

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Extension

NETWORK

Bringing Knowledge to Life!



Monroe County,
Michigan State University
and
Monroe County
Conservation District

This publication is provided to assist you in receiving the information necessary to enhance the quality of life for you and your family

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AUGUST 2014

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4-H ROYALTY

The 2014 Monroe County Fair certainly lived up to its theme, "Fair Fun for Everyone". Thursday evening the 4-H program brought together one of the most outstanding groups of 4-H members in the state and perhaps the nation. The 138 candidates assembled to crown their new 4-H Royalty.

Delaney and Daniel welcomed the crowd and Dominique and Noah led the assembled audience in the American and 4-H Pledges. The sponsors of this year's activity were recognized. They included the 4-H Council and the Monroe County Fair Association. Each played a major role in making this year's program both a success and providing recognition for all of the participants.



Each candidate was introduced and presented with a certificate and a flower for their moment in the spotlight.

2014 4-H Queen, Hannah Doederlein, represented the 4-H Council, was a popular choice of the crowd. Hannah's smile included tears of joy, when she realized that she had achieved the ultimate county honor. Hannah will be a senior this year at Airport. Her list of credentials is long, and includes being selected for the State Award for Sewing and Clothing. She currently is serving on the 4-H Council as well as being a member of Teen Ambassadors. She has also won the "Quality of Life" award which all adds up to make her a tremendous representative of the 4-H Program.

Serving with Hannah this year will be Carter Paddy as 4-H King. Carter represented the Small Animal Association in the royalty contest. Carter serves on the board of directors of Small Animal Board as Vice-President and has participated in both Exploration Days and Ag Awareness Day. He also rides with the "Slow Spokes", accepts responsibility, motivates others and has tremendous leadership skills. Carter will be a senior this fall at Jefferson. Both Hannah and Carter are looking forward to their year of representing Monroe County 4-H and the 2000 members who are all part of the program.

For more information, visit our website at www.msue.msu.edu/monroe

Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status or veteran status.

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GIANT HOGWEED, ORNAMENTAL OR HAZARD

BY DAVID WHITE, PESTICIDE SPECIALIST,
PESTICIDE AND PLANT PEST MANAGEMENT
DIVISION, MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) is organized into several divisions, one of them the Pesticide and Plant Pest Management Division (PPMD) is tasked with many regulatory and compliance assistance duties. PPMD inspectors are strategically placed around Michigan in areas where they can best serve the agricultural community and protect the public.

Some of the principal duties of a PPMD inspector include serving Michigan businesses by working to maintain a healthy nursery industry, conducting export inspections for plant products and providing the federal paperwork needed by our agricultural community so Michigan plant products can be shipped out of the United States.

PPMD inspectors are also asked to work on smaller, but no less important tasks. Some of these tasks include agricultural spill response, exotic insect surveys, right-to-farm complaint inspections, aerial applicator compliance and calibration, and the monitoring and control of harmful exotic organisms that have entered, or established themselves in Michigan. One of these harmful organisms is *Heracleum mantegazzianum*, known by the common name, giant hogweed. The genus *Heracleum* originated from

Hercules, the Roman name for the Greek demigod Heracles, or literally “belonging to Hercules.” This “Herculean” plant, however, is a federal noxious weed which makes it unlawful to propagate, sell or transport in the United States. Giant hogweed, a member of the carrot or parsley family, was first introduced into the United States in the early 20th century. It is native to the Caucasus region of Eurasia and its massive size and beautiful flowers made it a desirable addition to Michigan’s flower gardens. One cannot help but be impressed when you first spot a giant hogweed patch. In Michigan, the two to four inch diameter stalks will rise six to twelve feet in height, the deeply lobed leaves will grow to four or five feet in width, and the massive compound umbel flower heads will spread to a diameter of two and a half feet.

This Herculean plant would be a striking addition to any flower garden. So you might ask, “What’s the problem? Why is giant hogweed a federal noxious weed?” the problem is that not only will giant hogweed displace native plants when allowed to spread and reduce wildlife interest, giant hogweed is hazardous to the human gardeners who seek to propagate it, and also hazardous to the gardeners’ neighbors. Giant hogweed is a public health hazard because of its potential to cause severe skin irritation in susceptible people. Giant hogweed sap can produce painful, burning blisters within two to four days after exposure. This process called phytophotodermatitis occurs when the skin, contaminated with giant hogweed sap, is combined with skin perspiration, and then exposed to sunlight. The giant hogweed sap contains furocoumarins which produce changes in the cell structure of the skin, reducing its protection against the effects of ultraviolet radiation. The blisters caused by giant hogweed sap will later develop into purplish or blackened scars and may persist for years. Contact of giant hogweed sap with the eyes can lead to temporary or even permanent blindness. For these reasons, your PPMD inspectors are monitoring the known giant hogweed sites around Michigan, and when local eradication measures are not taken by homeowners or local government units, PPMD inspectors will take control measures by cutting off flower heads before the seeds mature, and conduct chemical control of the plants with herbicides. Because the seeds in established patches may remain dormant in the soil for five to seven



years, a long-term commitment is required in order to eradicate this harmful exotic pest, so unless a homeowner is diligent in monitoring a giant hogweed patch throughout the growing season, simply cutting down the plants in the spring is not the best means of control.

Michigan does have a native family member of the giant hogweed, *Heracleum maximum* (aka *H. lanatum*) commonly known as cow parsnip. Cow parsnip can be easily mistaken for giant hogweed by the untrained eye due to the similarity of the plant growth structure. However there is one big difference: cow parsnip while it has been known to grow to a height of six to seven feet, its stalk, leaves, and flower heads are much smaller in comparison. While cow parsnip sap may also cause a phytotoxic effect and should be avoided, the skin rash is most cases will not be as severe as that caused by giant hogweed.

MSU Extension Bulletin [E2935](#) is a useful tool in identification of giant hogweed and the plants that are commonly mistaken for giant hogweed. The bulletin should be available at your local MSU Extension office, and on-line at www.ipm.msu.edu/pdf/hogweed.pdf

If you think you might have giant hogweed growing in your neighborhood or on a job site, **do not touch it**. Call MDARD at 800-292-3939; a MDARD inspector will contact you to schedule a site visit to identify the suspected plant.

COVER CROPS

*BOB POTTER, P.E., CONSERVATION TECHNICIAN,
MONROE CONSERVATION DISTRICT*

Cover crops are plants seeded into agricultural fields, either within or outside of the regular growing season, with the primary purpose of improving or maintaining ecosystem quality.

Grasses, legumes, forbs, or other herbaceous plants are cover crops established for seasonal cover and conservation purposes. Cover crops reduce erosion by water or wind by disrupting the impact of raindrops and the stinging forces of windblown soil particles. Cover crops with the tall above ground growth can help increase soil organic matter. Cover crops can capture and recycle excess nutrients like free nitrogen in the soil profile. Legume cover crops can be inter-seeded during the growing season to fix nitrogen for the next year's crop. Some cover crops can attract beneficial insects and provide over-wintering sites for the next year. In addition cover crops can increase available soil moisture by providing insulating mulch if at least a 50% or more cover is maintained after planting.



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HEADS UP!

**Our county email (msue58@msu.edu)
Has changed!
Our new email will be
msue.monroe@county.msu.edu**

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CARING ADULTS, STRONGER TEENS

PARENTS CAN STRENGTHEN THE ADULT CONNECTIONS IN THEIR TEENS' LIVES TO PROMOTE HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS.

A network of responsible and caring adults, in addition to parents, provides important resources that contribute to healthy adolescent development. Adults such as neighbors, youth workers, advisors and leaders of youth organizations, coaches, business people, teachers, and religious leaders can serve as positive role models for teens.

Teens need a diverse and helpful team of caring adults who get involved in their lives. Caring adults, other than parents, play a vital role in providing teens with a different perspective and guiding their participation in constructive activities. They also help teens develop a consistent sense of boundaries and responsibility.

By helping integrate teens into the larger community, adults promote positive character traits related to helping others and caring about social issues. Unfortunately, our society is age-segregated and offers few outlets for teens to practice adult behaviors and roles. Many teens lack a sense of connection with the adult community and are left to struggle with problems on their own or with each other. Parents who advocate on behalf of all teens in their community greatly enrich their teen's own social environment and enhance the quality of life for families.

Every interaction with a responsible, caring adult can provide a teen with affirmation, appropriate boundaries, constructive time use, and belonging. Parents play an important role in helping their own teens form positive connections with neighbors, relatives, employers, youth leaders, mentors, community leaders, ordinary citizens, and other caring adults. Parents can 1) identify positive contacts, 2) make introductions and invitations, 3) personally get to know various adults, and 4) get to know the adults involved with their teens.

Parents can also make important contributions to their communities, helping create a vital and healthy environment for all teens. They can begin by assessing what their own groups and workplaces are doing for youth and /or work with other concerned people to set goals and create ways to reach out to youth.

To find more tips and benefits on asset building in adolescents go to:

<http://www.search-institute.org/developmental-assets>

<http://www.parentfurther.com/>

TAKING A HOUSEHOLD INVENTORY

A HOUSEHOLD INVENTORY PROVIDES VALUABLE INFORMATION FOR MANY PURPOSES.

A household inventory is a collection of pictures and or videos documentation of all your possessions. As part of the inventory, information would also be collected on particularly the more expensive items. This may include date purchased, cost, warranties, etc. An inventory of your household furnishings and personal belongings can be useful to you as well as other members of your family. By listing and providing information about each item, the household inventory serves many purposes.

One of the most important purposes is that the inventory provides a basis for filing insurance claims in the event of loss by fire, flood, theft or other types of disasters. On the flip side it helps you decide how much insurance protection you need to adequately cover your household furnishing and personal belongings.

From a financial stand point, it is functional in planning and forecasting replacement needs for furnishings, equipment and clothing. The inventory can also indicate the money value of your possessions for development of net worth statement which show financial growth.

Once the household inventory has been collected, it should be stored in a safe location so it won't be destroyed due to destruction of your home. Consider placing the household inventory in a bank safe deposit box or fireproof home safe.

With all the great technology available, creating your household inventory never has been easier. Most cell phones have the capability to video record your property. The most important issue is to make sure that the information recorded is downloaded to a safe place for accessibility when needed. Photograph / video record your household furnishings and personal items in a systematic way. Inventory one room at a time and photograph / video record everything in the room. Don't forget to go into closets and take special pictures of the more valuable items. Open drawers and photograph / video record contents of each drawer. Lastly, photograph / video record storage areas such as the basement, garage, attic , and storage units. These areas need to be photograph / video recorded in the same way as the interior rooms of your house. Take pictures of the whole area and open doors to cupboards, closets or storage chests.

When it comes to prized possessions, take extra care in documenting jewelry, furs, paintings and other valuables. Group small pieces of similar items together and place on a solid-colored rug or cloth. Document the brand name and if the item is extremely valuable, include a member of the family in the picture as proof that the items are really yours. Once the household inventory has been established, it needs to be updated at least annually. When updating consider the following tips: Major purchases need to be added to the inventory immediately, small items should be done annually and the items that you no longer have should be purged from the inventory.

For more information go to www.mimoneyhealth.org; http://www.extension.org/personal_finance;

FREE TESTING

Pressure Canning testing is now available for free.

Feel free to either call for an appointment to have yours tested or you may drop off the canner lid and gauge and we will call you once it has been tested.

Go to <http://nchfp.uga.edu/> for up to date food preservation information.

Also we have "So Easy to Preserve" food preservation books available at the MSU Extension Monroe County office for \$15.00 plus tax.

NURTURING PARENTING ONGOING CLASS

Every Tuesday
11:30 am—12:30 pm
Arthur Lesow
Community Center
120 Eastchester
Monroe, MI 48161
Cost: FREE
Pre-registration required
734-240-3179

Certificate of completion is awarded once six classes are completed.

MONROE COUNTY HOMEMAKERS OF EXTENSION

Flower Cards are now marked down to \$15.00. There is a very limited amount to be sold.

Fair – We will have a table in the Women's building. Our new cookbook will be for sale. Remaining flower cards will be sold at the reduced price.

Rally Day – Lull-a-bye Study Group is in charge of arrangements. Rally Day will be Tuesday, September 30, 2014 at 6:00 pm. at the Ida United Methodist Church. Entertainment will be Sweet Adeline's. This is a potluck; please remember to bring a dish to pass and your own place setting. New officers and council members will be installed.

Cindy Goode taught meeting attendees how to make pin cushions with a coffee mug.

Carleton Study Group will be having their annual auction on October 21, 2014 at the Carleton United Methodist Church. Viewing at 6:30 with auction at 7:00 pm.

Membership lists and dues deadline is August 19, 2014.

Betty Curley 734 241-6238 New members or guests are always welcome.

WINNIE WEBB
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**MOTHER
TO
MOTHER
PROGRAM**

Breastfeeding



**Makes a Healthier
World**

BREASTFEEDING AWARENESS MONTH

Every year, World Breastfeeding Week is celebrated August 1-7. In Michigan we use the entire month of August to raise awareness of the health, economic, societal, and environmental impact of Breastfeeding. Breastfeeding advocates throughout our state joined together to celebrate Breastfeeding Awareness Month.

This year breastfeeding advocates in Michigan are also celebrating Governor Rick Snyder's signing of SB874 on June 24, 2014. This law called Michigan Breastfeeding Anti Discrimination Act protects women from discrimination when breastfeeding in public.

45 other states including Ohio have comparable laws. This law will allow nursing mothers to be able to feed their children in public without being told to stop or leave. The mothers also cannot be arrested for indecent exposure.

Let's continue to make a state where families can live, work and receive support in a breastfeeding friendly culture.

"Pure Michigan – Breastfeeding Friendly"



TESTIMONIAL

Kole is my 2nd child. Born 7 years after my first son, Kody. I was 21 years old and single when I had Kody but even then I was determined to breastfeed. My mother had breastfed me for a whole year. I never even had a bottle!!! I wanted to follow in her footsteps even though there were a few hurdles...going back to work after 6 weeks and single/lack of support.

Kody came and breastfeeding took over. I lived with my parents and felt like I was in solitary confinement as I locked myself away to conquer the task of breastfeeding. I knew they would support me but I lacked the confidence to nurse anywhere else.

The time came to return to work. I was prepared and ready!!! I had my pump and a very supportive, breastfeeding day care provider. However, after trying 2 weeks of adjusting to pumping and selfishness took over. I wanted my life back dang it. To this day I'm still bummed that I gave up so easily. Especially since it had come so easily to Kody. He knew what he was doing!!!

I say all that to express what a world of difference the support from Winnie made in my breastfeeding experience the second time around. I mean circumstances were a bit different this time around. I was married with a supportive husband and even a mother-in-law who had nursed. I went back to work this time with an amazing pump provided by the Mother-to-Mother program / WIC program. I had kept in contact with Winnie, always feeling comfortable calling her at any time with any question.

What the Mother-to-Mother program provides is skilled staff that have a heart of compassion for this world's children and their nutrition. Winnie helped me to believe in myself and to see that breastfeeding isn't a war to be won but a great opportunity to connect with not only your child but yourself and so many others. I wouldn't trade those hours of nursing for anything in the world. And am so thankful for the friendship that I now have with Winnie.

JUDY S. SEE
4-H Youth Program Educator
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PREMIUM CHECKS

Remember to cash your premium check as soon as you receive it in the mail. As soon as it arrives, **TAKE IT TO THE BANK.**

All checks must be cashed by September 15th.

Leaders, please note checks issued to clubs should be deposited as soon as they arrive. These checks often get stuck in a file to wait for the next meeting.

If you have questions, please contact the 4-H Office or the Fair Association.

Checks not cashed within 30 days will become void.



POST FAIR MEETING

Guess What - after fair we need to start planning for 2015. As part of the continuing process we will have our annual Post Fair Meeting on Thursday, September 4th, at 7:00 p.m. in the 4-H Activity Center. Agenda items for the meeting will include:

Distribution of Candy
Discussion on the 2014 Fair
Recommendations for 2015 Fair
Update on Fall Activities

4-H Explorers Program
Kids Day
Youth Recognition
Leader Learning Fair
Spaghetti Dinner and Auction

Each club needs to be represented at this meeting, as we will also be distributing the fall enrollment packets.

AWARDS AND TRIPS

The completed applications must be submitted to the Extension 4-H Office by September 15th.

County Medals and Older Teen Awards Members 11 and older have the opportunity to complete the application and to be recognized at Youth Recognition this fall. Members 11 to 14 years old may apply for up to two County Award Medals. Those members 15 and older may also apply for two Older Teen Awards. The County and Older Teen medals are earned for outstanding achievements in project work. The 4-H council makes these awards possible.

New Horizons A travel opportunity is in your future. Older members also have the opportunity to become part of the New Horizons Program. Members 14 and older may apply for this tremendous program. These members will work together to earn money, which will allow them to attend the Washington D.C. Focus Trip or to experience Toronto, Canada. The 4-H Council also lends support to members in New Horizons. Members will be applying for the 2014 trips.

Key Club Members 15 and older may also apply for the Michigan Key Club Award which is only presented to the top half of one percent of the 4-H Youth. Applications are available at the 4-H Office and are also due by September 15th.

I Dare You The I Dare You Award is presented to two outstanding 4-H members each year. The award is given to members who have gone beyond what is expected and challenged themselves, as well as others, to set and achieve goals. Anyone can submit a written nomination for a deserving member.

All applications and the Awards Handbook are available at the Extension 4-H Office. This book will give you more in-depth descriptions of all of the award areas.

CANDY SALE

The 4-H Council has two major fundraisers each year, in addition to the kitchen during Fair week. The annual candy sale, which has received excellent support in the past, will begin on September 4th. This popular sale raises funds for the Council, Districts, and Clubs, as well as offering some nice incentives for individuals.

The Council Candy Committee met with the candy representative during fair to plan for this year's program. Perhaps you were awarded meal tickets for this year's fair and spent your award at the Dining Hall. Start now to plan for next year.

Each Club will earn 20% of the net profit, in addition profit is shared with the districts and individual sale winners, the Council will benefit from the remaining funds. All clubs are encouraged to take part and earn funds for their club as well as the district and the county program. Monies earned from the 2013 sales were used to provide member pins, awards, scholarships, funding for Kid's Day and much more.

Members who would like scholarships for Exploration Days must support the Candy Sale or the Spaghetti Dinner or both. The candy will be distributed at the Post Fair Meeting.

SPAULDING AND HIMBRUG NAMED CHAMPION SHOWMEN

Two outstanding showmen were named to top honors at the 2014 Monroe County Fair. Judges had brought the best showman from each species together to determine the large and small animal winners. Danylle Himburg, Champion Beef Showman and Shelby Spaulding, Champion Cavy Showman earned these important honors.

The crowd was kept guessing as the showman worked to be the best in their division. Representing the different species in the large animal sweepstake, as Champion Showmen were: Loren Huber from the horse barn, Skylar Buell showing dairy, Danyelle who earned the honor from the beef contestants, Kyle Motylinski representing the hog barn and Joe Ferrara from the goat competition. The large animal competition was run by Gwyn Schuon, while Emily Kittendorf, 2014 JLA President, served as the announcer. Danylle exhibited the confidence and the skills to capture the title for the large animal division.

Champions in the areas of the Small Animal Sweepstakes included: Katina Lomas, cat; Shelby Spaulding cavies; Tegan Stone dog. Joe Ferrara, Claudia Paddy rabbits, and Helena Kitts represented the pocket pets. Shelby Spaulding walked away with the trophy – declaring her to be the top showman in the Small Animal Department this year. Each of the twelve showmen were excellent and each represented not only their project area well, but they were also excellent examples of the quality of the Monroe County 4-H Showman.

Great job! Congratulations to all of our top showman.

If you didn't happen to be at the sweepstakes – watch for red shirts – the Junior Livestock Association and the Small Animal Association purchased each of our Champion showmen a polo shirt to help them remember 2014 Monroe County Fair – so if you see a 4-H'er with a red and champion showman on the sleeve you will be seeing the "Best of the Best".



Shelby Spaulding



Danylle Himburg

4 - H ROYALTY CON' T

The 2014 Princess is Katrina Lomas. Twelve year old Katrina enjoys working with her cat and Small Animals at the fair. It was a busy week for Katrina, as she also showed several exhibits in the craft barns in addition to her animals. She is excited about what the year may bring and she has already brought a lot of enthusiasm to her role this year.

The last of our Royalty for 2014 is Ethan Harbaugh who represented the City Slickers this year. Ethan enjoys everything about 4-H. He is now looking forward to more exciting 4-H activities.

Completing our Royalty Court and the awards for the evening was the presentation of Mr. and Ms. Congeniality. This year the award for Ms Congeniality –Annalyse Auxter and Logan Grey earned the Mr. Congeniality award.



DON'T FORGET!
POST FAIR MEETING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4th
7:00 pm - 4-H ACTIVITY CENTER

DR. LINA RODRIGUEZ
SALAMANCA
Commercial Vegetable
Crop Educator
517 927-2561

MICHIGAN BROWN MARMORATED STINK BUG REPORT FOR AUGUST 7, 2014

NO BROWN MARMORATED STINK BUGS THIS WEEK IN OUR TRAPS NEXT TO FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PRODUCTION, BUT FOUR ADULTS WERE CAUGHT AT SEVERAL SITES IN SWEEP NETTING OF VEGETATION NEXT TO FIELD CROPS IN LENAWEE COUNTY.

Posted on August 7, 2014 by Julianna Wilson, and Larry Gut, Michigan State University Extension, Department of Entomology

This is the fifth weekly report of the Michigan State University Extension brown marmorated stink bug (BMSB) statewide monitoring program for 2014. Out of the more than 80 sites being monitored throughout the state, no BMSB were captured in our traps, but a few adult BMSB were captured at several sites in sweep netting of vegetation next to field crops in Lenawee County just north of the border with Ohio.

The monitoring network uses pyramid-style, pheromone-baited traps set up at farms that grow a variety of fruit and vegetable crops including apples, tart cherries, sweet cherries, peaches, blueberries, raspberries, tomatoes, peppers and sweet corn. Sites have been selected that are known to favor BMSB near riparian areas or along major transportation corridors in the following counties: Monroe, Lenawee, Oakland, Macomb, Livingston, Ingham, Lapeer, Saginaw and Bay on the east side of the state, and Antrim, Grand Traverse, Leelanau, Benzie, Oceana, Newaygo, Kent, Ionia, Ottawa, Allegan, Van Buren and Berrien on the west side of the state. Although we continue to catch little to no BMSB, we know that BMSB are present in Michigan because of reports that have come mainly from homeowners in various parts of the state, and from sweep netting conducted in the edge of soybean fields. This monitoring network has been set up to provide early warning should BMSB start showing up in greater numbers in fruit and vegetable production areas as it has in mid-Atlantic states over the last decade.

To learn more about how to monitor for the brown marmorated stink bug, distinguish it from other similar-looking stink bugs, what crops it favors, and management strategies should populations reach the threshold where management is necessary, visit MSU's Brown Marmorated Stink Bug website.



Male, Michigan brown marmorated stink bug.

The weekly BMSB statewide monitoring report has been funded through Project GREEN and Michigan State University Extension. This output is generated through a network of MSU Extension field staff and campus specialists. We would like to acknowledge the following team members and thank them for their weekly scouting efforts and input into this report: Peter McGhee, Michael Haas, Bob Tritten, Mark Longstroth, Brad Baughman, Carlos Garcia, Amy Irish-Brown, Lina Rodriguez Salamanca, Ben Philips, Ben Werling, Mark Whalon, Karen Powers, and Nikki Rothwell. Dr. Gut's work is funded in part by MSU's AgBioResearch.

This article was published by Michigan State University Extension. For more information, visit <http://www.msue.msu.edu>. To have a digest of information delivered straight to your email inbox, visit <http://bit.ly/MSUENews>. To contact an expert in your area, visit <http://expert.msue.msu.edu>, or call 888-MSUE4MI (888-678-3464).

2014 MSU NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLOT TOUR UPDATE HELD SEPTEMBER 10

THE MSU NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLOT TOUR ON SEPT. 10 WILL HIGHLIGHT APPLIED FIELD RESEARCH TO IMPROVE PLANT AND SOIL HEALTH AND FERTILIZER PRACTICES.

Posted on August 8, 2014 by George Silva, Michigan State University Extension

Plant and soil health aspects will be featured at the annual Michigan State University 2014 Nutrient Management Plot Tour on Wednesday, Sept. 10, 2014, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the MSU Plant Pathology Field Lab, 3735 North College Rd., Lansing, MI 48910. Participants will be able to visit on-going soil fertility research plots, assess emerging technologies, learn from hands-on demonstrations and interact with Michigan State University Extension educators, MSU faculty and guest speakers.

A multitude of research topics including starter fertilizer, soil quality, cover crops and soil compaction are being investigated. Research projects currently being funded by the Michigan corn, soybean and wheat check-off funds will be on display. Many participants will discover new knowledge and ideas that could potentially increase crop yield or reduce input costs.

This event will provide educational information to farmers about proactively managing nutrients for conserving resources and environmental stewardship. Currently there is a lot of misinformation regarding the use of agricultural fertilizers in the wake of the drinking water crisis in Lake Erie.

The program is intended for farmers, crop consultants, fertilizer dealerships, educators, researchers, federal and state officials and Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP) professionals. Participants will receive five CCA credits, three MDARD credits and one MAEAP phase I credit. The cost of the program is \$40 which includes lunch, refreshments, MSU bulletins and handouts.

View the program brochure for more information and to register by mail. You may also register online. If you have questions, please contact George Silva at silvag@msu.edu or 517-543-4467.

This article was published by Michigan State University Extension. For more information, visit <http://www.msue.msu.edu>. To have a digest of information delivered straight to your email inbox, visit <http://bit.ly/MSUENews>. To contact an expert in your area, visit <http://expert.msue.msu.edu>, or call 888-MSUE4MI (888-678-3464).

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT ACADEMY

Michigan State University Extension hosts an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Academy each year. The Academy serves newcomers to agriculture, growers who have yet to adopt IPM, or those interested in a refresher course. The program covers basic theories of IPM and introduces vocabulary and topic areas necessary to understand more advanced concepts.

Save the date for the 2014 IPM Academy, Feb. 18-19. The event will be held at the Okemos Conference Center. For more information or to register for the 2014 IPM Academy, visit the 2014 IPM Academy registration site.



AUGUST / SEPTEMBER**4-H****August**

- 8/4/14** Check-Out Crafts, Educational & Horticulture Exhibits Fairgrounds 2:00—6:30 pm
- 8/13/14** Junior Livestock Association Extension Learning Center 7:00 pm
- 8/19/14** Fair Advisory Board Extension Learning Center 7:00 pm
- 8/25/14** Small Animal Association Extension Learning Center 7:00 pm

September

- 9/2/14** 4-H Council Extension Learning Center 7:00 pm
- 9/7/14** Junior Livestock Banquet 4-H Activity Center 3:00 pm
- 6/8/14** Horse & Pony Board 4-H Activity Center 7:00 pm
- 9/22/14** Small Animal Association Banquet 4-H Activity Center 7:00 pm
- 9/24/14** Teen Ambassadors Extension Learning Center 7:00 pm

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE**August**

- 8/5/14** Nurturing Parenting Class Arthur Lesow Community Center 11:30 am
- 8/5/14** RELAX: Alternatives to Anger Series Extension Learning Center 6:30 pm
- 8/12/14** Nurturing Parenting Class Arthur Lesow Community Center 11:30 am
- 8/19/14** Nurturing Parenting Class Arthur Lesow Community Center 11:30 am
- 8/26/14** Nurturing Parenting Class Arthur Lesow Community Center 11:30 am

HORTICULTURE**August**

- 8/2/14** MSU Garden Day Registration Required
- 8/16/14** MGMGA tour—Toledo Botanical Gardens 9:00 am
Carpool at Extension

September

- 9/20/14** MCMGA Meeting Extension Learning Center 10:00 am

**BACK TO SCHOOL!!!**

STAFF AND MSUE RESOURCES

The Monroe County MSU Extension office is open to the public on Monday thru Friday from 9:00 am to Noon, and 1:00pm to 5:pm.
The office staff may be accessed via the main phone line at 734-240-3170.

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Though Extension has recently reorganized our structure, Extension professionals are still located in communities across the state and are still working to address Michigan's most pressing needs through four broad-themed areas; greening Michigan, agriculture and agribusiness, children and youth, health and nutrition. If you would like to learn more about these program areas, you can read about them in a document called "Carrying Out the Land-Grant Mission" that can be found at www.msue.msu.edu To locate MSU Extension Staff across the state by name or area of expertise go to: <http://people.msue.msu.edu>



HEADS UP!

Our county email (msue58@msu.edu)
Has changed!
Our new email will be
msue.monroe@county.msu.edu