

GARDEN CONFIDENTIAL

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

November 2016



Photo by K. Frederickson

“A visitor to a garden sees the successes, usually. The gardener remembers mistakes and losses, some for a long time, and imagines the garden in a year, and in an unimaginable future.”

— *W.S. Merwin, What Is a Garden?*

‘Tis a time for a taste of bitter and of sweet, a time to say goodbye to the gardens of summer and fall. It has been a lingering fall. I have yet to have a hard frost so the zinnias and snapdragons still bloom.

The clean-up is done except for my tools which will get their seasonal bleaching and scrubbing before being tucked away for the long winter’s night. I’ve cleared the dregs of powdery mildew away, tidied a few branches and swept the last of the leaves.

The seed heads are swaying in the breeze awaiting winter bird feeding.

I bid you a fond farewell, garden of mine. I give you thanks – until we meet again.....

****Last Update of 2016!!!****
Monday, November 7th**

“Working with Latino Culture and Gardening” with RAM Translations

St Mary's Greek Orthodox Church
3450 Irving Ave S, Minneapolis, 55408 ([map](#))

6:30 p.m.: Mini-Session: Youth Education Programming

7:00 p.m.: Update Meeting

The Latino Community in Hennepin County is one of the largest diverse groups in our community. Learn basic demographic information of Latinos in Hennepin county and how that affects Latino's participation in gardening. We'll also discuss social norms of the Latino community and why that is important for having meaningful interaction with Latinos.

RAM Translations consists of the team of Ricardo and Margaret Perez. RAM provides consulting and training to help organizations better address the needs and interest of Latinos in the Twin Cities.

(Don't forget your name tags!)

SAVE THE DATE!
2016 Awards & Recognition Banquet
Sunday, January 29, 2017

December 31 End of 2016 Program Year
REPORTING DEADLINE

There are no update meetings in December or January.

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COMMITTEE UPDATES

What's Happening with the Leadership Team?

Every October, all EMGs are invited to join the leadership team in a long range or strategic planning session. This year we tackled evaluation and how we measure our impact upon the community and our partners. This important work will help us continue to bring value added programming to those we serve and enhance the professionalism of our programs.

Twenty Extension Master Gardener Volunteers – Hennepin County came together the morning of October 15th to study how best to measure the effectiveness of EMG-HC programming in Adult Education, Youth Education, and Community Programming. Information gathered will become a focal point for the work done throughout our program in 2017. Once we get further along in the work, we'll be sharing our logic models using our website.

What's Happening with the Learning Garden Tour?

2017 will mark the 10th year of the EMG-HC Learning Tour. This year will see a number of changes to the tour beginning with a change in leadership.

Deb Revier has joined the State Advisory Board this year, and decided to step down as Co-Chair of the committee. Deb will still be involved, working with our advertising supporters.

After much thought and consideration, I have decided to step down as Chair of the Learning Tour Committee to work on other Master Gardener activities. I have worked with this committee for 6 years, and co-chaired for 3. While this has been a wonderful experience and great opportunity for me, it's time to pass the responsibility on. Doc Czynski will be taking on the responsibility as Chair of the committee. Doc has managed the logistics of the tour for the past 6 years and has been involved in several of our educational activities. In the past 3 years, Deb Revier and I have recruited and assembled a wonderful group of volunteers for this committee and their ideas, creativity and expertise will still be evident. We know that Doc will have their support to make this 10th tour another successful one.

As reported in the October Newsletter, for the first time ever, the tour will include a schoolyard garden, thanks to the work of Diana Straate and St Anthony Middle School. The schoolyard pizza garden is sure to be a big hit. The 2017 tour will be in the Western (both North and South) area of Minneapolis.

The gardens selected for the tour are tended by: Barb Gasterland, Barb Clarity, Barry Schade, Bruce Gilman, Rhonda Hayes, Mary Hunstiger, Karin Ciano, and St. Anthony Middle School.

Please be sure to give them your support when you see them. Wintertime can be the time when all of those doubts come out of "what have I gotten myself into?". – *Deb Reiersen*

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What's Happening in Youth Education?

2017 Schoolyard Garden Conference

Mark your calendars! The 5th Annual Schoolyard Garden Conference will take place on March 3, 2017, at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. Master Gardeners are encouraged to attend. Two presentation opportunities listed below are open to you. Conference attendance and presentation hours will satisfy education hour requirements.

1. Be a Presenter! If you have been involved in a school garden, you may be a candidate to create a presentation in one of the following categories:

- School Gardens 101
- Cultural Connections
- Horticultural Best Practices
- Program Sustainability
- Program Grants & Funding Resources
- Case Studies

Presentations are typically one hour long, with an audience of 25 – 75.

Submit your presentation proposal by November 15 to -- <https://goo.gl/forms/K1GzSCSxLFJCBH2R2>

2. Be a part of the Innovative Problem Solving Showcase! This year, the conference is introducing a new exhibitor showcase which highlights a collection of selected programs that have solved a problem by creating an innovative solution. Potential categories include:

- Irrigation
- Summer garden management
- Rabbit issues and other pests
- Funding obstacles
- Space obstacles
- Garden classroom management
- Community support
- Garden facilities (Hand washing, etc.)
- Extending the garden season

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- Expanding use in the garden
- Portable gardens

These presentations will be short, informal, and offer information and problem solving to small groups that will move through the Showcase.

Submit your Showcase proposal by November 15 to --<https://goo.gl/forms/K1GzSCSxLFJCBH2R2>

Over 370 teachers, school administrators, school food service professionals, Master Gardeners from across the state, parents, and other school garden supporters attend this event to share ideas and resources for building and sustaining school gardens. We KNOW there are many Hennepin County Master Gardeners who have much to offer!

What's Happening with the Community Programs?

Thanks to all who have been doing fabulous work at the farmers markets, garden centers, info booths, Habitat for Humanity, and community gardens. The success stories have been flowing in. And know that our work is greatly appreciated by our customers!

The EMG-HC Community Garden Support season-ending celebration and wrap-up will be on Saturday, November 12th. We will start at 9:30 a.m. and wrap up by noon. Click [HERE](#) to sign up on SignUp Genius. We will reflect on 2016 and look ahead to 2017. The event agenda could include:

- Share stories about our experiences in 2016
- Breakouts:
 - Figure out how to distribute the free vegetable and flower plants, bushes, and trees we can get through various sources throughout the season
 - Determine how to evaluate our work
 - Succession planning

The Habitat for Humanity volunteers had another wonderful year of designing and installing landscapes this Spring and Fall of 2016. A total of 10 landscapes were installed which included four rain gardens. All homes were single family homes.

The following is a list of the EMGs (57 total) who participated in these projects:

Sharon Eddleston, Shari Parsons; Amy Johnson, Martha Demetriou, Mary Ellen Becker, Anna Olsen, Julie Beitler, Janice Schulz; Nancy Larkin, Tina Faulkner, Jerry Kennedy, Mary Hedberg, Dave Tobelman, Cris Phillips, Kathleen White; Colleen Moriarty, Lori Gieselman, Trish Tennyson, Judi Martin, Dawn Chapman, Sandra Lester; Larry LaFontaine, Eileen Johnson, Mary Dooley, Diane Feldman, Amy Kvalseth, Barb Clarity;

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Doris Wickstrom, Mary Dalsin, Rebecca Patient, Ann Garland, Judy Brink, Linda Jahnke; Linda Bastian, Angela Lee, Ann O'Fallon, Candace McClenahan, Kari Pastir-Smith, Cory Bedeau; Lynn Olson, Stephanie Steel, Connie Young, Cheri Nehl, Jennifer Shaltz, Carol Garner, Adam Tomczik; Robert Skafte, Val MacGruder, Pat Stacken, Jo Frerichs, Sue Ponsford, Jeanne Sielaff; Connie Fournier, Kate Netwal, Carol McMullin, Jeminah VanHandel, Mary Young

Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity and the homeowners appreciate the hard work and effort put forth by the MGs. In addition there are now 10 great new landscapes that are being enjoyed by the homeowners. If you have questions or wish to participate in future Habitat for Humanity (HH) Landscaping projects, please contact Norma Wubbena, EMG-HC Coordinator for the Landscaping Projects for HH homes (nwubbena@comcast.net).

What's Happening in Adult Education?

Now that we're putting our gardens to bed, it's time to think about catching up on our continuing education—and thinking about developing expertise in new areas. Attending other master gardeners' adult-education classes is a great way to do both.

Other MGs often ask me, "Where can I find a calendar of all our upcoming presentations?" It's not you, it's us. We don't yet have them all in one place—but we're working on that. Presentations at Hennepin County libraries can be found on our website, hennepinmastergardeners.org. Hover over the "Events" tab, click on Hennepin County Libraries Schedule, and you'll see what's coming to a library near you. This month, the hit is "Care of Houseplants," scheduled for November 5, 10, and 12, at Wayzata, Webber Park, and Sumner libraries respectively. We also present at community education classes. This month we'll have "The Heart of Herbs" at the Crystal Rec Center, November 16 at 6:30. Presentations may occasionally be mentioned on our Facebook page too. Full disclosure: What's on the calendar is what's scheduled, and schedules change, so you may want to check with the venue or the presenter to confirm.

November is a time to be thankful, and I'd like to give thanks for the Speakers' Bureau's outstanding team leaders, who make these presentations possible. Team leaders take charge of a particular gardening topic and try to be sure their team members are able to fill all the requests we get for presentations on that topic. We rely on our team leaders to keep their teams informed, their presentations updated, and our public education commitments met. Team leaders, we couldn't do it without you—thank you! The Adult Ed Committee is planning an event for team leaders soon - watch this space for more.

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**.

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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!! Send your contribution to Kathy at the address below noting it's for the newsletter.

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
December	Thursday, November 24 th , Thanksgiving Day
January	Thursday, December 22 th
February	Thursday, January 26 th

What's Happening with the Membership Committee?

Thanks everyone who assisted with the 2016 EMG-HC Interviews! We had 54 people apply for the 2017 Core Course. We interviewed 50 of those and will be bringing in 46 Interns to the program in 2017. Thanks to all who helped greet and interview our applicants: Grace Anderson, Amy Billmeyer, Mary Cichon, Mollie Dean, Nancy Enselein-Larkin, Barbara Gasterland, Kay Grady, Esther Haskvitz, Rhonda Hayes, Patricia Kelly, Diane Krawczynski, Darren Lochner, Dale Longfellow, Susan Mack, Kate Netwal, Lonnie Oiseth, Sue Ponsford, Mary Porter, Pat Qvale, Don Ramler, Theresa Rooney, Robert Russell, Susan Saunders, Jan Schulz, Rachelle Selvog, Lorrie Seylar, Stephanie Steel, Bob Stepan, Ann Thureen, Kathleen White, and Jackie Wright.

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](#).

November 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>)

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November Full Month	NATIONAL AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE MONTH Celebrates and honors the history and culture of Native Americans in the United States.
November 1	ALL SAINTS' DAY Western Christian commemorates all known and unknown Christian saints. Eastern Christianity observes it on the first Sunday after Pentecost.
November 2	ALL SOULS' DAY • Christian Commemoration of all faithful Christians who are now dead. In Mexican tradition it is celebrated as Dia de los Muertos between October 31 and November 2, and is an occasion to remember dead ancestors and celebrate the continuity of life.
November 8	ELECTION DAY A day set by U.S. law for the election of public officials.
November 9	KRISTALLNACHT Commemorates the 1938 pogrom against Jews throughout Germany and Vienna.
November 11	VETERANS' DAY Honors the U. S. Armed Services and commemorates the war dead.
November 12	BIRTH OF BAHÁ'U'LLÁH • Bahá'í Observance of the anniversary of the birth in 1817 of Bahá'u'lláh, prophet-founder of the Bahá'í Faith, in Núr, Persia.
November 14– 20	AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK Celebrates public education and honors individuals who are making a difference in ensuring every child in the U.S. receives a quality education.
November 14	GURU NANAK DEV JI'S BIRTHDAY • Sikh A very important holiday in the Sikh faith as Guru Nanak Dev Ji's was the First Guru of the Sikhs and the Founder of Sikhism. He was born in mid-November; the holiday is celebrated according to the lunar date.
November 16	INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR TOLERANCE Emphasizes the dangers of intolerance and is a call to action for the advancement of human welfare, freedom and progress everywhere, as well as a day to encourage tolerance, respect, dialogue and cooperation among different cultures and peoples.
November 20	TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE Memorializes those who were killed due to anti-transgender hatred or prejudice.
November 24	THANKSGIVING DAY

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Following a 19th century tradition, it commemorates the Pilgrims' harvest feast in the autumn of 1621.

November 26

DAY OF THE COVENANT • Bahá'í

Day of the Covenant is a festival observed to commemorate Bahá'u'lláh's appointment of his son, Abdu'l-Baha, as his successor.

November 27

ADVENT • Christian

Advent is a season of spiritual preparation in observance of the birth of Jesus. In Western Christianity, it starts on the fourth Sunday before Christmas. In Eastern Christianity, the season is longer and begins in the middle of November.

NEWS TO KNOW AND THINGS TO DO

Hat Tip of the Month

Goes to Mother Nature! Not a frost or freeze or flake in the foreseeable future!

One also goes to Stu Weinstein for pointing this article out: [In Refrigerators, Tomatoes Lose Flavor at the Genetic Level](#)

From the article: "It's probably never going to equal the one that matured in your backyard over the 80 or 90 days that you grew it, but it beats stone soup" said [Reggie Brown](#), a manager at Florida Tomato Committee, which produces up to half of America's fresh tomatoes in the winter.

In cold months, should you endure a tomato-less diet? There are alternatives, says [Dan Barber](#), chef at Blue Hill and Blue Hill at Stone Barns in New York, who has [received](#) multiple James Beard Awards".

From Terry: [PowerPoints from Update Sessions](#)

For those of you who were unable to attend recent Update Sessions, the presenters have given us permission to share their presentations. The 09/12/16 presentation "Overwintering Outdoor Plants Indoors" by Jessica Heimer can be found on the Administration page of our [website](#). Gary Johnson's "Diagnosing Tree Problems" will be posted in the [Gary's Notes section](#) of the Urban Forestry Outreach, Research and Extension Nursery webpage. Gary has several other interesting presentations posted there too, including his 2013 presentation to our group entitled "If Not Maples, Then What?"

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

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

A message from Tim Kenny:

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 January 4. New members are elected by the board at the January, 2017 board meeting and take office in June.

[Learn more](#)

[Download application](#)

Latest Yard and Garden News: <http://blog-yard-garden-news.extension.umn.edu/>

Highlights:

[Temperature control in a bumble bee nest](#)

[Observe a newborn bumble bee](#)

[Remove white mold from infected annuals](#)

[Orb weaving spiders](#)

Also from Tim:

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](mailto:Ariel.Dressler@umn.edu) 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!

Place your order now for the 2017 [Minnesota Gardening calendar](#). Master Gardeners receive a 50% discount on

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the calendar by entering MG50 in the coupon code.

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

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!

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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 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.

EMG-HC LEADERSHIP TEAM 2016

Mary Cichon (Youth Education)
Del Hampton (Community Programs)
Tina Falkner (Fundraising)
Carol Garner (Chair)
Darren Lochner (Membership)

Melinda Mattox (Communications & Marketing)
Kate Netwal (Chair Emeritus)
Karin Ciano (Adult Education)
Theresa Rooney (Member Education Chair)
Stephanie Steel (Secretary / Treasurer)

See the EMG-HC Directory for contact information.

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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
Yard & Garden Line: 612-301-7590

EMG-HC website: <http://hennepinmastergardeners.org/>