

GARDEN CONFIDENTIAL

NEWS FOR U OF MN EXTENSION MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS IN HENNEPIN COUNTY

October 2016



-Arrangement by Del Hampton

Perfection is not attainable, but if we chase perfection we can catch excellence.

-Vince Lombardi

Master Gardener volunteers lead the way in thought and deed. The above arrangement of dahlias was recognized at the Bachman's Dahlia Society Show this year. "Farmer" Del Hampton showed us how to reach for that perfection with his multiple entries. His stats?

61 blooms used (excluding the [arrangement](#))
55 entries

28 Ribbons:

- 15 Blue (first)
- 12 Red (second)
- 6 White (third)

Three entries made it to the Court of Honors, with one of those (Nick Sr.) being the championship bloom for the category. "Farmer Del" is now known as "Dahlia Del."

****Next Update****

Monday October 3rd*

7pm - 9pm

Hennepin County Technical College
Main Theater / Auditorium / J120

9000 Brooklyn Boulevard, Brooklyn Park, 55445

(Entrance on the NE side of the building is close to the auditorium. Parking in Student Lot 4, also on NE side).

([map](#))

6:30 p.m. Mini-Session: "Pruning / Fall Yard & Garden Tips" with Kate Netwal, Lynda Forbes and Theresa Rooney. Three women, sharp tools . . . a dangerous start to the season!

Update: "New Tree Diseases, Insects, Pathogens." With Gary Johnson, Extension Professor, CFANS Forest Resources. Actually, there are relatively few "new" problems. Tonight will be a review of which (old and new) have become problems, which are just incidences, which are likely to get worse, and what are some management tactics that could make those problems less worrisome.

Gary Johnson has been a professor of urban and community forestry at the University of Minnesota, Department of Forest Resources and Extension since 1992. He directs the Tree Care Advocate program, the Community Engagement and Preparedness program, the Urban Forestry Outreach Research and Extension nursery and lab.

***Our apologies to our Jewish members for scheduling an Update at the beginning of Rosh Hashanah!!!**

FINAL 2016 Update: November 7th

Update: Working with Latino Culture and Gardening, RAM Translations.

St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church

3450 Irving Ave S

Minneapolis, 55408

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COMMITTEE UPDATES

Annual Planning Day: Saturday, October 15

Please join us for our 2017 Planning Day, 9:00 a.m. to Noon on Saturday, October 15. This year's theme is Evaluation: Creating Ways to Tell Our Story. Regina McGoff, AFNR Business Development Coordinator, will be our facilitator. Coffee and breakfast treats will be provided. The meeting counts as volunteer time. Due to the Fulton Farmers Market, **no parking** is available in the church lot. Please car pool, walk or plan to park a couple of blocks away. Just [click here](#) to let us know you're coming.

What's Happening with the Membership Committee?

Thanks everyone who assisted with the 2016 EMG-HC Information Sessions! We had 16 people come through this year, including 2 who showed up on an extremely rainy night! Thanks to all who shared their tips with applicants: Chris Beach, Jean Beccone, Mary Cichon, Nancy Enselein-Larkin, Lynda Forbes, Barbara Gasterland, Kay Grady, Esther Haskvitz, Kurtis Hunsberger, Sherrie Hunt, Patricia Kelly, Carla Kilkelly, Diane Krawczynski, Darren Lochner, Susan Mack, Leslie MacKenzie, Kate Netwal, Jodi Pritchard, Theresa Rooney, Karen Ruth, Barry Schade, Jan Schulz, Rachelle Selvog, Mike Slinkard, June Stark, Diana Straate, and Katie Wahl!

IT'S NOMINATION TIME!!! Now's the time to get your nomination(s) in for the 2016 Awards and Recognition Banquet (SAVE THE DATE: Sunday, January 29!) For a list of the awards (and you can make one up of your own if you'd like to,) just visit the Awards section of our [webpage](#).

What's Happening in Youth Education?

We are pleased to announce two things. For the first time ever, a schoolyard garden will be included in our EMG-HC Learning Garden Tour in July 2017! The pizza garden at Anthony Middle School (in SW Minneapolis) will be on the tour, showcasing what can be done at schools, with the collaboration of community partners...including us! Kudos to Diana Straate who worked directly with the Anthony Middle School garden staff.

We are also pleased that our 7th year of Junior Master Gardener Classes at Champlin Brooklyn Park Academy is off to a very good start..... so good that the EMG-HC slots to volunteer for this program this fall are almost filled! However, EMG-HC intern slots are not filled. At this time we'd like to make a "last call" out to interns, asking any of you who would like to volunteer for this program this fall to sign up by October 7th. After that date, we plan to release any remaining slots to all EMG-HCs who might be interested in volunteering at CBPA. (Note to interns: it's actually a very fun program!)

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What's Happening in Adult Education?

Hello all, this is Karin Ciano; for the past few years I've had the pleasure of leading the Speakers' Bureau Team Compost.

Our incomparable leader, Sue Ponsford, has asked me to serve as the head of the Adult Education Committee. Thank you Sue for your outstanding work and leadership of this committee, which during your tenure improved not only the content, consistency, and visual appeal of our presentations, but also presided over the creation of the Speaker's Bureau. And to everyone else, thank you for your patience as I come up to speed and make an effort to match Sue's grace and good humor.

So what's next for Adult Ed? Presentations, and lots of 'em. It's not just the kids going back to school: fall is prime time for requests from community education programs, workplaces, and Hennepin County libraries. If you're already a member of the Speakers' Bureau, please check out Signup Genius and sign up to present or co-present! And if you're new to presenting, come to watch one of our [library presentations](#) this fall. If you like what you see, reach out to me (compostress@gmail.com) and I can connect you with the right teams.

Meanwhile, the Adult Ed committee will be meeting to plan for 2017. If you're into teaching and would like to join us, let me know.

Thank you and I look forward to working with you all!

What's Happening in Communications?

We will always need articles, social media, and general gardening writings. If you have interest in any of these facets, please contact [Melinda Mattox](#) for details.

Make sure you receive important program information!

Keep current and **update your contact information** in the **database** so you receive important program information! You can re-subscribe to receive program updates by going **here**.

If you don't see program e-newsletters in your primary mailbox, be sure to check SPAM or filtered mail ("Promotions", "Updates", etc.). To make sure email from the state program goes to your primary box, add the mgweb@umn.edu "From" email address to your "Contacts" or move emails from mgweb@umn.edu to the "Primary" mail tab.

[Learn more](#)

[Update your information](#)

Be it a sentence, a poem or a quiet thought, be a contributor to our Garden Confidential Photos Welcome!!! Bugs, Birds and Bees Welcome!! The photo on the front page came from our own HCMG Diane Feldman. Send your contribution to Kathy at the address below noting it's for the newsletter.

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Newsletter Article Due Date Schedule in 2016

For your convenience, here are the estimated hard deadlines for newsletter articles for the next three months:

Newsletter	Articles due to Kathy Frederickson
November	Thursday, October 22nd
December	Thursday, November 24 th , Thanksgiving Day
January	Thursday, December 24 th Christmas Eve (subject to change)

October CULTURAL OBSERVANCES

As we interact with Hennepin County's diverse audiences through our volunteering, we learn more about each other. Understanding the holidays and events of a culture provides one opportunity for insight. We would like to share several cultural observances and encourage Master Gardeners to check out additional ones at:

(Source: <http://www.adl.org/assets/pdf/education-outreach/CALENDAR-OF-OBSERVANCES-2016.pdf>)

October Full Month

LGBT HISTORY MONTH

Marks and celebrates the lives and achievements of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people in the United States.

NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH

Recognizes the contributions of workers with disabilities.

October 1–10

NAVARATRI • Hindu

Nine-day festival celebrating the triumph of good over evil. It worships God in the form of the universal mother commonly referred to as Durga, Devi or Shakti, and marks the start of fall.

October 2

MUHARRAM • Islamic

The month of Muharram marks the beginning of the Islamic liturgical year. The first day of the month, al-Hijra, remembers the migration of Muhammad and his followers from Mecca to Medina in 622 CE. It also marks the beginning of the ten-day Shi'ite Remembrance of Muharram, a period of intense grief and mourning of the martyrdom of Hussein, the son of Ali and grandson of Muhammad.

October 2–4

ROSH HASHANAH • Jewish

Beginning of the Jewish New Year and first of the High Holy Days, which marks the beginning of a ten-day period of penitence and spiritual renewal.

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- October 10 INDIGENOUS PEOPLE’S DAY (Native American Day)
Celebrates and honors Native American history and culture. [The second Monday of October is also marked as a U.S. federal holiday, Columbus Day. Many people are opposed to the celebration of a man who led and committed atrocities against Indigenous people. Some states and cities in the U.S. have officially changed the day to Indigenous People’s Day. Similarly, it is celebrated as Día de la Raza, “Day of the Race”, in Spanish-speaking countries and communities.]
- October 11 ASHURA • Islamic
A day of fasting observed on the 10th day of the month of Muharram to celebrate Moses’ exodus from Egypt. For Shi’a Muslims, it also marks the climax of the ten-day Remembrance of Muharram, which mourns the martyrdom of Hussein at the Battle of Kerbala in 680 CE.
- October 11 COMING OUT DAY
Encourages honesty and openness about being lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender. Commemorates October 11, 1987, when 500,000 people marched on Washington, DC, for gay and lesbian equality.
- October 11-12 YOM KIPPUR • Jewish
The “Day of Atonement” marks the end of the Ten Days of Penitence that begin with Rosh Hashanah.
- October 14 DASSERA • Hindu
Anniversary of the day when Rama killed the evil demon Ravana. Also known as Durga Puja, which celebrates the goddess Durga.
- October 17 INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY
Call to action for the eradication of poverty and destitution worldwide.
- October 16–23 SUKKOT • Jewish
The week-long “Feast of Booths” commemorates the 40-year wandering of the Israelites in the desert on the way to the Promised Land.
- October 20 BIRTH OF THE BÁB • Bahá’í
Bahá’í observance of the anniversary of the birth in 1819 of Siyyid, “the Báb,” the prophet herald of the Bahá’í Faith, in Shíráz, Persia.
- October 20 GUR-GADDI GURU GRANTH SAHIB • Sikh
Since 1708, Sikhs have accepted Sri Guru Granth Sahib as their eternal Guru that holds the spirit of all Ten Gurus of the Sikhs. They consider Guru Granth Sahib to be a spiritual guide not only for Sikhs but for all of mankind; it plays a central role in guiding the Sikhs' way of life.
- October 24 SHEMINI ATZERET • Jewish
“The Eighth (Day) of Assembly” is observed on the day immediately following Sukkot.

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- October 24 UNITED NATIONS DAY
Commemorates the founding of the world organization in 1945.
- October 25 SIMCHAT TORAH • Jewish
“Rejoicing in the Torah” celebrates the conclusion of the public reading of the Pentateuch and its beginning anew.
- October 30 DIWALI • Hindu
Also called Deepavali, “Festival of Lights”, it celebrates the victory of good over evil, light over darkness, and knowledge over ignorance.
- October 30 BANDI-CHHOR DIWAS • Sikh
A commemorative occasion having no fixed date which occurs in October or November and celebrates the release of the Sixth Guru Har Gobind Sahib from imprisonment and coincides with Diwali, the Hindu festival of lights.
- October 31 REFORMATION DAY • Christian
Commemorates the beginning of the Protestant Reformation in 1517.
- October 31 HALLOWEEN
The eve of All Saints’ Day

NEWS TO KNOW AND THINGS TO DO

Hat Tip of the Month

It’s no surprise that Del Hampton would get the **Hat TIP** for the month. While we featured his Bachman’s Dahlia Society wins on the front page, he also built the following stats at the Minnesota State Fair: 58 Blooms; 47 Entries. **Results:** 8 Blue (first); 8 Red (second); 4 White (third)



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Minnesota State Horticultural Society Cosponsors Presentation by Will Steger on Global Warming

Gardeners Can Have a Positive Impact on the Environment

Roseville, MN: The Minnesota State Horticultural Society (MSHS) is cosponsoring “Eyewitness to Global Warming”, a presentation by world-renowned polar explorer, educator, photographer, writer and lecturer Will Steger, on Thursday, October 13, from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

The University of St. Thomas (UST) hosts and cosponsors the event, which will be held at McNeely Hall on campus at 2060 Summit Avenue in St. Paul. MSHS is already taking registrations; the event is \$20 for MSHS members and \$25 for nonmembers, plus a special meet and greet with Will Steger from 6:15 to 6:45 p.m. for \$25 and \$30 for members and nonmembers respectively.

Attendees will experience Steger’s vivid account of the changes caused by global warming pollutants that he’s witnessed firsthand in Arctic regions over four decades of polar exploration. He will present a retrospective of a life in the arctic regions of the world and what gardeners can do to have a positive impact on the environment.

“Gardeners know they can have a powerful impact on the environment. They saw what neonicotinoids did to pollinators and said ‘No more’. They saw the decline of monarch butterflies and planted more milkweed. When informed, gardeners are motivated to make smart choices that make a difference,” says Vicky Vogels, Community Outreach Coordinator at MSHS.

Steger will share stunning photographs from his expeditions along with compelling data and satellite imagery to document the deterioration of the polar ice caps. While the issue is critical, and the presentation is dramatic, Steger’s message is one of hope and empowerment.

****Note from Terry: This DOES count as Continuing Education.*

Minnesota Water Resources Conference

October 18–19, 2016 | Saint Paul RiverCentre

- [Register Now!](#)– Early registration rate expires September 23rd
- [View the Conference Program and Brochure](#)

The Minnesota Water Resources Conference presents innovative, practical, and applied water resource engineering solutions, management techniques, and current research about Minnesota’s water resources. The conference provides an opportunity to address: 1) lessons learned from the implementation of engineering projects; 2) best practices discovered in the design and application of water resource management techniques, 3) implications of water policy decisions, and 4) research into current and emerging issues. The conference facilitates interaction among engineers, water resources managers, researchers, and local, state and federal agency staff. **For More Information:** Katherine Hagberg, University of Minnesota, 612-624-4230, cceconf3@umn.edu

Conference features this year:

- Exhibitors on display throughout the conference on Tuesday and Wednesday, now in their own exhibitor hall with posters and refreshments.
- A modified schedule for that allows for four presentations in each breakout session, creating more offerings for attendees and broader dialogue.

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- A downloadable mobile app with the full searchable conference program, speaker biographies, maps, exhibitor information, and social media capabilities.
- Special sessions on two timely topics: Social Justice and Water Supply, and the Waters of the United States Rules.
- Professional development and mentoring opportunities for student attendees.
- Live background music at the Tuesday afternoon poster session and reception, featuring local student artists
- Exhibitor name and logo listed in conference program
- Listing in the conference mobile app

Role of Native Perennials in Nature Subject of Garden Program October 8

Native perennial plants aren't just beautiful, they also serve a very useful purpose for our pollinators and the environment. The public is invited to learn more at a fall garden program: **Using Native Perennials to Attract Pollinators and Improve Water Quality** on Saturday, October 8 from 9 a.m. to Noon. The program is sponsored by the City of Woodbury, Master Gardeners in Washington County and the Woodbury-Cottage Grove Area League of Women Voters. The event will be held at the Eagle Valley Golf Course Conference Room, 2600 Double Eagle Lane, Woodbury, MN 55129. There is no cost for the event and registration is not required.

Topics include pollinators in the garden and why their numbers are decreasing; the role native perennials play in water quality; and University of Minnesota research on pollinators and lawns.

The schedule is as follows:

- 9 to 9:15 a.m. - Welcome and Introductions
- 9:15 to 10 a.m. - *Pollinators in the Garden – Why are Their Numbers Decreasing?* - Erin Rupp from Pollinate MN, presenter:
- 10 to 10:15 a.m. - Break time to visit environmental information tables and mingle
- 10:15 to 11 a.m. - *Using Native Perennials to Protect and Improve Water Quality* - Andy Schilling from the South Washington Watershed District, presenter
- 11 to 11:15 a.m. - Break time to visit environmental information tables and mingle
- 11:15 to Noon - *Bee Lawn Pollinator Research in Woodbury, Washington County and the Arboretum* - James Wolfen, a University of Minnesota graduate researcher, presenter

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****Let's Keep Jeff Hahn hopping with our latest insect sightings:**

[What's hopping or crawling???](#)

Emerald Ash Update: <http://blog-yard-garden-news.extension.umn.edu/2016/09/eab-found-in-duluth-again.html>

[Orb-weaving spiders](#)

A message from Tim Kenny: Are you able to help out in a pinch when the Master Gardener Q & A desk has a last minute opening on weekends? If you want to know about openings at the desk, please send an email to [Ariel Dressler](#) to be included on our emergency contact list. When a last minute opening occurs, you will be called or emailed. Together we can make sure there are always two Master Gardeners at the Q & A desk on weekends to answer yard and garden questions and share sustainable gardening information with the public. Thank you for volunteering!

Also from Tim: Place your order now for the 2017 [Minnesota Gardening calendar](#). Master Gardeners receive a 50% discount on the calendar by entering MG50 in the coupon code.

Apply for the State Advisory Board :

The State Advisory Board is accepting applications for five 2017-2020 term positions:

- 1 position from the Southwest
- 2 positions from the Central Region
- 1 position from the Northwest Region
- 1 position from the Southeast Region

See the Extension Master Gardener website for a map of regions, details about board member responsibilities and the application form. Applications are due on Jan. 4. New members are elected by the board at the January 2017 board meeting and take office in June.

[Learn more](#)

[Download application](#)

*******Remember your continuing education Hours!*******

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All Master Gardener volunteers can access the online Core Course (view [instructions](#)) free of charge.

[View Core Course instructions](#)

[Purchase reference manual](#)

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Contact Terry Straub, Program Coordinator, at 612-596-2130 or straub097@umn.edu to sign-up for volunteer opportunities unless otherwise noted.

Hennepin County Volunteer Opportunities are posted in Sign-up Genius. Just sign into your account at www.signupgenius.com and look in “Items I’ve Been Invited To.”

The University of MN Landscape Arboretum has many volunteer opportunities. Learn how to help at http://www.arboretum.umn.edu/volunteer_opportunities.aspx. There are ways to work with both youth and adults! Training is required for most opportunities – check them out today!

Volunteering for the Yard & Garden Desk and Hotline

Please help staff the Hennepin County slots at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum’s Yard & Garden Desk on Saturdays. The hotline needs staffing, too. It’s a good way for interns to complete their required 15 researched calls. Visit the State Master Gardener website at www.mg.umn.edu and click on “For Volunteers.”

Answering the Yard and Garden Line Info PHONE NUMBER IS:

612-626-0001

You will then need to press the “*” and use the “#” signs. Mailbox ID is 17590 and PW=427336

Updates to the training will be available soon on the web.

<http://www.extension.umn.edu/garden/master-gardener/>) in the ‘For volunteer’ section under ‘Yard and Garden Line’ under ‘Training’.

Visit www.mg.umn.edu to sign-up for a shift. Thanks!

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Be sure to review the Hennepin County web site for educational opportunities at <http://hennepinmastergardeners.org/educational-opportunities/>

Opportunities Coming Up at the MN Landscape Arboretum

The landscape arboretum is proceeding apace with their schedule. Classes and registration information may be

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found online at <http://www.arboretum.umn.edu/gardeningclasses.aspx>.

Coming Up from the Minnesota State Horticultural Society

Held at various locations. Enrollment is limited, and pre-registration is required. You can find a list of classes on their web site at <http://www.northerngardener.org/classes/mshs-classes>. Click on the class title to register. If you have any difficulties with registering online, please call their office at 651-643-3601 or 800-676-6747.

RESOURCES FOR MASTER GARDENERS

Our own State University of Minnesota Extension Master Gardener Volunteer web site has a very extensive list on the page “**Find gardening answers online.**” Sign into the site as a volunteer to access the page. To find it:

- Sign in as you normally would to report your hours.
- You will come to the “For volunteers” page
- The page has a number of resources for master gardeners. Here is where you will find the gardening answers on line section.

HCMG LEADERSHIP TEAM 2016

Karin Ciano (Adult Education)
Mary Cichon (Youth Education)
Tina Falkner (Fundraising)
Carol Garner (Chair)
Del Hampton (Community Programs)

Darren Lochner (Membership)
Melinda Mattox (Communications & Marketing)
Kate Netwal (Chair Emeritus)
Theresa Rooney (Member Education Chair)
Stephanie Steel (Secretary / Treasurer)

See the EMG-HC Directory for contact information.

The University of Minnesota, including the Minnesota Extension Service, is committed to the policy that all persons shall have equal access to its programs, facilities, and employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status, or sexual orientation.

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Garden Confidential is available online each month at <http://hennepinmastergardeners.org/administration/newsletters/>. To receive the newsletter electronically, notify the Program Coordinator at strau097@umn.edu and a link will be sent to your e-mail address every month.



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
EXTENSION

MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM

Hennepin County

479 Prairie Center Drive
Eden Prairie, MN 55344-5378

8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday

Program Coordinator: Terry Straub
612-596-2130 and strau097@umn.edu

Phone: 612-596-2130
Fax: 952-828-7280
HCMG Hotline: 612-596-2118

HCMG website: <http://hennepinmastergardeners.org/>