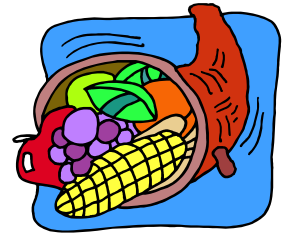




# Master Gardener Thymes

[www.lakelandsmastergardener.org](http://www.lakelandsmastergardener.org)

November 2008



**ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE SECOND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH, unless otherwise noted. PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!!!!!!**

## **DUES ARE DUE**

*Submitted by Sandy Stachurski*

Yes, we know it is early. Yes, this is a change. But, **all dues for 2009 will need to be paid in full before December 31, 2008.** The change has come so we will be able to have the directory completed and distributed by January 31, 2009. In the past, we haven't been able to have all dues paid and complete the directory until the first quarter is over which gives us limited time to actually use the information. **Dues can be paid to Louise Powell at the general meeting or mail your dues to her at: 107 Crestview Drive, Greenwood, SC 29649.**

If you are in the new class, your tuition covers dues for 2008, but you will be responsible to pay the 2009 dues.

Please keep in mind, if your dues are not paid by the **December 31, 2008 deadline** your name will not appear in the directory, nor will you receive any newsletters. We thank you in advance for adapting to this change

<b>59 years old and under</b>	<b>\$15.00</b>
<b>60+ years old</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>
<b>married couples 59 and under</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>
<b>married couples 60+</b>	<b>\$15.00</b>
<b>Lifetime Membership</b>	<b>\$125.00</b>

**November 13th meeting:** to be announced via e-mail

## **WE NEED YOUR HELP**

We still don't have a Vice-President for next year. According to our By-Laws, the Vice-President will serve a 3-year term, with the first year as Vice-President, the second year as President, and the third year as Past President. The Vice-President will preside at meetings in the absence of the President. Don't be shy, volunteer today. If you are interested in helping in this capacity, please contact Sandy Stachurski at [drglenn7@embarqmail.com](mailto:drglenn7@embarqmail.com) or give her a call at 229-7444 (office), 227-2769 (home).

## **Hours and Miles**

Traveling to California is an exciting adventure the Halsey's are looking forward in the month of December. We not only will visit with family and friends throughout the state, but will also take in the sights of Napa valley and Lake Tahoe. Hours and mileage will need to be sent in early, **please send in your hours and miles by December 1<sup>st</sup>**, so I can turn in an accurate report of all time, energy, and travel that has been kindly exerted in our communities. Thank you to all in advance for your prompt response to this important and timely matter!

Linda Halsey  
P.O. Box 82  
Hodges, SC 29653  
374-7253  
[halseyfarm@gogenesis.com](mailto:halseyfarm@gogenesis.com)

**Lakelands Master Gardener Class of  
2008**

**Interns**

**Mentors**

**Keelie Brewer**  
**Yvonne Combs**  
**Richard Elrod**  
**Antonio Hackett**  
**Vickie Hedden**  
**Katherine Langley**  
**Patti Larson**  
**David May**  
**Kappy May**  
**Ken McDade**  
**Jimmy McInville**  
**Melody McInville**  
**Mille Parnell**

**Nancy Collin**  
**Ginny Wilson**  
**Sandy Stachurski**  
**Sandy Stachurski**  
**Julee Marshall**  
**Jean Anderson**  
**Mary Van Ellenberg**  
**SuSu Wallace**  
**SuSu Wallace**  
**Sharon Alvarez**  
**April Prater**  
**Peggy Ticehurst**  
**Stuart Menaker**

*For those mentors who haven't contacted your intern, or who, like me, haven't contacted them lately, remember they may need encouragement.*

**J.**

**Lakelands Master Gardener Association  
2009 Committee Roster**

**Community Projects**

**Board Liaison** – Sandy Stachurski  
**Chair** -Chris Snipes  
Evelyn Irwin  
Sandra Johnson

**Education**

**Board Liaison** – Julee Marshall  
**Chair** - **AVAILABLE**  
Donna Boozer  
Nancy Collin  
Linda Halsey  
Peggy Ticehurst  
Ginny Wilson

**Fundraising**

**Board Liaison** – Louise Powell  
**Chair** – John Wham  
Paul Drew  
Gail Gregory  
Kathleen Kapsalis  
Ann Mendelsen  
Chris Moffitt

**Membership**

**Board Liaison** – Susu Wallace  
**Chair** – Dianne Shubert  
Lynn Bornemann  
Mike Brown  
Glennis Cannon  
Frankie Fisher  
Beth Krumwiede  
Joyce Shelton  
Donna Wilson (new e-mail person)

**Newsletter**

**Board Liaison** – Louise Powell  
**Chair** -Jean Anderson  
Julee Marshall – Mailing Newsletters  
All Master Gardeners

**Phone Committee**

**Chair** - **AVAILABLE**  
Christine Moffitt  
Dianne Shubert

**Programs and Speakers**

**Board Liaison** – Susu Wallace  
**Chair** -Cathy Swindell  
John Babb  
Margaret Hines  
Pat Johnson  
Rebecca McClain  
Sue Moore  
Stuart Menaker

**Public Relations**

**Board Liaison** - Sandy Stachurski  
**Chair**- Carol Scales  
Debbie Ashley  
Sandra Johnson  
Judy Sieckman

**Social Activities**

**Board Liaison** – Jane Price  
**Chair** - **AVAILABLE**  
Kris Cheeseman  
Evie Galloway  
Gail Murph  
Peggy Rutland

**Website**

**Board Liaison** – Julee Marshall  
**Chair** -Chuck Bender  
Vincent Plotczyk

# 87 Plants That Deer Won't Devour

Dr. Mark Bridgen

Conclusion of plant list

## Perennials

Melissa officinalis var. Aurea	Lemon balm
Mentha sp.	Mint
Narcissus sp. and hybrids	Daffodil
Nepeta x faassenii	Catmint
Nepeta mussinii	Catnip
Opuntia humifusa	Prickly pear cactus
Origanum vulgare (syn. marjorana)	Oregano;marjoram
Pachysandra procumbens	Allegheny spurge
Pachysandra terminalis	Pachysandra
Paeonia hybrids	Chinese peony
Perovskia atriplicifolia	Russian sage
Petasites japonicus	Japanese butterbur
Podophyllum peltatum	May apple
Rheum rhabarbarum	Rhubarb
Ruta graveolens	Rue
Salvia officinalis	Sage (culinary)
Santolina chamaecyparissus	Lavender cotton
Santolina virens	Green lavender cotton
Stachys byzantina	Lamb's ear
Teucrium chamaedrys	Germander
Thymus sp.	Thyme
Verbascum olympicum	Mullein
Vinca minor	Periwinkle

## Woody Perennial

Berberis thunbergii	Japanese barberry
Buddleia davidii	Butterfly bush
Buxus microphylla	Boxwood
Juniperus communis	Common juniper
Juniperus horizontalis	Creeping juniper
Juniperus procumbens 'Nana'	'Nana' Japanese juniper
Leucothoe fontanesiana	Drooping leucothoe
x Mahoberberis	Dart's treasure
Mahonia bealei	Leatherleaf grapeholly
Myrica pensylvanica	Northern bayberry
Osmanthus heterophyllus 'Variegatus' 'Variegatus'	variegated false holly
Paeonia suffruticosa	Tree peony
Picea sp.	Spruce
Picea abies	Norway spruce

Picea glauca  
Picea pungens var. glauca

Pieris japonica

Platanus occidentalis  
Potentilla fruticosa  
Skimmia japonica

White spruce  
Colorado blue spruce  
Japanese andromeda  
American sycamore  
Cinquefoil  
Skimmia



**"New Frontiers" in horticulture and gardening —  
March 22-26, 2009**

*Submitted by Vincent Plotczyk*

The Las Vegas International Master Gardener Conference will address issues that gardeners everywhere face -- water conservation, proper plant selection, soil enrichment, pest control -- while also presenting new concepts in environmental stewardship and "green" technologies. Since what is old has become new again, we will also explore historical and traditional plants and methods.

For more info, go to <http://www.unce.unr.edu/imgc>

## SAVING WATER PAYS

Mark Hajost

Exccel Greenhouse Systems, Inc.

[exccel@earthlink.net](mailto:exccel@earthlink.net)

864-388-0380

Local businessperson Mark Hajost, owner of Exccel Greenhouse Systems in Greenwood and a Lakelands Master Gardener has installed three water-saving devices in his home. The horticultural industry in which he markets his products has endured nearly 3 years of drought. The drought

and restricted water usage in some areas has seriously affected the sale of plant materials and, as a result, curtailed greenhouse expansions and additions. One of his trade publications recently featured an article highlighting an “on-demand hot water circulating pump.”

During a recent remodeling project of his 17-year-old residence and its master bath, he installed a high-performance commode, a low-flow showerhead and the high-tech “on-demand hot water circulating pump”.

The pump differs from traditional circulating pumps in that it only works when required or commanded to do so through a remote control switch in the kitchen or a switch in the bathroom. The pump was installed as recommended at the furthest faucet from the hot water tank, in this case about 70'. When activated by the homeowner, the pump draws the water out of the hot water lines into the cold water lines. It stops pumping when the hot water reaches the pump via a thermal switch and, voilà, virtually instant hot water.

Due to a flaw in the installation of the plumbing when the Hajosts initially built the house, they would have to wait up to 4 minutes for the hot water to reach the shower or master bath sinks. This wait translated to about 3 to 5 gallons of water wasted every time they took a shower. In the heat of the summer, working around the house on weekends, multiple showers were the norm.

The results of installing the water-saving devices have been surprising — and gratifying. For the 4-month period of June, July, August and September 2008, the two-person Hajost family has averaged about 625 cubic feet of water per month. Based on their September bill, the Hajosts were paying approximately \$.04 per cubic foot of water. According to the Internet, one cubic foot of water equals approximately 7.5 gallons of water or, in this case, about 4,687 gallons of water per month. This is a dramatic reduction of more than 50% from the average monthly usage for the same period for 2006 and 2007 of 1,262 cubic feet of water per month or 9,465 gallons of water — a potential annual savings of about \$300 per year in current water costs alone, while reducing the average yearly water consumption by about 57,000 gallons of water. Other benefits not calculated in

the savings are reduced water heating expense, wear and tear on the septic system, and time saved by not waiting for the hot water. Hajost estimates that the savings on the reduced water usage alone will pay for the installed devices in about 3.5 years.

## **Hidden Heartaches**

*Submitted by James Hodges*

One of my least favorite consultations is with homeowners or business owners with serious tree problems on trees they planted themselves that have 5, 10, 15 or more years in the ground. Many times, seemingly healthy, trees suddenly go south because of hidden problems and past mistakes.

Most expectations are that after the initiation establishment phase, young trees produce their best landscape value. Unfortunately, this is not always the case when past hidden mistakes are discovered with a little probing around the tree roots.

Our Master Gardener classes have always stressed the need to cut circling roots and plant trees at the right depth, but recent research findings are that; especially in heavy clay soils, we should probably plant our large landscape trees 1-2 inches above grade to avoid settling root balls that result in buried roots.

In addition to cutting the root ball to slice circling roots on the sides and bottom of container plants, the stem should be examined to find the first emerging roots from the stem. Circling roots on the top of the root ball need to be cut and the top root should be above the soil line when planted.

The use of good mulches such as pine and hardwood bark have been generally very beneficial in landscape planting, but a recent phenomenon has emerged when excess mulch is used on deep planted young trees. New roots push their way into the loose mulch close to the tree trunk and spread in every direction. Some cross the young stem and create their own version of circling roots as they grow in size and the young tree stem quickly adds diameter growth. Volcano mulched trees “6-12 inches of mulch” piled up against a tree trunk is an invitation to problem circling roots. Our heavy clay soils restrict normal rooting away from the stem so roots in the mulch grow even faster.

I have examined trees that grew quickly for many years; then suddenly began to decline and die in a few years for no above ground observable reason. The trees did not have to be deep planted for this to occur when heavy mulches were used for years around the stems. Raking back the mulch on dead or declining trees reveal tree trunks that were girdled by now large circling roots.



Today's tree planting and management recommendations have changed from just a few years ago to avoid problems in the future. Past recommendations to dig a hole 2-5 times the diameter of the root ball hasn't changed. The importance of this extra soil disturbance is even clearer now that observed root problems are greater if new root growth is strongly restricted by undisturbed soil around a small planting hole. Here are several distinct changes in planting practices recommendations:

Plant root balls 1-2 inches higher than grade to allow for settling.

Find the first root and root flare created at this point and use this as the top of the root ball. If necessary, remove soil or planting mix to reveal this root and cut any small circling root on top of the ball. Cut circling roots in the side and bottom of the ball as always.

Mulch lightly!! Don't add mulch or soil to the top of the planted root ball. Use 2-3 inches of mulch around the tree and use mulch to cover the exposed 1-2 inches of root ball, but stop at that point. A correctly mulched tree should have a doughnut hole in the mulch at the tree stem that will reduce the likelihood of circling roots in the future which matches the root ball size.

Tree problems with circling roots have drastically increased where heavy mulches are constantly piled up against the tree trunk. We should change our mulching methods and encourage others too so too. "Less depth and doughnut shaped" is much less likely to cause girdling root problems. Using 2-4 inches of mulch can save us money too.

### **Budget Summary for September**

Balance as of 7/29	\$9,130.27
Income	\$195.00
Expenses	\$31.42
Balance as of 9/8	\$9293.85

**For more information contact the club treasurer, Louise Powell at 223-9393**

### **Garden Quotes**

Men are like plants--they never grow happily unless they are well cultivated.

**Charles-Louis de Secondat Montesquieu 1721**

Who has learned to garden who did not at the same time learn to be patient?

**H. L. V. Fletcher 1949**

If one were as good a gardener in practice as one is in theory, what a garden would one create!

**V. Sackville-West 1937**

Gardening is the slowest of the performing arts.

**Anonymous**

There is material enough in a single flower for the ornament of a score of cathedrals.

**John Ruskin 1851**

Love your neighbor, yet pull not down your hedge.

**George Herbert 1640**

I've noticed something about gardening. You set out to do one thing and pretty soon you're doing something else, which leads to some other thing and so on. By the end of the day, you look at the shovel stuck in the half-dug rose bed and wonder what on earth you've been doing.

**Anne Raver 1995**

*Happy  
Thanksgiving!!!*

**Lakelands Master Gardeners  
PO Box 49632  
Greenwood, SC 29648**