

# The Tollgate Farm News

VOLUME 27

ISSUE 9

SEPTEMBER 2021



Cover photo provided by Roy Prentice

## MSU Tollgate Garden Volunteers General Meeting on Zoom

**Thursday, September 16, 2021  
7:00 PM**

## Michigan's Failed Silk Industry: The Great Mulberry Hoax

On September 16, Tollgate volunteers and supporters can learn details about Michigan's failed silk experiment, known as the "Multicaulis fever" or "Multicaulis humbuggery." The presentation on silkworm wishes and mulberry dreams will include a short history of silk, an overview of silk production, and the story of Michigan's promotion of raising silkworms and growing mulberry trees. Naturalist Gerry Wykes' four-page article is available at [Michigans-Silkworm-Fever.pdf \(revize.com\)](https://www.revize.com/Michigans-Silkworm-Fever.pdf).

Author, illustrator, historian, presenter, retired curator and supervising interpreter of the Huron-Clinton Metropark's Lake Erie Marshlands Museum and Nature Center, **Gerry Wykes** is a contributor to *Michigan History* magazine. In 2014, the Historical Society of Michigan gave Gerry the award for the best article in *Michigan History* for "A Weed Goes to War," about northern Michigan school children harvesting milkweed floss during 1942-1944 for life preservers that helped save U.S. aviators and sailors toward the end of WWII.

An Interpretive American and a Renaissance man, Gerry Wykes educates with humor and stories combining natural science with regional history and geography. In 2013, Tollgate volunteers enjoyed his program on mammals. In 2016, Gerry shared information about the plant world of the Huron/Wyandot. In 2017, he talked about the return of beavers to the Detroit River after a 150-year absence, the subject of the book that he wrote and illustrated. *A Beaver Tale: The Castors of Conners Creek* was published by Wayne State University Press in 2016, [A Beaver Tale | Wayne State University Press](https://waynestateupress.org/books/a-beaver-tale-the-castors-of-conners-creek/). In 2018, Gerry gave his presentation on "A Weed Goes to War." You can listen to a 7-minute interview at [Michigan milkweed played a key role in WWII | Michigan Radio](https://www.michiganradio.org/2018/09/16/michigan-milkweed-played-a-key-role-in-wwii/).

### TOLLGATE GARDEN VOLUNTEER IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

SEP	MEETINGS		OCT	MEETINGS	
7	TGAC Meeting – Zoom	7:00 pm	7	TGAC Meeting – Zoom	7:00 pm
16	TG Volunteer Mtg – Zoom	7:00 pm	21	TG Volunteer Mtg – Zoom	7:00 pm
SEP	WORKDAY ACTIVITIES		OCT	WORKDAY ACTIVITIES	
4	Labor Day Weekend	N/A	2-3	<b>Special Event - Pumpkinfest</b>	11:00-5:00
11	Children's/Xeriscape/12 Mile Rd	9:00 am	9	Plant Division & Potting	9:00 am
18	<b>Nursery Fall Plant Sale</b>	9:00-Noon	16	Fall Clean-Up	9:00 am
25	Nursery Divisions/Rock Ledge	9:00 am	23	Fall Clean-Up	9:00 am
			30	TBD	9:00 am

# The Tollgate Farm News

## FROM THE TOLLGATE FARM MANAGER

### GREETINGS

Roy Prentice



Greetings all,

August has come and gone. Summer is flying by. Colder temperatures may soon arrive – but are not here just yet. The end of August has seen the completion of a successful summer camp season. Several hundred campers had lots of adventures on the farm. In addition to the usual camps which featured hiking in the woods and fishing in the pond, Tollgate hosted a week of Adventure camp filled with kayaking, rock climbing, and other high energy outdoor sports and two weeks of horse camp filled with, well, horses. Due to Covid considerations, camps were about half the size this year than they were in past years and almost all activities were conducted out of doors. Even with smaller numbers and camp conduct modifications, having the kids back on the farm did feel like a breath of normalcy.

Lots of other happenings around the farm recently. On August 21, Tollgate conducted its first summer volunteer recognition picnic. The event brought together volunteers from the gardens, 4H club, maple syrup project, educational programming support and other areas. The weather was beautiful, and the talks, food and tours made for a nice day.



Since winter is inevitable, we have been spending a lot of time recently gathering the second cutting of hay. If you are a goat, the second cutting is much yummiier than the first cutting harvested back in June.



Lots more grass blades in the second cutting and fewer of those pesky stalks. With all the rain and hot weather, this year's crop promises to be especially plentiful. We use lots of hay to keep the Tollgate animals well fed.

It takes lots of work to keep them happy through the winter. It's all worthwhile though each time one of the goats gives you a nod of approval and a wink of appreciation when they dive into the hay feeder for a winter bite.

**Recognition Dinner:** At this point, we are planning to host the volunteer recognition dinner this November. If you have attended past year's events, you know that the recognition dinner is a great event that brings us all together in a celebration of the gardening year. It remains to be seen whether it will make sense to gather in close proximity indoors in consideration of Covid. For now, we are hopeful. To get an invitation to the dinner, you need to sign in at least once at a Tollgate workday using the QR code system. The Recognition dinner is scheduled for Saturday, November 6, beginning at 4:00pm. Although November seems like a long time away, it will be here soon!

Thanks for all that you do for the farm!  
Roy

Photos provided by Roy Prentice



# The Tollgate Farm News



## Notes from the President Renee Cottrell

There is still plenty to do in the upcoming fall months! Clean-up days, division activity and Fall Plant Sale!

### PLANT DIVISION DONATIONS

Please keep us in mind for all your fall plant divisions. See Nursery notes for details.

### FALL PLANT SALE

We will be doing a smaller scale fall plant sale to showcase the fall blooming perennials. This will be primarily staffed by the Nursery Team and done in conjunction with the **Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> work day** in the Nursery. Other volunteers are welcome to participate and **please come to browse/buy!** E-mail me if you wish to volunteer to staff the sale - runners to take customer purchases to the vehicles still needed and roaming volunteers to answer questions.  
[rmcottrell4@att.net](mailto:rmcottrell4@att.net)



Photo provided by Roy Prentice

*"There is nothing I like better at the end of a hot summer's day than taking a short walk around the garden. You can smell the heat coming up from the earth to meet the cooler night air."*

-Peter Mayle, British author

### ATTENTION AGL AND GARDEN TEAM

**MEMBERS-** Please submit your budget reimbursement forms as soon as possible if you have not already done so for this season. We would like to have an accounting of the actual garden expenses for this season for our October TGAC meeting. Contact me or Roy for info or forms.



### 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. Most positions do not require specific experience but general organizational skills and a love of working with people is a plus! Current board members would be willing to educate and transition any newly elected members to these positions.

Notes from the President continued on Page 4

# The Tollgate Farm News

Notes from the President continued from Page 3.

Please consider this opportunity for the growth of our organization as well as your own personal enrichment. We will take verbal, written or e-mailed nominations before or on the date of **the September 30<sup>th</sup>**. 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.

Hope all of you can join us on Zoom for the next member General meeting on Sept. 16th!

Thank you for being a Tollgate Garden Volunteer.

*Renee Cottrell*, President





# The Tollgate Farm News



**The busy summer of 2021 continues in the Nursery!** Following a successful, first ever Spring Plant Sale by appointment on both Saturday and Sunday, the Nursery Team started to develop plans to close the SHADE HOUSE and consolidate our plants under the wooden trellis. This move was recently completed, and all our plants are now housed under the wooden trellis

**Next on the agenda is the Fall Plant Sale on Saturday September 18 during 9 am – noon Saturday workday hours!** The Fall Sale has typically been a casual and quiet affair. Without the extensive promotion that precedes the Spring Sale event, those who show up are mostly Tollgate members or other dedicated gardeners that are interested in planting in the fall. But it's been a while since times have been "normal", so we will be prepared for a potentially larger turnout.... And we're working hard to have a good assortment of plants on hand. *Do you have some plants to divide for the Nursery?*

**THE NURSERY WILL CONTINUE TO ACCEPT PLANT DONATIONS THROUGH SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9<sup>TH</sup>!** Please check the [PLANTS WANTED](#) list to check out what we need. Here are a few highlights of some we're looking for:



**Astilbe** – this terrific shade plant has sold very well for us at the spring sale. It's a shade garden staple, and even does well in sun if kept consistently moist.



**FERNS** – these plants are a great accent in almost any garden! Some of the very popular varieties at our Plant Sales are in the Athyrium genus - Lady Fern, Ghost fern and Japanese Painted Fern. Cinnamon Ferns (Osmunda genus) are also in the "Most Wanted" category.

Nursery Notes continued on Page 6



# The Tollgate Farm News

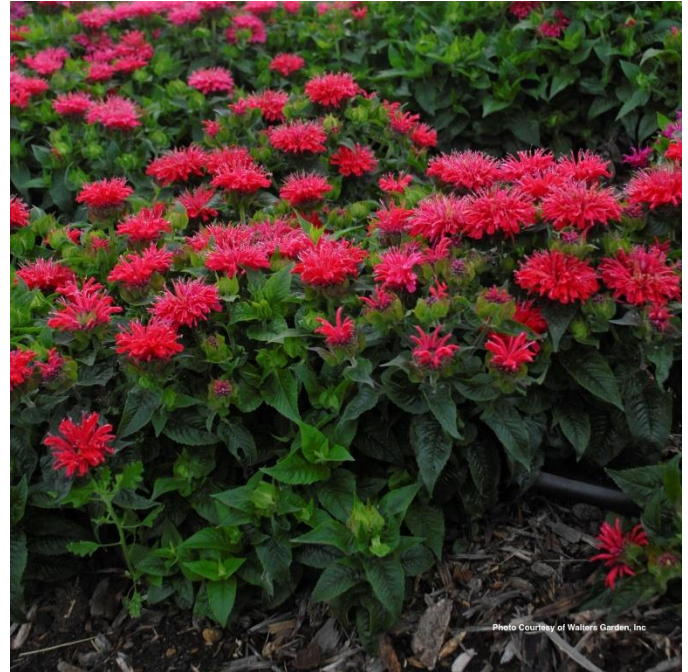
Nursery Notes continued from Page 5



**Echinacea purpurea** –Native Purple Cone Flowers and the many cultivars developed from that genus are garden staples, and we would like to have many more!



**Geraniums** - are popular for shade gardens, and our stock is very low! Whatever variety you have, I think we need it – the native as well as the many cultivars with variations in leaf size or shape and varied bloom colors.



**Monarda** – Bee Balm is always a popular plant sale offering, and we need lots more - both purple and red blooming varieties.

**This is a great time to join the Nursery Team!** If you want to learn about lots of different plants, including how to grow them in a pot, maybe you should join our Nursery team! You can join as a **ROW LEADER** (focus your attention on maintaining a group of plants in one specific area), or a **MEMBER AT LARGE** (a generalist who is kept in the loop with all that's happening in the Nursery and helps out with whatever projects are ongoing at that time as you are available). In either role, you can be part of future changes as we work to continually improve our operations, learn about growing lots of different plants and raise money to support all the Tollgate Gardens! Email me for more info:

[palmermargaretanne@gmail.com](mailto:palmermargaretanne@gmail.com)

Photos provided by Peg Palmer from historical Nursery records, and, with permission, from *Walter's Gardens* and *Melanie's Perennials*



# The Tollgate Farm News



Summer Camp has concluded, and the heat wave has finally broken! We are nearing the tail end of the season with a harvest totaling 1426 lbs. of garlic, radishes, cabbage, turnips, potatoes, onions, beets, carrots, beans, zucchini, and yellow squash. Cabbage, onions, potatoes, and turnips are the heavy hitters so far, but there are more beets, carrots, onions, beans, zucchini, yellow squash, and winter squash to harvest over the next two months, so I am confident that we will exceed 2000 lbs. for the season. We are staggering the harvest to spread out the quantity and variety of vegetables delivered each week to CARES or Feed the Need.



The onions are being pulled and laid out in the sun to cure as the tops have all fallen over. The tops are mostly brown, but

until they are dry, we will let mother nature help us prepare them for consumption. This year we had three varieties – early fresh onions, sweet yellow onions, and red onions.



The early fresh onions and the sweet yellow onions have already been prepped (dry tops removed)

and delivered. The red onions are next this month, and we will have completed the onion harvest for the season.



The garlic has been prepped for use – roots and dry tops removed, and we had a whopping 58 lbs.! Alas, the shed no longer has

the aroma of an Italian restaurant. The seed garlic has been secured in the barn to keep it dry until we are ready to plant in October.



We had some fun with the beans this year and planted four different varieties in bands across the trellis. Our standard

variety in years past has been Fortex - a green bean which is a prolific producer.

PAR Garden continued on Page 8

Photos on Pages 7 & 8:  
Prepped onions and red beans provided by Kathryn Fitzpatrick;  
remaining photos by Lynette Leroux



# The Tollgate Farm News

PAR Garden continued from Page 7



This year we added Kentucky Wonder, Scarlet Runner which has beautiful red flowers and pink beans, and the gorgeous Chinese Red Noodle. The latter two have provided beauty and interest, but not the yield of the other two, so we will have to decide

on our criteria for next year. It sure is pleasant to work around the beautiful red flowers and beans.



We are letting the winter squash cure on the vine, until the vines are spent and will then move them into the greenhouse to cure

further until they are ready for consumption. The hard exterior of winter squash needs time to ripen for the best results. We have Acorn and Delicata this year and although the plants aren't quite as full as last year, they have produced well.

This month we will be having an al fresco BYO lunch meeting in the pavilion to plan and prepare for next year. It is great to review our successes and challenges, share experience and ideas, decide on the composition of vegetables for the upcoming year, as well as discuss strategies for addressing our pest and weed problems. It is also fun to get together and enjoy one another's company without unrelenting heat, dirt, and sweat.

The PAR team harvesting and weeding:



Happy gardening!

- Kathryn Fitzpatrick



# The Tollgate Farm News

## Fall Plant Sale & Saturday Workday - Saturday, September 18, 9:00am - Noon

Greetings Active Tollgate Garden Volunteers and interested members,

Our Tollgate Garden Volunteer Fall plant sale is approaching. This event is smaller scale than the spring fund raiser and combined with a work day in the Nursery. We do need assistance in the general clean-up of the Nursery and activities as directed by the AGL. We will also need a few volunteers to assist with plant sale activities: greeter, cashier and runner positions are available. Please contact me if interested by email or phone/text to 248-251-4505

- Renee

### Michigan State University Tollgate Garden Volunteers **Fall Plant Sale** Saturday September 18th, 2021 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Reasonably priced, Michigan hardy perennials for sun and shade, including Michigan natives that attract hummingbirds, butterflies and pollinators

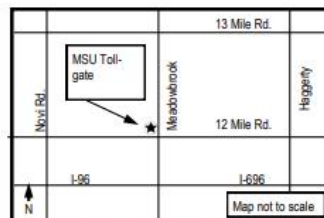
Featuring late summer and fall blooming varieties

Payment accepted with Cash, Check, MasterCard or Visa

MSU Master Gardeners will be there to answer questions and assist in your selections



*Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by contacting the event contact two weeks prior to the start of the event. Requests received after this date will be honored whenever possible.*



Michigan State University  
Tollgate Farm and Education Center  
12 Mile & Meadowbrook Roads  
In Novi  
248 347-3860 ext. 251  
[www.tollgate.msu.edu](http://www.tollgate.msu.edu)

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# The Tollgate Farm News

## Recipes from the August Tollgate Garden Volunteer Membership Meeting

Greetings All,

Just wanted to share the recipes that Mary Spencer presented at the August Tollgate Garden Volunteer meeting. It was a nice evening for an outdoor meeting in the Pavilion. All in attendance enjoyed the dishes prepared using the veggies of the season, many collected right from Tollgate!



### PASTA WITH 15 MINUTE BURST CHERRY TOMATO SAUCE

- 1 lb. pasta Kosher salt
  - ½ cup olive oil
  - 2 large garlic cloves, finely chopped
  - 3 pints cherry tomatoes
  - ½ tsp. freshly ground black pepper
  - Pinch of sugar
  - 1 cup coarsely chopped fresh basil
  - Freshly grated Parmesan for serving
1. Cook pasta in a large pot of boiling salted water, stirring occasionally, until al dente; drain and transfer to a large bowl.
  2. Meanwhile, heat oil in a 12 inch skillet or wide heavy saucepan over medium high heat. Add garlic, then tomatoes, pepper, sugar, and 1 tsp. salt. Cook, stirring occasionally, until tomatoes burst and release their juices to form a sauce, 6-8 minutes.
  3. Toss pasta with tomato sauce and basil. Top with Parmesan.
- Serves 4-6



All in attendance were appreciative taste testers



### PAN CON TOMATE- Spanish Tomato Toasts

- 1 large loaf crusty country bread
  - Olive oil for brushing the bread
  - 4 large cloves garlic, cut in half
  - 3 large tomatoes Fleur de sel or coarse salt if desired
1. Pre-heat oven broiler. Slice bread into thick slices, generously brush them with olive oil and place them on a cookie sheet. Place bread under broiler and toast until golden. 2. Cut tomatoes in half. Cut each garlic clove in half and rub each bread slice with the cut side of a garlic clove. Rub toast with tomatoes, squeezing slightly to distribute juice and seeds evenly on bread. Sprinkle with fleur de sel or coarse salt and serve immediately. Makes 6 servings

### TOMATO, CUCUMBER AND AVOCADO SALAD WITH LIME AND FETA VINAIGRETTE

- For the Salad:
- ½ small red onion, thinly sliced
  - 1 large English cucumber, quartered lengthwise and sliced
  - 1 pint halved cherry tomatoes, about 2 cups
  - 2 medium avocados, peeled, pitted, and diced
  - 1/3 cup crumbled feta
  - ¼ cup chopped fresh cilantro
- For the Dressing:
- 3 tbsp. fresh lime juice
  - 1tbsp. extra virgin olive oil
  - 2 tsp. honey
  - 2 cloves minced garlic (about 1tsp.)
  - Salt and pepper to taste
1. Place the sliced red onions in a small bowl and cover them with cold water (this helps remove some of the onions' harsh bite).
  2. In a small bowl or large measuring cup, whisk together the dressing ingredients: lime juice, olive oil, honey, garlic, salt, and pepper.
  3. In a very large bowl, place the cucumbers, tomatoes, avocado, half of the feta, and cilantro. Drain the red onion, then add it to the bowl. Pour the dressing over the top, then stir very gently to combine. Sprinkle the remaining feta over the top. Enjoy immediately or cover the bowl with plastic wrap and refrigerate for up to 4 hours. Give the mixture a gentle stir just before serving. Serves 6

RECIPES BY: MARY SPENCER

Taste: A Cook's Place

248-880-9749

[www.tastecooks.place.net](http://www.tastecooks.place.net)

[cookbookie5@yahoo.com](mailto:cookbookie5@yahoo.com)

Photos provided by Renee Cottrell



# The Tollgate Farm News

## Tollgate Volunteer Appreciation Picnic

On August 21, volunteers from across all areas of the farm gathered for an appreciation picnic. There were speakers, tours, and, of course, food. Please enjoy these pictures from the event:



Photos provided by Renee Cottrell



# The Tollgate Farm News

## Generous Donation Received

The MSU Tollgate gardens recently received a generous donation from the C&N Foundation. The C&N Foundation is affiliated with the Michigan Gardener magazine. The Michigan Gardener and its editors, Eric and Jonathon Hofley, have been wonderful friends of the MSU Tollgate gardens for many years. Our garden volunteer organization is greatly enriched by the Michigan Gardener magazine provided for the enjoyment and education of our membership. Please join me in thanking the Hofley's for their continued support of the efforts of the Tollgate volunteers to help make our corner of SE Michigan a better place.

- Roy







# The Tollgate Farm News

## Annual Ginger Meyer Award - Nominations Due by September 16

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 25.* 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

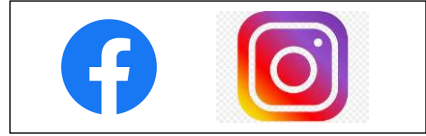
Please take some time to honor one or more of your fellow Tollgate volunteers to continue this tradition for our organization.

Past winner, Peg Palmer, with Renee and Roy:



# The Tollgate Farm News

## Tollgate Gardens are on Facebook and Instagram

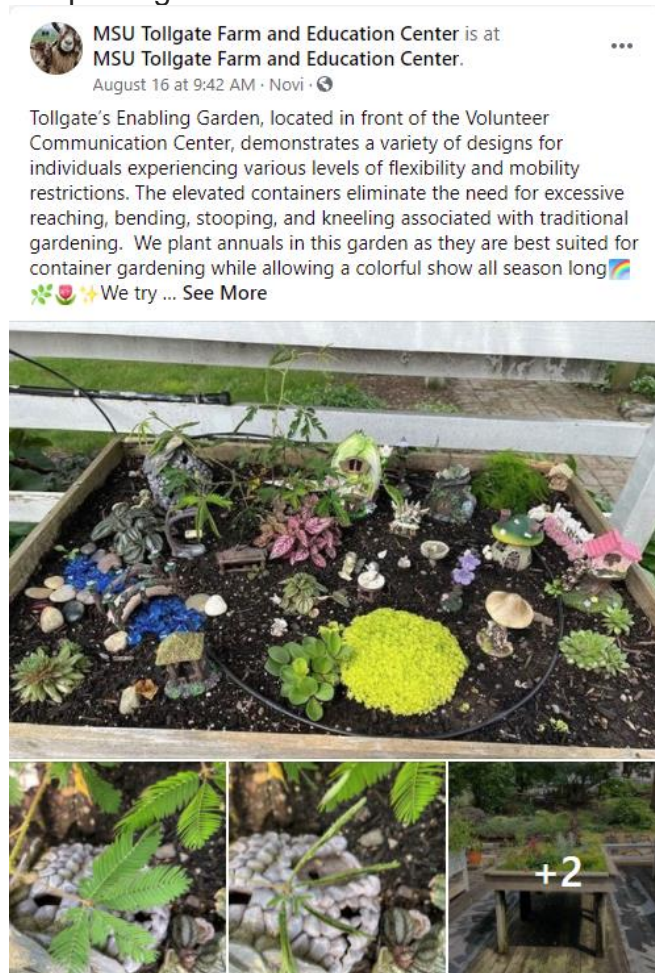


### Share the beauty of Tollgate Gardens on Facebook and Instagram

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 Facebook posting:





# The Tollgate Farm News

## AROUND THE DEMO GARDEN



Photos provided by Renee Cottrell



# The Tollgate Farm News

## AROUND THE CHILDREN'S GARDEN



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



# The Tollgate Farm News

## THE MANY GARDENS OF TOLLGATE



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



# The Tollgate Farm News

## AROUND THE POND



Top photo provided by Lynette Leroux  
Bottom two row photos by Roy Prentice



# The Tollgate Farm News

## HORSING AROUND THE FARM



Photos provided by Roy Prentice



# The Tollgate Farm News

## THE BEAUTIFUL TOLLGATE SKY



Top two row photos provided by Lynette Leroux,  
Bottom row photos by Roy Prentice



# 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)

Early Fall is a beautiful time at Tollgate. Think about capturing that beauty in a photo for the Tollgate calendar.



Bee photo provided by Lynette Leroux  
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 virtually on Zoom (until further notice) on **the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM.** All Tollgate Garden Volunteer members are welcome to attend and should contact Roy Prentice for meeting link.
- 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:  
[Tollgate Volunteer Sign In 2021](#)

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**

Email: [tollgatemembers@gmail.com](mailto:tollgatemembers@gmail.com)

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

**Please read this Privacy Policy:**

By filling out and submitting this form you authorize the Tollgate Garden Volunteers (TGV) and MSU to use your contact information to communicate with you via email, newsletters and other formats. If you wish your email and other identification information to not be used by the TGV and MSU, please check this box ( ). (By checking this box, you will not receive email notification of workdays, or other volunteer opportunities, special events and educational opportunities, or the availability of the newsletter via e-mail.)

In the event of an emergency please notify:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Name

Phone