

# Macomb County Master Gardener Association

## Monthly Newsletter

### November 2025



#### Contact Information

Email address: [macombcountymga@yahoo.com](mailto:macombcountymga@yahoo.com)

Website: [www.macombcountymga.org](http://www.macombcountymga.org)

Macomb County MGA

P.O. Box 380463

Clinton Township, MI 48038

#### Board of Directors

Jean Persely—President (2025-2027)  
Lisa Lane—Vice President (2025-2027)  
Pam Voss—Director at Large (2025-2027)  
Pam Horner—Secretary (2024-2026)  
Darlene Davies-Warner —Treasurer  
(2024-2026)

#### Upcoming MCMGA Education

To register for events, click on the link below:

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

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

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

Has everyone harvested their seeds yet? Get 'em before they're gone! Many of mine have already dispersed. Some of them may still be harvested in March – yes, I've done this before, lol! And yes – all those plants sitting in your driveway, on your porch or deck – get 'em in the ground so they can push out a few new roots for the winter ahead. Also yes – this includes me, who is down to about a flat of plants, plus a handful of 1-gallon trees and shrubs. Eeek!

We're wrapping up our annual education programming with the wonderful Cheryl English and her presentation on Tallgrass Prairie Plantings In The Home Garden on Nov 20th – we hope to see you there!

Your board continues the work of the previous board and is planning another wonderful year of programming. How would you like to help us? Hospitality, welcoming gardeners to our meetings? Helping us procure additional speakers? Our grant committee will be gearing up after the new year and could use a few people. Let us know!

We are thankful for each and every one of you every day, but even more so during the Thanksgiving season. Wishing you and your family a wonderful Thanksgiving! Questions, comments, concerns, ideas – we're here for YOU! You can reach us at: [MacombCountyMGA@yahoo.com](mailto:MacombCountyMGA@yahoo.com) or you can email me directly at [Jean.Persely@outlook.com](mailto:Jean.Persely@outlook.com)

Your MCMGA Board

# BOARD MEETING MINUTES

## MCMGA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

10/23/2025

Attendees: Ellen Collins, Pam Horner, Darlene Davies-Warner, Jean Persley, Pam Voss, and Lisa Lane.

Jean called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

**Approval of Last Meeting Minutes** – Motion to approve by Ellen, and seconded by Darlene, motion carried.

**MSUE updates** – absent.

**Treasurer's Report:** September treasurer report was reviewed by the board. The final sales from the Native plant sale have not been resolved. There was a suggestion to look into electronic payment for next year's sale, and maybe use for membership as well. Lisa made a motion to approve the treasurer's report, Ellen seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

**Programs Update:** Cheryl English is scheduled to present in November about Tall Grasses. Ron Horner – tool workshop in January;. Feb - Erin Parker - Magic of Monarchs; March – Bevin Cohen; April - Ed Blondin; Jim Selegean agreed to do a presentation on Gardening During Climate Change, schedule a little later in spring; Jenn Ott – Weeds, the Wicked, Wild and Wonderful spring 2026. 2027 - Fruit pruning topic, Casey – checking with Diane Reynolds if there is a fruit tree in the demo garden for demonstrating pruning. Other potential topics - growing mushrooms (Ethan from Six Rivers); David Lowenstein – check if he has any new topics to present on; Six Rivers Conservancy and the Native Garden Certification;

**Old Business:** Ellen consulted with the Disabled Veteran's Group in Shelby Twp– it is a small garden. Ellen and Marian Ferr did the fall clean up and will work on in the spring. It was an approved project on VC but no master gardeners were working on it.

**New Business:** Review by-laws and SOP by new board members to get familiar with your duties. Pam Voss will check with Linda on any follow up on the grant program. Oakland MGA is interested in partnering with MCMGA on field trips and tours. There was a discussion on obtaining quotes for a webmaster vendor. Dave Putt currently does our web page and is very busy.

Adjourn at 8:51 pm

Next board meeting is Nov 13 @ 6:30 pm

Submitted by Pam Horner

# 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?>

## MCMGA Hoodie for Sale \$15

- New, never worn
- Large, unisex, hoodie
- Please contact Ruthann at:  
rabajorek@aol.com



## 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!

## Webmaster Inquiry

The MCMGA is looking to obtain pricing for managing our website.

This would include doing monthly updates, posting monthly newsletters, updating the meeting notices monthly, and other website related actions.

If anyone has any contacts, can you provide them to Pam Horner, Secretary at:

pamhorner@wowway.com

## Volunteer Hours

Upcoming workdays with Lake St. Clair CISMA for anyone interested or who need last minute volunteer hours or want to get a jump on next year's hours. These are for in and around Macomb County:

- 11/4/25: Blue Water River Walk County Park, Port Huron 1-3pm with St Clair County Parks
- 11/6/25: James C Nelson Park, Sterling Heights Parks & Rec, 10 am start
- 11/11/25: Waterworks Preserve (3249 S Shoreview Dr. Fort Gratiot, 48059), 10am-1pm with Friends of the St Clair River
- 11/13/25: Delia Dog Park, Sterling Heights Parks & Rec, 10 am start
- 1/13/26: Fort Gratiot County Park, 1-3pm with St Clair County Parks
- 1/20/26: Woodsong County Park, 1-3pm with St Clair County Parks
- 2/3/26: Columbus County Park, 1-3pm with St Clair County Parks

# MCMGA Meeting Registration

## Tall Grass Prairie Planting in the Home Garden

November 20, 2025

6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Presenter: Cheryl English

Tallgrass prairie, while among the most endangered habitats in North America, is also one of the most productive in terms of ecological services. Learn how you can incorporate this unique guild of plants—and the organisms that rely on them—in your home garden.

[Register Here](#)

# SAVE THE DATE-MCMGA 2025 LINE UP

**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 in The Home Garden

**NO DECEMBER MEETING**

## Education—Log Your Ed Hours for MCMGA Past 2025

### Education Programs:

Date:	Topic:	Presenter	Hours
1/16/2025	On the Origin of Macomb County's Soils— The Science Behind the Soil in Our Backyards	Jim Selegan	1.0
2/20/2025	Beans, the Poor Man's Jewels	Tina Kacanowski	1.0
3/20/2025	Trees—Can Mankind Live Without Them	Dan Lepo	1.5
4/17/2025	Plant Health Care	Sue Grubba	1.0
5/29/2025	Fungi of Michigan	Lorenzo Lo Piccolo	1.0
6/12/2025	Weeds or Wildflowers	Kirsten Lyons	1.0
7/17/2025	Go Beyond Beauty for Wildlife, Clean Waters and Beautiful Gardens	Brooke Hiller	1.25
8/21/2025	Ford House Native Plant Garden Tour	Kevin Drotos	1.0
9/18/2025	Gardening Exercises	Shawn Hubbard	1.0
10/16/2025	Persian Gardens: Bringing Paradise Home	Ed Blondin	1.5

# **Dig In Series 2025**

**Location: Online via Zoom**

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

**Time: 6:00—7:00 p.m.**

**Date: November 11th 2025**

**Presenter: Lindsey Kerr & Colleagues**

**MSU Extension Consumer Horticulture Educators**

**Topics: Garden Gifts, Tools and Books**

**NO DECEMBER MEETING**

**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 \(msu.edu\)](#)



# POPPY'S PODCASTS

## In Defense of Plants Podcast

A weekly Science, Medicine, Natural Sciences and Nature podcast featuring Matt Candelas

Plants are everything. They are also incredibly interesting. From the smallest duckweed to the tallest redwood, the botanical world is full of wonder. Tune in for a podcast celebrating everything botany.

There are over 500 In Defense of Plants Podcasts to listen to. The recently released 'Gall Wasps and Their Host Plants' was FANTASTIC! I listened to it twice!

<https://www.indefenseofplants.com/podcast/2025/10/15/ep-548-gall-wasps-amp-their-host-plants>



Would you like to suggest a podcast to be included in our newsletter? Submit a few words about a gardening or nature based podcast that we can include in future newsletters to Jean.Persely@outlook.com.



# FUNDRAISING

## Macomb County MGA Native Plant Sale

September 20, 2026

Octagon House  
57500 Van Dyke  
Washington, MI  
Noon to 3:00 p.m.



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### Kroger Rewards Program



### **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