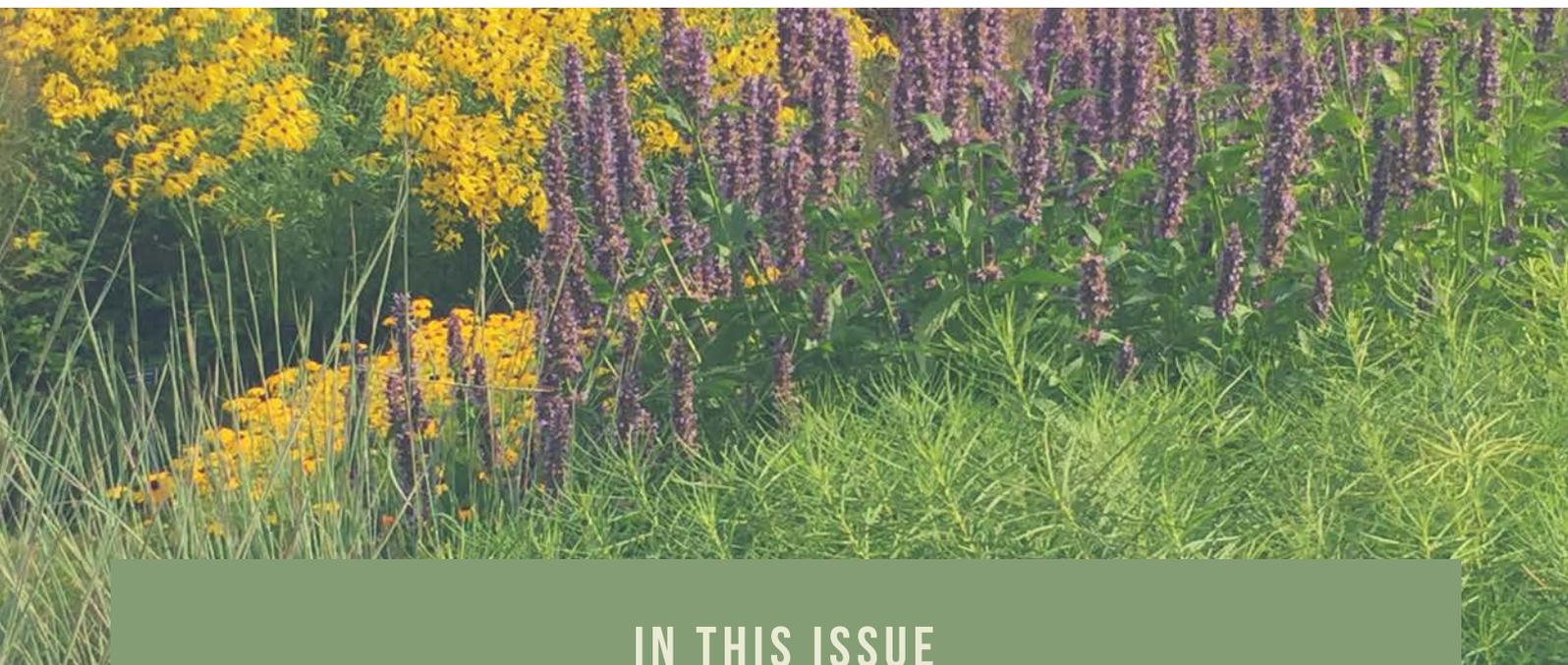


MSU IN BLOOM

MSU HORTICULTURE GARDEN NEWS



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SAVE-THE-DATE!

THIRD ANNUAL
**HOUSEPLANT
& SUCCULENT
SALE!!!**



**WHAT: PLANT SALE FUNDRAISER FEATURING SUCCULENTS,
AIRPLANTS, AND OTHER HOUSEPLANTS**

WHEN: THURSDAY NOVEMBER 1st, 9AM - 7PM

**WHERE: MSU HORTICULTURE GARDENS
1066 BOGUE STREET
PLANT & SOIL SCIENCES BUILDING
EAST LANSING, MI, 48824**



THE INS-AND OUTS OF THE 3RD ANNUAL HOUSEPLANT & SUCCULENT SALE

BY BETHANY TROY, PERENNIAL GARDEN MANAGER

Are your green thumbs twiddling, just waiting for the moment you can up your houseplant and succulent game by attending our sale? To better prepare, let me share with you some tips and updates that will help you have the best experience yet!

First and foremost, this plant sale is a fundraiser for a self-supporting, non-profit organization, the MSU Horticulture Gardens. Please keep the spirit of the fundraiser in mind, especially if there are long lines, or if we are sold out of something you wanted. The doors will open at 9 AM and close at 7 PM. If you arrive after 7 PM, you will not be able to make a purchase that day. There are NO pre-sales, and no holding of plant material due to our limited space.

PARKING

Parking is limited and there is no free parking on campus. If you park in a university vehicle spot, a faculty/staff spot, or do not pay at a metered spot, you will likely get a parking ticket. Metered parking is \$1.80 per hour and both coin and charge are accepted.

PAYMENT

We accept cash, check, or credit/debit card. With more cashiers and faster credit card machines, your check-out should be a breeze! Follow the signs to the conservatory for a more roomy, speedy checkout. Checks can be made payable to 'MSU'. All prices do not include sales tax, which will be added at the register. Please come ready to buy and take your plants home – we cannot hold or save plants for purchase at a later point. Prices will NOT be discounted at any point in the sale.

INVENTORY AND SHOPPING

All plants will be individually labeled with Latin name, common name, and care information. For the most part, plants will be organized by Latin name. An inventory of varieties can be found on our website:

http://www.canr.msu.edu/hrt/our_gardens/houseplant_and_succulent_sale.

Quantities are limited and the sale will conclude early if we become sold out. We will immediately post on our website and our Facebook page to announce if the sale is ending early. If you are traveling from any distance, please check either of these sites regularly. We have a limited number of shopping carts/wagons. If you have a wagon or cart, bring it with you!

THE INS-AND OUTS (CONTINUED)

MERCH MALL

This year, we will have all of our merchandise located in the Garden Gateway Classroom, AKA the 'Merch Mall' during our sale! We will have pots made from Michigan ceramicists for your newly adopted plant babes, along with garden merchandise and other fun additions to up your plant game at home!

GETTING YOUR PLANTS HOME

We will have some boxes and plant trays available to pack plants, but if you have boxes or bags handy - we recommend bringing them in case we run out. We also recommend bringing a garbage bag or other trunk liner to protect your vehicle from soil spills on your journey home. Please plan to take your plants home directly from the sale, we cannot hold plants for pickup at a later date.

PET SAFETY

It is the responsibility of the buyer to do their homework and determine what plants are safe for their pets.

HAVE QUESTIONS?

Staff members and volunteers will be available on site to answer questions. We recommend bringing your smartphone to look up varieties and other important information!



The Curious Gardener

Growing and Identifying Mushrooms

Monday October 29th, 3-5pm

Autumn brings many wild mushrooms in the woodlands, but if mushroom hunting is not your favorite pastime, don't worry- you can grow your own from home! Join Dr. Francis Trail and learn how to cultivate delicious, edible mushrooms to cook into your favorite dish! Attendees will also learn about mushroom anatomy for use in identification, and observe a diverse fungus collection to expand your understanding of what "fungi" really are. Each attendee will make a portable mushroom garden to grow edible mushrooms at home.

\$25 for members/\$30 for Non-Members, parking not included

Hanging Succulent Wall Art

Tuesday November 13th, 3-5 pm

Come get crafty with us and create an original work of art using succulents with Anne Boone, Head Horticulturist and expert florist at the MSU Radiology Gardens. These living pieces of art will bring life to your home throughout the cold winter. Each participant will create a one of a kind hanging piece of art using a wide range of succulents, from echeverias to sedums.

\$35 for members/\$40 for Non-Members, parking not included

Lighted Evergreen Wreath

Monday December 3, 3-5 pm

As the days get shorter and the holidays approach nothing warms an entry like beautiful greens and warm twinkle lights. The MSU Horticulture garden staff will help you to create a unique wreath using evergreens and lights. Each participant will take home one wreath (lights included), and will leave equipped with ideas to take your wreath from Christmas to Valentines Day and beyond. \$40 for members/\$45 for Non-Members, parking not included



For registration information visit us online at

<http://hrt.msu.edu/cg-register>

SUMMER MAINTENANCE AND PROJECTS IN THE GARDENS

BY DAN BULKOWSKI

GARDENS AND GREENHOUSE MANAGER

Once again it was a summer season filled with issues of maintenance and improvements. Topping the list of issues always deals with water in one way or another. Our irrigation system was brand new in 1988. Time is taking its toll, many equipment failures and leaks developed that forced the system down for repairs multiple times. It wasn't the wettest summer to have the irrigation off. MSU's irrigation crew though does an excellent job, with limited personnel, to keep the water flowing.

In late July, water started streaming out through a seam in the sidewalk by the bathrooms near the Children's Gardens. No one could determine the source of the water: irrigation, sewer, or from the chilled water plant that is used to keep buildings cool in the summer. The only way to determine what it was, and to repair, was to dig. Ugh. Didn't need that before Garden Day. So after that day in early August, the crew from Infrastructure, Planning, and Facilities came with big equipment. It was a mess, but they found the leak in the main irrigation pipe. So out came the irrigation crew again and they quickly repaired the line. Then the concrete company had to come out and they replaced the sidewalk. You would be hard pressed to know where it all happened, other than a few missing plants along the sidewalk.

Not everything that happens here turns my hair gray. One of the improvements this year was the installation of three map signs. Two on this side of the railroad tracks, and one in the arboretum. They are something that was needed in the gardens for a long time. They are checked out by visitors daily, and folded maps can be picked up from the map box attached to the side. In fact, the first garden guests were checking out where they were before the signs were even backfilled.

So, that's a typical summer season: lots of problems with irrigation and fountains (pump failed in July), but also new things happen to keep the gardens growing.



GARDEN DAY RECAP!

BY JENNIFER SWEET, PROGRAM COORDINATOR

The MSU Horticulture Gardens were at their peak for a fun and successful Garden Day on Saturday, August 4, 2018! Our keynote presenter was Tracy DiSabato-Aust and she gave two very informative lectures: *The Well-Designed Mixed Garden: Building Borders with Trees, Shrubs, Perennials, Annuals & Bulbs* and *High Impact Low Care Garden Plants: Tough but Beautiful Plants that Anyone Can Grow*. In addition to Tracy's lectures, attendees had their selection of eight entertaining workshops such as *Michigan Native Plants for Getting Cool Insects into the Yard*, *Landscape Critique – Enhancing Your Design Skills* and *Garden Mixology!* After being inspired by the presenters, attendees were able to shop our Green Garden Market Place for a variety of plants and garden accessories. This also included books by Tracy DiSabato-Aust that she signed personally over the lunch hour. The beautiful weather made for a lovely stroll through the stunning and peaceful landscapes of the MSU Horticulture Gardens.

We want to extend another special thanks to everyone who helped make Garden Day possible, and that certainly includes our attendees! The MSU Horticulture Gardens is largely self-funded. When you attend an event such as Garden Day, you help to keep our gardens growing and ensure the enjoyment of future generations!

WHAT GARDEN DAY 2018 ATTENDEES SAID

- "Being here is great. This is my 9th time. It's so invigorating."
- "You always do a great job! The keynote speaker and workshops have great info and the whole day is well organized."
- "It is always great to come here for a day to learn and be with other gardeners."
- "The keynote and my selected workshops were what brought me today. Excellent topics!"
- "Can't get enough of the gardens- such beauty and I always learn something new!"



FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

BY KRISTIN GETTER, PH.D. MSU HORTICULTURAL DEMONSTRATION GARDENS DIRECTOR

As the new MSU Horticultural Gardens Director, I'd like to thank all of you for supporting the gardens. Whether you have a garden membership, volunteer at the gardens, or attend any of our plant sales or workshops, you are helping us to stay funded!

Many of you probably already know that the gardens are largely self-funded. The garden administration positions (Mr. Dan Bulkowski, Greenhouses and Gardens Manager; Dr. Norm Lownds, Curator of the MSU 4-H Children's Gardens; Dr. Bob Schutzki, Curator of the Clarence E. Lewis Arboretum; and I) are the only ones paid from university general funds.

The latter three also have other teaching and research duties. This means our part-time event coordinator (for weddings) and student labor, as well as our full-time program coordinator, children's educational coordinator, annual trial garden manager, and perennial garden manager, all have to be paid on either endowment income (about 1/3 of our budget) or 'soft' funds (funds we raise ourselves). In addition, all plant material, soil amendments, garden projects, and most garden maintenance issues are also our responsibility. We raise money by selling garden memberships (check out the benefits by clicking on the link!), hosting plant sales and garden events. But we rely on donors for large ticket items, like funding to revamp a planting bed, a new structure, or large maintenance items.



A generous donor who funded the renovation of this perennial garden bed in 2018.

PRIORITIES

My first priority as garden director is to get a new sidewalk installed from our Children's Garden Classrooms inside the Plant and Soil Sciences Building to the Children's Garden so that our young visitors have a safe passage to and from these locations without walking through a parking lot (as they do now). I've presented the hazardous situation to MSU's Safety and Security Committee and hope to hear back from them very soon about potential funding. Stay tuned to the next newsletter for results of that funding plea!

Of course, if the safe passageway sidewalk is approved, then we have another issue: moving our current welcome kiosk which will be in the way of the new sidewalk. The kiosk is very old and in need of replacement. We are currently in conversation with our College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Dean's office about how to best proceed with this building replacement.

More news to come on that next month!

Finally, we have a few major maintenance needs on the horizon as well. The Children's Garden treehouse has spiderweb railings that need replaced every five years to maintain adequate safety, which is coming up soon. Dr. Lownds is working with the original treehouse builder to get a quote on that. The Children's Garden pond liner is also in need of replacement, with an estimated cost of \$30,000 or more.

If you find yourself wanting to help financially with any of the above projects, please contact me (getterk@msu.edu or 517-353-0341) for more information.



Children attending one of our 4-H Children's Garden Programs walking from our classroom building to the gardens through a parking lot.

CAN YOU HELP IN A SMALL WAY?

We are in need of a good new or used electric hand-mixer (the 2-beater variety) for our children's garden cooking. Please contact Jessica Wright (garden4h@msu.edu or 517-353-0452) before donating to make sure she hasn't received 10 of them already!