



Genesee County Master Gardener Newsletter

DOWN TO EARTH

2017

VOLUME 15

6



Inside this issue:

FEATURE ARTICLE1

HOME GROWN.....3

COOKS CORNER.....4

MGAGCM MEETING
MINUTES.....5

THANKS TO ALAN GROVE.....7

GUIDE to ASCLEPIAS tuberosa
(Butterfly Weed).....8

29th ANNUAL AWARDS AND
RECOGNITION BANQUET...10

MGAGCM BUS TOUR AND
GARDEN TOUR.....11

DATES TO REMEMBER.....12

FEATURE ARTICLE

Crabgrass Control in Home Lawns

Homeowners and professionals alike spend a lot of time and money trying to eliminate crabgrass from their turf grass stands. Numerous products for crabgrass control are widely available. Most of these compounds are extremely effective at reducing crabgrass pressure in a given year. Like most weeds, however, crabgrass can be an indicator of other problems with the growing conditions in your lawn. These conditions must be corrected to achieve long-term crabgrass control.

Crabgrass is one of the most prevalent grassy weeds found in Michigan lawns. Crabgrass thrives in full sunlight and high temperatures and can easily out compete common cool-season grasses under these conditions. Crabgrass is in a group of plants known as summer annuals. These plants have a life of less than one year. Summer annuals germinate in the spring, grow through the summer and die with the first hard frost. These plants produce a tremendous amount of seed in the mid- to late summer when the day length starts to shorten. These seeds ensure next year's crop of weeds but can also remain dormant in the soil for several years before germinating. It is likely that if you have crabgrass in your lawn, it will be there next year, too. "One year's seeding equals seven years weeding," as weed scientists like to say.

Weed management in turf grass stands can be accomplished in various ways. Traditional methods include cultural management and mechanical and chemical controls. The primary and most effective weed control tactic in a lawn is proper mowing. In fact, it has been estimated that regular mowing eliminates some 80 percent of weedy species. Other cultural practices, such as judicious fertilization, can further reduce weed competition by increasing turf grass vigor. Open and weak turf grass areas promote crabgrass infestations because of higher soil temperatures, which

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

MSU Extension—Genesee County is an educational agency funded jointly through the Board of Commissioners, by the state through Michigan State University and federally through the United States Department of Agriculture.

MSU is an affirmative-action, equal opportunity employer. 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.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)



germination and decrease competition. The best defense against weed invasion is a dense, healthy turf grass stand. This is particularly effective for annual weeds such as crabgrass that establish from seed every year. A thick turf canopy can effectively shade the soil and reduce the number of seedlings that are able to establish.

Knowing when crabgrass is likely to be present is helpful in proper identification and control. Homeowners who complain of crabgrass infestations in April and May are usually identifying tall fescue, nimblewill or quackgrass. Crabgrass germination typically begins in early May when soil temperatures reach 62 degrees Fahrenheit at a depth of 1 to 2 inches, or about two weeks after the forsythia blooms begin to drop. Heat accumulation or growing degree-days are a great way to estimate soil temperatures from readily available weather station data. Visit [GDDTracker](#) to get customized, weather-based, email alerts for your location.

To be effective, pre emergence herbicides must be in place before germination occurs. Pre emergence treatments are preferred because they are generally more effective for crabgrass control and less injurious to the turf grass than post emergence treatments. In general, pre emergence herbicides should be applied when soil temperatures reach 50 to 55 degrees Fahrenheit, or when forsythia is in full bloom. This will allow the pre emergence herbicide to form a barrier before the crabgrass seedlings emerge. Pre emergence herbicides work by inhibiting the growth of young seedlings. These products do not eliminate established plants and must be applied before germination begins. In Michigan, this is usually around April 15 but can be as late as May 1. Applications made very early in the spring have potential to break down before the end of the germination window and are, for the most part, not recommended. This is a particular problem in the three out of 10 years when late-season conditions are conducive for a second germination flush. Delaying pre emergence applications in a very cool or dry spring would provide better season long control because crabgrass germination is also delayed under these situations. Nearly all of the commercially available pre emergence herbicides are very effective when applied properly.

Once crabgrass has established, pre emergence herbicides will not be effective. Only a few

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

HOME GROWN 904

I have a big indoor plant called a succulent. Or I should say, had. The cat knocked it off the window sill and it broke into a million pieces. I tried rooting some branches in water and they just turned into rotted slime. I have the rest of it lying in a box and want to know how to grow another from the wreckage.

The pieces that rotted gave their lives to pass on some valuable information. "Succulent" is the name of the big family that both succulents and cacti belong to and these are considered desert or low water plants. They do not handle excess moisture, especially as a cutting. By trying to root them in water, the inevitable happened. For succulents that can be rooted, they need to be rooted in soil. That soil should be a sandy, gravelly mix. Succulent pieces should be left to dry or callus-over after being cut or broken.

The cut or broken end is left to dry until the bottom is completely dry to the touch. It might take a day or two or it might take several weeks, depending on the size of the piece. Then embed the cut end very shallowly in slightly damp potting medium. Use a container that has a drain hole so there is less chance that the medium will retain too much water. The cut end should not be any deeper than one fourth of an inch seep. Position the cutting close to side of the container so the cutting can lean on the container. Or use a tongue depressor or a small stick for support. Growing roots is an excruciatingly slow process. It might take many weeks or, usually, months. Make sure that the potted plant pieces are in a sunny south or west window and are warm. If the pot is sitting on a cold surface, the soil will be cold and the rooting process takes even longer. Periodically, dampen the soil so it is not dry all the time. Every month, gently try lifting the cutting. If there is no resistance, there are no roots. If there is, leave it alone. If the pieces do not rot in the container, this is hopeful. But be prepared for a long process. Start a number of pieces. The left-over plant parts in the box are perfect because they are already callused. Succulents are very slow growing plants. By the time you have a big plant, the cat will be too old to jump on the window sill.

This summer is the first time I tried to grow beets. They were mostly very little. I got a soil test and it indicates that I have plenty of phosphorus, potassium and magnesium. The soil pH is 6.8. The deer ate the tips of leaves a couple of times and I know that there are mice around. There was virtually no reason for this to happen that I can see. But how can I fix this for next growing season?

You can look at more potential causes than the few you mentioned. Since I do not have your soil test results, there are plenty of additional questions. Did you use your soil test recommendation for the garden? The soil pH is good at 6.8. But what kind of soil do you have? If it is a heavier soil like a loam or clay and there is not enough organic matter in the soil to loosen it, beet roots cannot expand. You did not tell me the organic matter content that is part of your soil test results. You need five percent or more. If the beet growing area does not get eight or more hours of full, unbroken sun each day, the plants do not have the energy to make big bottoms. If deer are cropping off leaves, this is a problem.

They are eating the little workers that make food for the plant. If the plant has to keep growing more leaves so it can make enough food, beet roots are not growing. You may have to make a hoop of chicken wire and secure it with sticks to keep deer from pruning the leaves. The wire is shaped into a U-shaped tunnel to cover the sides and tops of plants. You do not mention if you thinned beet seedlings so each plant had enough room to produce a big root. If the beets are too close together, all only grow to be little midgets. It is extremely rare for mice to bother a vegetable garden, especially beets. Cross them off the list. If there were beet roots that were intact, that's not your problem. But look at the items mentioned and see what applies.

Gretchen Voyle, MSU Extension-Livingston County Horticulture Educator 517/546-3950



COOKS CORNER

Grilled Broccoli

Ingredients

3 tablespoons tamari or soy sauce
 3 tablespoons balsamic vinegar
 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil,
 plus more for drizzling
 1 head broccoli, approximately 2
 pounds, cored and cut into 1-inch
 florets
 Kosher salt, to taste
 1 tablespoon finely chopped fresh
 parsley
 Flaky sea salt (optional)

Fette Sau's Joe Carroll Writes Feeding the
 Fire, A Worthy Barbecue Primer

Preparation

1. Build a fire in your grill, leaving about 1/3 of grill free of coals, or set a gas grill to high.
2. In a large bowl, whisk together the tamari or soy sauce with the vinegar. Add the olive oil while whisking vigorously. Add the broccoli and toss to coat. Sprinkle lightly with kosher salt.
3. Place a grill basket on the grill and add the broccoli to it. Grill, tossing frequently, until the florets are crisp at the edges and tender within, with just a little bit of bite to them, approximately 10 to 12 minutes. If you don't have a grill basket, lay the florets out on the grill in a single level and use tongs to turn them often. More work, same result.

Transfer the cooked broccoli to a platter, drizzle with olive oil, sprinkle with parsley and, if using, a pinch or two of flaky sea salt.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

herbicides are available for use on young plants. Metharsenate (MSMA) is the most common herbicide found in post emergence crabgrass products available to homeowners. Two or three applications spaced seven to 10 days apart are often needed to achieve acceptable control. Unfortunately, some turfgrass discoloration often accompanies applications of metharsenate herbicides. Dithiopyr (Dimension, Spectracide Crabgrass) also has post emergence activity on one- to three-leaf crabgrass.

Early post emergence applications of dithiopyr will control young crabgrass plants and provide a preemergence barrier that can last the entire season. Metharsenate and dithiopyr do not provide reliable post emergence control of mature crabgrass. Professional lawn services can control mature crabgrass with applications of fenoxypop (Acclaim Extra) or quinclorac (Drive). These products are relatively new and not available in garden centers.

In general, pre emergence applications are preferred in lawns with a history of crabgrass pressure because of the difficulties associated with postemergence control. Pre emergence herbicides and proper turf grass management are the best combination for long-term crabgrass suppression. Be sure to read, understand and follow all directions on the herbicide label.

MGAGCM Meeting Minutes – May 18, 2017

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Vicki Laurin at 7:07 pm.

Review of Minutes: Motion and 2nd by Nettie Sparks & Beth Fromholz-Davies to accept the March 16, 2017 meeting minutes as presented. Passed.

Treasurer's Report: The beginning balance on April 1, 2017 was \$27,026.78. Income was 2,993.65 and Expenses were \$4,131.32 Ending balance is \$26,189.13 including \$300.02 in savings.

Posters for Master Gardener College are due in by 6-2-17 for competition. Kay will help you if you need technical assistance.

Projects

Chairperson

Ask A Master Gardener	Alan Grove / Michelle Chockley- We need more volunteers to work with the trainees.
Carriage Town	Marilyn Nichols-Planting day is Memorial Day and we are dedicating a Memorial Pathway on August 18. You can purchase a brick to be placed on this pathway. Costs are \$50.00, \$100.00 and \$200.00. See Marilyn if interested in purchasing a brick for this Memorial Path way.
Crossroads Village (Monarch Way Station)	Joanie Snyder-Planting day is June 6 at 9:00 am. MGAGCM picnic is July 16, at Crossroads Village. Bring your own table service and drinks. 1:00 pm. Joanie will have tickets to give out for train and boat rides. Tickets for "Vintage in the Village" is 20MY17-tickets are \$5.
Desert Oasis	Alicia Ellis / Kay McCullough- Volunteer days are Tuesday's at 9:00 am.
Easter Seals	Carol Groat / Betty Draper-Dedication for Jerry Redoutey is June 6, 2017 at 10:30 am. Volunteer days are Tuesday's beginning after Memorial day.
Grow Lab	Carol Groat- All plants have gone home with students. Yeah!
Farmers Market – Davison	Alan Grove-Need volunteers
Farmers Market – Flint	Judy Trombley- Thank you Loretta Ellwood for helping so much. Volunteers are needed for 2 Saturdays in July. Call Judy Trombley, 810-513-1112.
Farmers Market – Grand Blanc	Beth Fromholz-Davies/Alan Grove- Volunteers are needed.
First Wesleyan Church	Diane Callison- Clean up has taken place and ready to plant.
Richfield PSA Vegetable Garden	Diane Callison- Cleaned up and ready to plant.
Flushing River Trail	Sylvia Hansen- NR. Carolyn Mallaski has tools to donate to projects that need them.
GCCARD Gardens	Alan Grove/Gwen Barney- Need help on Tuesday's at 10.00 am.
Humane Society	Maggie Gregg- Thursday, June 3 is Plant a Flat day. Red, white and purple petunias are needed.
Keller Park Bioswale Rain Garden	Lorna Woods-Johns- Met with a rep from Genesee County Conservation dept. This is being used as a run off rain garden at this time.
Keller Park Woody Ornamental Garden	Lorna Woods-Johns- There is a material list

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6)

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5)

available of tool/etc. needed. Lorna has been working on a 5M grant she hopes to get.
 Park Place Community Garden Susan Biron- Volunteers are always needed on Tuesdays or
 Thursdays. This is a community garden and lots of activity
 always going on. Vegetables are grown for senior residents.

Library Gardens

Baker Park (Burton) Diana Callison-The bulbs were all beautiful
 this year.
 Flint Public Sasi Vemuri- Cleaned. Mulch will be put down on
 June 17, at 8:30 am.

Rest Stop Projects

I-69 Brenda Monty- Need help on Wednesday, May 24, 10:00 am.
 I-75 Ruth Sutton-Planting day, May 22, 9:00 am.
 US-23 Loretta Elwood- 4 yds of mulch has been put down. Planting
 day is Monday, May 22, 9:00 am.
 Swartz Creek Veterans Memorial Maggie Gregg-Teenagers are volunteering. Help
 needed 3rd Thursday of each month. Planting on Friday, May 26, at 9:30-11:30

Alan Grove - Standing Committee Reports:

Banquet (Spring/Awards) Loretta Ellwood- Thank you to her committee. Congratulations to
 Kay McCullough and Gloria Roudebush for receiving the 2016 Distinguished Service Award
 and Dick Moldenhauer and Alan Grove for Outstanding MG of the year and Glen Perry and
 Sandra Johnson for Trainee of the year. Abi was given a gift certificate to the Laundry in
 Fenton. 94 members attended the banquet. The weather was a factor in the attendance.
 Bus Trip (Educational) Sabrina VanDyke- Southern exposure has been dropped and
 replaced by Kellogg Manor. Only 30 people have signed up and 60 are needed.
 Clothing Vicki Laurin /Kay McCullough- next order is due on July 1. Sizes
 run small. Bobbi Parkhill donated two shirts that she purchased and are too small as well as
 Sue Crisp donated one shirt that is too small.
 DTE Vicki Laurin / George Rappold- ALWAYS looking for articles!
 Fall Into Spring Loretta Ellwood- Committee is working on the conference.
 Garden Tour (Educational) Kay McCullough- the Garden Tour will be June 25, 2017.
 There will be an educational emphasis this year and MGAGCM members can get ½ educa-
 tional for each site. There will be a scavenger hunt, a raffle and door prize. Pre tour will be
 Friday night and cost is \$10.00 for any non-MG. Some homes need extra work which you can
 get volunteer hours.
 Hospitality Gloria Roudebush- a card was sent to Joyce Dowd and Gerri Irwin.
 Joyce Bellaire was present after being sick for a long period of time. Chris Jensen could use
 some get well cards as he has several health issues.
 Outreach Activity Christy Jones- Still need 2 volunteers for I-75 rest area event on 5-
 26-17 from 9:00 am-1:00 pm.
 Public Relations Mel Kennedy
 VMS Ambassadors Ruth Simon / Michelle Chockley- New directory will be coming
 soon. FYI-next year MG's will be requested to have 10 educational hours and 20 volunteer
 hours.
 Website Kay McCullough / Mel Kennedy

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 7)

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6)

Old Business: The new 27" touch screen and 1 TB hard drive, Brother laser printer and toner cartridges have been purchased for outreach projects.

New Business:

A donation was given to purchase a new computer for the Hotline and the computer has been purchased. *A big THANK YOU to our anonymous donor (a Master Gardener) who made this possible.*

We have purchased 5 table cloths for outreach projects.

Our 3rd MG class since January 2016 has ended and all have passed the exams.

Alan bit the bullet. *He arrived at the meeting as "Go Blue" and left in Sparty green!!*

Remember our June meeting is being held at WoJo s in Davison. Bring lawn chairs and social hour starts at 5:00 pm with speaker starting at 5:30 pm.

Meeting adjourned:

Moved and 2nd by Beth Fromholz-Davies and Nettie Sparks to adjourn the meeting.

Passed. The meeting was adjourned by President Vicki Laurin at 8:19 pm.

Respectfully submitted: Christy Jones, Director



A BIG THANKS TO A GOOD SPORT

During a brief pause at the last membership meeting Alan Grove gave up the ghost and donned the colors of U of M cross state rivals. The plan was to build up to a peak at the August meeting where the officers hope to attract 100 members. Those in the know still hope to meet the goal.

During a post meeting interview Alan professed an increase in blood pressure, lack of sleep and a general malaise as August drew closer. Based on the recommendation of his physician and the demand of his dearly beloved a decision had to be made.

We only can thank Alan for his participation in this little bit of Tom Foolery.

Fear not, however, as the flame is not totally extinguished. There is talk in the air of a bounty of edibles highlighted by the ever tasty pate of sardines and soda crackers so we urge you and your best Master Gardener friend to keep August meeting date open.

Authors name withheld for reasons of security

Guide to *Asclepias tuberosa* (Butterfly Weed)

One of the last times I took my 90-something mother to a garden center, she was immediately attracted to the glowing orange plants at the entry. I hadn't even put the car in park before her door was open and she was fumbling with the seat belt, eager to hustle over to see what those beautiful plants were.

"Oh," she sniffed, "it's milkweed. That's the plant I used to throw out every time you brought it home from the field next door."

Well, sort of. True, I used to drag home all manner of plants from the fields surrounding the house (sneezing all the way), but the milkweed pods I collected were likely *Asclepias syriaca*, common milkweed. And a weed it was.

Asclepias tuberosa is also a "weed" of sorts: Its common name is butterfly weed, and although it's related to common milkweed, its garden-worthy attributes have elevated it to rock star status in the garden. In fact, *A. tuberosa* was selected by the Perennial Plant Association as the PPA 2017 Perennial Plant of the Year™ because, well, it's a great plant. It's native to the continental U.S. (with the exception of Northeastern states), and it's found in Ontario and Quebec. It requires very little management or extra care. It's resistant to all manner of insults, including insect predators and diseases. It's also resistant to deer. And true to its name, it's a real butterfly magnet. The flowers provide nectar for a host of butterflies and moths, and the leaves are a favored food source for monarch caterpillars.

Standing up to 2.5 to nearly 3 feet tall, the plants are topped with clusters of blazing orange flowers that serve as beacons for wildlife and garden aficionados alike. Upon closer examination, flowers are easily identified by their "five over five" or "five up and five down" configuration: Each flower has five petals that droop and five erect petals, called hoods, each of which has a horn. These sickleshaped horns curve slightly inward.

This is making it more complicated than a description need be, but it's an interesting bit of info that heightens one's appreciation of the intricacy of flowers. If you're fortunate to have a butterfly's eye view of the individual flowers, their geometry is fascinating. I've stolen across the lawns to study my neighbor's planting — my garden is most decidedly not orange — and my forays have only increased my interest. From afar, I enjoy a swath of happy color; up close, my neighbor and I have inspected the petals and individual blooms on each umbel. That is, we do so when we can and don't have to compete with the bees and butterflies.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 9)

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8)

Butterfly weed is easy to grow in average soils in full sun; it's drought tolerant and handles dry soil well. New growth emerges late in the spring in the Upper Midwest, and flowers bloom reliably from late spring through late summer. They're often used in cut flower arrangements, and if they're snipped for vases or simply deadheaded, a new flush of blooms will appear within a month or so.

Once the flowers are spent, 3- to 6-inch-long, spindle-shaped green pods appear and when mature, they'll split open to reveal soft and silky, silvery white hairs attached to a small seed. (The pods and fuzzy seed tails closely resemble those of the related milkweed.) These wispy hairs help the seed to float on the wind, but the pods are decorative and often are harvested for dried arrangements.

Foliage is a clear, clean, medium green; lance-shaped leaves grow about 2 to 5 inches long, spiraling neatly up each sturdy, fuzzy stem. Despite the relation to milkweed, the stems do not carry the same milky sap that can be irritating to humans and toxic to insects.

When siting *Asclepias*, be sure to choose a permanent location. Although the plant self-sows if seed pods are left to open and disperse, the mature plant has a very sturdy tap root and does not take well to transplanting. And that's assuming you're able to dig up the root intact.

Mom would have loved *Asclepias tuberosa* if she had been able to get past the "weed" in the name. This native offers long-lasting, reliable and brilliant color, is virtually maintenance free and provides welcome nourishment for pollinators. Give them just a little bit of love and they give back in spades.

Sally Benson



29TH ANNUAL AWARDS AND RECOGNITION BANQUET

The annual awards and recognition banquet was held this year at The Mill Dining room at Crossroads Village on April 20, 2017. There were 92 people in attendance. A raffle for gift certificates from local greenhouses and several plants donated by Mary Gartland was held. Abi had put together a presentation showing the various projects that our group had worked on during the past year for us to enjoy. Wendt's Catering did their usual great job in providing us with a good hot meal. Who can resist their fabulous butterhorns, always a favorite of ours.

Members from the 2015/2016 graduating classes were welcomed. Many of the new members received their certification certificates with a number of them earning their Advanced Master Gardener status. Hour pins were also awarded to those who earned them.

The weather again was problematic. It rained off and on all day and dumped another bucket load just as people were arriving causing problems for those without umbrellas and rubber boots or even a rowboat. Weather has been a problem for the past couple of years. Based on our attendance, rain or other kinds of weather does not deter us. Sort of like the mail delivery personnel. I'm putting in a request for nice weather now thinking that it pays to be early rather than late. We'll see how that works.

Congratulations to our big winners of the year! The 2016 Distinguished Service Award went to Gloria Roudebush and Kay McCullough. Outstanding Master Gardeners for 2016 were Alan Grove and Dick Moldenhauer. A new award category this year was Outstanding Master Gardeners in Training which went to Glenn Perry and Sandy Johnson. Kudos to each and every one of them for all the hard work they do and the contributions they have made.

Not to be forgotten is our great MG Coordinator – Abi Saeed. She is a big reason our program is growing and getting back on track. Thank you Abi. We did acknowledge her with a gift certificate to the French Laundry.

Finally, I want to thank my awesome committee: Carolyn Malaski, Anna Thomas, Alan Grove, Sylvia Hansen, Pam Kvasnicka and Kay McCullough. Without them it wouldn't have happened. Thanks also to Sabrina Van Dyke for being our official photographer and for the others who helped with setting up and getting it all put together. It wouldn't have happened without you.

Loretta Ellwood "07"

MGAGCM Bus Trip 2017

Sabrina has once again outdone herself with the plans for the 2017 Master Gardener Bus Trip. It should be a relaxed, fun filled day for garden lovers as we stop at one garden sensation after another. It is a long day, but well worth it to be chauffeured by a comfortable Indian Trails bus driver as Sabrina and Nettie pamper with snacks and prizes. For all of this, it only costs \$60 including lunch. It doesn't get much better than this.

Our first stop will be W.K. Kellogg Manor and House historic summer estate which is the former estate of cereal magnate W.K. Kellogg and his wife. This is a change Sabrina made as the herb farm stop fell through so Sabrina went back to the drawing board and came up with this exciting bus tour stop. The next stop will be 85-acre Leila Arboretum in Battle Creek with dozens of gardens and walkways. The trip includes lunch at Clara's on the River on the patio surrounded by the rose garden. The last stop before heading home will be River Street Flowerland Nursery in Kalamazoo to visit the greenhouse and gardens with over 1,000 perennials.

We have limited space on the bus, so get your registration form in to reserve your spot. It truly is an enjoyable way to earn 5 Master Gardener educational hours. Visit the website for more information and a downloadable registration form.

<http://www.geneseecountymg.org/bus-trip.html>

Master Gardener Association Garden Tour 2017 News

Mark your calendar for Sunday, June 25, 2017 10 AM to 5 PM to visit some amazing gardens in Flushing and Flint Township area. Four of our master gardeners will be on the tour this year: Sylvia Hansen, Cheryl Borkowski, Cory Graham, Shirley Smela.

We have some changes this year in the Master Gardener Association Genesee County Garden tour 2017.

- Master Gardeners may receive educational hours for attending our garden tour because we are meeting specific criteria. 1) We have a certified master gardener at each site who will have brushed up on specific topics. 2) We have garden information related to each garden. Master gardeners who attend our garden tour may receive ½ educational hour for every site they visit or potentially 4 ½ hours.

- If you are interested in volunteering at a site, contact Maggie Gregg soon because she is filling up fast. Site volunteers will need to brush up on specific topics. Information will be e-mailed to volunteers.

- Sorry, only site volunteers and homeowners will be able to go on the Friday pre-tour for free. It will cost \$10 for spouses, children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, neighbors or anyone else who is dragged along. That can be paid the night of the pre-garden tour.

- Guests may participate in a scavenger hunt by finding answers to educational questions which will be entered into a drawing for a handmade garden quilt laptop.

- We are offering homeowners help in their gardens this year. We need volunteers who may receive volunteer hours.



FLUSHING RIVERVIEW TRAIL June 2017 WORK SCHEDULE

June 7, 9-11 am. Meet in the parking lot behind Bueche's grocery store. Deadhead, weeding in berm area. C. Bring pruners, weeding tools, kneelers, buckets and gloves.

June 14, 9-11 am, Meet in the parking lot behind Bueche's grocery store. Clean up area at the top of the boardwalk, between boardwalk and creek bridge. B-C.

CLOTHING ORDER DEADLINE IS JUNE 30, 2017. Please remember to have your check reach our P.O. Box by the deadline to prevent the order from being delayed. We have added a few new items so be sure to check out our website that can be reached through VMS. All sales are final, but if you have purchased an item that you are not quite happy with let us know and we can let others know you have a item you would like to sell.

2017 MASTER GARDENER COLLEGE...From the Ground Up! June 23-24, East Lansing, Mi.

Registration for the 2017 Master Gardener College is open! Visit the [Master Gardener College website](#) for details.

EXTRAORDINARY PROJECT'S

It's not too late to submit your project for the Extraordinary Projects competition which is being held during 2017 Master Gardener College! The deadline for submissions is June 2nd, 2017. Visit the link below for all of the details, including the guidelines, application and a sample project poster.

<http://msue.anr.msu.edu/program/master-gardener-volunteer-program/master-gardener-college/extraordinary-project-search>

DATES TO REMEMBER

OUR JUNE 15th MGAGCM MONTHLY MEETING WILL BE HELD AT WOJO'S GARDEN SPLENDOR, 7360 E. COURT ST., DAVISON, MI. 48423. Our speaker from WoJo's will begin at 5:30 pm, followed by a short break and then the business meeting will begin. You will need to bring your own lawn chairs for this meeting and a 10% discount will be given to all Master Gardeners. You have to tell the cashier that you are a Master Gardener when you make your purchase. This discount is available on the night of the meeting only. Also, at this meeting the Nomination and Election process begins and we will be handing out the job descriptions of the two positions that will be open and a Nominations and Election committee will be formed. The two open positions are Secretary and Director.

We will be giving away three \$25.00 gift cards at this meeting. So plan on coming out to WoJo's and to do some shopping and maybe you will be lucky and win a gift card to do even more shopping. You have to be present to win.

2017 Summer Garden Tour

Fenton Open Gate Garden Club's 20th annual Garden Tour will be held on Sunday, July 9th, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Seven Fenton and surrounding area gardens featured, including one nationally recognized garden.

Advance tickets for \$8 (children 12 & under FREE) available from Garden Club members.

On Tour Day, July 9th, tickets are \$10 (children 12 & under FREE) at A.J. Phillips Fenton Museum, 310 S. Leroy St, in Fenton.

Additional information at OGGC website - www.opengategardenclubgardentour.com.

MGAGCM OFFICERS (2017)

President	Vicki Laurin
810-744-0725	laurinvicki@gmail.com
1st Vice President	Mel Kennedy
810-275-8822	mkennedy60@charter.com
2nd Vice President	Alan Grove
810-922-8776	plantdoc049@outlook.com
Secretary	Dick Moldenhauer
810-695-2649	rnmold1050@aol.com
Treasurer	Michelle Chockley
810-659-8014	chockleym@gmail.com

THIS NEWSLETTER PREPARED BY:

Vicki Laurin, laurinvicki@gmail.com.
George Rappold, grappocp@att.net,
of counsel Ruth Simon.

**CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITES****MMGA Inc Website at:****www.michiganmastergardener.org****MMGA Inc Facebook Page at:****www.facebook.comMichiganMG****MGAGCM Website at: Genesee****County MG.org****MGAGCM Facebook Page at:****http://facebook.com/groups/2169046232310/****Link to VMS: https://**
michigan.volunteersystem.org**Abiya (Abi) Saeed**

Consumer Horticulture Program Instructor

Master Gardener Coordinator

810-244-8531-saeedabi@anr.msu.edu

MSU Extension-Genesee

605 N. Saginaw St. Suite 1A

Flint, MI 48502

(810) 244-8500

Plant & Pest Hotline:

(810) 244-8548

Hours :Monday, Wednesday and Friday
from 8:30 am-1:00pmgeneseeplantpest@anr.msu.edu**Public Office Hours:**

8 am - 1 pm Monday through Friday.

MGAGCM Mailing address:

PO Box 34

Flushing Mi. 48433.

MSU EXTENSION-GENESEE COUNTY
605 N. Saginaw St.
Suite 1A
FLINT, MI 48502
www.msue.msu.edu/genesee

AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION/EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

