



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

# The Monthly AGC 'Dirt'

November 2020

**All monthly meeting for the time being will be conducted virtual via Zoom.**

**November 3<sup>rd</sup>** There will be 2 parts to the Monthly Meeting *using the same zoom link*

- **Part 1: Monthly Business Meeting.** Check in time: 9:30 AM. The **Business Meeting** will begin at 9:45 AM.
- **Part 2:**



The virtual program, **Good Bugs, Bad Bugs** will begin at **10:15 AM.** **Bonnie Powers**, a Master Gardener, will inform us about *beneficial & pest* insects that we may encounter. *Not all insects are bad for the garden.*

In 2015 Bonnie began volunteering on a Facebook page for insect identification which expanded her knowledge of insects. Out of that experience she developed a talk aimed at gardeners to acquaint them with *beneficial* and *pest* species of insects and other arthropods. Her presentation describes some of the common *beneficial* and *pest* insect that we New England gardeners encounter looking at their habits and life cycles as she discusses how their presence affect the success of our garden year.

**Participants should switch their Zoom viewing mode to "speaker" mode (vs gallery mode) if they are not already. Everyone should be muted.**

*Fran Portante will send out the Zoom invite link & password for the two part of November 3rd meeting.*

**Below is the link to the Business Meeting with the Program to follow:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81378724275?pwd=bWpUMXRqQmZuSEIUREdzS3FOUjUrZz09>

Meeting ID: 813 7872 4275

Passcode: 739789

**There is an advantage to not holding this meeting at the Town Hall. We don't have to try to find a parking space on Election Day.**

**November 10<sup>th</sup> Horticulture Study Group 9 AM**

**Helen Webster** will present via Zoom a program on *Roots. ..Plants not genealogy.* A link to the program will be sent out to members.

November 24<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting via Zoom. 9 AM

## Membership

*If you have a change in address, phone number or email address, please contact Membership Chairman, Linda O'Neil, [gognah@yahoo.com](mailto:gognah@yahoo.com).*



If you love your dahlias but we live in an area with cold winters, here's how to take care of them so you can enjoy their blooms again next season.



1. In the fall, after the 1<sup>st</sup> frost has blackened the foliage, cut off all but 2"-4" of top growth & carefully dig up tubers without damaging them.

2. Allow tubers to dry for a few days in a frost-free location, out of sunlight.

3. Once dry, remove any excess soil. Trim stem to 1"-2".
4. Store each clump of tubers in a ventilated box or basket.
5. Fill the box with slightly moistened sand, coir, or vermiculite & place it in a cool, dry location with temperatures that remain between 45-55 (an unheated basement works well for this).
6. Check tubers periodically through the winter for rotting & drying out.
7. When warm weather arrives, you can plant the overwintered tubers & begin the cycle again.

**Barbara Wissell** suggests members leave their late summer blooming plants standing until spring as a food source for the birds.

Finches eat only seeds and the ones in her yard are gobbling up Anise Hyssop, New England Aster, Ironweed, Coneflower, Bee Balm and Bergamot seed heads. They are even eating her non-native Verbena Bonariensis seed heads (Brazilian Vervain).

Little did we know the effect of Covid-19 & not being willing to travel to Grandma's house for Thanksgiving would cause this?

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Turkey farmers fear that, this year, they've bred too many big birds.

Washington Post 10/20/20



Planting bulbs offers a bit of hope for better things to come. Even this year.

Washington Post 10/23/20



Rheta Roeber sent this in saying it made her smile. Will you have to eat all that Halloween candy yourself or will there be little trick or treaters out?