

EVENTS FOR SPRING 2014!!

Spring is almost here! Check out all the upcoming events, seminars, workshops, etc. in the Calendar of Events located at the end of this issue! Many opportunities to get those 8 CEUs necessary to meet your MG certification requirements!!

Master Gardeners Annual Recognition Dinner

Northeast Tennessee Master Gardeners gathered for a wonderful potluck dinner and recognition of all the efforts made in 2013. Here are a few photos from the event. To see all of the recognition photos, go to our website: www.netmga.net.



Upcoming NETMGA Meetings

Monday, March 10th Board Meeting @ Gray Fairgrounds, 6:00 PM

Monday, April 7th NETMGA General Meeting at Kingsport Chamber of Commerce Building (Near Farmers Market), 6:00 PM; Program at 6:30 PM.

Featured Project

Carver Peace Gardens

As I write this, a 6" blanket of snow covers all the beds and plots in this downtown Johnson City community garden, bringing a sense of quiet *peace* to its namesake. But spring isn't far away (really!) and plans are already in high gear for the next growing season!

This garden, located at 322 W Watauga Ave, was begun in 2007 with only 6 plots. Today there are 22 plots cared for by a wide variety of folks, from kids to retirees. Some plots are cared for by groups of people, like the Quillen Medical Students, that for the fifth year now will donate their harvests to local food pantries and soup kitchens. There's also a group of women going through rehab that are finding that they can learn valuable "life skills" in the garden that will help them and their families, all while having fun! We will be giving these women canning, nutrition and cooking classes this summer to help them learn what to do with all that fresh food! If you'd rather work in the kitchen than in the garden, here's your chance!



Late Fall 2013 - A Winter Cover Crop of Clover

This year our individual plot holders have decided to work together on a plot specifically for One Acre Cafe. This is a non-profit organization that's doing good work in our community by operating under a 'pay it forward' concept that offers a wonderful meal for a reasonable price to those that can afford it, while letting those that can't, have the opportunity to work for an hour to pay for their meal. If you haven't heard about One Acre Cafe, you can read all about them here: <http://oneacrecafe.org/> or like their Facebook page here: <https://www.facebook.com/OneAcreCafe>.

Since the cafe is only ½ mile from the garden and has had tremendous community support for their work, our steering committee felt their mission was a good fit for Carver Peace Gardens too. We are currently seeking someone who can provide us with a weather-proof banner to hang on the fence beside the One Acre plot that lets others know of their mission AND our intentions to grow food for the cafe, so if you, or someone you know, might be able to help with that \$75 expense, it would be considered a tax deductible donation. We're hoping this will be a partnership that will further the concept of *communities coming together for a common good!*

This new idea is going to generate extra work for those of us that have rented plots and are growing food for our own tables, and that's where YOU might come in! We'll need folks to help us with preparing the beds, planting, caring for it throughout the summer, then harvesting and delivering the produce to the cafe. The plot is only 15x20, but we feel we can make a real contribution to hunger in that space, fulfilling our desires to garden while helping others in need. If you'd like to contribute some time and energy to this idea, I'd love to talk with you! You can call me before 9 PM at 423-773-3204 or email me at: simpleintn@yahoo.com

We've also won a small grant to extend our water supply to the other side of the garden, enabling small children and older gardeners to more easily be able to water their plots. We're looking for the one-day use of a 'ditch witch' trench digger to help us bury the new pvc pipe we plan to lay; if you know of someone that might loan us the use of their machine for a day, we would appreciate it so much! I'll be updating the garden website with information about this project and the workdays that will be called to make it happen, so look for them here:

<http://netmga.net/projects-and-photo-gallery/carver-peace-gardens/>

Exchange Place Spring Garden Fair



The 30th annual Exchange Place Spring Garden Fair will be held Saturday, April 26, from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Sunday, April 27, from 12 - 5 p.m. at Exchange Place Living History Farm, 4812 Orebank Road in Kingsport, Tennessee. The oldest garden fair in the region, the event will feature thousands of plants for sale - perennials, annuals, trees and shrubs - with the emphasis on herbs, natives and heirloom plants (including a wide variety of heirloom tomatoes), along with garden related arts and crafts. The Fair is also an educational and family event that fills the grounds and buildings of the historic site, and gardening experts will lead "Talks and Walks" and area Master Gardeners will be on hand to answer home gardening questions throughout the weekend. Heritage breeds of animals and the spring activities on a mid-1800's farmstead will be featured as volunteers shear the sheep, spin and weave the wool, cook over the hearth, and shape iron over the forge. Children's activities abound as volunteers help children create garden crafts and learn gardening skills, and area 4-H groups show their animals. Ol' timey music and traditional foods add to the atmosphere.

The Fair strives to be as environmentally friendly as possible with recycling, composting, and re-using. Visitors are encouraged to bring their own plant carriers and to bring used nursery pots for recycling/reusing.

Admission is \$3 for adults and free for children under 12. For more information, call 423-288-6071.

To volunteer to staff a shift at the Master Gardeners' booth, please call Joy Moore at 423-348-6572 or e-mail at ijnmoore@embarqmail.com. Volunteers are also needed to help with set-up, hospitality and take-down/clean up and other aspects of organizing the Garden Fair.

NETMGA Shirts Are Available for Purchase

If you haven't gotten a NETMGA tee shirt, polo, or sweatshirt, it's not too late! Below is a listing of what is available (as of 2/3/2014). Cost for shirts: Sweatshirts 15.00, T-shirts 9.00 and Polo shirts 18.00. To order a shirt, contact Pat Mazurkiewicz at 423-323-1644.

Sweatshirts: S-2, M-7 L-1 XL-4

Female Polo: S-2, L-5, XL-6

Female Tee: XL-5

Male Polo: L-3, XL-7

Male Tee: M-1, L-3, XL-3

Chris' Corner



CHRIS RAMSEY
SULLIVAN COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT
(423) 646-9043
cwramsey@utk.edu

The NETMGA was well represented this year at the Search for Excellence Awards Program with two winning projects. The Church Hill Senior Center Garden won the Community Service category. The MGs who contributed to this winning project are Christine Barger, Marcia Vandermause, Al Erickson, Judy Penley, and Gary Woods. Christine attended the SFE Awards Program to accept the award for the Church Hill Senior Center Garden and deliver a presentation on the impact of their garden. The Harvest of Hope Garden won the Demonstration and Teaching category. The MGs, who contributed to this winning project, are Blenda Anderson, Liz Blakely, Ray Chandler, Lloyd Grimm, Sheila Hensley, Doug Hilton, Carol Hockin, Earl Hockin, Mayme Pecktol, Phillip Ramey, Ruthann Ranker, Sally Richard, Johnny Suthers, Nancy Walker, Ron Blackwell, Patsy Brown, Frank De Nobriga, Sharon Good, Ed Gschwind, Patty Neas, and Melissa Tweed.

Congratulations to these Master Gardeners for their success with these award-winning projects!

As I write to you, we have just finished the first day of the 2014 Master Gardener Winter School in Murfreesboro, TN. The day was filled with information on Master Gardener leadership, networking, and association topics. We have met lots of new friends and caught up with old friends from across the state. Tomorrow, we will be learning how to improve our Plant Diagnostics Skills to better serve clientele in our communities. Attending this year from Northeast Tennessee are Blenda Anderson, Sharon Good, Doug Hilton, Jane Mullins, Patty Neas, Yancee Nivens, Gail Shaver, Nancy Shilling, Sue Stanley, Johnny Suthers, and Marcia Vandermause.

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Cultivating Leadership



This section is dedicated to those who share their gifts and talents with our organization by fearlessly managing and leading Northeast Tennessee Master Gardeners. The goal is to educate NETMGA members about each leadership position and encourage those who may feel that serving on the board might be their cup of tea. The positions highlighted are currently held, however if you are interested, just work on building a relationship with person in charge.

This bi-monthly edition of the Northeast Tennessee Master Gardener Thymes will focus on the position of secretary, held by Ms. RuthAnn Ranker*.

RuthAnn has been serving as secretary for the NETMGA for one year. Her main duties revolve around organization and details. She takes meticulous minutes at all board meetings and sends them to all board members via email. RuthAnn is also in charge of the “secretary’s book.” This form of accurate record keeping is essential when questions surface about policy and procedure or about the history of how things were done. She also assists the president in creating and distributing the agenda for most board meetings. RuthAnn is the one to ask about what was done and what is coming up. In addition to being in “the know” she also enjoys meeting new Master Gardeners when they attend board meetings.

RuthAnn has brought a special gift of simplification to her duties by changing the format of the minutes, which speeds up the downloading process. Her vision for the future includes taking minutes at general meetings and creating a second secretary’s book as an archive of the decisions made.

The NETMGA board meets every other month. This gives RuthAnn a solid hour to report for her volunteer hours with an additional hour for transcribing and sending out minutes. If RuthAnn begins taking and transcribing minutes at general meetings, this would give her another two hours.

RuthAnn’s skill set is a great match for the position of secretary. I have attended a board meeting and her guidance is very helpful. If you would like to know more about the position of secretary, contact RuthAnn. She would be glad to answer any questions. And make sure you thank her for giving of her time and self.

*A special thanks to Ms. RuthAnn Ranker for her response to my email!

- Amy Yeary Holmes

Master Gardeners: report your hours each month!!

Upcoming SAPS meetings

March SAPS Meeting

Award winning writer Rita Venable, author of *Butterflies of Tennessee, Field and Garden*, will speak on Thursday, March 20, at 7 pm at the Kingsport Renaissance Center, 1200 E. Center Street in Kingsport, TN 37660. In this presentation Rita will share photos and stories of some of the 124 butterfly species that live in our state. Beyond identification, she will detail ways to invite butterflies to the places where we live, work, and play.



Rita Venable is a writer, photographer, and speaker living in Franklin, Tennessee, whose much-loved subject is nature, especially butterflies. She has a bachelor's degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Science from the UT Knoxville and has completed coursework at Middle Tennessee State University in both Entomology and Magazine Writing and Editing.

Rita has published numerous articles and photographs in literary publications, newspapers, and magazines including *American Butterflies*, *American Gardener*, *Backpacker*, *Discover the Outdoors*, *National Wildlife Online*, and *Wildlife Journal*. She has won Excellence In Craft awards in writing and photography from the Tennessee Outdoor Writers Association and Southeastern Outdoor Press Association in multiple years and was an artist-in-residence in creative writing with the Tennessee Arts Commission for five years.

For more about Rita, visit her website: <http://ritavenable.com/>

Sponsored by the Southern Appalachian Plant Society, this program is free and the public is invited. For more information, call 423-348-6572 or e-mail jnjmoore@embarqmail.com.

April SAPS Meeting

Ellen Reynolds owner of Beagle Ridge Herb Farm in Wytheville VA will speak on *Herbs 101 and Beyond - from the Basics to the Unusual* on Thursday April 24, at 7 pm at Johnson City Senior Center at Memorial Park Community Center, 510 Bert Street in Johnson City.

Herbs have long been used for everything from flavoring to medicine and nothing has changed today. Herbs are easy to grow, so come learn how to grow and use these amazing plants. You'll be surprised at what is considered an herb. Mediterranean herbs will be the main focus. Bring your questions and come ready to taste.

Sponsored by the Southern Appalachian Plant Society and Johnson City Senior Center, this program is free and the public is invited. For more information, call 423-348-6572 or e-mail jnjmoore@embarqmail.com.

Tree Keepers 2014!



Saturday, March 1st 2014 Steele Creek Park Lodge

8:30 am - 2:00 pm \$10 per person

Light breakfast & lunch provided.

Pre-register at 423-764-4023 by Wednesday, February 26th.

Garden and THINGS

**JOHNSON CITY SENIOR'S CENTER
AT MEMORIAL PARK COMMUNITY CENTER
510 BERT ST. JOHNSON CITY, TN
423-434-6237
Friday, March 28th 10-2:30**

Milkweed

(This is a continuation of the Monarch Butterflies article in the previous *MG Thymes*)



Milkweed.....the very name conjures up the image of a plant that is unattractive and troublesome, always growing where it is not wanted. Combine this image with the fact that the rhizomes of Common Milkweed can travel 20 feet or more from the mother plant and you have a plant that no one wants in their yard. Fortunately for the Monarch butterfly, whose very survival depends on this plant family, milkweed's image is beginning to change.

The real facts about milkweeds are much more interesting than the stereotyped image. Over 100 different milkweed species exist in North America, and the Monarch butterfly uses about 30 of these species to feed their caterpillars. In Tennessee we have 13 different species native to our state, and 10 of these are available commercially for our gardens. They range from the diminutive Spider or Green Milkweed that gets 12 inches tall to the Poke Milkweed that can get 6 feet tall.

Milkweeds generally thrive best in open areas of full sun, with a few preferring the partial shade of woodland edges and even a few growing in the moderately dense shade of woodlands. Most species are so specialized that they are not good colonizers. They need specialized habitats and as a result, they have low replacement rates. Even though plants produce seed, it may be many years before seeds have the conditions they require to germinate.

Although a few milkweed species do spread by rhizomes, such as Whorled Milkweed, Spider Milkweed and particularly Common Milkweed, milkweeds are generally not good competitors with other plants for nutrients, space and light. If a plant community is allowed go through its natural stages of succession, even Common Milkweed tends to be outcompeted and disappears. The only way to maintain these species is to create disturbances, such as mowing, burning or disking, that keep the plants in an early stage of succession.

Since Common Milkweed is one of the Monarch caterpillars' preferred food species, maybe a wiser perspective is to be glad that we have a plant that will establish a good colony in our gardens without much work. When the plant produces unwanted shoots, they can be transplanted or simply pulled up with little effort.

You can have fun exploring the unique group of plants that comprise Tennessee's native milkweed. Check out the brilliant orange flowers of Butterfly Weed, the strikingly aromatic perfume of Polk Milkweed, the cinnamon-scented flowers of Swamp Milkweed, and the white snowball flowers on White Milkweed. If you take a close look at Common Milkweed, you will even find beautiful pink, sweet-scented flower clusters.



- Joy Stewart

NETMGA Projects List

1. **Appalachian Fairgrounds** Gray
Herb Garden Debbie Green djgreen1955@gmail.com
Water Wise Gardens Joy Stewart joylarry@btes.tv
2. **Boundless Playground at Warriors' Path State Park** Kingsport
Gwyn Duncan 423-239-0460 geduncan@charter.net
3. **Carver Peace Gardens** Johnson City
Sam Jones 423-773-3204 simpleintn@yahoo.com
4. **Church Hill Senior Citizens Center Garden**
Marcia Vandermause mmvdvm@charter.net
Judy Penley chscgarden@yahoo.com
5. **Exchange Place Living History Farm** Kingsport
Dave Gostomski e3fan98@yahoo.com
6. **Harvest of Hope Community Garden** Kingsport
Doug Hilton howlatthemoon1775@gmail.com
7. **Johnson City Medical Center, Woodridge Hospital** Johnson City
Barbara Voigt 423-467-2013 voigt7b@comcast.net
Quillen Rehabilitation Carol Collins 423-639-0341 ccollins47@Comcast.net
8. **Northeast State Community College Gardens to Degrees**
Johnny Sutters 423-323-2202 jchemie@aol.com
9. **Rocky Mount Living History Site** Piney Flats
Don Davis home 423-854-0152, cell 423-943- 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
Rebecca Craddock Craddockr@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

MARCH 2014 Calendar of Events

- MAR 1 Growing Your Own Berry Bushes and Fruit Trees
Special speaker: John Hamrick, Wash. Co. Extension Agent
10:30 am – Evergreen of Johnson City. Pre-registration recommended: (423) 282-3431.
- MAR 1 Tree Keeper Program at Steele Creek Park Lodge in Bristol, TN
8:30am – 2:00 pm; Pre-registration required (423-764-4023); last day to register is Feb 26; Cost: \$10 (includes light breakfast and lunch)
- MAR 1 Ben Hunter - Vegetable Gardening
10:00 am – 1:00 pm - Sycamore Shoals State Park (Registration not required); for more information contact Sycamore Shoals State Historic Area at 423-543-5808.
- MAR 1 Building a Raised Bed; What to Use
11 am; Harvest of Hope in Kingsport
- MAR 1 Veggies in the Garden - by Jeanne Cope 10:00 am - Evergreen – Riverport Rd Kingsport
- MAR 2 Orchid Society of East Tennessee - 2 pm Gray Community Center.
- MAR 4 Washington County Bee Keepers Association
Appalachian Fairgrounds, Building #1 – 7:30 pm
- MAR 5 “Home Grown: Eat Your Flowers” at UT Gardens
1:00 – 3:00 pm; for information contact Derrick Stowell dstowell@utk.edu
- MAR 6 Green and Growing Series: The ABC's of Container Gardening,” presented by Master Gardener Phil Ramey, with Harvest of Hope Community Garden. 12 noon to 1 p.m. Sessions are free; sponsored by Keep Kingsport Beautiful. For more information call KKB 423-392-8814.
- MAR 6 Celebrating Trees: Right Tree, Right Place
8:00 am – 2:30 pm at JC Power Board. Contact Chris Ramsey or Doug Hilton for more information
- MAR 6 Herb Saplings Meeting with Community Herbalist Sandee Cook.
7 pm at Exchange Place, Kingsport.
- MAR 7 Creating an Attractive and Sustainable Kitchen Garden with instruction by Lisa Wagner
10:30 am – 12:00 pm; NC Arboretum in Asheville; Cost: \$20 Member/\$29 Non-member; Limit: 32 students. To register: <http://www.ncarboretumregistration.org/Creating-a-Sustainable-Kitchen-Garden-030714-P1304.aspx>
- MAR 8 Spring & Summer Lawn Care
10:30 am – Evergreen of Johnson City. Pre-registration recommended: (423) 282-3431.
- MAR 8 What and Where to Plant with professional landscaper Tim Holmes Mize Garden Center – Gray; 10:00 am – 12:00 pm. Admission is free but please call to reserve your seat: 423-467-2300.
- MAR 8 Potato Planting; What to Use, How to Space 10 am; Harvest of Hope in Kingsport
- MAR 8 Spring Lawncare - by The Green People
10:00 am - Evergreen – Riverport Rd Kingsport and Colonial Heights
- MAR 8 Native Plant Symposium, “Native Plants, Natural Landscapes”
9 am to 4 pm with registration beginning at 8 am. University of Tennessee Chattanooga, University Center. For information <http://tennesseevalley.wildones.org/2014-symposium/>

- MAR 8-9 Organic Growers School; Asheville NC <http://www.organicgrowersschool.org>
- MAR 10 NETMGA Board Meeting, 6:00 pm, Gray Fairgrounds Ticket Office
- MAR 13 Green and Growing Series: "Plant a Garden with Bouquets in Mind." Linda Doan of Aunt Willie's Wildflowers 12 noon to 1 p.m. Sessions are free; sponsored by Keep Kingsport Beautiful. For more information call KKB 423-392-8814.
- MAR 13-15 2014 Beginning Beekeeper's School, Appalachian Fairgrounds, Bldg #1
 5:30pm, Mar 13 – Registration (no pre-registration required)
 6:00 – 9:00 pm, Mar 13 & 14 – Classes by veteran beekeepers, state inspectors, etc.
 10:00 am – 2:00 pm – "hive build" day
 For more information contact WCBA at 423-302-0667 or email club@wcbeekeepersassociation.com
 School Flyer: http://www.wcbeekeepersassociation.com/Docs/2014_flyer.pdf
- MAR 15 Cold Hardy Veggies/Small Space Veggie Gardening
 10:30 am – Evergreen of Johnson City. Pre-registration recommended: (423) 282-3431.
- MAR 15 Raising Poultry in Backyard Gardens - by Jane Hall, Copper Creek Ranch
 10:00 am - Evergreen – Riverport Rd Kingsport
- MAR 15 "Growing Together: Fairy Gardening" at UT Gardens
 10:00 am – 12:00 pm; for information contact Derrick Stowell dstowell@utk.edu
- MAR 15 The Fundamentals of Proper Pruning - Knoxville Botanical Garden & Arboretum; 10:00 am – 12:00 pm; Call 865-862-8717 or email info@knoxgarden.org to register. Free for members; \$15 for non-members
- MAR 20 Green and Growing Series: "Growing Conifers," presented by noted horticulturist and speaker, Hugh Conlon 12 noon to 1 p.m. Sessions are free; sponsored by Keep Kingsport Beautiful. For more information call KKB 423-392-8814.
- MAR 20 "Butterflies of Tennessee" with speaker Rita Venable
 7 pm at the Kingsport Renaissance Center; sponsored by the Southern Appalachian Plant Society. Free and the public is invited. For more information, call 423-348-6572 or e-mail jinmoore@embarqmail.com.
- MAR 20 Great Garden Roses with instruction by Judy Deutsch
 1:00 – 3:00 pm; NC Arboretum in Asheville; Cost: \$27 Member/\$37 Non-member; Limit: 30 students.
 To register: <http://www.ncarboretumregistration.org/Great-Garden-Roses-032014-P1307.aspx>
- MAR 22 Forsythia Festival (family fun, seminar, and spring deals!)
 Favorite Spring Flowering Trees/Shrubs Seminar
 10:30 am – Evergreen of Johnson City. Pre-registration for seminar recommended: (423) 282-3431.
- MAR 22 Healing Oils of the Bible - by Jamie Hyatt
 10:00 am - Evergreen – Riverport Rd Kingsport
- MAR 22 Rain Barrel Workshop with Carol Doss, Upper TN River Roundtable
 10am -12, Exchange Place. To participate or to order a rain barrel contact Christy Shivell 423-348-6570 or shyvalley@aol.com
- MAR 25 Tree Grafting at the Outdoorsman, Blountville (11W)
 2 sessions – afternoon and evening. Pre-registration is required.
 Contact Chris Ramsey for more information.

- MAR 28 Gardens and Things - Topics and Speakers:
 10:00 – Raised Garden Beds with Ben Hunter
 11:30 – Organic Gardening with Linda Sorrell
 12:30 – “Water Wise” with Mara Holley
 1:30 – Soil preparation/planning for new planting areas with Shaun Barr of Evergreen
 Johnson City Senior Citizen’s Center at Memorial Park Community Center; 510 Bert St
- MAR 29 Fairy Gardening (Catch the New Craze!)
 10:30 am – Evergreen of Johnson City. Pre-registration recommended: (423) 282-3431.
- MAR 29 Kitchen Herb Garden – Make & Take Workshop - by The Green People
 10:00 am - Evergreen – Riverport Rd Kingsport and Colonial Heights
 \$20 Activity fee
- MAR 29 Vegetable Gardening 101 - Knoxville Botanical Garden & Arboretum;
 10:00 am – 12:00 pm; Pre-registration required; call 865-862-8717 or email info@knoxgarden.org to register. Free for members; \$10 for non-members
- MAR 29-30 Western North Carolina Orchid Society Annual Show at The North Carolina Arboretum, Asheville 10 am – 5 pm. Parking fee: \$12 per personal vehicle

APRIL 2014 Calendar of Events

- APR 1 Washington County Bee Keepers Association
 Appalachian Fairgrounds, Building #1 – 7:30 pm
- APR 2 Gardening in the Mountains with instruction by Kathy Zimmerman
 1:30 – 3:30 pm; NC Arboretum in Asheville; Cost: \$20 Member/\$29 Non-member;
 Limit: 32 students. To register: <http://www.ncarboretumregistration.org/Gardening-in-the-Mountains-040214-P1309.aspx>
- APR 4-6 Spring Nature Festival – Warriors Path State Park (Topics include: spring wildflowers, tracking, astronomy, stream life, local geology, spring trees, and more!) Free but pre-registration is required. For more information call 423-239-6786 or 423-239-8531 or email marty.silver@tn.gov.
- APR 5 Perennials for Easy Care
 10:30 am – Evergreen of Johnson City. Pre-registration recommended: (423) 282-3431.
- APR 5 Weeds in Your Lawn, Landscape & Garden - by The Green People
 10:00 am - Evergreen – Riverport Rd Kingsport and Colonial Heights
- APR 5 Seed Starting with Master Gardener Jeanne Cope
 Mize Garden Center – Gray; 10:00 am – 12:00 pm. Admission is free but please call to reserve your seat: 423-467-2300.
- APR 5 Bluebell Wildflower Hike at Winged Deer Park in Johnson City
 10:00 – 11:30 am. Cost \$1. Call 423-283-5821 for information
- APR 5 Spring Spectacular Plant Sale at UT Gardens
 9:00am – 2:00 pm; for information contact Derrick Stowell dstowell@utk.edu
- APR 6 Rhythm ‘N Blooms at The Knoxville Botanical Garden
 1:00 pm – 10:00 pm; call 865-862-8717 or email info@knoxgarden.org for information.

- APR 6 Orchid Society of East Tennessee - 2 pm Gray Community Center.
- APR 7 NETMGA General Meeting at Kingsport Chamber of Commerce Building (Near Farmers Market) Program: Caring for and Pruning Trees by Josh Coakley from Bartlett Trees Horticulture 6:00 pm Meet and Greet-bring a snack to share. Program begins at 6:30 pm
- APR 12 Herb Growing Basics & Herbs for Cooking
10:30 am – Evergreen of Johnson City. Pre-registration recommended: (423) 282-3431.
- APR 12 Tri-Cities BEST Perennials - by Hugh Conlon
10:00 am - Evergreen – Riverport Rd Kingsport
- APR 12 Cold Crops: Plants that do well in cooler weather
11 am; Harvest of Hope in Kingsport
- APR 12 Wooly Day at Rocky Mount
11:00 am – 5:00 pm; Cost: \$5 for everyone age 5 and older; members are admitted free
- APR 12-13 Mother Earth News Fair in Asheville, NC
<http://www.motherearthnews.com/fair/north-carolina.aspx>
- APR 13 “Sunday Talks: Companion Planting” at UT Gardens
2:00 – 3:30 pm; for information contact Derrick Stowell dstowell@utk.edu
- APR 15 Growing Bloodroot with instruction by Margaret Bloomquist and Alison Dressler
1:30 – 3:30 pm; NC Arboretum in Asheville; Cost: \$59 Member/\$69 Non-member; Limit: 20 students.
To register: <http://www.ncarboretumregistration.org/Growing-Bloodroot-041514-P1313.aspx>
- APR 17 Create: A Hypertufa Planter - Knoxville Botanical Garden & Arboretum;
12:00 – 2:00 pm; Pre-registration required; call 865-862-8717 or email info@knoxgarden.org to register. \$25 for members; \$35 for non-members
- APR 19 Container Gardens; How to Grow Veggies, Annuals, & Herbs for Color & Function in Large Pots 10:30 am – Evergreen of Johnson City. Pre-registration recommended: (423) 282-3431.
- APR 19 Small Fruits/Veggies in the Garden - by Phil Ramey
10:00 am - Evergreen – Riverport Rd Kingsport
- APR 19 Heirloom Plants with Master Gardener Joy Moore
Mize Garden Center – Gray; 10:00 am – 12:00 pm. Admission is free but please call to reserve your seat: 423-467-2300.
- APR 19 Landscape Seminar & Plant Auction 9:00 am -12:00pm - Sycamore Shoals State Park
- APR 20 Bird Walk with Simon Thompson
8 – 10 am; The Botanical Gardens at Asheville, Butler Room & Gardens
Cost: BGA members: \$12, Nonmembers: \$17. Reservations are required. Call for additional information and/or to register (828) 252-5190
- APR 22 All About Bluebirds: Lecture and Walk with instruction by Joe Sanders
1:00 – 4:00 pm; NC Arboretum in Asheville; Cost: \$27 Member/\$39 Non-member; Limit: 20 students.
To register: <http://www.ncarboretumregistration.org/All-About-Bluebirds-042214-P1383.aspx>
- APR 24 April SAPS Meeting; Speaker: Ellen Reynolds of Beagle Ridge Herb Farm
7:00 pm; JC Senior Center at Memorial Park Community Center, 510 Bert St, JC.



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>

- APR 25-27 Spring Naturalists' Rally at Roan Mountain State Park
For information contact Jennifer Bauer 423-772-4772 or jbauer@friendsofroanmtn.org
- APR 25-27 Wild Foods Weekend in Reidsville, NC
<http://www.wildfoodadventures.com/northcarolina.html>
- APR 26 Water Gardens
10:30 am – Evergreen of Johnson City. Pre-registration recommended: (423) 282-3431.
- APR 26 Color Your Landscape with Flowering Trees & Shrubs - by Hugh Conlon
10:00 am - Evergreen – Riverport Rd Kingsport
- APR 26 Community Plant Exchange
9:00 am – 10:00 am - Sycamore Shoals State Park
- APR 26 Spring Native Plant Sale at Ijams Nature Center in Knoxville
9 am – 3 pm; Admission: Free
- APR 26 Annual Wildflower Walk with Glenn Palmer
10:00 am – 12:00 pm; The Botanical Gardens at Asheville, Butler Room & Gardens
Cost: BGA members: \$10, Nonmembers: \$15. Reservations are required. Call for additional information and/or to register (828) 252-5190
- APR 26 Spring 2014 Plant Sale - Knoxville Botanical Garden & Arboretum;
9:00 am – 1:00 pm; Rain or shine! Call 865-862-8717 or email info@knoxgarden.org
Members Only Presale on Friday, April 25th
- APR 26-27 Exchange Place Spring Garden Fair
10:00 am – 5:00 pm-Saturday; 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm-Sunday; Admission is \$3 for adults and free for children under 12. For more information, call 423-288-6071.