

# Macomb County Master Gardener Association

## Monthly Newsletter

### February 2023



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### General Information

Follow us on Facebook:

Macomb County Master Gardener Association

Next Board of Directors Meeting is

February 8, 2023 at 4:30 PM (zoom)

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

### Board of Directors

Karen Burke - President

Dennis Beltz - Vice President

Linda Simpson - Director at Large

Sara Grix - Secretary

Ellen Collins - Treasurer

### Upcoming MCMGA Educational Programs

To register for any of the following events, go to:

<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

**Hello Fellow EMGer's!**

**So we are still getting snowfalls.  
The seeds do not mind the snow.**

**If you need to revisit Jean Persely's lecture on winter sowing to sharpen your skills, it is available online; (837) Winter Sowing with Jean Persely - YouTube. If you did not watch this the first time around, now would be a great time to do so. You will still receive educational credits for this. This is a wonderful way to pass the winter by and get your spring seedlings off to a great start.**

**If you are planning on visiting a warmer climate for a winter break, check out the botanical gardens in that area. It will really lift your spirits up. We have not found any two botanical gardens the same yet.**

**Stay safe, stay warm and get Growing!**

**Spring is on the calendar for this year!**

# Board Meeting Minutes

## MCMGA Board Meeting Minutes 1/9/2023

Attendees: Karen Burke, Dennis Beltz, Sara Grix, Linda Simpson, Ellen Collins

Karen called the meeting to order at 4:34pm.

The November 2022 board meeting minutes were approved.

### Professional Comments:

- Last trivia sessions will be on January 16 and February 28.
- Tree care by utility lines lecture is on February 2 (free)
- Verkuilen building may not be the best place for MCMGA meetings as it is difficult to get an office staff member to be there at night for the education programs. Let David know as far in advance as possible or alternative place should be discussed for the future.

### Treasurer's Report:

Ellen Collins reported that the financials are healthy. We continue to get Kroger Rewards. Ellen paid for the post office box for 6 months. Discussion about possibly changing the location of the post office box due to raises in price, however the Clinton Township location is centrally located for our group.

### Program:

Dennis Beltz reported that following:

- January 17\* @ 6:30pm - MSUE Education and Volunteer Opportunities - David Lowenstein (in person at the Verkuilen building)
- February 21 @ 6:30pm - You Can Garden for Life - Toni Gattone (via Zoom)
- March 21 @ 6:30pm - Bursting into Spring - Sue Grubba (in person at Mt. Clemens Library)
  - Discussion about technology needs for the speaker, including connection for audio and video - Dennis will look into this
- April 11\* @ 6:30pm - Companion Plants: A Love/Hate Relationship - Linda Simpson (in person at Mt. Clemens Library)
  - Discussion about needing a library staff member available for technical support
- May 16 @ 6:30pm - Walk and Talk at the Tomlinson Arboretum - Loretta Macklem, Dan Lepo, Eva Armitage (in person at the Tomlinson Arboretum)
- June TBD, July\* TBD, August TBD, September\* TBD, October TBD, November TBD
- December - no meeting

\*denotes Quarterly meeting

- Dennis will contact Dave Putt about a nature walk/foraging/plant ID for June
- Karen suggested MI Gardener facility tour and seed packing process
- September will be the 10 year anniversary of the association. Ellen will look into recognition ideas.
- Karen suggested talking to Diane Brown (retired MSU) about a fruit talk with apple tasting for September.

### Old Business:

Budget proposal - Reviewed budget proposal for 2023, which is now complete.

- Discussion about access to Go Daddy website and how to see if a member has filled out both the membership form and paid - Ellen will follow up with Dave Putt to get access.
- New form was made in Google for membership forms. It was embedded in the website and is working well.
- Possibility of using Google Drive to house documents for the future. A new email has been created if the board decides to go in this direction.
- Ellen shared a calendar of MCMGA activities for each month of the year (membership renewal due date, tax forms due date, etc.). Board will review.
- Ellen shared the list of responsibilities for each board member. Board will review.
- Need a new form for meeting registration. Possibly use Google Forms to create form or free version of signup genius.

### New Business:

No new business.

Next board meeting is February 8, 2023 at 4:30pm.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:38pm.

Submitted by Sara Grix 1/12/2023

# MCMGA Lisianthus Award

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 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 service to our organization.

In appreciation and gratitude for her contributions to the MCMGA, Karen Burke was awarded the second Lisianthus award. Ellen Collins presented Karen with the award January 17, 2023 in recognition to her her long term service to our organization,

\*photo credit Dave Putt\*



# Upcoming MCMGA Meetings

## TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2023

### "You Can Garden for Life"

Award winning author, Toni Gattone, will speak about adaptive gardening which gives gardeners of all ages and abilities countless strategies that enable them to continue to enjoy gardening, even when their bodies say: "I don't think so."

Free for MCMGA members + 1 guest, \$5.00 for all others.

Location: This webinar will be presented via zoom

Time: 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

## TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2023

### "Bursting Into Spring"

Sue Grubba, owner of Creative Scapes, is a landscape designer and will give a presentation on those perennial plants, shrubs and wildlife that burst onto the landscape scene in spring. Free for MCMGA members + 1 guest, \$5.00 for all others.

Time: 6:30pm - 7:30pm EST

Location: Mt. Clemens Library, 150 Cass Ave., Mt. Clemens

## FUTURE MCMGA MEETINGS

**April 11, 2023**

6:30 pm Location Mt. Clemens Library

"Companion Planting" Speaker: Linda Simpson

**May 16, 2023**

6:30 pm Tomlinson Arboretum "Prairie Garden, Tree Groves, and Butterfly Garden." Speakers:

Loretta Macklem, Eva Armitage and Dan Lepo.

## FUTURE MCMGA MEETINGS

EMG Recognition Banquet May 2, 2023 Please mark your calendar for our annual volunteer recognition banquet on May 2 at the Verkuilen Building. New for this year will be a silent auction! Donation of items, services, or goods are welcomed. More information will be coming soon.

# Education Opportunities

## SMART GARDENING VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Smart Gardening Volunteer (EMG SGV) is a free course for certified Extension Master Gardeners or Master Gardener Trainees who wish to volunteer in outreach opportunities as a smart gardening volunteer. Upon completion of the course you will become a certified Extension Master Gardener Smart Gardening Volunteer.

This course will replace the previously used paper or emailed checklist.

Course Format: Self-paced Online Course

For More Information Visit: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1SGRQdANUZ378HrF747eE5V6VjurvP1zbrVZvl4iiQyg/edit>

## TAKING CARE OF TREES NEAR UTILITY LINES

Free Zoom Webinar

Feb 2, 2023, 6:00 PM

Learn about the field of utility arboriculture, its application to residential trees, and practices that can help trees located close to utility lines in this 30 minute lecture. The instructor is Clinton Williams, an ISA Certified Arborist and instructor at IBEW Tree Trim Academy and also a Macomb EMG. EMGs can earn .5 education hour credit.

Register at: <https://msu.zoom.us/webinar/register/>

## SMART GARDENING WITH VEGETABLES

Thursdays, Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23 and March 9, & 16, 2023 6 - 7 p.m. (ET)

The Smart Vegetable Gardening 101 Webinar series will be offered live this year. It's a webinar series for introductory and beginning vegetable gardeners. All resources will be available to download onto your own computer. A recording of the webinar will be made available to registered participants who are unable to attend the live sessions. Registrants will receive a 'Zoom session link' via email the Monday before the first class.

Fee: \$30 if registered by Jan. 31. No registrations accepted after Jan. 31.

## LUNCHTIME HORTICULTURE CAFE

Every Tuesday in February and March (except March 21) at Noon Eastern time.

Feb 7 - Air layering with Chris Imler

Feb 14 - Insect pests of indoor plants with Jeremy Jubenville

Feb 21 - Houseplants from cuttings with Lindsey Kerr

Feb 28 - Planting your spring pea pot with Rebecca Finneran

March 7 - Spotted lanternfly update with Nate Walton

March 14 - Preparing your site for fruit with David Lowenstein

## 2023 MASTER RAIN GARDENER

2023 Master Rain Gardener Classes:

WINTER 2023 - Virtual Classes with In-Person Tours

DATES: Five Thursdays: February 23 - March 23, 2023. ONLINE.

SPRING 2023 - IN PERSON CLASS!

DATES: Five Wednesday afternoons: April 19, 26, May 3, 10, 17.

TIME: 11:30 to 2:00. Office hours 11:00, and until 2:30.

# Education Opportunities

## DIG-IN SERIES

**DIG IN!! Extension Master Gardeners**  
**Online via Zoom**

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**February 7: Spotted Lanternfly and How not to Advance Invasives**

**Presenter: Dr. David Lowenstein, MSU Extension Consumer Horticulture Educator**

**March 14: A Journey Across the Continent: Where do Your Annuals Come From?**

**Presenter: Jaden Gimondo, MSU Extension Greenhouse and Floriculture Educator**

**April 4: The Do's and Don'ts of Trapping Insects**

**Presenter: Mike Rienke, MSU Extension Viticulture Specialist**

**May 9: Invasives that you won't be MISIN (Michigan Invasive Species Network)**

**Presenter: Barslund Judd, MSU Extension Consumer Horticulture Educator**

**June 20: We(eds) are What We Eat!**

**Presenter: Erin Hill, MSU Extension Plant & Pest Diagnostician, Weed Specialist**

**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**

**Cost: FREE! All certified EMGs and Trainees must register one time and have access to the entire series.**

**Attend the topics of your choosing or view via recording links which will be provided to registrants after each webinar. Please do not share the recording links with non-registrants and/or non-EMGs.**

# Upcoming Pollinator Education

## MBA SPRING CONFERENCE

March 10, 2023 - March 11, 2023  
Michigan Beekeepers' Association & MSU Extension  
Spring Conference  
219 S Harrison Rd, East Lansing, MI 48824

## TAKING VARROA SERIOUSLY

May 25, 2023 7:00PM - 8:30PM  
Taking Varroa Seriously at  
Middle of the Mitten Beekeepers Association's meeting  
Forest Hill Nature Area, 11297 N Rich Rd, Alma, MI 48801

## BEEPALOOZA

June 3, 2023 8:30AM - 4:00PM  
Beepalooza  
MSU Tollgate Farm and Education Center  
28115 Meadowbrook Rd, Novi, MI 48377





**FUN  
FACT**

**DID  
YOU  
KNOW?**

## Horticulture Trivia Night

Tuesday, February 28, 2023 7:00 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. ET on Zoom

Description: Join MSU Extension for the final of four winter monthly trivia series about gardening. This is a chance to test your knowledge about all things plants, insects, and garden related in Michigan. There will be 30 multiple choice question/answers during this live event and a prize awarded to the top scorer. Trivia night is open to gardening enthusiasts, trivia lovers, extension master gardeners, or anyone else who wants to play.

# WAM Conference

## MICHIGAN NATIVE PLANT CONFERENCE



### The 36th Annual Native Plant Conference

Wildflower Association of Michigan

Planting Native in a Changing Climate

March 5, 2023

Kellogg Center, Michigan State University

219 S Harrison Rd, East Lansing, MI 48824

Followed by Four or Five Webinars throughout the Year

Cost: General Public \$90, WAM members \$80, Students and vendors \$30

Register: <https://wildflowersmich.org/conference-registration/>

# Upcoming Conferences

## SW MICHIGAN HORTICULTURAL DAYS

February 1, 2023 - February 2, 2023

Wednesday, February 1, 8 am - 4:30 pm

Thursday, February 2, 8 am - 3pm

Lake Michigan College Mendel Center, 1100 Yore Avenue, Benton Harbor, MI 49022

## STEWARDSHIP NETWORK CONFERENCE

February 2nd & 3rd, 2023 Online

Each year since 2008, we've assembled this fantastic gathering of regional and national caretakers of nature to share ideas, challenge our thinking, and leave energized for the seasons ahead, bolstered by the knowledge that none of us are doing this vital work alone.

## SMART GARDENING CONFERENCE

Saturday, March 4, 2023

DeVos Place 303 Monroe Ave. NW Grand Rapids, MI 49503

## MI AG IDEAS TO GROW

February 27, 2023 - March 10, 2023

Online Using Zoom

Michigan State University (MSU) Extension invites you to attend the 2023 MI Ag Ideas to Grow With conference, held virtually, February 27 - March 10, 2023.)

## MI HEALTHY CLIMATE CONFERENCE

April 11-12, 2023

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy

MI Healthy Climate Conference

Huntington Place in Detroit, MI.

## INTERNATIONAL MASTER GARDENER

June 18-22, 2023

International Master Gardener Conference

International Master  
Gardener Conference



June 18 – 22, 2023  
Overland Park, Kansas

CELEBRATE • EDUCATE • GROW

# Friends of the St. Clair River

## EVENTS 2023




**Friends of the St. Clair River**  
TUESDAY  
**JANUARY 31, 2023**  
6:00 P.M. - ZOOM

**Winter Sowing**  
SPRING SUCCESS

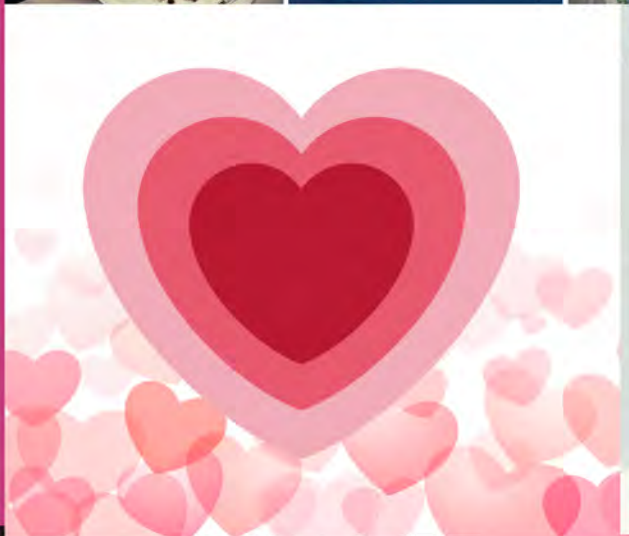


**SEED CLEANING**  
FEBRUARY 7TH  
6 - 8 PM

THUMB COAST WATERSHED CENTER  
301 N. NINTH STREET  
ST. CLAIR, MI

Lake St. Clair  
Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area

**Friends of the St. Clair River**  
WINTER WORKSHOP SERIES  
2023



**Save the Dates!**



Register for our events at [scriver.org](http://scriver.org)

Thumb Coast Watershed Center  
301 N. Ninth Street  
St. Clair, MI 48079

- Winter Stonefly Search | Jan 28
- Green Game Nights | Jan 27, Feb 24, March 24
- River Bash Banquet | April 13
- Stream Team Spring Monitoring | May 6
- Wildflower Walk | May 13
- 10th Annual Sturgeon Festival | June 3
- Blue Water Butterflies | Aug 4
- Native Plant Sale & Pop-Up Market | Sept 16
- Stream Team Fall Monitoring | Sept 30
- Fall Night Hike | Oct 6
- Family Bat Hike | Oct 28

# MCMGA Fundraising

## KROGER REWARDS

This is a great program, just sign up and Kroger does the rest, all at no cost to you. Having a Kroger card does not automatically sign you up for the Community Rewards. The Kroger Co. Family of Stores is committed to bringing hope and help to the local neighborhoods we call home. Our stores are on a mission to go beyond being a part of the community to also helping create a stronger community. We appreciate your participation in our Community Rewards program to help accomplish that mission!

Kroger Community Rewards.com 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



## Volunteers Needed PARTY PLANNERS



MCMGA is celebrating its' 10 year anniversary this year!!  
We are looking for some creative individuals to help plan a celebration.  
Please contact Ellen Collins, 248-770-4763, if interested in participating.

Thanks!