March seems like the springboard for many opportunities and activities available for Master Gardeners!

**MCMGA General Meeting**
Tuesday, March 26, at the Extension Office on S. Walnut Street. We will have two speakers (for 2 educational hours).

1. Andrea de Tarnowsky will speak on updates on the Singing Winds Visitor Center and the Wildflower Foray at the T. C. Steele State Historic Site.

2. Kris Heeter will speak on growing less commonly-cultivated fruits and nuts.

**Our Garden Fair**
Returning this year after a year off … the Garden Fair opens at 9 AM on **April 6th** at the National Guard Armory. We have new vendors and exhibitors, a children’s booth, tree give-a-ways, educational mini-seminars and NEW this year, the MCMGA sale of houseplants and gently used hand garden tools. For $2 admission, this is a full day of fun, educational and interesting things to do! Don’t forget to grab a snack or lunch at our **Garden Thyme Café**!

**Purdue Master Gardener State Tour**
**Friday, June 21.** 8 AM–5:15 PM, with options of three separate tours to join. Registration is now open for early rates (until April 15). Hosted by Sunnyside Master Gardeners in New Albany, IN. 4 ½ educational hours will be awarded for attendance. Visit their website for registration and information: [www.sunnysidedmg.org](http://www.sunnysidedmg.org)

Hope to see you all at our meeting on the 26th with donations of houseplants and garden tools in hand!

**What's Inside?**
- MCMGA General Meeting
- Call for Donations
- Master Gardener Grant Winners
- Garden Fair News & Flyer
- 2019 Purdue State Garden Tour News & Flyer
- Get in Touch with MCMGA
- Volunteer Opportunities: Serve on the Audit Committee or Bake a Pie for the Garden Fair!

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*March is a boisterous fellow, And undeterred by fear, With many pranks proclaims himself The tomboy of the year!*

—The 1931 Old Farmer's Almanac
MCMGA General Meeting

March 26, 2019

Extension Building

Bring your donations for the Garden Fair MCMGA Sale!

Join us -- support us -- learn from us -- spread your knowledge!

Our thanks to everyone who volunteered to bring snack or help with set-up and take-down!

We look forward to seeing you!

WE NEED YOUR DONATIONS!

Houseplants (4” pots or smaller)

Garden Hand Tools (new, or gently used and clean).

Bring your donations to the General Meeting on March 26.

Many Thanks and Appreciations!

Master Gardener Grant Winners

by Nancy White

A rousing thank you to the grant committee for 2019, Lynn Couson, Sandrine Evans, Mary Carol Paul and Nancy White. This team reviewed grant applications and decided to choose the following grant winners: Area 10 Area on Aging, Boys and Girls Club-Lincoln St., Farmer House Museum, Park Ridge East Native Plants Group, Recovery Engagement Center, University Elementary School, and Wildcare. A full article on their projects for 2019 will be included in the Garden Fair Booklet.

We wish all the winners lots of sunshine and fair weather for their adventures. Proceeds from the Garden Fair support our grant program. Some of the grant winners will need an experienced Master Gardener mentor during the project time. If you would be willing to assist with a grant project, please contact any member of the grant committee. Sometimes grant winners need just a word of encouragement and a short visit to the project site to ensure their success.

When: Tuesday – March 26
Time: 6:30 PM – come early for refreshments!
Where: Extension Building. 3400 S. Walnut – Bloomington

"Singing Winds Visitor Center and the Wildflower Foray," Andrea de Tarnowsky, T. C. Steele State Historic Site.


Two (2) educational hours will be awarded for this evening.
It’s not too late to hang some posters for the Garden Fair at your place of business, church, work, day care. Three sizes of posters are available at the Extension Office or call Nancy White for a special delivery. And any time you spend hanging posters qualifies for volunteer hours.

If you volunteered to place a yard sign, it will be available at our next General Meeting, March 26, or at the March 27 intern class. Yard signs should be placed between March 31 and April 5. Please take up any yard signs on Sun. April 7 and return them to the Extension Office. If you choose to keep your sign for the 2020 Garden Fair, that is fine, but notify Nancy White of your storage plans. And thanks for helping with the yard signs.

Some volunteer spots are still available for the event on Saturday, April 6. If you haven’t signed up yet but can spare a few hours, contact Mary Cusack, Nancy White, or David Dunatchik. More hands will make our work lighter.

A couple of new things to look for at the Fair are our Children’s Craft Booth, under the guidance of Karen King and Angie Fender plus some new exhibitor booths. Karen and Angie will guide our young (and not so young) visitors as they create a special flower pot, fill it with a transplant, and carry it home to enjoy. Bring along your own children or some neighbors to visit this new booth. Among our first-time booths will be mushroom growers, blown glass vendors, compost and mulch producers, and botanical art providers.

And save some time during the day on April 6 to attend our education sessions. Education credit is available to Master Gardeners for any time spent attending these classes. Times are 10:00 AM, “Invasive Plants,” Ellen Jacquart, Indiana Native Plant Society; 11:30 AM, “You can Prune Anything Like an Apple Tree,” Heather Jones, Small World Pruning; and 1:00 PM, “Indoor and Year Around Gardening with Hydroponics and Organics,” Kyle Billman, Gold Leaf Hydroponics.

Just for your information, if you are working on Friday or Saturday at the Garden Fair, you will get free admission. But, if you would like a gift bag and a coupon for our shrub saplings, you will need to pay the visitor fee of $2. Also, children under 12 are free, so bring along your young guests.
Monroe County Master Gardeners

Garden Fair
Saturday, April 6, 2019
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Indiana National Guard Armory
3380 South Walnut Street
Bloomington IN 47401
Admission $2.00

Free Educational Seminars
Special Children’s Craft Booth
Free Parking/Handicap Accessible
Over 35 Vendors of Lawn & Garden Products and Services
Answers to Gardening Questions from Master Gardeners
Food Available at the Garden Thyme Café

Educational Programs

Invasive Plants: Not Just a Bad Idea For Your Garden, Soon to Be Illegal
10:00-11:00 am .................................................. Presented by: Ellen Jacquart

You Can Prune Anything Like An Apple Tree
11:30 -12:30 pm .................................................. Presented by: Heather Jones

Indoor and Year-Around Gardening with Hydroponics and Organics
1:00-2:00 pm .................................................. Presented by: Kyle Billman

It is the policy of the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service that all persons have equal opportunity and access to its educational programs, services, activities, and facilities without regard to race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin or ancestry, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, disability or status as a veteran. Purdue University is an Affirmative Action institution.
Registration is now open for the 2019 Purdue Master Gardener State Tour, sponsored by Sunnyside Master Gardener Association of Southern Indiana, Purdue Extension Floyd County, and Purdue Master Gardener State Office.

This is a wonderful opportunity to earn up to 4.5 educational hours and network with other Purdue Master Gardeners!

The state tour will be held Friday, June 21, 2019, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:15 P.M. (EDT). The day begins at Ivy Tech Community College Sellersburg (8204 Highway 311, Sellersburg, IN 47172), where you will hear guest speaker Matt Bizzell, Horticulture Director of Churchill Downs. Buses leave after the talk for three different tours:

**Tour 1:**
Hidden Hill Sculpture Gardens, Lincliff Gardens, Falls of the Ohio State Park

**Tour 2:**
Sunnyside Master Gardener Gardens at the Georgetown Optimist, Club Turtle Run Winery, Whitehall Gardens

**Tour 3:**

Pre-registration is required. There will be no on-site registration and no refunds will be issued after May 1. Registration closes May 1.

- Early registration (March 1 – April 15) - $80.00
- Late registration (April 16 – May 1) - $85.00

For more information and to register, please visit https://www.sunnysidemga.org/

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**GET IN TOUCH WITH MCMGA**

- 812-349-2575
- Cooperative Extension Service
  3400 South Walnut
  Bloomington, IN 47401
- @monroecounty_mastergardeners
- http://www.mcmga.net
- facebook.com/MonroeCountyMasterGardenerAssociation
Building Botanical Bridges:
Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow

2019 Purdue Master Gardener State Tour

Sponsored by Sunnyside Master Gardener Association of Southern Indiana
Purdue Extension Floyd County and Purdue Master Gardener State Office

Friday, June 21, 2019
8:00 a.m. – 5:15 p.m. (Eastern Daylight Time)

Horseshoe Foundation Assembly Center
Ivy Tech Community College Sellersburg
8204 Hwy 311
Sellersburg, IN 47172

Preregistration is required. No on-site registration will be available, and no refunds on registration will be given after May 1.

Online registration and more information: www.sunnysidemg.org
Early registration $80.00: March 1 – April 15
Late registration $85.00: April 16 – April 30
Registration closes May 1

Questions? Contact
Purdue Extension Floyd County
Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Email: gmanders@purdue.edu
Phone: (812) 948-5470

Tours are available on a first-come, first-served basis with limited seating on each bus.
Box lunches, water, and light snacks are included in the registration fee. This is a rain or shine event.
Please prepare for the weather and dress accordingly. Note: All tour options require walking. Some garden terrain is uneven and may require climbing steps or walking up slopes. Gardens are not ADA accessible.

Earn educational hours (1 hour for morning session and 3.5 hours for tours)
Network with other Purdue Master Gardeners
Schedule
8:00 – 8:45 a.m.  Check-in at Ivy Tech Community College and enjoy light refreshments
8:45 – 9:00 a.m.  Welcome
9:00 -10:00 a.m.  Speaker: Matt Bizzell, Horticultural Director of Churchill Downs
10:00 -10:15 a.m.  Buses leave Ivy Tech for tours
10:15 a.m. – 4 p.m.  Tours (see individual tour descriptions)
                      Box lunches will be provided at first tour stop
4:00 – 5:00 p.m.  Purdue Technology Center Sunnyside Master Gardener Demonstration Gardens,
                      information booths, vendor booths, light snacks
5:15 p.m.  Buses return to Ivy Tech

Tours
For more information about the tours, visit www.sunnysidemg.org.
Choose tour preferences when you register.

Tour 1
Hidden Hill Sculpture Gardens
Lincliff Gardens
Falls of the Ohio State Park

Tour 2
Sunnyside Master Gardener Gardens at the Georgetown Optimist
Club Turtle Run Winery
Whitehall Gardens

Tour 3
Yew Dell Gardens
The Avish Gardens
Gardens in downtown New Albany
Volunteer Opportunities

Serve on the MCMGA Audit Committee!

The Monroe County Master Gardener Association is seeking a volunteer to serve on our Audit Committee. The Audit Committee meets once per year to review the financial records from the preceding year. Although bookkeeping experience or a financial background is helpful, it is not required. This is an internal audit, and our financial records are relatively simple.

We are grateful to Master Gardener Tom Lovell (2013/Advanced) for his many years of dedicated volunteer service to the Monroe County Master Gardeners Association, including on the Audit Committee.

If you are interested in serving on the Audit Committee, please contact Maren Claus, Director At Large (mkclaus@bloomington.in.us or 812-340-0350).

Bake a Pie for the Garden Fair!

Earn volunteer hours the sweet way and donate a homemade fruit pie to the Spring Thyme Cafe! All fruit pies - uncut - are welcome, as are cookies and brownies, too! Cafe staff will be on hand Friday 12-3 PM to receive the goodies, or early on Saturday is good, too. Slices of fresh pie are big sellers, so please help out!!

The Monroe County Master Gardener Association, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation in the state of Indiana, affiliated with Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service, an affirmative action/equal opportunity institution. Inclusion of products or companies in this newsletter does not imply an endorsement.