

Macomb County Master Gardener

Monthly Newsletter

August 2023



Highlights in this issue

Contact Information

Email address: macombcountymga@yahoo.com

Website: www.macombcountymga.org

Macomb County MGA

PO Box 380463

Clinton Township, MI 48038

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Board of Directors

Karen Burke - President

Dennis Beltz - Vice President

Linda Simpson- Director at Large

Sara Grix - Secretary

Ellen Collins - Treasurer

General Information

Follow us on Facebook:

Macomb County Master Gardener Association

Next Board of Directors Meeting is Wednesday, August 9th 2:30pm (zoom)

If there is anything you would like to have included in the next newsletter, please send an email to: macombcountymga@yahoo.com

Upcoming MCMGA Education

To register for events:

[Click Here](#)

<https://macombcountymga.org/upcoming-meetings>

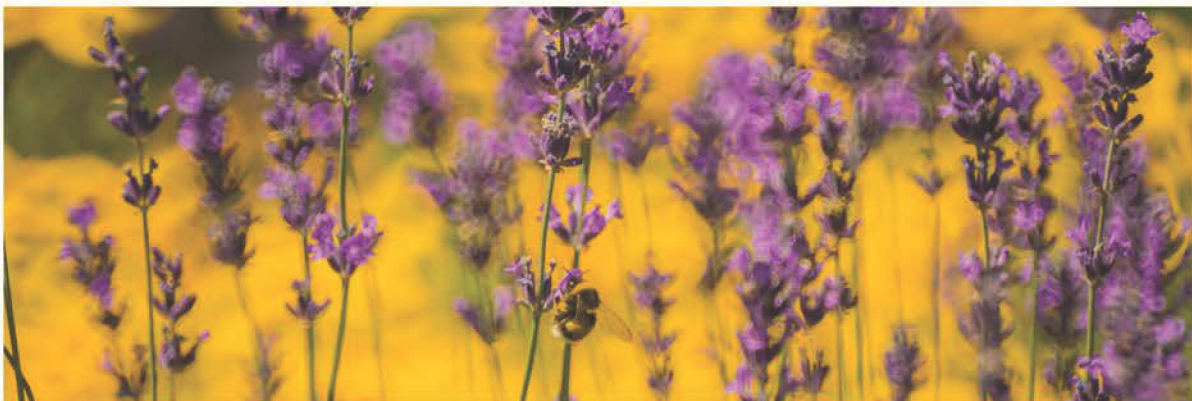
Please remember to bring your membership card and wear your Master Gardener Badge to all events.

Letter from the Board



Happy Summer!

It has been hot!!!!!! We hope all of your gardens are hanging in there. Our water bills are going to be outrageous! It has definitely been a challenging year. We were disappointed we had to cancel the bus trip. We were so looking forward to seeing John's gardens. If you paid, you should receive your refund soon, if you do not please let us know. Our August educational opportunity will be a garden tour of member Jean Persely's garden. Jean has been changing her garden every year and has so much to show us. This is a leisure walk though, drive yourself, no bathroom facilities available, but you can stop at the Creamery in town if needed. You will receive 1 hour of education for this event. If you have a garden that we can tour please let us know. It can be for next year if not this year. Stay hydrated and cool! Please note - COMING SOON - we will have MCMGA logo'd apparel will be available through an online store.



Board Meeting Minutes

July 2023

Attendees: Ellen Collins, Karen Burke,
Sara Grix, Dennis Bltz, David Lowenstein

MCMGA Board Meeting Minutes 7/12/2023

Karen called the meeting to order at 4:30pm.

The June 2023 board meeting minutes were approved.

Professional Comments:

- Blake's Lavender Festival is this weekend (July 14-16). There is a group of 18 volunteers to help with it this year. Last year, it was our biggest outreach event of the year.
- There will be an in person orientation on August 29th from 6-9pm for people who have gone through the volunteer interview process and Foundations of Gardening (FOG). This training is for people from other surrounding areas, not just the Macomb area. At this training, they will talk about volunteer opportunities, how to use Volunteer Central, etc. Hoping to have some project leaders there.
- Next Foundations of Gardening (FOG) training starts on September 5th. It will be Tuesdays from 10am-12:30pm

Treasurer's Report:

Ellen Collins reported that the financials are healthy. We had one new member join.

Program:

- July 18* @ 6:30pm - Dave Putt - To Find Use for Every Plant: A History of Herbals
- August 19 * 10am - 1pm - Jean Persley Garden walk
- September 19* @ 6:30pm - Jim Miller - Planting Bulbs for Spring Blooms (10 year anniversary at VerKuilen building)
- October 3 @ 6:30pm - Seed Saving - Jean Persely location TBD
- November 14 @ 6:30pm - Plant This Not That: Native Alternative to Common Landscape Plants - Valerie Malaney (Zoom meeting)
- December - no meeting

*denotes Quarterly meeting

- All meetings will be in person at the Mt. Clemens Library (150 Cass Avenue, Mt. Clemens 48043) unless otherwise noted.

- Luke from MI Gardener will be a speaker in February 2024.

- Karen will try to get a hydroponics talk for August

- Karen will look into a speaker for foraging

Old Business:

-20 people currently signed up for the bus trip on August 12th.

-Seed library is now an approved project. Need to talk about how to fund this project, possibly allocate funds to it. This is still under discussion. Discussion about taking seeds to events and asking for a free will donation or asking 25 cents for non-MCMGA members.

- Ellen continues to work on getting apparel. Talking with Armada Printworks. Ellen has a quote for apparel - including a tshirt and sweatshirt.

- Need to get more people to sign up and be on the Board. Voting on new Board members in September.

Would like to have ballots already prepared before this meeting.

- Idea of sending questions to speakers ahead of time so they can get answers ready before the class

New Business:

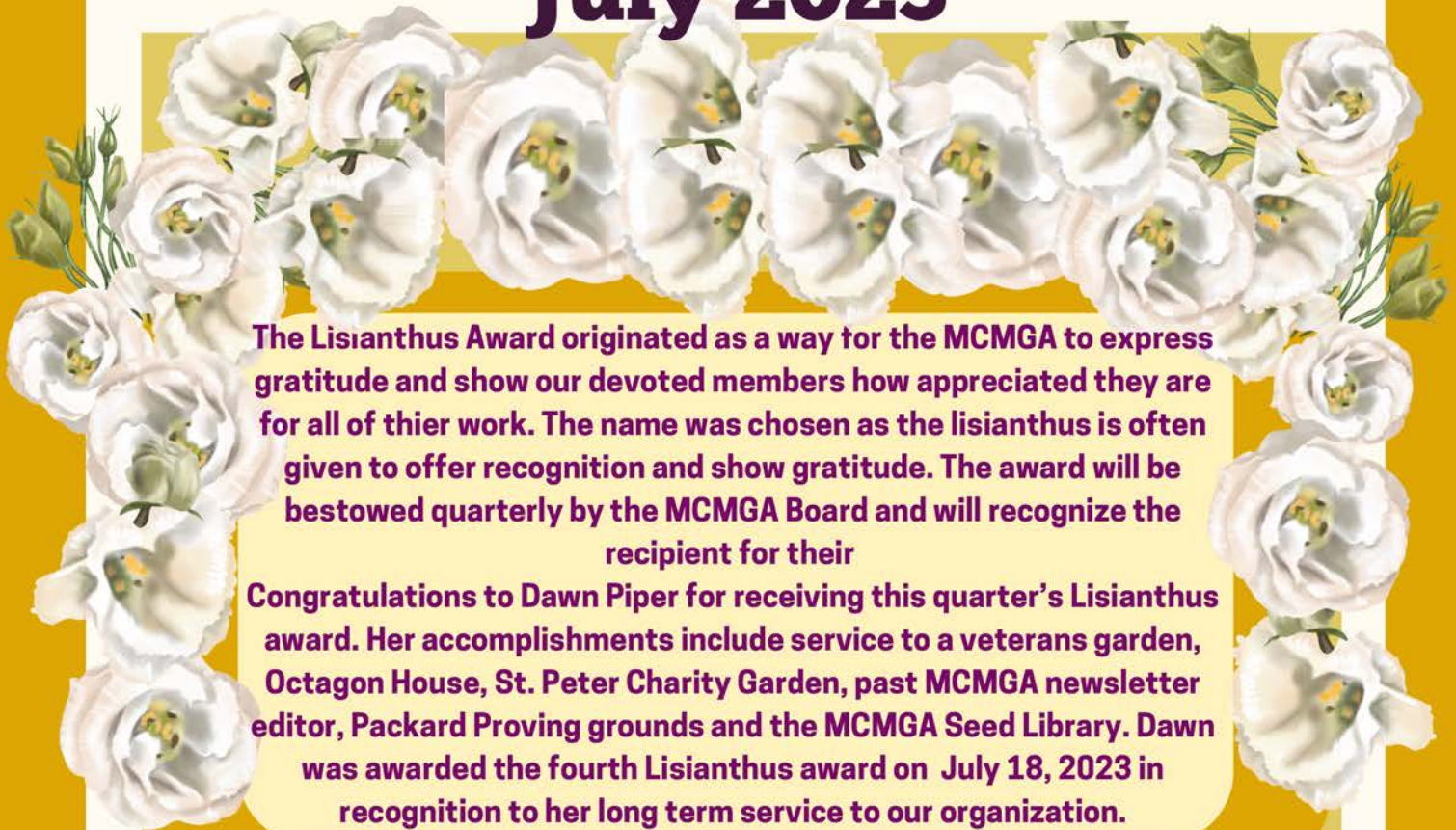
- Let us know if you have any ideas for future class topics.

Next board meeting: August 9th at 2:30pm.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:15pm.

Submitted by Sara Grix

MCMGA Lisianthus Award July 2023



The Lisianthus Award originated as a way for the MCMGA to express gratitude and show our devoted members how appreciated they are for all of their work. The name was chosen as the lisianthus is often given to offer recognition and show gratitude. The award will be bestowed quarterly by the MCMGA Board and will recognize the recipient for their

Congratulations to Dawn Piper for receiving this quarter's Lisianthus award. Her accomplishments include service to a veterans garden, Octagon House, St. Peter Charity Garden, past MCMGA newsletter editor, Packard Proving grounds and the MCMGA Seed Library. Dawn was awarded the fourth Lisianthus award on July 18, 2023 in recognition to her long term service to our organization.

MCMGA Special Event

Please note that due to a lack of ticket sales the August Trip to Blairs Blooms has been cancelled.



Blair's Blooms By Road to Brooklyn (MI)

Join the Macomb County Master Gardeners Association on a fun bus trip! Don't miss this unique opportunity to visit a beautiful 9-acre private property with 3 gorgeous pollinator gardens; natural ponds being uncovered and restored as well as an oak Savanna restoration project. You will also be able to observe prehistoric monoliths and listen to tour guides gently splashing as hummingbirds, clearing moths, butterflies and bees flit about.

The trip is open to the public. MCMGA members will receive early-bird registration prior to being open to the public.

Bring, optional hat or umbrella for sun/rain; sunscreen; bug spray; reusable water bottle; comfortable, sturdy walking shoes as we will explore the entire 9-acre property. We will be walking on uneven, unpaved ground as we explore this beautiful restoration and gardens. Garden paths vary from mulch to grass.

Bus departs PROMPTLY at 8:00 AM from the VerKuijen Building, 21885 Dunham Rd, Clinton Twp, MI 48036. Return approx. 3:00 PM. **No refunds.** Snacks, water, lunch, and fun included. Napping on return trip is encouraged. Restroom available on bus.

**AUG 12, 2023
GARDEN BUS TOUR**



MCMGA Plant Sale

Pre- sales for the MCMGA Fall Plant sales have started!

To get your plants, go to our website:
<https://macombcountymga.org/2023-native-plant-sale>

Join us in person
Saturday September 9, 2023
10 AM to 1 PM
Loren Andrus Octagon House
57500 Van Dyke, Washington, Michigan

We will have a wide selection of native plants
(forbs and grasses)

New pot size--2.5" pots for \$5.00.
Trays of 2.5" pots for \$99.00

Deadline for pre-orders is September 2.
Walk-ins welcome on the day of the sale!



Sales benefit the Macomb County Master Gardener
Associaiton

2023 Fall Native plant sale plant list (pdf)
[DOWNLOAD](#)

Option #1 --Online Pre-Order Available August 1st
[SELECT PLANTS AND PAY ONLINE HERE](#)
Option #2--Mail-In Order Form and Plant List

2023 Fall Native plant sale mail-in order form (pdf)
[DOWNLOAD](#)

Vounteers are needed to help
during the day of the sale.
Please contact Dave Putt
at dputt5@yahoo.com to volunteer

MCMGA Meetings



10 AM - 1 PM August 19, 2023
Garden Tour

Join us for a tour of Jean Persley's Garden.
73881 Omo Rd. Armada, MI 48005

**Planting Bulbs
for Spring Blooms**



[Click Here For
More Information](#)

6:30 PM September 19, 2023
10 year Anniversary Celebration

[Click Here
To Register](#)

Join us to celebrate our 10 year anniversary and learn about
planting bulbs for spring blooms with Jim Miller
Verkuilen Building, 21885 Dunham Rd., Clinton Twp. MI 48036

Education Opportunities



Wild about Conservation Series

AUGUST 15TH 2023

Bird Conservation and Research: Will discuss the importance of birds as bioindicators, current research at MNFI, threats to wild birds, and how community members can get involved.
by Eric Branch, Michigan Natural Features Inventory Zoologist.

AUGUST 29TH 2023

Leaves on the ground for birds in the air: Join us as we explore the wonderful world of birds with an intro to magnificent migration of the fall. We'll cover an overview of birds fall migration and what you can do to turn your backyard into migration stopover habitat.
with Elloit Nelson, Michigan Sea Grant

SEPTEMBER 12TH 2023

Planning and Planting a Native Plant Pollinator Garden: How to plan and plant a Pollinator Garden with Michigan natives to attract birds and butterflies to your yard.
with Kristine Hahn, MSU Extension Educator, Natural Resources.

SEPTEMBER 26TH 2023

Focus on Rare Species: Citizen science participation for spotting and recording rare species in Michigan. What you can do. with Tyler Basett, Michigan Natural Features Inventory, Botanist.

[Click Here For More Information](#)

[Click Here To Register](#)



Bee Palooza



[Click Here For More Information](#)



August 13, 2023 1:00PM - 4:00PM
MSU Horticulture Gardens, 1066 Bogue St,
East Lansing, MI 48824

Education Opportunities



Dig-In Series

August 1: Inviting Native Plants into your Garden Design

Presenter: Rebecca Finneran MSU Extension Senior Horticulture Educator,
Curator MSU Extension Grand Ideas Garden

September 12: Waterfront Garden Design

Presenter: Erick Elgin, MSU Extension Water Quality Educator

October 10: Creepy Insects and Cool Pollinators

Presenter: Dr. Nate Walton, MSU Extension Horticulture Educator

November 14: Garden Gifts, Tools and Books

Presenter: Lindsey Kerr and MSU Extension Consumer Horticulture Educator and
Colleagues

[Click Here For
More Information](#)

[Click Here
To Register](#)



Preserving MI Harvest

August 3: Pickling Cucumbers and More

Join us to learn the proper steps for pickling produce.

August 10: Peaches and Pears, Oh My

Explore a variety of recipe ideas to preserve these tasty fruits.

August 17: Preserving Dried Ingredient Mixes

Join us to learn about the different methods of drying summer produce to use as
ingredients in your dishes all year long!

August 24: Picked a Peck of Peppers

They can be frozen, canned, pickled, or dehydrated by using simple preservation methods!

[Click Here For
More Information](#)

[Click Here
To Register](#)

Education Opportunities



Michigan Conservation Stewards Program 2023

Learn the foundations of Michigan conservation and how you can apply your knowledge at the local community level.

Program planners and instructors for CSP include Michigan State University Extension, Michigan Sea Grant, Michigan Natural Features Inventory, and a variety of local conservation experts.

Topics covered by the program include: Foundations of Conservation, Ecological Foundations & Michigan, Natural Communities, Michigan Conservation Heritage, Society & Conservation, Terrestrial, Wetland, and Aquatic Ecosystems

CSP is now enrolling participants for its 10-week, hybrid fall 2023 program. The program will consist of: Virtual lessons (self-paced), Weekly online learning content completed prior to each week's evening session, Weekly evening sessions at various locations within your cohort's region (in-person)

- There will be 8 sessions in total. , 1-2 Saturday field trips at a location within your cohort's region (in-person), and a Capstone (Applied) Project related to restoring and conserving Michigan's ecosystem, with guidance provided by local mentor

The program will begin the week of Sept. 11 and run through the week of Nov. 13, 2023. Each cohorts schedule of their weekly evening sessions and field trips can be found on the Michigan Conservation Stewards Program page.

SEVEN local cohorts will be running concurrently: Capital Area (Ingham, Eaton, Clinton), Grand Traverse, Oakland, St. Clair, Washtenaw, Wayne and West Michigan (Kalamazoo, Barry, Calhoun). Enrollment for this program is limited. Each cohort is limited to 30 participants/location.

The registration fee includes a copy of a "Field Guide to the Natural Communities of Michigan" and will be provided to each participant at the first weekly evening session of the course.

Regular Program Registration Fee: \$250

Last date to register is Wednesday, Aug. 30, 2023.

[Click Here For More Information](#)

[Click Here To Register](#)



Local Events



Yardeners of St. Clair Shores

**30th ANNUAL GARDEN TOUR
SATURDAY, AUGUST 5, 2023 - 9am to 3pm**

Registration, ticket sales and map distribution start at 9:00 am at the Selinsky-Green Farmhouse Museum located behind the St. Clair Shores Library at the corner of 11 Mile and Jefferson.

The cost is \$5.00 for each adult (children 12 and under are free) (Cash or check only)

You will view some of the loveliest yards in St. Clair Shores and get gardening ideas for your gardens from the homeowners. Yardeners and Master Gardeners will also be available to answer questions.

No advance ticket sales. This is a self-guided driving tour with some walking.

Take a few moments to visit our vendors and enter our raffle.

**YARDENERS FALL PLANT EXCHANGE
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16th - 9am to 11am**

The plant exchange will be held in the parking lot of the St. Clair Shores Library located at the corner of 11 Mile and Jefferson. Load up your vehicles with your extra plants and divisions.

Bag, tag and drag your offerings to trade or give away to other gardeners.

Please label all of your plants.

No money is involved, come with your plants and enjoy our "tailgate garden party".

**"PRESERVING THE HARVEST-WHICH METHOD IS BEST FOR YOU?"
MONDAY, OCTOBER 9th - 7pm**

Presentation by Karen Burke. Join us as we learn about what is available for preserving our bounty (in addition to sharing with family and friends) when harvesting and putting our beds to rest for the winter.

Karen, with Honey Hollow Apiary in Macomb MI, has been a vendor at our annual garden tour, and you may have purchased some honey and honey related products from her.

She is a Master Gardener and Master Composter.

Local Events



Six Rivers Land Conservancy

Bat Hike at Nicholson Nature Center

Friday, August 11, 2023

8:00 PM 10:00 PM

Nicholson Nature Center
21777 Dunham Rd, Clinton Twp, MI 48036

Join Six Rivers for a free evening bat hike at Nicholson Nature Center in Clinton Township!

We'll use Echo Meters with our phones to monitor for bats.

You can sign up by emailing your name and contact info to info@sixriversrlc.org
or call Ellen at 248-601-2816 x463

Revive and Thrive!

Sutherland Nature Sanctuary Grand Re-Opening and Celebration

Monday, August 21, 2023

6:00 PM 8:30 PM

Sutherland Nature Sanctuary 3998 Diehl Rd, Metamora, MI 48455

Join us to celebrate the completion of the Sutherland Nature Sanctuary Safety Improvements and Habitat Restoration Project, and get an exclusive update on our conservation successes!

6:00pm: Welcome and Introductions

6:15pm: Ribbon Cutting

6:30pm: BBQ and Dessert, with conservation updates

7:00pm: Optional Guided Hike

8:00pm: Q & A with Executive Director Chris Bunch

Please RSVP to Ellen Witz by Thursday, August 17 at 3:00pm

ewitz@sixriversrlc.org or 248-601-2816 x 463

Photo Contest Deadline

Tue, Sep 5, 2023 11:59 PM - Wed, Sep 6, 2023 12:00 AM

Entries due for our 2023 Nature Near You Photo Contest!

[Click Here For
More Information](#)

Local Events



Friends of the St. Clair River

Annual Monarch Blitz

Tuesday, August 1, 2023 - 10am to 12pm

We will perform a survey of the area's milkweed plants and monarch butterfly populations. This event is part of the popular North American Monarch Blitz, an annual week of monitoring every August, where thousands of volunteers help protect and conserve the threatened monarch butterfly. The data we collect is used to support efforts to better understand the monarch's breeding productivity, range, and migration. Last year over 7,000 volunteers across three countries completed 16,000 observations!

Email our Education Manager at melissa@scriver.org to join our Monarch Blitz.

Blue Water River Walk in downtown Port Huron
51 Court Street, Port Huron. Meet at the arch at the north end of the Blue Water River Walk along the St Clair River shoreline

Pine Grove Pollinator Project

Thursday, August 10, 2023 10am - 12pm

We need volunteers to help incorporate native plants and sustainable gardening practices to support wildlife and pollinator habitat. Gardens that incorporate native plants benefit pollinators, wildlife, and water quality.

Join us to clean up the gardens, plant flowers, and maintain the plantings. No experience needed; bring your favorite gardening gloves and tools if you have them!

Meet us in the Pine Grove Park parking lot at the Blue Star Memorial in downtown Port Huron along the St. Clair River.

Native Plant and Rain Barrel Sale

Saturday, September 16 from 12 pm - 3 pm.
301 N 9th St, St Clair, MI 48079-4846

Important Information



Fundraising



To Sign up Go to [Kroger Community Rewards.com](https://www.kroger.com/rewards)

Sign in/Register for Kroger Rewards Account

Proceed as directed

Edit Kroger Community Rewards

enter Kroger Plus Card #

Enter

NPO – CQ024 or Macomb County Master Gardener Association You will see group name on right side of page. Questions/Problems:

877-576-758