Join us for our 2011 Master Gardeners Seventh Annual Garden Walk and Picnic

The 2011 Monroe County Master Gardeners Association is proud to announce the seventh annual garden walk and picnic to be held on Saturday, June 11. Be sure to attend this annual event featuring gardens of fellow Monroe County Master Gardeners! See more about these gardens on pages 3-5 in this issue. One hour of educational credit is earned for the tour of the Willie Streeter Community Gardens and Community Orchard. This year’s gardens and schedule for the walk is as follows:

3:30—3:45 p.m., guided tour of the Willie Streeter Community Gardens in Winslow Woods Park (across from YMCA), 2120 S. Highland Ave. Larime Wilson, Ann Wrenn, and Bill Anderson have organic garden plots there.

3:45—4:30 p.m., guided tour of the Community Orchard (beside the Community Gardens)

4:40—5:40 p.m., Ellen Boruff’s home—2051 E. Schacht Road

6:00—8:00 p.m., Diann Lock’s home—1720 W. That Road

A couple of reminders:

If you have not already done so, please RSVP for this event by responding to the electronic email e-vite that was sent with event details or feel free to email Di Dingman at dg_dingman_1119@comcast.net or call (812) 336-2827 with your RSVP by June 8.

Please bring a side dish, salad or dessert (with serving utensil) to share at Diann Lock’s garden. Drinks, cutlery, and main dish will be provided.

You might want to bring along your bug spray.
On May 24, over 65 members and guests attended our annual intern recognition and plant swap meeting. An ice cream social started the meeting off with time to chat with friends and meet the interns. Many thanks to May refreshment committee members Gretchen Scott, chair, Di Dingman, Trish Gustaitis, John Behringer, Esther Minnick, and Mary-Carol Paul. After a period of announcements regarding our activities for the summer months, Amy Thompson presented certificates to the interns, and they were gifted with a shrub start from our group. Jeff Schafer introduced the speaker for the evening, Carol Whitney, rosarian and Monroe County resident. Carol gave us a pictorial tour of her large garden and the many roses who live there. Included in the tour were suggestions on varieties of roses to plant, proper care for successful roses, and even some types not to plant. Carol said she plants roses she loves, and they thrive for her. She reports that she rarely plants more than one of each variety. Many thanks to Carol for her fine presentation. After the program our annual plant swap was held, and all plants were adopted to start a new life with a lucky Master Gardener.

**We are proud of our interns!**

Congratulations to the following interns who were recognized at the May meeting for successfully completing their class work and examination. We welcome these into our MG Association and invite them to join us for our many fun activities. Interns are Stephen Anderson, Keith Barnhardt, Sandy Belth, Robert Bieder, Janis Brand, Jill Curry, John Emerson, Ramsey Fahim, Diana Fellure, Edward Fellure, Bryan Hane, Jessika Hane, Amanda Harding, Sharon Hobson, Cassie Hudson, Allison Huffman, Jim Jeffries, Chris Johnson, Karen King, Susan Lovell, Dianne May, Karen Rose Montgomery, Abraham Morris, Stephanie Partridge, Dan Pyle, Lynn, Rogers, and Vicki Wilker.

**Tuesday is Demo Garden day**

At the May General meeting, Beth Murray gave a progress review on the 2011 Demo Garden and invited members to design and maintain a special area or just help with the weeding and care of established plots. Each Tuesday evening there will be MGs working at the garden after 6:00 p.m. Come and join the group as we prepare for the visitors at the Monroe County Fair. Bring tools and drinking water. The garden is open and workers can go on days other Tuesdays as your schedule allows and the rain stays away. Contact Beth if you need information.

**Volunteer to present a gardening program**

MCMGA often receives inquiries from the public about speakers for local community meetings and organizations needing assistance with gardening questions. If you would like to be contacted as a speaker for a certain topic or just for general gardening topics, please let Amy or Nancy White know.

**Visit Cheryl’s Garden at Karst Farm Park**

Nancy Fee and her committee report Cheryl’s Garden at Karst Farm Park is looking good this season. New plantings done last year are thriving. Visit the garden by the soccer fields when you are at the park.
Michael Simmons, program specialist, City of Bloomington Parks and Recreation Department, will provide a guided 15-minute tour of the Willie Streeter Community Gardens. The gardens include 116 organic garden plots (68 10’ x 20’ and 48 10’ x 10’), 54 conventional garden plots (10’ x 20’), and 10 raised beds (4’ x 8’ x 2.5’). If you don’t have room to grow a garden, Bloomington P&R is offering space where your green thumb can flourish.

The gardening season runs from April 16 to October 31. All community garden sites are fenced and provide compost facilities. At garden sites, the city provides gardening tools in on-site sheds during garden hours. The city also provides water spigots for hosing and watering plants. The city requires gardeners to maintain their plots. Maintenance includes weeding, removing dead plants and harvesting ripe produce. Gardeners are also responsible for maintaining the woodchip paths throughout the garden in front of their section, which includes weeding, mulching and keeping the path free from plants.

Plant a Row for the Hungry program is sponsored by Worm’s Way, Hilltop Gardens, Mother Hubbard’s Cupboard, Hoosier Hills Food Bank and Bloomingfoods. Gardeners are encouraged to grow an extra row of their produce to donate to Hoosier Hills Food Bank to increase Bloomington’s food security.

Renting small organic plots costs $26 for Bloomington residents/ $31 for non-residents; large organic plots $52/$60; large non-organic plots $52/$60; and raised beds $26/$31.

Amy Roche, co-facilitator, Community Orchard Education & Outreach, will provide a guided 45-minute tour of the Bloomington Community Orchard. Bloomington Community Orchard is an organization devoted to growing fruit for the community to share and enjoy. The publicly owned orchard is maintained entirely by volunteers, and the harvest is available to everyone in the community. The orchard will contribute to Bloomington’s food security, inspire joyful community engagement, and educate citizens while making sustainability delicious.

The City of Bloomington has offered support and a spacious site adjacent to our largest and oldest community garden, Winslow Woods Park, and the YMCA. The publicly owned orchard operates under the auspices of the Bloomington Parks and Recreation Department.

A nine-member volunteer board of directors approves major orchard decisions. Volunteers have organized into teams (communications, education and outreach, expansion, finance, fundraising, site maintenance), and each team has a board member as the team leader.
The Old Boruff Farm Garden

**History of the farm:** Samuel Boruff was a pioneer settler who migrated from Tennessee in 1819 to Bloomington settling on Schacht Road on a farm which was later owned by the Schacht family who ran a dairy there. In 1850 Samuel purchased from the land agent our present 80 acres located across the road from his first farm. It had not had a previous owner. Upon his death the 80 acres was willed to his youngest son, Dougan Boruff, the only child of his second wife. His first wife had 16 children, most of whom lived to adulthood.

In the 1880’s a widow did not inherit her husband’s property. Dougan therefore made a home for his mother and half sister. Dougan married Alice Rogers, a school teacher at the Snoddy School, who was the daughter of James Rogers, owner of the farm with the old red brick house on Rogers Road. They had one child, Glenn, who graduated as a chemist from IU about 1915. He attended the old Bloomington High School in Seminary Square, where he met Edith Weybright, whom he later married in Washington, D.C. where she served nearby in the Chemical Warfare Division of the U. S. Army during WW I.

Although Dougan and Alice moved to East University Street so that Glenn would not have to ride his horse to school every day, they maintained the farm during Dougan’s lifetime. Sometime during the depression it was rented to a farmer who ran a dairy there. It was rented out to various farmers until the mid 1950s when Glenn and Edith decided to upgrade the old house, putting in a basement for a furnace, electricity, water and indoor bathroom.

After Glenn passed away in the 1960s, my husband, William (Bill) and his brother inherited it. We bought out the brother’s half to be able to build a house upon retirement from our home in Lakewood, Ohio. From 1968 until 2005 we raised around 60 head of beef cattle and hay to feed them.

**Description:** The farm consists of 80 acres, a quarter mile wide and a half mile deep which is an eighth of a section. Our house and grounds are on two and a half acres divided off of the farm. The old farm house and barn are on one and a half acres. As soon as the house was finished and grounds rolled out, I began planting trees and making flower beds. Because of the haying process, Bill liked to use the backyard to haul wagonloads of hay to the barn. So my gardens all became long beds parallel with the fields. During the year and a half it took to build the house, I grew persimmon trees and asparagus plants in the old house gardens.

Some of the original bushes in the flower beds have died and been replaced with plants. I have always enjoyed growing my plants from seed. Some did well and others were experiments. Over ten years, I grew prize winning gladiolas and dahlias. It was so much work digging and storing the roots and bulbs that my back finally gave out. Lots of blue ribbons and trophies were accumulated then at the county fair and State Fair. I even went to Louisville to a gladiola show. It was very exciting to see all the fantastic flowers developed by the growers in Indiana and Kentucky.

(continued on page 8)
Lock's Garden

As you enter our property, you'll cross a small, spring-fed stream. It is walled on the north side for ease of mowing. Along this north side of the stream, we planted and encouraged many wildflowers. At the spring we planted lilac, lilies and cork screw willows. Near the stream is our first managed flower bed. It consists of several rose bushes which surround a six-feet old limestone hand-cut horse trough, now used as a large flower pot. Next, up the hill on the right, you'll see a small butterfly flower bed. Focal point is a sculpture by Reza Pishgahi. The purpose of this isolated bed was to cover a deep hole which was left filled with old limestone. Along the front of the house we planted low spreading shrubs and phlox which hang over the ledge.

The back of the house is our oasis. The garden/patio was added in 2006. I believe it takes five years to establish a garden, and this is its fifth year. This year the returning blooming spring flowers, bushes and trees were at their best. Plantings were chosen to bring color and scent to the yard. Plants to me are like furniture. I will not hesitate to move any flower, hosta, or shrub until I find a place which both I like and it will grow.

Limestone is the heart of this area, so we wanted to incorporate it into the space. We worked with Mother Nature Landscaping to design the garden for beauty and durability. In Illinois, we had a very small stream, and we wanted to continue the sound of water in the yard. The old cellar is part of the original farm house which was on this property. The side walls were a little fragile, so those were shored up. We use the old cellar as a garden focal point and as storage for gardening equipment. I love symmetry, so one waterfall seemed off balance. The two waterfalls are easy to care for—the water re-circulates. We have the water on year round. In the winter ice freezes on the surface and has beauty with running water continuing under the ice. This provides water for winter birds. Amazingly, the east and west falls have two different personalities due to the minimal amount of sun differences they receive. In addition to the enjoyable sound, the water is a playground to birds, insects, frogs, and our dogs.

The plantings are mainly perennials with spots left for small number of annuals. This summer we will be hosting my brother's wedding the end of July. White flowers have been added to this year’s color of choice. (Note: the one bed of ying/yang in light and dark begonia on the right/front of the cellar; left/front of the cellar is a bed of begonia in heart shape) I am especially happy with a perennial begonia which blooms white in late summer. During the summer it has a beautiful green leaf with a red veins and stem. These are very thick under the crab apple tree. In the garden outside our bay window is a limestone creation which we constructed from odds and ends laying around the old cellar.

Garden tacky—which I LOVE—you’ll spot many oversized insects and life-sized animals made from farm equipment—a squirrel, pheasant, bat, turtle, and turkey. The upper patio, nearest the house was originally a plain concrete patio. We covered it in limestone and added the outdoor kitchen. The pergola was already there, so we mirrored this pergola when the lower patio was built.

(continued on page 8)
Janet Macunovich was a speaker at the 2009 Master Gardener’s Annual Purdue State Master Gardener Conference. I was inspired by her enthusiasm for gardening and gardening design. I enjoyed and appreciated her repeated statement, “If it’s brown, cut it down,” and the many recommendations she offered during her presentation. Thus, I purchased her book, believing I would read it straightaway. Over a year later I finally pulled it off the shelf to read with plans to apply her 12-step method to my garden re-dos.

Designing Your Gardens… is a workbook, a lab manual with nigh a colorful photo or developed garden within; it’s even spiral bound for easy handling. The author uses diagrams and graphs to methodically guide readers through the 12-step plan, one step at a time. Her 12-steps to a successful landscape design, each described in a chapter, include setting goals, establishing a budget, thinking about maintenance, assessing the site, making a plant list, choosing a focal point, making a scale drawing, place the focal point plant, framing the focal point, adding to the basic plan, outlining the garden, and adjusting before planting. Each chapter offers detail in an understandable language suitable for a garden rookie or a veteran. Steps 1 through 4 are about the heart of the design. Readers ask questions and gather essential information about the garden location and its owner. Steps 5 through 12 have readers taking all those facts and insights gathered in Steps 1-4 and working them into a prize-winning garden design.

Within the book’s pages are lots of extra pieces of information highlighted within areas called Design Basics and in gray boxes, she shares stories, personal examples, and advice. Sections called Take a Closer Look and Says Who feature even more gardening fine points. Many pages have a designated areas to write and make notations. Ms Macunovich also includes work sheets—Site Assessment Sheets—to assist in organizing a design plan as well as grid sheets for the drawings.

I soon discovered her garden design process is most definitely assists readers and applies to home gardeners, professional garden designers and to all in between. As the author states, “The book spells out a way to design a garden, draw up a plan, and then evaluate the garden’s success.”

Do I recommend this book as a garden designing essential? Absolutely! I’ve acquired a lot of information from the books I’ve read over the past few years, looked at a lot of picture books and journals, attended a number of workshops, and asked a lot of questions, but I found the glue that makes it all come together within Designing Your Gardens and Landscapes.
So are we done talking about all the rain and general weather yet? (Hardly!) After 22 hours of power outage here yesterday and a tornado watch today and our Internet connection very sporadic, my research for this month’s column has been sporadic also (excuses, excuses). BUT then, out of the blue, my sister-in-law Kathy Sparks, a Master Gardener herself (Pacific Northwest) loaned me a book that will be our topic, whether I can get online or not: *How do we adapt our gardens to our aging/changing abilities?* Got my attention!

The book is *Gardening for a Lifetime: How to Garden Wiser as You Grow Older* by Sydney Eddison, who has written several other gardening books as well. Here is a bit of a bio on her:

"Sydney Eddison is the author of five books on gardening and writes regularly for *Fine Gardening* and *The Gardener*. She has also been featured in *Martha Stewart Living, Country Living Gardener*, and other magazines. Eddison teaches classes at the prestigious New York Botanical Garden and the Institute of Ecosystems Studies in Millbrook, New York. Eddison’s own acclaimed Connecticut garden has been featured on television on *Martha Stewart Living* and *The Victory Garden*. This is an iVillage GardenWeb forum link with more info:


Here are a few of her gems as examples: Consider shrubs to replace some labor-intensive perennials; appreciate those big trees, since shade gardens are easier to maintain than sunny ones; sometimes downsizing is the only/best way to keep your sanity (or not?!) She also has very specific suggestions on easier-care perennials. I may just have to buy that book.

Online, *The Garden Granny* cites research that we can remain physically fit as we age, if we stay active in the garden: http://www.thegardengranny.com/gardening-as-healthy-exercise.

A *Greenwood Project Garden* link shares ideas about gardening with disabilities:


So, my fond wish is that we can share our own adaptations here, whether we have read/will read the book or links or not. Please email me at Karen.k.sparks@mac.com with what YOU have done or plan to do in this arena. I have drawn a few lines myself, and I am all ears! A future column will get back to this, I promise. We can help each other.
July Master Gardeners meeting is at Demonstration Garden

Mark your calendar. Our next Master Gardener meeting is on July 19 at 6:30 p.m. at the demo garden for "group mulch night". We will prepare the garden by weeding, clipping, and mulching to receive visitors during the Monroe County Fair. Bring tools and drinking water.

By Bethany Murray

Working the Purdue State Fair information booth

Monroe County Master Gardeners are scheduled to work the Purdue State Fair Booth on Sunday, August 14 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., and on Wednesday, August 17, from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. This is a wonderful opportunity to earn volunteer hours, learn new things, and meet some great people from all over the state. Volunteers receive a free pass to get into the State Fair. Interested persons should contact Preston Gwinn at 320-2150 to sign up.

By Preston Gwinn

The Old Boruff Farm Garden (continued from page 4)

Gardens are always a work in progress. There are many places around the house where I need to divide and restore plants. The iris in particular need it this year. The daylilies also need de-grassing or replanting. After the many daffodils go dormant, I would like to dig up and separate and spread them out. A few more shrubs would help in several places in front of the house foundation. My biggest goal is just to maintain and replace the bare spots. We never watered the lawn in dry summers because it is always a challenge to just water the flower beds. Recently I have been edging some of the beds with various stones. Some stones from Lake Erie edge a crabapple tree. Geodes from the creek line the river birch in front of the garage. I hope this spring I can plant some new apple and peach trees. The old orchard from the 1950s is all gone but one lone apple remains.

Lock’s Garden (continued from page 5)

Behind the house and up the hill are two gardens. One is a cutting/weed garden and further up is the vegetable/herb garden. The vegetable garden will feed us all summer and much of the winter. Being in the county and knowing the history of deer in this area, we can say we have not yet had deer in any of our gardens. Raccoons, yes, we have to beat them to the corn.

Types of trees: Red Maple, Crab Apple ‘Crison Queen’, Blue Spruce ‘Baby Blue Eyes’; Weeping Cherry, Weeping Willow, Cork Screw Willow.

Garden Fair wrap-up

Our 2011 Garden Fair is now history, and thanks are due to so many who worked hard in planning and carrying out our second fair. Attendance was higher than last year even with the holiday weekend and the rainy weather. Our profit after expenses was also higher than last year. Surveys of our vendors mentioned how well organized and friendly the workers were and that they liked the location and the hours. The good food at the Café was appreciated as were the helpers to set up and take down the booths. Special notice was made of the many door prizes, the excellent seminar speakers, and the wide variety of vendors and non-profits.

Special thanks go to our Garden Fair Committees and their chairpersons.

*Physical Arrangements:* David Dunatchik, chair, Stephen Anderson, Amanda Harding, Barb Cappy, Herman Young, Jeff Schafer, Mary Jane Hall, Mary Ackerman, Dan Nichols, David Burkhart, Linda Emerson, John Emerson, Penny Austin, Herman Young

*Master Gardener Sales Booth:* Billie Moore, chair

*Vendors:* Peggy Reis-Krebs, chair, Vicky St. Myers, Lisa Denlinger, Mary Ackerman, Katrina Ladwig, Kathleen Baker, David Hunt, Melissa Britton, Julia LeBeau, Lauren Bikoff

*Door Prizes:* Diann Lock, chair, Nancy Page, Judy Hawkins

*Education Seminars:* Jeff Schafer, chair, Bob Baird

*Publicity:* Nancy White, chair, Bob Baird, Linda Burke, Jeanne Cox, Patty Crites, Charlotte Griffin, Gary Anderson, Karen Sparks, Lisa Denlinger.


*Financial:* Diana Young, chair, Herman Young, Esther Minnick, Dianne May, Di Dingman, Robin Nordstrom, Marilyn Brinley

By Nancy White
June Master Gardeners field trip is to Stranger’s Hill Organics

On Monday, May 9, Master Gardeners Mary Jane Hall, Kay Cunningham, Evelyn Harrell, Ida Bouvier, Penny Austin, and Extension Educator Amy Thompson visited the Harvest Moon Flower Farm in Owen County. Tour guide and owner, Linda Chapman, gave a tour of the extensive operation and explained the evolution of this popular but labor-intensive resource for local outdoor markets, bazaars, and dining destinations. The visit was informative—questions asked and answered covered the gamut—and everyone gained a new appreciation for the spring greens served by local restaurateurs.

Future field trips include a trip to Stranger’s Hill Organics on Howard Road on Monday, June 13th. Meet at 3:30 p.m. at the northeast corner of the Kmart West parking lot to carpool. Rachael Beyer, farm manager, will provide a tour of the facility. If you have not signed up for this opportunity to see this well-known operation, email ear4841@comcast.net to get on the list.

We will visit the Madeline F. Elder Greenhouse at the Indiana Museum of Art in Indianapolis on Saturday, July 10th. We’ll also tour the IMA gardens and visit the gift shop. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the southeast corner of the Marsh North parking lot to carpool. Again, if you have not signed up for this opportunity to see this well-known operation, email ear4841@comcast.net to get on the list.

Volunteers are needed

With our busy schedule of activities ahead for the summer months, you may want to post this list of dates and contact persons. Volunteers are needed for all these projects.

Saturday, June 18, 10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. and Sunday, June 19, noon to 4:00 p.m., help is needed for the Master Gardener booth during the Bloomington Garden Club’s annual Summer Garden Walk, located at the History Center, corner of 6th and Washington streets, Nancy White, contact person.

Any day but especially on any Tuesday, 6:00 p.m. to dark, work in the Demo Garden at the Monroe County Fairgrounds, Beth Murray, contact person.

Sunday, August 11 and Wednesday, August 14, 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., work at the Purdue Master Gardener Booth at the Indiana State Fair, Indianapolis, Preston Gwinn, contact person.

Saturday, July 23 or Monday, July 25, assist with Open Class flower and vegetable entries at the Monroe County Fair. Esther Minnick and Diana Young, contact persons.

Monday, July 25, assist with Open Class Floral Design entries at the Monroe County Fair, Nancy White, contact person.
# Volunteer opportunities compiled by Nancy White

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<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Jobs</th>
<th>Contact</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hilltop Garden and Nature Center</td>
<td>year around</td>
<td>various</td>
<td>Charlotte Griffin, 345-8128</td>
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<td>MG Demonstration Garden</td>
<td>seasonal</td>
<td>various</td>
<td>Bethany Murray, 339-8876, <a href="mailto:bethany.murray@gmail.com">bethany.murray@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>Bloomington Community Orchard</td>
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<td>Stacey Decker, <a href="mailto:getinvolved@bloomingtoncommunityorchard.org">getinvolved@bloomingtoncommunityorchard.org</a></td>
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<td>T. C. Steele SHS</td>
<td>seasonal</td>
<td>various</td>
<td>Davie Kean, 988-2785</td>
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<td>Flatwoods Park Butterfly Gardens</td>
<td>seasonal</td>
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<td>Cathy Meyer, 349,2800</td>
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<td>MCMGA Horticulture Hotline</td>
<td>year around</td>
<td>inquiries and research</td>
<td>Amy Thompson, 349-2575</td>
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<td>MCMGA Speakers Bureau</td>
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<td>MCMGA Newsletter</td>
<td>year around</td>
<td>writing articles</td>
<td>Helen Hollingsworth, 332-7313</td>
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<td>MCMGA Web Site</td>
<td>year around</td>
<td>various</td>
<td>Barbara Hays, 332-4032</td>
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<td>MG Program Committee Member</td>
<td>year around</td>
<td>plan MG programs</td>
<td>Evelyn Harrell, 339-0572, Jeff Schafer,325-3130</td>
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<tr>
<td>Middle Way House</td>
<td>seasonal</td>
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<td>Clara Wilson, 333-7404</td>
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<td>Wylie House</td>
<td>year around</td>
<td>various</td>
<td>Sherry Wise, 855-6224</td>
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<td>Mother Hubbard’s Cupboard</td>
<td>year around</td>
<td>education, resource</td>
<td>Stephanie Solomon, 334-8374</td>
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<tr>
<td>WonderLab Garden</td>
<td>2 times monthly</td>
<td>various</td>
<td>Nancy White, 824-4426</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hoosier Hills Foodbank</td>
<td>year around</td>
<td>various</td>
<td>Jessica Williams, 334-8374</td>
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<td>summer 2010</td>
<td>design and maintain</td>
<td>Nancy Fee, 332-1940</td>
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Please wear your name badge when volunteering.

Remember to report 2010/2011 hours **only** at http://www.four-h.purdue.edu/mg/.
June 2011

Cooperative Extension Service
3400 South Walnut Street
Bloomington, IN 47401

Join us for our 2011 Master Gardeners Seventh Annual Garden Walk and Picnic on Saturday, June 12!

2011 MCMGA Board

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Hours Report: http://www.four-h.purdue.edu/mg/

2011 Master Gardener Calendar

June 13—16, Lake Superior’s Isle Royale National Park, four day workshop, kbrdo@irkpa.org
Saturday, July 9, 10:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m., Madison County Master Gardeners are offering 2011 Garden Tour. Admission is $5. For details, visit www.madisoncountymastergardener.org.
Tuesday, July 19, 6:30 p.m. Master Gardeners meeting at the Demonstration Garden to prepare for visitors during the County Fair. Bring tools and water to drink.
July 23-30, Monroe County Fair at the fairgrounds