

GARDEN CONFIDENTIAL

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

February 2017



[MN DEPT of Agriculture](#)

*"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader."
- John Quincy Adams*

He glowered at me from his darkness. His intent was obvious as he poised to unfurl his petiole. Oh, goody. It's Palmer Amaranth readying to pounce.

It is time to run for the [U of MN Extension!](#)

The best of intentions introduced this noxious weed when accidentally mixed into conservation or bee attracting flower seed mixes. It is highly resistant to herbicides much to the chagrin of the farmers. It is not pervasive in Minnesota at this point but it is bound to rear its ugly head.

Further references may be found here:

[Palmer Amaranth reporting and prevention](#)

[Agweb: How-palmer-amaranth-is-sneaking-into-Minnesota-fields-](#)

[Check your plantings!](#)

FEBRUARY UPDATE SESSION

Monday, February 6

6:00 to 7:00 p.m.: Volunteer Fair
7:00 to 8:30 p.m.: Annual Meeting

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

(Don't forget your nametags!)

March Update Meeting

Monday, March 6

6:30 p.m.: Mini-Sessions
7:00 p.m.: Update Session Begins

Sustainable Ground Cover Crops
Courtney Tschida

Minnetonka Community Center
14600 Minnetonka Blvd, Minnetonka, 55345



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GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations Newly Certified Master Gardener Volunteers!!!

We are thrilled to announce our newly certified Extension Master Gardener Volunteers – Hennepin County. They are: Tammi Adams, Kathleen Alme, Celia Backman, Nancy Baker, Chris Beach, Jean Beccone, Elizabeth (Beth) Beck, Julie Beitler, Amy Billmeyer, Janet Bones, Bernell Buchanan, Marsha Carlson, Audrey Chan, Dawn Chapman, Bob Charbonneau, Susan Clarke, Allison DeRungs, Ann Garland, Emily Getty, Florence Golod, Kathleen Grady, Janice Grudecki, Esther Haskvitz, Patricia Kelly, Carla Kilkelly, Karen Klose, Diane Krawczynski, Amy Kvalseth, Susan Mack, Tina Michael, Rhea Pappas, Rebecca Patient, Crispin Phillips, Mary Porter, Patricia Qvale, Don Ramler, Nancy Rathman, Robert Russell, Lorrie Salzl Seylar, Susan Saunders, Kirsten Saylor, Barry Schade, Janice Schulz, Nina Shepherd, June Stark, Shannon Sullivan, Ann Thureen, Jeminah Van Handel, Katie Wahl, Kathleen White and Leah Willcutt.



Members of the Class of 2016

Thank you 2016 Recognition and Awards Luncheon Planning Committee!

The 2016 Recognition and Awards Luncheon was held at the Adath Jeshurun Congregation, Sunday, January 29th. We had yet another record attendance and a scrumptious meal -- thanks to the efforts of: Co-Chairs Theresa Rooney and Debby Wolk and committee members Suzy Chesin, Mary Dooley, Diane Feldman, Carla Kilkelly, Lucinda Kircher, Lorraine Kretchman, Colette Lubbers, Val McGruder, Pam Nelson, Anna Olsen, Steven Rutz, Rachelle Selvog, Carol Skalko, Trish Tennyson, Susan Thompson, Jill Waterhouse and Linda Wilkins.

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Award Recipients for 2016 Contributions

Archie Caple Award

Congratulations to *Mary Cichon* and *Deb Revier*!

Stanley Crist Outstanding Intern Award

Congratulations to *Ann Thureen*!

Martha Rebhorn Dazzling Daisy Presenter Award

Congratulations to *Richard Kryzek*!

Outstanding Mentor Award

Congratulations to *Barb Gasterland*!

Unsung Gardener Award

Congratulations to *Laura Cogswell*!

Golden Trowel Award

Congratulations to *Jan Schreier*!

Golden Apple Award

This year's award goes to *Mary Plumb*!

Outstanding Teamwork Award

This year's award goes to the Schoolyard Garden Resource Planning Team: *Susan Fleming, Betsy Massie, Cheri Nehl, Lynn Olson, and Diana Straate*!

Thank you 2016 Mentors!

Grace Anderson, Mary Bisek, Linda Brammer, Mary Cichon*, Sandy Cochrane, Dan Conley, Janelle Dahmen, Sharron Decker*, Nancy Enselin-Larkin*, Tina Falkner, Diane Feldman, Carole Fitzsimmons, Susan Fleming*, Lynda Forbes, Barb Gasterland, Bruce Gilman, Sarah Green Toews, Terri Haugland*, Kurtis Hunsberger, Mary Hunstiger, Lorraine Kretchman, Michaelen Kruger, Betty Lentz, Darren Lochner*, Melinda Maddox, Meleah Maynard, Catherine McDonnel-Forney, Val McGruder, Carol McMullin, Kate Netwal*, Anna Olsen, Lynn Olson, Kari Pastir-Smith, Mary Plumb*, Jodi Pritchard*, Deb Reiersen, Deb Revier, Theresa Rooney, Karen Ruth, Susan Scofield, Stephanie Steel, Deb Stepanek, Susan Thompson*, David Tobelman* and Sue Wiczorek. * **indicates a mentor who worked with 2 interns!**

Thank You for Your Hours of Service in 2016!!

Over 125 Hours of Service: Laura Cogswell, Sharon Decker, Nancy Enselein-Larkin, Susan Fleming, Barb Gasterland, , Sherrie Hunt, Amy Johnson, Faith Kelley, Patricia Kelly, Shirley Mah Kooyman, Rebecca Patient, Don Ramler, Patricia Salmi, Barry Schade, Greg Towne and Norma Wubbena

Over 150 Hours of Service: Grace Anderson, Amy Billmayer, Julie Dahl, Mary Hedberg, Betsy Massie, Kirsten Saylor, Diana Straate, Mary Tessman, and Linda Wilkins

Over 200 Hours of Service: Michaelen Kruger, Richard Kryzek, Dennis Mielke, Kate Netwal, Anna Olsen, Lynn Olson, Deb Reiersen, Sue Schiess, Janet Schreier, Susan Thompson, Ann Thureen, Stu Weinstein, Dennis White, and Susan Wiczorek

Over 250 Hours of Service: Mollie Dean, Val McGruder, and Theresa Rooney

Over 300 Hours of Service: Deb Revier and Susan Trent

Over 400 Hours of Service: Mary Cichon

Over 500 Hours of Service: Larry Cipolla

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Over 700 Hours of Service: Del Hampton

Most Volunteer Hours of Service Award goes to Claire Kari, with 362 hours of service as Mary, Larry and Del have won in previous years.

Program Service Milestones

The following were acknowledged by the State Master Gardener Program Office for their hours of service since joining the Extension Master Gardener Program:

Over 1000 Hours of Service: Eileen Brooks, Julie Dahl, Anna Olsen, Deb Reiersen, Susan Thompson, Susan Trent, Helen Yarmoska,

Over 2000 Hours of Service: Del Hampton, Kate Netwal, Debra Revier, Mary Tessman, Dennis White

Over 3000 Hours of Service: Mary Cichon and Claire Kari

Thank You for Your Years of Service!!

30 Years: Grace Anderson and Dennis Mielke

25 Years: Marilyn Brummer, Gerald Kennedy, and Jim Nelson

20 Years: Diane Jensen, GayLynn Liljemark, Debbie Nelson, Mary Tessman,

15 Years: J Lynda Forbes, Paul Hussa, Elizabeth Lentz, Mary Petersen, and Marcia Van Gorden

10 Years: Abiy Assefa, Diane Barber, Linda Bastian, Jodie Bourgerie, Peggy De Santo, Mollie Dean, Sheryl Erickson, Kathy Gaskins, Ann Gilbert, Lynn Japs, Louise Millis, Kate Netwal, Kath Ouska, Janet Schreier, and Greg Towne

5 Years: Krystyn Arnold, Betsy Catron, Laura Cogswell, Kathleen Conklin, Sharon Decker, Del Hampton, Jacquelyn Hauser, Tom Hyder, Ed Juda, Bill Karges, Jr., Mary Lynn Kenknight, Adam Kimpton, Bonnie Lohman, Mary Winston Marrow, Jane Norstrom, Cindy Pearsall, Patricia Salmi, Carol Skalko, Mike Slinkard, Ann Tarnowski, Susan Trent, and Mary Woitte

Thank You Sponsors

All volunteers celebrating their 30, 25, 20, 15, 10 and 5 year anniversaries with our program are given gift certificates donated by local garden centers! Thank you Bachman's; Malmborg's, Inc; Mother Earth Gardens; Tangletown Gardens and Wagners Greenhouses for helping to honor our long-term volunteers!

COMMITTEE UPDATES

What's Happening with the Membership Team?

Submitted by Darren Lochner

The new year has already been a busy one for our interns as they absorb all the information presented at the core course. The in-person classes at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum will wrap up in mid-February. For those interns not attending all of the in-person classes, the core course will need to be completed by May 31st. Get 'er done! We encourage you to complete the core course early so you can focus on the many volunteer opportunities available to Hennepin County Master Gardeners.

On January 21st the 2017 interns were able to learn more about volunteer opportunities at a Volunteer Fair hosted by EMG-HC Leadership Team and members of the program committees. At the February 6th update session there will be another opportunity for interns and Master Gardeners to connect with members of some of

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the following volunteer committees: youth education, adult education, communications, community gardens, plant sale, learning and garden tour, vegetable growing basics, etc.

Prior to the Volunteer Fair on January 21st many of the 2017 mentors received a brief training and sharing of best practices for supporting and working with interns in their first year. Thank you to mentors for assisting with easing the interns into the program. We realize that there is a lot of information for interns to take in during the first couple of months. During the mentor training we discussed some simple tips for interns - **network with Master Gardeners (in addition to your mentor), spread your volunteers hours throughout the year, sign up for a variety of volunteer experiences, ask questions, and have fun!**

We encourage all Master Gardener volunteers to personally welcome the new interns at our February update session! Look forward to seeing all of the new faces and working with all the interns in the coming year.

What's Happening with Membership Education?

Submitted by Theresa Rooney

Welcome all new interns. Congratulations all new EMG-HCs!

Master Gardener volunteers have many traits in common, one of the most binding and special one, in my opinion, is our love of learning. We love to learn about new plants, new methods of gardening even about new diseases and problems. This year our Update sessions are planned as usual around lots of learning. Wondering about cover crops, newest lawn weeds, fermentation, orchids, Latin? Well just plan on attending our Monthly update sessions. Our Tour should be interesting too...but I leave that mystery for later. Even our plant sale preparations and our Garden Tour are filled with learning opportunities.

Another way we MGs learn is from each other. I can't even begin to count the number of times my fellow MGs have shared new information with me as we volunteer together. What a generous bunch we are, always knowing that sharing our knowledge helps all of us and there is no reason to keep that knowledge to ourselves. I admit I have learned a lot from my interns also over the years. So if you are a mentor make sure you allow your intern to teach you something too.

At our Mini sessions we will be featuring, among other presentations, many of our Speaker Bureau topics. Did you know that as a MG you are welcome- even encouraged to attend our Speaker Bureau presentations? You will earn volunteer hours and get to see some really great teachers in action. They may even encourage you to add to YOUR repertoire of teaching styles.

As Member Education Chair, my goal is to help all of us learn and grow to be even better Master Gardeners. I know we all learn differently. Some of us learn by doing, others by seeing or hearing. I welcome any ideas you have that may help us to branch out in our learning styles. How can we help YOU to learn better? I always welcome ideas, please contact me on my email or pass me a note at the meetings. I admit I may forget if you just 'tell' me so help me remember by putting it in writing if you can. *Theresa Rooney, Member Education Chair.*

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What's Happening with the Plant Sale?

Submitted by Tina Falkner

The date for the Plant Sale this year is Saturday, May 20th

I'm writing this as our January warm-up is about to leave us, and we are heading back into our Minnesota winter with snow expected tonight and temperatures plunging in the next day or two. But I'm thinking about our HCMG plant sale and it makes me smile. New plants, seeds, fresh vegetables, color, texture, light and the smell of spring soil are just around the corner. The idea of getting out my digging and potting tools fills me with excitement as I begin thinking about what I can donate to the plant sale this year!

Regarding the plant sale I'm looking forward to renewing and building new friendships, all the planning, digs, potting days, set up and execution of the sale with all of the volunteer opportunities.

First I want to thank you all for the plants you so generously donate. Many of you donate year after year, and we appreciate it so very much. If you've never donated please consider 2017 the year you start donating to the sale. For those who do donate your donations have helped us build a strong foundation for our plant sale.

Secondly, this year the committee would like you all to think about those 'special' plants in your garden. You know the ones that you really like, those that are a little different from the usual. We'd like you to consider splitting and sharing portions of your 'special' plant for the sale. Even if it's only a few pieces it will help us add those 'special' plants to our sale. By continually adding new varieties of plants to the sale I know that we can continue to increase our consumer base by offering something new and different which will help ensure future plant sale success.

As most of you know the plant sale is our MG program's major fund raiser. Profits are used to support all of the programs that Master Gardeners develop and participate in throughout the years.

Thank you for the plants, energy and commitment you all have provided in the past and look forward to working with you all again this year!

What's Happening in Youth Education?

Submitted by Betsy Massie

HCMG Youth Education Workshop • Saturday, March 11, 2017

Come learn more about HCMG Youth Ed programming and expand your youth mentoring and teaching experiences. This training is presented in two parts: The morning is dedicated to introducing interns and MGs new to Youth Education to our overall goals, programs and materials. The afternoon, targeted to MGs already familiar with Youth Ed programming, will provide ways to explore the programs with in-depth information and hands-on experiences. Lunch is available to all. Featured speaker is Keri Sidle, Education Specialist from the Minnesota Department of Education. Sign Up [HERE!](#) ***

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For additional training . . . we encourage you to participate in the upcoming 2017 Schoolyard Gardens Conference, *New Places to Grow*, to be held on Friday, March 3, 2017, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, MacMillan Auditorium. [More details here.](#)

What's Happening in Adult Education?

Submitted by Karin Ciano

This month, Theresa Rooney's excellent article says pretty much all you need to know about Adult Education, so I'll just point out that Vegetable Garden Basics is getting underway, and the Speakers' Bureau already has 36 presentations requested from now through June. Visit our table at the February Update Session and hear why so many of us really love adult education. We will be taking sign-ups for new presenters!

What's involved in joining the Speakers' Bureau? You need to be committed to research-based teaching and enthusiastic about presenting (or learning to present) to groups. Choose a team that teaches on a topic you enjoy. When you join, you agree to learn the presentation, watch a more experienced MG do the presentation, and then do at least one presentation a year. If you'd like to develop your presentation skills, there are two opportunities.

The first will be a free day-long class at the Arboretum on **Friday, February 10**. Register online at <http://www.mnarbonline.com/Build-Your-Community-Engagement-Toolkit-152-02-10-17-P2122.aspx> or contact **Jackie Froemming** at froem022@umn.edu with questions.

The second will be our own presentation training class this fall on **Saturday, November 4, at 10:00**, location TBD—please save the date!

The next Adult Education Committee will be meeting on April 6 at 6:30 in the Creekside Room at Brookdale Library. We always have room for a few extra MGs who are enthusiastic about adult education—if you'd like to join us, please contact Karin at compostress@gmail.com.

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.

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[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 2017

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

Newsletter	Articles due to Kathy Frederickson
March	Thursday, February 23rd
April	Thursday, March 23rd
May	Thursday, April 20th

February 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-2017.pdf>)

Full Month **BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

Celebrates Black History and African American culture in the United States.

February 1 **NATIONAL FREEDOM DAY**

Commemorates the signing of the 13th Amendment, which abolished slavery in 1865.

February 11 **TU B'SHVAT • Jewish**

New Year's Day for Trees, and traditionally the first of the year for tithing fruit of trees. Now a day for environmental awareness and action, such as tree planting.

February 14 **VALENTINE'S DAY**

Celebrates the idea of romantic love.

February 14 **RACE RELATIONS DAY**

The National Council of Churches in recognition of the importance of interracial relations and learning.

February 15 **SUSAN B. ANTHONY DAY**

Birthday of Susan B. Anthony (1820–1906), a pioneer in the Women's Rights Movement.

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February 15 NIRVANA DAY • Buddhist

Celebrates the day when the historical Buddha achieved Parinirvana, or complete Nirvana, upon the death of his physical body. Sometimes celebrated on February 8.

February 20 PRESIDENTS' DAY

Honors all past presidents of the United States of America.

February 25 MAHA SHIVARATRI • Hindu

Also called *Shiva Ratri*, it is the Great Festival of Shiva.

**February 26–
March 1 AYYÁM-I-HA OR INTERCALARY DAYS • Bahá'í**

The Ayyám-i-ha, or “Days of Ha” are devoted to spiritual preparation for the fast, celebrating, hospitality, charity and gift giving. They are celebrated the four days, five in leap year, before the last month of the Bahá'í year.

February 27 CLEAN MONDAY • Eastern Christian

The beginning of *Great Lent* for Eastern Christian churches, which starts 40 days before Orthodox Easter (Pascha), counting Sundays.

February 28 SHROVE TUESDAY • Western Christian

A day of penitence as well as the last chance to feast before Lent begins. Also known as Mardi Gras.

NEWS TO KNOW AND THINGS TO DO

Hat Tip of the Month

Goes to Steve Hedman of St. Louis County MG for taking the time to detail his procedures for propagating geraniums over the winter:

For the last four years I have been playing around with rooting geranium cuttings. This is an endeavor that I suspect most MG's are familiar with. After trying many different techniques, I am now able to achieve over 90% success in having cuttings take root and eventually transplanted.

At the risk of telling folks something they already know, this is the technique that I have now settled upon:

1. I select a “mother plant” (the source of the cuttings) that has many branching stems and shows vigorous growth.
2. From the mother plant, I take a cutting by cutting just above a stem node. This will enable the mother plant to grow additional stems from where the cutting had been removed.

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3. On the cutting I remove the stem just below a node as this is the major location from which roots will develop,
4. On the cutting I remove all leaves except for one or two near the top of the cutting. I especially remove any flower buds and large leaves.
5. I do not use any rooting hormone as this does not seem to work well with geraniums. Likewise, I have had minimal success in rooting cuttings in water. Instead I use regular potting mix soil though do sterilize it as well as the container into which the cutting will go. I use standard seed germination containers, 3 inches square and 2.5 inches in height.
6. My best success is to dip the end of the cutting into a solution of vitamin C, shaking off any excess, and then putting it into the potting mix. I grind up a 500 mg tablet of vitamin C and dissolve it in a half cup of water. This is not an original idea of mine. I found this hint in an English horticultural journal. I put the cutting into the soil so that the stem node is just below the soil surface.

Using this technique, I typically see new buds and small leaves appearing within two weeks. I take this as a sign that rooting is occurring. I water very sparingly, only when the surface of the potting soil is dry to the touch. Within four weeks, I generally am able to transplant the rooted cuttings into a final pot.

I grow all of my geraniums outside during the summer months. This normally extends from late June to (depending upon the outside temperature) early October. I cut the plants back at this time, removing a third to half of the foliage. I move these plants inside by a sunny window on a radiator. By early December I begin to see new buds, stems, and leaves developing. I then start making my cuttings about this time of the year when there are new, strong, and vigorous stems. This means by the end of February I have several new geraniums from these cuttings. I continue to keep them inside until mid to late May when I move them outside (again depending upon the temperature) to a semi-shaded location. After being inside for several months, even by a sunny window, the leaves can be easily bleached by direct sunlight. I continue this acclimation process for two to three weeks, gradually increasing the amount of direct sunlight to which they are exposed. By mid-June this acclimation is complete at which time I keep the plants outside, often in window boxes, until October again rolls around. I play all of this by ear since the average date of last frost here in Duluth is around June 8th.”

From Terry:

****If you attended the Awards Banquet Jan. 29th, don't forget to log one hour of continuing education!****

Tree Care Advisor Core Course is now open for applications. Info can be found here: <http://www.mntca.umn.edu/tree-care-advisor/become-tca>

There are many county Master Gardener Programs holding “horticultural days.” These are educational days open to the public; a few of our volunteers from Hennepin County have even presented (or will be presenting) at them. Below you'll find a list of the various opportunities coming up in 2017. You are welcome to attend one or more - -these events to count as continuing education (except the drive time!) Any questions, just let me know.

Here is a list of many of the upcoming events, some of which registration is already open! Others need a bit more time so keep checking back to the site or calling for updates.

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- 2/18/17: Gardening Knowledge For Free, St. Cloud, Stearns County. More info at www.z.umn.edu/GKFF
- 2/18/17: Berry Growing for the Home Garden, Mora, Kanabec County. More info at [Berry Growing Class](#)

March

- 3/4/17: Spring Days Gardening Workshop and Expo, St. Michael-Albertville, Wright County. More info at www.springdays.org
- 3/4/17: 2017 Garden Expo, North Branch, Chisago County. More info at www.extension.umn.edu/county/chisago
- 3/4/17: Let's Get Growing! Rosemount, Dakota County. Call: [651-480-7700](tel:651-480-7700) or www.dakotamastergardeners.org for more info
- 3/11/17: Burst Into Spring, Cambridge, Isanti County. More info at <http://isanticountymastergardeners.com/burst-into-spring.html>
- 3/11/17: Gardeners' Day, Winona, Winona County. Call [507-457-6440](tel:507-457-6440) or z.umn.edu/mgwinona for more info
- 3/18/17: Houston County Garden Days, Caledonia, Houston County. Call [507-725-5807](tel:507-725-5807) for more info
- 3/25/17: Gardening Education Day, Collegeville, Stearns County. More info at z.umn.edu/GardenEdDay
- 3/25/17: Hort Ed Day, Little Falls, Morrison County. Call [320-632-0161](tel:320-632-0161) for more info.
- 3/25/17: Learn and Grow Garden Expo, Big Lake, Sherburne County. More info at z.umn.edu/gardenexpo2017
- 3/25/17: 15th Annual Pine County MG Hort Day, Pine City, Pine County. Call [800-657-3813](tel:800-657-3813) ext. 4 or www.extension.umn.edu/county/pine for more info

April

- 4/1/17: McLeod County Horticulture Day, Hutchinson, McLeod County. Call [320-484-4334](tel:320-484-4334) for more info
- 4/1/17: Garden Fever 2017, Chaska, Carver/Scott County. More info at <https://eventgrid.com/Events/25758/garden-fever-2017>
- 4/1/17: Ready, Set, Grow! Garden Expo 2017, Brainerd, Crow Wing County. More info at www.crowwingmastergardeners.org
- 4/8/17: Home Landscaping and Garden Fair, Bunker Hills, Anoka County. More info at www.anokamastergardeners.org/
- 4/8/17: Let's Get Growing, Alexandria, Douglas County. More info at www.extension.umn.edu/county/douglas

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- 4/11/17: Meeker County Gardener's Gala, Litchfield, Meeker County. Call [320-693-5275](tel:320-693-5275) for more info
- 4/20/16: Gardening Seminars, Sauk Rapids, Benton County. More info at z.umn.edu/BentonMG

Arboretum Calendar of Events: <http://www.arboretum.umn.edu/eventcalendar.aspx?date=01/09/2017>

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

[What's hopping or crawling in your house, pots, greenhouse or gardens???](#)

Newly Updated (adding Maple Grove sighting): [Emerald Ash Borer \(EAB\) Mapping for MN](#)

A message from Tim Kenny:

Here is the list of the members of the 2017 Master Gardener State Conference Planning Committee:

Melinda Ludwiczak - Master Gardener - Hennepin County (Central Region)
Karen O'Rourke - Master Gardener - Goodhue County (Southeast Region)
Elizabeth Beck - Master Gardener - Hennepin County (Central Region)
Paula Zollman - Master Gardener - Olmsted County (Southeast Region)
Laura Cogswell - Master Gardener - Hennepin County (Central Region)
Deb Revier - Master Gardener - Hennepin County (Central Region)
Barbara Stalsberg - Master Gardener - Washington County (Central Region)
Diana Rankin - Master Gardener - Kanabec County (Northeast Region)
Katie Petty - County Coordinator - Kandiyohi County (Southwest Region)
Charlot Meyer - Master Gardener - Washington County (Central Region)

Tim Kenny, State Program Director, invited all Master Gardeners to serve on the committee in several monthly newsletters (July, August, September) that go to all Master Gardeners in the state."

We are grateful to the people listed above who volunteered to assist with this year's State Conference, which will be on **June 23 and 24**. Committee members are now meeting on the 1st Thursday of the month from 10 am to 12 noon at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. Committee members that can't make it to the Arboretum participate via electronic connection.

Now....an invitation!!

We would like to invite anyone interested in being on the planning committee for the **2018 Master Gardener Regional Conference** to express their interest by sending an email to mgweb@umn.edu with the subject line "2018 MG Regional Conference". Planning for this conference will begin at the State Conference this year!

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Thank you!

Jackie Froemming
State Leadership Team

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

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!

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

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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 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 2017

Del Hampton (Community Programs)

Tina Falkner (Fundraising)

Carol Garner (Chair)

Darren Lochner (Membership)

Betsy Massie (Youth Education)

Melinda Mattox (Communications & Marketing)

Kate Netwal (Chair Emeritus)

Karin Ciano (Adult Education)

Theresa Rooney (Member Education Chair)

Stephanie Steel (Secretary / Treasurer)

See the HCMG 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
HCMG Hotline: 612-596-2118

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