

# November 2025 Newsletter

Happy Fall!

There is an urgency in the arrival of fall ... its flurry of festive tailgate picnics, homecomings and Thanksgiving feasts all joyously celebrated before winter sets in. Brisk days are savored during walks in the woods, the trees ablaze in fiery crimson. Chilly nights invite the camaraderie of friends for a cozy meal beside a crackling bonfire.

Rustic elegance spreads across the terrain ... drawing the eye to centuries of growth, plump and bursting with goodness. Glorious are the honey-amber fields and their unspoken promise of fruit ripening on and vine; hopeful is the cyclical bounty that graciously replenishes with these flavorful jewels. This time of year never fails to restore the spirit. Enjoy!

## NOVEMBER GARDEN CLUB MEETING:

**Date:** November 12, 2025

**Time:** 9:30 AM - Set-up

10:00 AM - Business Meeting starts

10:30 - 11:00 - Social and Snack time

11:00AM - Program

12:30 - Clean-up

**Location:** Our Savior Lutheran Church

745 Front Street South

Issaquah, WA

**Program:** Avant Designers will present on floral design

**Horticultural Corner:** Tarragon - Gale B.

**November** Snack Committee:

Hostess: Maura E.

Crew: Shadi W.

Gloria W.

Marie W.

Joan H.

**December Meeting:** December 10, 2025

**Horticultural Corner:** Oregano - Jean Pass

**Program:** Holiday Party

**REMEMBER THE SALE TABLE:**

Bring items (including plants) to sell on the sale table! This helps us clean out unused items from our homes, provide shopping opportunities (Christmas is coming) for others and helps keep our bank account healthy. Bring lots of treasures to sell ...

**LETS SAVE ON KITCHEN SUPPLIES:**

Please remember to bring your own plate, napkin and silverware so we don't deplete the club's supplies and reduces our garbage footprint! And, attention coffee and tea drinkers - remember to bring your own cup (THANKS)

**POST OFFICE TROUGH (GEORGANN):**

\*\* A group of 5 met on the morning of Sunday, October 5 to remove spent plants, add new soil and fertilizer and plants. The planter looks refreshed and ready for fall.

\*\* Georgann said that she will periodically check the trough during the winter months when watering isn't necessary. This way she can monitor for spent plants as well as clean any trash out of the planter that may accumulate.

**BLUE STAR MARKER (DIANNE):**

Dianne reported that the Blue Start Marker projects have been a focus of the National Garden Club since 1944.

**Date of next event will be Veteran's Day on November**

**11**

**Time: 11:00AM and 7:00PM**

**Location: Issaquah Senior Center (75 NE Creek  
Way, Issaquah)**

Here are some details:

There will be two events to recognize and honor Veterans and both are open to all:

1/ The annual Veterans Day service on November 11th at 11:00AM will be at the Issaquah Senior Center. Liberty High School Junior Naval ROTC will provide colors and a flag salute. There will be a special video about

Veterans Day and Veterans in attendance will be recognized. Issaquah Mayor Pauly will be the keynote speaker. The service length will be about 45 minutes and refreshments will be provided by Flintoff's Funeral Home.

2/ USS Indianapolis Presentation at the Issaquah Senior Center on November 11th at 7:00PM by Honorary Indianapolis Survivor, Ms. Kim Roller. This 90 minute presentation will comprehensively review the USS Indianapolis tragedy, recognize USS Indianapolis survivor family members in attendance and answer questions from attendees.

## ***October Meeting:***

Patrick Spence presented on "Using Iris to Enhance Your Perennial Garden". His talk included a hand-out with a description of each slide he showed plus a table of which iris bloom during each month of the year.

There are 280 different iris species and are found in the entire northern hemisphere including the Arctic!

There are two main types of iris:

- \*\* Bearded - have a fuzzy appendage on the petals which directs bees and helps with pollination. These iris should be planted with the top of the rhizome showing and do NOT use mulch

- \*\* Beardless - have a signal instead of the fuzzy appendage and should be planted deep. Mulch is OK.

Bloom Time (Bearded Iris):

- \*\* Shorter (miniatures) bloom first
- \*\* Taller bloom later

To transplant:

- \*\* Bearded - early August
- \*\* Beardless - early spring or September

Patrick discussed what happens when species cross - it forms a hybrid which are plants that demonstrate "hybrid vigor"

He also shared some fertilizer suggestions ... use a balanced fertilizer (whatever is cheaper). Put it around the edge - NOT on the rhizome and never fertilize when planting. Siberian or Japanese Iris are different ... use a 21-0-0 fertilizer.

## ***SAVE THE DATES:***

**November 11, 2025** - Blue Star Marker - Veteran's Day Celebration at 11:00AM

**February 23, 2026** - General Membership Meeting (GMM)

## ***EDUCATIONAL CORNER:***

We Asked a Gardener How to Keep Outdoor Plants Thriving Inside When Temps Drop—The Tips Are Game-Changers

### **Key Points**

Some plants need winter cold, while others should be brought indoors to survive.

Acclimate plants slowly and check for pests before moving them inside.

Return tender or tropical plants outdoors once nights stay above 60°F.

You love your outdoor plants, but with fall's arrival, you're thinking about bringing your favorites inside for the winter.

However, this practice isn't quite as simple as it seems—which is why we asked an expert horticulturalist for tips. Here's how to [overwinter plants](#) indoors and help them thrive.

## Meet the Expert

[Heather Wheatley](#) is a certified professional horticulturist and marketing manager at Proven Winners.

### What Kind of Outdoor Plants Should You Move Indoors For Winter?

Plenty of tender annuals—think ornamental plants and [herbs](#)—can survive indoors in the winter with the right care and conditions. For example, you can take cuttings of a colorful coleus plant in the fall, root them in water, and replant them to enjoy indoors and into the next growing season.

You can move annual herbs like basil indoors to cultivate over winter with the help of a very bright, sunny window or grow light. However, there are plenty of plants that you're better off leaving outdoors for the winter.

"Generally, perennials and shrubs are meant to stay outside," says Heather Wheatley, certified professional horticulturist and marketing manager at Proven Winners.

"Oftentimes when you bring a container into the garage to try to overwinter it, the plants struggle because these plants need to freeze and go dormant for a fresh start in the spring."

However, if you're experimenting with growing [perennials](#) that are suited to a slightly warmer climate—for example, growing certain fig tree varieties in zone 5—you may consider raising these plants in containers that you can bring indoors more easily for a little winter protection.

"Some plants are right on the cusp of being hardy in your area, but a tough winter could knock them out," Wheatley says. "In that case, it might be worth a try. It's always fun to zone push and see if you can keep them going."

## How to Keep Outdoor Plants Thriving Indoors

**Make sure the plant will benefit from overwintering.** Before you bring any pots indoors in the fall, make sure it's in the best interest of that plant.

**Treat plants properly before bringing them indoors.** "Whatever decision you make, remember to change the soil or treat it with an insecticide," Wheatley says. "You don't want to bring outdoor insects into your home, even into the garage." Check foliage for signs of pest activity, too.

**Give plants a little TLC when you first bring them in.** After ensuring that plants are bug-free, water the plant. If you're keeping the plant indoors more for protection from the elements than to extend active growth, however, it

may need only a couple of waterings before spring comes. Avoid fertilizing during this time.

**For active growth, replicate outdoor conditions.** Provide tender annuals a warm environment and lots of light from a very sunny window or a [grow light](#) to encourage continued growth.

## When Should You Move Plants Back Outside?

In late winter or early spring, you may see signs that dormant overwintered plants have started to wake up, like new shoots or leaf growth—but don't rush to bring them back outside just yet. In regions where overwintered plants like gardenias are not hardy, for example, you'll need to reacclimate them to outdoor temperatures and light levels over the course of a week or so.

Begin this process when daytime temperatures are above 50°F. Wait to keep these plants outdoors for the season until night temperatures are above 60°F.

The same goes for houseplants that go outdoors for the summer.

"Any [tropical houseplants](#) that you have kept outside over the summer and overwintered inside will need the

nighttime air temperature to be above 60°F," Wheatley says. "That rule also includes any citrus that you brought in over the winter."

If you've managed to keep any annuals like tender herbs going all winter long, you'll need to go through a similar process to get them ready to live outdoors again. Wait until night temperatures are in the mid-50s to start bringing them back outside.

"It is the kindest practice to any of your plants to temper them with a nice sunny day outside and bring them back in when the temperatures get cooler," Wheatley says. "A week or so of that and they should be ready to stand on their own outside in late spring."