

# Macomb County Master Gardener Association

# Monthly Newsletter

# July 2025



## Contact Information

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Macomb County MGA

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## Board of Directors

Ellen Collins—President

Sara Grix—Vice President

Linda Simpson—Director at Large

Pam Horner—Secretary

Darlene Davies-Warner —Treasurer

## Upcoming MCMGA Education

To register for events, click on the link below:

[Upcoming Meetings \(macombcountymga.org\)](http://Upcoming Meetings (macombcountymga.org))

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

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

## Letter from the Board

### **HAPPY 4th of JULY!!**

We are so fortunate to live here in the **United States of America**,

In a country that values these fundamental rights:

**Life** to exist in a safe, peaceful, and most of all protected space

**Liberty** to freely express ourselves through thoughts, words and actions

**Pursuit of Happiness** to take responsibility for our own well being and personal fulfillment

We exercise these rights each and every day without usually giving it a second thought.

Let's intentionally focus on this blessing and truly appreciate what we've been given, in every facet of our lives.

Enjoy the holiday and your **Freedom** to chose how to celebrate!

Your MCMGA Board

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## MMGA Membership

Did you know that your MCMGA membership includes a membership to Michigan Master Gardener Association (MMGA)? To learn more about MMGA and its benefits, please view this YouTube video. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?>

## Volunteer Opportunity

The Yardeners are looking for volunteer docents for their Garden Tour on Saturday, August 2, 2025. A volunteer can work from 9am until 3pm or in a shift of 9am until 12 noon or 12 noon until 3pm. For more information or questions, please email the Yardeners at:

[scsyardeners@gmail.com](mailto:scsyardeners@gmail.com)

## Garden Walk & Native Plant Sale Saturday, July 26, 2025 10 AM to 1 PM 73881 Omo Rd, Armada, MI

Join Jean Persley, a Master Gardener with MCMGA, for a garden walk and native plant sale. With 250+ native plant species and a smattering of exotics, there is something for everyone. There is a guided tour at 11:00 AM.

Native plants will be available to purchase from East Michigan Native Plants—they will have their mobile native plant nursery on hand with a wide variety of plant species.

<https://facebook.com/events/s/garden-walk-native-plant-sale/1563156807722040/>

## Website/Online Payment Notice

We appreciate the flexibility of the online payment system for dues, plant sales, etc., but it comes at a cost. With every transaction, comes a 4.3% service fee. MCMGA is willing to absorb that cost to make payments easier for you and us. However we have had several instances where online payments have been duplicated and another service fee is charged. Effective 5/1/2025, if duplicate payments are made, a refund will be made to you via check less the incurred service fee. Thank you!

## 2025 Macomb County Outstanding Volunteer

Congratulations to Margo Pennefather for receiving the Macomb County Outstanding Volunteer Award for District 13. This award, organized by the Macomb County Board of Commissioners, pays tribute to those who promote unity and resilience in the community. Margo has spent many years answering residents questions on the hotline and as an editor of the MSUE newsletter. Thank you for your service, Margo!

# SAVE THE DATE-MCMGA 2025 LINE UP

**Date: July 17th 2025**

**Time: 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm EST**

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

Presenter: Brook Hiller

Friends of the St. Clair River

Topic: Go Beyond Beauty for Wildlife,  
Clean Waters and Beautiful Gardens

**Date: August 21st 2025**

**Time: 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm EST**

Location: Edsel and Eleanor Ford House  
1100 Lake Shore Rd, Grosse Pointe Shores, MI  
Presenter: Kevin Drotos, Edsel and Eleanor Ford  
House, Landscape and Natural Areas Manager

Topic: Ford House Garden Walking Tour

MCMGA members only

**Date: September 18th 2025**

**Time: 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm EST**

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

Presenter: Shawn Hubbard

Topic: Gardening Exercises

**Date: October 16th 2025**

**Time: 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm EST**

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

Presenter: Ed Blondin, Master Gardener  
Owner—Hortulus Gardens & Landscape

Topic: Persian Gardens

**Date: November 20th 2025**

**Time: 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm EST**

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

Presenter: Cheryl English

Topic: Tall Grass Prairie Planting

**NO DECEMBER MEETING**

# **MCMGA Meeting Registration**

## **Go Beyond Beauty for Wildlife, Clean Waters and Beautiful Gardens**

**July 17, 2025**  
**6:30 to 8:00 p.m.**

**Presenter: Brooke Hiller**  
**Friends of the St. Clair River**

**Class Description:** This presentation gives an overview of the Go Beyond Beauty program, highlights the top invasive ornamental plants in Michigan, offers resources for removal and replacement, and advises individuals on how to get involved with the program. Go Beyond Beauty was developed to recognize gardening professionals who have committed to not selling or using high priority invasive ornamental plants, and recognizes individuals, businesses and organizations who also make this pledge. Go Beyond Beauty educates professionals and the public on the importance of using native plants in landscaping projects and offers ideas for native plant alternatives in place of traditional ornamental plants that have found their way into our natural areas and are compromising the health of our ecosystem.

[\*\*Register Here\*\*](#)

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## **Native Plant Walk at the Edsel and Eleanor Ford Estate**

**August 21, 2025**  
**6:00 to 8:00 p.m.**

**Presenter: Kevin Drotos, Edsel and Eleanor Ford House, Landscape and Natural Areas Manager**

Join us with Kevin Drotos, Landscape and Natural Areas Manager, for a guided tour that will focus on native plants at Ford House. This historic estate features an intact Jens Jensen landscape, restored historical gardens, natural areas, modern gardens, and planted bioswales. As a group, we will walk the grounds to discuss native plants and their place in the landscape.

[\*\*Register Here\*\*](#)

# Education Opportunities



**Location: Online via Zoom**

**Cost: Free (with pre-registration)**

**Date: July 8, 2025**

**Time: 6 p.m.—7 p.m. EST**

**Topic: Growing Together: Strategies, Structures, and Impact of Community Gardens**

**Presenter: Kelly McClelland, MSU Extension Community Food Systems Educator**

**Cost: FREE! All certified EMGs and Trainees must register one time and have access to the entire series. Please do not share the recording links with non-registrants and/or non-EMGs. Education Hours—Each session will count as 1 EMG Continuing hour.**

[Event Registration for 2025 DIG IN!! Extension Master Gardeners | ANR Events Management System \(msu.edu\)](#)

# Dig In Series 2025

**Location: Online via Zoom**

**Cost: Free (with pre-registration)**

**Time: 6:00—7:00 p.m.**

**Date: July 8th 2025**

Presenter: Kelly McClelland, MSU

Extension Community Food Systems Educator

Topic: Growing Together: Strategies, Structures, and Impact of Community Gardens

**Date: September 9th 2025**

Presenter: Becca Krans

MSU Extension Consumer Horticulture Educator

Topic: Smart Ways to Bring Native Plants into Your Landscape

**NO AUGUST MEETING**

**Date: October 14th 2025**

Presenter: Julie Crick

MSU Extension Natural Resources Educator

Topic: Guiding Neighborhood Trees through Climate Change

**Date: November 11th 2025**

Presenter: Lindsey Kerr & Colleagues

MSU Extension Consumer Horticulture Educators

Topics: Garden Gifts, Tools and Books

**NO DECEMBER MEETING**

# Education

**Don't forget to Log Your Ed Hours for MCMGA Past 2025**

## Education Programs:

| Date:     | Topic:  | Presenter          |
|-----------|---|--------------------|
| 1/16/2025 | On the Origin of Macomb County's Soils—<br>The Science Behind the Soil in Our Backyards | Jim Selegean       |
| 2/20/2025 | Beans, the Poor Man's Jewels  | Tina Kacanowski    |
| 3/20/2025 | Trees—Can Mankind Live Without Them   | Dan Lepo           |
| 4/17/2025 | Plant Health Care   | Sue Grubba         |
| 5/29/2035 | Fungi of Michigan   | Lorenzo Lo Piccolo |
| 6/12/2025 | Weeds or Wildflowers  | Kirsten Lyons      |

**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:

877-576-4377

**FUNDRAISING**

