

Newsletter

April 2022

MCMGs In Action April 5, 2022

SPRING CLEAN-UP 4:30-6 pm
The Senior Citizens Center
1020 Maury County Park Dr.
Columbia, TN

Weeding - Mulching - Back Bed Planting

(Bring your weeding tools, rakes, yard tub, bug spray, gloves) **EARN HOURS**



Photo by Ray Shrewsberry onsplash.com

AFTERWARD MCMG HOSTS A Feature Event

"How To Clean & Sharpen

Tools In Your Garden"

Begins at 6 pm with potluck

Bring up to three hand tools you would like to clean and sharpen during our 'hands on' workshop.

contact _Kelly Raimondo, (985) 320-0941, <u>kraimondo@att.net</u> or Sue Nagel (307)640-0004, <u>shelby6866@yahoo.com</u>

MCMG Plant Sale



May 7, 2022, 8 am to 12 pm Baker Building; Maury County Park

Contacts: Melanie 931-446-0610

Annette 931-637-5958

LINK TO IMPORTANT INFORMATION!

See Flier on Last Page of Newsletter



"Let's all Plant together" TRANSPLANT DAY!

"Let's all Plant together" This will be a group of us bringing our cuttings, transplants, gloves, pots, soil, anything we want to share. We can all pot together. It will be at Kathie Wilson's home: 602 Edenburg Dr. Columbia April 9, 10am. Contact Kelly Raimondo for more information. (985) 320-0941, kraimondo@att.net

All of the potted plants benefit our MG Plant sale!

A Word from Our President

I'd like to share some thoughts from Poppy Okotcha, a horticulturist and self-proclaimed "ecological home grower." If you have limited space for veggies, consider her "layered planter" to locate in full sun.

Chose a large container with good drainage and prepare the soil. Push some sticks in the soil to support climbers such as Kentucky Blue Pole, Dixie Butterpea Lima and Envy Edamame. NOTE: I adjusted the species for Tennessee as recommended by UT Extension publications. Then, plant an understory or "cover crop" of looseleaf lettuce, including Starfighter, Tropicana and New Red Fire to pick immature. NOTE: Again, species adjusted for Tennessee per UT Extension. Okotcha says to water and feed regularly. You should be able to harvest your vegetables as soon as they are ready over many weeks.

Happy gardening! Kathie Wilson



MCMG Survey Results are In!

The 2022 MCMG Survey was handed out to all meeting participants at the February Meeting, was published in the newsletter and made available at the March meeting.

LINK TO SURVEY RESULTS

Sue Nagel, Vice President

At the March meeting George Patton was awarded this beautiful bouquet designed before our eye by Michelle Hughes of Broomstall for his years of services as webmaster and president of MCMG.



IF YOU ATTENDED THE MARCH MCMG MEETING YOU EARNED

Club Support - 1 hour + Driving Time Education (CEU) - 30 minutes

Maury County Master Gardener's Swag



MCMG Items have been ordered and will be ready in time for the April 5 Meeting. Please bring exact cash or checks made out to MCMG to pick up your items.

We are going to be looking stylish at the plant sale! Thank you for the support in ordering the MCMG Items.

Sue Nagel, Vice President

TREASURER'S REPORT

March 2022

Balance on March 1, 2022 was \$5,194.88 We had deposits of \$250.00 And expenses totaling \$238.11 Balance on March 31 - \$5,206.77

Congratulations New Master Gardeners



Pictured left to right Roger Clark-Extension Agent, Bill Ballard, Shannon Reece, Stephanie Horstman, Stephanie Black, Christine Burglund, Gary Burglund, *not pictured:* Vanessa Cuomo, Tina Seago

Welcome Interns



L-R Back: Josh Maynard, Rodd Keech, Keith Geier, Roger Mashburn, Gina Mendola, Dawn Boruff, Derek Henderson, Belinda Moss, Roger Clark-Extension Agent

Front: Lois Holder, Vesta Mashburn, Candice Gourley, Crystal Nall, Christine House

Not Pictured: Lawanda Cooper, Sandra Serkownek, Angi Wasson

Roger Recommends



Question of the Week: From Annette Wszelaki, UT Vegetable Extension Specialist:

The last two years I have had some tomato plant losses from cutworms. What would you recommend?

Commercial producers have several chemical options available for cutworm control. Those that are most effective are the pyrethroids, including Baythroid XL, Asana XL, Proaxis 0.5 EC, Warrior 1 EC and Mustang MAX. Since these are all pyrethroids with the same mode of action, using any of these repeatedly will encourage insecticide resistance. Alternative measures should also be

considered. For information on recommended application rates, visit the 2022 Southeastern Vegetable Crop Handbook, which can be downloaded at: https://vegetables.tennessee.edu/production/

In addition to insecticides, there are several alternative controls for cutworm. One is to scatter bran or corn meal mixed with Bacillus thuringiensis (Bt) on the soil surface. Bt is a naturally occurring soil bacteria that is specific to caterpillar pests and crystallizes in their gut when ingested and discourages feeding. The bran and corn meal both expand in their gut, also preventing further feeding.

For small scale growers, collars, toothpicks or sticky substances, like sawdust and molasses, have been shown to stop cutworms when placed at the base of each plant.

Cutworms also have their share of predators and parasitoids. Ground Beetles, Lacewings and Praying Mantids are known predators. Snellenius manilae is a small Braconid wasp species. This parasitoid wasp is host specific to cutworm larvae. A female wasp will lay 3-5 eggs inside the cutworm larva. Once hatched, the parasite eats the body fluids and the larva for its development, then forms a cocoon next to the host's body. The tachinid fly is another parasitoid of the cutworm. The female fly lays her eggs near or into the larvae and can lay up to 2000 eggs in her lifetime.

These natural enemies can all be encouraged by avoiding or judicious use of insecticides and planting beneficial habitat for them, like flower strips or a perimeter crops around the cash crop. Flowering plants such as dill, cosmos, sunflower, carrots and dandelions are good sources of pollen and nectar for adults. Also, providing a water source during dry spells will ensure these beneficials stick around.

Onion, garlic, peppermint or coriander can repel cutworms when inter-planted with the cash crop.



April Sunshine

Welcome April, a month that many gardeners look forward to.

The days are longer, the temps start to warm up and most of the time we can start to think about planting our gardens and landscapes.

Earth Day is also in April. For me, this is a reminder to be a better steward of the Earth. I share this planet with over seven billion people and over eight million species. This truly amazes me and reminds me of how many things I take for granted.

I will admit that I definitely have not done my part in stewardship. I plan to do better. Many things are not difficult or costly, in fact, some are money saving. Most things are just changing habits.

If interested, here are some things we can do. Plant trees, they help clean our air and filter our water, among other things.

Carpool or combine your errands instead of making multiple trips,

cleaner air and saves money.

Carry reusable bags when shopping, cuts down on waste.

Conserve water, this one is hard for me because I love long hot showers or baths,
I will try to do better.

Recycle, we are so fortunate to have so many places where we can take recyclable items.

Re-purpose and reuse, there are so many ways that we can do this.

Cereal boxes, paper tubes etc., are great for art projects. Newspapers are great for wrapping paper or they can be shredded for basket filler. Jars can be used for storage or catching fireflies. Cans can be use for baking treats in, to hold candles or even planting in.

Make sure that you get rid of the sharp edges.

There are also many reusable wraps and containers that you can purchase to cut down on waste.

Composting is another useful way to get rid of food scraps and lawn clippings.

What Master Gardener doesn't like rich soil? These are just a few of the many things we can do. I can't wait to hear ideas you might have.

> Until next time, Cay





THE FLOOR IS OPEN for nominations for a name for this newsletter that will set it apart from other master gardener newsletters.

Some names have been submitted, but it would be great to hear from YOU. Names submitted will be published in the August Newsletter and voted on at the August Meeting. The winner will receive a \$10 credit for plant purchases at the next plant sale. All nominations are welcome; however, you must be a member in good standing, as in dues paid, to vote.

Let Gail hear from you <u>fgapatton@gmail.com</u> or call or text (703)371-9704



DO YOU ENJOY CREATING? DO YOU NEED HOURS?

THEN MCMG HAS A DEAL FOR YOU!

We have been asked to do a MCMG Booth for "Fruits of the Backyard" June 14.

All the planning, all the prep, all the assembly, all the take down and driving to and from for the display counts!

Let's make people aware of our association and recruit for classes.

Contact our president Kathie Wilson. You can text her at 931-215-94676 right now.



DAYS OF APRIL

By Candice Gourley Master Gardner Intern

The month of APRIL is:

Keep American Beautiful Month
Lawn and Garden Month
National Pecan Month

Earth Month





April 13 Plant Appreciation Day

April 14 National Pecan Day

🗥 April 19 National Garlic Day

🡺 April 21 - 29 National Park Week

April 22 Earth Day

April 25 National Zucchini Bread Day

April 29 Arbor Day

April 29 Peace Rose Day

CHECK OUT MCMG

https://maurycountymastergardeners.org

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COMING SOON...

April – Mount Pleasant Library, Bedding Cleanup and Annual Planting

April - Polk Home Rose Planting Project

May – Polk Home Kitchen and Garden Projects

May – Polk Home Rose Planting Project

Any questions Kelly Raimondo, (985) 320-0941, kraimondo@att.net Sue Nagel (307)640-0004, shelby6866@yahoo.com

Plan Your Calendar

April 5	Maury County Senior Citizens Center Grounds Cleanup and Mulching, 4:30 – 6:00 pm Senior Center Clean up weeding. Bring your weeding tools and gloves.
	MCMG Meeting, "Garden Tools Hands-on Maintenance Workshop," 6 pm, Senior Citizen's Center; 1020 Maury County Park Dr; Columbia
	Organic Gardening and Farming Field Day, Knoxville
April 23	Polk Home Raised Garden Community Demo and Planting.
May 2	DEADLNE for sign up to showcase your garden in the 2022 MCMG Members Garden Tour
May 3	NO MCMG Meeting
May 6	Set up for MCMG Plant Sale Baker Bldg, Maury Co Park, 1-6 pm
May 7	Maury County Master Gardeners Annual Plant Sale, 8 am-12 noon Baker Bldg, Maury Co Park, MCMG arrive by 7 am for Instructions and assignments
June 3	First Friday Hort Session Distance Learning 9 am
June 4	2022 MCMG Garden Home Tour

State TEMG Conference NE TN

"Fruits of the Backyard Field Day," 8 am Middle TN AgResearch and

Education Center, Spring Hill; 1000

Main Entrance Drive; Spring Hill, TN

June 9-11

June 14



Plant Sale Information

Set up Day Friday May 6 Plant Sale May 7

Contacts

Melanie 931-446-0610 Annette 931-637-5958

Preparation

- GET PLANTS READY NOW. We need PLANTS, LOTS of PLANTS to fill the Baker building!
- Be dividing plants and potting up perennials The sooner the plants are off to a good start, the happier they will look for the sale.

Remember

- Label pots with plant Name and Care Instructions - Sun/shade, amount of water, etc
- Don't know the name of a plant: take a picture and post it to our Facebook page asking for ID, use a plant ID app or touch base with a gardening friend
- For Iris and other rhizomes or bulbs, PLEASE INCLUDE COLOR on label - If dug just before sale they can be placed in boxes or bags with COLOR listed.
- Laminated pictures of plants on picks are used to show the plant in bloom or at maturity. There is only one laminated picture per group of the same plants. Customers make photos of the cards.
- The plants we have signs for are at the bottom of this page. If the plant you are bringing is not listed, please bring a picture from a plant catalog or online to the April Meeting or to the Set-up Day Friday, May 6th for lamination.

Other Things to Do Now

- Locate and wash vases to donate to our flower arranging table
- Find any garden related items you would like to donate to the Yard Sale Table.
- Put up fliers (print out available on page 8 of this newsletter.)
- TELL EVERYONE.
- Keep track of your hours

Set-up Day, Friday May 6

- 1 pm Tables delivered
- 1-3 pm **Set Up** Boxes at entrance - Plant Tables - Holding Area - Yard Sale Area - Flower Arranging Station - Cashiers' Table - Place Signs
- 3-6 pm Plants with identification accepted Melanie and Annette verify plants are labeled - Plants organized on tables -Plants priced - Laminated signs placed
- **BRING clean VASES**
- **BRING DONATIONS for Yard Sale**

Day of the Sale, Saturday May 7

- 7 am Be At Baker Building ready to work (Wear your Name Tag and Master Gardener Swag if you have it. An apron with pen can be helpful)
- **BRING FRESH CUT FLOWERS**
- Job assignments given
- Guidelines for conducting the sale given
- 8am Sale starts
- 12 noon Sale ends
- Help with clean up afterwards

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ID's For These Plants Are Already Laminated:

Acanthus (Bear Breeches) Artemisia Baby Joe Begonia Balloon flower Bee Balm Black-Eyed Susan Caesar's Brother Calla lilv Canna Cardinal vine

Chrysanthemum

Clematis Autumn

Comfrey Creeping Jenny Feverfew Forget-Me-Nots Forsythia Freelander Prunella **Fuzzy Dogwood Shrub** Akebia Chocolate Vine Heliopsis Sundrops Hosta Hydrangea

Columbine

Kerria shrub

Lamium Archangel Lespedeza Lily-of-the-Valley Liriope Lobelia Love-In-a-Mist Mexican Petunia Mint Moonflower Mountain Mint

Lamb's Ear

Obedient Plant Oxalis

Penstemon-Husker's Red Plectranthus Primrose Rose Campion Sedum-starfish Solomon's Seal Solomon's Seal variegated Stokesia **Sweet Woodruff** Tansv Trillium Verbena

Virginia Sweetpire

Winter Jasmine



Survey – Response Highlights –

Number of surveys received: 20 received 9 Active Members 2 Interns 9 Students

<u>Club Interest</u>: 14=Meeting 9=UT Ext. Act. 16=Speakers 14=Field Trips 16=Potluck 12=Service Projects

Suggested speaker topics: Tennessee Smart Yards, Organic Gardening, Rain Gardens (2) Composting (5) Vegetable Gardens, Ancient Gardens, Forging, Water features, Hostas, and hands on projects. Someone from the Polk Home/Their vision for the gardens. Carol Reece on perennials, Owner of Fernwood and heir story, Perennials, flowers (5), Shrub presentations, Vegetable gardens, ground covers, Native Plants (2), Best Cultivars (tested) herbaceous and woody plants, Bear Breeches, Berries (Blueberries and Strawberries), Trees, Irrigation, Landscaping, Basic Botany, fruit, Verm posting, smart gardens, Plants and wildlife, Plants that brings in birds and butterflies, Planting flowers (3).

Field Trip Ideas: (5) Cheek wood and Huntsville Botanical Gardens, Local independent Garden Centers: Bates, Martins, Johnsons and Iris City, Willie's Lilies, UT Jackson Gardens, Optimara (African violets) green house, Opryland Hotel to check out the indoor gardens (3), Garden tours; Canton in Franklin, Short Springs Natural Area near Tullahoma, Hermitage, Huntsville Botanical Garden Plant Sale.

Increased Membership ideas: Increase visibility, Participation at the County Fair, ensure contact is maintained, offer transportation opportunities for members who have difficulty driving, Meet and Greet Meetings, visibility at

community events, No repeat lectures from prior MG Lectures, Outreach to members not in attendance from 3 – 6-month periods (3), More interactions with interns, ask if people need hours and offer suggestions on how to obtain them. Assign a mentor for those who want to be matched.

Ideas to help interns complete service

hours: Clear Guidelines on hours that count towards the continuing education CPUs vs. Service Project Hours.

Additional comments: Champion Tennessee Smart Yard Project. Do what it takes to help others succeed to become Master Gardeners. Consider garden books for door prizes.

<u>Garden Tour</u>: Shannon Reece, and Stephanie Hortsman (We need one more volunteer)!

Members share:

Angi Wasson - Microgreens, possibly hydroponics and winter sowing

Candice Gouley – Cats and plants and Birds and plants

Cay McShirley – Willing to do a craft Sue Nagel – (Craft) Wine Markers for plants

LINK TO RETURN TO PAGE 2





Maury County Master Gardener Association



ANNUAL PLANT SALE

Saturday May 7, 2022 8 am - Noon

GREAT PRICES!

All Kinds
Of Plants

Vendors

Flower
Arrangements
(DIY or made for you)
Prices Start at \$2

The Baker Building, Maury Co Fair Grounds
1018 Maury County Park Drive, Columbia, TN



https://maurycountymastergardeners.org maury county master gardeners CALL 931-637-5958 or 931-446-0610

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