Five fall insect invaders
By Gretchen Voyle, Michigan State Extension

As the days grow shorter and the night temperatures drop, a group of insects begin to appear on the walls and windows of homes. Some homes are not bothered, while others see more than one of this troupe of invaders.

These fall trespassers are called overwintering insects. They spend the winter as dormant adults, sleeping away the cold months. If the place they chose to overwinter was the correct temperature and they did not stay active or freeze to death, they would be ready to go back to the greening trees in the spring. Their resting area requires that the temperature stays between 40 to 50°F for hibernation. That’s usually the spot between the inside and outside walls of the house. None of them are harmful to humans, pets or the house. They just rate high on the Aggravation Scale.

Using insecticides to spray these annoying pests is often ineffective. As their life processes slow for hibernation, they are not easily killed by pesticides. But manually removing them by picking them up or sucking them up with a vacuum cleaner can get rid of the ones that have gotten indoors. They are easy to catch because they are so sluggish.

But the best plan is to exclude them where they are coming in. Look at the south and west sides of the house first because these are the sunniest. The insects seem to enjoy the heat reflected from light-colored siding and bounced off large expanses of glass. Many of these insects will gather on the warm sides and slowing wriggle their way around windows, doors and other openings. Check caulking and sealing in areas where they could enter. These insects fit nicely into a crack the thickness of a credit card, so an opening does not have to be large.

(continued on page 8)
**Question:** What’s the difference between a narcissus and a daffodil? Answer: None. Narcissus is Latin, daffodil is English, but it is the same plant, and jonquils are just one part of the family descended from the species *N. jonquilla* group, according to the brochure provided by The American Daffodil Society, Inc. Regardless of the name, they are a great value for the gardener looking for early color that comes back year after year. The best news for some gardeners with deer and rodent problems is that nothing eats the bulbs.

Master Gardeners who attended the September general meeting got a special treat when our speakers, Lynn Courson and Sara Kinne, brought “historics” for sale. Historic daffodils are cultivars registered before 1940. Members were lined up for the chance to purchase and plant a bit of history. Thanks to Lynn and Sara, many gardens will enjoy that bloom just when we need it.

**Master Gardener Area Roundtable in Terre Haute**

Karen King, Angie Fender, and I joined Amy Thompson and her extension cohorts at the Area Roundtable in Terre Haute this month, along with 35 other Master Gardeners from the nine-county, west central area of Indiana. The group exchanged ideas for topics, speakers, good and bad fundraisers, and ways to engage new members. It was lively, informative, and fattening, due to an irresistible dessert pitch-in.

**Seventh Annual Garden Fair is April 2, 2016**

Nancy White kicked off the 2016 Garden Fair with announcements of the date—April 2—and sign-up sheets for committees. The sign-up sheet for shifts for the Garden Thyme Café was also available. If there is a particular committee you enjoy working on, or you want first choice of a shift at the Café, contact Nancy at nwhite38@hotmail.com or Evelyn at ear4841@comcast.net.

**Master Gardeners adopt bylaws changes**

Mary Cusack shared the thoughts of the bylaws committee that went into proposed changes to the bylaws, which was followed by a vote and acceptance of the changes.

**Master Gardener field trip on October 12**

There will be a field trip to Stone Belt Center’s hydroponic garden on Monday, October 12, at 10 a.m. The location is just east of Tenth Street and 46 Bypass, and across from the Hinkle Garton Farmstead. This project was awarded one of the Master Gardener grants this year, and it will be an opportunity to watch the work that morning and learn from project leader, Nicole Wooten. Contact Evelyn if you want to be on the list for future details. (continued on page 5)

**Quick reminders:** ■ Candidates for board positions will be voted upon at the November 10 Harvest dinner; ■ it’s time to get your garden photographs in to the extension office for the 2016 *folia and flora* cover contest; ■ renew your Master Gardener membership; ■ pick your preference for Garden Fair committees; and ■ forward your education and volunteer hours to the office. See you in November!
2016 MCMGA slate of officers

Once again, it is time to elect officers for our MCMGA board of directors. Our by-laws state that this year, the offices of vice president, treasurer, program director, records director, and journalist are to be elected. The election takes place at our Tuesday, November 10 Harvest Dinner and general meeting, and nominations will be accepted from the floor. Nominating committee Larime Wilson, chair; Lea Woodard; and Cindy Benson, present this slate of candidates for your consideration:

Vice President—Trish Gustaitis
Treasurer—Dorothea Cole-Kiser
Records Director—Abe Morris
Program Director—to be determined
Journalist—to be determined

Trish Gustaitis received her Master Gardener training in 2009. She has served on or assisted the café committee for the Garden Fair over the last five years and has volunteered at Hilltop Garden and Nature Center helping with a variety of activities. Trish also served on the 2015 MCMGA Program Committee. After years of struggling with the dense shade around their home, Trish and her husband have learned to accept and embrace their surroundings, enjoying the flora and fauna that flourish there as well as the cooler temperatures provided by the trees during those hot Indiana summers.

Dorothea Cole-Kiser received her Master Gardener training in 2008. She has volunteered at the Demonstration Garden, Garden Fair, and the Monroe County County Fair. Her gardening style is one of experimentation and exploration as she is continuously trying out new ideas and plants that peek her interest.

Abe Morris received his Master Gardener training in 2011 and was awarded Advanced status in 2015. His volunteer work has included the Demonstration Garden, Grants Committee, Garden Fair Publicity Committee, Garden Walk, and the information booth at the Farmers’ Market. He also completed the Master Gardener’s Growing Through Leadership seminar. His gardening interests include roses, vegetables, perennials, bulbs, trees, and orchards.

BOGA fall plant swap at Farmers’ Market

By Jen Cook

The Bloomington Organic Gardeners Association (BOGA) will host a free plant swap on Saturday, October 10, from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at the Bloomington Community Farmers’ Market. Bring plants and seeds to share and/or swap. Native plants, tree saplings, and seeds are encouraged, but all non-invasive plants are welcome. For more information, contact Jenivee at jeniveels@gmail.com.
Garden Chats at the Monroe County Fair
By Nancy Deckard

This year’s Monroe County Fair featured three Garden Chats. These are hour-long presentations, free to fairgoers, on various garden-related topics.

On July 31, White River Beekeepers Jason Scott, president; Ken Knight, and Sarah Ferguson presented Backyard Beekeeping. Sarah made the introductions and announced that their beekeeping group meets on the second Tuesday of each month at the Owen County Fairgrounds.

Bees are responsible for pollination of a third of U.S. crops. Some of the crops pollinated by bees include almonds, peaches, soybeans, and apples. Honey is a by-product of bee pollination. To produce one pound of honey, the bees must visit two million flowers. Beekeepers must be cautious when processing the honey to get all the moisture out. Scott said, “Honey will last forever with no moisture.” Honey was found in King Tut’s Tomb after 2000 years that was still good. A capping knife extractor is used for the wax which is valued more than the honey. The bees are worth the most. They are the only insect that produces food eaten by man.

Bees sting and then die after they sting. Use caution when removing a bee stinger, being careful to remove the stinger at same angle that it went in to prevent the stinger from releasing more poison into the system. Beekeepers, to prevent getting stung, wear protective clothing and use smoke to help calm the bees. They think the hive is on fire. Honey bees can fly six miles a day and as fast as 15 miles per hour. Combined, bees have to fly 90,000 miles, three times around the globe to make one pound of honey. Do you still think the cost of honey is high? A single bee visits 50-100 flowers during a collection trip. The average honey bee will make only one twelfth of a teaspoon of honey to be able to biochemically produce each pound of beeswax. The bees also need a reserve of honey to make it through the winter. Seventy percent do not survive when they swarm. They need 17-20 pounds of honey to survive the winter. Beekeepers give sugar water and pollen patties to the bees in the spring to help them become strong.

Thirty to forty percent of beekeepers nationwide will lose a hive each year. Last year beekeepers lost 40% to 50% of their hives. Thanks to the dedicated beekeepers for helping to save our honey bees for the future.
Garden Fair help needed

By Nancy White

Now that the date, Saturday, April 2, 2016, is set for Garden Fair 2016, members are needed to staff the committees that will organize and coordinate the many jobs that make the fair a success. At the September meeting, committee sign-up sheets were available. If you didn’t have the opportunity to sign up then, see the list below, make your choice, and contact Nancy White, nwhite38@hotmail.com. Evelyn Harrell chairs the café committee and is the contact person for café sign-up. Her e-mail is ear4841@comcast.net.

Even though it seems a long time to Garden Fair 2016, many of the committees begin their work early. Some other committees only have jobs to complete on event day. We need your help; the fair takes a big group of volunteers to make it successful. And every bit of time spent prior to the fair or on fair day qualifies as volunteer hours. If you are still looking for opportunities for volunteer hours for 2015, there are Garden Fair jobs to be done this year.

How can you help? Below is a list of the committees that make Garden Fair a success and a description of the work they do. Sign up to help on these committees.

*Master Gardener Information Booth*: handles the free tree distribution, answers gardening questions from the public, and distributes free catalogues on event day.

*Master Gardener sales*: organize sales items and staff the booth on event day,

*Door Prizes*: collects door prizes from vendors and distributes them to winners on event day,

*Physical Arrangements*: plans site layout and assigns vendor booths, sets up the site, and supervises the after-event clean-up

*Café*: plans the menu, prepares food and drink, and staffs the café on event day

*Education*: arranges speakers for free seminars during event day

*Financial*: arranges for visitor entrance and collect fees

*Publicity*: plans various pre-event publicity materials and distributes media packets

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Hats off!

Heather Daley--certified

Congratulations!
Roots and Shoots

Grant winners report on their projects
By Nancy White

Five local non-profit agencies were awarded MCMGA grants for the 2015 growing season. Funds for these grants come from annual Garden Fair profits. Grant winners are asked to report on their project in different ways. At our November Harvest Dinner, there will be information on display from several of these grant winners. Be sure to view the displays that range from the Ellettsville Boys and Girls Club Garden to the Bloomington Montessori School Garden and Botany project.

In addition to the upcoming displays, South Central Community Action Program has invited Master Gardener members to visit their Stonebelt greenhouse project on October 12. Plan to join us for that visit. Information about our greenhouse visit will be sent to members by email.

September general meeting
By Susan Lovell

Thanks to all who came out to our September general meeting to hear Master Gardener Lynn Courson and American Daffodil Society member Sara Kinne, present *Daffodils and Spring Bulbs*. The evening’s program was educational but also a fun session, and we learned so much about daffodils and how they are classified. At the end of the meeting we had the opportunity to purchase heirloom/heritage bulbs to start or add to our collections. Special thanks to our refreshment committee, Mary Cusack, Nancy White, Angie Fender, Dorothy Wilson, Connie Clark, and Muff Johnson, who provided wonderful tasty treats. Almost everyone made extra trips to the serving table, so clean up was easy because there was almost nothing left!

Our annual Harvest Dinner and general meeting is scheduled on Tuesday, November 10 at 6:30 p.m. at the Sherwood Oaks Christian Church Fellowship Hall. We will enter at Door 20, and there is ample parking available. As in recent years, the dinner is a pitch-in for all food items. Our evening’s program, presented by Jonas Carpenter and Salem Willard of Bread and Roses Nursery is *Edible and Beautiful Landscapes*, which counts for one hour education credit.

Several of our Master Gardeners have volunteered to help with the logistics of the evening, including organizing serving tables and keeping them presentable, keeping drink containers filled, and cleaning up at the end of the evening. Our logistics crew includes Mary Cusack, Gloria Noone, Pam Hall, Tom Lovell, Peggy Rees-Krebs, and Cindy Benson. I hope you all are planning to come, and I look forward to seeing you there for our final event of 2015.
A new garden program

By Nikki Wooten

Growing Opportunities is a new social business project of the South Central Community Action Program (SCCAP). SCCAP is a nonprofit agency that has served low-income citizens in Bloomington and surrounding areas since 1965. SCCAP has several anti-poverty programs, including Head Start and Weatherization.

Growing Opportunities is SCCAP’s newest initiative. It is a job training program lasting 20 weeks for adults with disabilities and other barriers to employment. We have a greenhouse that acts as a working-learning environment where clients learn basic job skills such as how to work on a team, follow simple directions, or take inventory. Most importantly, clients grow in confidence as they master new skills in the greenhouse. Our first job training class graduated in August 2015. In September 2015, we started our second class.

Our first greenhouse is located at our partner Stone Belt’s facility at the corner of 46 bypass and 10th street. We use hydroponic methods, meaning we grow plants in water without any soil. Hydroponics has many advantages including conservation of water and higher yield in less space. A disadvantage is susceptibility to moisture-related disease. One of the most appealing aspects of hydroponics is that it is extremely accessible to people of all abilities.

Growing Opportunities sells produce grown in the greenhouse to local restaurants and grocery stores, including Bloomingfoods, Lucky’s Market, Sahara Mart, Yogi’s, and Upland Brewpub. We primarily sell leafy greens, such as bibb lettuce. Proceeds from these sales are reinvested into the job training program to benefit clients for years to come.

We are so thankful for the generous MCMGA grant of $500 to support purchase of a new nursery table in the greenhouse. Without community support like yours, the work we do would be impossible!
Master Gardener education survey  
By Nancy White

It’s not too late to complete the 2016 education survey to let the MCMGA board know what types of education experiences you would especially like to see included in our yearly meeting schedule. The education survey is now available at mcmga.net and can be completed and returned to the extension office by Wednesday, October 7. Members may also stop in and complete the survey at the extension office and while there, you might want to renew and update your 2016 membership. If you attended our September 22 general meeting and completed the education survey, we have noted your suggestions and ideas.

Five fall insect invaders (continued from page 1)

The big invasion months are usually September and October. Completing repairs before their arrival helps limit invasion problems.

Multicolored Asian ladybeetle (*Harmonia axyridis*) is an exotic insect from Asia and one of the newest of the fall invaders. They vary in color from pale tan to deep reddish orange and from no spots to many spots. (Photo credit: MSU Diagnostic Services)

Boxelder bug (*Leptocoris trivittatus*) while native, is a problem in areas that have boxelder trees. But removing the trees may not help as there are often plenty of other boxelder trees in the neighborhood. They are black with red edges on the wings. (Photo credit: MSU Diagnostic Services)

Cluster flies (*Pollena rudis*) are considered to be a European native. These black, large, hairy flies complete part of their life as a parasite of earthworms. They are found in groups which gives them their common name. (Photo credit: MSU Diagnostic Services)

Western conifer seed bug (*Leptoglossus occidentalis*) is a native insect found near evergreens that produce cones. They feed on the inside of the conifer seeds. Notice the wide lower hind leg. This is the easiest way to tell them from the brown marmorated stink bug. (Photo credit: Futureman1 @ flickr.com)

Brown marmorated stink bug (*Halyomorpha halys*) a native of Asia, is the newest overwintering insect in Michigan. When hit or smashed, they have an incredibly vile odor. Look at the hind leg to distinguish it from the seed bug. It will be very rare to find one as this is a new invasive species in our state and a serious pest for farming. (Brown marmorated stink bug. Photo credit: Rutgers University) To learn more about this new pest, visit MSU’s BMSB website. (From http://msue.anr.msu.edu/news/five_fall_insect_invaders)
### Volunteer opportunities

| **Bloomington Community Orchards**, 2120 S. Highland Avenue (Winslow Woods Park)  
  www.bloomingtoncommunityorchard.org | seasonal | maintenance, all levels of expertise welcome | Stacey Decker  
  getinvolved@bloomingtoncommunityorchard.org  
  Growing fruit for the community through educational opportunities |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Cheryl's Garden at Karst Farm Park**, 2450 S. Endwright Road, Bloomington | during growing season | help w/ design and maintenance | Linda Emerson  
  812-345-2913 (cell) |
| **Courthouse Native Garden**, Downtown Square | seasonal | maintenance | Todd Stevenson  
  tstephenson@co.monroe.in.us |
| **Flatwoods Park Butterfly Gardens**, 9499 W. Flatwoods Rd., Gosport, IN  
  Near Ellettsville | seasonal | maintenance/rejuvenation | Cathy Meyer  
  812-349-2805 |
| **Growing Opportunities Hydroponic Garden**, Stone Belt Facility—Tenth St., Bloomington | year around | education & maintenance | Nicole Wooten  
  nwooten@insccap.org |
| **Hilltop Garden & Nature Center**, 2367 E. Tenth St., Bloomington  
  www.hilltop.indiana.edu/~landscape/hilltop | year around | maintenance of gardens for shade, herbs, pollinators, containers | Charlotte Griffin  
  812-345-8128 |
| **Hinkle-Garton Farmstead**, 2920 E. Tenth St., Bloomington  
  www.facebook.com/HinkleGartonFarmstead | year around | herb, orchard, butterfly, & woodland gardens, invasives removal, soil reclamation | Danielle Bachant-Bell  
  812-336-6141 or 812-360-6544 (text)  
  hgfvolunteers@gmail.com |
| **Hoosier Hills Food Bank**,  
  The Food Bank garden is located at Will Detmer Park, 4140 West Vernal Pike | year around | plant, harvest, and compost; training provided | Bobbi Boos  
  Call Ryan Jochim 812-334-8374  
  hhfoodbank.org/volunteer.php |
| **Middle Way House Roof Top Garden**, garden@middlewayhouse.org | seasonal | scheduled workdays | Toby Strout, Director  
  812-333-7404 |
| **Mother Hubbard’s Cupboard**, 1100 W. Allen St., Bloomington  
  mhcfoodpantry.org/getinvolved/volunteer | year around | seasonal garden tasks | Kendra Brewer, Coordinator  
  garden@mhcfoodpantry.org |
| **T. C. Steele**, 4220 T. C. Steele Rd., Nashville  
  www.tcsteele.org | seasonal | maintenance, invasives removal | Anthony Joslin  
  812-988-2785 - leave a message |
| **Wonderlab Garden**, 308 W. Fourth St., Bloomington | seasonal | education, supervision of volunteers, maintenance | Nancy White  
  812-824-4426  
  www.wonderlab.org/exhibits/wondergarden |
| **Wylie House**, 307 E. Second St., Bloomington | year around | maintenance of heirloom garden, seed saving | Sherry Wise  
  812-855-6224  
  www.indiana.edu/~libwylie/garden.html |
| **MCMGA Volunteer Opportunities** | year around | various | Demo Garden: Herman Young (812) 322-5700  
  Garden Walk: Mary Jane Hall (812) 345-3985  
  Newsletter: Helen Hollingsworth (812) 332-7313  
  Program: Sandy Belth (812) 825-8353  
  Website: Stephen Anderson (812) 360-1216  
  MCMGA help: Amy Thompson (812) 349-2572 |

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Remember to wear your badge when volunteering and keep a record of your hours.  
Keep a copy of any volunteer records forms you submit to the extension office.
While gardeners may still have several more weeks to enjoy what’s left of the growing season, it will soon be time to put our gardens to bed for winter.

Flowers and vegetables whose foliage has begun to brown and shrivel should generally be removed before winter. Removing the spent foliage is an excellent way to reduce the chance for fungi and insect pests to over winter.

Herbaceous perennials should be cut back to just above the crown of the plant, the place where the stems join the roots. Annual plants should be completely removed from the garden. Plant refuse can be composted to recycle into organic matter to add to the garden soil next year.

Obviously, some plants, such as ornamental grasses, provide winter interest in their dried state. In areas where the soil is prone to erosion by wind or water, such as on a slope, leaving the dead stems can help hold soil in place. In these cases, plants can be left until later winter or early spring. Make sure to cut back the dead stems before the new foliage comes up.

Pruning of trees and shrubs is generally best left until late winter or spring for most plants. Pruning in fall will leave the cut stems vulnerable to further dieback at the cuts, and, in some years, may encourage buds to sprout during mild weather. Dead or damaged limbs can be removed any time.

Clean up of fallen tree leaves may be needed, especially around mature, large-leaved trees, such as maple, oak and sycamore. But autumn leaves can easily be turned into valuable, soil-enhancing organic matter.

Dry leaves can be plowed or tilled under in the vegetable or annual flower beds, in fall, to provide a source of organic matter. Shredding the leaves first will speed the breakdown, so that the leaves will not be visible by spring. Be sure to mix the leaves into the soil, rather than leaving them on top through the winter, to avoid keeping the soil too cold and wet to work in the spring.

Tree leaves can be recycled directly on the lawn. Use your power mower or shredder/vacuum to break dry leaves up into smaller pieces. A mulching blade on the mower will speed this process, but even a standard blade will do an adequate job. For large leaves like maple and sycamore, it may take several passes to get a finely shredded product. Once the leaves are pulverized, they will break down quickly. A fall application of nitrogen fertilizer (about 1 pound of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet) will help speed decomposition of the leaves and also will benefit the grass plants.

Fall leaves also make great composting ingredients or shredded to be used as a winter mulch to protect tender perennials through the coming harsh weather.
In the grow

By Rosie Lerner, Purdue Extension Consumer Horticulturist

Q. I’ve been raising alliums for 20 years. Some years I’ve left them in the ground over winter, but most years I lift them when the stems dry up and replant them late September—early October. This year I lifted them and most were rotten. I’ve never seen this before. I had 47 to dig this year and only got a dozen to replant this fall. I hope the pictures show the little white maggot looking worms. - T.H.

A. There is an onion fly whose larvae (maggots) feed on the bulbs, causing a soft rot. The heavy rains earlier this season may have hastened the soft rot of the bulbs as well. The best plan of action is to cull the affected bulbs, which you have already done. When you replant, select a different area and aim for well-drained soil. Do not save any bulbs that appear to be even a little soft. If the problem persists next year, you might consider sending a sample to the Purdue Plant and Pest Diagnostic Lab (www.ppdl.purdue.edu) to confirm the diagnosis. The Purdue Perennial Doc smartphone app is another useful resource. See https://www.purdueplantdoctor.com/.

Q. I have lived in rural White County for nearly 40 years. We are right beside a farm field. The farm has changed to a different farmer within the same family. This farmer has been intentionally spraying our windbreak with brush killer. (I have photos of this.) We have lost 20-30 trees since he has taken over. He sprays with as much as 20-25 mph west wind up in the air (at our mature windbreak) so we have major damage to trees, flowers as far as 80 feet from the property line. Is there a hardy, fast-growing, spray-resistant tree I can replace some of our windbreak with? - G.D.S.

A. There are no windbreak species that I am aware of that would tolerate brush killer herbicide. In the interest of neighborly relations, the best option would be to talk to your neighbor farmer and let them know of your concerns. If such a meeting is not possible or does not yield good results, you might consider contacting the Office of the Indiana State Chemist to file a complaint. The OISC is the state agency that regulates feed, seed, fertilizer and pesticides (herbicides, insecticides, fungicides, etc.) in Indiana. Every year OISC is called upon to investigate a number of pesticide—and fertilizer-related complaints.

OISC will investigate and collect evidence to determine if there are violations of relevant state or federal pesticide laws. The OISC does not take sides in these complaint investigations, does not determine damages, and cannot force one party to pay another for any damages that may have occurred. OISC will, however, try to determine if off-target harm from pesticide exposure has occurred. For more information, see http://oisc.purdue.edu/pesticide/.
Cooperative Extension Service
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Master Gardener Calendar

Saturday, October 17, Gibson County Master Gardeners present Once Upon a Garden seminar; see special events at mcmga.net for information

Saturday, October 17, Madison County Master Gardeners present Indiana Garden School IV; for information see special events at mcmga.net

Tuesday, November 10, 6:30 p.m., MCMGA annual Harvest Dinner at Sherwood Oaks Christian Church, program Edible and Beautiful Landscapes, one education hour

Saturday, November 14, INPAWS annual conference; see www.inpaws.org for information