

“Dog Days of Summer”

July 3 – August 11

During this time, the Sun occupies the same region of the sky as Sirius, the brightest star visible from any part of Earth, and part of the constellation Canis Major, the Greater Dog. (This is why Sirius is sometimes called the Dog Star.) But some folks say “the dog days” signify hot sultry days “not fit for a dog.”

There are still plenty of opportunities to get volunteer hours and CEUs for 2019? Do you need more? See the Calendar of Events located at the end of this issue for all of the above!



NETMGA Board Meeting

Monday, **July 1**, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the Ron Ramsey Agricultural Center, 140 Spurgeon Lane, Blountville, TN.

NETMGA General Membership Meeting

MG general meeting will be Monday, **August 5**, 2019 at the Ron Ramsey Regional Agriculture Center, Blountville, Tn. Doors open at 6:00 for networking and program starts at 6:30. Feel free to bring a snack to share.

Program Topic: Make and Take Garden Markers for your Plants

This is a hands-on class to learn different and creative ways to mark the plants in your garden. The class will be presented by the Program Committee members. They will have samples and supplies available for each person to actually create some markers to take home.

No door prizes will be given at this meeting, because everyone will have one or more markers to take home with them. Come prepared to have a great interactive class.

2019 NETMGA Master Gardener Class



Class begins August 6. There are a few classes that still need Moderators. See class schedule in this newsletter, then use this link to sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805094fa4aa2aa3ff2-mg2019>

Put These on Your Calendar

No July Herb Saplings Meeting

Hamlett-Dobson Farm Fest at Exchange Place

Hamlett-Dobson Farm Fest will provide old-fashioned family fun on Sunday, **July 14**, from 2-5 p.m. at Exchange Place Living History Farm, 4812 Orebank Road in Kingsport. Farm Fest celebrates the pleasures of country life as visitors step back into the nineteenth century and enjoy fresh summer food like watermelon and corn on the cob, join in activities from bygone days like sack races, hay rides, and cakewalks, pet the farm animals, and try their hand at old time crafts like stenciling, quill pen writing, and carding wool. Small children will enjoy washing clothes on the washboard and jumping in the haystack. Throughout the afternoon live music will be performed by Nina Plus Two and the Childress Family Band. This free event is part of Kingsport's Fun Fest, and no ticket is required. 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 is a fun, family oriented community event and we always need volunteers. Master Gardener volunteers are needed to help with plant and garden related children's activities, teaching farm "chores" to visitors, parking cars and serving watermelon and corn on the cob. Your time counts as Master Gardener volunteer hours. To volunteer contact Joy Moore at 423-348-6572 or injmoore@embarqmail.com

Homegrown Tomato Fest XV

The Fifteenth Annual Homegrown Tomato Fest will take place Saturday, **August 10**, 2019, 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, tomato recipes, activities for kids, and fun for the whole family.

Gather your finest and/or funkiest tomatoes and enter them in the contests for Best Tasting, Biggest, Prettiest, Ugliest, Most Bizarre and/or Best Dressed. Make an extra batch of your favorite salsa recipe and compete for bragging rights in 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 at the event. Entries will be accepted from 8 - 9 a.m. for all contests, and winners will be announced after 10 a.m.

Volunteers are needed to help slice tomatoes, make tomato sandwiches, staff the salsa booth, coordinate children's activities, etc. It's a fun way to spend a Saturday morning and see friends and neighbors at the Farmers' Market. Your volunteer time counts for your Master Gardener hours. For more information or to volunteer, contact Dennis Marshall, Tomato Fest Chairman, at 423-288-3675 or dmarshall@chartertn.net

Homegrown Tomato Fest is sponsored by the Southern Appalachian Plant Society (SAPS) and Downtown Kingsport Association.

2019 UT EXTENSION MASTER GARDENER CLASS SCHEDULE

DATE	DAY	SUBJECT	PRESENTER	LOCATIONS	TIME
8/6/2019	TUESDAY	Intro to Master Gardeners	Chris Ramsey and Dr. Natalie	Ron Ramsey Ag Center	09:00 to 12:00
8/13/2019	TUESDAY	Weed Science	Phil Blevins	Ron Ramsey Ag Center	09:00 to 12:00
8/20/2019	TUESDAY	Soils	Scott Jesse	Ron Ramsey Ag Center	09:00 to 12:00
8/27/2019	TUESDAY	3 Tier Gardening	Earl Hockin	Ron Ramsey Ag Center	09:00 to 12:00
9/3/2019	TUESDAY	Composting and Vegetables	Ben Hunter	691 Shady View Rd Kingsport Tn 37664	09:00 to 12:00
9/10/2019	TUESDAY	Plant Pathology	Jack Price	Ron Ramsey Ag Center	09:00 to 12:00
9/17/2019	TUESDAY	Intro to Horticulture	Dr. Levy	Ron Ramsey Ag Center	09:00 to 12:00
9/19/2019	THURSDAY	Permaculture SAPS	Dr. Will Hooker		18:00-20:00
9/24/2019	TUESDAY	Entomology	Mannie Bedwell	Ron Ramsey Ag Center	09:00 to 12:00
10/1/2019	TUESDAY	Pesticide Safety, IPM	Melody Rose	Ron Ramsey Ag Center	09:00 to 12:00
10/8/2019	TUESDAY	Seed Starting/Plant Propagation	Jane Hall	EVERGREEN Colonial Heights Kingsport Tn	09:00 to 12:00
10/15/2019	TUESDAY	Small Fruit Trees	Dr. Richard Moyer	Ron Ramsey Ag Center	09:00 to 12:00
10/17/2019	THURSDAY	Volunteer Site Tour & Picnic	Master Gardeners	Various Sites	09:00 to 12:00
10/22/2019	TUESDAY	Native Plants/Trees	Jeremy Stout	Ron Ramsey Ag Center	09:00 to 12:00
10/29/2019	TUESDAY	Water Management *	Joy Stewart	Ron Ramsey Ag Center	09:00 to 12:00
11/5/2019	TUESDAY	Basic Landscape	Clare Childs	Ron Ramsey Ag Center	09:00 to 12:00
11/12/2019	TUESDAY	Lawns	Chris Ramsey	Ron Ramsey Ag Center	09:00 to 12:00
11/19/2019	TUESDAY	Evaluation, Class Project, Test, Luncheon and Certificates	Master Gardeners	Ron Ramsey Ag Center	09:00 to 12:00

* A field trip to Joy Stewarts home is planned for the spring

“Featured Project”

Exchange Place Living History Farm

Master Gardeners contribute to Exchange Place in a variety of ways. Dave Gostomski, e3fan98@yahoo.com or 423-212-0231, and others work as the maintenance crew, keeping the lawns cut and maintaining buildings and fences. Additionally, Dave contributes to the Field crop garden in which historic field crops including Sorghum, Cotton, Broom Cane and Tobacco are grown.

Earl Hockin, ehockin@yahoo.com or 423-817-5473 is the lead gardener for other gardens maintained by Master Gardeners including a Demonstration Vegetable garden in which Heirloom and Hybrid varieties are grown in raised beds. The purpose of this garden is to assist people learning about vegetable gardening throughout the year by using Row Cover, and varieties appropriate for both cool season and warm season growing. We demonstrate how vining vegetables are best grown vertically. Among the vegetables we grow are a minimum of 10 different varieties of tomatoes, sweet potatoes, 4 or more varieties of beans, southern peas, Irish Potatoes, carrots, varieties of beets, peanuts, various summer and winter squash, spinach, parsnips, several varieties of peppers and several different herbs. Each year we grow a few unusual vegetables including Yard Long Beans, Bok Choi, Napa Cabbage, an herb called Papalo, Mad Hatter Peppers.

We also maintain a Pollinator garden featuring a variety of flowering plants that are especially attractive to a wide variety of pollinators.

We hope to get some more volunteers who would be interested in maintaining the Laurie Fiet native plant garden which presently is in dire need of regular attention.

Volunteers at work:







Projects List

Boundless Playground at Warriors' Path State

Park Kingsport
Gwyn Duncan 423-239-0460 geduncan@charter.net

Branch House Family Center

Blountville
Margaret Woolery margaret.woolery@gmail.com
Cynthia Johnson cjohnson2785@gmail.com

Carver Peace Gardens

Johnson City
Nancy Shilling 423-833-1420 nancyshilling@gmail.com

Church Hill Senior Citizens Center Garden

Marcia Vandermause mmvdvm@charter.net
Christine Barger chscgarden@yahoo.com

Exchange Place Living History Farm

Kingsport
Earl Hockin-Vegetable Garden ehockin@yahoo.com
Dave Gostomski-Lawns, Trees, etc. e3fan98@yahoo.com

Harvest of Hope Community Garden

Kingsport
Doug Hilton 423-239-9433 howlathemoon1775@gmail.com
Dave Rogers 423-502-2459 dave_carla@chartertn.net

Johnson City Medical Center

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

Johnson City Public Library

"What's the Buzz" Pollinator Pathway
Selena Harmon 423-328-3016 selenaharmon1@gmail.com

Rocky Mount Living History Site

Piney Flats
Don Davis home 423-854-0152, cell 423-943-2392
donfdavis@aol.com

Sycamore Shoals State Historic Park

Elizabethton
Project Leader: Open

The Crumley House Therapeutic Garden

Limestone
Penny Rutledge 423-612-4785 pennyrutledge2@aol.com

Tipton Haynes Historic Site

Johnson City
Vern Maddux vjornmaddux@embarqmail.com
Betts Leach BettsL@aol.com

NETMGA Yearly Projects List:

Johnson City Home Show and Women's Expo

Penny Rutledge 423-612-4785 pennyrutledge2@aol.com

Kingsport MeadowView Home Show and Farm Show

Doug Hilton 423-239-9433 howlathemoon1775@gmail.com

Kingsport Pepper Festival

Doug Hilton 423-239-9433 howlathemoon1775@gmail.com

Kingsport Tomato Festival

Dennis Marshall 423-288-3675 dmarshall@chartertn.net

Feed the birds!





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Monthly Gardening Tasks – July & August

<https://ag.tennessee.edu/utg/Pages/monthlytasks.aspx>

Master Gardeners: Report your hours each month!!

JULY 2019 Calendar of Events

JUL 9-14 Summer in the Park at Warriors' Path State Park

Information: <https://tnstateparks.com/events/details/#/?event=summer-in-the-park-week-of-July-9>

JUL 11 Trillium Seminar with Jayne Lampley at UT Gardens

6:30 – 7:30pm. Join us for an engaging seminar about one of the Southeast's most beloved wildflowers. Cost: Garden member Free/nonmember \$5. Registration: <http://knoxgarden.org/calendar/trilliums/>

JUL 11-27 *Liberty!* The Saga of Sycamore Shoals

Performances begin at 7:30 PM, Thursday through Saturday on July 11-13, July 18-20 and July 25-27.

JUL 12 Summer Tree Keys at Warriors' Path State Park

4:00-5:00pm. Learn to identify "old friends" on forest walks; practice using a few different botanical keys to learn the names of our native trees. Information: <https://tnstateparks.com/events/details/#/?event=summer-tree-key-19>

JUL 12-20 Kingsport Fun Fest

JUL 14 Hamlett-Dobson Farm Fest at Exchange Place, Kingsport

2:00 – 5:00 pm. Information: <https://www.exchangeplace.info/festivals>

JUL 14 Organic Edible Garden Series: Cover Crops & Compost at UT Gardens

1:30 – 4:30pm. Never leave the soil bare. Something will grow, and it will most likely be weeds! Class will discuss the many benefits of cover crops as well as where to get them and how to integrate them into the soil. We'll also discuss the options for composting. Cost: Garden member \$35/nonmember \$45. Registration: <https://utgardens.wildapricot.org/event-3260748>

JUL 16-21 Summer in the Park at Warriors' Path State Park

Information: <https://tnstateparks.com/events/details/#/?event=summer-in-the-park-week-of-July-16>

JUL 23 Herbaceous Plant Propagation

1:00 – 4:00pm. This class covers herbaceous plant propagation from seeds, cuttings and divisions. We will discuss grasses, perennials, landscape and house plants, and participate in hands-on activities sowing seeds and propagating cuttings. North Carolina Arboretum, Asheville. Seating Limited. Cost: \$67-Member/\$77-Non-member. Registration required: <https://4020a.blackbaudhosting.com/4020a/SP19-Herbaceous-Plant-Propagation>

JUL 26 Moonlight Madness at Evergreen of Johnson City

7:00 – 11:00pm. Huge discounts on greenhouse plants plus Moonlight Gardening Seminar at 8:00pm! Call 423-282-3431 to register for seminar.

JUL 26-28 Wild Herb Weekend, NC Herb Association

Information & registration: <http://www.ncherbassociation.org/>

JUL 28 Gardening on Slopes with Nina Shippen at The Botanical Gardens at Asheville

2:00-4:00pm. Class will include remedies for preventing and correcting eroding slopes while still enjoying them as gardens, how to measure and assess slopes, useful plants and how to plant them, and some methods for slope stabilization. We will also look at indicators that suggest the need for professional engineering and construction interventions. Cost: \$15-Member/\$20-Non-member. Participants must pre-register and pre-pay for classes: 828-252-5190. Information: <https://ashevillebotanicalgardens.org/events-classes/adult-classes/>

AUG 2019 Calendar of Events

AUG 3 Annual Elizabethton Butterfly Count

9:00am. Meet naturalist Don Holt at Sycamore Shoals State Historic Park, Elizabethton, for this day-long winged adventure across town. Come for all or part of the day. Contact: 423-543-5808

AUG 3 Fall Gardening Seminar at Sycamore Shoals State Historic Park, Elizabethton

9:00am – 12:00pm. Gardener extraordinaire Ben Hunter shares his experiences & techniques for growing the garden of your dreams! Contact: 423-543-5808

AUG 4 Orchid Society of East Tennessee – 2 pm Gray Community Center.

AUG 5 NETMGA Membership Meeting.

6:00pm. Program: Make and Take Garden Markers for your Plants. Location: Ron Ramsey Agricultural Center at 140 Spurgeon Lane in Blountville

AUG 6 2019 Master Gardener Class Begins

9:00am – 12:00pm

AUG 10 Homegrown Tomato Fest XIV at Kingsport Farmers' Market

8:00 – 11:00am

AUG 11 Naturalist Walk with Jay Kranyik at The Botanical Gardens at Asheville

9:00 – 11:30am. Cost: \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members. Participants must pre-register and pre-pay for classes: 828-252-5190. Information:

<https://ashevillebotanicalgardens.org/events-classes/adult-classes/>

AUG 19-24 Appalachian Fair, Gray, TN

AUG 30-SEP 1 Fall Naturalists' Rally at Roan Mountain State Park

Information: <http://www.friendsofroanmtn.org/Fall%20Rally%20Brochure%202019.pdf>



Northeast Tennessee
Master Gardener Association
c/o
UT Extension Sullivan County
140 Spurgeon Lane
Blountville, TN 37617

<http://netmga.net>
<http://mastergardeners.tennessee.edu>



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
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Signature(s) _____ Date _____

The Institute of Agriculture
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