

Going Green Tips

Newspaper weeds away

Start putting in your plants, work the nutrients in your soil. Wet newspapers, put layers around the plants overlapping as you go. Cover with mulch and forget about weeds. Weeds will get through some gardening plastic but they will not get through wet newspapers.

Watering with gray water

This is the water from your house from activities where you don't have much in the way of additives of soaps and chemicals, even bath water will do. Rain water is also gray water and may even be better for your plants. Use barrels to collect the water from your downspouts. Solids will settle to the bottom and you can use a pail or a hose bib on the barrel to use the water.

Interior & Exterior Lighting

A 60 watt rated florescent bulb uses much less electricity than a 60 watt incandescent saving you money. Many of your current fixtures will accept the new bulbs. And, you do get used to them even when reading. This also reduces the need to generate more electricity. Use a fluorescent weather proof fixture for your outdoor lighting as well. It works well and gives plenty of light for security purposes.

Self-watering Containers & Hanging Planters

Both of these types of planters are water hogs! Think about lining your hanging planters with plastic and covering the top with mulch. You should also cover those self-watering planters with a plastic over the top and around the plants to preserve as much moisture as possible.



Gourd Happenings In Our Gourdgeous World

October 16-18, 2009 - 14th Annual Lone Star Gourd Festival in Fredericksburg, Texas. Held at the Gillespie Country Fairground in the Pedernales River Valley of the Texas Hill Country. Workshops, Demonstrations, Judged Competition & a Kids Kraft Korner. Visit www.TexasGourdSociety.org for further details and updates. Rebecca Wise, 2009 Show Chair - 817-726-6653 Cell

October 17 & 18, 2009 - 2009 Alabama Gourd Show. THEME: "The Many Faces of Gourds". Location: Cullman Civic Center. Cullman, Alabama. Admission: \$3.00 for Adults and free for children 12 and under, when accompanied by an adult. Shop the beautiful vendor booths featuring amazing arts & crafts made from gourds, tour the ribbon competition exhibit hall, take a gourd art crafting class to make your very own handcrafted gourd, and watch artists do free demonstrations of their crafts. There will be door prize drawings throughout the day. There is also a dinner on Saturday night where gourds and other items are auctioned off. This is always lots of fun!! Dinner reservation form will be found at the bottom of the vendor application..Come and be amazed! For more info about the 11th Annual Alabama Gourd Show, contact Show Chair, Pam Montgomery at gourdzilla@aol.com

Nov 7, 2009 IGS Fall Festival Saturday 9:00AM to 3:00PM, Lafayette, Tippecanoe County Fairgrounds. Free admission, open to the public. Vendors, IGS Gourd Store, Gourd Seeds, Demonstrations, mini craft and dried gourd exhibition, music, kids booth, Auction. Membership meeting 3:00 pm. Mid-morning snacks and lunch.

Bill Freihofer, Festival Chair - wfreihofer@yahoo.com.

Nov 14, 2009 11th Annual Idaho Gourd Festival, Saturday 10 AM to 5:00 PM Gourd Show and Competition, Held at Edwards Greenhouse, off Hill Road, Free live demonstrations throughout the day, vendors and a multitude of raffle items. Meet gourd artists and gourd growers and view a huge variety of gourd art. Gourd art and raw gourds available for purchase. Fun for everyone. Free admission. Complete information and updates can be found at <http://idahogourdsociety.org>. Chris Peters

Got Gourds Fever?