

Macomb County Master Gardener

Monthly Newsletter

March 2023



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Contact Information

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WEBSITE: WWW.MACOMBCOUNTYMGA.ORG

MACOMB COUNTY MGA

PO BOX 380463

CLINTON TOWNSHIP, MI 48038

Board of Directors

KAREN BURKE - PRESIDENT

DENNIS BELTZ - VICE PRESIDENT

LINDA SIMPSON - DIRECTOR AT LARGE

SARA GRIX - SECRETARY

ELLEN COLLINS - TREASURER

Upcoming MCMGA Education

TO REGISTER FOR EVENTS:

[CLICK HERE](#)

[HTTPS://MACOMBCOUNTYMGA.ORG/UPCOMING-MEETINGS](https://macombcountymga.org/upcoming-meetings)

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD AND WEAR YOUR MASTER GARDENER BADGE TO ALL EVENTS.

General Information

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK:
MACOMB COUNTY MASTER GARDENER
ASSOCIATION

NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING IS
WEDNESDAY MARCH 15 AT 5 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

Letter from the Board

SPRING IS IN THE AIR



*Hello
Master Gardeners!*

Spring is on the way, we have noticed some daffodils peeking their leaves up! We hope all of you have your gardens planned and seeds and equipment purchased or ordered.

We just had a very informative webinar with Toni Gattone in February. Toni had some wonderful recommendations for our gardening as some of us have become a little stiff and achy.

One thing that Toni had mentioned was Tai Chi. There is a program from MSUE on Tai Chi. It is online and free. The program can be done sitting in a chair or even with visualization. We have included the link in the education summary. We hope some of you will take advantage of this program, we believe it will help you with your gardening.

In the education section of the newsletter, you will find there are many online webinars. There is a even free birding webinar. You can actually have all your educational credits done before you start to garden outside this year.

Please note we will start to meet at Mt. Clemens Public Library for our programs. We are looking forward to seeing you all in person soon!

Board Meeting Minutes

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

FEBRUARY 2023

Karen called the meeting to order at 4:34pm February 8, 2023.

The January 2022 board meeting minutes were approved.

Professional Comments:

Over the next couple of weeks, we will see information about Master Gardener classes. It will be a different format than the previous classes. You can take the Foundations of Gardening course on its own without pursuing an EMG certification. If you want to pursue an EMG certification, then you will need to take extra steps, including doing 40 volunteer hours at an approved site.

Treasurer's Report:

Ellen Collins reported that the financials are healthy. People are taking advantage of paying their dues online. Dennis mentioned that Amazon is going to stop doing AmazonSmile.

Program:

Dennis Beltz reported the following:

- 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)
- April 11* @6:30pm - Companion Plants: A Love/Hate Relationship - Linda Simpson (in person at Mt. Clemens Library)
- May 16 @ 6:30pm - Walk and Talk at the Tomlinson Arboretum - Loretta Macklem, Dan Lepo, Eva Armitage (in person at the Tomlinson Arboretum)
- June, July*, August TBD & September* TBD - 10 year anniversary and elections
- October 3 @ 6:30pm - Seed Saving - Jean Persely - (in person at Mt. Clemens Library), David is going to record it
- November TBD
- December - no meeting

*denotes Quarterly meeting

- Dennis will contact Dave Putt about a nature walk/foraging/plant ID for June
- Karen left a note for Luke, owner at MI Gardener, to see if we could tour facility. Waiting to hear back.
- September will be the 10 year anniversary of the association. Ellen is looking into recognition ideas.
- Karen suggested talking to Diane Brown (retired MSU) about a fruit talk with apple tasting for September.
- Lori Smith is going to Mexico for Monarch migration - Dennis is reaching out to see if she wants to do a presentation about her experience.
- Dennis went to Blakes and asked if anyone does seminars there - they need to get back to him.

Old Business:

- Need a new form for meeting registration. Possibly use Google Forms to create form or free version of signup genius. Karen will talk to Dave Putt about his access to signup genius.
- Grants - Linda has received one application so far. Will ask Chelsea to put a reminder in the upcoming newsletter.
- Add reminders to the newsletter: seed library, 10 year anniversary, grants
- MCMGA has an agreement with the Mt. Clemens Library about holding meetings there.
- Attendees for monthly education meetings must preregister and pay online before meeting. A note at the door will be added at the meetings and it will say: if you did not preregister, then you need to wait to see if we can accommodate you.
- Karen is the only one with access to the Yahoo email.

New Business:

- Carolyn Doak, office manager at Extension, contacted Karen about hallway project. She usually holds meetings for the hallway project before our education meetings. However, this may change since meetings will start to be at the Mt. Clemens library.
- Add Carolyn Doak to BOD emails so she knows what is going.
- MCMGA native plant sale will be on September 9th.

Next board meeting is March 15, 2023 at 5:00pm.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:21pm. Notes submitted by Sara Grix 2/15/2023

Education Summary

FEBRUARY 2023

Zoom Presentation with Toni Gattone

THIS FEBRUARY TONI GATTONE SHARED SOME WONDERFUL TIPS TO HELP US GARDEN FOR THE REST OF OUR LIVES. TONI FOCUSED ON HOW WE CAN STAY ACTIVE AND HEALTHY, ERGONOMIC GARDENING BY CHOOSING THE CORRECT TOOL FOR THE JOB AND MODIFYING OUR YARDS FOR EASIER MAINTENANCE.

Staying Active

ONE THING TONI MENTIONED WE SHOULD ALL BE DOING IS STAYING ACTIVE AND WARMING UP BEFORE WE START GARDENING. SHE SUGGESTS MOVEMENTS INCLUDING STRETCHING, YOGA, TAI-CHI AND EVEN DANCE!



Take a Tai Chi Class from MSU



To find out more or to register go to <https://events.anr.msu.edu/online2023cdiabetes/>

or call Anita Carter 906-360-9732

FREE Online Tai Chi for Diabetes Wednesdays starting March 8th 2023 11:a.m. CT/ 12:00 pm ET

For all people, with or without diabetes, to learn how to move to improve health, balance, immunity and just relax.

[Click Here For More Information](#)

[Click Here To Register](#)

Ergonomic Tools

AN IMPORTANT PART OF TONI'S PRESENTATION WAS KNOWING THE RIGHT TOOL FOR THE TASK AT HAND. TONI SHARED MANY OF THE TOOLS SHE LOVES WITH US, TO FIND THEM VISIT HER AMAZON SHOP

NOTE: TONI EARNS COMMISSIONS FROM THESE RECOMMENDATIONS.



[Click Here to visit Toni's Amazon Shop](#)

Our Favorite Tools

One of our members, Stacy Burden-Pravato, highly recommends the Gorilla Cart she purchased at the Home Depot.

[Click Here For More Information on the Gorilla Cart](#)



Switch It Up

Remember the 20-20-20 Rule: Don't do any one activity for more than 20 minutes.

Education Summary

FEBRUARY 2023



Lavender Basil Lemonade

IF YOU WERE IN THE FEBRUARY ZOOM MEETING, YOU KNOW THAT ONE OF THE ITEMS THAT GOT ATTENTION WAS WHEN TONI MENTIONED MAKING LAVENDER BASIL LEMONADE!

"HER GARDEN CLUB EVEN SPIKED THEIRS!"

Recipe

PAT HARTMAN WAS KIND ENOUGH TO SHARE HER FAVORITE RECIPE FROM HALFBAKEDHARVEST.COM

AUTHOR: TIEGHAN GERARD

Ingredients

3/4 CUP FRESH BASIL
1 TBSP DRIED LAVENDER
1 CUP FRESHLY SQUEEZED LEMON JUICE
1/3 CUP HONEY

Directions

IN A SAUCE PAN BRING LAVENDER AND 2 CUPS WATER TO A BOIL. ONCE THE WATER IS BOILING REMOVE FROM THE HEAT AND ADD THE BASIL, COVER AND STEEP FOR 10 MINUTES. SQUEEZE LEMON JUICE INTO A TALL GLASS PITCHER. STIR IN THE HONEY. STIR IN 3 CUPS WATER. ONCE THE BASIL HAS STEEPED, STRAIN THE MIXTURE INTO THE PITCHER WITH THE LEMON JUICE. STIR WELL AND THEN TASTE. IF THE LEMONADE TASTES SWEET, ADD WATER, IF IT TASTES TOO TART, ADD HONEY, 1 TABLESPOON AT A TIME, UNTIL THE LEMONADE IS JUST RIGHT FOR YOU. PLACE IN THE FRIDGE UNTIL WELL CHILLED. TO SERVE, POUR THE LEMONADE OVER A GLASS OF CRUSHED ICE. GARNISH WITH LAVENDER AND BASIL.

DRINK UP!

MCMGA Meetings

UPCOMING 2023

Bursting into Spring

6:30 PM MARCH 21, 2023

SUE GRUBBA, LANDSCAPE DESIGNER AND THE OWNER OF CREATIVE SCAPES WILL GIVE A PRESENTATION ON THOSE PERENNIAL PLANTS, SHRUBS AND WILDLIFE THAT BURST ONTO THE LANDSCAPE SCENE IN SPRING.

[Click Here For More Information](#)

FREE FOR MCMGA MEMBERS + 1 GUEST

\$5.00 FOR ALL OTHERS

[Click Here To Register](#)

MT. CLEMENS LIBRARY, 150 CASS AVE., MT. CLEMENS

Companion Planting

6:30 PM APRIL 11, 2023

* QUARTERLY MEETING *

MCMGA BOARD MEMBER, LINDA SIMPSON, WILL SHARE HER HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE OF WHAT TYPES OF PLANTS YOU SHOULD GROW TOGETHER FOR BEST YIELDS.

[Click Here For More Information](#)

FREE FOR MCMGA MEMBERS + 1 GUEST

\$5.00 DONATION REQUESTED FOR ALL OTHERS

[Click Here To Register](#)

MT. CLEMENS LIBRARY, 150 CASS AVE., MT. CLEMENS

MCMGA Meetings

UPCOMING 2023



6:30 PM MAY 16, 2023

TOMLINSON ARBORETUM PROJECT LEADER, LORETTA MACKLEM, WILL BE JOINED BY TOMLINSON VOLUNTEERS EVA ARMITAGE AND DAN LEPO

TO SHOWCASE THEIR EMG PROJECT.

FREE FOR EVERYONE.

[Click Here For More Information](#)

[Click Here To Register](#)

TOMLINSON ARBORETUM, 17798 18 MILE RD, CLINTON TWP, MI 48038

A History of Herbals



6:30 PM JULY 18, 2023

QUARTERLY MEETING

"TO FIND A USE FOR EVERY PLANT--A HISTORY OF THE HERBALS"

MCMGA MEMBER DAVE PUTT WILL GIVE AN HISTORICAL OVERVIEW OF THE OLD HERBALS AND THE QUEST TO FIND A USE FOR EVERY KNOWN PLANT AT THE TIME THAT THESE EARLY

BOTANICAL WORKS WERE WRITTEN.

FREE FOR EVERYONE.

[Click Here For More Information](#)

[Click Here To Register](#)

MT. CLEMENS LIBRARY, 150 CASS AVE., MT. CLEMENS

Education Opportunities



Dig-In Series

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 REGISTRANT

[Click Here For More Information](#)

[Click Here To Register](#)

Education Opportunities



Horticulture Cafe

MARCH 7 - SPOTTED LANTERNFLY UPDATE WITH NATE WALTON

MARCH 14 - PREPARING YOUR SITE FOR FRUIT WITH DAVID LOWENSTEIN

MARCH 28 - GROWING VEGGIES IN CONTAINERS WITH LINDSEY KERR

[Click Here For
More Information](#)

[Click Here
To Register](#)



Birding 101

MICHIGAN BIRDING 101 - SPRING 2023 VIA ZOOM

EXPLORE THE WONDERFUL HOBBY OF BIRDING IN FOUR FUN ONLINE CLASSES!

TOPICS INCLUDE EVERYTHING A NEW BIRDWATCHER SHOULD KNOW:

TUESDAYS, 7-8:15 P.M. ET

MARCH 7 - BIRDING 101:

EQUIPMENT AND HOW TO ID BIRDS

MARCH 14 - BACKYARD BIRDING:

BACKYARD FEEDING AND BACKYARD BIRD ID

MARCH 21 - CONSERVE THE BIRDS:

BIRDING ETHICS AND BACKYARD HABITATS/NATIVE PLANTING

[Click Here For
More Information](#)

MARCH 28 - BIRDING IN MICHIGAN:

WHERE TO GO AND WHAT TO SEE

[Click Here
To Register](#)

COST: FREE

Education Opportunities



POLLINATORS

MBA Spring Conference

MICHIGAN BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION &
MSU EXTENSION SPRING CONFERENCE
MARCH 11, 2023 7:30AM - 6:00PM

219 S HARRISON RD, EAST LANSING, MI 48824

[Click Here For
More Information](#)

[Click Here
To Register](#)

Taking Varroa Seriously

MAY 25, 2023 7:00PM - 8:30PM

MIDDLE OF THE MITTEN BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION'S MEETING
FOREST HILL NATURE AREA, 11297 N RICH RD, ALMA, MI 48801

[Click Here For
More Information](#)

[Click Here
To Register](#)



Beepalooza

JUNE 3, 2023 8:30AM - 4:00PM

MSU TOLLGATE FARM AND EDUCATION CENTER
28115 MEADOWBROOK RD, NOVI, MI 48377

[Click Here For
More Information](#)

[Click Here
To Register](#)



Education Opportunities

CONFERENCES



Click Here For More Information

Click Here To Register

MI HEALTHY CLIMATE CONFERENCE

APRIL 11-12, 2023



International Master Gardener Conference

Click Here For More Information

June 18-22, 2023,
Overland Park, Kansas

Click Here To Register

Local Events

Education Opportunity

YARDENERS SCS



MONDAY, MARCH 13TH - 7PM

“VERTICAL GARDENING AND PLANTERS”

PRESENTATION BY JENNIFER RIZZO

ST. CLAIR SHORES LIBRARY 11 MILE / JEFFERSON.

TIGHT ON SPACE? SMALL BACKYARD? TRY A VERTICAL GARDEN!
INSTEAD OF WORKING WITH A FLOWER BED THAT IS FLAT ON THE GROUND,
USE A HANGING PLANTER OR AN OLD PALLET. VERTICAL GARDENING ADDS
ANOTHER DIMENSION TO YOUR OUTDOOR GROWING SPACES. JENNIFER IS A
MASTER GARDENER, YARDENER, AND DEDICATED TO SHARING HER PASSION
FOR NATIVE PLANTS WITH EVERYONE.



Native Plant Sale

FRIDAY JUNE 2ND (3PM-6PM) & SATURDAY JUNE 3RD (9AM- 12PM)



WE WILL NOT HAVE A PRE-ORDER PERIOD. COME EARLY FOR THE BEST SELECTION.
CASH OR CHECKS ONLY.

SELINSKY-GREEN FARMHOUSE MUSEUM BEHIND THE
ST. CLAIR SHORES LIBRARY PARKING LOT AT 11 MILE ROAD AND JEFFERSON

Funding your Projects

MCMGA GRANTS

Click Here For
More Information

Macomb County Master Gardener Association

2023 Community Gardening Grant



Application Deadline: March 15



Who can Apply?

Any educational group, not-for-profit organization or other groups/persons providing horticultural education and /or horticultural therapy. Applicants must be based in, located in and serve residents of Macomb County. A MCMGA Master Gardener must be a member of this project.

What is required?

- A cover letter from the principal of the organization verifying applicant's status and program/project relationship to the larger organization.
- Written program description and budget, as requested in the two-page application



What are the funding parameters?



- New program initiatives or those that enhance continuing, previously-funded programs may be eligible for up to \$150.
 - New project applications are given a priority.
- MCMGA grant funds must be used to directly support horticultural education and/or horticultural therapy aspects of the project, such as: seeds, plants, compost, garden tools/gloves, rain barrels, books, trellis, fencing, mulch, fertilizer, garden soil, signage, construction materials for raised beds, compost bins, handicap accessible beds, other supplies such as waste bags or first aid kits.
 - Extra consideration will be given to organic materials.
- Grant funds are NOT provided for:
 - General operations (salaries, buildings, utility costs, etc.)
 - Pesticides or herbicides without explanation of their specific use.
 - Construction materials for hardscape, such as: sculptures, benches, picnic tables, memorials or garden sheds.
 - Food/beverage, t-shirts, etc. for volunteers

What is the selection criteria?

- Project supports horticultural education and/or horticultural therapy
- Project is based in, located in, and services residents of Macomb County
- Project utilizes the expertise of MCMGA during development or implementation
- Application is complete, to include cover letter, organization and contact information, program description and budget data.



What are the expectations of the MCMGA funded projects?

- Funds must be used for items specifically outlined/identified in application.
- Awardees must provide a photo display poster or display boards of the project at the Annual Meeting of the Macomb County Master Gardener Association held in September of the year the grant was awarded.
- A financial report (receipt(s) for purchase) must be provided to the MCMGA Board of Directors by the Annual September Meeting of the year the grant was received.
- Return only the application portion of this document.
- Failure to comply with the expectations will result in denial of future grant application.

Return completed application to:

MacombCountyMGA@yahoo.com

OR

Macomb County MGA

P.O. Box 380463

Clinton Twp., MI 48038

[CLICK HERE FOR AN APPLICATION](#)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

Important Information

Click Here For
More Information

PROGRAM CHANGE

THE FORMAT TO BECOME AN EMG IS CHANGING.
THIS WILL NOT EFFECT CURRENT EMG'S.

SAVE THE DATE

MCMGA FALL NATIVE PLANT SALE
WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2023
STAY TUNED FOR MORE DETAILS.



FUNDRAISING

TO SIGN UP GO TO [KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS.COM](https://www.kroger.com/community-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