

JANUARY 2025

# WINDING RIVER COMMUNITY



Happy New Year 2026!



## ST. MARYS COMMUNITY MARKET

Saturdays 9 to 1

At Orange Hall  
311 Osborne Street

Produce, Homemade Goods, Local Art



*Join us for Alive After 5*



*Alive After 5 is back Friday, January 16 in Downtown St. Marys!  
Kick off the new year with live music, local shopping, great food, and a fun  
night out with friends and neighbors.  
New year. Same great Alive After 5.*

## Garden Corner

In last month's newsletter, I wrote about many different Christmas Plants. This month I will concentrate on the Christmas Cactus. I spoke about watering the cactus in the December issue, so I will concentrate on soil, fertilizer, light, temperature, and humidity requirements. In addition, in this article, I will speak about repotting and if you so choose to try it, creating a new Christmas cactus from your original and problems you may have with the Christmas Cactus.

Christmas Cactus like well-drained soil so use regular potting soil and if you have it fine bark mulch. You can use even sand or small pebbles in the pot base to help with drainage. Feed the plant once every two weeks with a diluted liquid fertilizer and stop feeding it about a month before blooming which would be approximately the end of October.

Christmas Cactus likes plenty of indirect sunlight. Pick a window that faces east or north. It will adapt to low light but likes the bright indirect light best.



Christmas Cactus loves humidity and grows best in temps between 65 and 75 degrees. The plant likes being in a snug pot, so don't plant in a pot too big since your plant may not even produce blooms. It likes to be crowded. Because of this, the plant doesn't need to be repotted more than once every two or three years. Don't re-pot when plant is in its blooming phase. Best time to re-pot is from spring to early summer. This allows the plant to adjust before blooming time which usually occurs in late November and December

Some issues you may run into with the Christmas Cactus might be root rot, stem rot, botrytis blight or dropping of buds. If blooms start dropping, the remedy is to keep the plant in moist soil (not wet) and temps between 65 and 75 degrees. Don't fertilize during late summer or during the fall and make sure the plant is in at least 14 hours of darkness each day. This will make the plant happy

Add a little bit of body textStem rot and root rot can occur if your soil is too damp. Once stem rot starts, it is pretty much a lost cause, and it is best to start a new plant with healthy cuttings. When root rot occurs remove the damaged part before it moves up the stem otherwise you can lose the entire plant.

Botrytis Blight is a grey mold. It occurs in high humidity so keep the humidity at a normal level which prevents this disease from occurring. If it does occur, first disinfect your pruners with a solution of bleach (10%) and water (90%). Clean pruners between cuts to avoid spreading the disease. Cut away the diseased area and destroy.

The Christmas Cactus sounds like it requires a lot of care but if you give it the correct environment it does great. Give it a try, it is a beautiful plant.

Happy New Year and Happy Gardening!

*Janet*

# January

# 2026

Save the dates for  
upcoming events:

February 21<sup>st</sup> - 6-9pm

Wine Tasting

March 28<sup>th</sup>






Easter Celebration

April 15<sup>th</sup> - 6-9pm

Women's Wednesday Wine

April 17<sup>th</sup> - 6-9pm

Guys Night Out

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7  Quilt Club 9am - Noon	8	9	10
11	12	13	14  Quilt Club 9am - Noon	15	16	17
18	19	20  Book Club 6 - 8 pm	21  Quilt Club 9am - Noon	22	23	24
25	26	27	28  Quilt Club 9am - Noon	29	30	31