



Bonner County Gardeners Association Education ~ Community Service ~ Camaraderie

October 2014

Please contribute to *The Garden Gate*. Informational articles, garden tips, announcements, and digital photos are welcome. For questions or comments please email lauriebrown54@gmail.com When emailing, please put "MG" in the subject line.

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President's Message

Josephine is a Queen in our Garden. Josephine graces the south-side of our garden shed and has done so for well over a decade. Josephine is a *Eupatorium fistulosum*, also known as Queen-of-the-Meadow, Joe Pye weed, and jopiweed.



Genus: *Eupatorium*
Species: *E. fistulosum*

Eupatorium fistulosum is a perennial plant native to North America. Its home range extends from central Florida, east to Texas, then north thru Iowa, Quebec and Newfoundland. It is hardy from zone 3 through zone 9, depending on the growing conditions. *E. fistulosum* does well in Bonner County.

E. fistulosum thrives in a sunny, constantly moist environment, though it can take dry conditions and still look good. It stands tall upon hollow purple stems topped with large mauve-purple flower heads. The florets usually start taking on color in late July or early August. The flowers hold their color for a long period of time and many varieties of pollinators visit to sip their nectar.

The leaves are long, lance-shaped, and arranged in whorls at each stem node. When crushed the leaves give off a vanilla scent and turn golden in the fall.

Plan plenty of room for this big bold showy plant. It grows up to 10 feet tall and 6 feet wide. *E. fistulosum* is easily propagated from root cuttings. Seed germination, however, is low.

If You have room, offer a place to the Queen-of-the-Meadow. She will grace your yard for many years. Our Josephine has for Us.

Jan

Kingdom: Plantae
Order: Asterales
Family: Asteraceae
Tribe: Eupatorieae

October Gardening To Do List



Zone 3

- Start fall compost pile
- Cover perennial, vegetable, bulb, and strawberry beds for winter
- Plant winter- and spring-flowering bulbs
- Divide and replant crowded fall-blooming bulbs after leaves yellow
- Cut back on feeding houseplants (do not feed dormant houseplants)
- Protect roses for winter

Zone 4

- Start fall compost pile
- Cover perennial, vegetable, bulb, and strawberry beds for winter
- Plant winter- and spring-flowering bulbs
- Divide and replant crowded fall-blooming bulbs after leaves yellow
- Buy spring-blooming bulbs
- Plant container and balled-and-burlapped fruit trees
- Cut back on feeding houseplants (do not feed dormant houseplants)
- Plant, feed, and aerate cool-season lawns and loosen thatch
- Sow seeds for frost-tolerant perennials
- Divide and replant summer- and fall-blooming perennials after bloom

- Protect roses for winter
- Plant summer-blooming shrubs and vines
- Plant balled-and-burlapped trees
- Plant trees in containers
- Plant frost-tolerant trees

Zone 5

- Start fall compost pile
- Plant winter- and spring-flowering bulbs
- Divide and replant crowded fall-blooming bulbs after leaves yellow
- Buy winter- and spring-blooming bulbs
- Plant container and balled-and-burlapped trees fruit trees
- Cut back on feeding houseplants (do not feed dormant houseplants)
- Plant cool- and warm-season lawns
- Aerate cool-season lawns and loosen thatch
- Sow seeds for frost-tolerant perennials
- Divide and replant summer- and fall-blooming perennials after bloom
- Plant container roses
- Protect roses for winter
- Plant container and balled-and-burlapped trees, shrubs, and vines
- Plant summer-blooming shrubs and vines
- Plant frost-tolerant trees





hosting a fall potluck contact Ann Warwick for scheduling and planning.

For 2015, we are looking for a new chair for the potluck/garden visits.

BCGA Sign : The large sign in front of the Ponderay Design Center building has several available spaces. If we wish to occupy one, we can have one made for about \$100, with our selection of a design and inclusion of information. Janae Dale moved to place a sign on the second tier, right, of the large sign in front of the Ponderay Events Center, to include our name, telephone number, web site, Suite F, and our logo. Final design to be determined. Gray Henderson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Membership Renewals: Renewals have been mailed out to members, along with ballots for election of officers and board members.

School Gardens: The projects at the Charter School are going well. Garlic will be planted soon. Janae Dale, Howie Fennimore, and Gray Henderson have been involved with this garden on an ongoing basis.

Announcements: We will not participate in the City Basket planting for 2015, as the work has been contracted to a Spokane nursery.

Meeting adjourned at 10:10 am.



BCGA Meeting Minutes –

October 1, 2014

Present at Meeting: Penny Barton, Rob Lilley, Butterfly Burke, Howard Fennimore, Gray Henderson, Jon Bair, Bonnie Pick, Marge Clements, Jan Wilfert, Janae Dale, Gail Swan, Barbara Pressler, Bruce Greene, Ann Warwick.

President Jan Wilfert called the meeting to order at 9:02.

September Minutes: Motion by Jan Wilfert, seconded by Bonnie Pick to approve September minutes. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Current balance as of 9/30/2014 is \$4681.70.

Home Horticulture Classes: Signups have dwindled this fall, though fall classes are generally less attended than the spring series. At the conclusion of the Fall series, we will evaluate the program for modification or whether to continue.

Potlucks: We had a good turnout for the September 20 potluck and garden visit at Patti and Carl Pietron's home. Members strolled around the gardens, orchard, grape arbor and greenhouse area, then took a nice long walk on a loop trail. We have no potlucks scheduled at the present time. Anyone interested in