### MSU Tollgate Gardens Volunteer General Meeting in the Conference Center

**Thursday, September 21, 7:00 PM**

**Succulents**

Join Tollgate volunteers in the Activity Center on Thursday, September 21, to learn about Succulents from **Kim Roth**, the Perennial Department Manager at Christensen’s Plant Center, a major wholesale supplier of perennials, conifers, trees and shrubs with sites in Plymouth and South Lyon. Kim is always on the lookout for reliable, exciting and promising plants.

Based on extensive professional and personal experience, Kim will share her knowledge of succulents including ideas about what succulents we can grow and how to keep them looking great.


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### TOLLGATE GARDEN VOLUNTEER IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEP</th>
<th>MEETINGS</th>
<th>TIME</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Tollgate Volunteer General Meeting</td>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEP</th>
<th>ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>TIME</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Demo Gardens</td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Nursery Divisions</td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
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<tr>
<th>OCT</th>
<th>ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>TIME</th>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td><strong>NO WORKDAY DUE TO PUMPKINFEST EVENT</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Plant Division and Potting</td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Fall Clean Up</td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Fall Clean Up</td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
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<tr>
<th>NOV</th>
<th>MEETINGS</th>
<th>TIME</th>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Recognition Dinner (RSVP)</td>
<td>4:00 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>TGAC Meeting</td>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
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No Tollgate Volunteer General Meetings November and December
Greetings All,

August has come and gone. This summer has flown by with the speed of a Farm Manager after a Labrador retriever that’s headed for the muddy end of the pond. Cold temperatures may soon arrive – but are not here just yet. There is still a bit more summer to enjoy.

Ginger Meyer: I am still receiving nominations for the 2017 Ginger Meyer award. This award is given to the Tollgate volunteer who has done the most for the farm over the years. You can either fill out a nomination form or just email me your nomination with a few sentences describing why you feel your nominee is deserving of the award. I appreciate your assistance in recognizing those among us who have really dedicated themselves to the farm.

Pond Garden – East: A small miracle is taking place down by the pond. The garden on the west end of the pond has been a beautiful and serene place for many years. This year, the gardens on the east end of the pond have really come into their own. Thanks to diligent work by Laura and Tom Steiner and many others, the garden has grown from a tangle of phragmites and other invasive species to a wonderful native plant garden. Before long, the whole north side of the pond will be one long beautiful plant space. If you have not visited the gardens by the Tollgate Pond recently, please check them out. You will be amazed at the changes that have taken place.

Maple Syrup: Although it may seem that the maple syrup season is still a long way off, the maple crew has been busily preparing for the 2018 season. Summer is the time to cut, split and stack firewood so that it will be nice and dry come February. Preparations are now complete! All of the wood bins are filled to the brim. There is nowhere else to stack wood. Great work group! The maple syrup season is a real bright spot in Tollgate’s winter calendar.

Recognition Dinner: Remember to reserve the date for our end-of-the-year recognition dinner. The Recognition dinner is scheduled for Saturday, November 4th beginning at 4:00pm. November may seem like a long time away, but it will be here soon!
NOMINATIONS

A call for all interested members! September brings the time to make nominations for the officer positions on your Tollgate Gardens Advisory council (TGAC). All elected positions are voted on every year. This includes President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. Serving as a TGAC board member contributes to our organization in ways that do not require physical labor and thus opens another opportunity to participate. These hours are considered towards (re-) certification and this opportunity is open to any member. You may nominate yourself or any other willing Tollgate volunteer. Please consider this opportunity for the growth of our organization as well as your own personal enrichment. We will take verbal, written or emailed nominations before or on the date of the September 30th. We will vote in October for TGAC positions.

Article VIII SECTION 3. The duties of the Officers shall be:

President: To preside over General Membership and TGAC meetings; to appoint standing committee chairpersons; to oversee the execution of these by-laws and policies in order that the purpose, mission and goals of the TGV may be served.

Vice-President: To perform the duties of the President in the event of his/her absence and such duties of other officers in their absences.

Secretary: To record the minutes of the TGAC meeting; to record membership in the absence of a designated membership chairperson; to attend to all correspondence of the TGAC and maintain complete files of minutes, attendance and correspondence.

Treasurer: To monitor the fund held in TGAC account at MSU, the budgets for Area Garden Leaders, maintain a complete set of records and to prepare and present monthly and annual financial reports for the TGAC and the General Membership meetings; to surrender all books, records, to the succeeding Treasurer.

PLANT DIVISION DONATIONS

Please keep us in mind for all your other fall plant divisions.

See the Nursery Notes (page 5) and for the new preferred division listings.

Please see the calendar for our activity days since there is still plenty to do with clean-up days and division activities.

Thank you for being a Tollgate Garden Volunteer.

Renee Cottrell, President
Around the Farm

Photos by Renee Cottrell

Photos by Darretta Ferasin
The Tollgate Nursery is open and ready for your fall plant divisions!

The cool nights and moderate daytime temperatures of the past few weeks has us all thinking about fall and those garden renovations we’ve been contemplating through the summer. Remember the Nursery as you try to figure out what to do with your excess plant material!

The Nursery Team has been maintaining pretty detailed records of what we’ve sold for the past 3 years of plant sales, and we’re continuing to use this information to generate PLANTS WANTED lists to provide some guidance about the types of plants we would like to have donated. CLICK HERE to download the latest PLANTS WANTED list, which is sequenced by CATEGORY OF NEED. The list also provides an estimate of the number of additional pots we’re looking for:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MOST NEEDED:</th>
<th>more than 11 additional pots needed</th>
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<tr>
<td>NEEDED:</td>
<td>6 – 10 additional pots needed</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACCEPTING:</td>
<td>1 – 5 additional pots needed</td>
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<tr>
<td>NOT ACCEPTING:</td>
<td>we’re overstocked! Also includes invasive or overly aggressive plants.</td>
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It’s easy to donate your plants to Tollgate – just drop off your labeled and watered divisions in the pop-up structure in the nursery. Specific donation instructions are posted in the nursery next to the pop-up tent – and include separate directions for HOSTA plants since we must ensure that all donations test negative for the Hosta Virus X. Click HOSTA or NON-HOSTA to download donation directions for these perennials.

Last month’s Nursery Notes highlighted NINE of the “MOST WANTED” plant varieties: Asclepias tuberosa (Butterfly Weed), Asclepias incarnata (Swamp Milkweed), Astilbe, Dicentra (Bleeding Heart), Iris Siberica/ Siberian Iris, Monarda (Bee Balm), Peonia (Peony), Persicaria (Virginia Jumpseed), and Phlox (Garden Phlox). Our fantastic Tollgate gardeners have dropped off donations of almost all of these most desirable varieties over the past few weeks.....BUT WE STILL NEED MORE!!!

And there are many other MOST WANTED plants on our list – too many to list here, so PLEASE CHECK THE FULL PLANTS WANTED LIST to get the latest complete information! These lists will be updated periodically as we receive donations, so check your email over the coming weeks for updates.

RECYCLE YOUR 1 GALLON POTS! Please sort out your 1 gallon pots and drop them off in the bin inside the door of the shed adjacent to the nursery. We accept only 1 and 2 gallon pots in good condition (1 gallon size is our primary use). Samples of the pot sizes that we accept are tacked to the wall above the bin. Please do not leave larger or smaller size pots. We don’t have room to store them!

The proceeds of Tollgate’s plant sales are a major source of funding for all Tollgate gardens, and we rely on your donations as well as divisions from gardens on the property to stock the nursery with desirable plants to sell. THANK YOU for supporting Tollgate with your plant and pot donations!

Interested in joining the Tollgate Nursery Team? It’s a great way to learn a lot about growing many different varieties of plants and to work with a great team! We have openings for ROW LEADER, CO-ROW LEADER and AT LARGE members. Please contact Peg Palmer for more information.

Peg Palmer - pegpalmer@mi.rr.com
To all of you who made a donation to help the Tollgate Gardeners make Tollgate a more beautiful place. Your donation is greatly appreciated! The support that you have provided will continue to help our program prosper and grow. Thanks again and Happy Gardening!

Mary Halewicz
Maureen Miller
Carol Price
Rajon Taylor
Carmen Taylor

Forgotten Harvest: the Forgotten Harvest organization has long been a partner of Tollgate. The Tollgate PAR garden has been growing fresh veggies to donate to Forgotten Harvest for over ten years. Most years, Tollgate volunteers have grown over two tons of vegetables to donate to the hungry. This year, the Tollgate CSA garden is also contributing produce to help feed the hungry. The truck comes every Friday!

Live, Laugh and Eat
Dessert FIRST before every meeting

Baked goods are welcomed for our Tollgate Volunteer General Meetings. The desserts can be store bought if you don’t have time to bake.

Photo by Roy Prentice

Cindy and Roy Prentice Eclipse Gazing

Photo of the Month

Photographer: Renee Cottrell
WORKDAY ACTIVITIES

Photos by Roy Prentice

Photos by Kathy Johnson
Volunteer Activity Day and Meetings Information
248-347-3860 ext. 400

The Tollgate Gardens Advisory Council next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 3, 2017 at 7:00 PM in the Tollgate Office Building. All Tollgate Gardens Volunteer members are welcome to attend.

Listings to contact individual Council Members and Area Garden Leaders are available at all general meetings and in the Volunteer Communication Center.

Tollgate Volunteer Information

Activity Days
Activity day hours are 9:00 AM to noon unless otherwise noted on the Tollgate Garden Volunteer Important Dates and Events listed on the first page of the Tollgate Farm News or by the Area Garden Leader (AGL).

Lunch will be provided on scheduled workdays. Veggie alternatives are available upon request.

This schedule does not exclude you from working independently on the site. However, on non-scheduled days, your efforts will need to be self-directed with guidance from the garden area clipboards located in the Volunteer Communication Center.

If you aren’t getting the Tollgate Farm News email, check your SPAM folder.

Volunteer Activity Day and Meetings Information
248-347-3860 ext. 400

Garden Tools Available for Use at Tollgate

- Spades
- Garden Rakes
- Brooms
- Wheel Barrels
- Weed Buckets
- Leaf Rakes
- Garden Hoe
- Long Handled Garden Forks

List of Suggested Gardening Implements to Bring from Home as Needed

- Trowel
- Pruners
- Loppers
- Garden Scissors
- Your Favorite Weeding Implement
- Hand Saw
- Plant Division Forks
- Shrub Rake
- Sun Screen
- Garden Gloves
- Knee Pads
- Insect Repellant

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Tollgate Garden Advisory Council

Farm Manager
Roy Prentice - 248 347-3860 ext. 251
e-mail - prentic1@msu.edu

President .................... Renee Cottrell
Vice President .............. Peg Palmer
Secretary .................... Dave Komraus
Treasurer ..................... Sue Janczarek
Membership .................. Cindy Bolterstein
PR ............................... Yvonne DeMattos
Programs ..................... Jackie Stengel
Hospitality .................... Yvonne DeMattos
Farm News Editor ........... Darretta Ferasin

For membership questions or to update your current membership information send email to: tollgatemembers@gmail.com

MSU Tollgate Gardens Volunteers
For general information and questions
Contact Roy Prentice or See Website:
http://tollgate.msu.edu/volunteering/

MSU Tollgate Farm and Education Center
28115 Meadowbrook
Novi, MI, 48377-3128
tollgate.msu.edu
Contact Roy Prentice:
248-347-3860 ext. 251