

EVENTS FOR FALL 2014!!

Time to prepare the garden and flower beds for soon-to-be-here winter, and it's never too soon to start planning next year's gardens! 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!!

December 1 Master Gardener Meeting at Second Harvest Food Bank!



We welcome Dr. Susan Hamilton, Director of the UT Gardens in Knoxville, to our meeting to speak on Companion Plantings. Dr. Hamilton specializes in herbaceous ornamental and people-plant relationships. She has a B.S. degree in Horticulture from UT, an M.S. degree in Horticulture from Ohio State and a doctorate in Adult Education from UT. We are honored to have Dr. Hamilton visit with our gardeners.

Since we are using the facilities at Second Harvest, we are asking that members bring non-perishable food or a cash donation.

NETMGA is providing the dinner meal at this meeting for members. The meal will be catered by Food City. If you would like to bring a spouse or guest who is **not a member**, the **cost** of their meal is **\$16.00**.

We are asking that everyone who plans to attend **RSVP** this invitation by phone, text or email to **Jane 423-737-7915** or ajtmul35@yahoo.com by **Monday, November 24**. We need a number in order that we have enough food. Hope many of you will attend this special meeting! Thank You!

The menu will be:

- Oven Fried Chicken Breast
- Rosemary Roasted Potatoes
- Mixed Vegetables with Citrus Butter
- Mixed Green Salad w/Dressing
- Rolls w/Butter
- Country Fruit Cobbler w/Ice Cream
- Tea, Coffee, Water, Soft Drinks



Second Harvest Food Bank is located at Exit 63 off I-81N (in the old Sam's Building).

Announcements, Meetings, and Events!

NETMGA Board Meeting: Monday, November 10 at 6:00 pm, at the Appalachian Fairgrounds Ticket Office in Gray.

NETMGA Shirt Orders Needed!

Pat Mazurkiewicz needs 20 orders for polo shirts to obtain the best price of \$18.00 per polo shirts (2XL or larger, add \$2.00).

To place an order send Pat a check for the appropriate amount made payable to NETMGA; mail to 232 Cherry Street, Blountville, TN 37617. Pat also has a variety of sizes of T-shirts and some sweatshirts. If anyone would like to have one, please contact her at robmazur@chartertn.net or 423-323-1644.

Rain Barrel Kits for Sale

NETMGA and the Exchange Place has rain barrel kits for sale. They are 55 gallon food grade plastic barrels with all the supplies and instructions to make them into a rain barrel. The cost is \$40.00 each. If you are interested in purchasing one, please call or text Jane at 423-737-7915 or email ajtmul35@yahoo.com before the end of November. After that time contact Earl Hockin at 423-817-5668 or ehockin@yahoo.com.

November SAPS Program - Tree Fruits

Dr. David Lockwood, UT Extension Fruit and Nut Crop Specialist, will speak on "Tree Fruits in the Home Garden" on Thursday, November 20, at 7 p.m. at the at Jonesborough Visitors Center, 117 Boone Street in Jonesborough (just off Hwy 11-E next to Post Office). In this slide presentation, Dr. Lockwood will discuss fruits recommended for Northeast Tennessee gardens. Bring your questions and learn from an expert how to make an edible landscape a reality.



Dr. Lockwood received his Ph.D. from the University of Georgia and joined the faculty of the University of Tennessee Plant and Soil Sciences in 1973. He currently holds faculty appointments at UGA as well as at UT. He has traveled and lectured extensively throughout the United States as well as in many foreign countries, including France, Italy, and Spain, and is recognized as a grape specialist and wine connoisseur.

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

Wreath Making Workshops at Exchange Place



Exchange Place Living History Farm, 4812 Orebank Road in Kingsport, will offer two Wreath Making Workshops this holiday season, an evening session on Tuesday, December 2, from 5:30 - 9 p.m. and a daytime workshop on Wednesday, December 3, from 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. With inspiration and guidance from Christy Shivell of Shy Valley Native Habitat Nursery and Herbarium, participants will create a unique evergreen wreath to take home. All materials - fresh greenery (holly, magnolia, cedar berries, pine, yew, etc.), cones, dried flowers, wreath form, and wire - will be provided. Celebrate the holidays with a fresh wreath you make yourself!

The cost for each workshop is \$30 (\$25 for SAPS members and Exchange Place volunteers) and includes all materials and a light supper for the evening workshop and a soup lunch for the daytime workshop. This is a very popular class so don't wait to register. Call or email to confirm space is available. To reserve your place, mail check, payable to "Exchange Place", to: Joy Moore, P.O. Box 87, Fall Branch, TN 37656. Please include your phone number and/or e-mail for confirmation. Registration is limited to 15 participants for each session. Registration deadline is Friday, November 28. Sorry no cancellations or refunds (though we will save your materials for you if you have to cancel.) Proceeds from the workshop go to Exchange Place's restoration efforts. For more information call Joy Moore at 423-348-6572 or e-mail at ijnmoore@embarqmail.com.

Wreath Making Tool and Supply List:

A limited number of tools will be available, but, if possible, please bring:

pruning shears

wire cutters

needle-nose pliers

scissors

"findings" - any special objects, special greenery, etc. that you wish to include in your wreath. You are encouraged to bring interesting plant material from your own yard to use and share for even more variety.

3-5 yards of 2" ribbon (optional)

Christmas in the Country at Exchange Place

Christmas in the Country at Exchange Place Living History Farm, 4812 Orebank Road in Kingsport, will be held Saturday, December 6, from 10 am - 4:00 pm. Fresh greenery and trees, handcrafted wreaths and roping, unique folk arts and handcrafts, herbal products and traditional holiday foods will be on sale. The celebration also features hands on activities for all ages and demonstrations of hearthside cooking and baking on the 19th century farmstead. The traditional Yule Log Ceremony with carol singing around the bonfire and a cauldron of wassail begins at 4:15 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, call 423-288-6071. <http://exchangeplace.info>

2014 NETMGA Projects List

1

Boundless Playground at Warriors' Path State Park Kingsport
Gwyn Duncan 423-239-0460 geduncan@charter.net

2

Carver Peace Gardens Johnson City
Sam Jones 423-773-3204 simpleintn@yahoo.com

3

Church Hill Senior Citizens Center Garden
Marcia Vandermause mmvdm@charter.net
Judy Penley chscgarden@yahoo.com

4

Exchange Place Living History Farm Kingsport
Earl Hockin-Vegetable Garden ehockin@yahoo.com Dave
Gostomski-Lawns, Trees, etc. e3fan98@yahoo.com

5

Harvest of Hope Community Garden Kingsport
Doug Hilton 423-239-9433 howlatthemoon1775@gmail.com

6

Johnson City Medical Center, Woodridge Hospital Johnson City
Barbara Voigt 423-467-2013 voigt7b@comcast.net

7

Northeast State Community College Gardens to Degrees
Contact Chris Ramsey for details

8

Rocky Mount Living History Site Piney Flats
Don Davis home 423-854-0152, cell 423-943- 2392
donfdavis@aol.com

9

Sycamore Shoals State Historic Park Elizabethton
Vikki Bradach vbradach@gmail.com

10

Tipton Haynes Historic Site Johnson City
Claudia Hazel claudiahazel@yahoo.com

11

Vance Community Gardens Bristol
Gini Powell PowellG@btcs.org
Rebecca Craddock Craddockr@btcs.org

12 & 13

Projects 12 and 13 are one weekend a year for each of the 4 activities:

Johnson City Home Show and Women's Expo
Penny Rutledge pennyrutledge2@aol.com

Kingsport MeadowView Home Show

Doug Hilton 423-239-9433 howlatthemoon1775@gmail.com



Chris' Corner

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

.Another year gone by. It is hard to believe but this marks 20 years with UT Extension for me. I have been working with the Master Gardener Program for 13 of those years. If I seem a little slower responding, you're probably right. In addition to all of my other duties, I am now the Director of UT Extension Sullivan County. Work, work, and more work!

UT Extension will have a new State Master Gardener Coordinator beginning Tuesday, October 21. Her name is Natalie Bumgarner and she comes to us from Ohio. I am looking forward to meeting her soon. Hopefully, you will have an opportunity to meet her as well. Winter School 2015 will be a great opportunity for you.

Visit www.mastergardener.tennessee.edu and check it out.

Please begin thinking about getting your Master Gardener volunteer hours entered into the online database. If you are behind during the holidays, it will be difficult to accomplish. These hours can also be entered on the blue report sheet. The hours should be entered no later than Dec 31, 2014

2014 NETMGA OFFICERS

PRESIDENT Delette Walker
423-434-9992
ddw270@embarquemail.com
VICE PRESIDENT Bill Speed
423-483-1511
bspeed@lbrtax.biz
TREASURER Pat Mazurkiewicz
423-323-1644
robmazur@chartertn.net
SECRETARY RuthAnn Ranker
423-239-8590
ruthannranker@gmail.com
MEMBER AT LARGE Johnny Suthers
423-323-2202
jchemie@aol.com
PAST PRESIDENT Blenda Anderson
423-276-3028
bajaa5755@charter.net
ADVISOR Chris Ramsey
423-646-9043
cwramsey @utk.edu

2014 NETMGA COMMITTEE CHAIRS

CERTIFICATION OFFICER Angie Droke
423-578-8281
adroke@chartertn.net
MEMBERSHIP Sally Richard
423-341-6166
sdr37615@comcast.net
PROJECTS Johnny Suthers
423-323-2202
jchemie@aol.com
2013 CLASS REPRESENTATIVES
Maureen Mulroy
423-328-7033
maureen.mulroy@att.net
Frank DeNobriga
276-946-6061
frankdenob@gmail.com
PROGRAMS Jane Mullins
423-212-0173
ajtmul35@yahoo.com
WEBSITE Carl Voight
423-467-2013
voight7@comcast.net
PUBLICITY Gail Shaver
423-323-1817
cgs1955@gmail.com
NEWSLETTER CO-EDITORS
Betts Leach
423-571-8662
bettsl@aol.com
Julie McPherson
423-956-1287
juliemcpherson1@yahoo.com
NEWSLETTER LAYOUT DESIGN
Junella McClellan
423-534-8097
j.mcclellan@hotmail.com
HOSPITALITY Kathy & Larry Wagner
423-323-5446
kwagner@chartertn.net



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.

See Jane run....our “Buds and Sprouts” program

Jane Mullins coordinates our “Buds and Sprouts” program. This is an opportunity for more experienced members (buds) to mentor newer members (sprouts). Jane coordinates the program by assigning a Master Gardener to each intern. Hopefully the MG will make themselves available to answer questions and give individual guidance as the intern works through the classwork and assimilates into the Master Gardening Program.

The process begins when students fill out that all important paperwork. Chris Ramsey delivers the sprout/intern contact information to Jane. With the help of Sally Richards, the membership chairperson, Jane sends out a general email requesting volunteers. Sometimes this work requires a follow-up call to ensure that all sprouts are covered. Once classes begin Jane asks Doug Hilton to remind sprouts to alert her if their MG bud has not been in contact. If not, Jane follows up with a reminder email or call.

This work is mostly coordinating and connecting people. Phone calls and emails are the usual vehicle of communication and no travel is required. Jane puts in about 3-4 hours a year. If you would be interested in helping Jane and learning how she runs, give her a call at 423-737-7915 or email at ajtmul35@yahoo.com.

Featured Project

Exchange Place Living History Museum

This year Master Gardeners have volunteered at Exchange Place in a wide variety of ways. These include acting as tour guides on weekends, role playing in the Hijack Wedding Events, doing building and grounds maintenance, and tending the various gardens including the Field Crop Garden, the Demonstration Vegetable Garden, the native plant and insectary gardens.

Much of the work in the Field Crop Garden was done by Master Gardener Dave Gostomski. The Field Crop garden



was set up so visitors to EP could see what was grown for cash crops or feed for animals or, as in cotton and flax, for cloth making. Also planted was sorghum (broom corn) and the short grain head type for feed. We also planted the three sisters, corn, beans and squash, in hills as the early farmers did so the beans and squash would use the corn as a trellis.



Over last winter a cover crop of Rye was planted which protected the garden from soil loss during heavy overwinter rains and may be the reason weeding was less laborious this summer. This year in the Demonstration Vegetable Garden, for the first time, some raised beds were built

using old locust wood fence posts. One raised bed contained Carrots, Beets and Parsnips. One raised bed was devoted to growing Black Peanuts and a third bed was used to grow Sweet potatoes. The raised beds were filled with composted horse manure. From the 4' x 12' raised bed over 60 pounds of Sweet Potatoes were harvested and most of these were donated to the Kitchen of Hope.



During the summer season, Green Beans, Tomatoes, Okra and Irish Potatoes were donated to the Kitchen of Hope. The Demonstration Vegetable Garden was maintained by master Gardeners, Earl Hockin, Ron Blackwell, Gordon Porter and Liz Blakely. Additionally other Exchange Place volunteers also were regular helpers in the vegetable garden.

Harvesting Irish Potatoes to donate to Kitchen of Hope



A few of the Sweet potatoes to be donated to Kitchen of Hope

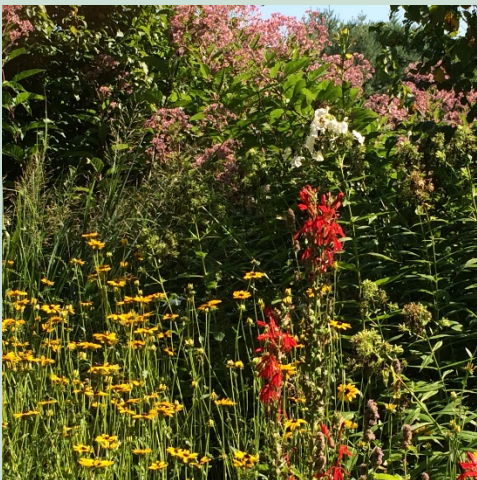


Bags of Beans headed to Kitchen of Hope

Featured Project

Sycamore Shoals and Carter Mansion Reports

At Sycamore Shoals State Park our gardens have really come along nicely this season. We are always pruning, weeding, and moving plants...for them to be the best they can be. We noticed double the amount of monarch caterpillars and their chrysalis this year, as the garden gets more established with milkweed. We also noticed they liked to cling to the Black-eyed Susan's...so we make sure we have a lot of those around the milk weed. We have gained two new Master Gardeners, for a total of five dedicated maintainers. We have such a great group of hard working people, who won't stop until the job is done!



The big news at Carter Mansion this year is that the herb garden has new raised beds; raised beds have been placed around some of the wild raspberries near the vegetable garden. The pathways in the vegetable garden have been covered with gravel, and we hope to spread gravel in the herb garden this fall.

The beds in the vegetable garden have been mostly cleaned out, and are being prepared for winter. Some of them will be planted in cold weather vegetables. Other than that, it is status quo.



Featured Project

Warriors' Path State Park

The Northeast Tennessee Master Gardener Association became involved with Warriors' Path State Park in the fall of 2006 when asked to assist with the maintenance of the new Darrell's Dream Boundless Playground. Since then Master Gardeners have planted a Sensory Herb Garden raised bed, landscaped the Lions Club Narnia Braille Trail and the walkway to the Anderson Treehouse.



The two rain gardens that were installed in the spring of 2012 to collect rain water runoff from the surrounding hilly areas of the newly built Palmer Center Amphitheater have flourished and we've seen Monarch Butterfly larvae on the Milkweed along with lots of birds and bees.

Last summer, Betty and Neil Ottenfeld were moving from their home and offered native plants that they had collected for over 50 years. Master Gardeners, along with Eagle Scout Noah Enix, assisted with digging and replanting the Ottenfeld's plants in a large bed in front of the recreation building on Duck Island. The Ottenfelds are long-time supporters of the Park and were pleased to have a portion of their collection preserved for many to enjoy.



We only use native plants at the Park and have plants for the various conditions - shady and moist to full sun. Plants used include Button Bush, Virginia Sweetspire, Asters, Butterfly Weed, Switchgrass, Serviceberry, Hearts-a-Bustin', Redbuds, Inkberry and Ninebark, Dutchman's Pipe, Solomon's Seal, Alternate-leaf Dogwood, Spicebush, Carolina Silverbell and Possumhaw Viburnum, Purple Coneflower, Turtlehead, and Baptisia.

If you'd like to learn about native plants, Warriors' Path is a great place to learn. Work days are scheduled as needed throughout the season but work can be done anytime the park is open. If you're interested in helping at Warrior's Path, contact Gwyn Duncan or Nina Hedrick.

Dear Friends -

We at Warriors' Path State Park are very excited about our annual Winter Garden Seminar, coming on Saturday January 17, 2015. Ian Caton of Enchanters Garden Nursery will be giving a FREE talk on "Super Tough" native wildflowers. He'll give us expert advice on how to plant native species that can tolerate poor soils, drought, flooding, hungry deer and damage from enthusiastic pets and children!

It's still a few months until the event, but space is limited and pre-registration is required. So I wanted to be sure that you had the opportunity to register well in advance.

Please do contact me if you need additional information. And thanks so much for sharing this with others. Have a great day!

Marty Silver
Warriors' Path State Park

NOVEMBER 2014 Calendar of Events

- NOV 1 Winterize: Tips to Protect Roses, Tender Herbs, Perennials & Shrubs
10:30 am. Evergreen of Johnson City. Pre-registration recommended; call: (423) 282-3431.
- NOV 1 Make & Take Fairy Garden Workshop
10:00 am; Kingsport Evergreen; Jane Hall The Green People at Riverport Rd. \$25 Activity Fee
- NOV 2 Orchid Society of East Tennessee - 2 pm Gray Community Center.
- NOV 4 Washington County Bee Keepers Association 7:30 pm; Appalachian Fairgrounds, Building #1
- NOV 6 Herb Saplings Meeting
7:00 pm. "From Tea to Tinctures-The Best Herbs for You" presented by Seth McLaughlin. At Exchange Place in Kingsport.
- NOV 7 Ornamental Vines for the Garden at NC Arboretum, Asheville
1:00 – 3:00 pm. Instructor: Andra Nus. Cost: \$27-Member/\$37-Non-Member. Limit 20 participants. Contact: 828-665-2492 or <http://www.ncarboretumregistration.org/Horticulture-and-Conservation-C261.aspx>
- NOV 8 Clean Air Plants for Indoors
10:30 am. Evergreen of Johnson City. Pre-registration recommended; call: (423) 282-3431.
- NOV 8 Terrariums 101: Make & Take Workshop
10:00 am; Kingsport Evergreen; Jane Hall The Green People at Riverport Rd. \$25 Activity Fee
- NOV 8 Creating a Native Woodland Garden-Asheville Botanical Gardens
10:30 am – 12:00 pm; presented by Lisa Wagner, Education Director of the SC Botanical Garden at Clemson. Cost: BGA members: \$12, Nonmembers: \$17. Reservations required. Contact: 828-252-5190 or bgardens@bellsouth.net.
- NOV 9 Sunday Garden Walk - UT Gardens, Knoxville
2:30-3:30 pm. Cost: Free.
- NOV 10 NETMGA Board Meeting; Appalachian Fairgrounds; 6:00 pm
- NOV 14 Innovative Ideas from International Gardens at NC Arboretum, Asheville
10:00 – 11:30 am. Instructor: Lisa Wagner. Cost: \$27-Member/\$37-Non-Member. Limit 32 participants. Contact:
- NOV 15 Spring Blooming Bulbs – Tips for Planting for Spring Color
10:30 am. Evergreen of Johnson City. Pre-registration recommended; call: (423) 282-3431.
- NOV 20 SAPS Meeting - "Tree Fruits in the Home Garden" by Dr. David Lockwood
7:00 pm. Washington Co. Farm Bureau Auditorium, 1103 Boones Creek Rd. in Jonesborough. Admission: Free. Contact: Joy Moore at **423-348-6572** or ijnjmoore@embarqmail.com.
- NOV 22 Farm Dreams? Explore Your Vision
10:00 am – 4:00 pm; Organic Growers School, Buncombe County Ext. Office, 94 Coxe Ave., Asheville, NC. Cost: \$55. Bring brown bag lunch or eat downtown. Info & Registration: <http://organicgrowersschool.org/events/farm-dreams/>
- NOV 30-JAN 4 Lamplight Christmas Wreath Exhibit at Sycamore Shoals State Park
Tues-Sat: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm; Sun: 1:00 – 4:30 pm. Wreaths of all designs and colors will be hung from old time lampposts. Contact: 423-543-5808.

DECEMBER 2014 Calendar of Events

- DEC 1 NETMGA General Meeting
6:00 P.M. at the Second Harvest Food Bank; Exit 63 off I-81N (located in the old Sam's Building). Dinner will be provided; RSVP by November 24 to Jane Mullins at 423-737-7915 or ajtmul35@yahoo.com. Dr. Susan Hamilton, Director of the UT Gardens in Knoxville, will speak on Companion Plantings.
- DEC 2 Washington County Bee Keepers Association
7:30 pm; Appalachian Fairgrounds, Building #1
- DEC 2 & 3 Wreath Making Workshop at Exchange Place in Kingsport
Tuesday: 5:30-9:00 pm; Wednesday: 9:30 am – 2:30 pm. Cost for each workshop is \$30 (\$25 for SAPS members and Exchange Place volunteers). Contact: Joy Moore 423-348-6572 or ijnmoore@embarqmail.com.
- DEC 5-6 Christmas at the Carter Mansion, Elizabethton
6:00-9:00 pm. A candlelit evening in the oldest frame house in Tennessee, decorated with bright greenery for the holidays. Contact: 423-543-5808.
- DEC 6 Adopt-A-Tree at Warrior's Path State Park
10:00 am. Help plant future park forests! This event is free, and no pre-registration is needed. We will have some digging tools, but you can also bring your own if you'd like. Come dressed for the weather and be prepared to get your hands dirty! Contact: 423-239-6786 or 423-239-8531.
- DEC 6 Christmas in the Country at Exchange Place Living History Farm
10:00 am - 4:00 pm. Admission is free. Contact: 423-288-6071 or <http://exchangeplace.info>
- DEC 6 Holiday Porch Pot Make & Take
10:00 am; Kingsport Evergreen; Karen Gibson and The Green People at Riverport Rd and Jodi Horne at Colonial Heights. \$25 Activity Fee.
- DEC 7 Orchid Society of East Tennessee - 2 pm Gray Community Center.
- DEC 13 Holiday Fairy Garden; UT Gardens
10:00 am-12:00 pm. Bring a container and learn to create an indoor seasonally themed fairy garden. Basic materials, plants and accessories will be provided. Cost: \$30/member family, \$40/nonmember family. Registration: <https://utgardens.wildapricot.org/event-1737459/Registration>
- DEC 13 Adults Workshop: Wreath Making, UT Gardens
1:00-3:00 pm. Cost: \$30/member, \$40/nonmember (cost includes materials). Registration: <https://utgardens.wildapricot.org/event-1737456/Registration>
- DEC 13 Visions of Christmas, 1864 at Tipton-Haynes State Historic Site
2:00 – 6:00 pm. Admission: \$5 for adults & \$2.50 for 12 & under



**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>

**Master Gardeners:
report your hours each month!!**