



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

# The Monthly AGC 'Dirt'

September 2022

September 8<sup>th</sup> 9 AM Board Meeting at Jodi MacDonald's house, 36 Fort Pond Rd.

September 13<sup>th</sup> monthly meeting at Town Hall and hybrid

The Acton Garden Club's September Meeting can be accessed via Zoom.

Zoom address:

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

Meeting ID: 813 7872 4275

Passcode: 739789



It has been requested that we don't park at Town Hall or the Library. Park either at the Congregation Church or behind the Fire Station. Please use the flashing light at the crosswalk on Main Street. *Why not carpool to the meeting?*

9 AM Business Meeting

9:45 Social Time to honor past club presidents, light refreshments will be served. Please bring your own beverage.

10:15 Program presented by Joan Butler: *Outstanding Natives: Trees and Shrubs for Northeast Gardens that add beauty and interest to your garden and benefit our birds, butterflies and pollinators.*



Joan Butler, lecturer, has been an enthusiastic gardener for over 30 years, and believes gardens should invite you to linger in the world outside your door. Her gardens have been included on several garden tours, and feature exciting plant combinations, dramatic horticultural specimens, and collections of hosta, heuchera and epimedium.

Joan holds a Bachelor's degree in Geology from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst and a Certificate in Landscape Management from UMass Extension Green School. She is a Master Gardener, has worked as a horticulturist at Weston Nurseries, and is a past Chairman of the Massachusetts Landscape Design Council. She is also a member of the Garden Consultants Council and an accredited Flower Show Judge. Visit Joan Butler of Enchanted Gardens website:

<http://www.enchantedgardensdesign.com>

September 20<sup>th</sup> 9 AM Horticulture Study Group will meet at Cathy Fochtman's home, 18 Wright Terrace. Judy Dembsey and Anne Sterling will present the program: *Preparing the Garden for Winter Begins in the Fall.*

September 27<sup>th</sup> 9 AM Board Meeting at Janet Iron's house, 717 Main Street.

- Treasurer transition for 2022-2023 is complete and receipts for reimbursement and questions should go to: Ruth Schemel , 9 Hillcrest Drive, Acton.
- If members want to email Ruth with treasurer/ financial issues, please email her at [treasurer@actongardenclub.org](mailto:treasurer@actongardenclub.org). Emails will go to the club's new dedicated laptop for the treasurer. This will keep emails separate from her personal email.



Once again Jane Sorenson of **Northeast Pollinator Plants** in Vermont (<https://www.northeastpollinator.com/>) has **donated** over **250 pollinator plants** to The Acton Garden Club. Jane's plants are **native to the Northeast**. As a matter of fact she only sells to New England and New York. **96 of the 252 plants have already been sold!**

A list of the available plants is attached below. There is also a link to each plant. *The plants are much larger than the plants we received last year. It's amazing what an extra six weeks will do!*

**We are offering these to Garden Club Members at \$5.00 a plant.** Contact Anne Sterling (978-263-1230, [absterling@gmail.com](mailto:absterling@gmail.com)) to place your order and arrange for time to pick up your requested plants.

**This is a great opportunity to plant native pollinators for only \$5 and support the AGC at the same time.**

**Invite your friends & neighbors to join you in purchasing these outstanding native pollinator plants.**

Bring a box or containers for the plants as they are not in individual pots.

### Northeast Pollinator Plants

Agastache foeniculum- Anise Hyssop,

[https://www.northeastpollinator.com/products/f-work-in-progress-to-add-all-the-pollinator-plants-that-will-be-available-as-individual-plants?\\_pos=1&\\_sid=9c5ffcfbd&\\_ss=r](https://www.northeastpollinator.com/products/f-work-in-progress-to-add-all-the-pollinator-plants-that-will-be-available-as-individual-plants?_pos=1&_sid=9c5ffcfbd&_ss=r)

Andropogon gerardii- Big Bluestem [https://www.northeastpollinator.com/products/andropogon-gerardii?\\_pos=1&\\_sid=7dea26a55&\\_ss=r](https://www.northeastpollinator.com/products/andropogon-gerardii?_pos=1&_sid=7dea26a55&_ss=r)

**Only 5 left** Baptisia australis- Blue Wild Indigo [https://www.northeastpollinator.com/products/baptisia-australis?\\_pos=1&\\_sid=f6bb8f4d7&\\_ss=r](https://www.northeastpollinator.com/products/baptisia-australis?_pos=1&_sid=f6bb8f4d7&_ss=r)

Echinacea purpurea Purple Coneflower [https://www.northeastpollinator.com/products/echinacea-purpurea?\\_pos=1&\\_sid=78cf2224f&\\_ss=r](https://www.northeastpollinator.com/products/echinacea-purpurea?_pos=1&_sid=78cf2224f&_ss=r)

Helenium autumnal-Sneezeweed [https://www.northeastpollinator.com/products/helenium-autumnale?\\_pos=1&\\_sid=15efc6677&\\_ss=r](https://www.northeastpollinator.com/products/helenium-autumnale?_pos=1&_sid=15efc6677&_ss=r)

**Only 2 left** Liatris spicata Blazing Star [https://www.northeastpollinator.com/products/liatris-spicata?\\_pos=1&\\_sid=0ce42ed21&\\_ss=r](https://www.northeastpollinator.com/products/liatris-spicata?_pos=1&_sid=0ce42ed21&_ss=r)

Monarda fistulosa Wild Bergamot <https://www.northeastpollinator.com/products/monarda-fistulosa? pos=1& sid=add03a652& ss=r>

Penstemon digitalis Smooth white Beardtongue <https://www.northeastpollinator.com/products/penstemon-digitalis? pos=1& sid=5676fe1f1& ss=r>

Pycnanthemum tenuifolium Slender Mountain Mint- not aggressive <https://www.northeastpollinator.com/products/pycnanthemum-tenuifolium? pos=1& sid=594f959dc& ss=r>

Rudbeckia laciniata Green Headed Coneflower <https://www.northeastpollinator.com/products/rudbeckia-laciniata? pos=1& sid=8bcace566& ss=r>

Solidago caesia-Blue-Stemmed Goldenrod <https://www.northeastpollinator.com/products/solidago-caesia-blue-stemmed-goldenrod? pos=1& sid=56ed193fc& ss=r>

Symphotrichum novae-angliae New England Aster <https://www.northeastpollinator.com/products/symphotrichum-novae-angliae? pos=1& sid=bb6838359& ss=r>

- If you are one of the lucky members who have already purchased some of the 95 plants sold, don't forget to mail your check to Ruth Schemel, 9 Hillcrest Drive, Acton. On the "for line" on your check please put "pollinator plants".

You think Acton is in a drought and restricting water usage, the shortage along the Colorado River is being triggered by dire 23 year drought conditions across the southwest producing record low levels in the nation's largest reservoir system. States negotiate how to make major reductions in water use.

The Colorado River's decline has drained three-quarters of the water from the nation's largest reservoirs, falling closer than ever to levels where hydroelectric dams can't generate power and millions will lose access to drinking water and irrigation supplies. The bureau of Reclamation is requiring cuts in water use that will diminish what Arizona gets by 21 percent, Nevada by 8 percent and the country of Mexico by 7 percent.



This beautiful creature's picture was captured in Sherry Ryder's back yard by her granddaughter.

He must have come in to cool off and admire the flora. They are omnivores. But unlike deer, they eat only berries and fruit rather than your flowers.

Washington Post 8/23/22

## **As many as 1 in 6 U.S. tree species are in danger of extinction because of climate change and a surge in diseases**

Amid an onslaught of invasive insects, an increase in deadly diseases and the all-encompassing peril of climate change, some 100 species native to the U.S. are in danger of being wiped out.

<https://s2.washingtonpost.com/37b89e7/6304c32652a5a4443ca56d4e/596a962dade4e20ee373deae/3/13/6304c32652a5a4443ca56d4e>

### **Oh Deer: A Tulip Problem**



If you have in deer in your area, you may have dealt with the frustration of deer using your beautiful tulip display as a snack bar.

If deer are a problem, stick to bulbs that are labeled [Deer Resistant](#). [Daffodils](#) are truly deer and rodent proof, because they contain a bitter substance called **lycorine** that no mammal will eat. Here is a list of the bulbs that deer generally leave alone. Only members of the Amaryllis family, which includes daffodils, snowflakes, and snowdrops, are truly deer and rodent proof. Alliums, irises and fritillaries such as Snake's Head are also deer-resistant bulbs. The other bulbs are unpleasant to deer. Some are also unpleasant to rodents. Deer will generally avoid these bulbs but might take a bite if the plants are directly in their path or starvation forces them to overcome their aversion.