

NETMGA Projects List 2012

- 1. Appalachian Fairgrounds** Gray
Herb Garden Bill Speed bspeed@lbrtax.biz
Water Wise Gardens Joy Stewart joylarry@btes.tv
 - 2. Boundless Playground at Warriors' Path State Park** Kingsport
Gwyn Duncan 239-0460 geduncan@charter.net
 - 3. Carver Peace Gardens** Johnson City
Sam Jones 349-6119 simpleintn@yahoo.com
 - 4. Church Hill Senior Citizens Center Garden**
Marcia Vandermause mmvdvm@charter.net
 - 5. Exchange Place Living History Farm** Kingsport
Phil Ramey pmramey2009@yahoo.com
 - 6. Harvest of Hope Community Garden** Kingsport
Nancy Walker nancy_k_walker@msn.com
 - 7. Johnson City Medical Center, Woodridge Hospital** Johnson City
Barbara Voigt 467-2013 voigt7b@comcast.net
 - 8. Northeast State Community College Gardens to Degrees**
Doug Hilton 423-239-9433
 - 9. Rocky Mount Living History Site** Piney Flats
Don Davis home 854-0152, cell 943- 2392 donfdavis@aol.com
 - 10. Sycamore Shoals State Historic Park** Elizabethton
Vikki Bradach vbradach@gmail.com
 - 11. Tipton Haynes Historic Site** Johnson City
Claudia Hazel claudiajhazel@yahoo.com
 - 12. Vance Community Gardens** Bristol
Gini Powell PowellG@btcs.org
- Projects 13 and 14 are one weekend a year for each of the 5 activities.●●●
- 13. Johnson City Home Show and Women's Expo**
Penny Rutledge pennyrutledge2@aol.com
 - 14. Kingsport Meadowview Women's Expo, Home Show and Farm Show**
Doug Hilton 423-239-9433

SAVING THE BEES

You've probably heard the alarming news about decreasing populations of honeybees in the USA. Even in Europe, agriculturalists are worried about their rate of decline. Experts believe there are many possible causes, but most agree that pesticide use is definitely a key contributing factor. While the scientific community is busy working on ways to combat the problem, there are things we can do as homeowners to help.

First, be aware of the dangers of the pesticides you use. There are some products on the market today that are labeled "organic" or even "safe to use up to the day of harvest". Use them sparingly and according to the directions on the package. Better yet, seek out alternate methods that don't involve pesticides. If you do decide to use pesticides, don't spray or apply when bees are present. For honeybees, that means applying at dawn or at dusk after they've gone back to their hive for the night.



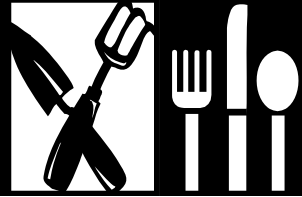
If you choose to use a systemic form of pesticide, be aware that the plant will take this up in their tissues. In 2011, the United States Department of Agriculture said that these types of chemicals are especially harmful to honeybees. They said that it's possible that these types of insecticides and herbicides, while not lethal, could be causing chronic problems with long term exposure. I would suggest avoiding the use of this type of chemical altogether or at least until more is known about its long term affects. Currently the most toxic form of this type of pesticide is thought to be Imidacloprid.

Some examples of pesticides that are fairly non-toxic include: Sulfur (fungicide), Serenade (biological fungicide), Insecticidal soap, Petroleum-based oils, B.T. or *Bacillus thuringiensis* (for caterpillars), and herbicides like Roundup. Other products can harm bees when wet, but are not harmful when dry. These include Spinosad (insecticide), Pyrethrum (insecticide) and Neem Oil (fungicide, insecticide). (*Harry Williams, Professor Emeritus, and Jaimes Yanes, Jr., former Assistant Professor Entomology and Plant Pathology, University of TN*).

Helping our neighbors to understand the importance of caution with pesticides should be of primary concern to all Master Gardeners. These precautions even apply to our native bees, such as sweat bees, bumble bees and squash bees. As pollinators, we need to watch out for them too! For more great information on bees, check out the website: www.bees.tennessee.edu/.

Sue Stanley, MG since 2006, Gardening in Greenback TN

GARDEN BITES!



The recipe for this issue was submitted by Celia Cox. Celia told me this was a recipe from her grandmother. When growing up the family had fresh eggs and bees for the honey, so this was a favorite dressing for fresh lettuce from the garden. Please give it a try and we hope you enjoy!

Cooked Dressing for Lettuce

1/3 cup bacon grease
1/3 cup vinegar
1/3 cup honey
1/3 water
1 teaspoon salt
1 beaten egg

In a skillet or pan, stir first five ingredients until hot and honey is blended. Then add beaten egg, stirring constantly until egg is cooked. Pour over a large bowl of clean lettuce and cut up green onions.

Please share a recipe for the next issue of MG Thymes. E-mail to ajtmul35@yahoo.com or mail to Jane Mullins, 128 Bill Street, Piney Flats, TN 37686.

Thank you in advance!

Farm Fest

Hamlett-Dobson Farm Fest will provide old-fashioned family fun on Sunday, July 15, from 2-5 p.m. at Exchange Place Living History Farm on Orebank Road in Kingsport. Sponsored by Hamlett-Dobson Funeral Homes and Exchange Place, Farm Fest celebrates the pleasures of country life. Step back into the nineteenth century and enjoy fresh summer food and join in activities from bygone days like sack races, hayrides, and cakewalks. Listen to music on traditional instruments, pet the farm animals, and try your hand at old time crafts like stenciling, tin punch, and carding wool. Small children will enjoy washing clothes on the washboard and jumping in the haystack. A shuttle bus will run from Mountain View United Methodist Church to Farm Fest from 1:45 to 5:30 p.m. to ease parking congestion. This free event is part of Kingsport Fun Fest, and no ticket is required. For more information call 423-288-6071.

Master Gardener volunteers are needed to help with plant and garden related children's activities and teaching farm "chores" to visitors. To volunteer contact Joy Moore at 348-6572 or jnjmoore@embarqmail.com.

HOMEGROWN TOMATO FEST VII

The Eighth Annual Homegrown Tomato Fest will take place Saturday, August 11, 2012, from 8 - 11 a.m. at the Kingsport Farmers' Market, Center Street & Clinchfield Street in Kingsport. This celebration of the juicy red fruit features tomato contests, free tomato tastings (including many heirloom varieties), free tomato refreshments, cooking demonstrations, tomato-growing advice, activities for kids, and fun for the whole family.

Gardeners are invited to bring tomatoes to compete in the following categories: Best Tasting, Biggest, Prettiest, Ugliest, Most Bizarre, and Best Dressed, and cooks are invited to enter the Best Salsa Contest. Admission is free and there are no entry fees. Entry forms may be downloaded from the SAPS website, www.saps.us, or picked up at Downtown Kingsport Association (DKA) or Ward's Feed Store. Entries will be accepted from 8 - 9 am for all contests, and winners will be announced after 10 a.m.

Volunteers are needed to help slice tomatoes, staff the salsa booth, coordinate children's activities, etc. Your volunteer time counts for your Master Gardener hours. Contact Dennis Marshall, Tomato Fest Chairman, at 423-288-3675 or dmarshall@chartertn.net





Chris' Corner

CHRIS RAMSEY
SULLIVAN COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT
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July / August 2012

I hope you are enjoying the gardening season. We have enjoyed adequate rainfall and warmer temperatures for the most part. Because of our warmer winter, we are possibly seeing more plant disease and maybe even higher insect populations. Some of the common problems this year have been fire blight in apple and pear, cedar-apple rust on apple, anthracnose on various trees, blight on tomato, box elder bugs, millipedes, and many others.

I want to share with you an opportunity to get a

daily email from a leadership coach, John Maxwell. I have really enjoyed the “Minute with Maxwell”. All you have to do is provide an email and it is free. In this link, Mr. Maxwell talks about “obstacles”. The link is <http://johnmaxwellteam.com/obstacles/>. Join and I am sure you’ll enjoy the experience and teachings of John Maxwell.

For example, Mr. Maxwell recently talked about making a difference. He stated, “I want to make a difference with people who want to make a difference, doing something that makes a difference.” I think this really sums up the true mission of the UT Extension Master Gardener Program. Master Gardeners have an opportunity to make a difference in their community.

2012 NORTHEAST TENNESSEE MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

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2012 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY 2012

REGISTRATION OPEN NOW FOR THE 2013 IMG CONFERENCE CRUISE TO ALASKA. SOUNDS LIKE A GREAT TRIP. REGISTER NOW TO GET YOUR CHOICE OF ROOMS. For more info check www.imgc2013

Now through September Wicked Plants: The Exhibit NC Arboretum, Asheville

- June 29 - July 1 Jonesborough Days and Nights
- July 1 - July 11 Bays MTN. Park Closed Monday - Friday because of road construction. PARK WILL BE OPEN ON SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS AND ON WEDNESDAY JULY 4.
- July 1 - July 13 Tipton-Haynes State Historic Site Summers Past History Program for Children Age 6 -12.
- July 9 MG Board Meeting 6:00 p.m. Gray Fairground
- July 9 SAPS Board Meeting 4:00 p.m. Netherland Inn, Kingsport
- July 11 Bays MTN. "Beware of the Great Outdoors" 3:00 p.m. Presented by Bruce Cole from HSAAP
- July 11 Canoe and Kayak Tours of Bays Mtn. Lake 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Contact Fred Hilton at 423-229-9490 to reserve a spot. Must provide own boats.
- July 12 Summer Celebration Lawn and Garden Show, West TN Research and Education Center Jackson, TN Admission \$5.00 10:00 a.m.
- July 12 Herb Saplings meeting 7:00 p.m. Exchange Place Topic: Making Comfrey Salve with Christy Shivell. Please bring an herbal snack.
- July 13 - July 21 Fun Fest Celebration - Kingsport, TN
- July 14 State Street Farmers Market 8:00 to 11:30 a.m. Ben Hunter, Raised Bed Gardening.
- July 14 -15 American Bamboo Society's 6th Annual Bamboo Festival
Saturday 9 -5 and Sunday 10 -4 NC Arboretum, Asheville
- July 15 Hamlett-Dobson Farm Fest at the Exchange Place 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. MG volunteers are needed for this event. Contact Joy Moore or Phil Ramey.
- July 15 Asheville Botanical Gardens "Identifying Ferns" \$15.00 828-852-5190
- July 15 Kingsport Farmers Market - Dinner at the Market -- Cost \$20.00 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.
- July 16 - 20 Roan Mtn. State Park - Jr. Ranger Camp
- July 17 and 24 NC ARBORETUM "Mushrooms of the Blur Ridge" \$55.00 Pre-register.

- July 25 Bays Mtn. Park 3:00 p.m. "The Natural Resources of Holston Army Ammunitions Plant" with Bruce Cole HSAAP.
- July 28 Roan Mtn. State Park - Xtreme Roan Adventures Youth Rally
- July 28 to Aug 12 VA Highlands Festival "Carved From Our Past" Abingdon, VA
- July 28 Harvest Table Farm Tour 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. 28413 Smyth Chapel Rd. Meadowview, VA - for more info contact palmsanders@yahoo.com
- July 30 From Farm to Table A Summer Harvest Celebrations at the Harvest Table Restaurant in Meadowview, VA. Call ASD for reservations 276-623-1121.
- AUGUST 2012**
- Register for IMGC 2013 Cruise to Alaska www.imgc2013
- August 4 VA Highlands Event - Solar Tour 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Meet at Berry Home Center in Abingdon, VA
- August 6 NETMGA Meeting Appalachian Fair Building 1 6:00 p.m.
Second Annual Flower and Framed Photo Show Bring a snack to share.
- August 9 NC Arboretum "The Wonderful World of Succulents" \$18 10:00 AM to noon and 2:00 to 4:00 PM
- August 11 8th Annual Tomato Fest VIII 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Kingsport Farmers Market MG's needed to help slice tomatoes, staff salsa booth, coordinate children's activities. Please contact Chairman, Dennis Marshall if you are willing to help 423-288-3675 or dmarshall@chartertn.net
- August 11 NC Arboretum "Native Fern Identification" \$42.00
- August 19 Asheville Botanical Gardens - "Invasive and Exotic Species" 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. By Jan Kranylk
- August 20 - 25 Appalachian Fair Gray, TN
- August 24 -25 NC Arboretum "Speaking of Gardening Symposium" \$170.00. Keynote Speaker is Mike Buffin, Gardens and Parks Advisor for the National Trust, United Kingdom. For a full list of speakers and the program or to register www.ncarboretumregistration.org
- August 26 Asheville Botanical Gardens - "A Botanical Garden Walk" with Dr. David Clarke 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. \$15.00
- August 28 Fall Gardeners Festival Crossville, TN 10:00 a.m.

2012 MASTER GARDENER CLASS APPLICATION TIME

Do you know someone who is interested in becoming a Master Gardener? If so, please share the following information.

The UT Extension Master Gardener Program is sponsored by the University of Tennessee. The program trains volunteers to assist UT Extension in providing information and educating the public in home horticulture. All Master Gardener Interns (2012 Class) attend 40 hours of horticultural classes in the local area. The following year, the intern is required to return 40 hours of community service through the Extension Office in addition to completing 8 hours of continuing education.

The 2012 program will run from September 11 through November 1. The class meetings will be on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., with the exception of four field trips and lectures. There will be one Saturday session. The location for the Master Gardener classes has not been finalized, but will be in a location between Kingsport and the Tri-Cities Airport.

The cost of the Master Gardener program is \$165.00. This fee includes an extensive 800 plus page Master Gardener Textbook (great reference), the graduation dinner, your name badge, soil sample, hand lens, notepad, pen, carrying bag and other related costs. Two partial scholarships will be available. If you have any questions or to request an application, call Chris Ramsey, Extension Agent / Area MG Coordinator, at (423) 279-2723. **Applications are due by Friday, August 17.**

2012 Master Gardener Training Schedule

Date	Subject	Presenter	Location
09/11/12	Overview	Beth Babbit	to come
09/13/12	Intro to Horticulture	Tim McDowell	to come
09/18/12	Soils	Hubert Lambert	to come
09/20/12	Landscape Design Field Trip	Cole Burrell	Renaissance Center
09/22/12	Pond Gardening &	Doug Hilton & Joy Stewart	Chris Ramsey's
09/25/12	Trees & Shrubs @ Steel Creek Park	Jeremy Stout	Steele Creek Park
09/27/12	Plant Pathology	Keith Hart	to come
10/02/12	Entomology	Mannie Bedwell	to come
10/04/12	Pesticide Safety	Melody Rose	to come
10/09/12	Growing Out of Season	Phil Ramey	to come
10/11/12	Vegetables & Compost Field Trip	Ben Hunter	Ben Hunter's House
10/16/12	Integrated Pest Management	Joy Stewart	to come
10/23/12	Weed Science	Phil Blevins	to come
10/25/12	Lawns	Chris Ramsey	to come
10/30/12	Annuals & Perennials	Hugh Conlon	to come
11/01/12	Wildlife Management	John Hamrick	to come
11/8/2012	Graduation		to come

PHOTO GUIDELINES

We have a couple of legal issues that we need to pass along to the MG Project Leaders as well as all members. The following steps are necessary to protect children and also our MG Association.

Children: Going forward we cannot publish faces of children on the website or in the MG Thymes. If an article is submitted with a picture of children, the article will be included but the picture will be deleted.

Non-Master Gardeners: We need all project leaders to print out and keep a few consent forms on hand in the event that you take a picture of a non-master gardener and use it in an article. This is a necessary document we must have on hand before we can print their picture on the website or in the MG Thymes.

This form is located on the NETMGA website:

1. <http://netmga.net/>
2. At the bottom of the projects home page.
3. The second from the top on the listing of links - right below the volunteer service report.

NETMGA Membership Meeting Program August 6

Second Annual Flower and Framed Photo Show. Prizes for cut arrangements and potted plants, and framed pictures. Only one entry per person per category.

6 p.m. meet and greet, bring a snack to share.

6:30 p.m. program

Door prices. Gray Fairgrounds Building 1.

Please wear your name tag.



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

<http://netmga.net>

<http://mastergardeners.tennessee.edu>

Check out NETMGA's website <http://netmga.net/>