

Sechelt Garden Club

Newsletter February 2019



Happy Valentine's Day

Fund Raisers

Bluecrop Blueberry bushes

Sechelt Garden Club is planning to sell Bluecrop Blueberry bushes for **\$9 per bush** to raise money for our club.

The Blueberry bushes are in 1 gallon pots, 18-24 inches tall; they can be grown in containers on a deck or balcony. **Call Pat Kolterman before Feb 21** to indicate your interest and how many you would like to buy. Those who have already indicated interest (at our last General meeting) do not need to contact Pat.

Her contact information is:

Phone: 604-399-8654

Email: patko@hotmail.ca



Lets make some money!!

Mini Plant Sale coming in April

Pot up a plant or two from your garden (when our weather turns more spring like) or a favourite house plant. Preference for use in potting is a one gallon container if it is a plant from your garden.

The plant sale will be held during our April 29th general meeting ; it is always a great way to add new plants to your garden or to liven up your deck or balcony.



More details will be forthcoming at our February 25th meeting and subsequent newsletters.

Another great money maker

Next Meeting

Monday, February 25, 2019

at the Seaside Centre,
5790 Teredo Street

@ 7:00 pm

Please wear your name tag, and bring your cup for coffee or tea.



Speaker: Paddy Wales

Topic: Plan your Resilient Garden in Changing Times

Paddy Wales is the author of Journeys Through the Garden (Whitecap). Her images and written articles appear in national and international publications including Gardening Life, Canadian Gardening, House & Home, Style at Home, Fine Gardening, Chatelaine, the New Twelve-Month Gardener, and many more. Paddy is a very active and integral part of the Sunshine Coast Botanical Garden, where she is an instructor and frequent speaker.

In this presentation, Paddy will speak about gardening in drought conditions, which we are most likely to experience again this summer.





Cheryl Topping—Pruning 101

Our speaker for January was Cheryl Topping, who is a Certified Arborist, and the Manager of the Sunshine Coast Nursery. So she definitely knows how to prune trees and shrubs. Cheryl shared her extensive knowledge and experience at our meeting. Cheryl cautioned us to be sure to wear safety glasses when pruning. Some of the tips she provided included:

- Pruning in winter includes using bigger cuts to get the shape and size of the plant to where you want it.
- Summer pruning means smaller cuts once the shape of the tree/bush is achieved and you just want to keep the shape.
- Use a drywall sanding sponge to clean tools, machine oil or vegetable oil to keep tools oiled.
- Rubbing alcohol can be used to disinfect tools if you are pruning more than one plant and there is concern one plant is infected. Cheryl has a small spray bottle she uses on her tools when she is on the job.
- She suggests you can prune peach, cherry and apple trees in summer if the shape you want is there.
- Prune above the buds of a Hydrangea when pruning.

Cheryl did demonstrate pruning techniques on plants she brought to the meeting. Thank you Cheryl!



Dormant Spraying

The spray combines horticulture oil and lime sulphur to kill overwintering insects— scale and mites, insect eggs, and diseases on certain hardy landscape plants.

Dormant oil and lime sulphur are best applied to fruit trees, roses, ornamental shrubs (highbush cranberry and European snowball), evergreens (cedars, green junipers, and euonymus), and trees (hawthorn, crab apple, and honey locust).

Do not use a dormant spray on beech, butternut, Colorado blue spruce, hickory, holly, sugar maple, Japanese maple, or walnut.

Take a look at this video for application tips:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= Qcj12HUscU>

Sharing Table

Our Sharing Table welcomes plants, gardening tools, books, containers, and any useful garden item that you would like to share and sell at the meeting.

Do put your name on your items and label the plants you bring please. Anything remaining at the end of the meeting will go home with their owners as we do not have storage.

Thank you for your wonderful support; the Sharing Table does very well at helping to raise funds for our Club.

Car Pooling

Is driving at night an issue for you? Would you like to share a ride to attend our Garden Club meetings?

Please contact Carol at corbetc2017@gmail.com to ask about the possibility. Or if your Garden Club friend/neighbour is driving to the meeting, ask to ride along. It is always great to have company.



**February To Do Lists from
The Natural Gardener—Bob Tuckey**



February has brought with it winter for the Sunshine Coast. If you got into the garden in January, you are probably feeling happy to have done so! Here are some tips for our coldest month this winter.

Lift and divide perennials as long as the ground isn't frozen.

- In case of a late cold spell watch that your pots don't freeze and then collect water on top.
- Start seeds of Statice, Dusty Miller, Pinks, Ornamental Peppers, Lobelia, Geranium, Gerbera, Heliotrope, & Petunia etc.
- Increase light and water to geraniums and fuchsias that were brought indoors and went dormant.
- Start seeds of lettuce, spinach, radishes and corn in cold frames.
- Start tomato seeds indoors. (Some people wait until March).
- Bring in potted bulbs of hyacinths, tulips and daffodils for a splash of early spring colour.
- Prune back miscanthus and pennisetum grasses to about 1 foot from the base.
- Prune fruit trees.
- Prune winter flowering shrubs and vines right after flowering.
- Prune roses when forsythia is blooming.
- Apply dormant spray to fruit trees, roses and deciduous shrubs and trees.
- Plant new trees and shrubs as long as the ground isn't frozen.
- Watch out for aphids. If you find any either squish them or spray with Safers soap.

Board Members

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Please check out our website for helpful gardening tips.

[Gardening Tips and Information](#)



**More information about the club can be found at:
www.secheltgardenclub.com**

For more information on volunteering call Carol Corbet @ 778 458-2287