



District 410A

"Green Living"



February 2013

Creature Feature:

27 February is International Polar Bear Day. With their icy habitat melting due to global warming, these lovable Arctic giants are starving and drowning as they have to swim further and further to find food. Unless we clean up our act, they may be extinct by 2050. Visit www.polarbearsinternational.org

400 = is the number of kilograms the average adult male polar bear weighs!



March is the perfect month to:

Fiery coloured foliage plants, aloes and late flowering perennials (red hot pokers, asters, Cape and marguerite daisies).

Namaqualand daisies, calendula, Iceland and Shirley poppies towards the end of the month. For fragrance, plant sweet peas, alyssum and nemesia.

Broad beans, beetroot, cabbage, carrots, celery, endive, kale, leeks, lettuce, onion, parsley, peas, radish, spinach and turnips.

Apples, bananas, pears, plums, pomegranates, quinces, mangoes, pineapples and grapes.

DIY garden tools:

- Tin with holes for a watering can;
- Plastic meat trays & egg boxes for planting seeds in;
- CDs & tops of tins to write plant names on;
- Spade/scoop made from milk carton;
- 2-litre plastic cool drink bottle with hole for slow watering



Useful waste:

- Egg shells crumbled to deter snails;
- Wood ash (not coal ash) is excellent for compost;
- Used tea bags for trench beds or compost



Tortoises of the Western Cape

The tortoise (*DG Jimmy's favourite pet*) is a land-dwelling reptile and the world is home to about 43 species with adults ranging in size from 10cm to 1metre. South Africa has 13 species and 8 are found in the W. Cape alone. This makes the W. Cape an international tortoise hotspot, because on less than 1% of the earth's surface, we find almost a quarter of all know species and there is even an endemic species found nowhere else on earth—the geometric tortoise.

Environmental Workshop—9 February 2013

Thanks to those Lions, Leos and friends who attended this jam-packed workshop on a drizzly Saturday morning. Our interesting presenters were Francois Louw & Marguerite du Preez, SANCCOB (penguin's rehabilitation process from an oil spill), John Kieser, Plastics SA (marine pollution), Skhumbuzo Mbewu (history of Intaka Island), Tina Krynauw, Wasteplan (benefits of recycling) and Marion Siebritz, Starke Ayres Garden Centre (water-wise gardening).

Positive feedback has been received and this could become an annual event. Thanks to Table View Lions Club for handling the catering, setup and clean up.



DC Liz