

Participate in our 2017-2019 CONNECTICUT STATE PROJECT

Connecticut may be considered at the forefront of environment-friendly practices throughout our State.

I invite you to become stewards in your own communities and help in three major areas that continue to be of concern in supporting a healthy environment for today and for future generations.

A deficit of more than 12 inches in rainfall during 2016 has substantially dropped our water table, and reservoirs are at unusually low levels. Let's strive to CONSERVE WATER.

Indiscriminate use of chemical pesticides is raising havoc among our pollinators. Some bee species are approaching extinction. Let's strive to ASSIST POLLINATION.

There are many ways to grow plants in our own gardens, in community gardens, and in our town parks without resorting to chemical sprays and fertilizers. Let's strive to GARDEN NATURALLY.

Our State Project for 2017-2019 offers two contests:

Garden Clubs may participate by creating either a Xeriscape Garden or a Pollinator-friendly Garden in a Public Space. Individual Garden Club Members may participate by creating a Xeriscape Garden on their own property.

Our State Projects Chair is Holly Kocet. You may contact her at (203) 426-4303 or via email at hollyk325@yahoo.com.

The Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut, Inc.
www.ctgardenclubs.org

OFFICERS

President	Ingeborg Venus
First VP	Arlene Field
Second VP	Polly Brooks
Recording Sec.	Karin Pyskaty
Treasurer	Shirley Hall
Asst. Treasurer	Jane Polacco
Corresp. Sec.	Carol Lubus
Finance Officer	Terry Lubman
Parliamentarian	Ronnie Schoelzel

P. O. Box 854
Branford, CT 06405
office@ctgardenclubs.org
(203) 488-5528

Our Mission Statement

To coordinate, stimulate and encourage higher standards in all aspects of Garden Club work
To protect and conserve our natural resources, preserve our heritage and promote civic beauty



Member of New England Garden Clubs, Inc.
Susan Hinkel, Director

Her theme is "NEGCL PLANTS FOR EVERYONE"

Member of National Garden Clubs, Inc. (NGC)



Nancy Hargroves, President

www.gardenclub.org

Her theme is "PLANT AMERICA"



Ingeborg Venus
FGCCT President
2017-2019

PRESIDENT'S THEME and PROJECT

PLANT CONNECTICUT



BE A
CONSERVATION
CHAMPION

Support a Healthy Environment for Today
and for Future Generations

CONSERVE WATER

ASSIST POLLINATION

GARDEN NATURALLY

Be a Conservation Champion!

CONSERVE WATER

- Explore xeriscaping
- Install rain barrels
- Use drip irrigation
- Design rain gardens
- Mulch trees and shrubs
- Downsize your lawn

ASSIST POLLINATION

- Avoid chemical pesticides
- Plant native trees and shrubs
- Plant native perennials
- Cluster flowers by variety and color
- Plant successive blooms for all Seasons

GARDEN NATURALLY

- In your own garden
- In community gardens
- Advocate organic practices at nearby parks and farms
- Explore IPM principles
- Use natural layering (lasagna gardening)
- Practice composting

CONTEST RULES

See additional rules and details on our website at www.ctgardenclubs.org

FOR GARDEN CLUBS:

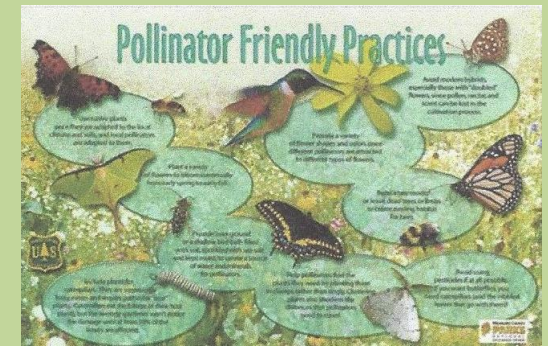
PROCESS: Devise a plan of your intent to create either a (1) Xeriscape Garden or (2) a Pollinator-friendly Garden in a public space, including a Maintenance Plan. You will need to coordinate with your Town to gain permission for your project on Public Property. Our State Projects Chair Holly Kocet will provide you with minimum dimensions for the garden. In sketches, diagrams, pictures and words, present your plan to her.

Note: A new National Garden Club Community Project Grant Program for clubs, entitled "Plant America", will be established during the 2017-2019 NGC administration to provide financial support of new or existing projects of NGC member clubs in their respective communities all across the United States.

APPLICATION: Upon installation of your Garden, submit at least one 8-1/2"x11" photo and a description of the completed project, including any press coverage. All applications must be preceded by a submitted Plan and sent to Holly Kocet, hollyk325@yahoo.com by February 15, 2019 to be judged for the *Conservation Championship Award* in each of the four club size categories: small, medium, large and extra large.

FOR GARDEN CLUB MEMBERS:

Individual Club Members may compete in a separate contest by creating a Xeriscape Garden on their own property.
PROCESS: Explore xeriscaping in your own garden by applying the seven principles from "Solution to Sustainable Living" at www.eartheasy.com.
APPLICATION: Submit an 8-1/2"x11" photo and a description of your completed garden by February 15, 2019 to hollyk325@yahoo.com. Your garden will be considered for the *Conservation Championship Award* presented to up to five garden club members with the most impressive *Xeriscape Garden*.



Suggested Safe Garden Nurseries:

- Earth Tones Native Plant Nursery in Woodbury
- Natureworks in Northford
- Gilbertie's Herbs and Garden Center in Westport
- List of others available upon request

Suggested Readings:

A list of articles published in the field of conservation and environment-friendly practices is available upon request.

Also, read or re-read Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring* and Douglas Tallamy's *Bringing Nature Home*.