

ACE 100 HOUR WORKERS RECOGNIZED

Sixteen extremely active Master Gardeners received special recognition at the NETMGA dinner on Jan. 10, 2006. These gardeners contributed more than 100 ACE hours which directly benefited the local community. Congratulations and thanks to: J.P. Barrett, Glenda Blanton, Lisa Bradley, Sandee Cook, Joy H. Cox, Lloyd Grim, Ellen Hilderbrand, Doug Hilton, Ben Hunter, Valerya Hyrne, Dennis Marshall, Joy Moore, Carlotta Paulsen-Boaz, Juana Quinones, and Nancy Scott.

Note: This is a local recognition, honoring those people who apply their knowledge by working in the local MG program, thereby earning 100+ ACE hours.

CONGRATULATIONS TO NEWLY CERTIFIED MASTER GARDENERS



Thirty new Master Gardeners were certified at the annual Recognition Dinner on Jan. 10, 2006. The newest MGs are: Lisa Bradley, Burch Bullock, M.C. Bullock, Lynn Carson, Sandee Cook, Angie Cumbow, Jerry Cunningham, Tom Daniel, Gwyn Duncan, Sue Eaton, Bill Grigsby, Jr., Nancy Haas, Penny Hahne, Valerya Hyrne, Jan Jones, Lisa Jones, Sharon Lane, Martin Litz, Laura Martin, Linda Martin, Tim Martin, Junella McClellan, Gene Moody, Mamie Pecktol, Gini Powell, Sally Richard, Lisa Stair, Barbara Voigt, and Kathleen Wagner. Congratulations to everyone!

LEARN LANDSCAPING BASICS AT MARCH NETMGA MEETING

NETMGA is excited to host Ken Soergel who will speak on Landscape Design at the March 14 meeting. Ken was a presenter in the fall '05 Master Gardener Class and his talk was very well received. Ken has agreed to teach two additional landscape classes if 10 or more Master Gardeners sign up for them at the March 14 meeting. Those classes will meet Tues. March 21 & 28. A small fee will be required for them.

Due to a conflict in scheduling, the March 14 NETMGA meeting will be held at the Farm Bureau Building, 3048 Highway 126 (Main Street), Blountville, TN at 6:30 p.m.



Directions for March meeting: From I-81 toward Blountville, take exit 69, turn right at the end of the exit ramp coming from Kpt. or a left from Bristol onto Hwy. 394. Proceed appx. 1/2 mile to first traffic light and turn left onto Hwy. 126 (Main St.) Proceed appx. 1 mile to 3048 Hwy. 126 Farm Bureau Bldg. on right – just past Food Country. Meeting room downstairs.



Chris' Corner

CHRIS RAMSEY
SULLIVAN COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT
(423) 279-2723

Hours, hours, hours....often the last thing you want to consider, but they are very important to the UT Master Gardener Program. Documentation of Master Gardener hours is a key element of impact reports to our funding sources. **So please, report those hours by September 30, 2006!** Also, keep in mind that you can send in hours as they accumulate throughout the year. Make sure you keep a copy for your records! But there still seems to be a bit of confusion about how to record your volunteer hours...

of these hours are:

A-implementation of the Master Gardener Training Classes or helping at the Extension Office.

C-serving at Farm Expo, Healing Garden, Green Belt Garden, etc

E-teaching a class or preparation of class materials.

(Realize that some of these hours can overlap in two different categories. A good rule of thumb is to record as E hours if applicable as this is the smallest representation) Mileage should only be recorded for "ACE" hours. Keep in mind that these hours can be a tax deduction as well!

"ACE" hours is an acronym which stands for Administrative, Community, and Education. Examples

The second kind of hour is a **"CEU"**. This stands for Continuing Education Unit. Record this type of hour any time you attend a formal program (with a speaker) **for your benefit.** Remember, the hours required are 25 ACE and 8 CEU hours for Active MGs and 40 ACE and 8 CEU hours for MG Interns. Membership in SAPS, NETMGA, or any other organization alone doesn't fulfill MG certification requirements.

I also need a few more MGs to assist in the Extension Office this spring (a great way to earn some of your ACE hours) by researching information and answering homeowner telephone calls. If you are interested in helping me out, contact Kathy Francescon at auntkat@charter.net or 423-392-4426.

Let's have a productive and educational Master Gardener year for 2006.

VARIETY OF MG PROJECTS AVAILABLE FOR CREDIT (AND FOR FUN!)

Projects Coordinator Dennis Marshall reports new and on-going projects are available for Master Gardeners this spring. projects are already underway: (Contact the person listed if you are interested in helping in one of these areas.)

One of the newest projects is a revamping of the area in front of Indian Path Hospital. The hospital has expressed interest in creating a walking trail bordered by incremental plantings of flowers and shrubbery. Revised drawings for this project are currently underway.

A second new undertaking is working at Sycamore Shoals Hospital in Carter County. A small group of Master Gardeners has expressed interest in working at that location. Details will be released as soon as they are available.

For folks eager to get a start, the following

Healing Gardens at JCMC

Barbara Voight - 467-2013

Heirloom Garden on the Greenbelt

Carlotta Paulsen-Boaz - 378-9361

Butterfly Garden on the Greenbelt

Ellen Hilderbrand - 239-3309

Gray Fairgrounds

Doug Hilton - 239-9433

If anyone has information about other on-going projects, please contact Dennis Marshall at 288-3675.



Appalachian spring
White Flowering Dogwood

ALL ABOUT DOGWOODS

SAPS Hosting Hugh Conlon

The local SAPS organization will meet, Thursday, March 16, at 7 p.m. at the Johnson City Power Board building. Hugh Conlon, UT Area Extension Specialist, will present "All about Dogwoods", a look at the wide array of beautiful plants now available in the genus *Cornus*. The program is free and the public is invited.

(Directions to the Power Board: From I - 26 (Formerly I-181) take the Boones Creek exit heading towards Jonesborough. Go approximately 1/2 mile. JC Power Board building is on the left.)

EXCHANGE PLACE SPRING GARDEN FAIR SCHEDULED

Spring has truly arrived in east Tennessee when the Exchange Place Spring Garden Fair is held. This year's Fair will be Saturday, April 29, from 10 a.m. to 5 and Sunday, April 30, from 12 noon to 5 p.m. at Exchange Place Living History Farm, 4812 Orebank Road in Kingsport. Thousands of plants, garden accessories and related crafts will be available for sale with an emphasis on herbs, native and heirloom plants. The Fair will also feature garden talks, children's activities, traditional music and baked goods as well as demonstrations of springtime activities on an 1850s farm. For more information, call 423-288-6071. Master Gardeners will have an information table. To volunteer to staff a shift, please call Joy Moore at 348-6572, e-mail jonmoore@tricon.net, or Martha Pannell at 538-6625 e-mail MarthaPann@aol.com

BLOOM 'n' GARDEN EXPO SET FOR EARLY APRIL

Master Gardeners in the middle of the state have invited their East Tennessee counterparts to attend their regional garden show in Franklin, just south of Nashville.

The third annual Bloom 'n' Garden Expo will be Friday, April 7, from 9 am to 8 pm; Saturday, April 8, from 9 am to 6 pm, and Sunday, April 9, from 10 am to 3 pm at the Williamson County Ag Expo Park, located at 4215 Long Lane in Franklin, Tennessee, just off I-65 at exit 61-Peytonsville Road. General admission tickets will be available at the door and are \$8 for adults and \$3 for children under 12. A three-day pass is available for \$10 at the door.

A special event is scheduled for horticulturists on Friday, when noted speaker and author Dr. Allan Armitage will speak. In addition, the Expo will feature workshops, speakers and more than 200 vendors from around the country.

For more information, go to www.wcmga.net or call 615-790-6521.

AQUATIC EXPO SCHEDULED

N.A.W.G.S. (North American Water Garden Society) presents the 1st annual Aquatic Expo in Jackson, TN Saturday and Sunday, March 18 and 19. The event is sponsored by Carter's Nursery, Pond & Patio, Inc.

According to Carter's, water features and ponds are currently the #1 requested way that home-owners want to enhance their homes. Those who are already water gardening enthusiasts or would like to explore this exciting yet tranquil hobby, may want to attend this seminar. Nationally and locally known speakers will present various talks on such topics as "Raising Koi," "Spring Cleaning the Pond," and "Designing a Water Feature," Other topics will also be discussed.

Saturday's opening events will be held at the University of Tennessee Agricultural Center located at 605 Airways in Jackson, TN. (From I-40 go south on 45 Bypass to a right on Airways at 4th traffic light). At 3:00 PM the seminar will move to Carter's Nursery, Pond & Patio located at 2846 Old Medina Rd (Just 3/10 of a mile north of I-40 at Exit 83 - Campbell St). Sunday's sessions will also be held at Carter's.

The cost of this 2-day seminar is \$10 for N.A.W.G.S. members and \$15 for non members. Space is limited; call (731) 424-2206 to reserve a seat. E-mail: christievarnick@charter.net

EDITORIAL

We are so excited about all the upcoming events in the gardening world. Surely there is something to interest every gardener. We extend heartfelt thanks to everyone who sent information for this issue – we were inundated with material – all of it exciting and worthwhile. Please, everyone who contributed to this issue, keep up the good work. We really appreciate you!

We do need you to help us in getting the newsletter to you. Our objective is to send it by e-mail, because this saves time, postage, and gets it to you in color! However, we are happy to send black and white hard copies to folks who request them – it just takes a few more days to get them to you. If you are not receiving the newsletter in the proper format, or if you know someone else who has not received it, please notify Kathy at auntkat@charter.net or Jean at greenfam2@chartertn.net. If your e-mail or US mail address changes, be sure to let us know. Thanks!

We are starting a new column with this issue called “Give and Get.” It is based on the simple premise that some people have an abundance of things they would like to share while others have specific things they need. These “things” may be plants, materials, or information. Our hope is to help the givers connect with the getters. So, if you want to put something in for the May/June issue, contact either Kathy or Jean and we’ll do our best. See page 7 for our first entries.

PACK YOUR WHEELBARROWS FOR GREENWOOD



The NETMGA Second Annual Parks Seed/Wayside Gardens Visit is scheduled for June 16 & 17 in Greenwood, SC. Gardeners may purchase seeds at a 50% to 90% discount and plants for as much as 50% off. The sale actually starts on the 17th, but they are allowing us to tour on the 16th! The drive to Greenwood takes about 3 hours, so arrangements have been made to stay overnight at The Comfort Inn. This site will serve as NETGMA headquarters for the trip. Call Brenda Floyd at 864-223-2838 to make reservations. They are giving us a special rate on single rooms at \$49.00 and double rooms at \$54.00 (with a \$5.00 charge for an extra person).

Other available hotels in the area include:

EconoLodge – 864-229-5329
Days Inn – 8864-223-1818
Hampton Inn – 864-388- 9595
Jamison Inn – 864- 942- 0002

It will be up to each individual to make your own hotel arrangements. **AFTER you make your reservation, please contact Doug Hilton at 239-9433.** Doug will be directing the car pool arrangements and will need to know how many to plan for. Departure times and locations will be announced at a later date. Maps are available if you prefer to make the trip on your own. NETMGA will provide trucks and/or vans to bring back all of your bargain purchases!

PLANT A LOVE FOR GARDENING IN YOUR CHILDREN!

Park Naturalist Brad Jones at Winged Deer Park in Johnson City, TN is forming a **Kid's Garden Club** for children aged 5 to 15. An orientation session will be held on April 21 from 4:00 to 6:00 pm at Robin Young Cabin in the park. At this session basic gardening topics will be discussed, including tools, planting, weeding, insects and other “neat stuff.”

The club will meet 3:30 to 5:30 PM on the following Tuesdays:

Session 1
April 25/May 30 Spring Miracles
Session 2
June 13/July 18 Season of Growing
Session 3
Aug. 8/Sept. 19 All about Harvest

Call 423-283-5821 and ask for Park Naturalist Brad Jones for more information. (Registration will start on March 28 to April 15 at Winged Deer Park's Administrative Office. **(Free)**)



Message from Our President....

Hello Everyone,

Having left our warmest January in 50 years behind us, will we have our winter in March? Let's hope not! I tend to have visions of daffodils dancing in my head as the Spring equinox nears and this April 2nd is indeed a red letter day...the beginning of daylight savings time (more time for our gardening projects!).

If you have not done so, please mark your calendars now for the regional MG conference in Chattanooga June 8-11. Beth Babbit, our State MG advisor, has requested that NETMGA members take charge of our State MG booth. This is a service opportunity, plus a great way to meet people and 'talk up' our hosting of the '07 State M.G. conference. We have also been asked to contribute items for the Silent Auction, which is a traditional event at MG conferences...we hope to have items donated from all the counties represented by our membership.

Few of us have been to a State M.G. conference, much less a Regional! It's a time to learn, (CEU's galore), teach (E hours), serve, (A & C hours), socialize and more. Let's plan to make a terrific group impression on our fellow Master Gardeners so they will want to come to "our house" in '07!

June seems to be prime drive time...another fun event is our trip to Greenwood, S.C. to Parks Seed/ Wayside Gardens. June 17th is the opening day of their famous and fabulous week-long SALE. Lots of interest has already been expressed by our members (rumors of tractor-trailer rentals abound!) Plan to be part of the fun!

Check out our March 14th program info! Ken Soergel is highly qualified in landscape design. We hope to see a good crowd at the Farm Bureau for his presentation.

**** Please note: As you accrue A,C,E, and CEU hours, be certain to maintain a separate personal record, always a good idea to keep a back-up copy for yourself!**

Thank you all for the many volunteer hours contributed in 2005. NETMGA is a young group, formally organized in 2002, consistently accomplishing much to benefit our community and assist in furthering the goals of our Agriculture Extension office. Let's stay involved, work off calories with therapeutic exercise, increase our gardening knowledge and teach others sound information, all while making new friends and having fun diggin' in the dirt!

Be well,
Ellen

2006 NORTHEAST TENNESSEE MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Ellen Hilderbrand
4205 Nickleby Ct.
Kingsport, TN 37663
(423) 239-3309
ellen421@juno.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Gwyn Duncan
221 De Lee Drive
Kingsport, TN 37663
(423) 239-0460
geduncan@charter.net

SECRETARY

Lisa Bradley
143 New Salem Drive
Limestone, TN 37681
(423) 257-3009
lgbradley1@comcast.net

TREASURER

Lois Bronson
273 South Creek Court
Kingsport, TN 37663
(423) 239-4285
honeybee@copper.net

CERTIFICATION OFFICER

Juana Quinones
1013 Wellington Blvd.
Kingsport, TN 37660
(423) 245-3469
qagroupjq@hotmail.com

PAST PRESIDENT

Doug Hilton
308 Castaway Drive
Kingsport, TN 37663
(423) 239-9433

2006 NETMGA COMMITTEE CHAIRS

<u>MEMBERSHIP</u>	Sabrina Bader	(423) 477-8937	paulsebrina@earthlink.net
<u>PROJECT</u>	Dennis Marshall	(423) 288-3675	dmarshall@chartertn.net
<u>PROGRAM</u>	Connie Dean	(423) 357-4219	lcdean@chartertn.net
<u>REFRESHMENT</u>	Jan Jones	(423) 349-6119	simpleintn@yahoo.com
<u>PUBLICITY</u>	To be announced		

HORTICULTURISTS' HINTS

Propagation from Semi-Hardwood Cuttings



By Carlotta Paulsen-Boaz

Timing is everything with cuttings. In the winter dormant (hardwood) cuttings are taken from the previous season's growth. While they require practically no further effort on the part of the gardener, success is highly dependent on the severity of the winter.

In spring tip cuttings, those of very young, soft shoots are made. These can grow quite rapidly but require exacting conditions to root. They succeed only with selected plants.

Semi-hardwood (or semi-mature) cuttings are available late spring through early summer. These are produced from the new growth once it has firmed up, but while it is still flexible. Timing varies with the growth pattern of the individual shrub; observation is the key. Though they do not grow as fast as tip cuttings they require much less care. More importantly a large range of shrubs, both deciduous and broad-leaved evergreens, can be propagated this way.

Cuttings must be taken from a part of the plant containing cells capable of generating roots. Such cells occur at the nodes, that tiny structures found where a leaf joins the stem. This defines how large your cutting should be. When prepared, a cutting should have at least a couple of nodes to bury in the potting mix and at least a couple more, complete with leaves, to stay above. A four inch length of stem generally suffices, but if leaves are closely spaced smaller lengths may be enough.

When collecting cuttings take care not to let them wilt. Have a water filled container handy or, if collecting far from home, bring plastic bags with a dampened paper towel inside each. Prepare the cuttings by pinching off the lower leaves. Leave at least one (if leaves are large)



Image Courtesy Missouri Botanical Garden

Spiraea japonica Little Princess

or two on top. They are needed to provide the energy for growth.

Rooting hormones aren't strictly necessary, which is nice as they are pricey and have a short shelf life. However, they often speed up root formation and, on difficult species, do increase the success rate. If you choose to use them follow the instructions. More is not better; apply just the amount or concentration listed.

After removing the lower leaves, set cuttings firmly into a very light potting mix. I find that standard potting soil mixed one to one with perlite does an excellent job. Many cuttings can be placed in a single container, just space widely enough that the leaves do not touch.

Your cuttings need moisture and light, but in the right amounts. Since the cuttings as yet have no roots, the atmosphere about the leaves must be kept at a high humidity to prevent wilting. The cheapest way to achieve this is with a clear plastic bag. You'll also need to rig a support system to keep the bag from resting on the cuttings (which encourages rot). I've found 3 or 4 disposable wooden chopsticks or skewers inserted in the pot do the job nicely. The exception to this rule is the Mediterranean plants such as lavender and rosemary. Any plant acclimated to dry climates should only be partly covered or rot is guaranteed.

Indirect light is the next ingredient. As the cuttings are enclosed in what amounts to a mini-greenhouse direct sun will cook them. Don't go overboard, indirect yes, but as bright as can be managed. With too little light the cuttings will never have the energy to produce roots.

You'll want to check on your cuttings at least once a week (more often if possible). As failure is most often due to rot, it is helpful to briefly

open the container allowing fresh air in as often as you can. Look for condensation on the plastic cover: if none is visible the cuttings need water. Also look for failed cuttings; if the leaves have died on a cutting remove it promptly. Finally look for new growth. It will only appear after roots have formed. Be patient, while some species root quickly others will take months. So long as the cuttings are still green they have a chance.

When you see new growth don't rush to pot up or plant out. Rooted cuttings need time to become acclimated to normal growing conditions. The rule of thumb (which applies to seedlings too!) is to only make one change at a time. Leave the container open to air for perhaps one hour on the first day and gradually work your way up to leaving the plastic off entirely. Once that has been accomplished give the rooted cuttings more sun, again take it slow and work up to that species preferred light level. Finally you don't want to re-pot a rooted cutting to a regular soil mix until it is well established. Often new growth is visible while the root system is still immature. If in doubt it doesn't hurt to wait awhile longer.

The shrubs that I have listed below as 'Best Bets for Beginners' are those which I have personally found quite easy to root (weigela cuttings

often with a 100% success rate). The second lists shrubs that aren't necessarily tougher to root but often require patience (box takes ages), or have lower success rates (just take more cuttings), or I simply haven't tried for myself.

Best Bets for Beginners

Shrubs that root quickly with a high success rate:

- Buddleia (butterfly bush)
- Clethra (summersweet)
- Forsythia
- Kerria
- Kolkwitzia (beauty bush)
- Lagerstroemia (crape myrtle)
- Weigela

Some others to try:

- Buxus (Boxwood)
- Santolina
- Viburnum
- Buxus (Boxwood)
- Euonymus
- Hypericum (St. John's Wort)
- Ilex
- Lavandula
- Nandina
- Philadelphus (Mock Orange)
- Rhododendron
- Rosa
- Rosmarinus
- Spirea

GIVE



& GET

TO GIVE AWAY Strawberry Plants (Ozark Everbearing) Contact Ben Hunter at 423-247-5917 by April 1st.

HELP Does anyone out there know how to reverse a bloom on a Bongvula? Mine blooms in winter, but not in the summer. Please contact Judy Penley at 423-357-3312.

GET I need the name of a person or business who sells and spreads lime – I need to cover 12 acres. Contact Jean Green 423-652-1756 or e-mail me at greenfam2@chartertn.net

GET Does anyone out there have any extra Bluebells to give away or swap? (aka Virginia Bluebells/Mertensia) Connie Dean lclidean@chartertn.net or 423-357-4219

Gardening at Girl Scout Roundup August 12

Do you like to work with young girls? Do you need "E" hours for your 2006 Master Gardener re-certification? The Kingsport Girl Scouts will be in need of Adult Volunteers to help girls with badgework involving plants/trees/art during their Summer Roundup at Exchange Place in Kingsport. Please contact Elizabeth (Liz) ! Blakely at (423) 349-5611 (home) or by email (lizblakely@yahoo.com) to find out more!!!!!!

Congratulations to Beth Babbit on the birth of her son! Beth is the UT advisor for Master Gardeners and is the proud mom of a new baby boy. Best wishes to the family.





2006 Southern Region Master Gardener Conference

EXCITING EVENTS PLANNED FOR CHATTANOOGA CONFERENCE

The 2006 Southern Region Master Gardener Conference is scheduled June 8 – 11, 2006 in Chattanooga, TN. Many exciting activities are planned during the conference, including:

- Dinner Along the River at the Tennessee Aquarium (6:00 PM)
- Silent Auction
- Creating a Butterfly Garden on the River .
- Roundtable Sessions
- MG Social or Riverbend Festival along the Tennessee River.
- Trade Show (9:30 AM till 5:30 PM)
- Lectures (Topics include Lawns, Southern Gardens, Yard Art, Hummingbirds, & Perennials)
- Vendors
- Free time in Chattanooga

For a detailed schedule and more information check the web site: SRMGC.tennessee.edu

OUR HELP NEEDED IN CHATTANOOGA

Mike Payne, Committee Chairman of the Chattanooga Conference, has requested help from the East Tennessee Master Gardeners to ensure the success of the event. If you can assist with any of the items listed below, please contact Mike at TNMASTERGARDENER@aol.com.

NEEDED:

1. The following plants – Sedum, Columbine, Wild Geranium, Homestead Verbena, Goldenrod, Coral Honeysuckle, Saint Johns Wort. If you have access to or can pot up any of these plants, please e-mail Dee Clark; gdclark@bellsouth.net; Denise.clark@cigna.com.
2. 100 garden trowels
3. Names of vendors or craft people who would like to have a booth at the Garden Expo on Saturday. The event is open to the Master Gardeners and also to the public.
4. Workers from Thursday at 2:00 throughout the weekend.

UPCOMING EVENTS 2006

- March 7 Fruit Tree Pruning Workshop 2:00, Elsea Farm, 2494 Enterprise Road, Piney Flats, TN. Call 423-279-2723 for more information.
- March 10–12 Philadelphia Flower Show and Longwood Gardens Bus Trip
- March 11 “Mastering Spring Fever” Garden Seminar, Memphis, TN
- March 14 NETMGA Meeting and Landscape Design Presentation by Ken Soergel, Farm Bureau Building 6:30
- March 16, SAPS Meeting 7:00 pm, Hugh Conlon presentation on Dogwoods
Johnson City Power Board
- March 18–19 Aquatic Gardening Expo, Jackson, TN
- March 22 1:30 Fruit Tree Grafting Workshop. For more information call 423-279-2723
Or
March 23 6:30
- April 4 NETMGA Executive Board Meeting, Gray Community Center 6:30 PM
- April 7–9 Bloom ‘n’ Garden Expo , Franklin, TN, Dr. Allan Armitage – Guest Speaker
- April 8 Garden Workshop at Winged Deer Park, Johnson City, TN. 11 am to 5 pm
Ben Hunter, presenter
- April 15 Visit to Littleton’s Greenhouses 10:00 am
- April 21 Kids’ Garden Club Orientation, Winged Deer Park 4:00 – 6:00 pm
- April 29–30 Exchange Place Spring Garden Fair, Exchange Place Kingsport, TN
Sat: 10 am – 5 pm and Sun: 12 Noon – 5 pm
- May 12 -13 Garden Fest 8:00 – 4:00 , Appalachian Fairgrounds at Gray , Plants and crafts for sale, garden talks, children’s activities, etc. No admission fee and free parking.
- May 23 Bonsai Program by Mike May & Friends (Details in May newsletter)
- June 8–11 Southern Region Master Gardener Conference, Chattanooga
- June 17 Wayside Gardens/Park Seed, Greenwood, S.C., Trip for Master Gardeners, Spouses/Significant Others, Guests. Plant sale with tremendous bargains!
- Aug. 6 Tennessee Urban Tree Care Program, Gray, TN



Northeast Tennessee
Master Gardener Association
c/o
UT Extension Sullivan County
3258 Highway 126, Suite 104
Blountville, TN 37617

<http://mastergardeners.tennessee.edu>

MEMPHIS MASTER GARDENERS HOST EVENT

The Memphis Area Master Gardeners are hosting "Mastering Spring Fever," a free garden seminar, on Saturday, March 11. Booths will be staffed by the Memphis Botanic Garden, Wild Birds Unlimited, the Hydrangea Society, several local nurseries and other gardening organizations. Visitors will find everything from garden art and twig furniture to worm castings. There will be plants grown by Master Gardeners and garden related items for sale as well as baked goods and refreshments. Garden experts will answer questions at the "Ask a Master Gardener" booth. The event starts at 9:00 am and will be held at The Red Barn on the grounds of Agricenter International, 7777 Walnut Grove Road, Memphis, Tennessee 38120.

VISIT LITTLETON'S GREENHOUSES IN APRIL



If you've never visited owner Anna Littleton's Greenhouses located between Kingsport and Johnson City, then you don't know what you're missing! Join us Saturday, April 15 as we rendezvous for a road trip to this plantsman's jewel located just a short 4-5 miles off I-26.

It's a lovely drive through the countryside and when you reach Anna's you'll want to explore the display gardens surrounding their home. Each year they carry new perennial selections, plus over 300 hosta varieties, day lillies, annuals, many interesting shade plants, sedums, lenten roses, Japanese iris and much, much more. You'll want to walk around the grounds and look at all the garden benches, yard art & crafts as well. So be sure and allow yourself at least 2 hours for your first visit.

Come join us **Saturday, April 15th** for a plant excursion you won't forget. For details on meeting place and directions, call or write Connie Dean at 357-4219 or lcdean@chartertn.net to get your name on the list. Bring your MG 10% discount card!