



## Lowcountry Master Gardener Association

[www.LowcountryMasterGardeners.org](http://www.LowcountryMasterGardeners.org)

### BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF BLUFFTON

100 H.E McCracken Circle P. O. Box 1908  
Bluffton, South Carolina 29910

Tuesday afternoons for Raised Bed Gardening  
Friday Afternoon Tower Garden  
Sharon Butler, Project Manager  
[sbutler@sc.rr.com](mailto:sbutler@sc.rr.com)

There are two Garden Club projects at the club. The first is a conventional raised bed garden where we plant vegetables, herbs and flowers. Many of the plants are started from seeds. The children (members) are involved in all aspects of the garden from deciding what to plant, the care during the growing season and then the harvesting. All during this process, the children are educated on the fundamentals of gardening, environmental stewardship and healthy eating. This year, we will also be planting a butterfly garden which has the members quite excited. This project involves the younger members most between the ages of 6-12. We typically have between 8-12 members for this project and meet **Thursday** afternoon.

Our second project is our Tower Garden. It is a hydroponic garden although the Tower Garden provider refers to it as an aeroponic garden. It is a vertical plastic tower holding plants in pods with a reservoir at the base containing water and liquid fertilizer. The water is pumped up the tower and cascades down watering the plant roots. This project started this fall and we have been growing winter vegetables and herbs. We just assembled our second tower and are planning our spring planting. This project involves older members 12-16 and meets **Friday afternoon**.



We plan to do an evaluation of the different performance between the in-soil garden and the hydroponic garden during the summer growing season.