesky problems. More and more people are observing and finding that their trees, lawn, vegetable garden, etc. are not looking so good this year. Some people will look on the internet to find answers. Others will make the call to the Hancock County Extension Office and some people do both to get the right answer to their problem.

All of the above scenarios actually happened this season and many, many more!

Enter the Ask-A-Master Gardener Program (AMG): When such a call comes into the Extension Office as much information about the problem is taken by the office staff. The office staff then sends an email to the MGV Ask-A-Master Gardener Chairperson. The chairperson delegates the question to the AMG team member most qualified to answer it based on their expertise and/or interests. The MGV then researches the problem and contacts the caller with research based information. Everything is reported back to the chairperson who logs the questions, answers and name of the MGV responsible for answering the question(s).

The AMG program is a vital link of the OSU Extension Program that educates the public on taking care of their landscape. All of the training MGVs go through equips them with knowledge to share with others. Sometimes a question doesn't have a known answer. This is when the MGV looks to the OSU Ohio Line Fact Sheets or other university research based information found on the internet. Additionally, MGV materials at the extension office include books on various gardening topics with the express purpose for the MGV to use in solving the many questions. The opportunity to collaborate with other MGVs about an unusual issue is a great learning experience. To be a part of the AMG team one doesn't have to have a PhD in anything! It just takes someone who is willing to take the time to talk to the customer. Then either do some research or collaborate with another MGV to find a solution.

The AMG program is in need of more people to answer the many questions that come into the extension office. If you would like to be a part of the AMG program, please contact the Chairperson or the MGV President.

Committees Updates

Bylaw Revisions For Master Gardener Volunteers

Approval October 10th

Some final edits are being made from feedback we have received and revised copies for your final review will be emailed to you before the October 10th meeting. There are only a few corrections, mostly grammar and typos, nothing of issue. An approval vote of 2/3 MGVs attending is required to pass the update since the Constitution is part of the package. If you have any further questions please call our Review Team: Marilyn Beltz, Lynn Farwig, Bill Jones, Reuben DeBolt or Tim Brugeman.

Special thanks to OSU Extension Master Gardeners Central Office of Columbus, Ed Lentz and Karl Farwig for their fact checking and proof reading.

Important to the October passage is the new election cycle of officers to start in November.

Submitted By: Tim Brugeman



Field Trips Ideas

Plans are in the works for field trips for the remainder of this year and next. We would love to know what all of you would like to see. With our new interns we are sure there are new and exciting ideas that we have not considered.

Please give this some thought and talk to either Lynn Farwig or Ann Woolum. We would love to hear your ideas!!!

Lynn Farwig
email: lynnfarwig@gmail.com
txt 419-348-0915

Ann Woolum
email: awhcpa@aol.com
419-348-5191

Submitted by Lynn Farwig

MGV WREATH CLASS 2019

There are some exciting changes this year for the Wreath Classes. One change is the venue. The classes will be held in the Conference Room at the Extension Office. The larger space will allow for more participants in each class. The price this year will be \$20. Everyone will be registering on Eventbrite.com and pre-paying. This will certainly cut down on no-shows. Anyone not using a credit card will have the option of mailing a check or dropping off cash or a check to the Extension Office. Eventbrite.com is a great website for finding and signing up for events. We will be up on Eventbrite.com on October 1st to accept reservations! Be sure to check it out.

One thing that won't change, everyone will leave with a beautiful, one-of-a-kind holiday wreath!

We will need volunteers to assist with cutting the fresh greens a few days before the classes begin. We will also need volunteers to help set-up, assist participants and clean-up. We will cover this information at the October meeting.

Dates and times of the classes:

Monday, December 2 from 6 – 8 pm
Tuesday, December 3 from 6 – 8 pm
Wednesday, December 4 from 6 – 8 pm
Saturday, December 7 from 1 – 3 pm
Sunday, December 8 from 1 – 3 pm

Submitted by:

Betsy Martindale-DeFrancesco



What is Eventbrite?



Eventbrite is a management and ticketing website. This service allows users to browse, create, and promote local events. We will be using this website to advertise, register participants, and collect the \$20 fee for the 2019 MGV Wreath Class.

If you are interested in learning more please visit www.eventbrite.com or download the Eventbrite App. Please encourage anyone interested in taking the class this year to register through Eventbrite.

Check Your Trees for Asian Long-Horned Beetles

This large, showy beetle was accidentally introduced into the U.S. on several occasions, probably in wood crating or pallets shipped from Asia. Larvae feed in tunnels (called galleries) in the wood of tree branches and trunks. The galleries can cause branches or trees to break and will eventually kill the tree. North American trees have little or no resistance to infestation.



Michael Bohme, Bugwood.org –
Adult Asian Longhorn Beetle



Dennis Haugen, USDA Forest Service,
Bugwood.org - ALB egg pits and exit hole



Kenneth R. Law, USDA APHIS PPQ, Bugwood.org –
ALB Life Stages

While August is the best time to spot the Asian long-horned beetle (ALB), as it starts to emerge from trees, you can still see evidence of its infestation afterwards. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is asking the public to take five minutes to step outside and report any signs of this invasive pest. Checking trees for the beetle will help residents protect their own trees and better direct USDA's efforts to eradicate this beetle from the United States. If a new ALB infestation is found, federal and state officials will begin survey and eradication activities, including removing and destroying all infested trees. Tree removal is unpleasant, but it has been successful in eradicating ALB populations in New Jersey, Chicago and Toronto. **Early detection is critical**

(Continued)

Check Your Trees for Asian Long-Horned Beetles (Continued)

The Asian long-horned beetle feeds on a wide variety of popular hardwood trees, including maple, birch, elm, willow, ash and poplar. It has already led to the loss of more than 180,000 trees. Active infestations are being fought in three areas of the country: Worcester County, MA, Long Island, NY (Nassau and Suffolk Counties), and **Clermont County, Ohio**.

The Asian long-horned beetle has distinctive markings that are easy to recognize:

- Antennae that are longer than the insect's body with black and white bands.
- A shiny, jet-black body with white spots, about 1" to 1 ½" long.
- Six legs and feet, possibly bluish-colored.

Signs of infestation include:

- Round exit holes in tree trunks and branches about the size of a dime or smaller.
- Shallow oval or round scars in the bark where the adult beetle chewed an egg site.
- Sawdust-like material called frass, laying on the ground around the tree or in the branches.
- Dead branches or limbs falling from an otherwise healthy-looking tree.

If you think you've seen the beetle or signs of infestation, please contact the Ohio ALB eradication program office at 513-381-7180 or ALB@agri.ohio.gov. If possible, capture the insect, place it in a jar, and freeze for identification. If you have a digital camera, take pictures of the insect and the damage to your trees.

It is possible to eliminate this pest and USDA has been successfully doing so in several areas. Most recently, the agency declared Stonelick and Batavia Townships in Ohio to be free of the Asian long-horned beetle. It also eradicated the beetle from Illinois, New Jersey, Boston, Massachusetts, and parts of New York. The New York City boroughs of Brooklyn and Queens are in the final stages of eradication.

For more information about the Asian long-horned beetle, other ways to keep it from spreading—such as not moving firewood—and eradication program activities, visit www.AsianLonghornedBeetle.com

Submitted By: Linda Casey



Intern Spotlight-Jeff Wingate

Views of a MGCV (wannabe) Intern

OK, here we go.

As other interns have shared in their articles, I have helped out in my parents gardens and my own, but I wanted to know more. My mom introduced me into the flower world when our daughter graduated from high school. As I continued to garden, I found out I knew no specifics on what exactly to do to make them thrive.

To my excitement, I read an article in The Courier about a Master Gardening class that was forming. Over the years I have seen other articles about classes and could not work it out in my schedule. Since I recently retired that same year, I could now fit it to my daily routine.

So I completed all the paperwork and waited for the orientation class. When that day arrived, I met Rose, where she explained how she fell and bruised her face while fighting with her fireplace. The first class arrived and I met Tim, who had the same problem with fireplaces. I thought-do I really want to be a Master Gardener?- it looks to be very dangerous.

The first class was Botany, which the class schedule stated it took 8 hours to complete. I was wondering how in the world I could learn this subject in one day. I was told by the veteran MGCV's, that you are taught about some of the basics on each subject in the designated class time. The classes will give you a base to start with and if a question is asked about something you do not know about, you can get the contact info to reply with an answer. You can then refer the question to a more experienced MGCV, find a good reference, or go to a reliable source on the internet. With that advice, I could put my mind at ease and concentrate on the subject at hand.

The instructors were all very knowledgeable and compassionate at what they were teaching. Some were really excited at what they were teaching and paced all over the room; while others stood in one place, being able to keep track of them. All-in-all, you had to stay on your toes or they just might ambush you with a question or project. What I did find out from these instructors was that there were a lot of things I thought I knew, but I really did not know much at all. I found out a lot of things I was doing was wrong (my apple tree and grape vines in particular). I was then about to research what I needed to find out about and fix the problem.

Going through the classes and completing my hours of community service with the other MGCV's; I have made a lot of friends and I am honored to call them family. The veterans will answer all my questions or guide me in the proper direction. I have been able to meet all realms of people while attending all the events and will hopefully be able to guide them toward the wonderful world of gardening.

As I finish up relating my views and experiences as an intern, I will continue to build up my knowledge and strive to continue to demonstrate how the Master Gardener Volunteers shine.

Thanks to all who were involved.



MG Happenings.....

"Using Native Plants in the Landscape"

Tim Brugeman and Debra Evans present
to the Findlay Garden Club



Debra-Tim-Jeri

Jeri Wenger Assisting With the Presentation

"Forcing Bulbs for Winter Blooms"

A Make It, Take It Workshop with Dr. Richard Deerhake

Tuesday, Nov. 5 at 6:30 pm at the Bluffton Library

This program is open to the public

Must register online through
www.blufftonpubliclibrary.org by October 31.

\$12 payable to the Gardeners of the Bluffton and
Pandora Area



"To Prune or Not To Prune"

Article submitted to The Courier by *Cheryl Miller*
Published in the September 24 Edition



IT'S TIME TO.....

HOME (Indoor plants and activities)

- ◆ Prepare storage areas for overwintering tender flower bulbs and garden produce.
- ◆ Thanksgiving (or Christmas) cactus can be forced into bloom for the Thanksgiving holidays. Provide 15 hours of complete darkness each day, for instance, from 5 p.m. to 8 a.m., for approximately eight weeks. Keep temperature at about 60-65 degrees F. Temperatures of 55°F will cause flower buds to set without dark treatment.
- ◆ Dig and repot herbs, or take cuttings, for growing indoors over winter.
- ◆ Store leftover garden seed in a cool, dry place. A sealable jar with a layer of silica gel or powdered milk in the bottom works well.
- ◆ Bring houseplants moved outside for summer indoors before night temperatures fall below 55° F. Gradually decrease light to acclimate the plants and help reduce leaf drop. Check and control insects and diseases before putting these plants near other houseplants.
- ◆ Poinsettias saved from last year can be reflowered for this year's holiday by providing complete darkness for 15 hours daily from about Oct. 1 until about Dec. 10.

YARD (Lawns, woody ornamentals and fruits)

- ◆ Fall is a good time to plant many container-grown or balled-and-burlapped nursery stock. Prepare a good-size hole, plant at the same depth it grew in the nursery and water thoroughly. Mulching will help protect against large fluctuations in soil temperature and moisture. Wrap young, thin-barked tree trunks to protect against frost cracks or animal damage but be prepared to remove the wraps by early spring.
- ◆ Do not be alarmed if your evergreens, particularly white pine and arborvitae, drop some older needles. All evergreens shed needles at some time, but not all at once as deciduous plants do.
- ◆ Harvest apples, pears, grapes, and everbearing strawberries and raspberries. For most fruits, flavor is the best indicator of ripeness, although color change also can be a good indicator. However, pears are best ripened off the tree, and grapes change color long before they are fully flavored, so sample the fruit to be sure.
- ◆ Remove raspberry canes after they bear fruit.
- ◆ Clean up fallen fruits, twigs and leaves around apple (including crabapple) and other fruit trees to reduce disease and insect carryover.
- ◆ To promote the lawn's recovery from summer stress, apply high-nitrogen fertilizer at the rate of 0.5 to 1 pound actual nitrogen per 1,000 square feet. More information on lawn fertilization is available at https://mdc.itap.purdue.edu/item.asp?item_number=AY-22-W
- ◆ Reseed bare spots or new lawns using a good-quality seed mixture. Seeding in late summer allows the turf to maximize its establishment and rooting prior to the next summer's heat and drought. For more information, see <http://purdueturftips.blogspot.com/2014/08/start-seeding-cool-season-turf-now.html>
- ◆ September and October are appropriate months to apply broadleaf weed killers to the lawn. Be sure to follow all label directions, and choose a calm day to prevent spray drift.

(Continued)



IT'S TIME TO..... Continued

GARDEN (Flowers, vegetables and small fruits)

- ♦ Dig onions and garlic after tops fall over naturally and necks begin to dry.
- ♦ Plant radishes, green onion sets, lettuce and spinach for fall harvest.
- ♦ Thin fall crops such as lettuce and carrots that were planted earlier.
- ♦ Harvest crops such as tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, melons and sweet potatoes before frost, or cover plants with blankets, newspaper, etc., (but not plastic) to protect them from light frost.
- ♦ Mature green tomatoes can be ripened indoors. Individually wrap fruits in newspaper, or leave them on the vine, pulling the entire plant out of the garden. Store in a cool location – about 55-60F.
- ♦ Harvest winter squash when mature (skin is tough) with deep, solid color, but before hard frost. Some cultivars will show an orange blush when mature.
- ♦ Plant, transplant or divide peonies, daylilies, iris and phlox only if you can apply irrigation during dry spells.
- ♦ Save plants such as coleus, wax begonias, impatiens or fuchsia for indoor growing over winter. Dig plants and cut them back about halfway, or take cuttings of shoot tips, and root them in moist vermiculite, soil mix or perlite.
- ♦ Watch for garden chrysanthemums to bloom as days grow shorter. Some may have bloomed earlier this summer, which will decrease the number of fall blooms.
- ♦ Plant spring-flowering bulbs beginning in late September. Planting too early can cause bulbs to sprout top growth before winter. However, allow at least four to six weeks before the ground freezes for good root formation.
- ♦ Dig tender bulbs, such as cannas, caladiums, tuberous begonias and gladiolus, before frost. Allow to air dry, and store in dry peat moss or vermiculite.
- ♦ Cut flowers, such as strawflower, statice, baby's breath and celosia, for drying and hang upside down in a dry, well-ventilated area.

Submitted By: Linda Casey





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Hancock County

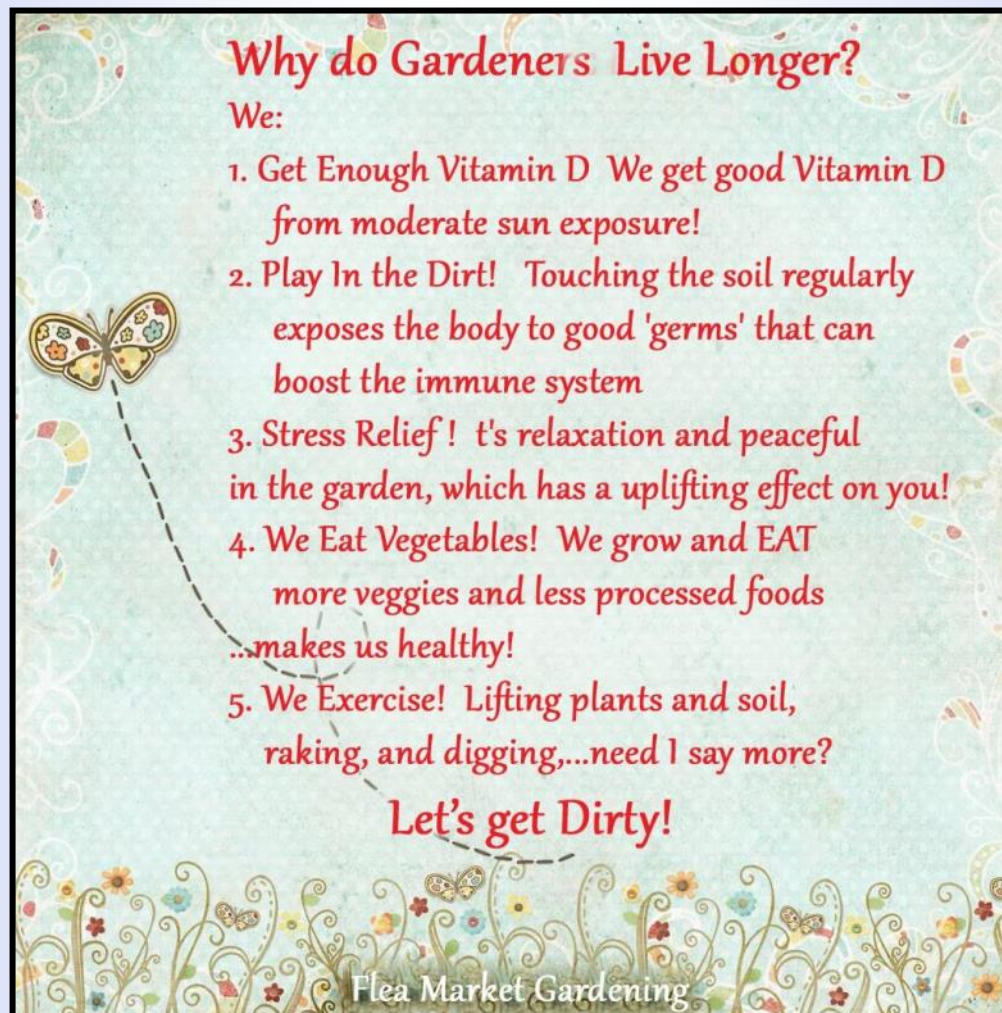
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