



Official Publication

Master Gardener Thymes

Volume 20, Issue 2 Mar-Apr 2023

Seems Like Spring is Here...BUT Don't Be Fooled!

While we have had an abundance of warmer than normal weather lately, don't think that spring is here! It's March in Northeast Tennessee. If you've lived here for more than a year you know our temperatures and weather will be up and down until at least mid-May...warm one day, frost or snow the next.

While you wait for warmer weather to stay, remember that you can start seeds indoors, and go ahead and get your 2023 continuing education hours. There are opportunities to learn in-person, via Zoom, and other online resources. Check out the calendar at the end of this newsletter for possibilities.



NETMGA BOARD MEETING

NETMGA Board meeting will be on **March 6**, 6:30pm, at Washington County Extension Office in downtown Jonesborough.

NETMGA APRIL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

April 3. Details about this event will be provided at a later time.

WHAT'S INSIDE:

- Upcoming Events
- Featured Projects
- March/April Calendar of Events

Mark Your Calendar!

Green and Growing Seminars

Keep Kingsport Beautiful will hold its annual Green & Growing Seminars from 12 noon to 1 pm on Thursdays in March at the Kingsport Public Library Auditorium. Seminars are free, and no registration is required. The seminars are:

March 9 - Spring Vegetable Gardening with Earl Hockin, Master Gardener

March 16 - Growing Woodland Wildflowers with Joy Moore, Master Gardener

March 23 - High Impact Habitat Gardening with Christy Shivell, Shy Valley Farm

March 30 - Seeds and Seed Saving with John Woodworth, Ziegenwald Dairy, Gate City, Va.

For more information, contact Sharon Hayes at shayes@KingsportChamber.org or call 423-392-8814.

March SAPS Program

“Creating an Eco-friendly Yard for Pollinators and More”

Wildlife biologist and author Shannon Trimboli will discuss Creating an Eco-friendly Yard for Pollinators and More on Thursday, **March 16**, at 7 p.m. at BrightRidge Auditorium, 2600 Boones Creek Rd (Hwy 354) in Johnson City. Sponsored by Southern Appalachian Plant Society (SAPS) the program is free and the public is invited. No registration is needed. For more information phone 423-348-6572, email sapsnews@gmail.com or see <http://saps.us>.



The traditional image of a “perfect yard,” is a lush, well-manicured, heavily fertilized, weed-free expanse of solid green grass. However, more and more people are recognizing that this type of landscape has few environmental benefits. In this program, Shannon will discuss why the traditional “perfect yard” is not ecologically friendly and show simple steps you can take to make your yard attractive to pollinators and more.

Shannon Trimboli’s mission is to help people connect with the pollinators, wildlife, and nature in their yards and communities. She hosts Backyard Ecology, which is a blog, podcast, and YouTube channel focused on exploring the nature around us and improving our local pollinator and wildlife habitat. She has published two books, has a native plant nursery, and offers consulting for creating pollinator gardens or wildlife and pollinator habitat. Her educational background includes a Master’s degree in ecology and a Bachelor’s degree in wildlife biology. She lives in southcentral Kentucky.

For more about Shannon see:

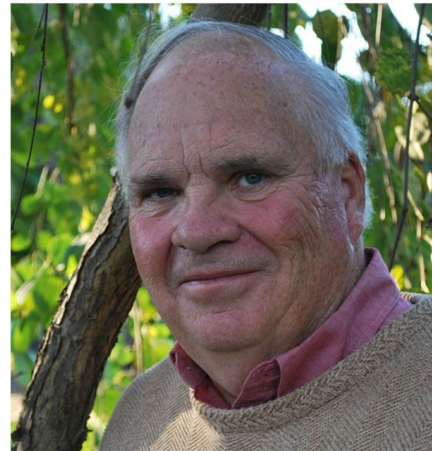
<https://shannontrimboli.com>

<https://www.facebook.com/ShannonRTrimboli>

<https://www.facebook.com/backyardecology>

April SAPS Program - "25 Shrubs I Can't Garden Without"

Horticulturist and garden writer Hugh Conlon will share "25 Shrubs I Can't Garden Without" on Thursday, **April 20**, at 7 p.m. at the Kingsport Center for Higher Education, 300 W. Market Street, Kingsport, TN 37660. Hugh's long experience as a horticulturist and as a gardener in Northeast Tennessee has given him unique insight into what shrubs perform best in our area and bring tremendous beauty to the landscape. Sponsored by Southern Appalachian Plant Society (SAPS), the program is free and the public is invited. For more information phone 423-348-6572, email sapsnews@gmail.com or see <http://saps.us>



Hugh Conlon is an active garden writer and speaker since his retirement from the University of Tennessee in 2011. He has been a professional horticulturist for over 45 years and is the creator and content provider of the gardening website www.whatgrowsthere.com. He has spoken to many Master Gardener classes in Tennessee and presents garden club talks and nursery/landscape programs in Tennessee and other states. In addition, he contributed articles to *Tennessee Gardener* and other garden/trade magazines, organizes garden tours throughout Tennessee and nearby states, and consults with gardeners, commercial landscapers, and growers.

Born and raised in Brooklyn, New York, Hugh attended Cornell University (BS degree), University of Delaware (MS degree), and Michigan State University. Hugh has served on the SAPS Board since its inception including two terms as president. Other memberships include Perennial Plant Association, Garden Writers Association, American Conifer Society, and Tennessee Nursery and Landscape Association. Hugh and wife Jane are the proud parents of four children and five grandchildren. His hobbies include gardening, photography, and writing.

Exchange Place Spring Garden Fair

The 37th Annual **Spring Garden Fair is Saturday, April 29, from 10 am – 5 pm and Sunday, April 30, from 12 – 5 pm at Exchange Place Living History Farm**, 4812 Orebank Road in Kingsport. The oldest garden fair in the region and a favorite among gardeners, the festival will feature thousands of plants for sale - perennials, annuals, trees and shrubs - with the emphasis on natives, herbs and heirlooms (including a wide variety of heirloom tomatoes), along with garden related arts and crafts. Visitors will see heritage breeds of animals and spring activities on a mid-19th century farmstead, as volunteers shear the sheep, spin and weave the wool, cook over the fire, and shape iron over the forge. Children's activities abound as volunteers help children create plant and nature crafts and learn gardening skills. Ol' timey music and foods add to the experience. Admission is \$5 for adults and free for children under 12. For more information, call 423-288-6071.

The Fair is also an educational event that fills the grounds and buildings of the historic site, and gardening experts in specific topics and Master Gardeners will be available to answer home gardening questions throughout the weekend. The Fair strives to be environmentally friendly with recycling and re-using. Visitors are encouraged to bring their own plant carriers and to bring used nursery pots (quarts and larger) for reuse.

Help Wanted

Master Gardeners have been an important part of the Spring Garden Fair for many years. Exchange Place has a core group of experienced volunteers who are organizing the Fair, but we would love fresh input from other Master Gardeners. If you would like to help on the SGF committee we would welcome your ideas and skills. If you could spare any time the Fair weekend to help with staffing the Master Gardener table, set-up, hospitality, take-down, children's activities, parking, etc., we would be grateful. Volunteer time counts as Master Gardener hours. To volunteer for this fun event or for more info, please contact Joy Moore at jemmoor@gmail.com.

Exchange Place invites small/hobby growers to participate in the Spring Garden Fair to add to the variety of plants available. If you are a small grower or know small growers who might be interested in having a booth at the Fair, please let us know. Our participation fee is 10% of gross sales. Contact EPfestivals.GF@gmail.com or call 423-288-6071.

“Featured Project” – Carver Peace Gardens

The Carver Peace Gardens are organic gardens located at Carver Park in Johnson City. The gardens are a project of the Johnson City Parks & Recreation Department, the Carver Recreation Center, and the North East Tennessee Master Gardener Association. Nancy Shilling and Brenda McKinnis lead the NETMGA Project Team. Herb Greenlee represents Johnson City Parks and is available in the Carver Center. The NETMGA Project Team is made up of Master Gardeners and any Carver Gardeners who would like to participate.

The gardens were originally developed in 2006 when master gardener Sam Jones proposed the project to Johnson City Parks and Recreation. In 2020 the decision was made to convert to raised beds. We now have the equivalent of 72 4x4 raised beds.

The raised beds are rented yearly on a first come first serve basis to community members for a nominal fee. Beds can be rented by groups as well as individuals. ETSU medical students have beds every year and donate the produce to One Acre Café in Johnson City. Gardeners supply their own seeds and soil amendments. The master gardener project team manages the gardens.



Some of the activities of the Master Gardener Project Team in 2022 were building concrete block pollinator gardens, filling the new 16 inch high raised beds as they were completed, gave presentations in the community, provided gardeners with educational information on gardening, sponsored educational walk through the garden programs, planned and planted pollinator gardens, maintained the pollinator gardens on a regular basis, built a vertical pallet garden, participated in the Johnson City seed swap, planned and implemented a youth gardening program cooperatively with the Carver after school and Summer program.

Carver Park Peace Garden Education Program for Youth

Youth Gardeners at Carver Park are learning to become competent vegetable gardeners with the hope of becoming lifelong horticulturists and stewards of the earth.

In addition to helping community members plant and maintain their raised beds, NETMGA volunteers are teaching children in grades 1-6 how to raise vegetables. As part of the Carver Park After-School Program additional weekly activities have been added to Carver Park's already busy schedule. At the request of Herb Greenlee, Carver Park Director and Tamara Foster, Program Director, the Master Gardener leaders Nancy Shilling and Brenda McKinnis have coordinated with other MG volunteers to design and implement a year-long educational program for young people at the after-school program. The three 10-week series of lessons have been taught in the summer and the fall semester. Plans are now being made to begin a third session in the spring semester.

Resources to write the series of lessons specific to the purpose was taken from materials posted online from UT, Tennessee Extension Service, Texas Junior Master Gardener Program and various garden books, not to mention the expertise of each of the volunteers. The children who participate in the lessons and activities will:

- Understand the role of plants in the ecosystem
- Describe the biodiversity of living things in their own garden
- Identify productive soil components
- Plant vegetables in the summer and fall seasons
- Make a mixture of soil medium and plant a container garden to be maintained at home
- Identify and eradicate threats to plants
- Care for plants to assure productivity
- Identify insects that are beneficial and harmful in the garden
- Taste various vegetables to gain an appreciation for healthy living
- Planting, watering, harvesting their own vegetables

A program book has been compiled to help other master gardeners who may want to start a youth gardening program at other locations such as schools, day care centers, after-school programs, etc. The program book includes weekly lesson plans for two age groups: grades 1-3 and grades 4-6. A facilitator's guide with script and resources gives specific directions for teaching a lesson and providing a relevant activity to support the lesson objective. Additional raised beds have made it possible to designate beds specifically for kids' use. A student journal includes weekly reflections of each participant as they record their experiences.

We asked some of the Master Gardener volunteers what they enjoyed about volunteering at the Carver Peace Garden project.

Janet Smith said "I love the Carver Peace Gardens because of the wealth of knowledge that I have access to from other gardeners. The exchange of best practices between gardeners and guest speakers is wonderful. One of the best experiences I have had is passing some of that knowledge to young gardeners in the after-school program."

Millie Sue Hawk said "I joined the Carver Master Gardeners last year. There were several different jobs as we worked toward finishing the raised beds for gardeners to use. We now have 72 raised beds and we did a lot of shoveling of leaves, compost, fertilizer, and mulch. I loved getting to know other master gardeners and sharing my successes and failures."

Terri Agold said "last fall I assisted with the Youth Gardening Program which took place as a part of the Carver Park After School Program. It was a lot of fun! What was most striking and enjoyable was to see just how excited the kids got learning about different vegetables, actually planting some seeds, and following the vegetables through to harvest. Some examples of vegetables planted were spinach, swiss chard, and beets."

Some of the master gardeners have also rented plots at the garden which gives them even more opportunity to interact with other gardeners.

Phyllis Morgan said, "working with other gardeners at Carver Park is fun because we all watch to see how each other's garden is producing. It seems to be a friendly competition as we wonder, 'Hey, what did he do to make those tomatoes grow so well?' We all enjoy the communal aspect of our raised bed gardens. The human interaction, the gardening collaboration and the organization of materials and tools not only makes urban gardening possible, but practical as we grow food to supplement the expense of feeding our families during this time that grocery prices are continually increasing. Carver Park Peace Garden is a happening place."



We usually meet Tuesday mornings at 9 o'clock. When the weather isn't conducive to outside work we often meet in the Carver Recreation Center for planning. Some programs require variation to the schedule and require late afternoon and early evening scheduled times.

New team members are welcome! For more information contact Nancy Shilling 423-833-1420 or Brenda McKinnis at 423-946-2769.

“Featured Project” – Tipton-Haynes State Historic Site

At Tipton-Haynes State Historic Site, Master Gardeners maintain several gardens: wildflower/butterfly/pollinator gardens, a small kitchen garden, and what is called the slave garden.

In the front Nature/Pollinator gardens, our focus is variety and visual appeal for visitors to the site, AND for butterflies, bees, and other pollinators. Having been designated a Certified Monarch Waystation in 2014 we emphasize native plants and those that attract and/or serve as hosts for Monarchs and other caterpillars.

The Nature/Pollinator gardens contain many plant varieties, including anise hyssop, aromatic aster, native columbine, purple coneflower, orange coneflower, Tennessee coneflower, common milkweed, butterfly weed, blue anise sage, passion flower, black-eyed susan, pipe vine, and prairie coreopsis (to name a few). These plants provide a succession of blooms through the growing season that provide nectar for butterflies and hummingbirds and food for caterpillars. We also have several native azaleas, oakleaf hydrangea, and summer sweet (clethra) along the walkway.

In addition to those native varieties we also plant zinnias and cosmos to provide additional nectar throughout the summer for emerging new butterflies as well as for visiting butterflies.



One of the Nature/Pollinator Gardens has mountain mint, spiderwort, joe pye weed and lady ferns in one area; and in another area, coneflowers, cardinal flower, 2 varieties of swamp milkweed, butterfly weed, common milkweed, aster, downy skullcap, blue lobelia, Virginia Bluebell, and more.

We began documenting the types and number of caterpillars in 2015. In the last few summers we noted successful hosting of 100+ Monarch caterpillars, plus Black swallowtail caterpillars, Gulf Fritillary caterpillars, and numerous Pipevine Swallowtail caterpillars. We also spotted close to 4 dozen Monarch chrysalises.



The vegetable gardens at Tipton/Haynes consist of two small plots in the historical area. The Kitchen Garden is representative of a small garden near the house that would have grown those vegetables that need a little extra care and be handy for meal preparation. We emphasize heirloom varieties where we try using varieties grown in Thomas Jefferson's Monticello gardens. Colonel Tipton knew and corresponded with Jefferson, so we infer that maybe they exchanged gardening information.

We have some perennial plants: strawberries and rhubarb, along with herbs: sage, oregano, lavender, and rosemary. Garlic is planted in the fall around the edges. In spring we plant broccoli and cabbage, onions, carrots, beets, lettuce, spinach, and chard. As it warms up, we add Heirloom tomatoes, peppers, and Scarlet runner beans. We also add some of the annual herbs.



The Slave Garden, as it is called, is located behind the restored slave cabin, home to George, the Haynes family's slave. It was usual for slaves to have a small garden to provide some of their own food. Historical information is scarce so we choose to plant vegetables that originated in Africa, such as okra, field peas, peanuts, and watermelon, plus some New World plants that George might have adopted: potatoes and squash.

This garden is fenced in a wattle style, using branches and tree trimmings, such as George might have used to keep out the wildlife.

Our emphasis in the kitchen and slave gardens is to display for the education of visitors to the historical site; we don't try to maximize production. We do produce quite a bit of food, though, which we share with the staff, but mostly we just have a good time.

In 2021 we were presented with a new opportunity! A new parking lot and median meant a new place to plant! The Tipton-Haynes Board requested some winter color plants, plus we wanted to provide more food for pollinators and wildlife. Our first step was to get rid of weeds, then we amended the soil, which was mostly red clay and gravel, by adding a few layers of soil conditioner.



After the site installed split rail fence around the median, we seeded the lower end with crimson clover; then in October, in the upper end, we planted Winterberry Holly, Coralberry, Beauty Berry, Mountain Mint, Amsonia, and Goldenrod, as well as scattering seeds for columbine and coneflower. In 2022 we added a large native wildflower area meant to greet visits as they entered the site, and more perennials plants at the top of the area: creeping phlox, butterfly weed, passion flower, little bluestem grass, hyssop, blackberry lily, and husker's red penstemon. As spring became summer, we saw growth and flourishing plants that gave us the feeling of success on this project.



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.

“Featured Project” – Sycamore Shoals State Park

Sycamore Shoals State Park is one of the most historically significance sites in Tennessee. It has played a pivotal role in not only Tennessee’s history, but also in the American revolution. Today, this historic site invites visitors to relive history and enjoy a variety of historical, cultural, and recreational experiences. There are events in almost every month of the year that are educational, relaxing, and fun. The visitor center has an interpretive museum, a theater bookstore, and a gift shop that is filled with historical replicas and other things of interest.


The grounds has a replica of Fort Watauga behind the visitor center near the Watauga River. The fort has furnished cabins which demonstrate 18th century life on the frontier. The ‘Friends of Sycamore Shoals’ dress up like the colonials, and go about the daily life as it was on the frontier. They also reenact historical events that happened at the fort during that time.

There are more than 2 miles of trails for hiking, dogs welcome. Near the fort there is an amphitheater where the saga of Sycamore Shoals and other reenactments are performed each year.

The outdoor attractions are the Tennessee Urban Forestry certified arboretum and North American Butterfly Association monarch waystation. There is a pollinator garden near the amphitheater and a kitchen garden behind the fort.



The butterfly garden is large and much help is needed for weeding. We have had a few non-master gardeners enjoy helping in the garden couple of times during the last season. Every little bit is very much appreciated. Work day is Thursday mornings 8-12. For more information contact Carol Ludiker at jaxlud26@gmail.com.

Chris’ Corner		CHRIS RAMSEY SULLIVAN COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT (423) 574-1919 cwramsey@utk.edu
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Chris’s Corner will resume soon! Stay tuned!

Projects List

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

Branch House Family Center Blountville
Pat Mazurkiewicz 423-323-1644
robmazur@chartertn.net

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

Church Hill Senior Citizens Center Garden
Marcia Vandermause chscgarden@yahoo.com

Discovery Garden at Gray Fossil Museum
John Hitchcock 423-525-8587 jhitchcock25@gmail.com

Exchange Place Living History Farm Kingsport
Earl Hockin 423-817-5473 ehockin@yahoo.com

Harvest of Hope Community Garden Kingsport
Dave Rogers 423-502-2459 dave_carla@chartertn.net

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

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

Steele Creek Park Bristol, TN
Robin Feirabend 423-764-3336 Feierabe@ETSU.edu

Sycamore Shoals State Historic Site Elizabethton
Carol Ludiker 423-707-0026 jaxlud26@gmail.com

Tipton Haynes Historic Site Johnson City
Vern Maddux 423-440-9236
vjornmaddux@embargmail.com
Betts Leach 423-571-8662 BettsL@aol.com

Unicoi County Hospital Erwin
Gina Clark 423-956-2426 gclarkx4@gmail.com

NETMGA Yearly Projects List:

Johnson City Home Show and Women's Expo
Penny Rutledge 423-612-4785 pennyrutledge2@aol.com

Farm Expo
Wes Walker 804-824-5308 wes.walker@me.com

Kingsport MeadowView Home Show
Doug Hilton 423-239-9433 dh535651@gmail.com

Bristol PepperFest
Wes Walker 804-824-5308 wes.walker@me.com

Kingsport Tomato Festival-TBD

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



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Feed the birds!



MARCH and APRIL 2023 Calendar of Events

Covid-19 is still affecting events. Please note that some programs, events and tours may require masks for participants. Before going you might want to confirm that event has not been cancelled.

CHECK THE SITES BELOW MONTHLY FOR CLASSES, SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS:
Melody's Monday Musings with Melody Rose, Greene County TN Extension
Information and Registration: <https://sites.google.com/utk.edu/mondaymusings/home>

Knoxville Botanical Garden and Arboretum Classes/Workshops:
<http://knoxgarden.org/classes-events/workshops/>

North Carolina Arboretum Classes Schedule:
<https://www.ncarboretum.org/education-programs/adult-education-classes/>

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

Tennessee Native Plant Society Seminars: <https://www.tnps.org/tnps-speakers/>

Appalachian Highlands Chapter of Wild Ones:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/783213076410695/about>

Tennessee Valley Chapter of Wild Ones/Programs and Events:
<https://tnvalleywildones.org/programs-events/public-programs/>

Wild Ones Webinars: <https://wildones.org/webinars/>

MAR 6 NETMGA Board Meeting
6:30pm. Washington County Extension Office, 206 W. Main St., Jonesborough.

MAR 9 Keep Kingsport Beautiful Green & Growing Seminar
12:00-1:00pm at Kingsport Public Library Auditorium. "Spring Vegetable Gardening" with Earl Hockin. Free; no registration is required.

MAR 11 Family Gardening Fun Day at Rocky Mount State Historic Site
10:00am-4:00pm. Information: [Schedule of Events — Rocky Mount State Historic Site \(rockymountmuseum.com\)](https://rockymountmuseum.com)

MAR 11 Spring Flowering Trees, Shrubs, & Pruning
10:30am. Chris Lyons shares tips for successful spring shrubbery plantings. Evergreen of Johnson City. Registration is highly recommended. Call: 423-282-3431.

- MAR 11 Vegetable Gardening w/Ben Hunter
10:00am. Evergreen of Colonial Heights. Registration is highly recommended. Call: 423-245-4769.
- MAR 16 Keep Kingsport Beautiful Green & Growing Seminar
12:00-1:00pm at Kingsport Public Library Auditorium. "Growing Woodland Wildflowers" with Joy Moore. Free; no registration is required.
- MAR 16 SAPS March Program – "Creating an Eco-friendly Yard for Pollinators and More"
7:00pm; Presentation by Shannon Trimboli, at BrightRidge Auditorium, 2600 Boones Creek Rd. For more information, call 423-348-6572 or e-mail sapsnews@gmail.com.
- MAR 18 Spring Lawn Care
10:30am. Andrew Valk gives tips for a lush, weed-free spring lawn. Evergreen of Johnson City. Registration is highly recommended. Call: 423-282-3431.
- MAR 18 Herbs with Make & Take Option
10:00am. Evergreen of Colonial Heights. Registration is highly recommended. Call: 423-245-4769.
- MAR 18 Tennessee Tree Day at Sycamore Shoals State Historic Park
9:00am-12:00pm. Sycamore Shoals State Historic Park has partnered with the Tennessee Environmental Council to participate in the 2023 Tennessee Tree Day. There will be 40 trees of various species to choose from, 1 tree per person, while trees last. For further information please call the park visitor center at 423-543-5808.
- MAR 18 Vegetable Gardening with Ben Hunter at Sycamore Shoals State Historic Park
9:00am-12:00pm in Community Room. Grow vegetables to maximize yield with the least amount of effort. There are things you can do to accomplish each of these desirable benefits. Pre-registration requested. To register or for information please call the park visitor center at 423-543-5808.
- MAR 18 Spring Hike-Wildflower Walk at Warriors' Path State Park
9:00am-12:00pm. A guided 2 mile hike through the early spring woodlands to enjoy a rich display of early season wildflowers. Wear good walking shoes and bring along a snack and some water. Don't forget your camera! Meet at the park's mountain bike trail parking area, at the end of Freeman Road. To register or for information please call the park visitor center at 423-543-5808.
- MAR 18 2023 Beginning Beekeeping School
8:00am-5:00pm. Appalachian Fairgrounds, Gray, TN. Registration begins at 8:00am at door (no pre-registration). \$25 per adult. To learn more, visit Appalachian Bee Club of East Tennessee on Facebook.
- MAR 23 Keep Kingsport Beautiful Green & Growing Seminar
12:00-1:00pm at Kingsport Public Library Auditorium. "High Impact Habitat Gardening" with Christy Shivell. Free; no registration is required.

MAR 25 Early Spring Annuals/Summer Flowering Bulbs
10:30am. Shaun Barr shares tips for planting spring annual flowers and summer bulbs. Evergreen of Johnson City. Registration is highly recommended. Call: 423-282-3431.

MAR 25 Spring Flowering Trees & Shrubs
10:00am. Evergreen of Colonial Heights. Registration is highly recommended. Call: 423-245-4769.

MAR 25 Beginners Herb & Herb Gardening Workshop at Rocky Mount State Historic Site
10:00am-4:00pm. Information: [Schedule of Events — Rocky Mount State Historic Site \(rockymountmuseum.com\)](http://rockymountmuseum.com)

MAR 26 Wild Edibles Woodland Stroll at Roan Mountain State Park
2:00pm. A woodland stroll to learn about wild edibles in the forest. This program involves light to moderate hiking and will be an interactive learning experience. Program cost: \$8/person; 12 & under \$5. Meet at the park headquarters prior to going to the program area. To register: [Event Reservations | Tennessee State Parks \(tnstateparks.com\)](http://tnstateparks.com); for information please call 423-547-3900.

MAR 30 Keep Kingsport Beautiful Green & Growing Seminar
12:00-1:00pm at Kingsport Public Library Auditorium. "Seed Saving" with John Woodworth. Free; no registration is required.

APR 1 Raised Beds w/Earl Hockin
10:00am. Evergreen of Colonial Heights. Registration is highly recommended. Call: 423-245-4769.

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

APR 3 NETMGA Membership Meeting
Details to be announced.

APR 6 Herb Saplings Meeting
7 pm at Exchange Place. Speaker Christy Shivell of Shy Valley Farm will spotlight some Native Herbs. For more info, email sapsnews@gmail.com

APR 8 Weeds, Weeds, & More Weeds
10:00am. Evergreen of Colonial Heights. Registration is highly recommended. Call: 423-245-4769.

APR 14-16 44th Annual Spring Nature Festival at Warriors' Path State Park
Friday Evening through Mid-Day Sunday. For information: [Event Details — Tennessee State Parks \(tnstateparks.com\)](http://tnstateparks.com)

APR 15 Perennials
10:00am. Evergreen of Colonial Heights. Registration is highly recommended. Call: 423-245-4769.

APR 20 SAPS April Program – “25 Shrubs I Can't Garden Without”
7:00pm; Presentation by Hugh Conlon, at Kingsport Center for Higher Education, 300
W. Market St. For more information, call 423-348-6572 or e-mail
sapsnews@gmail.com.

APR 21-22 2023 Garden Faire – Washington County VA Master Gardens
9:30am–5:00pm. Southwest VA Higher Education Center, I-81 Exit 14, One
Partnership Circle, Abingdon, VA. Free Admission! Information:
<http://www.gardenfaire.net/>

APR 22 Water Gardening
10:00am. Evergreen of Colonial Heights. Registration is highly recommended. Call:
423-245-4769.

APR 22-23 Woolly Days & Garden Arts Festival at Rocky Mount State Historic Site
Information: Woolly Days & Garden Arts Festival — Rocky Mount State Historic Site_
rockymountmuseum.com) or call 423-538-7396.

APR 29-30 37th Annual Spring Garden Fair at Exchange Place in Kingsport.
Saturday: 10:00am-5:00pm; Sunday: 12:00-5:00pm. Admission: \$5 for adults, free for
children under 12. For more information, call 423-288-6071.

Horticultural information and resources for Tennessee gardeners

<https://www.uthort.com/>