

## Marshall Area Garden Club

# GARDEN CLIPPINGS



### MAGC OFFICERS 2015

**PRESIDENT:**  
Natalie Rector

**1<sup>st</sup> VP's of PROGRAMS:**  
Pam Munsie  
Janet Schoenmeyer

**2<sup>nd</sup> VP of MEMBERSHIP:**  
Lucy Overhiser

**RECORDING SECRETARY:**  
Shirley Clutter

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:**  
Kathy Fryar

**TREASURER:**  
Ann Rhodes

With the beginning of 2016 will come the usual New Year Resolutions of losing 10 pounds, exercising or eating healthy. But how long will our good intentions last?

How about if you write down 12 things that could be done to help the environment and stick that list to the inside of your kitchen cupboard door? Then every couple of days read them off and put a mark beside the ones you have accomplished. If you do it more than once, add another mark. Try to get your entire family in the program.

Some suggestions: Don't run water when you brush your teeth. Use the grocery tote bags that are riding around in your trunk. Shut off lights when no one is in a room. Recycle cardboard, glass, cans, papers and table scraps. Bet everyone can come up with lots more!!! Then in May, you can bring your list to our monthly meeting and show what you have done to help out old Mother Earth!

MAGC member and Recording Secretary, **Shirley Clutter**

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articles. Garden Clippings is  
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## Styrofoam Collection

Styrofoam called polystyrene will be collected Saturday, January 9, from 9 to noon at the City of Battle Creek, Department of Public Works, 150 S. Kendall St. Typically this type of styrofoam has a #6 embossed on it and is used to produce foam cups, plates and packing material. Foam peanuts and construction types of foam cannot be collected. Dirty material will not be accepted.

Environmental Chairman, **Mick Woods**

## January 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting

Start the new year off by attending our first 2016 meeting. Speaker for the evening is Marshall High School graduate, **Annette (Segar) Shreve**. Annette is also a graduate of MSU and is an employee of the Michigan Farmers Association. Many of us patronize Marshall's Farmer's Market, but this Michigan agency benefits many Michiganians throughout the state. Come learn what programs and events this non-profit agency provides to all of Michigan's citizens.

Social Time 6:30pm, Program 7:00 pm,  
Business Meeting 8:15pm.

1<sup>st</sup> VP's of Programs, **Pam Munsie** and  
**Janet Schoenmeyer**



On December 28, **President Obama** signed into law a bill phasing out the manufacture of facewash, toothpaste and shampoo containing plastic microbeads by July 1, 2017 and the sale of such beauty products by July 1, 2018. The Microbead Free Waters Act, introduced by **Reps. Frank Pallone** (D-N.J.) and **Fred Upton** (R-Mich.), is an important step toward addressing the global crisis of micro-plastic pollution. Plastic microbeads, designed to be washed down the drain and too small to be reliably captured by wastewater treatment facilities, pollute lakes, rivers and oceans. They concentrate toxins such as pesticides and flame retardants on their surface, which may then transfer to the tissue of fish that mistake microbeads for food.

## Say "NO" to Feeding Deer

Now that we are finally experiencing normal Michigan winter temperatures, some misinformed Marshallites will start feeding the deer that are living within the city boundaries. Here are some facts from Michigan's Dept. of Natural Resources, to explain why this is a misguided practice.

In the fall, deer grow a specially designed winter coat and begin to store fat. Their winter coat helps them retain body heat, thus reducing energy demands to stay warm. The fat reserve provides nutrition over winter. In addition, deer decrease their metabolic rate during the winter, which reduces food requirements to approximately one half of what they need in the summer.

Deer migrate to wintering habitat complexes, which are areas that provide thermal cover and sufficient natural food. Deer substantially reduce their activity in these wintering complexes; reduced movement requires less energy.

Congregating deer increases the potential of disease transmission such as Bovine TB and Chronic Waste Disease. Also, any vegetation close to the artificial feeding site will also be eaten by the deer, leaving other wildlife species without adequate food. Deer do not share food, so the young, old, weak, and smaller deer will be denied access.

And finally, deer are also a danger to us and themselves when they cross our streets, in search of human handouts. All these adaptations: winter coat, fat storage, reduced metabolism, thermal cover, and sedentary behavior, help deer survive severe winters without human "help."

## MAGC Helpers

In spite of just a few MAGC members volunteering to clean up the plant debris at two of our club projects, much was accomplished. Fountain Circle Flower Chairman **Sharon Linklater** single handedly cleaned up and tore out the annuals around the circle on October 24.

Carver Park Chairman, **Tom Taft**, along with **Steve Rhodes**, **Mick Woods** and **Janet Schoenmeyer**, cleaned up the plant debris at Carver Park on the same day.



## MAGC Member Updates

MAGC members, **Richard Williams**, **Claudia Edwards-Houser**, **Ellen Thornton**, **Brenda Ulrey**, and **Marlene Glotfelty** were featured in the December 26 issue of the Marshall AdVisor accompanied with the designs they created for the MAGC November meeting.

Members **Ellen Thornton**, **Pam Munsie**, **Marlene Glotfelty** and **Janet Schoenmeyer** showed support for the Holland Garden Club by attending its December 3<sup>rd</sup> Christmas Walk featuring four homes. Members of the Holland Club contributed beautiful arrangements throughout the featured homes. The tour also included a tea featuring sweet and savory appetizers.



## Paper Whites

gardeners receive or purchase white narcissus during the Holiday season. Everyone loves the promise of spring the flowers bring, but don't appreciate the long stems that appear and cause the flowers to fall over the rim of the container.

Once the bulbs sport green shoots at the tips about 1-2 inches tall, replace the original water in the pot with a mixture of 1 part gin or vodka to 7 parts water. The mixture needs to contain 4 to 6 percent alcohol. Alcohol at this strength interferes with water uptake, which affects stem growth but not flowering. Continue to supply the paper whites with this solution in the same way you were watering earlier, adding more whenever needed. The results will be stems that are that are one-third shorter but three times happier.



## Input Welcomed

West End Garden Chairman, **Marlene Glotfelty**, MAGC Maintenance Gardener, **Gordon Toyzan**, **Natalie Rector** and **Janet Schoenmeyer** will be meeting in January to discuss possible remodeling of the six gardens within the Michigan Ave. median across from McDonald's. Please inform Marlene if you have some suggestions for new plant material or would like to be present when the group sets a date and meets to discuss different options. Marlene's phone number: 781-7897.



## Welcome to my Garden Tour Update

Happy New Year to everyone!

As we start the year 2016, your Garden Tour committee needs help. As of this writing, **we still only have one garden for the July 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016 tour.** The Garden Tour committee will be meeting the evening of January 12th, so please let us know if you are willing to have your garden on tour or if you are willing to contact someone to be on tour.

Also, **we still do not have any one who has volunteered to serve on the committee in the capacity of "Volunteer Coordinator."** This position involves getting club members and friends to sign up for the host times in each of the gardens. We have a template for this and lists of past volunteers, so let us know if this is a position you could fill.

Finally, this is the last year for us to serve as your Garden Tour chairs. **We need to have one or two club members step in this year to help us chair the 2016 tour so we can help you get ready to chair the 2017 tour.** This is a position that is very helpful to the club and easy to do given all of the records and procedures outlined from previous years.

Co-Chairmen, **Steve and Ann Rhodes**