

New Members Guide
To the
GREENS FARMS GARDEN CLUB PLANT SALE

Every year on the third Saturday in May, Greens Farms Garden Club holds its annual plant sale. This is our only fund raiser and all members are required to participate. The proceeds from the sale are distributed to the various charities that we support, such as Aspetuck Land Trust, Earthplace and CT Audubon.

While work for the sale begins months earlier for the Ways and Means and Publicity Chairmen, for most members it is a late April and May commitment. Some plants are purchased; some are donated from a few generous nurseries. Most plants, however, are sourced directly from our member's own gardens, with a little help from friends' gardens—and, that means they have to be dug up and potted.

Digging and potting workshops start in early May and continuing to sale time. All members are required to participate in at least two scheduled workshops. You can divide them up however you want: 1 dig and 1 potting; 2 digs; 2 pottings; etc. The digging is done in the morning and potting on the same day in the afternoon. All potting is done at Diane Caserta's home, 1009 Redding Road in Fairfield. Members are asked to pick up all plants the night before the sale for delivery to the sale the following morning.

The sale is held on the Sherman Green in Fairfield from 9AM to 1 PM with two workers shifts. Starting at 8AM, the first shift is responsible for unloading plants from cars and setting up. The sale opens to the public at 9:00am - usually there are many people waiting to get in. Members should mingle with the customers, answering questions, helping where ever needed. There is a table set up with a very efficient payment system. The second shift comes in at 11 and stays through the cleanup, generally around 1:30 or 2 pm.

While all members are asked to contribute plants from their own gardens, if you are a relatively new gardener or just had a bad growing season, you may make a \$50 donation instead.

In summary, the plant sale is our only required activity. You are asked to participate in three ways:

1. Work at least two workshops, digging and or potting
2. Make a plant or financial donation
3. Work one or two shifts on the day of the sale.

The plant sale is a great way for new members to really get involved. By the end of the day, you will have met many new people and truly feel a part of The Greens Farms Garden Club!

See you all on Saturday, May 18, Sherman Green!

4/2/19 pw