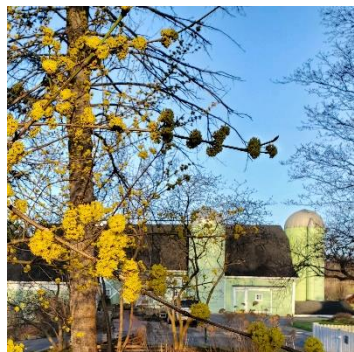


# The Tollgate Farm News

VOLUME 27

ISSUE 8

AUGUST 2021



Cover photo provided by Roy Prentice

## MSU Tollgate Garden Volunteers General Meeting On-Site in The Pavilion

**Thursday, August 19, 2021  
7:00 PM**

## Cooking with Mary Spencer - Live & in Person at Tollgate

Join garden volunteers and supporters in the **picnic pavilion** (or the barn depending on the weather) on **Thursday evening, August 19**. Tollgate members look forward to Mary Spencer's annual cooking demonstrations, especially the samples and recipes. This year, Mary will demonstrate making a pasta with a 15-minute burst cherry tomato sauce. She will also prepare a Spanish tapas with pan con tomate (Spain's version of bruschetta) using tomato, cucumber, avocado and lime with a feta vinaigrette. Mary will also answer your general questions about cooking or ingredients.

Mary Spencer's goal is to make people better cooks. Before Covid, she taught a variety of cooking classes at The Old World Olive Company in Plymouth and at ABC Warehouse locations in Livonia, Troy, Lakeside and Novi. Her business, *Taste: A Cook's Place*, [www.tasteacooksplace.net](http://www.tasteacooksplace.net), is delivering home cooked five-course dinners with generous portions on most Thursdays and Sundays. Mary and Sammy Spencer do contactless deliveries within 20 miles of Plymouth.

Mary has conducted food tours, done menu planning and researched heirloom recipes. She has been teaching cooking for approximately 20 years and has over 5,500 cookbooks in her personal collection.

### TOLLGATE GARDEN VOLUNTEER IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

AUG	MEETINGS		SEP	MEETINGS	
3	TGAC Meeting – On-Site/Zoom	7:00pm	7	TGAC Meeting – On-Site/Zoom	7:00pm
19	TG Volunteer Mtg – On-Site	7:00pm	16	TG Volunteer Mtg – On-Site	7:00pm
AUG	WORKDAY ACTIVITIES		SEP	WORKDAY ACTIVITIES	
7	Heritage/Rockledge Gardens	9:00 am	4	Labor Day Weekend	N/A
14	Rain/Farmhouse/Shade Gdns	9:00 am	11	Children's/Xeriscape/12 Mile Rd	9:00am
21	Hosta Garden/Pond	9:00 am	18	<b>Nursery Fall Plant Sale</b>	9:00-Noon
21	Volunteer Appreciation Picnic	Noon-3:00	25	Nursery Divisions/Rock Ledge	9:00 am
28	Demo Garden/Nursery	9:00 am			

# The Tollgate Farm News

## FROM THE TOLLGATE FARM MANAGER

### GREETINGS

Roy Prentice

Greetings all,

It has been a busy summer on the farm. Although the pandemic is still with us, signs of re-emergence are everywhere. Tollgate is hosting several camps this summer. In recognition of the Covid concerns still with us, the kids are spending 99% of their time outdoors. Each week brings a chorus of small voices as groups roam the gardens and grounds. With its varied environments of woods, fields, and water, Tollgate is ideal as a camp focus.



The first week of August, the camp theme was Animals. On Tuesday, August 3, **Jack, The Wonder Dog**, and his assistant, Roy, put on a “fetching” show for the camp. Jack knew that he had the crowd well in hand



(paw?) when his first move, a simple retrieve to hand, brought a round of applause. As his first show in front of a live audience, Jack did very well. I couldn't have been prouder!

Tollgate hosted a Grand Re-opening celebration recently. Over 850 guests came to Tollgate to enjoy the grounds and gardens, listen to music, take a tour of the gardens, go on a hayride, and eat a hot dog or two. Although the grounds have been open for almost two months, the grand re-opening event was a way to announce to the community that we are ready for visitors. The event also raised dollars to support Tollgate's many animals. It was a beautiful day, just made for lingering and communing with the farm. My thanks to the many garden volunteers who pitched in to help make the day a success! Garden volunteers greeted guests, helped visitors with projects, led tours of the grounds, and even pitched in at the concession stand. It was a little surreal to see so many people all together enjoying the farm again. Hopefully another sign that as vaccination rates rise, we can all work our way back to more normal times.

I recently received a cool notice from campus. During the month of August, MSU is making an extra effort to acknowledge all of its wonderful on and off campus gardens. MSU prides itself in having numerous and varied beautiful and reflective spaces. Of course, our Tollgate gardens are on the list. Check it out at:

[https://sustainability.msu.edu/campus-information/sustainable-facilities/MSUGardens.html?sa=22MASEM1GARDEN1&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=sol&utm\\_campaign=garden\\_month&utm\\_content=aug](https://sustainability.msu.edu/campus-information/sustainable-facilities/MSUGardens.html?sa=22MASEM1GARDEN1&utm_medium=email&utm_source=sol&utm_campaign=garden_month&utm_content=aug)

I look forward to seeing you all on the farm soon! Thanks for all that you do to help make Tollgate a special place

- Roy

Photos provided by Roy Prentice



# The Tollgate Farm News



**Notes from the President  
Renee Cottrell**

August and the “dog days of summer!” As we continue to work in the gardens, I want to remind all of the dangers of heat-related illnesses. High temperatures and high humidity can contribute to risk. Pace yourselves in your garden activities and keep well hydrated. Cooler morning and evening times are better for **any** planned outdoor activities. Keep safe!

With that said, there still remain plenty of Saturday activity days for working in the gardens in August and September. We really never fully caught up in some areas and rain outs have contributed to that lag. I appreciate the efforts of AGL's and teams to stay ahead of the weeds and pests. Feel free to contact me for assignments in gardens during the work week if you are available.

Come out and enjoy the gardens! Your hard work has made a special place here at Tollgate. Consider an evening visit with friends or a Saturday afternoon with the family in the Children's Garden. Enjoy a stroll and a picnic down by the Pond. You deserve to enjoy the fruits of your labor.



*“Where flowers bloom so does hope.”*

- Lady Bird Johnson (former First Lady)



## **NOMINATIONS FOR GINGER MEYER AWARD**

The Ginger Meyer Award was initiated in 2003 by the family of Mrs. Meyer to recognize the Tollgate Volunteer who shares some of the treasured qualities of Ginger Meyer. As Tollgate Garden Volunteer members, you will have an opportunity to nominate candidates. The TGAC will compile the short list for presentation to the Americana Foundation for final award selection. Your nomination will describe how the candidate of your choice shows a commitment to Tollgate, a love and knowledge of gardening and a willingness to share that knowledge with others.

Nomination forms are due **NO LATER THAN the Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> general members meeting.**

This will allow sufficient time for TGAC and the Americana Foundation to make a selection and have the presentation ready by the recognition dinner. Get a form at any meeting or in this newsletter.

**Please take some time to honor one or more of your fellow Tollgate volunteers to continue this tradition for our organization.**

Notes from the President continued on Page 4

# The Tollgate Farm News

Notes from the President continued from Page 3.

**See the Nursery notes section** for updated information and info on our Fall Plant Sale. This is a smaller event with focus on the fall blooming plants for the garden on Sept. 18th, 9:00 am – Noon, in conjunction with the Nursery activity day. Look ahead for your fall division donations to restock our nursery for the spring plant sale. I will be sending an email to active members to work the sale positions as we get closer to the date.

\*\*\*\*\*As always, we are looking to create or add to existing garden teams! If you are a newer active member and would like to work in a specific area, contact me for details.

[rmcottrell4@att.net](mailto:rmcottrell4@att.net) \*\*\*\*\*



**YOUR** Tollgate Garden Volunteers- This organization is proud of our past accomplishments and strong volunteer support. It is the membership that drives the progress and projects. To continue to progress and grow, we need new ideas and vision and continued volunteer support. Now is the time to be thinking ahead to nominations for our TGAC board. This is an opportunity for members to contribute to the organization in the planning and organizing aspects of our group. All positions are up for re-election every year, President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. We nominate in September and vote in October to give all members plenty of opportunity to participate in our organization. Please consider nominating yourself or another willing member to run for any of the elected positions or offer your services for committee positions. This is a great way to stay active in volunteering when circumstances may not let you participate physically in the gardens.

Thank you for being Tollgate Garden Volunteers,

Renee Cottrell, Adv. MG,  
TGV President



Photos on pages 3 and 4 provided by Renee Cottrell



# The Tollgate Farm News



**VOLUNTEERS  
TOGETHER  
DIVIDING  
GROWING  
SHARING**

## **NURSERY NOTES** Peg Palmer



In 2017, a second, much larger section of trellis was built, adding three 12-foot sections to the south of the original section, including a 4-foot center aisle that

ran east – west. This created a natural separation between the “SUN” plants on the south side and what we dubbed the “ANNEX” north of the center path.



**The Nursery is usually a quiet place after the Spring Sale,** with fewer plants and not much going on until fall donations begin to arrive later in

August. But this year has been different - we have been preparing to close the SHADE house and move those plants into nursery space under the wooden trellis!



**Closing the SHADE house is just the latest step in the Nursery evolution** that began in the

fall of 2014 with the construction of the first section of the wooden trellis. Completed as part of a Scout project, the initial construction of a 12-foot trellis section in the area south of the Shade House provided a bit of relief from the sun in the center section of the nursery.



**Nursery workers were delighted to work in this area** as the lattice overhead provided a bit

of protection from the sun's heat.



The last 12-foot section on the southern border was installed in spring of 2018. And recently this year, the trellis was

extended to the east, to fully cover SUN Rows 1 and 2 and ANNEX Rows 19 and 20.

**The new structure has meant more space for plants at our sales!** But more pots also require more maintenance, and hand watering, dragging long, heavy hoses through the nursery became a challenge. It helped some when multiple hose stations were installed along the center aisle of the trellis nursery and in the shade house, with lighter flexible hoses. We created a schedule of volunteers to water pots throughout the summer. Then we enlisted the help of some of our creative Tollgate experts to design a creative solution that didn't require people driving to the farm multiple times per week!

Nursery Notes continued on Page 6

# The Tollgate Farm News

Nursery Notes continued from Page 5



**During the summer of 2019, an overhead sprinkler system was installed for the 9 rows under the trellis on the south side of**

the nursery! The creativity and engineering design came courtesy of Kurt Westermann and John Woodrich, who had lots of experience with challenging projects in the PAR garden and the Maple Syrup operation.



Thanks to their creativity and willingness to help, an ingenious system of overhead sprinklers was installed for SUN rows 2 - 10 under the trellis. This irrigation system was recently expanded to include rows 11 – 19. And the extension of the

trellis structure over Rows 1 and 20 that was completed this spring will enable a future expansion of the irrigation system to cover the entire nursery!

**With watering issues addressed, we began to notice increasing deer damage.** Roy Prentice, our amazing creative Farm Manager, came up with a unique solution that was implemented this year with great success! We needed a system that protected the plants that could also be quickly and easily dismantled to allow complete access for Plant Sale crowds. It must also always provide easy access for Nursery workers moving plants in wheelbarrows or our large wagon. Roy's innovative design passed the Plant Sale Test with flying colors this year – we were able to remove all the deer fencing in a relatively short period of time and

reinstall it at the end of the day - twice! Also, we have everyday access through 4 swing gates with a double lock closure system – providing everyday worker access from each side of the nursery.

**Consolidating our pots under the Trellis Nursery** will help us to operate much more efficiently! The overhead trellis provides a bit of sun protection that is appreciated by most plants growing in a pot - and the humans tending to them! The availability of automated overhead irrigation is a significant advantage vs. the need to hand water the prior Shade House structure. The rows under the Trellis have automated, timer controlled overhead irrigation for Rows 2 through 19. With the completion of the overhead trellis over Rows 1 and 20, the physical structure will be in place to add another zone of overhead misters.

**This more efficient Nursery configuration will support many successful plant sales in the future!** The “max capacity” of the previous nursery configuration was about 5,000 pots. The new capacity is over 4,000 pots, which is significantly more stock than we've had even in our peak sales years... plenty of space for plants and a better environment for people!

**We're getting ready to start restocking the Nursery with fall divisions** – so keep the Nursery in mind as you clean up your gardens this fall. The PLANTS WANTED list will be available soon to help you to know what plants we need the most! The Nursery cannot be successful without the donations of plants from our gardener friends as well as the many divisions that we receive from Tollgate's beautiful gardens!

**This is a great time to join the Nursery Team!** You can be part of future changes as we work to continually improve our operations. Learn about growing lots of different varieties of plants and raise money to support all the Tollgate Gardens! More shade and easier watering chores have definitely made the environment for volunteers more comfortable – but we still have lots of hard work to do too! If you are interested in learning more about the options to join the Nursery Team, email me at: [palmermargaretanne@gmail.com](mailto:palmermargaretanne@gmail.com)

Photos are from historical Nursery records  
dating 2014 to 2019



# The Tollgate Farm News



Only partway through the season, and we have harvested over 900 lbs. of garlic, radishes, cabbage, turnips, potatoes, onions, beets, carrots, beans, zucchini, and yellow squash thanks to a very dedicated and wonderful team of volunteers.



There are plenty more beets, carrots, onions, potatoes, beans, zucchini, yellow squash, and winter squash to harvest over the next three months.



Check out the pictures of some of the bounty and the beautiful red flowers from a new variety of bean that we planted this year. We are very grateful to have Darby Anderson (CSA)

helping us by delivering our fresh vegetables to CARES and Feed the Need each week, as well as sharing knowledge, tools, and storage bins – thank you.



The garlic has been harvested and hung in the shed to cure. Soon we will clean them up and they will be ready to share. We will also be storing several heads to provide the seeds for planting in the fall. The aroma in the shed is wonderful. It is the first crop planted for the next season, and as Darby shared with me – it is a promise to return in the Spring!

All the rain has had an unfortunate side effect – many of the vegetables are rotting, and the carrots are splitting due to the soggy soil. In addition, we have lost some to pests, including gigantic voles which have been eating their way through our radishes, cabbage, squash, turnips, and even the potatoes. They are quite bold, and don't seem to be bothered too much by us when we are harvesting. However, on a positive note, we have replanted seven beds with more beets and carrots, so there will be more vegetables at the end of the season. We will be adding soil to the beds and mounding them to help with better drainage next year.

In addition to weeding and harvesting this month, as we fully harvest a bed, we will be turning, raking, and covering the spent beds to minimize the weed growth and prepare them for spring planting. Based on pest and disease conditions in the beds, it is already time to start planning the garden layout to rotate vulnerable crops to new beds and assess new strategies for dealing with our challenging pest population and weeds. We are considering flame-throwing the potato beds after they have been planted to kill overwintering adult potato beetles, as well as hoop row covers to minimize access to the potato plants from other infested beds. We will avoid planting cabbage or any other crucifer crops in the raised beds due to black rot disease in those beds. We are still working on how to address the pesky voles. Every year is different and presents us with opportunities to learn and try new approaches to maximizing our harvest for those in need. It keeps the gardening interesting and rewarding. Happy Gardening!

- Kathryn Fitzpatrick

Photos provided by Kathryn Fitzpatrick



# The Tollgate Farm News

## Meet Tollgate Artist – Katie Gallagher

If you have been to Tollgate recently and wandered through the Children's Garden, you will have noticed a serious upgrade to the benches and structures. Tollgate staff member, Katie Gallagher, has been applying her artistic talents to the benches, picnic tables and other features of the garden. Lots of bright colors and attractive designs. Check it out the next time that you are on the farm. I am sure that you will be as impressed as I am!

- Roy Prentice



Photos provided by Roy Prentice



# The Tollgate Farm News

## New Trellis in the Heritage Garden

There's a new addition to the Heritage Garden located in front of the Tollgate conference center. Thanks to a generous donation from Tollgate Garden volunteer, Cherry Lee Baker, the Heritage Garden now has a new rose trellis. Constructed of wrought iron by local blacksmith, Karen Quinn, the rose trellis will add a new dimension to the garden. I am sure that the trellis will be one of the key points of interest for our gardens. You can check out all of its Victorian splendor the next time you visit the farm.



Top three and bottom right photos provided by Roy Prentice  
Lower left photo provided by Renee Cottrell



# The Tollgate Farm News

## Tollgate Farm Grand Re-Opening

On Saturday, July 31, Tollgate hosted a Grand Re-Opening event. Although the gates have been open to visitors, staff, and volunteers for a couple of months, the Grand Re-Opening was notice to our community that the farm is back in business. Over 850 people took advantage of the great weather to enjoy music, hay rides, and tours of the grounds. Thanks to the many volunteers who made the day possible!



Photos provided by Renee Cottrell  
Grand Re-Opening photos continued on Page 11



# The Tollgate Farm News

Grand Re-Opening photos continued from Page 10



Top two row photos provided by Renee Cottrell  
Bottom two row photos provided by Roy Prentice



# The Tollgate Farm News

## WJR Visits Tollgate!

As part of its focus on Michigan Agriculture, WJR recently stopped at Tollgate for an entire afternoon of programming. In addition to its regular features, WJR hosts interviewed MSU Tollgate director Mike Mathis about all of the wonderful happenings on the farm.



Photos provided by Roy Prentice



# The Tollgate Farm News

## Annual Ginger Meyer Award - Nominations Now Open

The Ginger Meyer Award was initiated in 2003 by the family of Mrs. Meyer to recognize the Tollgate Volunteer who shares some of the treasured qualities of Ginger Meyer. The award is usually presented at the Tollgate Garden Volunteer Recognition Dinner which we hope to hold this year.

As Tollgate Garden Volunteer members, you will have an opportunity to nominate any fellow TGV member. The TGAC will present the nomination list to the Americana Foundation for final award selection. Your nomination will describe how the candidate of your choice shows a commitment to Tollgate, a love and knowledge of gardening and a willingness to share that knowledge with others. **Nomination forms are due by the September 16th membership meeting.** This will allow sufficient time for TGAC and the Americana Foundation to make a selection and have the presentation ready by the recognition dinner. *The form is attached at the end of this newsletter on Page 27* and will also be available at meetings in August and September, as well as the upcoming newsletters. Submit to Roy by mail or email ([prentic1@msu.edu](mailto:prentic1@msu.edu))

Some current members who are past recipients include:

Cherry Lee Baker  
Peg Palmer  
Renee Cottrell  
Priscilla Needle

Clay Otoni  
Joe Pyden  
Jackie Stengel

Dave Komraus  
Darretta Ferrasin  
Sue Janczrek

Please take some time to honor one or more of your fellow Tollgate volunteers to continue this tradition for our organization.

Past winner, Peg Palmer, with Renee and Roy:



# The Tollgate Farm News

## Tollgate Gardens are on Facebook and Instagram



### Share the beauty of Tollgate Gardens on Facebook and Instagram

We are posting photos and information about the gardens on the Tollgate Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/ExperienceTollgate>) and Instagram (<https://www.instagram.com/msutollgatefarm/>) pages.

Our posts have been well received and we are increasing the awareness of our gardens, providing education on the plants in our gardens and hopefully encouraging some new volunteers. If you would like to help, please send high resolution photos to Kathy Johnson ([kmj@chartermi.net](mailto:kmj@chartermi.net)), along with information about the photo like garden name, plant name, and the time of year the photo was taken. Note: photos can be taken over the last few years. If you would like to draft a brief educational text about the plant and its care, please send that also. Kathy will help finalize the post for you and when completed she will coordinate with the Tollgate social media lead to get it published. We would like to have lots of social media posts on the gardens this year!

Example of a recent Instagram posting:





# The Tollgate Farm News

## AROUND THE DEMO GARDEN



Photos provided by Roy Prentice



# The Tollgate Farm News

## AROUND PETER RABBIT'S GARDEN



Photos provided by Renee Cottrell



# The Tollgate Farm News

## AROUND THE ENABLING GARDEN



Top two photos provided by Renee Cottrell  
Bottom row photos by Roy Prentice



# The Tollgate Farm News

## AROUND THE SOUTH ENTRANCE

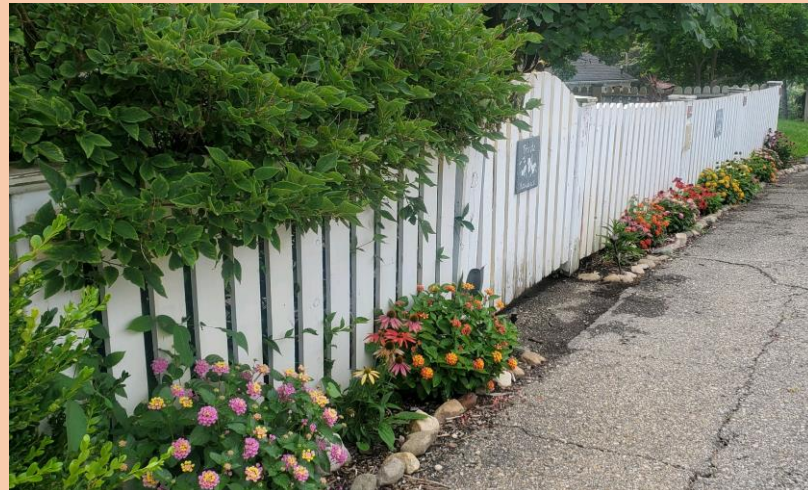


Photos provided by Roy Prentice



# The Tollgate Farm News

## AROUND THE FARMHOUSE



Photos provided by Roy Prentice



# The Tollgate Farm News

## ANIMALS AROUND THE FARM



Photos provided by Roy Prentice



# The Tollgate Farm News

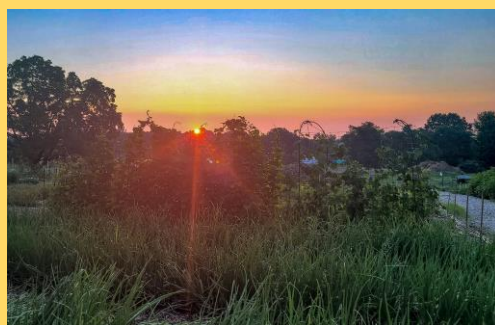
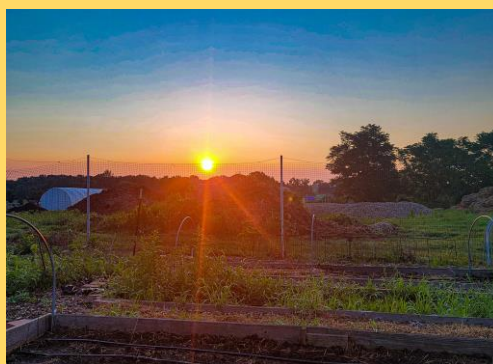
## AROUND THE HERITAGE GARDEN



Photos provided by Renee Cottrell

# The Tollgate Farm News

## SUNRISE OVER THE PAR GARDEN



Photos provided by Lynette Leroux



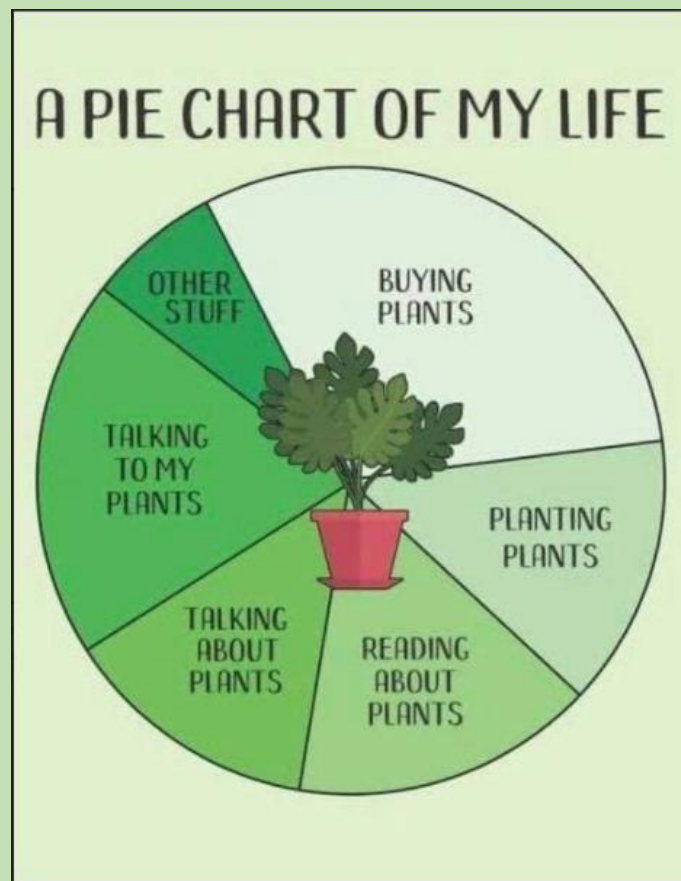
# The Tollgate Farm News



*"A flower does not think of competing with the flower next to it. It just blooms."*

- Iris Murdoch

Photo provided by Roy Prentice



Credit unknown



# The Tollgate Farm News

## Take a Tollgate Picture

Next time you are volunteering at Tollgate, consider taking some pictures for the Tollgate calendar. The preferred format is jpeg, landscape files.

Send photo files at full or actual size in separate emails, if necessary, to Larry Bolam at [TollgateCalPics@gmail.com](mailto:TollgateCalPics@gmail.com)

Summer is a beautiful season at Tollgate. Think about capturing that beauty in a photo for the Tollgate calendar.



Top right photo provided by Renee Cottrell  
All other photos by Roy Prentice



# Tollgate Volunteer Information

## Activity Days

Effective with the July 10, 2021 workday, the Saturday group workdays no longer require advanced registration.

- Activity Day hours are 9:00 am – Noon, unless otherwise noted on the Activities section of the first page of the newsletter.
- Lunch will be provided on scheduled workdays.
- Active members will continue to get email reminders of these activities.

We strongly recommend you bring your own tools for your garden activities. All tools borrowed from the toolshed must be sanitized with a 10% bleach solution prior to returning the items to the toolshed after use.

TIP: If you aren't getting  
**The Tollgate Farm News** email,  
check your SPAM folder

**Volunteer Activity Day and  
Meeting information:  
248-347-3860 Ext. 400**

## Garden Tools Available for Use at Tollgate

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

## Suggested Gardening Implements to Bring from Home as Needed

Trowel	Plant Division Forks
Pruners	Shrub Rake
Loppers	Sun Screen/Insect Repellent
Garden Scissors	Garden Gloves
Hand Saw	Knee Pads
Weeding Implement	

# Tollgate Garden Advisory Committee (TGAC)

## Farm Manager – Roy Prentice

248-347-3860 Ext.251 [prentic1@msu.edu](mailto:prentic1@msu.edu)

**President.....** Renee Cottrell

**Vice President .....** Marilyn Alimpich

**Secretary.....** Dave Komraus

**Treasurer.....** Karen Harris

**Membership.....** Angie Carter

**Communications .....** Kathy Johnson

**Programs.....** Jackie Stengel

**Hospitality.....** Teresa LaRosa

**Farm News Editor .....** Nancy Powell

- The TGAC meets monthly on **the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM in the Tollgate Office Building.** All Tollgate Garden Volunteer members are welcome to attend.
- Contact information for individual TGAC members and Area Garden Leaders (AGL) are available by contacting Roy Prentice to have message or contact forwarded for response. Contact info can also be found in the Garden Binders in the Volunteer Communication Center.
- Tollgate Volunteer Membership is renewed annually. The 2021 Tollgate Garden Volunteer membership is from **January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021.**

For membership questions or to update your current membership information, email  
[tollgatemembers@gmail.com](mailto:tollgatemembers@gmail.com)

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](http://tollgate.msu.edu)  
Contact Roy Prentice:  
248-347-3860 ext. 251



# MSU TOLLGATE

## VOLUNTEER SIGN IN 2021

### LOGGING YOUR VOLUNTEER HOURS HELPS US TELL TOLLGATE'S STORY TO THE MSU COMMUNITY

- USING THE CAMERA ON YOUR SMART PHONE, HOVER OVER THE QR CODE
- A LINK WILL APPEAR
- IF NO LINK APPEARS, YOU WILL HAVE TO DOWNLOAD A QR READER APP
- CLICK ON THE LINK TO THE GOOGLE SIGN IN PAGE
- COMPLETE WITH YOUR INFORMATION
- THIS SIGN-IN PROCEDURE DOES **NOT** LOG YOUR HOURS WITH MSU EXTENSION



**NOTE:** If you prefer to complete your sign-in on your computer, this link will take you to the site:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSceLnz-vtluxRzQ6EtzEUOMLo6\\_Tf6yLDXZgQTcr2SHbh0Z7A/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSceLnz-vtluxRzQ6EtzEUOMLo6_Tf6yLDXZgQTcr2SHbh0Z7A/viewform)

MSU Tollgate gets a lot of credit for all of the wonderful volunteers that tend the gardens, make maple syrup, and support programming. The farm would not be the unique place that it is without the support of many willing hands. Traditionally, Tollgate has relied on a sign-in sheet in the volunteer center to capture the hours of volunteer service. Many of our volunteers who work in the maple project or distant gardens may not visit the volunteer center when they are on the farm. To capture all of our volunteer hours, we are trying a new recording system. By following the instructions below and scanning the QR code, you can record your Tollgate hours online from anywhere. After you have scanned the code, you can even bookmark the link so that you can access the hours reporting form without the code.

Thank you for making Tollgate such a wonderful place! Roy

# Ginger Meyer Award Nomination Form

The Ginger Meyer Award was initiated in 2003 by the family of Mrs. Meyer to recognize the Tollgate Volunteer who shares some of the treasured qualities of Ginger Meyer.

The Tollgate Garden Volunteer members will nominate candidates, with a list then compiled by TGAC for presentation to the Americana Foundation for final award selection.

Please make the nomination on this form or submit a short paragraph describing each of the following qualities of the nominee:

Name of Nominee:\_\_\_\_\_

1. This member has shown a commitment to the Tollgate Garden Volunteers by:

2. This member has demonstrated a love and knowledge of gardening by:

3. This member has demonstrated a willingness to share gardening knowledge with others by:





# MSU Tollgate Garden Volunteers Membership Form

Please legibly print all entries. Thank you.

2021

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ MI

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Name you would like on badge, if needed

Date Submitted \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number

Day \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Evening \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Choose **one only**:

☐ **Supporting member:** I wish to support the volunteers and participate in monthly meetings but will **not** be participating *as a volunteer* in garden activities, projects or other events on the site.

☐ **Active member:** I plan to participate *as a volunteer* in meetings, garden activities and/or other events or projects on the site and have or will complete the required Volunteer Selection Process.

Were you a Tollgate volunteer member last year? Yes ( ) No ( )

Are you interested in serving on a committee or garden project? Yes ( ) No ( )

If yes, please note below if you have a particular area of interest or skills to share.

A donation in support of the Tollgate Volunteer organization would be greatly appreciated (\$20 suggested). If you would like the newsletter mailed to you rather than emailed, please include an additional \$10 to cover postage.

Check here to have the newsletter mailed to you. \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: **Michigan State University**

Return to:

**Tollgate Gardens Volunteer Office**

**28115 Meadowbrook**

**Novi, MI 48377-3128**

Questions: **Phone: 248-347-3860 Ext. 251**

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**2021 Membership is from January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021**

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In the event of an emergency please notify:

Name

Phone