

Evergreen Chrysanthemum Association

www.ecamumclub.org

www.facebook.com/www.evergreenmumclub.org

Presidents Message

Hi All,

Our March meeting will be held on **Saturday, March 14, 2026**, at the **Volunteer Park Conservatory** from **10:00 a.m. to noon**. This will be the first opportunity for members to purchase mum starts. Even more cultivars and plant starts will be available at our **April 11th meeting**. Plant starts may be purchased by ECA members for **\$2 each**.

We had a wonderful turnout at our February Cutting University—thank you to everyone who participated. It looks like we took close to **400 cuttings!** Cutting University gives members a chance to gain hands-on experience and helps us build stock for our April annual public plant sale. The more cuttings you take, the more proficient you become.

Attached is the list of cuttings taken at our February meeting. Please review it. If you have extra cuttings of cultivars not listed—especially those with fewer than 10 cuttings—please consider donating plant starts for ECA's April member and public plant sales.

Speaking of plant sales, we will need volunteers for our **April 18th public plant sale** at the Volunteer Park Conservatory between **9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.** Please consider giving a bit of your time that day. As the saying goes, *many hands make light work*.

Lastly, a reminder that to receive the member price **2026 membership dues must be paid**.

The **March Cultural Notes** are included below.

You'll also find additional resources and growing tips on our website: www.ecamumclub.org.

We look forward to seeing you on March 14th!

The glory of gardening: our hands in the dirt, our heads in the sun, our hearts with nature. We nurture our soul



Upcoming Events

Sat, March 14th

ECA Monthly Meeting

Sharon Priebe Wing – VPC
10 am – Noon
ECA Plant starts available for members

Sat, April 11th

ECA Monthly Meeting

Sharon Priebe Wing – VPC
12:30 pm – 2 pm
ECA Plant starts available for members

Sat, April 18th

ECA Public Plant Sale

9 am – 2 pm

Sat, May 9th

ECA Monthly Meeting

Sharon Priebe Wing – VPC
10 am – Noon



January 2026 Meeting Minutes – attached

Annual ECA Fundraiser – Public Plant Sale

Our member and public plant sales are the only annual club fundraisers that we hold. There are lots of ways to Volunteer. Please sign up at the March 14th and April 11th monthly meetings

Purchasing ECA Plant starts

Active ECA members can purchase plant starts at \$2.00 per start.

An active ECA member has:

- a) Attended at least 2 meetings in the past 12 months or
 - b) Participated in the 2025 ECA show or Tilth Plant Sale
 - c) Volunteered at the 2025 ECA show or public plant sale
- ECA members who have attended less than 2 meetings in the past year can purchase plant starts at \$4 each or 3 for \$10

2026 ECA Membership Dues

ECA dues are the best bargain in town. Sign up for your membership now!

\$15 – single membership

\$20 – Household

Mail Checks to:

ECA
BOX 66155 Burien, WA 98166

Kings Chrysanthemum Order

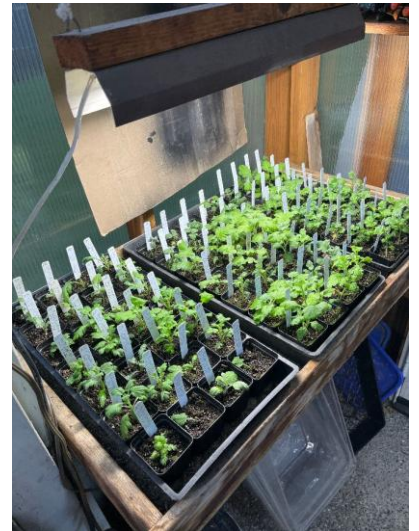
Our group Kings mums order was submitted on January 5th.

We anticipate that the mum starts will arrive toward the end of March. Those who participated in that order will be notified when the starts arrive.

Available Supplies

- M&R Mix
- Plant Tags
- B9
- Early Season Fertilizer
9-45-15

2026 cutting university



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March Cultural Notes

At this point we should all have cuttings in 2 inch pots, supplies in hand and preparing to pot up our starts toward the end of March/beginning of April into 4 or 6 inch posts

- **Clean pots and gather materials for potting:**
 - For soilless growers, supplies include soilless mix, Early Season fertilizer (12-45-10). Most of our growers use the M & R Soilless potting mix sold by the club at \$10 /bag. Another good alternative is Sunshine #4 professional growers mix – can be purchased at Home Depot.
- **Pot mums into 4 or 6-inch pot:**
 - Clay pots are recommended when possible for the 4 or 6 inch potting as these pots breathe and dry out faster during cool March and April days.
 - Wash used pots in a bleach/water solution, i.e. 2 teaspoons per gallon of water. Then rinse in fresh water. Let the cleaned pots set in the clear water for 3 or 4 minutes to clear out the bleach. Change the rinse water occasionally to clear out the bleach from previous rinses.
 - Pot on when the ring of roots around the bottom of the pot is substantial. Do not compact the mix and leave room at the top for watering.
- **Move pots outdoors:**
 - After mums have become well established in the new pots (1-2 weeks) move mums outdoors or to cold frame to slow the foliage growth and toughen up the plants. The desirable ambient temperature is 50 to 60 degrees.
 - To keep roots warm and at a stable temp, bury the pots in the soil or in a layer of compost or manure. Six inches is a good depth for the compost or manure. A cold frame is the best solution for this stage!
 - Lacking a good sunny location, B-9 is a growth retardant spray mix that tends to help plants from getting too leggy. It is available through the club.
- **Stopping Dates:**

Review Stopping dates and stop mums as their stopping dates arrive. Very few varieties require pinching in March unless a double pinching regimen is being followed (Phil Houghton March 15 and May 15 for example)

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This is how we grow them



I've told my friends...

"Some Chrysanthemum varieties grow the size of a basketball."

Their response (or at least their thoughts) "Yeah... Sure... exaggerating a bit, maybe? "

Here's my proof.

And it's not just this Primrose Jessie. We have experienced growers who are talented enough to replicate this size most years

ECA 2025 fall show



Honey – David Rynes



Icey Isles – Emily Allsop

Refer to the attached ECA stopping list for a list of stopping dates for various varieties. Stop date lists are available on our website www.ecamumclub.org

- **Keep growing vigorously:**

- Water as needed, but keep relatively dry
- Spray or control aphids
- Fertilize soil less plants with 9-45-15 starting the 2nd or 3rd week after potting. Use fertilizer at ½ strength that is approximately ½ teaspoon/gallon.

Cutting Bed Basic Design



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