

ROOTS AND SHOOTS

March 2008 Volume 24, Issue 3



Our General Meeting Is Tuesday, March 25

By Nancy White
The Monroe County Master Gardener general meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 25, at 6:30 pm at the First Christian Church, 215 E. Kirkwood in downtown Bloomington.

The evening's agenda includes a brief business meeting followed by two informational programs, each worth an education hour of credit. The first program, *Keeping Fit for Our Gardening Season Ahead*, is presented by Tom Spevak, Bloomington Hospital Physical Therapist. Wear comfortable clothing to allow for on-site practice of some exercises. The second program, *Photographing Our Gardens*, will be presented by photographer Jeff Hammond. Jeff is an award-winning Bloomington freelance photographer who specializes in wildlife and nature subjects. He is a board member of the Bloomington Photography Club and Hoosier Outdoor Writers. Door prizes will be awarded at the meeting.

Ample parking is available in the city lot behind the church, in the bank parking lot across the street, and on the street. Enter the church at the office entrance on Kirkwood (not through the sanctuary doors) and follow the signs to the Gathering Space on the first floor. Guests are always welcome at our meetings so bring along your gardening friends and neighbors.

2008 Midwest Region Master Gardener Conference

By Marlene Jaglinski
The wonderful thing about gardening is that each year about this time we start chomping at the bit to dig in the dirt and plan all those wonderful garden projects and plantings we didn't get to last year. Maybe we will get to them, maybe not, but having our gardens as a mental focus keeps us going through the doldrums that us midwesterners are facing this time of year. And now we have another garden adventure to look forward to.

The 2008 Midwest Regional Master Gardener Conference will be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on July 16 -19, 2008. The theme of the conference is *Gardening through the Continuum of Life* and will be an exciting look at gardening through all ages and phases of life. The conference is being hosted by the local Master Gardeners Association of the Milwaukee area (SouthEast Wisconsin Master Gardeners – SEWMG).

Our website is now up and running. Participants can register at: <http://sewmg.encampus.com/> <<http://sewmg.encampus.com/>> . Mail in registrations are also available with complete information on the website. The website does not have all the wonderful tourism activities listed as of yet, but we encourage everyone to check back to get the latest updates and information as it is added.

Keep your Master Gardener Notebook up to date; you can download the new and revised items from <http://www.hort.purdue.edu/mg/pubs/mg_pubs.html>

Member News



Horticulture Seminar

Nine local Master Gardeners attended the February 14 Horticulture Seminar in Indianapolis co-sponsored by the Indianapolis Museum of Art. Four sessions featured internationally-known speakers. A book display and sale and informal chats with the speakers rounded out the busy day. The theme for the entire day was *Patterns in the Garden*, and numerous visuals demonstrated the need for the use of patterns to add interest and organization to your garden.

By
Nancy
White

The morning sessions highlighted the language of patterns and discussed how plant selection, color choices, structure, movement, foliage, fragrance, and other essentials can define the 14 distinct patterns occurring in gardens. Speakers Valerie Easton, garden columnist for the *Seattle Times*, and Raymond Obe, English clematis breeder, stressed the importance of creativity and bravery in designing gardening patterns. Obe challenged attendees look for excellent new clematis cultivars that will be outstanding choices for containers and small spaces. They should be in our garden centers by summer of 2009.

In the afternoon, garden lighting was the topic with Jan Moyer displaying her award-winning landscape designs that give mystery and magic to large and small spaces. Finally, Gary Koller convinced those attending that native trees should be the anchor for any well-patterned garden. All in all, it was a wonderful send-off to new, creative experiences in landscape pattern design.

New Plants for Container Gardens

Container gardening is becoming a must, especially for those of us with limited gardening space. One new plant that does well in containers is the first-ever mini-buddleia, 'Blue Chip' which is less than two feet high and wide, is a favorite of hummingbirds and butterflies, is tolerant of heat and humidity, and never needs deadheading. Another that works well is the 2008 Hosta of the Year, 'Blue Mouse Ears', which is a true miniature. Also, look for the clematis, 'Bourbon', which is only three to four feet high and wide, perfect for containers.

Check Out the Indy Zoo Website

The Indianapolis Zoo website contains some pertinent info for any family that might want to take a trip to the zoo during spring break or on a weekend. Mary Welch-Keeseey, the White River Garden's Consumer Horticulture Specialist, gives regular updates in her column on the website titled *What's Blooming at White River Garden*. Check it out at "www.Indyzoo.com. Mary reports that the winter aconite is always the first bulb to flower and is expected in mid-March, followed by the crocus and the daffodils. But the first flowers to open are on the Ozark witchhazel, a shrub native to Missouri. The pussy willow fur will be visible for several weeks, starting now. The flowers at White River Garden know the secret that spring is on its way. Why not go up soon to see for yourself?

Plan to Attend the Cincinnati Flower Show

Monroe County Parks and Recreation is sponsoring a one-day bus excursion to the Cincinnati Flower show on Wednesday, April 23. Cost is \$46 and includes transportation, admission to the show, and a snack. The bus will depart from K-Mart East at 8:00 a.m. and return about 6:30 p.m. To join in this fun time, contact Parks and Recreation at 349-2800. Registration is requested by March 19. If you go, you are sure to see some MG friends.

(continued on page 3)

Member News (continued from page 2)

2008 Master Gardener Meetings Announced

Note the dates and details of our general meetings for 2008. More information will be included in future issues of *Roots and Shoots*.

Date	Agenda	Education Hours Credit
Tuesday, March 25	Business Meeting and Pro-	2 hours
Tuesday, May 27	Intern Class Graduation and Plant Exchange	
Tuesday, July 15	Demo Garden Work Session	
Tuesday, September 23	Business Meeting and Programs	2 hours
Monday, December 1	20 th Anniversary Celebration	

Field Trips Coming Up

Again this year we will be planning several short fieldtrips to points of gardening interest in Monroe County and surrounding communities. Details are still being worked out, but we hope to have three to four trips in the summer months. Be sure to come to the March meeting where exact dates and places will be announced. Sign up can be done at that meeting or by phone or e-mail. If you miss the March meeting, check out the April *Roots and Shoots* for registration information.

Indiana's GOING LOCAL!

An increasing number of individuals are rejecting well traveled food items in favor of more locally grown and produced ones. They call themselves "locavores". The term refers to individuals who choose only to eat foods that have been grown and/or raised within 100 miles of their homes. Locavores pride themselves on finding and using ingredients that are locally available and in season.

Folks who love Indiana's fresh, local, and in-season foods now have a place to call home at GOING LOCAL-- www.goinglocal-info.com. The site showcases and celebrates Indiana farmers, food artisans, farmers' markets, local foods, and producers.

Site visitors will find information to help them "*discover, celebrate, and savor the abundance of Indiana's fresh, in-season, and local foods*". Going Local is a community for people who want:

- Sources for delicious, healthy, locally grown, and in-season foods.
- Information about Indiana farmers, businesses, and individuals who grow, raise, produce, and sell local foods.
- Recipes and tips for preparing seasonal dishes that are healthy, quick, easy, and delicious.

A community for sharing thoughts, ideas, and experiences for "Going Local" in Indiana. The site provides year round information and is updated on a weekly basis.

Contact victoria@goinglocal-info.com.

From the President's Desk



By
Marilyn
Brinley

We are getting closer, folks. Spring is getting ready to burst out all over our landscapes. As far as I am concerned, it will be not a moment too soon. I wanted to bring you up to date on our 2008 committee chairpersons. Bethany Murray has graciously agreed to head the demo garden for this year, and she would greatly appreciate all the help she can get in preparing the garden for this year's growing season. Two new committees are *Continuing Education* and the *Grant Committee*. I thank both Susan Osborne and Nancy White for agreeing to head these committees. All of our committee chairs are busy, dedicated individuals and will gladly accept any who wish to help out and earn some volunteer hours.

Cheryl's Garden—Laramie Wilson
Demo Garden—Bethany Murray
Wonder Garden—Nancy White
Audit committee—Mary Jane Hall

Continuing Education—Susan Osborne
Grant committee—Nancy White
Fair Booth—Carol Cobine

Thanks again to all of our wonderful members who help keep this organization growing. Let's all give them a hand, both as applause and as workers.

Pernicious Plant Pests Quiz by Marilyn Brinley

Match the description of the offender and the damage with the responsible party.

Description:

- 1 ____ A large web contains many creatures and wraps a tree branch. The leaves of the tree are being eaten and dying.
- 2 ____ Tiny green or brown creatures gather along flower buds and new shoot growth.
- 3 ____ Shiny copper and green insects appear mid-summer and eat many flowers and leaves on most plants.
- 4 ____ The plant looks sickly but no visible signs of infestation. In advanced stages, some webbing becomes apparent. If the affected plant is tapped over a piece of white paper, some of the dots that fall may move.
- 5 ____ A seemingly healthy flower bud turns brown, and the shape is distorted. Again, no visible culprit is found.
- 6 ____ A structure, looking very much like a thin pine cone, is hanging from a branch of a tree or bush.
- 7 ____ A plant begins to lose leaves, and a sticky substance covers the leaves and the surrounding area. Small dots can be found on the veins of the leaf.
- 8 ____ White or brown areas appear within the structure of the leaf, forming weaving trails.
- 9 ____ A fluffy white substance appears in stem and leaf axils.
- 10 ____ Holes appear in foliage and slimy trails are found.

See page 5 for list of possible culprits.

MCMGA Demonstration Garden



July in Indiana reminds me of ripe red tomatoes, sweet corn right off the cob, and the Monroe County Fair. The fairground, located on the west side of Bloomington near the airport, showcases the Monroe County Fair annually during the last week of July. This longstanding local event allows 4-H'ers, local residents, and commercial businesses to all come together in a spirit of fun and healthy competition and provides a wholesome recreational destination for adults and children alike.

By
Bethany
Murray

One of the little known treasures of the fair is the MCMGA Demonstration Garden. Found nestled between two facility buildings west of the poultry barn, the Demonstration Garden is a unique opportunity for MCMGA members to showcase their favorite plants and gardening techniques. Fairgoers access the Demo Garden through an elegant blooming arbor. The path leads past the perennial garden on the left and back to the savannah consisting of tall grasses and flowering butterfly bushes. The garden consists of two shade gardens (one established and one new), an heirloom vegetable garden, and a mature herb garden. The remainder of the land is subdivided into plots, each of which is available to MCMGA members for development. Last year, plots were developed into an informal annual knot garden, a mulch demonstration project, a straw bale planting demonstration, a noxious agricultural plant display, and container plantings. Additionally, three raised 4' x 6' beds are partially filled with hardy succulents in a rock garden, daylilies and other plants.

Each spring, the MCMGA members meet at the Demo Garden for an initial clean-up and weeding session. Thereafter, members who have adopted a plot meet weekly to work on their spaces and further develop the garden for show. Each member is allocated \$50 per plot to purchase supplies if needed. About one week before the fair, the whole group will meet once again at the garden for last minute cleanup and to spread mulch on the winding pathways.

Six to eight plots are currently unassigned and available for this year's demonstration. MCMGA members should consider adopting a plot (or sharing a plot with a friend!) and showing off those gardening skills! You can work on your space independently (the fairgrounds are nearly always open during gardening season) or with other members during our weekly work session (which is as much fun as work). Work in the Demo Garden counts as volunteer hours toward your certification as well.

For more information or to claim a plot please email Beth Murray at Bethany.Murray@gmail.com, or call her at 339-8876.

Culprits (from quiz on page 4):

- a. Aphid
- b. Bagworm
- c. Eastern tent caterpillar
- d. Japanese beetle
- e. Leaf miner

- f. Mealy bug
 - g. Scale
 - h. Slug or snail
 - i. Spider mite
 - j. Thrip
- See answers on page 10.

A Handy Book on Hostas



The Hosta Book, Second Edition, edited and compiled by Paul Aden, Timber Press, 2003.

By
M. Susan
Osborne

Tree roots are one of the greatest challenges for a shade gardener with a limited plant selection running a close second. The bulk of my personal gardening is in shaded areas, and those factors have continually affected my gardening success. So, I am always looking for plants that are hardier and offer more variety. One such plant, I have discovered, is the *Hosta* genus. I truly believe you could refer to hostas as the perfect perennial since they offer options and advantages to shade gardeners that few perennials can equal. Hostas are attractive foliage plants that prosper in the shade. Even though they do not offer winter interest, they do offer a remarkable display of foliage along with fragrant blooms during the bulk of the growing season. Because of my success with growing hostas, I began looking for a book that would offer information and varieties on the genus. I found *The Hosta Book*.

The Hosta Book is not large, it's not an encyclopedia of hosta plants, and it's not even an easy to read book. It's not filled with lots of textbook information, funny stories, or graphs and charts. *The Hosta Book* is a book about hostas – period. However, because the book offers more than one writer's knowledge of the plant, you are offered a plethora of information. The 130 page text has fourteen chapters, an appendix, and index. One look at the Table of Contents and you soon discover that *The Hosta Book* refers to more than just the genus. Topics such as hosta diversity, cultivation, Latinized names, floral arrangements, woodland settings, and plant and color combinations immediately indicate that you are being offered a variety of interesting topics about hostas. *The Hosta Book*, which achieved the status of a horticultural bestseller, provides concise, yet clear, information on hostas and shade gardening, as well as great photography.

The Hosta Book, says the compiler, was designed to “assist the novice gardener and to serve as a guide and reference for the more practiced gardener.” And it does just that. I believe this book would be a valuable addition to your garden library and should be on your winter reading list. I hope you will enjoy reading it as much as I did!

Speak Up – Make Your Wishes Known for 2010 State MG Conference

By Rosie Lerner,
State Master
Gardener
Coordinator

Please provide input on the 2010 State Master Gardener Conference. I am looking ahead to hosting the 2010 Purdue Master Gardener State Conference here in West Lafayette and am seeking your input on location and time of year. I've put together a VERY brief (3 question) questionnaire on Survey Monkey. The link to the survey can be accessed on the Purdue Master Gardener webpage <<http://www.hort.purdue.edu/mg/>>. This survey will be open for two weeks, closing after March 18, 2008.

**Send your record of education and volunteer hours to the extension office.
A copy of the record sheet for recording hours is available for printing on the website,
mcmga.net.**

Your MCMGA Board at Work

Editor's Note: The MCMGA board is composed of the president, vice president for programs, vice president for education, the secretary, treasurer, journalist, director at large, director of communications, director of records, Fair Board representative, and extension educator, a total of ten people as well as ex officio members who participate as needed. The board meets monthly and makes decisions on behalf of the membership on topics that come before the board. The bylaws printed in our membership guide provide a description of the duties of the MCMGA officers. This month and in future months, members and ex officio members will describe the work they do on your behalf.



Amy Thompson, Extension Educator

My job responsibilities as Extension Educator for Agriculture and Natural Resources for the Purdue Cooperative Extension Service in Monroe County covers a wide range of activities and duties. Through these activities and duties, I seek to extend research-based educational programs and information in response to people's needs and interests in the area of agriculture and natural resources. Within the broad terms of Agriculture and Natural Resources falls Consumer Horticulture and thus Master Gardener program. My part of the local coordination of the Purdue Master Gardener program includes:

- ▶ Planning and conducting the local intern training program to meet Purdue guidelines, including covering the required core topics and identifying topics that are local priority
- ▶ Conducting recruitment and publicity for the Master Gardener program (thankfully many of you provide invaluable assistance with that task)
- ▶ Ensuring that, as Purdue volunteers, new class members complete required paperwork on the pest management information policy and adult behavioral expectations. We additionally request that volunteers give us permission to complete a background check because volunteers frequently work with youth.
- ▶ Doing my best to see that our Master Gardeners receive the certification and recognition they deserve
- ▶ Tracking overall volunteer and educational hours completed by Monroe County Master Gardeners
- ▶ Reporting, in an annual impact statement, the Master Gardener activities in the county
- ▶ Making connections between volunteers and local agencies or groups who have volunteer opportunities
- ▶ Having the discretion to make decisions about what counts for volunteer and educational hours

I attended as many general meetings of the Monroe County Master Gardener association as my schedule allows and also regularly attend monthly board meetings. In the two years that I have been in the educator position in Monroe County, the MCMGA has been blessed with a board that does a wonderful job in conducting the business of the association. Because the board is full of such capable people, my role is what it is supposed to be, that of an advisor. I often provide updates on the current class, statewide activities, and community events which may be of interest to the association. I also suggest opportunities which hopefully result in increased volunteer activity. In the time I have been on the board, we have adopted the statewide Master Gardener guidelines and have seen an increase in the number of reported hours. We have also made extensive revisions to the MCMGA bylaws which included creating staggered terms for the association officers. This will hopefully add to the stability of the organization from year to year. I sincerely hope the program will continue to grow, and we will have more and more members actively participating in the association. Working with this group is one of the things I enjoy most about my position.

Garden Programs from Bloomington Parks and Recreation

Community Garden Project

Since 1997, the Community Garden Project has enabled novice and experienced gardeners to learn and practice the art of organic gardening in a community garden located in beautiful Crestmont Park near Tri-North Middle School. Established with a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Community Garden Project provides gardeners with plots of varying sizes in a fenced enclosure, initial tilling, sources of water, maintained permanent paths, composting, soil testing, access to gardening tools (including adaptive tools), seeds and other supplies, and the advice of the Garden Supervisor (if requested). Workshops help beginning organic gardeners learn the basics and demonstrate advanced techniques for experienced gardeners. Support and accessible raised beds are available for gardeners with disabilities. Plots are available April 1 to October 31. For more information, call 349-3700. All ages are welcome.

Gardening Tool Rentals

If you don't own your own tools but would still like to garden, we have the perfect solution. Rent a set of gardening tools (shovel, fork, rake, hoe, hand spade, hand transplanter and hand cultivator) for the entire gardening season (April 1 through October 31) for one low price, half of which is refundable upon the return of the tools. We'll store the tools over the winter and have them sharpened, oiled and ready to go for the next gardening season. For more information, call Bradley Drake at 349-3704. Rental rate applies for all or any part of the gardening season. Tools may be used at community gardens or for backyard gardening. Cost: \$40

Phenology in the Garden

Phenology is the study of annual cycles and how plants and animals respond to seasonal changes in the environment. Participants will learn to use sequence of bloom calendars to plan gardens that are beautiful throughout the year. Participants also will learn how using pest emergence schedules can help prevent pest damage in the garden. Phenology is fascinating for the curious and essential for the perfectionist.

Dates: Thursdays, 3/27-4/3, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.; register by 3/21

Cost: \$17/in-city, \$21/non-city (2 classes, 4 hours)

Ages: 18 yrs. and up

Location: City Hall, Kelly Conference Room, #155

Instructor: Michael Simmons, City of Bloomington Parks and Recreation

Pruning Plants with Nature in Mind

The class will focus on methods of pruning trees and shrubs taking natural growth patterns and keeping fruit trees productive into account. The class will cover proper tools and how to use them, as well as how to decide what to prune and what to leave untouched.

Date: Saturday, 4/12, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.; register by 4/1

Cost: \$8/in-city, \$10/non-city

Ages: 18 yrs. and up

Location: Hinkle-Garton Farmstead Historic Site, 2920 E. 10th St.

Instructor: Bruce Behan

Grow More Food!

Learn how to make your garden more productive. This class will cover soil preparation in garden beds, synergistic plant combinations, vertical gardening, biointensive planting techniques, and how to plan for continual harvest. Learn easy ways to increase your garden yields!

Date: Tuesday, 4/22, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.; register by 4/15

Cost: \$6/in-city, \$7/non-city

Ages: 18 yrs. and up

Location: Community Garden Project in Crestmont Park

Instructor: Stephanie Solomon and Brooke Gentile

Other: Rain date is 5/29.

For more information about the opportunities listed above email PUB@bloomington.in.gov or call 349-3737

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES COMPILED BY NANCY WHITE

Location	Time	Jobs	Contact
Hilltop Garden and Nature Center	year around	various	Greg Speicher, 855-2799 or gspeiche@indiana.edu
Templeton Garden Project	spring/fall	teaching children	Nancy White, 824-4426
MG Demonstration Garden	seasonal	various	Bethany Murray, 339-8876, bethany.murray@gmail.com
T. C. Steele SHS	seasonal	various	Steve Doty, 988-2785
Cheryl's Garden	seasonal	various	Larime Wilson, 333-9705
Flatwoods Park Butterfly Gardens	seasonal	various	Cathy Meyer, 349,2800
MCMGA Horticulture Hotline	year around	inquiries and research	Amy Thompson, 349-2575
MCMGA Speakers Bureau	year around	various	Amy Thompson, 349-2575
MCMGA Newsletter	year around	writing, stapling, labeling	Helen Hollingsworth, 332-7313
MCMGA Web Site	year around	various	Barbara Hays, 332-4032
MG Program Committee Member	year around	plan MG programs	Nancy White, 824-4426 Bob Baird, 331-1308
Middle Way House	seasonal	various	Clara Wilson, 333-7404
Wylie House	year around	various	Sherry Wise, 855-6224
Bloomington Hospitality House	year around	educate seniors	Rene Thompson, 353-3000
Mother Hubbard's Cupboard	year around	education, resource	Libby Yarnell, 355-6843
WonderLab Garden	2 times monthly	various	Nancy White, 824-4426
Garton Farm	year around	Assess grounds, develop plans	Michael Bell, 336-6141

PLEASE WEAR YOUR NAME BADGE WHEN VOLUNTEERING.

Pruning Deciduous Shrubs

Gardeners are eager to get out and do something in the landscape this time of year. One chore that can be taken care of now is pruning certain shrubs. Often, gardeners approach pruning with trepidation, but it is not as difficult as it may seem. Remember, not all shrubs need to be pruned (i.e. witch hazel), and certain shrubs, which will be identified later, should not be pruned this time of year.

Shrubs are pruned to maintain or reduce size, rejuvenate growth, or to remove diseased, dead or damaged branches. Deciduous shrubs are those that lose their leaves each winter. Evergreen shrubs maintain foliage all year and include yews and junipers. Deciduous shrubs are placed into three groups:

Those that flower in the spring on wood produced last year;

Those that flower later in the year on current season's growth; and

Those that may produce flowers, but those flowers are of little ornamental value.

Shrubs that flower in the spring should not be pruned until immediately after flowering. Though pruning earlier will not harm the health of the plant, the flowering display will be reduced. Examples of these types of plants include forsythia, lilac and mock orange. Shrubs that bloom on current season's growth or that do not produce ornamental flowers are best pruned in late winter to early spring. Examples include Rose-of-Sharon, pyracantha, Bumald spirea and Japanese spirea.

Pruning during the spring allows wounds to heal quickly without threat from insects or disease. There is no need to treat pruning cuts with paints or sealers. In fact, some of these products may retard healing.

There are three basic methods used in pruning shrubs: thinning, heading back and rejuvenating. Thinning is used to thin out branches from a shrub that is too dense. It is accomplished by removing most of the inward growing twigs by either cutting them back to a larger branch or cutting them back to just above an outward-facing bud. On multi-stemmed shrubs, the oldest canes may be completely removed.

Heading back is done by removing the end of a branch by cutting it back to a bud and is used for either reducing height or keeping a shrub compact. Branches are not cut back to a uniform height because this results in a "witches-broom" effect.

Rejuvenation is the most severe type of pruning and may be used on multi-stem shrubs that have become too large, with too many old branches to justify saving the younger canes. All stems are cut back to 3- to 5-inch stubs. This is not recommended for all shrubs but does work well for spirea, forsythia, pyracantha, ninebark, Russian almond, little leaf mock orange, shrub roses and flowering quince. (WU)

from (<http://www.hfrr.ksu.edu/DesktopDefault.aspx?tabid=764>)

Answers to Pernicious Pest Quiz, page 5

1—c. Eastern tent caterpillar

2—a. Aphid

3—d. Japanese beetle

4—i. Spider mite

5—j. Thrip

6—b. Bagworm

7—g. Scale

8—e. Leaf miner

9—f. Mealy bug

10—h. Slug or snail

Sustainable Native Plant Design Seminar on March 19

A seminar, titled *Sustainable Native Plant Design for our Urban Environment*, will be held on Wednesday, March 19, from 8:30 a.m. - 3:45 p.m. in Lyman Hall, First Presbyterian Church, 221 E 6th Street, Bloomington, Indiana

This seminar is designed for city and county planners, public resource managers, landscape architects, engineers, stormwater coordinators, neighborhood leaders, and students. The seminar will address sustainable design with native plants and offer planners and resource managers a way to address a variety of site issues by reduction of maintenance cost and associated pollution; improved storm water quality and retention, and enhancing environmental image.

Storm water has long been treated as a waste product to be disposed of as quickly as possible with little regard to its effects of the downstream water quality and quantity. Newer mandates from the EPA's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase II, however, require quantity and quality issues to be addressed in smaller cities.

Practices such as rain gardens, vegetated swales, and treatment wetlands are an effective way to mitigate storm water quality and quantity while adding environmentally friendly native plant communities to the landscape.

Native plant communities greatly reduce the amount of expensive and polluting landscape maintenance such as mowing, fertilizing, and irrigation. Further, these communities provide habitat for wildlife such as songbirds and butterflies. Finally, native plant communities may be used to help meet the Sustainable Site Criteria for the United States Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program.

Conservation and restoration of native plant communities in urban environments have the potential to improve the quality of life in our communities. Please join us on March 19th to learn more about the opportunities provided by sustainable native plant design.

Speakers and topics include:

- Rain Gardens and Their Benefit to Storm Water, *Todd Stevenson P.E. - Monroe County Highway Drainage Engineer*
- A Watershed Perspective: Healing Our Fragmented Landscape, *Jon Behrman - Dir. of Ecological Restoration Services, Eco Logic LLC*
- Sustainable Site Criteria for LEED Certification, *Mindy Hanni, AIA, CCS, LEED AP- President of Urban Design and Chair USGBC Indiana Chapter*
- Native Plants for Storm Water Solutions, *Kevin Tungsveick - Restoration Ecologist, Spence Restoration Nursery*
- Benefits of Urban Woodland Restoration, *Dr. David Benson - Director of Marian College Eco Lab*
- Creative Landscape Design with Native Plants, *Craig Glazier ASLA - Partner CONTEXT Landscape Architecture*
- Utilizing Principles of Low Impact Design to Change the Landscaping Requirements of Monroe County, *Heidi Russell - Planner/GIS Specialist Monroe County Planning Commission*
- Land Conservation in the Urban Environment: Whys and How's, *Christian Freitag - Executive Director, Sycamore Land Trust*
- Winning Public Support for Native Plant Communities, *Spencer Goehl - Director, Eco Logic LLC*

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Cooperative Extension Service
Health Building
119 West Seventh Street
Bloomington, IN 47404

FIRST CLASS MAIL
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Attend the General Meeting on Tuesday, March 25, and earn two education hours of credit. Details on page 1.

2008 MASTER GARDENER BOARD

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