DCBG Annual Dye Party - Sunday, November 1, 2026

Note: "Fall Back" Change your clocks!

Dye Party begins at 10 am – clean up completed by 2:00 pm.

Steppingstone Farm Museum, 461 Quaker Bottom Rd, Havre de Grace

If it's raining - we'll have to reschedule; we'll send out an email ASAP, on the 1st.
Plan to be cleaned up by 2:00 p.m.; please try and be there NLT 12:30 p.m. if you have material to dye.
We plan to start dyeing at 10 a.m.
If you want to bring food to share for a potluck, please do so. A short meeting may be held at 1 p.m.
Even if you don't plan to dye reed, please come … it is after all a party!
Please call or email June today with questions and **your color requests** -
jhersey@zoominternet.net / dcbg@zoominternet.net - 717-309-9958

What to bring if you have; what to do:

- a lawn chair
- large pots to dye in (like a porcelain canner, that you don't plan to reuse except for dyeing)
- propane tanks and burners (like used for crab pots)
- reed to dye (reed will be for sale as well)
- any Rit® dye or other brand you'd like to donate
- Wear old clothes and shoes - dye is messy; dress warmly!
- Bundle your reed together with rubber bands at the very ends of the reed, just to help keep your reed separate from others in the dye pots. Bundle according to what colors and sizes you want to dye.
- Bring any natural "marketing" flowers you have woven so we can dye them.
- Bring all the "pumpkin" bingo door prizes you've made so we can dye them.
- ***ALL dyed reed must be kept outside*** – no dyed reed in the building.
- Please stay with your reed while it's in the pots! It is easy to get your reed mixed up with someone elses!

Guild will provide:

- Bags to take reed home in and plastic to lay your reed on to dry, put your name on bags/plastic so as not to confuse your reed with someone else's; gloves
- dye - we will have a good selection of colors and recipes to combine colors to make other colors (remember no color is guaranteed)
- Louise and June will have reed for sale, and will sell smaller quantities, including down to 1-yard pieces. Look through your patterns and see what sizes, quantities and colors you need. Bag it up by pattern!
- We hope to have at least 12-16 colors going at a time – think about doing some space dyeing!

Dye Party Suggestions:

Go through your patterns and determine which baskets you want to make in the upcoming months that require color. Get a ziplock bag, put in the materials you need to dye for that pattern. If stakes are dyed, go ahead and cut the stakes. If more than one color is required, separate materials by color, identify; make a list on the ziplock. Include the pattern in the bag or if not your pattern, make a note of the name and where you can get it (i.e., Guild library, friend).

Wet dyed reed will dry lighter. After dyeing, rinsing and drying, put the reed back in the bag and when you are ready to weave that basket, much of the work is already done. **Never** seal damp or wet reed in a plastic bag – will mildew quickly!! If you follow this, during the dye party you can quickly dye the material you need to complete a pattern. Good idea to dye a little more material than you think you'll need. Have some old reed…?? – dyeing will usually spruce it up; or have some that's faded, or not a color you like…over dye it; never know what color you might get, or there's always black. Dye seagrass, ash strips, or other basket weaving material; **please no items that are not related to basketry.**