



Trent Woods Garden Club

November 2025

Hi Y'all!

I am going to start my newsletter with a warning! Maybe I've been lucky, or just late to the world of safety when it comes to gardening. 2 weeks ago, I was trimming leaves from my gladiolas. I bent down quickly to reach the leaves close to the dirt.

Unfortunately, and completely out of my vision range, was an old very stiff stem from where I had cut off gladiolas when they bloomed. So, of course, the stiff, mildewed stem went right into my left eye! I had sunglasses on but took them off! It felt like my eye had been gouged out. I screamed for Doug who was working in the front yard. I know that any of my neighbors who were home thought I was crazy! Doug has already bought me safety goggles to wear. It has been 2 weeks, and I still can't see completely. So, if I look like I'm straining to see, I am!

We have many events coming up in November and December! Our amaryllis bulb fundraiser has begun, so please share with your family and friends. All the money raised goes to support our good works. The bulbs are large and hardy, and they make a great hostess gift. Karen Powers will be our speaker this month, she will be talking about the Community Garden v.1! This is a large and growing project that could really use volunteers on a regular basis.

Coming up next month, Maureen Loomer is adding one more for wreath our monthly program. She will be providing a fresh wreath for you to decorate for the holidays and donate to the organization of your choice. TWGC also has a Gold Star Families Marker dedication at 11am on December 10th at the Clark's Road Rest Area. Volunteers and attendees are needed, please see Paula Hartman for details. December is also the Trent Woods Christmas Parade, if you have a convertible car you would like to drive in the parade, please let me know!

Raye Lynn Longhini, President TWGC

Member of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

And

Garden Clubs of North Carolina, Inc.

TWGC Executive Board 2025-2027

Raye Lynn Longhini

President

1st Vice President, Deb Tallman

2nd Vice President, Maureen Loomer

Recording Secretary, Annette Daugherty

Treasurer, Janet Jonah

Corresponding Secretary, Marcia Sproul

Historian, Karen Kimball

A heartfelt Thank You to all that have served TWGC so faithfully.

TWGC 2024-2025 Standing Chairs

Awards Chair-Paula Hartman – paulamhartman1947@gmail.com 252-670-3233

Beautification and Civic Development Chair- Sue Wyatt – swyatt@suddenlink.net
252-636-0278

Communications Chair-Deb Tallman - deborah_t_07760@yahoo.com 732-539-8846

Environmental Concerns/Conservation Chair- Maureen Loomer – bee27534@aol.com
252- 638-5502

Finance Chair– Janet Jonah-janet.jonah1@gmail.com-443-981-9307

Floral Design Chair – Ann Simpson simpsonann@suddenlink.net

Fundraising Chairs– Karen Powers-kpowers913@gmail.com 285-797-8209 and
Giga Smith –gigasmith57@gmail.com 252-876-5084

Garden Therapy Chair- Karen Kimball Karenkimball1@gmail.com 603-438-1839

Horticulture Chair-Maureen Loomer– bee27534@aol.com 252-638-5502

Hospitality/Liaison with New Bern Golf & Country Club Chair- Judy Boyd –
judysboyd@embarqmail.com 252-638-6597

Memorials Chair- Frances Eder – minfrances@gmail.com 252-634-4114

Parliamentarian/By-Laws Chair-Deb Tallman - deborah_t_07760@yahoo.com
732-539-8846

Photographer Chair-Kathleen Marty - martykathleen558@gmail.com 207-350-6031

Seasonal Design Chair—Mary Florence maryflorence863@gmail.com

Scholarship, Sharon D. Quill Chair-Karen Powers – kpowers913@gmail.com
585-797-8209

Service Recognition Award Chair– Deb Tallman - deborah_t_07760@yahoo.com
732-539-8846

Yearbook Chair-Rhona Beadle - rhonab451@gmail.com 862-266-7888

Youth Gardeners Chair– Karen Powers kpowers913@gmail.com

Trent Woods Garden Club Members' Meeting

November 13, 2025

New Bern Golf & Country Club

4301 Country Club Road, New Bern, NC 28562

10:00 am – Coffee and Social 10:30 – Meeting and Program

12 Noon – Lunch

Program

*“Welcome to My Project...
A Community Vegetable Garden”*

Dr. Karen Powers will use photographs for discuss the development of an urban youth-targeted community garden on donated land, with sponsor and volunteer recruitment

Presented by
Karen Powers, MD
Youth Gardeners Committee Chair

Menu

1. Davis Cup Salad-Crisp Romaine lettuce with grilled chicken breast, craisins, candied walnuts, strawberries and bleu cheese crumbles
2. Grilled 6 ounce culotte steak- sauce forrestier, whipped potatoes with chef's choice of vegetable

Please contact Judy Boyd to make a reservation by
Tuesday November 11th and indicate your choice to

judysboyd@embarqmail.com

Lunch cost \$25. due before start of meeting.

Meeting only \$10.

Seasonal Design October 2025
by Janet Jonas and Christine Bryon



Bank of the Arts

Chair: Ann Hall annghall77@gmail.com (919) 418-7494

November 14, 2025	Studio Tours and David English Nature Oils	Gail McLamb
December 12, 2025	David English Nature Oils	Debbie Durham

Seasonal Design

Chair: Mary Florence maryflorence863@gmail.com (252) 633-2851

Seasonal Design 2025-2026

November- Annette Daugherty

December- Gale Evancho

January- Susan Forgione

February- Rhona Beadle

March- Jane Halweg

April- Karen Kimball

May- Deb Tallman

Bank of the Arts October 2025

“Mums the Word”

arrangement by Deb Tallman

A trio of multi colored Mums with Queens Ann’s lace in striped pumpkins.



November Birthdays

Raye Lynn Longhini 11/9

Jan Cahoon 11/27

If you haven't already, please contact Deb Tallman with the Month and Day of your birthday!

Deborah_t_07760@yahoo.com

Member Participation Needed For Our December Meeting Event: *A Festival of Wreaths!*

What:

- We need 5-6 teams to each decorate a natural evergreen wreath to be provided by TWGC. Your Program Chair will be responsible for getting your wreath to someone on your team!
- Each team will decide on a theme for their wreath, and decorate it using any donated materials they like (ornaments, dried/artificial flowers, feathers, ribbon, lace, sea shells, seeds, dried fruit, etc.).
- This is meant to be a chance for creativity. Each team should decide on their wreath's theme and content BEFORE the meeting. The wreath can be assembled before or at the meeting.
- Each team (or representative) will present their wreath at the December General Meeting on December 11, 2025. **THE WREATHS WILL BE DONATED TO NURSING HOMES OR OTHER RECIPIENTS SELECTED BY THEIR CREATORS!**

A team can be any size (even ONE!), but time and budget limit us to no more than 6 wreaths.

Why:

This event is inspired by the Festival of Trees events many charities use to celebrate the season and to raise funds. For TWGC, this event will support our fellowship and community service missions. This is also in answer to feedback from many members asking for programs allowing "hands-on" activities.

How:

First come is first served! To reserve a wreath for your team, sign the Team List by the November meeting or contact Maureen Loomer (bee27534@aol.com). Form your team and start planning.

Want to participate, but not create a wreath? How about DONATING ornaments, materials, suggestions for themes, or nominate recipients?? Contact Maureen!!

Horticulture and Environmental Concerns November 2025

by Maureen Loomer

"Peering from some high window, at the gold of November sunset and feeling that if day has to become night, this is a beautiful way." — E. E. Cummings, American poet, painter, essayist, author, and playwright.

Disappointed as we all were that coastal flooding forced New Bern to cancel MumFest, we were grateful to be spared the kind of devastation that western NC suffered only one year ago. Their recovery continues and we keep them in our thoughts. Speaking of gratitude, I was pleased to represent TWGC's Beautification Committee at the October Town Board meeting by thanking Rich Schreiber for his assistance with our efforts. Our Holiday Flower Power Fund Raiser is underway! If you can, I hope you will support the club by making a purchase. And keep the Master Gardener's Bulb Sale in mind for bulbs to plant now for spring/summer display!

November Birthday Flowers. Although The Old Farmer's Almanac only names chrysanthemums as this month's birthday flower, other sites also name peonies. Both plants trace their origins to Asia and can be found in art and literature dating back over 4,000 years. Both are rich in folklore that attaches different meanings to their different colors. Easy to grow? Well, not so much alike. I have had my ego bruised by more than one attempt to grow peonies. But that's another story, for another time.

Garden Tasks for Fall. The New Bern/Trent Woods coastal plain location (Plant Hardiness Zone 8B) gives us two perennial planting seasons. Our first frost can occur around the first week of November, but NOW is a great time to put in new trees and shrubs because, with summer heat past, and at least several weeks before our average hard freeze, new plantings have plenty of time for root system development.

Continued.

If you love a plant that will give you pollinator-loving flowers in spring and spectacular leaf color in fall, look no further than Oakleaf Hydrangea. Other of my native favorites are American Beautyberry and Carolina Allspice. Cool weather herbs, garlic, and greens can also do well <https://legacyfarmsandranchesnc.com/blog/planting-a-fall-vegetable-garden-in-nc>

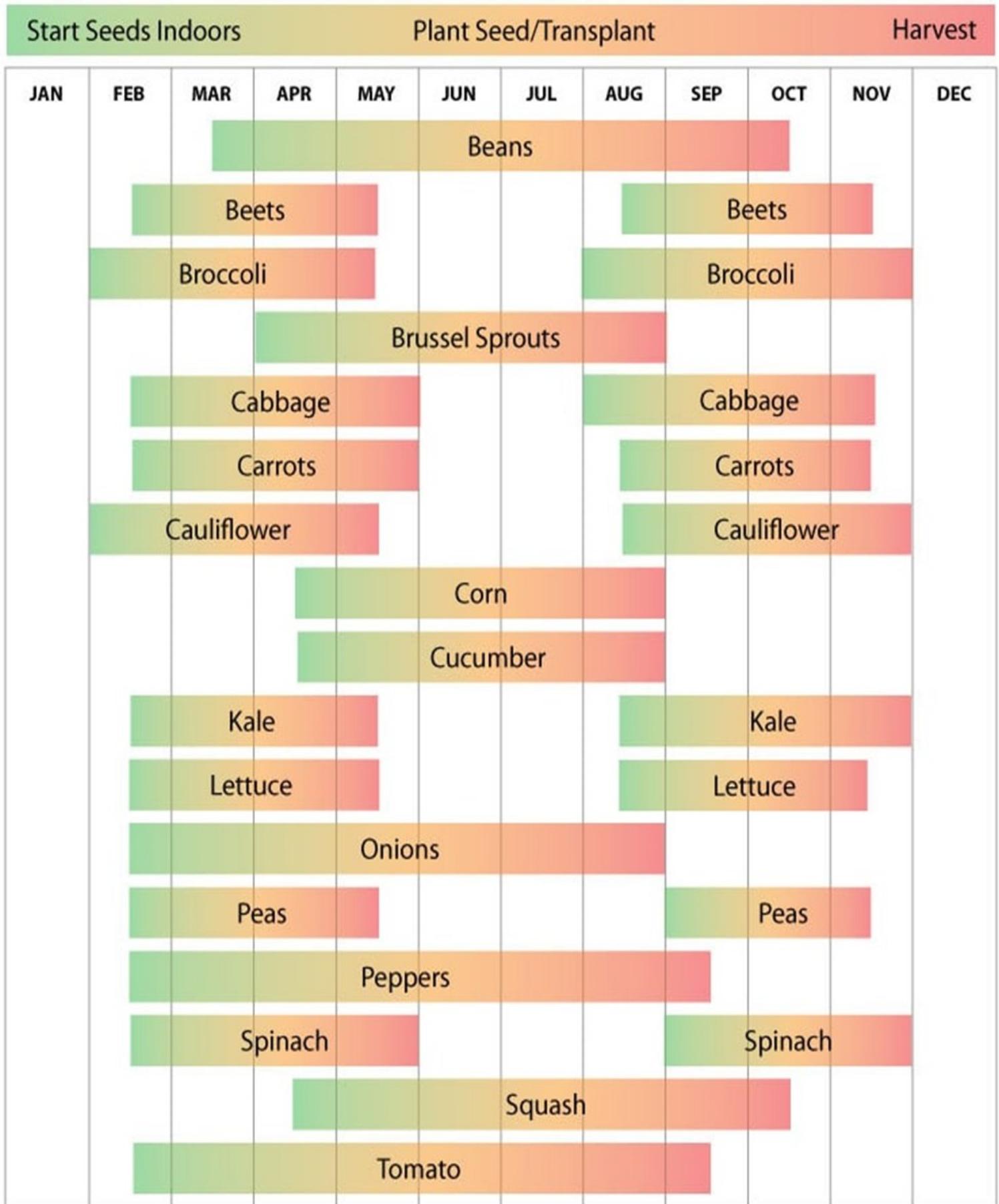
Heavy pruning of trees and shrubs should wait until late winter although dead, damaged, and diseased branches/limbs can be removed year-round.

Do not compost diseased plant tissue. Light trimmings from magnolias, hollies, pyrocanthus, and evergreens are welcome traditions in our area <https://brunswick.ces.ncsu.edu/brunswick-horticulture/pruning-calendar/> I will be cutting back rudbeckia, monarda, achillia, and salvia to control their spread but I'll leave the coneflowers in hopes the seeds will feed some finches. My basil has bolted but there are still flowers attracting solitary bees, so that will also stay put until frost.

Crop/Wildlife Watch. The soybean fields have turned yellow-gold, and the cotton harvest is in full swing. This column is intended to reflect member interests, and my spring/summer volunteering with CropMasters was a real education on the challenges of vegetable gardening. I have posted the crop planting and harvesting calendar for our zone, and here is a great article for the ambitious year-round vegetable gardener <https://durhammastergardeners.com/2022/09/14/garden-veggies-year-round-one-gardeners-calendar/> If this, and the outstanding work Karen Powers has done with her youth gardeners, inspires you, please let me know and I will include more crop gardening in this column! Until next time...



Continued.



Garden Therapy October 2025 Meals on Wheels

Dedicated Trent Woods Garden Club volunteers met early in October to create 120 nosegay arrangements. The arrangements were then distributed to Meals on Wheels recipients. TWGC enjoys the opportunity to support Meals on Wheels!



Garden Therapy 2025-2026 Schedule

Chair Karen Kimball - karenkimball1@gmail.com 603-438-1839

Monday September 15, 2025 10am – Painting with Nature & Plants
Bayview Nursing Home, 3003 Kensington Road
Hostess: Kathy Perretta 252-633-3665

Monday Oct. 13, 2025 10am – Nosegays for Meals on Wheels
West New Bern Vol. Fire House, 900 Chelsea Road
Hostess: Maggie Ferrara 252-631-3357

Monday Nov. 17, 2025 10am – Pinecone Bird Feeders
Monarch, 1320 Health Drive
Hostesses: Hannah Mitchell/Karen Kimball 603-438-1839

Monday, December 15, 2025 10am – Pinecone Arrangements
Navion, 1336 S. Glenburnie Road
Hostess: Janet Jonah 443-981-9307

Monday, January 12, 2026 10am – Pinecone Bird Feeders
Golden Heights, 603 West Street
Hostess: Ann Hall 919-418-7494

Monday, February 16, 2026 10am – Floral Arrangements
Homeplace of New Bern, 1309 McCarthy Blvd
Hostess: Gail McLamb 252-675-5264

Monday, March 16, 2026 10am – Spring Floral Arrangements
Croatan Village, 4522 Old Cherry Point Road
Hostess: Marcia Sproul 252-671-8231

Monday, April 13, 2026 10am – Plant Vegetable Garden
River Point Crest, 2600 Old Cherry Point Road
Hostess: Sheila Kahramanian 716-400-1370

Please Welcome TWGC New Members!

Susan Forgione, Jane Halweg and Christine Bryon with Deb Tallman and Raye Lynn Longhini



October 2025
Monthly Program

“Agriculture for the Future”
Extension Agent Mark Eubanks will present agricultural advances in response to climate and population changes in NC

Presented by
Mark Eubanks, Craven County
Agricultural Agent

Bird of the Month November 2025

Thick-billed Murre by Michael Creedon



Last month we looked at one of the most endangered birds in the world. This month, the opposite, the Thick-billed Murre. You probably have never seen one, as they are pelagic birds, spending their lives at sea in the polar and sub-polar regions of the Northern Hemisphere.

Since the extinction of the Great Auk in the mid-19th century, the Thick-billed Murre is the largest member of the Alcidae family of birds. All members being pelagic and spend their lives in the very cold northern hemisphere.

Adult birds are black on the head, neck, back and wings, with white underparts. They have a small rounded black tail. While quite noisy in nesting colonies, at sea they are silent. They have either a white eye stripe, or a white bill stripe, but never both. Feet are set far back on their body, resulting in an upright posture, similar to penguins.





Thick-billed Murres form vast breeding colonies, some composed easily of over a million breeding birds, in one colony. And there are hundreds of breeding colonies. They find their spot on a narrow ledge of a steep cliff, almost hundreds of feet high, facing the sea. They have the smallest territory of any bird, requiring less than one square foot per individual. Adults reach sexual maturity at 5 to 6 years of age.

A breeding pair will lay a single egg on the bare ledge, without a nest. The female will arrange a few pebbles, securing them with feces to prevent the egg rolling off the cliff. Despite this frugality, they are one of the most abundant marine birds in the Northern Hemisphere. Both parents spend time incubating and raising the young. After a month of incubation, the chicks spend about 3 weeks on the ledge, being fed by both parents. The parents will fly up to 125 miles to forage during nesting.

When it is time to fledge, the young will wait til nightfall and jump off the cliff into the sea very far below. The female at this time departs, and the male parent will immediately follow the chick into the sea and will spend up to two more months feeding the young. The pair will swim over 600 miles to their rearing and wintering area. During this trek, the adults will molt into winter plumage, and temporarily lose the ability to fly.

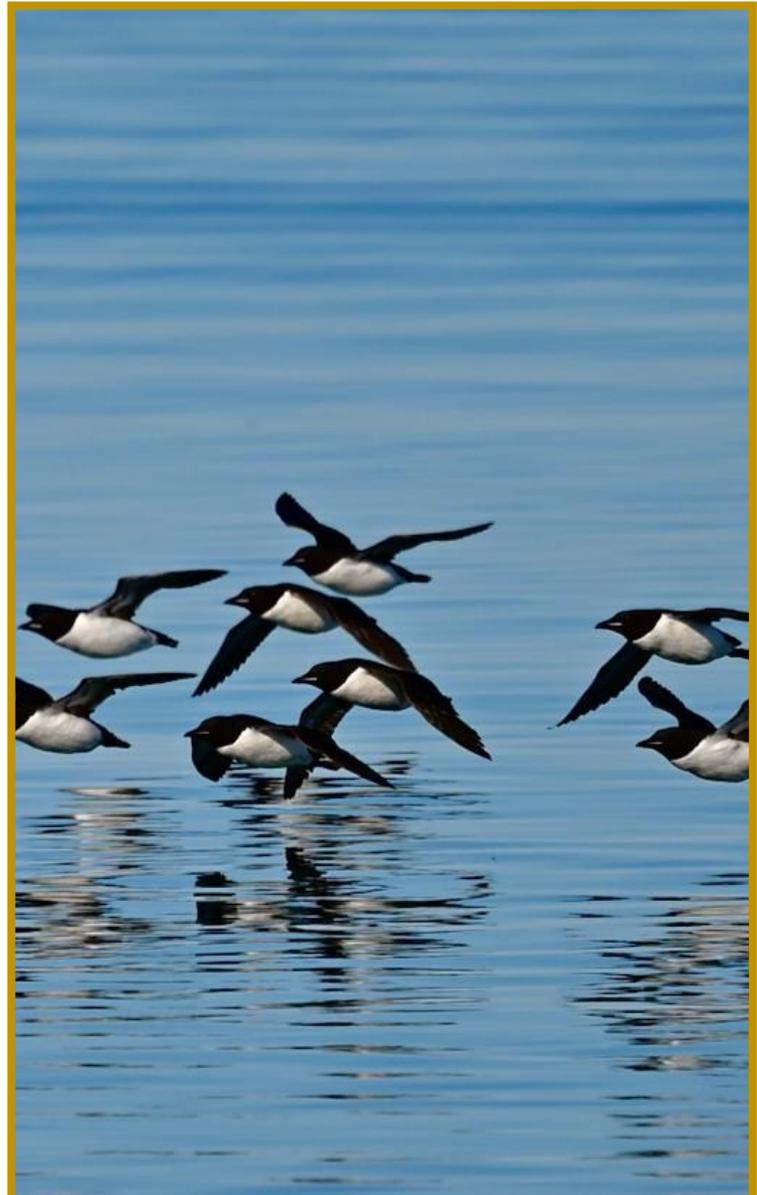




As pelagic, their diet consists almost entirely of fish. Like the other auks, such as a Puffin, they use their wings to swim underwater. They are accomplished divers, easily diving as deep as 500', for up to four minutes at a time. They are also speedy flyers, reaching speeds of 75 mph.

They have few natural predators, due to the immensity of concentrated birds at the nesting sites, and the natural inaccessibility of the sites. Their main predator is the Glaucous Gull, who feed exclusively on eggs and chicks. The lifespan of the species is up to 25 years.

In arctic regions, native people hunted the birds and collected their eggs for food for millennia. With an estimated worldwide population in excess of 20 million individuals, their future status is not a concern.



Youth Gardeners-Garden BEEs October 2025 by Karen Powers Welcome Fall

The Garden Bees started their October meeting indoors, where led by Karen Powers and Sheila Kahrmanian, they all painted their own terra cotta flowerpot. They added a mum to their flowerpot and reviewed the care and watering needed for the mums to survive at their home.

The older Garden Bees members had participated in a STEM project of growing sweet potatoes hydroponically. Following documenting their growth weekly for six weeks, the members then took their sprouting sweet potatoes out to the garden to plant. Once planted, they harvested more green peppers, eggplants, onions, and okra to take home to their families. Prior to heading home, the Garden Bees enjoyed their “spooky” Halloween cupcakes and juice.



Garden Bees 2025-26 Curriculum

October – “Welcome Fall”

- Decorate with pumpkins and dried corn stalks that we saved from the summer
- Plant additional mums, pansies, and snapdragons; bulbs and garlic
- Plant cover crops if any open beds
- Paint a Jack-o-lantern face on a terra cotta planter and fill with a small mum to take home
- Make a pumpkin pie in a cup as a treat

Fall Festival on October 30 or 31 with all the boys and girls club and sponsors

- Paint or carve pumpkins
- Costumes and games
- Hot dogs, etc.

November – “Only You Can Prevent Forest Fires”

- US Forestry Service representative and to “Smokey Bear” to visit and talk about the legend and how to prevent forest fires
- Introduce and begin having all of the boys and girls club members that are interested to start making posters for the contest
- Campfire themed snack??

December – no scheduled meeting?

- Pick collards – cook and eat as well as take some home

January – “Our State Bird”

- Begin cardinal project
- Fun facts sheet for members to look up answers – will provide resource books and info
- Encourage members to draw or paint pictures of cardinal – can open this up to all boys and girls club members – Gina Wertz, Janet Hikes, and other artists from CAGS to instruct

February – “Looking Forward to Spring”

- Start seeds in starter trays to transplant in March
- Plant snap peas, snow peas, and potatoes in beds
- Continue bird project – make a bird feeder from a water bottle

March – “Spring Has Sprung”

- Prepare Beds
- Transplant and plant the garden if weather warm enough
- Plant summer bulbs

April – “Preparing for Summer”

- Complete planting of garden for the summer crops
- Make a butterfly feeder
- Set up caterpillars
- Paint rocks to decorate garden or take home

May – “Taking Care of the Garden”

- Trimming lower branches of tomatoes
- Staking, weeding, mulching, fertilizing, etc.

TWGC creates Floral Arrangements in Support of the Religious Community Services Gala.

TWGC Members: Paula Hartman, Debbie Durham, Karen Powers, Rhona Beadle and Deb Tallman met and produced 25 arrangements for the RCS gala.



October 2025

Beautification

TWGC members planted fall landscaping in Trent Woods for everyone to enjoy



It's time to start thinking about which spring-blooming bulbs you want to plant!

By Judi Lloyd

The good news is that planting flower bulbs is fast, easy, and nearly foolproof. One reason bulbs are so beloved by both beginner and master gardeners is that, with so few issues to consider, gardeners can put all their effort into the fun part of gardening — design.

Here's a list of a few things to consider when choosing and planting them:

The best purchasing criteria for bulbs is that they be firm.

Most bulbs need sun. They can be planted almost anywhere in your yard that is sunny and drains well.

If the soil is mostly clay, mix in an organic amendment, up to 50% in volume. If the soil is mostly sand, you should also add organic amendments.

The depth to plant them depends on the size of the bulbs. Small bulbs (1" in height) should be planted about 3" from the base of the bulb to the soil level, whereas large bulbs (2" or more in height) should be planted at least 6" deep. These depths will help protect the bulbs against frost and animals. Be certain to thoroughly loosen the soil under the bulbs. Space the smaller ones 2" apart and larger ones 3" to 6" apart. Cover bulbs with soil, water thoroughly and add 2" to 3" of mulch.

The pointy end should be up when you plant them, but if in doubt, you can put them in sideways and they'll turn around and head up to the sun! Flower bulbs look better planted in clusters vs. alone.

You will not need to fertilize them at planting time as they are a natural storehouse for food. In later years, you can add compost or slow-release bulb food on top of the soil.

And don't forget to label them as many of the smaller ones in particular look alike.

After flower petals fade or fall off, remove flowers with scissors, but allow foliage to die naturally!

The best timing for planting spring-blooming bulbs here in coastal North Carolina is from Thanksgiving through Christmas when the soil temperature is below 60°. They will bloom mid-February to mid-May, depending on the type of bulb, weather and climatic conditions. For more in-depth information on this topic, consult the NCSU Extension site and request Horticulture Information leaflet 611.

The Craven County Master Gardener Volunteer Association, Inc. Fall Bulb Sale began October 1st and ends on November 15th. Ordering bulbs from the Master Gardeners Bulb Sale means:

Order from our 12 gorgeous selections to plant after Thanksgiving for spring bloom.

Order online and pay with your credit card. No Shipping charges and bulb orders will be available for pickup on:

Friday, November 21st: 10am – 2pm

Pick-up location: Battlefield Park, 300 Battlefield Trail

Saturday, November 22nd: 10am – 2pm

Pick-up location: Gaston Office (behind the Historical Society at 512 Pollock St.)

Sunday, November 23rd: 1pm – 4pm

Pick-up location: Christ Church parking lot on Craven St. between Broad St. & Pollock St.

OR you can have them shipped directly to you for a shipping charge

Bulbs come from Terra Ceia Farms in Beaufort County, a NC grower with tried and true premium bulbs for Craven County. Remember, proceeds from the sale fund local Master Gardener projects throughout Craven County.

Go to www.Cravenmastergardener.org to find the list of the fall collection with pictures, descriptions and prices of each bulb.

So, take advantage of this sale and spend a little time on a fall afternoon, planting bulbs, which can yield months of colorful excitement in your yard all spring!

Maple Cheesecake by Cooks Country

(I can attest that this is a winner! Just make sure you use 100% real maple syrup!)

Time 3½ hours, plus 8 hours cooling **Yield** Serves 12 to 16

Ingredients

Crust

4 whole graham crackers, broken into pieces

¼ cup pecans

½ cup (2½ ounces/71 grams) all-purpose flour

⅓ cup (2⅓ ounces/66 grams) sugar

¼ teaspoon table salt

4 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted

Cheesecake

2 pounds (907 grams) cream cheese, softened

1 ¼ cups maple syrup

4 large eggs

Topping

⅓ cup granola

½ cup maple syrup

Instructions

for the crust

1. Adjust oven rack to middle position and heat oven to 325 degrees. Grease bottom and side of 9-inch springform pan. Process cracker pieces and pecans in food processor until finely ground, about 30 seconds. Add flour, sugar, and salt and pulse to combine, about 2 pulses. Add melted butter and pulse until crumbs are evenly moistened, about 5 pulses.

Using your hands, press crumbs into even layer on prepared pan bottom. Using bottom of dry measuring cup, firmly pack crumbs into pan. Bake until crust smells toasty and is browned around edges, about 18 minutes. Reduce oven temperature to 225 degrees. Let crust cool completely

continued

Maple Cheesecake (continued)

1. In clean, dry processor bowl, process cream cheese and maple syrup until smooth, about 2 minutes, scraping down sides of bowl as needed. With processor running, add eggs, one at a time, until just incorporated, about 30 seconds total. Pour batter onto cooled crust.
2. Firmly tap pan on counter and set aside for 10 minutes to allow air bubbles to rise to top. Gently draw tines of fork across surface of batter to pop air bubbles that have risen to surface.
3. Once oven has reached 225 degrees, bake cheesecake on aluminum foil-lined rimmed baking sheet until edges are set and center jiggles slightly when shaken and registers 165 degrees $\frac{1}{2}$ inch below surface, about 3 hours.
4. Transfer pan to wire rack and let cool completely, about 2 hours. Refrigerate cheesecake, uncovered, until cold, about 6 hours. (Once fully chilled, cheesecake can be covered with plastic wrap and refrigerated for up to 4 days.)

To unmold cheesecake, run tip of paring knife between cake and side of pan; remove side of pan. Slide thin metal spatula between crust and pan bottom to loosen, then slide cheesecake onto serving platter. Let cheesecake stand at room temperature for 30 minutes.

for the topping

6. Sprinkle granola around top edge of cheesecake. Drizzle maple syrup inside ring of granola. Spread with back of spoon, as needed, to fill area inside granola ring.

Warm knife under hot water, then wipe dry. Cut cheesecake into wedges and serve