



Sproutings

Chatham Garden Club

chathamgardenclub.org | facebook.com/chathamgardenclub

June 2022

"Money can't buy happiness. Except at the garden center." (Garden Stud)

What's Happening in June?

June 4th: Plant Sale 9 -1 Chatham Community Center front lawn*

June 7th: GCG Board Meeting 1:00 Community Center - small conference room

June 14th: GCG General Meeting 12:30/1:00 Jen Stello opens her gardens to us!*

(See below for more on June meeting)

June 30th: Dues of \$35.00 payable to Chatham Garden Club & mail to

CGC PO Box 392, Chatham 02633

*** Note your booklet states meeting is July 15th in error - it's Tuesday June 14th**

***Beth Taylor's "Pop up Dahlia sale" will be part of the plant sale this year. She will have both potted dahlias and sprouted tubers available at the sale.**

On July 15th we have our Garden Tour - please support and sign up to volunteer!

Plant Sale: We will still be happy to accept your plants (and pots) - drop off at Donna's by June 2nd. Thank you to everyone that has volunteered and please support us by coming to the sale!

If you have any plants, please drop off at Donna's ASAP!

MONTHLY MEETING OF THE CHATHAM GARDEN CLUB

TUESDAY, JUNE 14 AT 12:30

LOOKING FOR SOME TIME TO RELAX AND ENJOY CONVERSATION WITH FRIENDS?

PLEASE JOIN US AT JEN STELLO'S HOME FOR A PICNIC

THE ADDRESS IS 159 TIDE MILL LANE (OFF OF SHATTUCK PLACE)

PARKING AT JEN'S HOUSE OR CHASE PARK PARKING ON SHATTUCK PLACE

PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN CHAIR, SANDWICH AND BEVERAGE.

HOSPITALITY WILL PROVIDE DESSERT

Hospitality Update:

You may have noticed a slight change in our meeting refreshments this year. The club is now providing small sandwiches for our monthly meetings (except for this month when we are asking you to bring your own lunch to Jen's house). The change has been well received. We want to continue the tradition of a member bringing a center piece to each meeting and three others to bake a dessert. We will have a sign up sheet at our June 14th meeting for next year. Please sign up to bake or provide a centerpiece for a month that suits you.

Thanks,

Pat and Gail

Gardens to visit on Cape Cod this Summer

With the gas prices, we are now cognizant of where and how far we are willing to travel this summer. Below are some places to explore and visit on Cape Cod. See links for places nearby.



Highfield Hall, Falmouth

[The Gardens – Highfield Hall and Gardens](#)



Spohr Gardens, Falmouth [Spohr Gardens](#)



Heritage Museum and Gardens, Sandwich

[GARDENS - Heritage Museums & Gardens \(heritagemuseumsandgardens.org\)](http://heritagemuseumsandgardens.org)



Greenbriar Nature Center, Sandwich

[Shirley-Cross-Wildflower-Garden \(thorntonburgess.org\)](http://thorntonburgess.org)



Provincetown - worth the trip especially on **July 17th** PAAM Secret Garden Tour

[The Secret Garden Tour | PAAM](#)

From Gardenista website, here's a link for "Garden ideas to Steal from Provincetown"
[10 Garden Ideas to Steal from Provincetown on Cape Cod - Gardenista](#)



Suzanne's Garden, Provincetown - Two Links

[Gabriel's, a Provincetown Hotel | Gardens in Provincetown :: Provincetown Hotel at Gabriel's](#)

[Suzannes-Garden-Pamphlet \(provincetown-ma.gov\)](http://provincetown-ma.gov)

Sylvan Gardens, Chatham

Great walking trails in Chatham - don't miss Sylvan Gardens with its wonderful native and ornamental plantings!

[TRAIL GUIDE | Chatham Conservation Foundation](#)

Combining colors in your garden. Here's a link from Monrovia on color combinations that go well together:

[2022 Shades of Beautiful Color Guide.pdf \(monrovia.com\)](http://monrovia.com)

Pollinator-Friendly Native-of-the-Month

Penstemon digitalis



With its long-blooming flowers, beautiful foliage, and popularity with numerous pollinators, *Penstemon digitalis* is a wonderful addition to any perennial garden and a must for pollinator gardens.

Commonly called foxglove beardtongue, *Penstemon digitalis* is an upright, clump-forming perennial that grows three to five feet tall and blooms for up to a month in late spring and into summer. The common name comes from the small clump of hairs that grow on one of its five stamens. The genus name comes from the Greek words “penta” (meaning five) and “stemon” (meaning stamen) in reference to each flower having five stamens, one of which is sterile. The species name comes from the Latin “digitus” (meaning finger) for flowers that look like the fingers of a glove.

12 Flowering Plants Rabbits Will Leave Alone (From Gardener’s Path):

1. Allium/Chives
2. Anise Hyssop
3. Bee Balm
4. Begonia
5. Black-Eyed Susan
6. Catmint
7. Foxglove
8. Hardy Geranium
9. Oregano
10. Salvia
11. Yarrow
12. Zinnia

Companion Planting - Make a Sustainable Neighborhood

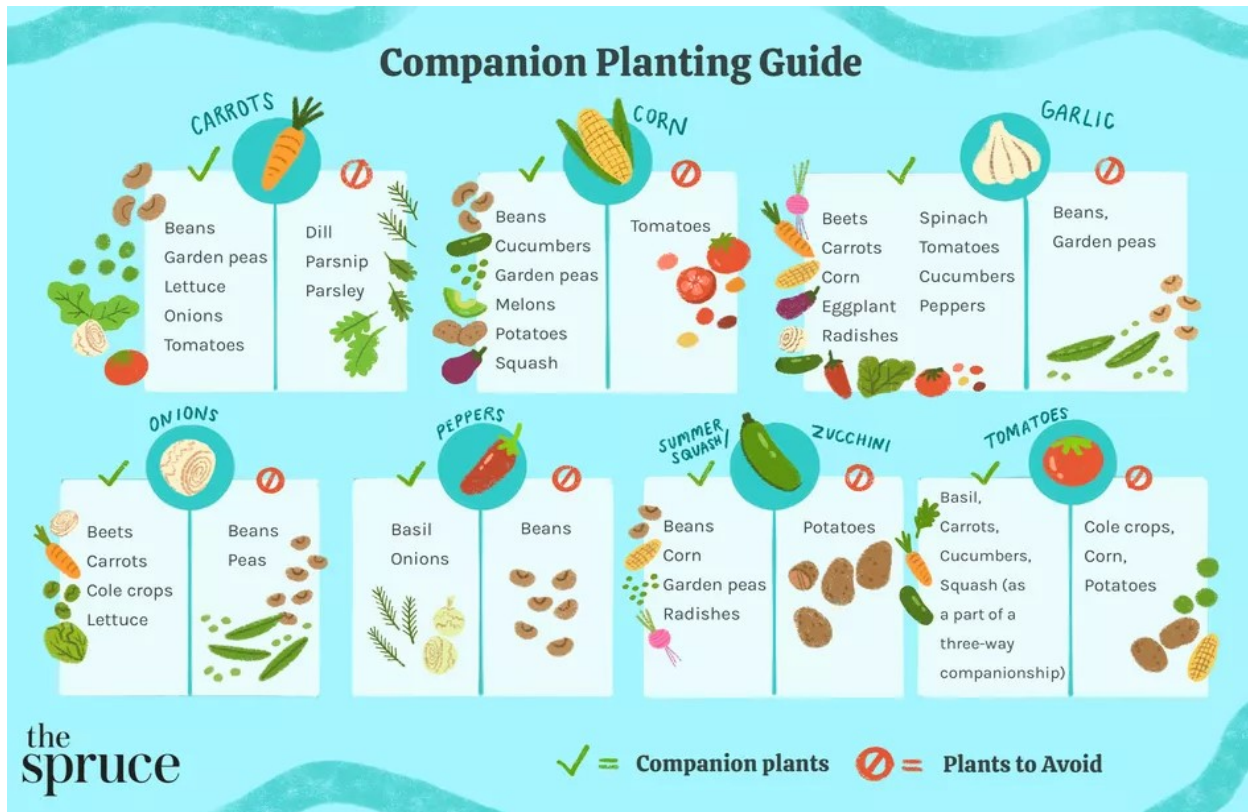
By Liz Scheld

Companion planting has been around for hundreds of years. Consider the *Three Sisters* practice of several Native American tribes. Corn, pole bean and squash plants were grown together, sustaining each other and thriving! The tall corn gave needed support; the pole beans pulled nitrogen from the air to the soil while also holding the “sisters” together; the broad squash leaves kept the soil cool and moist, and deterred pests. Nice metaphor. *Three sisters* offers an early example of **Biodiversity**, the practice of planting with different species that use and produce resources for the good of the surrounding ecosystem. Companion planting is the practice of mindful planning of shared space which helps multiple plants within an environment.

A common use of Companions plants is in Vegetable and Fruit gardens. There are **good companions**, i.e. where one plant can help the other or the help can be mutual. Sometimes two different, neighboring vegetable plants may repel or confuse an insect pest. But *do* know that there also can be **poor companions**, so watch out! Use the charts and read the texts from [The Spruce](#) and [The Farmers' Almanac](#).

Besides vegetables, there occurs the idea of Companion planting of herbs, perennials, and annuals to attract “friend” insects or deter “foe” insects or other pests. Examples of Companion attraction: the herb borage that attracts pollinators, and the herb dill that serves as a host plant for caterpillar of the swallowtail butterfly. Marigolds attract helpful insects that rid our gardens of damaging bugs. Nasturtiums and calendulas are also good companion plants. Learn to intersperse the “friend” plants that ‘play nice’ in a garden, with your pollinator plants, and you’ll have healthier gardens with a better yield.

So, as gardeners, let’s focus on those Companion plants which deter those insects destructive to our flower beds. In The Spruce website, I found a few of those helpful Companion herbs to discourage some of those harmful insects I want gone! Rosemary to repel slugs. Garlic and chives to deter Japanese beetles. Catmint for keeping out aphids and Japanese beetles. Basil to deter mosquitos; Wormwood which tends to protect against mice. And to keep it simple, remember the following herbs *discourage many foes*: varieties of the mint family, rosemary, and lavender - herbs that are attractive, easy to grow, and offering culinary benefits - while working to repulse pests.



As a final point, keep in mind the use of Companion plants for maintenance and aesthetics. When grouping to ensure *ease of care*, combine “friends” which share similar *growing conditions*, such as amount of sunlight/shade, type of soil and pH, and water needs. Companion plants such as yarrow and sedum can co-exist in a sunny, sandy, dry spot. Group together, but give attention to the water needs of astilbes and ferns, especially if they are in part sun areas. In terms of *aesthetics*, consider color combinations to highlight or diminish space in a garden. Monochromatic- maybe a silver and white garden at night? A rich mix of fiery colors? Beyond colors, think of texture, size, shape– to promote repetition – or to make a contrast. There are garden design ‘rules,’ but your own preferences can lead to great use of companion planting, as well! Some will say there’s little scientific data for Companion planting. Yet based on the observational and anecdotal history of its success, it’s well worth the time and effort! Following are resources. Consider what you know about sound gardening practices, such as biodiversity and eco-friendly methods. Explore, enjoy!

Roses Love Garlic, Companion Plants and Other Secrets of Flowers by Louise Riotte

Great Garden Companions: A Companion-Planting System for a Beautiful, Chemical-Free Vegetable Garden by Sally Jean Cunningham

<https://www.almanac.com/companion-planting-guide-vegetables>

Reusing Your Potting Soil - See link below (just skip the ads) [Can I Re-use Old Potting Soil in Containers? // How to Revitalize Old Potting Soil](#)

Jumping Worms

By Donna Maiocca

I have hesitated for a couple of months on including information on “Jumping worms”, aka Asian jumping worms, also called snake worms and crazy worms. I emailed Russ Norton, Barnstable County Extension’s Horticulture & Agriculture Educator, to ask him about Jumping Worms. His response was that Jumping Worms had a big increase in questions starting in 2019 and has been a “hot topic in garden club circles and garden blogs/facebook and likely have been here for sometime. How widespread and abundant is not completely known.” Another reason for my hesitation is because when I was doing research on them, I didn’t care to look at pictures of them, and I didn’t want to frighten any of you into thinking you have them in your gardens. When I was out in my gardens doing Spring clean-up and came across some worms, I had NO idea what kind of worms they were! Only to read that at this time of year, only the cocoons (if you even have them) would be in the soil now and they are the size of a pinhead and are still dormant, so I wouldn’t have found them anyway!

So, I’ve included the link below for you to peruse if you are interested in learning more about these little invasive creatures!

[JJumping Worms-Accessible V2021 OPTIMIZED.pdf](#)

[Jumping Worms Conference | Center for Agriculture, Food, and the Environment \(umass.edu\)](#) (this link has additional links more specific to Massachusetts)

Be sure to visit our FaceBook page under Chatham Garden Club and see the great short videos Beth posted! Katherine Touafek will soon be taking over as the Publicity Chair and the Social Media for our Club. Thanks for all of your work Beth, and we are looking forward to Katherine’s talents in Social Media!

Scholarship Committee: 1st Recipient of CGC Small Business Grant

Devon Wolfenden, business owner since 2020 of Devon Rose Design, received our \$1,000 grant in May. Devon has a degree in environmental studies and has experience in designing and installing native ecosystems. The grant will aid her in developing a website to better market her business. We enthusiastically support her small business that aligns with the CGC mission!

Agway Discounts: There seems to be some confusion on the discounts we are given from Agway in Chatham:

You can use **EITHER** your Agway Card to accumulate “Loyalty Dollars” **OR** show your Chatham Garden Club card to receive a discount (the discounts vary and are not applicable to all purchases). You can not combine both cards. If something is on sale when using your Garden Club card, the lower price will prevail.



Bring your own chair and lunch to Jen’s house for our general meeting on **TUESDAY, June 14th**

Enjoy your summer! - Don’t forget our own Garden Tour on July 15th and our need for volunteers at the five gardens.

Cape Cod Hydrangea Festival, July 8th - July 17th

[Cape Cod Hydrangea Festival | Cape Cod Summer Events \(capecodchamber.org\)](https://www.capecodchamber.org/cape-cod-hydrangea-festival)

Have a great summer, enjoy your gardens, and “See you in September”.....

Remember this? Of course you do! *Hit the link below!*

[SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER - \(The Happenings / Lyrics\) - Bing video](#)