

SPRING 2015! And SUMMER will be here soon!

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!!

2015 Eastern Region Master Gardener Day

The 2015 Eastern Region Master Gardener Day is scheduled for Saturday May 30 at the University of Tennessee Agriculture Campus in Knoxville. The program will be held in the Auditorium of the Ellington Plant Science Building. The day will start at 9:00 am and conclude around 4:15 pm.



Please wear your Master Gardener Nametag as nametags will not be provided for the day's activities.

The planning committee has worked hard to put together what they believe will be an educational and fun program. You will have several different topics as well as afternoon tours to choose from during the day's activities.

Again this year there will be a plant swap for you to bring plants to participate in, a silent auction, and a wonderful meal provided by Anderson Farms.

Cost for this day's activities are \$25.00. Feel free to invite prospective Master Gardeners and spouses. Registration is needed by May 20th so arrangements can be made for the proper amount of food.

Counties and individuals are encouraged to bring posters and displays promoting Master Gardener activities to be displayed in the auditorium so others can learn about the programs across East Tennessee.

For information about the program schedule, registration form, and plant swap contact:

Alan Bruhin, Sevier County Director
752 Old Knoxville Highway
Sevierville, TN. 37862
865-453-3695



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Upcoming NETMGA Meetings

May 11 Board meeting at 6:00 p.m. in the ticket office at the Appalachian Fair Grounds on Lakeview Street in Gray, TN

June 1 NETMGA General Meeting with program "**Hardscapes - How to build garden borders, low walls and terracing without mortar**" presented by General Shale. Networking begins at 6:00 p.m. and the program begins at 6:30 p.m. Bring a snack to share if you have time. Building 1, Appalachian Fair Grounds in Gray.

Summer Tours and Travel

We have two suggestions for summer trips. Please let Jane know if you are interested in either trip. Further planning for these trips will be dependent on interest shown by members. email Jane at ajtmul35@yahoo.com or call 423-737-7915.

Trip 1 would be in mid-June to visit the **Southern Highlands Reserve in Lake Toxaway, NC**. This is a planned Native Plant Arboretum Research Center. This would be a day trip and is located near Brevard, NC. The trip would take about 2-2 1/2 hours driving each way. The roads are very curvy. Cost will be determined as soon as possible.

Trip 2 would be a two night trip to the UT Arboretum AGReseach and Education Center in Jackson, TN to attend **SUMMER CELEBRATION**. The theme this year is **Bees, Birds, Butterflies and Bottles**. It is on Thursday, July 9 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. There is a wonderful plant sale that begins at 9:00 a.m. The garden lectures begin at 10:00 a.m.

Admission is \$5.00. There would also be some great stops on the way and hopefully a tour of the tree farm in Jackson that creates some of the great new cultivars such as the Rising Sun Redbud. This would be two night in a hotel. Cost will be determined by interest. We would leave on Wednesday, July 8 and return on Friday, July 10. To find out what goes on at this event, check the UT Gardens website in Jackson. Last year's schedule is still on the site. This year's will be posted soon. This would also be a good opportunity to see Cheekwood Gardens in Nashville. Please let Jane know as soon as possible in order to complete planning.

Field Trips: Master Gardeners love to visit the gardens of fellow members! If you would be willing to host a garden tour to your home, please let Jane know.

Featured Project Tipton-Haynes Historic Site

Tipton-Haynes Project Master Gardeners had a busy and exciting 2014, and we have big plans for 2015! In 2014 the Nature Garden became a certified Monarch Waystation! Claudia worked with visiting children to plant common milkweed. We also added several new plants to the Nature Garden, including native azalea, oakleaf hydrangea, lily, penstemon, goldenrod, turtlehead, ladyfern, and dwarf crested iris. In addition to the new plants we started rock edging to better define the pathway.

In the Slave Garden we completed a fence around the area. Successful plantings included finger millet, peanuts, potatoes, and cowpeas. Okra and squash struggled because gates were left open several times, which allowed wildlife access to the tasty vegetation.

We moved roses from the Rose Garden in back of grounds to front gardens, where they were more visible to site visitors. End of season work focused on mulching and adding chicken manure to gardens.



Our 2015 goals include adding fragrant and medicinal herbs to the Herb Garden, completing the edging in the Nature Garden, as well as adding native plants for birds, butterflies, bees and other beneficial insects. We also plan to clean the back fence area and expand our compost pile. In the picture at left Vern, Jude, and Claudia are hard at work removing invasive plants that have “taken over” the area!



On a sad note, our most dedicated weeder, Bobbi Kahan, has moved back to New England and will not be with us anymore. We will miss Bobbi.

On a happy note (with sad undertone), Claudia and her husband will be leaving us in June to go to Africa for a two+ year mission to live with the SAN in Namibia. We will greatly miss our fearless Project Leader! While Claudia is away Vern Maddux and Betts Leach will serve as co-leaders of the Tipton-Haynes Project (it will take 2 to replace Claudia!).



We welcome any Master Gardeners who are looking for a place to share fun and earn volunteer hours, please contact us! We typically work on Thursday, but are flexible if YOU want to help on another day. Contact: Vern at vjornmaddux@embarqmail.com or Betts at BettsL@aol.com



MORE HAPPENINGS!

May 1, 2 and 3 25th Annual Asheville Spring Herb Festival at the WNC Farmers Market. Free Admission. Friday and Saturday 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Checkout the website for more information www.ashevilleherbfestival.com

May 7 Herb Sapling Meeting. Join us at 6:30 pm for a Wild Herb Walk at Exchange Place. Note the earlier starting time to give us more time to explore outside. We'll take an easy walk around the historic site and identify wild herbs and learn about their uses. Bring an herb snack to share if you can.

May 21 SAPS Program: Ruth Anne Hanahan, Co-director of TN Yards and Garden Program, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, will present "Native Plants at Your Fingertips - Brought to you by TN Smart Yards" on Thursday, May 21, at 7 p.m. at Kingsport Renaissance Center , 1200 E. Center Street in Kingsport, TN 37660.

Tennessee Smart Yards is a University of Tennessee-led program that guides and assists Tennessee residents and neighborhood associations on practices they can apply in their yards and common spaces to create healthier living spaces and communities. Use of native plants in the home landscape is a key part of TYN's mission because native plants help achieve many objectives of the program. Ruth Anne will show us how native plants can help us create more sustainable landscapes while adding beauty to our yards.

Ruth Anne is a Senior Research Associate at the University of Tennessee Water Resources Research Center where she has conducted community education and outreach for 18 years. Her current primary efforts focus on assisting the Knox County Stormwater Department in meeting its Clean Water Act community engagement requirements and overseeing a seven-member AmeriCorps Team who help implement the school and community-based programs and events in Knox County. In addition, Ruth Anne co-manages the statewide Tennessee Smart Yards Program in conjunction with Dr. Andrea Ludwig with UT Extension. Ruth Anne holds an MS in Ecology along with an MS in Public Health Nutrition and a BS in Biology. On her time off, she enjoys playing in the dirt and spending time with good books!

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

May 23 - 24 22 Annual Garden Jubilee Festival in Hendersonville, NC. 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. in historic downtown Hendersonville. There will be 200 vendors selling all types of plants and garden related items. Many hard to find plants will be available. http://www.historichendersonville.org/garden_jubilee.htm

June 4 Herb Saplings Meeting. "Honey" with Marie Hawkins.

7 pm at Exchange Place in Kingsport. Find out why Marie calls honey "a medicine chest in a jar". Learn how honey can help reduce seasonal allergies and treat some infections. Bring an herb snack to share if you can.

Claudia Hazel, MG class of 2008, leaves for Africa!

On Sat. May 30th, 2015 friends and family of Claudia and Jeremy Hazel are invited to the home of Duane and Judith (Jude) Gilbert to give Claudia and Jeremy a proper send off, love, and support for their upcoming departure to Namibia Africa for a two plus year Mission with Africa Inland Mission to the SAN BUSHMAN. They are scheduled to depart June 11, 2015.

Some of us that love the Lord, have thought how wonderful it would be to follow God's plan in this way but, few of us would have what it takes to walk away from our friends, family and comfort zone to do what, in our hearts believe, is GOD's plan for us!!

Claudia and Jeremy have touched many of us with their compassion and selflessness. I'm sure that I'm not alone in saying how much their absence will be felt by all that have gotten to know them as the special people that they are.

Please set aside this day (Sat. May 30th.) to express how much we love and appreciate them. We are asking that you bring a covered dish to share.

TIME: 12 to 5PM. ADDRESS: 911 Sycamore Shoals Drive, Elizabethton, TN.37643; Cell #423-213-4041

A Money tree will be provided to help them with a few unexpected expenditures. This is a planned outdoor event, but there will be covered seating in the event of rain.

Hope to see you all on the 30th.

Respectfully,

Judith and Duane Gilbert

DIRECTIONS:

From South Johnson City, or Erwin: take I-26 north toward Kingsport, then take Exit 23 bearing right onto E Main St/TN-91.

From North Johnson City, Kingsport, etc.: take I-26 toward downtown Johnson City, then take Exit 23. At bottom of ramp cross over Market St to get to Main St; turn left onto E Main St/TN-91. Follow TN-91 for about 3 miles, then turn slight left onto Smalling Rd. After about 1.7 miles turn right to stay on Smalling Rd. After 2 miles turn right onto Sycamore Shoals Dr. After .3 miles you have reached your destination!

From Elizabethton take the, Smalling Road entrance off of Rt.400, Watauga Rd. in Elizabethton. Second road on left is Sycamore Shoals Drive.

BOKASHI COMPOSTING

Bokashi is Japanese for “fermented organic matter.” **Bokashi** composting is a safe, quick way to compost in your kitchen, garage or apartment using a specific group of microorganisms to anaerobically ferment all food wastes including meat and dairy. Since the process takes place in a closed system, insects and smell are controlled, making it ideal for urban or business settings. The process is very fast with compost usually ready to be integrated into your soil or garden in around two weeks. Two books are recommended reading and may be found on www.amazon.com. They are *Bokashi Composting: Scraps to Soil in Weeks* by Adam Footer. and *Bokashi Composting: Kitchen Scraps to Black Gold in 2 weeks (Black Gold Organic Gardening)* by Michael O'Halloron.



Chris' Corner

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

Each spring is truly different. We still often try to predict the weather for coming months. I often hear someone say, I believe it's going to be a dry summer. I usually think to myself, "ask me about September 1 and I'll tell you if we're going to have a dry summer or not." We really don't know. We just like to speculate. Fortunately we are not in charge of the weather! Just get out and garden and enjoy!

Please don't miss out on the Eastern Region Master Gardener Field Day scheduled for Saturday, May 30. This will be a great opportunity to meet other Master Gardeners from across the region and state. You'll also

earn CEUs for Master Gardener recertification.

One last thing....please always take every opportunity to connect UT Extension with the Master Gardener Program. You can do this by referring to our program as the UT Extension Master Gardener Program instead of just the Master Gardener Program. This will give our educational programs more credibility and help maintain support through the university.

If you have any questions or concerns, the best way to reach me is by calling me or sending a text message to my cell phone at 423-646-9043.

2015 NETMGA Projects List

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1
Boundless Playground at Warriors' Path State Park Kingsport
Gwyn Duncan 423-239-0460 geduncan@charter.net</p> <p>2
Carver Peace Gardens Johnson City
Sam Jones 423-773-3204 simpleintn@yahoo.com</p> <p>3
Church Hill Senior Citizens Center Garden
Marcia Vandermause mmvdvm@charter.net
Judy Penley chscgarden@yahoo.com</p> <p>4
Exchange Place Living History Farm Kingsport
Earl Hockin-Vegetable Garden ehockin@yahoo.com
Dave Gostomski-Lawns, Trees, etc. e3fan98@yahoo.com</p> <p>5
Harvest of Hope Community Garden Kingsport
Doug Hilton 423-239-9433 howlatthemoon1775@gmail.com</p> <p>6
Johnson City Medical Center, Woodridge Hospital Johnson City
Barbara Voigt 423-467-2013 voigt7b@comcast.net</p> <p>7
Northeast State Community College Gardens to Degrees
Contact Chris Ramsey for details</p> | <p>8
Rocky Mount Living History Site Piney Flats
Don Davis home 423-854-0152, cell 423-943- 2392
donfdavis@aol.com</p> <p>9
Sycamore Shoals State Historic Park Elizabethton
Vikki Bradach vbradach@gmail.com</p> <p>10
Tipton Haynes Historic Site Johnson City
Vern Maddux vjornmaddux@embarqmail.com
Betts Leach BettsL@aol.com</p> <p>11
Vance Community Gardens Bristol
Gini Powell PowellG@btcs.org
Rebecca Craddock Craddockr@btcs.org</p> <p>12 & 13
Projects 12 and 13 are one weekend a year for each of the 4 activities:</p> <p>Johnson City Home Show and Women's Expo
Penny Rutledge pennyrutledge2@aol.com</p> <p>Kingsport MeadowView Home Show
Doug Hilton 423-239-9433 howlatthemoon1775@gmail.com</p> |
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MAY 2015 Calendar of Events

- MAY 5 Washington County Bee Keepers Association
7:30 pm; Appalachian Fairgrounds, Building #1
- MAY 7 Herb Sapling Meeting: Join us for a Wild Herb Walk at Exchange Place
6:30 pm. Bring an herb snack to share if you can
- MAY 9 Arbor Day Celebration at International Storytelling Center in Jonesborough, TN
10:00 am – 3:00 pm; More info 423-753-2171 or www.arbordaytn.webs.com.
- MAY 9 Sycamore Shoals hosts Bird Walk with the Lee & Lois Herndon TOS Chapter
8:00 am - Meet other birders and naturalists at Sycamore Shoals for a morning of birding during the migratory season. For more information call 423-543-5808
- MAY 9 Dahlia Tuber Sale and Mum Cutting Sale Carolinas Dahlia Society and North Carolina Chrysanthemum Society
10:00 am – 2:00 pm; North Carolina Arboretum, Asheville
- MAY 9 Big Spring Master Gardener Spring Plant Sale
12:00 pm – 5:00 pm; Greene County Fairgrounds, Greeneville, TN
- MAY 9-10 Blooms Days 2015 – UT Gardens Friendship Plaza, Knoxville
9:00 am – 5:00. Cost: Members-\$5 per day or \$8 for both days/Non-members-\$7 per day or \$11 for both days
- MAY 11 NETMGA Board Meeting, 6:00 p.m. at the Gray Fairgrounds Ticket Office
- MAY 16 Container Combination Workshop – Make and Take
10 am - Evergreen – Riverport Rd Kingsport and Moreland Dr. Colonial Heights
- MAY 21 SAPS Meeting – "New Native Plants at Your Fingertips" brought to you by TN Smart Yards
7:00 pm., Kingsport Renaissance Center 1200 E Center St., Kingsport. Admission: Free. Information: call 423-348-6572 or e-mail sapsinfo@embarqmail.com
- MAY 23 Sun Loving Perennials and Daylilies
10 am - Evergreen – Riverport Rd Kingsport and Moreland Dr. Colonial Heights
- MAY 23-24 22nd Annual Garden Jubilee Festival in Hendersonville, NC.
9 am - 6 pm in historic downtown Hendersonville. 200 vendors selling all types of plants and garden related items. Many hard to find plants will be available. Information: http://www.historichendersonville.org/garden_jubilee.htm
- MAY 30 2015 Eastern Region Master Gardener Day
9:00 am – 4:15 pm; University of Tennessee Agriculture Campus in Knoxville. Cost: \$25; Registration deadline May 20th.
- MAY 30-31 Asheville-Blue Ridge Rose Society Exhibition
9:00 am – 5:00 pm; North Carolina Arboretum, Asheville

JUNE 2015 Calendar of Events

- JUN 1 NETMGA General Membership
6:00 pm; Networking; Bring a snack to share
6:30 pm; "Hardscapes - How to build garden borders, low walls and terracing without mortar"
presented by General Shale. Gray Fairgrounds, Building #1
- JUN 2 Washington County Bee Keepers Association
7:30 pm; Appalachian Fairgrounds, Building #1
- JUN 4 Herb Sapling Meeting: "Honey" with Marie Hawkins.
7 pm at Exchange Place. Bring an herb snack to share if you can
- JUN 6 Fairy Gardening Workshop – Make and Take
10 am - Evergreen – Riverport Rd Kingsport
- JUN 7 Orchid Society of East Tennessee - 2 pm Gray Community Center.
- JUN 13 6th Annual Dragonfly Day at Warrior's Path
9:00 am - Jewelwings, Sprites and Skimmers! Discover the world of these and other native
dragonflies and damselflies. Learn to observe, photograph and identify native dragonflies and
damselflies. For more information: 423-239-6786 or marty.silver@tn.gov.
- JUN 13 Small Conifer Garden Workshop – Make and Take
10 am - Evergreen – Riverport Rd Kingsport
- JUN 13 Native Plants for Pollinators, presented by Lisa Wagner
10:30 am; Asheville Botanical Gardens Visitor Center. Cost: \$12 members; \$17 non-
members. Participants must register and pre-pay. Information or to register: 828-252-5190.
- JUN 20-21 Roan Mountain Rhododendron Festival
10:00 am – 5:00 pm. Celebrate and explore the world's largest natural Catawba rhododen-
dron garden - take in the expansive views and bushes abloom atop Roan Mountain. At the
foot of the mountain, the festival features handmade crafts, food and a variety of traditional
music, plus an array of old-time folkway demonstrations. For details and schedules visit
<http://www.roanmountain.com/festival.htm>
- JUN 27 WNC Daylily Society Annual Flower Show
10:00 am – 4:00 pm; North Carolina Arboretum, Asheville



UT Extension

Northeast Tennessee Master Gardener Endowment

Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Daytime Phone _____

I/We would like to contribute to the University of Tennessee Foundation

(Please make checks payable to the University of Tennessee Foundation, Inc.)

My/Our gift is designated for: **Northeast Tennessee Master Gardener Endowment (MASTE_06)**

Or other fund: _____

____ I/We pledge \$ _____ a year for _____ year(s) for a total of \$ _____.

Please remind me/us of our pledge ____ annually

____ semi-annually

Beginning: _____ quarterly

Indicate month/year

____ Enclosed is the first payment on my/our pledge.

____ I/We would like to make a gift via Credit Card. Circle one: Visa MasterCard Discover.

Credit Card #: _____ Expiration Date: ____/____

____ Enclosed is a one-time gift of \$ _____.

Signature(s) _____ Date _____

The Institute of Agriculture

Questions: Please contact Tom Looney at 865-974-8622 or tom.looney@tennessee.edu

University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture, 107 Morgan Hall, Knoxville, TN 37996-4502



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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!!**