

Macomb County Master Gardener

Monthly Newsletter

March 2024



Highlights in this issue

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

Katie Baker - 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>

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

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General Information

Follow us on Facebook:

Macomb County Master Gardener Association

Next Board of Directors Meeting is Tuesday, March 12, 2024 at 4:30 pm via Zoom

If there is anything you would like to have included in the next newsletter, please send an email

to: macombcountymga@yahoo.com

Letter from the Board



Have you all been on the look out?

We have spring flowers blooming! Beautiful yellow crocus are up and smiling. A lot of others are already peeking their heads up....daffodils, hyacinths, iris, snowdrops and poppies. We hope yours are coming along fine too! The pussy willow is budding out beautifully also.

We hope all of you have picked out your projects for this year and are getting ready. Don't forget to get in shape by exercising before starting. That also includes all your gardening tools. Give them a good going over and see if they need oiling or sharpening, or maybe replacing.

Happy Spring!

Important Information

Grants

Each year, MCMGA awards grants of up to \$200 for the establishment or improvement of approved Master Gardener projects in Macomb County.

Please read the guidelines carefully before applying for a grant.

Grant Applications are Due on Friday, March 15, 2024.

Get your applications in now!!

Grants will be awarded at the April Quarterly meeting.

[Click Here For
More Information](#)

[Click Here For The
Grant Application](#)

[Click Here For The
Grant Guidelines](#)

MCMGA Board Minutes

Thursday, February 6, 2024

Attendees: Ellen Collins, Karen Burke, Sara Grix, Katie Baker, Linda Simpson, Carolyn Doak and David Lowenstein

Karen called the meeting to order at 4:31 pm.

Professional Comments:

Onboarding scheduled for February 28th from 6:00 - 8:30 pm.

We have about 10 new trainees, all but two of them live in Macomb County.

Volunteer dinner registration is open. It is scheduled for May 8th at 6:00pm at the Clinton Township Extension Office.

Email was sent out to register. Food will be catered from Vince and Joe's this year.

Attempting to host an event about grasses, David has EMGs that he is talking to about this topic. Looking at an evening event in May or June.

Treasurer's Report:

Ellen reported that the organization's finances are healthy. January financial report showed income of \$720.35, which included member dues and a guest fee. Expenses included: \$54.99 for IRS Form 990, \$25 for English Garden gift card, \$36.16 for GoDaddy domain renewal, \$203.88 for GoDaddy website renewal.

Copies of the financial statements are available to members at meetings or by request.

Program:

March 21, 2024 - Jean Persely & Lisa Lane: We Laughed, We Cried, We Could've Died - Gardening Conferences (in person)

*April 25, 2024 - Wild Birds Unlimited: Bird Songs in Your Garden (in person)

May 16, 2024 - Diane Reynolds: Three-Season Gardening For April Through November Blooms (in person - with a tour of the Demonstration Garden)

June 20, 2024 - TBD

*July 18, 2024 - Ellen Collins: Edible Weeds (in person - possibly at the Charity Garden)

Aug. 15, 2024 - Rachel Mifsud from Will Forage for Food: Intro to Foraging (in person - with on-site exploration)

*Sept. 19, 2024 (Elections) - Dave Putt: The Role Played by Michiganders in the Development of Modern Horticultural Science (in person)

Oct. 10, 2024 - TBD

Nov. 21, 2024 - Erin Stewart of Heart & Soul Naturals: All About Elderberries (in person - with a make and take option)

Dec. 2024 - No meeting

*denotes Quarterly meeting

- All meetings at the Verkuilen building unless otherwise noted
- Regular meetings will run from 6:30 to approximately 8:00 pm unless otherwise noted
- Quarterly meetings usually run longer until approximately 9:00 pm
- Looking for someone to discuss tool care as a possible educational class

Old Business:

- Grants - only one person has applied so far. An email will be sent out as a reminder and a reminder will also be added to the newsletter

- Annual MCMGA native plant sale is scheduled for Sunday, September 15th from 12-3pm at the Octagon House

- Bylaw committee has met to review guidelines. The committee has presented concerns to the board and MMGA.

MCMGA Membership:

- Total of 87 members at the end of 2023

- 49 members have renewed membership for 2024 so far. An email reminder will be sent out as a reminder to renew.

New Business:

- MCMGA membership for possible new graduates of the Foundations of Gardening (FOG) program - need to discuss and figure out how to provide membership to individuals in between the FOG program and becoming an EMG.

Individuals have up to three years to decide if they want to continue with becoming an EMG after they have completed FOG. Also, waiting for any guidelines from MMGA about this topic.

- Going to keep two newsletters - one MSUE and one for MCMGA. Will keep the educational opportunities separate between the two newsletters.

- Survey results have been collected and will be shared with the board.

Next board meeting: March 12th at 4:30 pm via Zoom

Meeting was adjourned at 5:43 pm

Submitted by Sara Grix



Save the Date MCMGA 2024 Lineup

"We Laughed, We Cried, We Could've Died" - Gardening Conferences

Presenters: Jean Persely and Lisa Lane
Date: Thursday, March 21st 2024

"Bird Songs in Your Garden" Learn how to translate what your backyard birds are saying to you

Presenter: Wild Birds Unlimited
Date: Thursday, April 25th 2024

"Three-Season Gardening for April Through November Blooms" with a tour of Demonstration Garden on the grounds

Presenter: Diane Reynolds
Date: Thursday, May 16th

TBD

Date: Thursday, June 20th 2024

"Edible Weeds"

Presenter: Ellen Collins
Date: Thursday, July 18th 2024
Location: St. Peter Charity Garden
43785 Gratiot, Clinton Township
(Behind Kingsborough Castle)

"Intro to Foraging" with On-Site Exploration

Presenter: Rachel Mifsud from Will Forage for Food
Thursday, August 15th 2024

"The Role Played by Michiganders in the Development of Modern Horticultural Science"

Presenter: Dave Putt
Also - BOARD ELECTIONS
Thursday, September 19th 2024

TBD

Date: Thursday, October 10th 2024

"All About Elderberries" with a Make-and-Take Workshop

Presenter: Erin Stewart of Heart and Soul Naturals
Date: Thursday, November 21st 2024

No December Meeting

Don't forget to Log Your Hours Past 2024 Meeting Information

"New Membership Camaraderie Games"

Presenter(s): MCMGA Board
Date: Thursday, January 11th 2024

"Growing a Better Garden Without the Work"

Presenter: Luke Marion from MI Gardener
Date: Tuesday, February 13th 2024
Location: Virtual via Zoom

****ALL MEETINGS WILL BE 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm unless otherwise noted****

**** ALL MEETINGS will be held at the Robert A. Verkuilen Building
21885 Dunham Rd, Clinton Twp, MI 48036
unless otherwise noted****

Registration for the March MCMGA Meeting

Date: Thursday, March 21st 2024

Time: 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Location: Robert A. Verkuilen Building
21885 Dunham Rd, Clinton Twp, MI 48036

Topic: "We Laughed, We Cried, We Could've Died"
An account of experiences at Gardening Conferences

Presenters: Jean Persely and Lisa Lane

Please join us for a talk on Gardening Conferences - Are you curious about them? Considered going, but not sure what to expect?

An inspirational and often comical journey of EMG's Lisa Lane and Jean Persely who will recap their weeklong journey to the 2023 International Master Gardener Conference.

Lisa Lane is an Advanced Master Gardener who has always loved gardening and has grown more passionate in the years that she has been a Master Gardener. While this is Lisa's first presentation, she has always shared the Extension Master Gardener experience and knowledge in small doses to people she meets daily. She currently serves as a Volunteer Ambassador for Macomb County, is on the committee for the Master Gardener Conference, and recently took over as the coordinator for the Children's Garden at the Sterling Heights Public Library.

Jean Persely has had a life-long love of gardening. She is an Advanced Master Gardener, Volunteer Ambassador, Master Rain Gardener, Master Composter, Conservation Steward, Master Naturalist and a certified Landscape Designer. Jean enjoys sharing her experiences and lessons-learned during educational outreach Garden Lifecycle Management programs. She also offers one-on-one consultations and design services.

[Click Here For
More Information](#)

[Click Here
To Register](#)



Friends of the St Clair River



Join us for our upcoming seed cleaning workdays on Tuesday, March 5, 2024, Tuesday, March 12, 2024 & Tuesday March 19, 2024 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. Our Thumb Coast Watershed Center seed library is located outside our office at 301 N. Ninth Street in St. Clair. For questions about our seed library program and seed cleaning workshops, email brooke@scriver.org.

Join us Fridays at Columbus Park for eco-stewardship activities in parks and natural areas all over St. Clair County as we manage invasive species and take in all that nature has to offer. No experience? No worries! Dress for the weather and bring your work gloves. Email brooke@scriver.org for more information.



Friends of the St. Clair River is proud to present its 2nd annual fundraiser, "River Bash: A benefit on the banks of the Black River".

This celebration-style event, is about coming together to celebrate, protect, and restore the rivers, parks, and trails we all love. The event includes dinner and live music, a brief program, silent auction and raffle, and a live sturgeon tank! Thursday, April 11, 2024, Doors open at 5:00 pm
Port Huron Yacht Club
212 Quay Street, Port Huron
River Bash attire is casual.



Back from the depths! Sturgeon Fest is coming Saturday, June 1, 2024 on the shores of Lake Huron at the Fort Gratiot Lightstation Park in Port Huron. Details at www.SturgeonFestival.com



Lake St. Clair CISMA



Volunteer Opportunity: Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Time: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Alice W. Moore Woods Woody Workday

Location: Alice W. Moore Woods Nature Sanctuary
999 Stratford Rd., St Clair, MI 48079

We will be finishing up the woody work season by tackling Japanese Barberry, an invasive ornamental shrub, first introduced in 1875. We can't wait to see you out there!



Volunteer Opportunity: Tuesday, March 26, 2024

Time: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Woody Invasive Species Workshop

Location: Pine River Nature Center
2585 Castor Rd., Goodells MI 48027

Together we'll brush up on winter botany and manage woody invasive species. Bring your own pruning tools if you have them and we will have extras. Wear comfortable, warm clothing that can get dirty, wet, and snagged. For more information, klyons@stclaircounty.org, 810-989-6317



Six Rivers Land Conservancy



Volunteer Opportunity: Saturday, May 11, 2024

Time: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Stewardship Workday - Garlic Mustard Pull

Location: Salt River Nature Sanctuary

Located at the end of Hooker Rd in Chesterfield Twp.

Learn how to identify garlic mustard and how to carefully remove this invasive species to reduce seed spread.

Volunteer Opportunity: Friday, May 17, 2024

Time: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

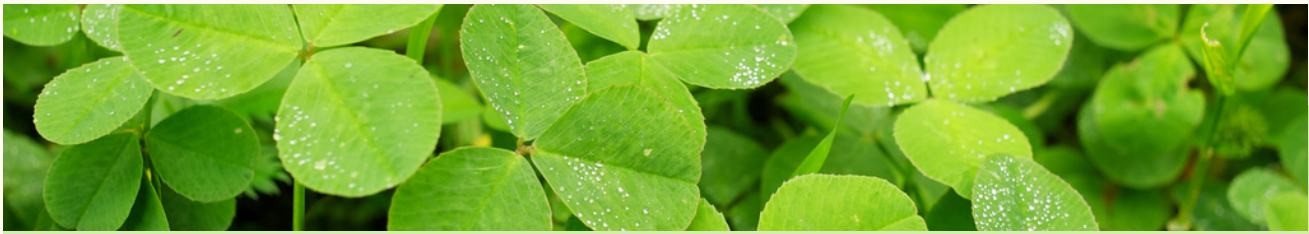
Stewardship Workday - Garlic Mustard Pull

Location: 2125 Denby Dr. Waterford, MI 48329

Learn how to identify garlic mustard and how to carefully remove this invasive species to reduce seed spread.



Southeast Michigan Butterfly Association



Guest attendees are welcome!

The cost of attendance is \$3 for guests or free with annual membership.

Annual membership is \$15

Meetings

Location: Crosswalk Community Church - 38600 Palmer Rd., Westland, MI 48186
Time: 7:00 pm

Date: Thursday, March 21, 2024

Topic: Growing for Wildlife (Grant Application Deadline March 31)

Presenter: Maud Lyon

Date: Thursday, April 18, 2024

Topic: Pollinator Preservation Strategies

Presenter: Cheryl English

Date: Thursday, May 16, 2024

Topic: Moth Mating Cage Workshop

Date: Thursday, June 20, 2024

Topic: "Q an A"

Presenter: Brenda Sattler

Date: Thursday, August 15, 2024

Topic: TBD

Date: Thursday, September 19, 2024

Topic: Winter Clean Up

Presenter: Brenda Sattler

Thursday, October 17, 2024

Topic: Tea Cup Celebration

Events

Membership may be required for events. For Times and Locations and Registration information please contactsembabutterfly@yahoo.com

Event Date: Saturday, July 13, 2024

Brenda Sattler, Westland, Garden Walk,
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Elmer Grimm, Garden Walk,
10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Event Date: Saturday, July 20, 2024

Event Time: 12:30 pm

John Blair's Open Garden Walk, Brooklyn Bugtopia, Westland

Event Date: Saturday, July 27, 2024

Time: 1:00 pm

3 B's Native Garden
Detroit Audubon/SEMBA Event
Location: Corrado Park, 8500 Flamingo Blvd, Westland.

Click Here For More Information



Yardeners of St. Clair Shores



Presentations

Date: Monday, March 11, 2024

Time: 7:00 pm

Topic: Monarch Butterflies in Mexico

Presenter: Lori Smith

Lori will share the experience of her trip to Mexico, where the Monarch butterflies are found during the winter months. We will see the sanctuaries she visited and the local people she met who are trying to keep the habitat the butterflies need before their migration north. You will enjoy her sharing her love for these Lepidoptera.

Date: Monday April 8, 2024

Time: 7:00 pm

Topic: Buzz, Hum and Hover

Presenter: Maud Lyon

Join us as Maud shows us the relationship between insects and native plants. Why loss of insects is critical to biodiversity, the reasons for it, and what we gardeners can do to help. Maud is an evangelist for native plants.

Date: Monday, October 14, 2024

Time: 7:00 pm

Topic: Becoming a Beekeeper

Presenter: Karen Burke

Karen will share what is involved, in time and cost, for successful beekeeping. She will also give us tips on what education and muscle is needed for rewarding honey production. She is the proprietor of honeyhollowapiaries.com and has been a supporter of our annual Garden Tour. You may have purchased some honey and honey related products from her.

**** All 2024 Presentations will be held at the**

St. Clair Shores Library 22500 E Eleven Mile Rd, St Clair Shores, MI 48081.

If the library is under renovation, we will be next door at the City Hall. Our members will be at the library to inform/escort you. We will also have updates on the Yardeners Facebook page or you can email us at scsyardeners@gmail.com **

Events

Event: Yardeners Native Plant Sale

Date: Friday, June 7, 2024

Time: 10:00 am- 4:00 pm

Location: Selinsky-Green Farmhouse Museum

We are hosting East Michigan Native Plants. No pre-sales. Plan to come by and shop at the native plant mobile nursery. You can check out the plants and kits that may be available at www.eastmichnatives.com.

Event: Yardeners 31st Annual Garden Tour

Date: Saturday, August 3, 2024

Time: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Location: Selinsky-Green Farmhouse Museum

Cost: \$5/adult, children under 12 are free

Registration, ticket sales and map distribution start at 9:00 am. This is a self-guided driving tour with some walking. You will view some of the loveliest yards in St. Clair Shores and get gardening ideas for your gardens from the homeowners.

Event: Yardeners Fall Plant Exchange

Date: Saturday, September 21, 2024

Time: 9:00 am - 11:00 am

Location: St. Clair Shores Library Parking Lot

Load up your vehicles with your extra plants and divisions. Bag, tag and drag your offerings to trade or give away to other gardeners. No money is involved, come with your plants and enjoy our "tailgate garden party". Please label all of your plants.

Crocker House Museum & Gardens



The Crocker House Museum and Gardens will be hosting their Pottery Lunch in early April. This is a major fundraiser for the support of the museum and gardens.

MACOMB COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
CROCKER HOUSE MUSEUM & GARDENS

Yvonne Leslie
POTTERY LUNCH

11 AM ON SATURDAY, APRIL 6TH, 2024
ZUCCARO'S BANQUETS & CATERING
46601 N. GRATIOT AVE, CHESTERFIELD, MI 48051



TICKETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR THE 2024 POTTERY LUNCH, WHICH HONORS THE MEMORY OF YVONNE LESLIE. THIS YEAR'S THEME FOR THE TABLESCAPING COMPETITION IS, "MY FAVORITE THINGS." AT THIS EVENT, YOU WILL VIEW BEAUTIFULLY DECORATED TABLES INSPIRED BY THE TABLE DESIGNER'S FAVORITE THINGS. THERE WILL BE A DELICIOUS LUNCHEON BUFFET SERVED AND A CASH BAR. THERE WILL BE RAFFLES, DOOR PRIZES AND A GRAND PRIZE RAFFLE TO A FUN DESTINATION. DOORS OPEN FOR TABLE VIEWING AT 11 AM WITH LUNCH BEING SERVED AT 12:15 PM.

GROUP SEATING RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE TOGETHER WITH TABLES SEATING EIGHT PEOPLE. SEATING ACCOMMODATIONS WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED TO THE BEST OF OUR ABILITY. TICKETS ARE \$50 AND MAY BE PURCHASED BY CALLING THE MUSEUM AT 586 465-2488.

Plant Sales & Exchanges



Blue Water Conservation District

Purchases are Online:

<https://bluewatercd.org/collections/>

Pick Up Dates and Locations times TBD:

Friday, April 12, 2024 & Saturday, April 13, 2024
Sandusky Fairgrounds
210 Dawson St, Sandusky, MI 48471

Friday, April 19, 2024 & Saturday April 20, 2024
Goodells County Park
8201 Lapeer Rd, Goodells MI 48027

Armada Fairgrounds
Monday, April 22 2024 & Tuesday April 23, 2024
74280 Fair St., Armada, MI 48005

Clinton Township Civic Center
Thursday, April 25, 2024 & Friday, April 26, 2024
40700 Romeo Plank Road
Clinton Township, MI 48038

Seven Ponds Nature Center Spring Plant Sale

Date: Saturday, May 11, 2024

Time: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Location: Seven Ponds Nature Center
3854 Crawford Rd., Dryden, MI 48429

2024 Native Plant Expo & Market

Date: Saturday, June 1, 2024

Time: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Location: Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds
5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48103

MSU Tollgate Spring Plant Sale

Date: Saturday, June 1, 2024

Time: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Location: 28115 Meadowbrook Road
Novi, MI 48377

**All proceeds benefit the MSU Tollgate
Horticultural Gardens**

Yardeners Native Plant Sale

Date: Friday, June 7, 2024

Time: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Location: Selinsky-Green Farmhouse Museum
22504 E Eleven Mile Rd, St Clair Shores, MI 48081

Rochester Native Plant Sale

Date: Thursday, June 20, 2024

Time: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Location: Rochester Hills Museum
at Van Hoosen Farm
1005 Van Hoosen Rd, Rochester Hills, MI 48306

Native Plant Sale with Jean

Date: Saturday, July 27, 2024

Time: 11:00 am

Location: Persely Home
73881 Omo Road, Armada, MI 48005

MCMGA Plant Sale

Date: Sunday, September 15, 2024

Time: 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Location: The Octagon House
57500 VanDyke Ave, Washington MI

Yardeners Fall Plant Exchange

Date: Saturday, September 21, 2024

Time: 9:00 am - 11:00 am

Location: St. Clair Shores Library Parking Lot
22504 E Eleven Mile Rd, St Clair Shores, MI 48081

MSU Tollgate Fall Plant Sale

Date: Saturday, September 21, 2024

Time: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Location: 28115 Meadowbrook Road
Novi, MI 48377

**All proceeds benefit the MSU Tollgate
Horticultural Gardens**

Garden Tours



Rochester Garden Walk

Date: Thursday, June 20, 2024

Time: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Location: Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm
1005 Van Hoosen Rd, Rochester Hills, MI 48306

MSU Tollgate Garden Open House

Date: Thursday, July 18, 2024

Time: 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Where: 28115 Meadowbrook Road, Novi, MI 48377

Crocker House Museum Garden Walk

Date: Saturday, July 20, 2024

Time: TBD

Where: 15 Union Street, Mt. Clemens, MI 48043

Cost: TBD

Garden Walk with Jean

Date: Saturday, July 27, 2024

Time: 11:00 am

Where: Persely Home

73881 Omo Road, Armada, MI 48005

Curious about how a plant grows before adding it to your yard?
Stop by and see how they perform in a garden with varied site
conditions.

Yardeners Annual Garden Tour

Date: Saturday, August 3, 2024

Time: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Location: Selinsky-Green Farmhouse Museum

Cost: \$5/adult, children under 12 are free

Important Information



Fundraising



**To Sign up Go to 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