



## REMINDERS

### 1. Installation of Officers, June 12

6:00 Sal e Pepe

### 2. Garden Field Trip June 20

Elizabeth Rose Garden

### 3. Garden tours

**June 27** -beginning at 5:00 Arline Shanley's home, then move to the home of Susan Day Adams, and end at Hillary Goldstein's home,

### 4. Summer picnic

**July 21**, Jane Sharpe's home rain or shine. Bring a friend, spouse, partner, or relative.

### 5. Next general meeting September 10

## Town & Country Garden Club

### Newtown Connecticut

Member of The Federated Garden Clubs of CT, Inc. New England Garden Clubs, Inc. and National Garden Clubs, Inc

May 2024



Hello, fellow members, gardeners (and gardener wanna-be's): This month of planting (May) is almost over. We've been BUSY!! Does it seem busier than usual? (OR is it just that we're so much "older" than last May? - - I'm speaking for myself, of course.)

Anyway, we've had a good year - - we've had our last membership meeting for the F/Y, our last program, successful fund-raisers, and are ready for a break from the schedules. We're also more than ready to welcome in a new season – Summer and watch our efforts flourish and bloom.

Hopefully, we'll see you all at the upcoming Installation of Officer's Dinner at Sal e Pepe's on June 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. We'll also be sending out reminders for the upcoming Elizabeth Park Rose Garden field trip on June 20<sup>th</sup>, our casual member- Garden tour on June 27<sup>th</sup>, and the always enjoyable and refreshing summer picnic on Lake Zoar on July 21<sup>st</sup>.

I, with the Board, would like to thank all of our members, new and old, for all you did for Town & Country this year. Your enthusiasm, participation, suggestions and ideas are what helps model the club to everyone's choices, expectations and needs.

Have a great Summer.

Chris

**Horticulture –**

Flowering Shrub Or  
Tree Branch



**May 8 General Meeting**

**Exhibits - Jungle**

Artistic- Multi-Rhythm

Margareta



Josie



**Program “ Birding”**



Stephen Martin from The Audubon Society of Fairfield CT talked about different plants that we could have in our yards to attract and provide food for birds.

**The Connecticut Audubon Society**

- Protect CT's birds, other wildlife, & their habitats through conservation, education, & advocacy
- Founded in 1898 by Mabel Osgood Wright
- Received first property in 1914 'Birdcraft Sanctuary'
- Manage 22 wildlife sanctuaries covering over 3,400 acres
- Educate over 100,000 people annually



**Our club members all did a great job of preparing plants and bringing them to the library on May 18. These are some of the ones on my back deck.**



**The grand total made from the plant sale, including member donations was \$1,638.00**

## **PLANT SALE MAY 18**

We had wonderful support from Garden Club members who volunteered at the sale: Peggy, Chris, Josie, Jane Sharpe, Lina, Jan, Jane Vouros, Arline Betsy, Alexis, Karen, Donna, Susan, Holly, Barbara O., Mae, Mary Ellen, Teri, Barbara Mc and Gail.



**Arline's Brunnera**



**And Peonies**



**Joy says that these bearded iris have shown up for well over 50 years. She thinks they are modest, but persistent**



Becky, like many other club members not only helped out for the sale but went home with many treasures for her own gardens.

Peggy Fillion sent me this photo. Might be something for us to consider for the next plant sale!



If you have any garden related question, you can email it to Barbara O'Connor - [bodnatense@aol.com](mailto:bodnatense@aol.com)

Barbara will write an answer and it will be included into the next newsletter. Never be concerned that your question is small or silly, because if you have the question others might have the same concern. That's how we help each other.

### Barbara's 10-foot Agio Rhododendron



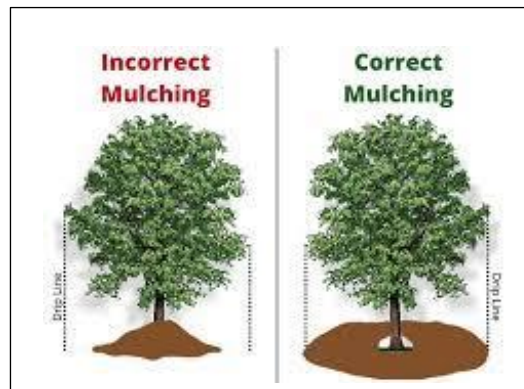
## ASKED AND ANSWERED



What are some common landscaping mistakes?

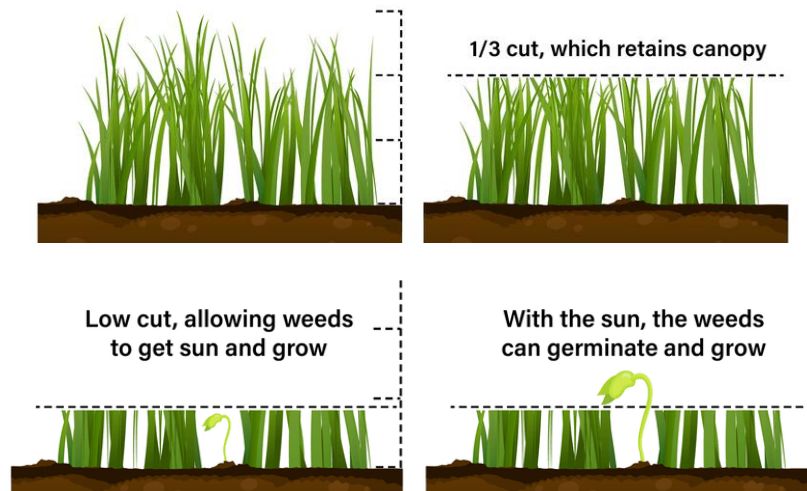
### 1. Volcano mulching

good. You should be able to see the "root flare." Mulching up around the trunk can soften the bark and make it easier for insects and/or disease to get in.



**2. Grass height** The grass blades should be mowed no shorter than 3 ". The grass blades are what provide nutrients to the plant and the very short grass allows weed seed to germinate more easily.

### Lawn Density and the One-Third Rule



**3. Plant spacing** Most homeowners or their landscapers plant trees and shrubs too close together and especially too close to the foundation. If a 3-foot evergreen gets 15 feet tall in 10 years you don't want to plant it in front of a window.



**Gail Diminico, our outreach chairman has taken up a new job as director and volunteer at THRIVE Cooperative Center for Wellness at 12 Cambridge Drive, 2nd Floor Trumbull, CT 06611.**

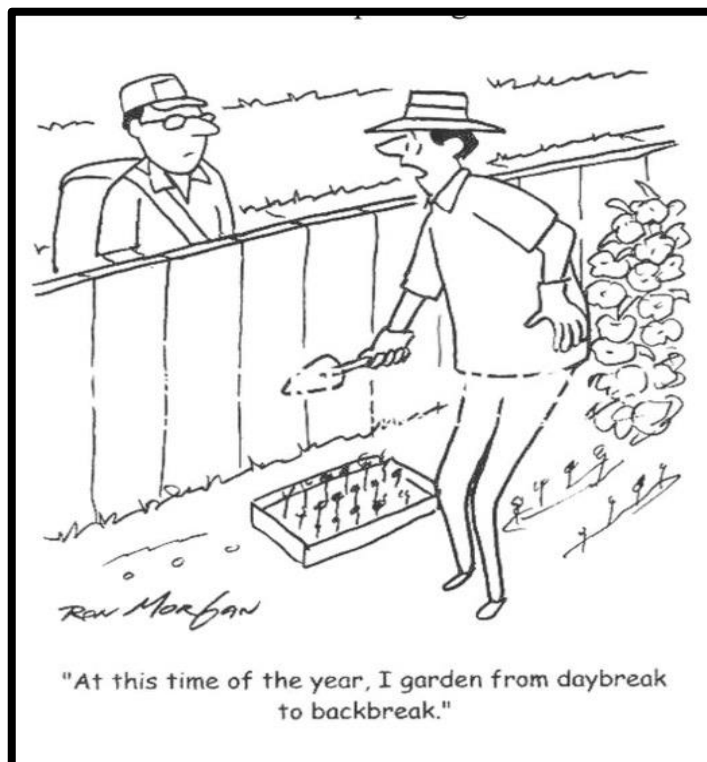
**The mission of THRIVE is to give all people impacted by cancer the opportunity to thrive from diagnosis, through treatment and beyond.**

**She now also has a ROAR therapy dog, Maggie who is available for visits.**



[thrivewellneset.org](http://thrivewellneset.org)

Island 2 workers resting under a tree on their bench after completing spring cleanup.





**25 Obtuse Rd. S,  
Brookfield, CT  
06804**

**Phone: (203)  
775-2214**



# *Shakespeare's* GARDEN

**25 Obtuse Rd. S, Brookfield, CT 06804**

**Phone: (203) 775-2214**

I made the mistake of visiting Shakespeare's Garden on Saturday of Memorial Day weekend. The "mistake" was only that everyone else in the state had the same brilliant idea. This business is BUSTLING with shrubs and flowering trees as far as you can see and BURSTING with gorgeous hanging baskets and striking containers - - created with care by experienced professionals who know exactly what plants and flowers to combine (with light and water requirements in mind) to result in long-lasting, eye-catching conversation pieces that will thrive for the entire season. In addition, they are TEEMING with healthy, popping annuals (hard to resist and ready to transform your property!)

(It wasn't really a mistake at all as there was more than sufficient staff to help – with parking, paying and advice.



**May is the time to plant - - Make a visit - -Take a stroll**

**You can't help but learn - - JUST BY LOOKING...**

**Chris**



(203) 426-0805  
97 South Main  
Street  
Newtown, CT



***“ Welcome ! What can we get you? ”***

Aren't those the best words? Just the right words - - the words we need to hear after gardening, sweating and planting - - all day and all month.



BUT (because a picture is worth a thousand words) just imagine, after being welcomed into the warm, pleasant and relaxing atmosphere of

SAL E PEPE'S Contemporary Italian Restaurant,  
being served Lasagna Bolognese (pictured above)  
(Layers of fresh pasta, Bolognese meat sauce, blend of three cheeses)

My absolute favorite, absolutely anywhere!!

*BUT, of course, SAVORING (anything on their Authentic Italian Cuisine menu), is better than pictures or words.*

Tuesday: 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
Wednesday: 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
Thursday: 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
Friday: 12:00 pm - 8:30 pm  
Saturday: 12:00 pm - 8:30 pm  
Sunday: 3:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Chris





**FGCCT President  
Karin Pyskaty (2023-  
2025)**

**Mission**



**First Vice President  
Nan Merolla (Wilton  
Garden Club)**

**Second V. P.  
Kelle Ruden (Westport  
Garden Club)**

**Recording Secretary  
Kathy Harris  
(Evergreen Country  
Gardeners Garden  
Club)**

**Treasurer  
John Davis  
(Quiet Corner Garden  
Club)**

**Corresponding  
Secretary  
Lynda Brown  
(Manchester Garden  
Club)**

**Finance Officer  
Terry Lubman  
(Riverside Garden Club)**

**Upcoming State Events**

1. **FGCCT Board Meeting**  
July 17
2. **Cape Ann Tour**  
July 21 - July 23

**Events Around Us**

1. **Plant Sale – Garden Club of New Milford**  
June 1 • 9:00 am - 1:00 pm  
*New Milford Town Green, + [Google Map](#)*
2. **‘Fine Arts, Flowers and Verse’ Wallingford  
Garden Club**  
June 8 • 10:00 am - 1:00 pm  
*Wallingford Senior Center, + [Google Map](#)*

**10.**

**LOOKING FOR A HAND? HERE ARE SOME CLUB MEMBER RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. Simply Organized - club member Ellen Kutner's service to declutter and organize spaces  
[www.simplyorg.com](http://www.simplyorg.com) - [simplyorg521@gmail.com](mailto:simplyorg521@gmail.com) Garden Club Member
2. Helen, Seamstress. She used to work for David's Bridal  
203-258-0750, 5 Hemlock Rd Recommended by Barbara O'Connor
3.
  - a. George Papajani-contractor, home projects-painting & repairs. licensed & insured 203-996-6643-
  - b. IT person for computer, TV, Home phone problems & set-up-Brian Mullins 203-300-4060
  - c. Mason work- sidewalks, patios, stone walls-George Pani- 203-482-5589  
Recommended by Arline Shanley.
4.
  - a. TEED AND BROWN "Lawn Doctor"- <https://teedandbrown.com>
  - b. [gmpcarpentryremodeling@gmail.com](mailto:gmpcarpentryremodeling@gmail.com) – Marcelo Guzman
  - c. [Makeahomect.org](http://Makeahomect.org) will pick up furniture for \$100 donation  
Recommended by Peggy Fillion
5. Danny Casarella DMC Painting Inc. 914-623-2798 Recommended by Barbara McCann
6. Mike Bigelow 203-417-2922. Carpenter and miscellaneous small jobs. Great guy and great price Recommended by Holly Walczak.
7.
  - a. Dean DeLucia, Carpenter/Contractor (203) 258-1513 [info@deluciaconstruction.com](mailto:info@deluciaconstruction.com)  
or [ddelucia61@yahoo.com](mailto:ddelucia61@yahoo.com)
  - b. Joe Butkus (203) 525-3253) plumber.
  - c. [Pilarshouseclean@gmail.com](mailto:Pilarshouseclean@gmail.com) 203-733-3594  
Recommended by Chris Lincoln
8. UBREAKIFIX in the Shoprite shopping center in Brookfield on Federal Road. Hours are Monday through Saturday 10:00 am to 7:00 PM.  
Recommended by Barbara O'Connor
9. M.G. Masonry new installations & repairs – email [mgmasonry76@yahoo.com](mailto:mgmasonry76@yahoo.com)  
Recommended by Josie Schmidt.

**CAN YOU HELP WITH A RECOMMENDATION?**

1. Judy Beers would like a recommendation for an electrician.  
[jbeers46@gmail.com](mailto:jbeers46@gmail.com), 203-364-6553