

Wake County JMG - 4H Newsletter



Severe Weather Policy:

If Wake county schools are cancelled, JMG-4H will not meet.



Next Meeting: Thursday, March 12, 2009 7:00-8:30pm

Note-

Hello Junior Master Gardeners,

Our annual plant sale is in two weeks and we'd like to display your artwork there. As you know, the plant sale is where we earn the money that allows us to offer the JMG program free of charge. People who buy at the sale love to see that they are supporting youth like you.

We'd like to show off your artwork at the sale. This is not mandatory, but it might help sell more plants if customers see your artwork. If you'd like to do this, please make a picture of "Why I Love the Junior Master Gardener Program". Use thick paper, like posterboard, or construction paper. I want to remind you to take your artwork to our JMG Meeting this Thursday. All posters should be 8.5" x 11". This will be a great way to let people know more about our JMG program.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our meeting on Thursday.

Thanks,
Carol

Homework-

Wear your JMG shirts!

Wildlife gardeners- Identify at least one of the birds you see in your yard and tell about the characteristics that helped you identify it. Bring your written assignment to class.

*Remember to turn in your homework assignments, as we hope to have a celebration for those meeting the JMG Certification requirements in each club in May.

2009 Wake County

Youth Flower & Vegetable Garden Contest

Sponsored by Wake County Cooperative Extension Service and Gardeners of Wake County, Inc.

Open to all youth ages 5-19 (based on age 12/31/09). Youth with developmental delays who are unable to compete in their chronological age group may compete based upon their developmental age as indicated by parent or leader.

Contest Rules

- • Your Garden must be planted by May 15, 2009. Judging will be in Early-Mid July.
- • Make a list of your plants. Use variety names if possible. (Examples: Tomato/Big Boy, Marigold/Crackerjack)
- • Draw a garden plan showing size and location on your property.
- • Keep a record of when and where you got your seeds and plants; the dates you plant, thin, and fertilize; any problems; when you harvest veggies and how much.
- • Take photos from the start to the completion (Black & White or Color) showing your progress.

Judging Maximum points

Size of Garden	10
Number of Different Varieties	15
Record Book	20
Insect & Disease Control	10
Weed Control	10
Cultural Practices	10
Quality of Garden	15
Knowledge of Plants Used	10

*Age Group Number of Flowers or

*Your Age 12/31/09 Vegetables to Grow

5 - 8	6 or more different kinds
9 - 11	8 or more different kinds
12 - 14	10 or more different kinds
15 - 19	12 or more different kinds

PRIZES! Ages 9 to 19: 1st Place \$50 • 2nd Place \$25 • 3rd place \$15

Age 8 and Younger: Evaluation on Overall Quality.

Each Blue Ribbon Garden \$20 • Each Red Ribbon Garden \$15

**Bonus Points:
5 points for being present
at garden judging.**



Entry Form

Yes! Sign Me Up! I will plant a ... Vegetable Garden Flower Garden

Enter one category. Combination gardens judged based on the larger number of plants. It's okay to plant veggies in your flowers or flowers in your veggies.

Name _____ Birth date _____ Phone# _____

Address _____ Zip _____

E-mail Address: _____

Special Instructions: Directions to your garden are required. Please use reverse side, giving directions to your garden from a major road or landmark.

Need Help! Master Gardener volunteers are available to give advice. Check the box if you would like someone to call you or come by to see you. Please Help

Return Entry Form (by May 15, 2009) to Carol Norden, 8516 Southfield Place, Raleigh, NC 27615. E-mail cnorden@bellsouth.net and/or call 847-5462 if you need further assistance.

Announcements



NC 4H Photography contest

NCSU will begin accepting entries for the 2009 4H Photography Contest now, and will continue through Tuesday, June 9, 2009.

This contest is open to 4H youth ages 9 – 19. Entries for the 2009 contest must be postmarked NO LATER THAN June 9, 2009.

Entryforms, past winning photos, and complete rules can be found at:

<http://www.cals.ncsu.edu/agcomm/4-HPhoto/index.html>.

4H County Presentations

Presentations were canceled last month. If you were not registered to participate on the March 7 date, you may still compete and participate at District June 19. Please contact Martha Smith, 250-1094 to register and explore categories that are open.

4H horticulture weekend-

Liz Driscoll, 4-H Youth Extension Specialist at NCSU, and JMG Wildflower Leader is sponsoring a 2-day event at NCSU. Activities include workshops, fieldtrips, and the super "Horticulture Connections" jeopardy game led by our own National Champion Dakota Starr. This is open to youth ages 9 – 18.

Please e-mail Liz Driscoll <liz_driscoll@ncsu.edu> to let her know that you are participating.

4H Plant ID Contest (date coming soon)

Check out the Purdue University reference and study list to prepare for this perennial favorite:

<http://hort.purdue.edu/ext/senior/senior.htm>

Two weeks until the plant sale!

Our **Annual Plant Sale** will be held **April 17, 18, and 19**, at the State Fairgrounds, inside Gate 6 (Flower Show Area). Plants will be delivered on Thursday morning 4/16. The sale hours on Friday and Saturday will be 8 a.m. - 6 p.m., and Sunday afternoon 12:30 - 5 p.m. We'll be offering Camellias, Daphnes, 'Miss Kim' Lilacs, Spireas, Lady Banks Roses, Heirloom Tomatoes, and some of our members are working on their own entrepreneurial project and will have plants they've propagated for sale.

Remember that funds for our program curriculum and other expenses come exclusively from dollars we raise. So, get involved and help keep the program operational!

If you can help with the sale, please contact: Carol S. Norden - 919.847.5462, or cnorden@bellsouth.net, or Peter Zierz - pzierz@nc.rr.com

Toxic Free NC

The [ToxicFreeNC.Org](http://www.toxicfreenc.org) outlines alternatives to common household and garden pesticides. The web site offers fact sheets on common problems like ants, fire ants etc.

<http://www.toxicfreenc.org/index.html>

JMG Certification

Plans are underway for students having met all requirements for JMG certification in their club's curriculum to be recognized at our May meeting. Remember that the requirements are different for each club's curriculum. Each month the leaders present a different lesson and give an assignment for students to complete and return at the next meeting. If you have any questions about this, please talk with your club leaders. If you failed to complete one month's assignment, it may be possible for you to make that one up but you'll need to talk with your leaders.

Did you know...

- There are more than 700 species of butterflies are found in North America.
- Adult butterflies range in size from the half-inch pigmy blue found in southern California to the giant female Queen Alexandra's birdwing of New Guinea, which measures about 10 inches from wing tip to wing tip.
- Butterfly tarsi or "feet" possess a sense similar to taste. Contact with sweet liquids such as nectar causes the proboscis to uncoil.



Plants that accommodate all stages of the insect life cycle will help bring butterflies to your yard. Also, remember to refrain from using insecticide products in or near the butterfly garden.

See the National Wildlife Federation website for more information:
<http://www.nwf.org/gardenforwildlife/butterflies.cfm>