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ST PATRICK ROSE

HOW TO PLANT BARE ROOT ROSES

Choose a site with at least 8 hours of sun each day, where roots will not be in competition with the roots of other plants. Avoid areas where plants are not protected from harsh winds and cold. Plant climbers where they may be adequately supported. Roses grow well in rich, moisture-retentive soil. Amend the soil 8-12 inches deep with well-rotted compost before planting. Soak roots for several hours in lukewarm water. Trim off any broken or damaged roots. Dig a hole 18 inches deep and 18 inches wide. Build a cone of soil at the bottom of the hole to support and spread roots around before backfilling. In cold winter zones, set the plant so that the base of the canes (bud union) is 4 inches below ground level. In warmer zones, the bud union should be just above ground level. Replace the soil, firming it well around the plant with your hands. Water very well. Apply 2-3 inches of organic mulch to keep the soil cool and moist.

How to grow

Keep weeds under control during the growing season. Weeds compete with plants for water, space and nutrients. Control them by either cultivating often or use a mulch to prevent their seeds from germinating. Keep plants well-watered during the growing season, especially during dry spells. Plants need about 1-2 inches of rain per week during the growing season. It's best to water with a drip or trickle system that delivers water at low pressure at the soil level. If you water with overhead sprinklers, water early in the day so the foliage has time to dry off before evening, to minimize disease problems. Keep the soil moist but not saturated. Keep soil moisture steady when plants are in bloom. Water on bright sunny mornings to give foliage enough time to dry out. Use a slow release fertilizer such as Rose-tone at the recommended rate. Repeat bloomers need a steady supply of nutrients through the season. Deadhead spent blooms to increase repeat blooming and keep plants tidy. Cut back dead flowers to the first five leaflet leaf. To protect plants from harsh winter cold, mound the base of stems with 8 inches of shredded bark once winter sets in. In areas with severe winters, provide waterproof cover over the top. Prune as out dead, diseased or weakened stems at any time. Prune for shape, size or to improve air circulation in late winter after danger of a hard freeze. See pruning tips below. Monitor for pests and diseases.

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Growing Tips

Winter pruning of shrub roses: Prune when the season starts to warm up and the buds begin to swell. During the first year, prune plants only lightly, leaving two thirds of the plant.

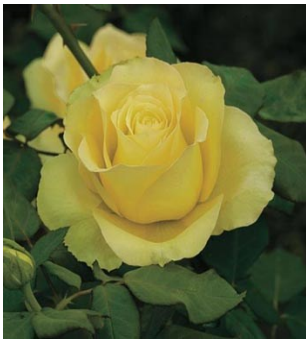
Once the plants are established, prune to half their size into a rounded bush. Remove any diseased, dead or weak stems. Summer pruning of shrub roses: Remove 18-24 inches of stem after flowering, leaving 2-3 leaves of the current season's growth. This helps keep the plant's height in check, especially in warmer areas where repeat bloomers tend to get taller during the season. Spent flowers left on the plant may develop attractive rose hips in autumn. Stop deadheading towards summer's end to prevent young, frost-sensitive shoots from developing. Winter pruning of climbing roses: In winter prune the lateral branches that bloomed the previous season to 3 or 4 buds, or about 6 inches long. Tie up the long, strong main stems and do not cut these back unless they are old, weak or dead. With trellises and other supports, stems can be fanned out to encourage side shoots and more flowering. Cut flowers in the morning. Cut stems back to a five leaflet leaf. Immediately plunge cut stems into water.

Article from Burpee Gardens

My St. Patrick Rose

Along with "Wearing of the Green" and watching for Leprechaun's in March I would like to share the story of my favorite Irish rose. I had never heard of this beautiful rose until one of my hotline buddies, Joyce Bellaire, brought it to my attention. We looked through several catalogues before we found a company to order our St. Patrick rose. About the time we should receive the rosebush we got the notice that the rosebush was not available.

So to our dismay, we continued looking for this rosebush and the next fall we found another company to order from. This time we were successful in receiving our long awaited St. Patrick rose.



ST. PATRICK ROSE

I remember when I was planting the rosebush I was thinking "I hope I do this right". I took such good care of this treasure and was so excited when the first bud appeared. I continued taking extra special care of watering and fertilizing of this rosebush and the second year it rewarded me with several buds that opened into beautiful 5" yellow green color roses. They seem to love the heat and have a soft fragrance.

So with the Luck of the Irish, and maybe a few shenanigans from the Leprechaun's I will be amazed with this years blooms on my St. Patrick rose. When I see the beautiful flowers on this rosebush I smile as I remember the good times spent with the special friend who introduced me to this beautiful plant.



COOKS CORNER

Irish Corned Beef and Vegetables with Dill Pickle-

Ingredients

- 1 6-to-8-lb. whole corned beef brisket, home-made or store-bought
- 1 12-oz. bottle Guinness or other stout, porter, or dark German beer
- 1 Tbs. coriander seeds
- 4 bay leaves
- 1 dried chile, such as cayenne
- 2 allspice berries
- 8 medium boiling potatoes, scrubbed
- 4 medium onions, halved through the roots
- 6 small turnips, peeled and halved, or 2 medium rutabagas, peeled and quartered
- 2 parsnips, peeled and cut into 2-inch chunks
- 6 medium carrots, peeled
- 1 2-lb. green cabbage, cored and quartered



By [Bruce Aidells](#)

Directions

- Place the corned beef in a Dutch oven. Pour in the beer and enough water to cover the meat by 1 to 2 inches. Wrap the coriander seeds, bay leaves, chile, and allspice in a square of cheesecloth, tie with butcher's twine, and throw the spices into the pot. Bring to a boil, then reduce the heat to a simmer, cover the pot, and cook for 2 hours. Check the beef by inserting a knife into the thickest part. If it shows no resistance, the meat is tender. To make sure, cut off a bit and taste it. If it is not tender, continue to cook, checking every 30 minutes. Remove the beef from the pot and cover loosely with aluminum foil to keep warm.

Add the potatoes, onions, turnips, parsnips, carrots, and cabbage to the pot, cover, and cook at a slow boil for 20 minutes, or until tender. Return the beef to the pot to rewarm for 2 to 3 minutes. Discard the spice bag. Cut the meat across the grain into 1/4-inch-thick slices and arrange on a platter with the vegetables. Serve with the Dill Pickle-Horseradish Cream and Guinness-Mustard Sauce.

Dill pickle-horseradish cream

- 1 cup sour cream
- 1 Tbs. chopped fresh chives or scallion greens
- 6 Tbs. prepared horseradish, drained

1 Tbs. finely chopped dill pickle

Combine the ingredients in a small bowl and refrigerate for at least 2 hours.

“THE REST OF THE STORY”

The beginning: As an inquisitive preschooler living in Pakistan, at about the age of five years old, Abi was captivated by a large Eucalyptus tree in her home’s yard and became aware of its leaves and the odor of the leaves when they were broken or crumpled. Like most trees there were often bugs and other critters on and around it. This was a start in her study of horticulture and all things insect-related. While in Pakistan at eight or nine years of age Abi was further drawn to nature when she observed a very large white grub, that was about three inches long (in a child’s eye) being attacked by a large number of ants that were working together to deal with the grub. Entomology, here comes Abi!

Abi’s parents, particularly her father, always had an interest in nature, assuring ample time spent outdoors. While Abi’s mother and sister avoided her insect “pets”, it was her mother’s love of gardening, which had a large dose of science in it without any formal training but with a green thumb that was passed down through several generations that resulted in Abi being drawn into the world of horticulture.

Leading to Abi’s formal training was her desire of always being involved with some sort of nature-based science. Entomology degrees require working in the field, along with classroom work. This meant doing “hands on” research and creating her own experiments. The first entomology field course that Abi participated in, was in Arizona in 2009 and included her professors and fellow Canadian undergrads. For Abi this was an eye opening experience. LOOK OUT BUGS, HERE COMES ABI!

Her training included being involved with the perfect partnership of plants and insects, especially pollinators. Given the responsibility of teaching courses for her turf and landscape entomology professor Abi was recruited as a pollinator specialist for his lab. Through designing experiments based on the effect of pesticides on pollinators and identifying plants that attract pollinators, she earned her Master’s Degree in entomology in 2014.

Abi shared that one of her favorite courses was the Master Gardener course at Michigan State University Extension leading her to accepting the position of Coordinator with MSUE on June 1, 2015.

As funding resources develop Abi envisions providing more in-depth training for our diagnosticians, hotline volunteers, and “Ask an Expert” programs, with a component of shadowing the people who work at the MSU diagnostic lab. It would be a further ambition to design a Master Gardeners pollinator conservation

ABI’S RECOMMENDATIONS

For the apartment dwellers or those with limited space Abi personally likes flowering plants that provide nectar for all of her container gardens. Some other recommendations include hardy and easy to grow plants or herbs like mint and sage. Container plants for the most part need to be able to cope with different environments, light and shade, and have something that provides color for a long season.

ABI’S INSECTS

The Brown Marmorated Stink bug, a newer insect to this region, is a ‘true bug’, a problematic pest in fruit and vegetable crops and in apple orchards causing the produce to be unsellable. The stink bug is another pest that the hotline receives calls on, has a need to overwinter in homes prior to going outside in the spring to reproduce. The second insect pest of great concern is the Spotted Wing Drosophila. This is a little fruit fly where the males are easily identifiable by 2 black spots on the wings. This fruit fly will lay eggs in ripening fruit as opposed to the ripe and over-ripe fruit. This egg laying and the resulting larvae in the growing fruit, particularly in blueberries and raspberries will make the fruit unmarketable, and results in a very low shelf life of fresh products.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE (4))

program that would use hands-on training camps to provide participants researched based education. These specialized pollinator educators would create public programs for the community with an eye on the pollinator and a hands-on approach to helping bees. The program would offer 'Pollinator First Aid Kits' that include wildflower seeds, bee houses, and information on pollinator identification and conservation. Finally, it would be a dream of hers to lead trips to nationally and internationally renowned botanical gardens, as well as gardening conferences for the enrichment of Master Gardeners.

With the current level of funding Abi feels that we need to continue what we are already providing, with Master Gardeners volunteering in many areas, including the hotline and learning from Jim Harrow, our lead diagnostician; and, providing community outreach programs such as Senior Centers and schools. By encouraging participants with unique interests and abilities to step forward and becoming more involved it is the hope to expand into other areas.

Some of the most difficult pest problems Abi has encountered while working at MSUE would include the management of household pests like pantry pests, bedbugs, and the Brown Marmorated stink bug as they inhabit the home living quarters, which people have very low tolerance for. [Side Bar Highlight]

And finally, "the rest of the story" Abi is somewhat the exception to rule when it comes to her favorite gardening tool, hers is the "internet", by means of a smart phone. "It goes a long way to providing the 'why, when, where and how' of whatever I am dealing with." she shares. - Digging out information for people that have a "critter" and want to know more about it also tops her list. Researching information regarding "some of the really cool plants" that are found in Michigan, and passing that information along to interested parties is another favorite exercise. She likes to inform people about the benefits of insects and arachnids, and raise awareness on the important role they play in the ecosystem. Encouraging people to think more about "Do I need to worry about this?", as opposed to "How to get rid of it?", ranks pretty high in Abi's list of things to do. And, her favorite plant is the "beautiful blue ray of sunshine called the Forget Me Not."

Questions regarding invasive plants and insects can be very involved and often cause Abi and Jim Harrow, along with the rest of the hotline volunteers and diagnosticians "earn their keep" by researching information, and at times providing written articles for the MGAGCM's DTE newsletter.

One of the most invasive and wide spread plants is the non-native species of Phragmites, which is causing several problems for individuals in and around Michigan. These invasive plants are mostly found at or near the water's edge. Since Michigan has the second largest shoreline of any state in the U.S., this poses several problems for Michigan residents (including native plants and animals) that rely on these fragile ecosystems. Other types of invasive landscape plants include Creeping Charlie and Japanese Knotweed, which are often more of a problem for homeowners.

All information noted here is derived from the Nov. 10, 2017 interview with Abi Saeed.
Submitted by Dale Daron (Genesee County Hotline Volunteer and Extension Master Gardener)
With a major thanks to Master Gardener Colleen Putinsky for her work in providing the written transcript of the interview.
Edited by Kit Purrol.



MASTER GARDENER EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

BEGINNING FARMER WEBINAR SERIES 2018

Contact: Jim Isleib, 906-387-2530, isleibj@anr.msu.edu

Beginning farmers and others with basic information needs are invited to participate in a series of fifteen online programs addressing crop and livestock production and marketing on Wednesday evenings **Jan. 17 through April 25, 2018**. Participants will get an overview of a variety of farming enterprises and topics, and have an opportunity through live, online chat to ask questions of MSU and other agriculture experts. Each 30 or 60 minute live webinar presentation will begin at 7 p.m. EST and be followed by a chat-based 'question & answer.

http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/beginning_farmer_webinar_series_2018_3

“MASON BEE MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

Date: Saturday, March 24, 2018 Mason Bee Management Workshop

Date: Saturday, March 24, 2018 Time: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Location: MSU Extension, Genesee County, [605 N. Saginaw Street \(Suite 1A\), Flint, MI 48502](#)

Contact: Abi Saeed, saeedabi@anr.msu.edu, [810-244-8531](tel:810-244-8531)

Management, ID, and hands-on mason bee house assembly; Instructors: Ben Phillips, Abi Saeed and Nate Walton

Interested in learning more about beekeeping, but overwhelmed by the prospect of managing honey bee hives? Come to this event to learn about Mason Bee species, and how to care for them in your own backyards!

Event cost: \$50 (includes your own take home Mason Bee House supplies and light refreshments)
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Location: MSU Extension, Genesee County, [605 N. Saginaw Street \(Suite 1A\), Flint, MI 48502](#)

Contact: Abi Saeed, saeedabi@anr.msu.edu, [810-244-8531](tel:810-244-8531)

Register at: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?eventID=0C86B18A47FC7F32>

MICHIGAN BEEKEEPERS SPRING 2018 CONFERENCE

Date: Friday, March 9, 2018 to Saturday, March 10, 2018

Location: Kellogg Center at Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI.

Our 2018 Spring conference will be held at the Kellogg Center at Michigan State University. Rooms are available at a reduced rate through February 2nd, please mention the MBA conference for the conference rate. Details and Registration are at this link:

<http://www.michiganbees.org/registrations-dontations-storeid100cid1365wid801/#id=101&cid=1365&wid=801>

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SAVE THE DATE

Mon., Mar. 5	Board meeting	1 pm-3pm			GCCARD Bldg.
Sat. March 3	31st Annual Wildflower Conference Master Gardener Course Winter 2018 Board meeting	8:45 am-4 pm	Multiple	Multiple	DeVos Place, 303 Monroe Ave NW, Grand Rapids
Thurs., March 15	Membership meeting	5:30 pm social 6 pm speaker 7 pm meeting	Elly Maxwell, Dow Gardens entomologist	Garden Insect Ecology	GCCARD Bldg.
Mon. Apr. 2	Board meeting	1 pm-3pm			GCCARD Bldg.
Thurs., April 5	OUTREACH EVENT	10-11 am		Composting presentation	Burton Senior Center

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GROWING GREAT GARDENS 2018

March 17 @ 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Growing Great Gardens, March 17, 8-4 p.m. Registration is open for GGG 2018. It's our 10th year of hosting Growing Great Gardens, and it's all about the GREEN—as in wearing it at this amazing symposium. **\$45, if you register before Feb. 23.** Check out our [Flyer](#), [register online](#) or print out and mail the [2018 Registration Packet](#) for the most-up-to-date horticulture woo-woo. We'll have an energizing day for you, filled with fun, info-packed sessions, lots of great local artisans, and St. Paddy's Day surprises. Listen, learn and accrue 5 or 6 education hours, too!

MSU HORTICULTURE GARDENS - SPRING MAKE & TAKE!

Date & Time: Saturday, March 24, 2018 - 12:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Location: Plant & Soil Science Building, MSU Campus, East Lansing, MI.

\$52 for 2018 MSU Horticulture Garden members (through 3/16)

\$62 non-member (through 3/16)

\$72 all registrations (beginning 3/17)

Registration includes three make and take presentations, gourmet desserts, coffee/tea, parking and materials

For special accommodations or questions, please contact Jennifer Sweet at

[517-353-0443](tel:517-353-0443) or hgardens@msu.edu.

Register at: https://www.canr.msu.edu/hrt/our_gardens/spring_program/

MARCH

Vines, Ground Covers, & Ornamental Grasses

Planning

March starts meteorological spring. The vernal equinox is not until the 20th or 21st, depending on the year, but in either case, spring is not far off. Nighttime temperatures can still drop quite low, but the worst of the cold is over. Snow comes and goes instead of hanging around for weeks. Think about getting the garden in shape for the season. Vines and ground covers do require some care throughout the season, but a lot of trouble can be prevented by starting them right. Ornamental grasses are almost self sufficient during the season, but they need attention in the spring.



Dwarf Pampas Grass

Care

Cut off the old tops from the ornamental grasses, and recycle them in the compost pile or on the vegetable garden. Be careful not to damage any early-starting green leaves. Rake out the ground cover beds. Mow back winter-burned purple wintercreeper, pachy-sandra, ginger, vinca or other herbaceous ground covers to remove damaged plants.

Water

Spring is rarely dry, so established plants will probably need no watering. Soak new plants every few weeks unless rainfall keeps them wet.



Windwalker Big Bluestem Grass

Fertilizing

Fertilize woody ground cover plants in sunny areas with a complete fertilizer such as 10-10-10 at the rate of 1/2 pound per 100 square feet of bed. Wash any fertilizer off the foliage to avoid burning. Do not fertilize ground cover plants growing in the shade or tender herbaceous ground cover plants.

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Pests

Scale insects are especially damaging to some vines and ground covers. Treat euonymus vines and ground cover plants with dormant oil. It may burn the foliage, but new growth will quickly hide the damage. Cover the undersides of the leaves. Make sure temperatures will stay above freezing at least 24 hours following application of the oil.

Sanitation is one way of reducing the disease problems in ground cover beds. Rake out as many old, dead leaves as soon as you can. After cleanup, treat severe root and crown problems with fungicide drenches. Use thiophanate-methyl to treat English ivy and ajuga. Treat pachy sandrea and vinca with either copper or mancozeb.

Creeping cotoneaster is susceptible to bacterial fire blight. Prune out any evidence of the disease from previous seasons, and treat with copper. These disease-control materials are available at garden centers or hardware stores. Follow the directions on the packages carefully. Ground cover beds must be kept free of weeds until they are dense enough to keep them out. Before weeds germinate, apply pre emergent herbicides. DCPA is the easiest to use. It can be applied to weed-free beds of all ground covers except ajuga.

Use fluazifop-P-butyl grass killer around most ground cover varieties to kill the grass without hurting other plants. Do not use fluazifop-P-butyl around ornamental grasses.

Pruning

Prune Jackman and Viticella clematis plants now. Prune stems back to within a few inches long about the time the buds begin to swell. These shoots will bloom in July and August.

Helpful Hints

Clematis plants bloom either on the canes produced the previous season or on new wood growing during the current year. Do not prune varieties blooming on old wood until the flowers have faded. These usually bloom in June. Within this group are the Lanuginosa, Patens, and Florida varieties. In the spring, cut back hard the kinds flowering on new wood to develop vigorous new growth for prolific blooms. The Jackman and Viticella varieties bloom on new wood.

MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION OF GENESEE COUNTY MICHIGAN

Membership Meeting Minutes – February 15, 2018

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Vicki Laurin at 7:15 pm.

Review of Minutes: Motion and 2nd by Alicia Ellis & Beth Fromholz-Davies to accept the January 18, 2018 meeting minutes as presented. Passed.

Treasurer's Report: The beginning balance on 01JA18 was \$19,951.23. January income totaled \$166.00 and expenses were \$1338.65. The ending balance on 31JA18 was \$18,778.58, including the Square account of \$300.14.

Projects

Carriage Town
chased
Desert Oasis
Grow Lab

Mel Kennedy - Projects Reports:

Chairperson

Marilyn Nichols- there is a memorial path & stones can be purchased

Alicia Ellis / Kay McCullough- Work starts 06MR18 @ 9AM.

Carol Groat- need a shepherd for one school

Rest Stop Projects

Park Place Community Garden

Susan Biron- Please save VG's and Spartan Stores receipts for Sue, they are worth points toward a \$1000 cash award.

Banquet (Spring/Awards)
receive their certificates.

Loretta Ellwood- April 19, 2018 at Crossroads. (2) MG classes will

Clothing
23FE18.

Vicki Laurin / Kay McCullough- The next clothing order deadline is

DTE
2018!

Vicki Laurin / Kit Puroll – A new and exciting DTE will debut in April

Garden Stones/Plant Stakes/Tool & Garden supplies Dick Moldenhauer- tool order to be submitted at the end of March. Begin thinking of what plant signs your projects need this year and submit your request (don't wait until May!) If you have unused plant signs please turn them in for other projects to use.

Garden Tour (Educational)
ea.

Kay McCullough- Event will be Sunday 24JN18 in the Grand Blanc area.

Hospitality

Gloria Roudebush – Several people were sent cards in January.

Public Relations
RTC at 4:30
Flint.

Mel Kennedy- Bee Symposium will be April 23, 2018 @ Mott pm. A Mason Bee Workshop will be held on 24MR18 @ MSUE-

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10)

Old Business:

None

New Business:

None

Announcements:

(reminder) **MGAGCM has a NEW mailing Address: P.O. Box 547, Grand Blanc, MI 04046**

Our first Fund Raising Committee meeting was very successful.

We are collecting empty pop cans/bottles to recycle. Please see Randy Tatro for more information.

We are working on a "Movie Night" where we will be showing an educational movie, providing popcorn and coffee to purchase. More details will be coming.

Bobbie Parkhill has sent in the application for a state license to do 50/50 raffles.

Kay McCullough is working fundraising ideas for the garden tour.

If you have any ideas that you would like to share, please see Vicki Laurin after the meeting.

Close of Meeting: Moved and 2nd by Alicia Ellis & Colleen Putinski to adjourn the meeting. Passed. The meeting was adjourned by President Vicki Laurin at 7:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted: Dick Moldenhauer, MGAGCM secretary

MGAGCM's Annual Awards Banquet

April 19, 2018, is the date for this year's MGAGCM's annual awards banquet. It will be held at Crossroads Village. At this event we get to meet and greet other members of our chapter. We will honor those who earned achievement awards during the past year and, for the first time in several years and welcome new members to our organization.

A great buffet meal will be served. A power point presentation of the many and various projects in which MGAGCM is involved will be shown. This will be a chance to meet our hardworking Board members and make new friends as well as greet old ones. Please come and join us at this event. Further updates and the reservation form will be in DTE and on our website, VM as well as the Extension office. Hope to see you there. A link has also been added to the home page of VMS - right side, lower corner - under "Links" to access the registration form.

Loretta Ellwood 2007

What's Happening

Words from the President

I would like to thank the volunteers that have made the commitment to be part of the Fund Raising Committee and I am overwhelmed with the many ideas that have come out of this committee and from other volunteers.

As I mentioned in the February membership meeting, Randy Tatro will be collecting pop bottles and cans. Please have the empties clean and in a plastic bag and bring with you to our next meeting. We have a Movie night in the plans that we will be inviting you to soon and we will be providing coffee and water at our membership meetings for a donation. Also we are waiting on the state license to sell 50/50 raffle tickets. This was always a favorite.

Once again, the members of MGAGCM Association are working together for a profitable 2018.

As spring appears so do many of our outreach projects. I just want to remind you that when you commit to volunteer at a project please keep that commitment and if you can't keep it let that chairperson know you can't be there so they will be able to find another volunteer to fill in. These projects can only be as successful as you make them.

March 20, 2018
is just around
the corner!!!!

Dates To Remember

On March 19, 2018 we will hold our monthly MGAGCM meeting at the GCCARD building with social hour starting at 5:30 and our guest speaker, Elly Maxwell from Dow Gardens will begin at 6:00 pm. Our business meeting will start at 7:15 pm.

Elly will be speaking on the topic of Garden Insect Ecology. She enjoys making presentations and is regarded tops in her field.

Snack providers for this month are: Margaret Sowle, Sharon Noteboom, Susan Biron and Alan Grove.

CONDOLENCES

We have three members who have lost their spouses in the last few months. Please remember Kristi Hunt, Julianna Gulish and Jean Clark in our thoughts and prayers.

We also lost a long time member, Thomas Regimbal in February. Tom was inactive at the time of his death, but became a Master Gardener in 1996 and was very active for several years.

March

This month is synonymous with the onset of spring (in the Northern Hemisphere). Accordingly, the flower associated with this month is **Daffodil** also known as Jonquil or Narcissus.



MGAGCM OFFICERS (2018)

President	Vicki Laurin
810-744-0725	laurinvicki@gmail.com
1st Vice President	Mel Kennedy
810-275-8822	mkennedy60@charter.com
2nd Vice President	Alan Grove
810-922-8776	plantdoc049@outlook.com
Secretary	Dick Moldenhauer
810-695-2649	rnmold1050@aol.com
Treasurer	Bobbi Parkhill
630-408-1710	bpark141@gmail.com

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE TYPE OF PRUNNER

There are three basic pruners:

- **Anvil Pruners.** Features a single straight blade that uses a splitting action to cut down on a stem or branch.
- **Ratchet Pruners.** Similar to anvil pruners, but features a mechanism that cuts in stages. Works well for people who have problems with wrist strain.
- **Bypass Pruners.** Acts like scissors with two curved blades that make a nice, clean cut. Works well on green and growing stems.

• Pruning tool Best used for

Anvil Pruner Dead twigs and branches

- Diameters of 5/8" or less

Examples: rosebushes, hydrangea, butterfly bushes

Bypass Pruner Live stems and branches

- Diameters of 5/8" or less

Examples: rosebushes, raspberry bushes, lilacs, snipping flowers or herbs.

If you have a favorite garden tool send us a small article on what it is and why it's your favorite. This will introduce new tools to other members and may help them decide to spend that extra \$ on a tool they have been wanting for their collection. Send your article to Vicki Laurin, laurinvicki@gmail.com or Kit Purrol at: all_4_adventure@hotmail.com

THIS NEWSLETTER PREPARED BY:

Vicki Laurin, laurinvicki@gmail.com,
Kit Purroll,

all_4_adventure@hotmail.com and of
counsel Ruth Simon.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITES

MMGA Inc Website at:

www.michiganmastergardener.org

MMGA Inc Facebook Page at:

www.facebook.comMichiganMG

MGAGCM Website at: Genesee

County MG.org

MGAGCM Facebook Page at:

http://facebook.com/groups/2169046232310/

Link to VMS: https://
michigan.volunteersystem.org

Abiya (Abi) Saeed

Consumer Horticulture Program In-
structor

Master Gardener Coordinator

810-244-8531-saeedabi@anr.msu.edu

Michelle Chockley, VMS Ambassa-
dor. 810-695-8014

MSU Extension-Genesee

605 N. Saginaw St. Suite 1A

Flint, MI 48502

(810) 244-8500

Plant & Pest Hotline:

(810) 244-8548

Hours: Friday's only, from 8:30 am-
1:00pm

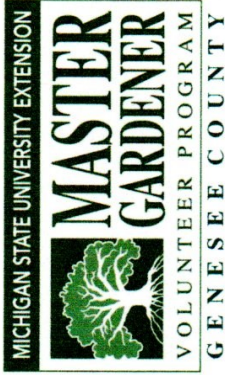
geneseeplantpest@anr.msu.edu

MGAGCM Mailing address:

PO Box 981, Grand Blanc, Mi.
48480

The Master Gardener
Association
of Genesee County
Michigan
volunteer program
cordially invites
**Master Gardeners,
Master Gardeners-
in-training
and their
guests**

to the
30th Annual Banquet,
Thursday, April 19th, 2018
at the Crossroads Village
Mill Street Dining Room



*The Master Gardener Association of
Genesee County Michigan cordially
invites you to the*

**30th Annual
Master Gardener
Volunteer Awards
and
Recognition
Banquet**

**Thursday,
April 19, 2018**

Master Gardener Association of
Genesee County Michigan Chapter
(MGAGCM)
P.O. Box 981
Grand Blanc, MI 48480

When: Thursday April 19, 2018

Where: Crossroads Village
Mill Street Dining Room
6140 Bray Road
Flint, MI 48433
www.geneseecountyparks.org

Cost per person: - \$20.00

Time: 5:30-6:00 pm - Social

6:00-6:45 pm - Dinner
Wendi's Catering

6:45-7:00 pm - **Abi Saeed,**
Genesee County MSU/E
Horticulture/Master Gardener
Coordinator

7:00-8:30 pm - Presentation of
Awards for:

- Distinguished Master Gardener(s) of the Year
- Outstanding Master Gardener(s) of the Year,
- Outstanding Master Gardener(s) in Training
- Hour pins
- Certificates for the 2017 Spring and Fall Master Gardeners

Please come and celebrate both our achievements of the past year as a group and to honor our hard-working volunteers who share their passion for gardening combined with scientifically-based horticultural knowledge to beautify and enhance their communities in the greater Genesee County area.

We have many things to celebrate this year:

• Two Master Gardener classes in 2017 and one just ending in Spring 2018.

• Recognition of those who have gone above and beyond the basic requirements, who have taken leading role or participated on projects, hotline and in committees, both newcomers and veteran Master Gardeners.

• Recognition of those who have completed the course and the volunteer hours to certify as new Master Gardeners.

Sincerely,
The Master Gardener
Banquet Committee

MSU is an affirmative-action, equal-opportunity employer. Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status or veteran status. Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by calling Genesee County at (810)244-8531 by **April 1, 2018** to ensure sufficient time to make arrangements. Requests received after this date will be met when possible.

Questions? Please contact
Loretta Ellwood (810) 344-7383 or

Detach and send this reservation form along with your payment (**check or cash only**) to:

Master Gardener Association of
Genesee County Michigan chapter
(MGAGCM)
P.O. Box 981
Grand Blanc, MI 48480

Name _____

Name of guest(s) _____

Number attending _____ x \$20.00/person
total amount enclosed _____

**RESERVATIONS
ARE REQUIRED FOR THIS
EVENT**

**Please send in your reservation and
payment (check or cash only) no later
than Monday, April 9, 2018**

Please make checks payable to:
MGAGCM

MSU EXTENSION-GENESEE COUNTY
605 N. Saginaw St.
Suite 1A
FLINT, MI 48502
www.msue.msu.edu/genesee

AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION/EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

MARCH SPEAKER

Elly Maxwell has been the entomologist at Dow Gardens since 2006. She earned a M.S. from Auburn University and a B.S. from Michigan State University both in Entomology. Her responsibilities include integrated pest management, bee keeping, tending the pollinator garden and coordinating turf care. A favorite component of her job is butterflies in bloom and an event which, under her care, has evolved from displaying native-only butterflies to showing butterflies from around the world.