

"CEDAR VALLEY GARDENER'S ALMANAC"

Utah Native Plant Society

APRIL, 2009

Cedar City Native Plant Chapter Vol. 1 – No. 1

"BE SURE TO ATTEND" The next meeting of the CCNP Chapter at the Com. Pres. Church, April 22nd 7pm. The featured speaker is Candace Schaible, County Agent and Gardening Specialist. Candace will share information on preparing your garden areas, about the need for pollinator attracting plants, plus the need to "plan your planting" and choosing the 'right plants'.

"NATIVE PLANT SALE": The CCNP Chapter plans a NATIVE PLANT SALE, Saturday morning, May 16th at the University Parking Lot across from the Centrum. **CCNP Chapter members are invited to order their plants from Janett Warner at the Wild Land Nursery.** *Order forms are available from Marguerite Smith @435-867-5487 and also at the next meeting.* A second list for late blooming stock will also be available at the next meeting. **Plan to pick up your orders at 8:00 am on 5/16/09.** The sale of other plants will be Open to the Public, from 9:00am to 12:00 pm.

"WEATHER TO PLANT?" The unpredictable climate of Cedar Valley warns us not be in a big hurry to set out plants in our gardens. Long-time residents propose that (1) you order plants now, (2) keep potted plants inside, (3) prepare and groom your garden areas, (4) spade in cow manure and mulch (no commercial fertilizer), and (5) make a plan for your garden plots.

"HOW GREEN IS YOUR GARDEN?" "Most gardeners are surprised to learn that 'often' greenhouse gas emissions from home gardening are associated with use of 'nitrogen fertilizers,'" says David Wolf (plant & soil ecologist @ Cornell University). The manufacturer of synthetic fertilizer is energy intensive while manures and other organic sources are better alternatives because the CO₂ emissions are mostly eliminated. Native trees, shrubs, ornamental grasses and wildflowers all absorb CO₂ and give off oxygen. They are hardy, immune to infestations, self seed and require little water. Use compost and mulch produced from garden trimmings. Cover your ground with lots of plant growth! Plant dozens of trees! Trees are BIG absorbers of CO₂. .

See you 'all' on April 22nd. Be sure to send your news items to Alice Maas at alice.m@Q.com.

"SPECIAL THANKS": **Kudos to Dr. Ron Martin** for his fine *picture* presentation on 'wild flowers' of Southern Utah at our last meeting. Dr. Martin will offer two courses at SUU this spring and summer that include field trips to see Native plants in our areas.

"CHURCH OFFERS EXPERIMENTAL GARDEN PLOTS": Several gardening plots are available to those wanting a challenge to create experimental gardens. If interested please contact Denise McAlmond at 435-586-9612 or Renie Ruhr also on the committee. Its first come, first serve!_

"WEED TEAM(S)": The CCNP Chapter has offered to help keep down weeds around the Church. **VOLUNTEERS** please contact Cat Delaney at 435-267-2787 for details!!! Cathy Canada is also on the committee. We will work before each monthly meeting from 4-6pm, Pizza for workers.

"MARK YOUR CALENDARS!": For the Wild-flower Festival July 18th; Dr. Walt Fertig, Native Plant Specialist, will arrange "Walks" and "Talks", Joleen Wise will organize the picnic, and we are looking for a volunteer(s) to coordinate the trip. The five So. Utah Native Plant Chapters will meet at Cedar Breaks at 9am, in the Visitor's Center for "Walk/Talk" program followed by a picnic lunch, fun & fellowship. We'll carpool.

