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# Genesee County Master Gardener Newsletter

## DOWN TO EARTH

# February

2016

VOLUME 14

2



### FEATURE ARTICLE

## GARDEN MAKEOVER

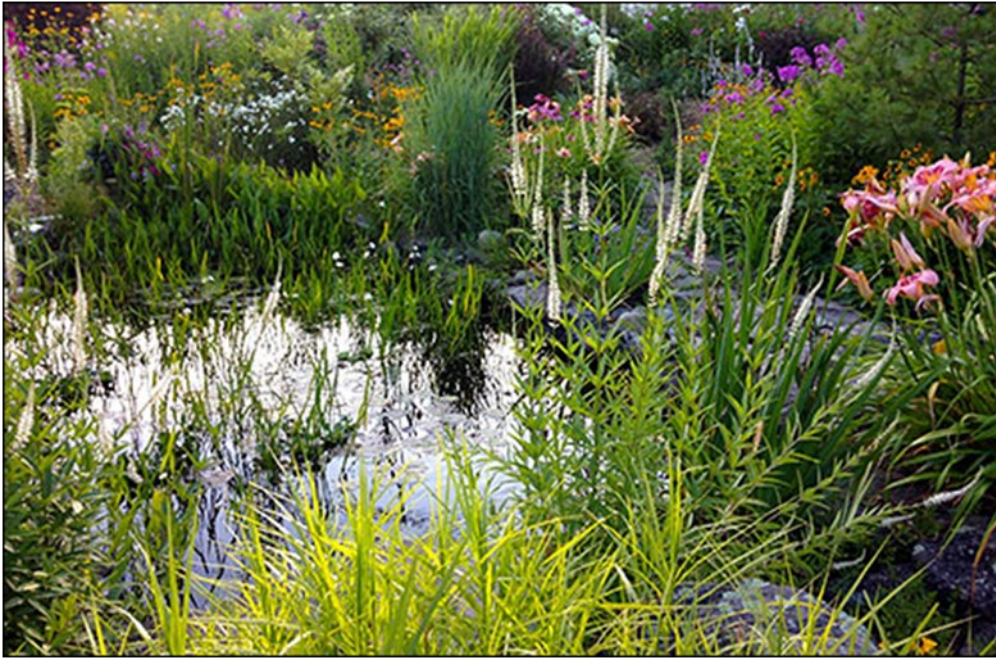
Gardens are dynamic, ever-changing landscapes. Unfortunately, the demise and functional obsolescence of many gardens comes about too quickly, due in part to the declining interest of owners, improper plant and materials selection and lack of ongoing maintenance. Affected gardens may reveal a tired, outdated and overgrown jungle-like appearance. A garden makeover is invaluable for transforming the landscape, making it more functional and addressing long-standing problems.

When considering a makeover, property safety is often high on the priority list. Overgrown entrance plantings that darken windows and provide hiding areas for intruders can be amended with proper pruning and plant removal. Fence and gate repairs – new boards, improved locks and increased lighting – add to peace of mind. Low branches that overhang driveways and paths should be pruned to avoid accidents. Likewise, cracked and broken concrete and deteriorated stonework at walks, walls and patios are on the must-do list of repairs or replacements.

There are many modifications that increase the functionality of the garden. Replanting deteriorated hedges provides privacy, as does installing panel dividers and fabric screens around patios and decks. You could go one step further and enlarge a patio or deck that was too small for family get-togethers. An older deep-water pool could be replaced with a smaller exercise pool, complete with adjustable water current. A stand-alone or exterior-wall fireplace takes the chill off cool evenings. It also adds a dramatic new focal point. Neglected areas such as the unused space behind the garage and other outbuildings could be turned into a children's play area or quiet sitting place.

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*A habitat pond created in a low spot in the garden attracts beneficial wildlife.*

Paths and walkways can be widened and rerouted to better link functional areas improve maintenance access and provide inspiring views.

Garden makeovers can also address various environmental concerns. Pruning overgrown plants will let in more light, improving air circulation and plant health. Native plants and disease-resistant cultivars can add to the diversity and resiliency of plantings, as well as attract birds and butterflies. A low wet spot could become a habitat pond for beneficial insects, frogs, salamanders and birds. You can further enhance this by adding a collection of bird and bat houses.

From a design perspective, a garden makeover can establish a recognizable garden style reinforced by appropriate focal points, smooth transitions and a strong sense of harmony and unity. Aesthetically, it can impart an updated, contemporary look using modern colors, garden furniture and accessories.

### **The Makeover Process**

Garden makeovers take time, planning and money. Out of necessity, the process starts with a thorough audit of the existing landscape. Soil samples should be analyzed to guide fertilizer and watering requirements. Plant material should be evaluated for performance, function, condition, lifespan and maintenance implications. Similarly, garden structures, hardscaping, lighting and irrigation systems need to be scrutinized. Lot grading and related drainage issues need documenting, along with changes to neighboring properties that could be the source of water runoff. All of this information should be illustrated on a transparent overlay that can be placed over your property base plan to see where problems exist.

Having completed the above analysis, you'll be faced with some hard decisions as to the scope

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**HOME GROWN 824**

**I am working in my flower and shrub beds and keep finding piles of what looks like tan or yellow, damp foam. It's spongy and I don't think it is animal vomit unless it is a really sick animal. I have been scooping up a big pile of mulch surrounding it, bagging it up and slipping it into my trash because I don't want this stuff spreading everywhere. What is this stuff and how dangerous is it and how do I get rid of it? I have tossed about one-third of my mulch already. What is it?**

As already has been said, stop the madness. But I don't think that was aimed at a slime mold. Your little blobs are a slime mold with the common name of Fuligo. Your handy phonetic pronouncing guide: foolee-go. Fuligo requires several things to be happy and reproduce. It requires decaying wood and shredded mulch will do just fine. It requires warmth and this is summer. And it requires moisture like rain or running an irrigation system. All the pieces are in place for little blobs of protoplasm to digest tiny wood fibers. Occasionally, it will grow so close to a plant that as it expands, part of the plant is covered. But this is not a plant disease. Right now, you are treating this like Ebola. You do not need to throw away mulch. All you have to do is change one of the three things that make it live and grow. The only one that is really under your control is moisture. Use a rake and gently loosen the top inch of mulch. By breaking up the compaction, the top inch will dry more rapidly than the mulch below it. Dry wood is not Fuligo territory. Because it is loosened, water travels past the individual pieces quickly. If the Fuligo is partially covering a plant, use the hose and wash it away. A pounding by a rake is going to do too much damage to the plant. Periodically loosen the top inch of mulch and Fuligo with go. Fuligo is not dangerous and in Mexico, it is gathered and eaten. In Michigan, many people think that Fuligo is either dog vomit or alien barf. In Scandinavia, they call it vomit of a troll cat. In Finland, it gets the name of witches' butter. So be on the lookout for troll cats when you are raking.

**I planted a redbud in 2012. It had lots of problems growing. I have it planted in front of my house and my house faces west and the soil is very well drained. It has never bloomed. In the winter of 2013, some of the branches died. This spring, it had no leaves or flowers. My friend said it is not unusual for trees to take a vacation from growing and that I should fertilize it and it will be good to go next spring. I scratched a branch and it is still green under the bark so I know it is getting better. What kind of fertilizer do I use for flowers?**

Hope springs eternal but there is a time where hope is replaced by delusional thinking. Your friend, the non-gardener, is not helping with even remotely helpful information. Let's look at the history of your redbud. It was planted during a drought year. Even if the tree received excellent care, hot and dry weather is very hard on newly transplanted trees and shrubs. The last two winters have been brutal even for well-established trees. When you have no leaves by the beginning of summer, the tree is dead. Trees don't go on vacation. Just like us, they have to stay with their bodies. Eastern redbud or *Cercis canadensis* is native to almost the entire eastern half of the U.S. The trees grow best in partial shade, especially if it is afternoon shade. It can grow in full sun but it needs to receive adequate water. It grows best in moist, well-drained, deep soils that have adequate organic matter in them. Keeping the tree mulched with woodchips can help keep soils cooler. Scratching bark to determine life or death is not reliable. Finding green under bark does not mean the tree is getting better. It could be getting worse. You don't know where on the scale of life or death the tree is and in most cases, it is getting worse, not better. Your recollection that the tree starting badly and getting worse each year should indicate that this is not going to be a success story. Because growing conditions for redbuds are quite specific, many landscapers whose clients demand that redbuds be put in poor growing areas say, "Redbud equals dead-bud."

Gretchen Voyle, MSU Extension-Livingston County Horticulture Educator 517/546-3950



## COOKS CORNER

# FROGMORE STEW

Adopted from Hopin' John's Low Country Cooking

### INGREDIENTS

4 quarts water  
2-4 T. Old Bay seasoning  
3 T. Kosher salt  
12 new potatoes, pierced  
2 links chorizo or any other spicy  
sausage, sliced  
6 ears of corn cut in thirds  
1 pound raw peel on shrimp, I use  
Trader Joe's shrimp with tails  
2 sticks melted butter  
dinner rolls



### DIRECTIONS

Bring first three ingredients to a boil in a covered 8 quart pot. Add potatoes and chorizo, cook for 10 minutes. Add corn and cook for 6 minutes. Add shrimp and cook for 4 minutes. Cover pot each time you make an addition. Do not wait until pot returns to boil after each addition, stick to the times given. By the time you need to add the shrimp the potatoes should be done, if not wait until they are done before adding shrimp. Ladle stew into a large bowl and serve with melted butter, dinner rolls, and ice cold Belgian beer. Also have salt and pepper on the table for those who like it extra salty! Serves 4.

**Note-** Do not throw out the leftover broth. Freeze it for future soups. Delicious.

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of your makeover, your priorities and budget. My advice is to start with a thorough clean-up, which includes pruning and performing safety-related repairs, before tackling new projects. The clean-up often reveals the hidden potential of your landscape and instigates a rethink of future initiatives.

When pruning existing trees, concentrate on branches that are hazardous or diseased. Make sure to leave the branch collar to promote natural healing. Overgrown shrubs can be rejuvenated by rotational pruning, wherein a percentage (usually a third to a quarter) of mature, poorly flowering canes is removed almost to ground level to regenerate new basal stems. When removing a tree (after checking with your municipal authority), ensure that stumps and roots are removed to avoid root suckers. Unfortunately, many gardeners get so attached to current conditions they find it difficult to carry out major tree pruning and removals. Fortunately, many new cultivars and hybrids have been developed that allow homeowners to grow their favorite species, albeit in smaller, more manageable sizes. An extended life can also be given to overgrown conifers by cloud pruning them into smaller topiaries.

Another quick fix is painting fences, walls and garden structures using modern colors to impart a more contemporary look. Colorful planters, fabrics, wall art and updated garden furniture add new life and drama to a dull garden. For the creative do-it-yourself types, lattice panels, translucent dividers and wall mirrors that create a *trompe l'oeil* add charm and dramatic focal points. An older pergola can be given a new look with the addition of an automated roll-out shade curtain; alternatively, plant it with colorful, fragrant vines.

### Costs

Garden makeovers are not inexpensive, given the cost of materials, equipment and labor. Fortunately, there are many components that homeowners can do themselves. Additionally, recycling items can pay dividends. Flagstones removed from a patio, for example, can be repurposed as stepping stones along a new path. Surplus soil from grading work can be used to fill low areas and, when amended with manure and compost, add new life to beds and borders.

Surplus trees and shrubs that have been dug up and saved may yield a credit from your landscaper, provided the plants can be used elsewhere. Reduced costs can also be realized by purchasing replacement plants in the fall season when prices usually drop. Less mature plants are cheaper than larger specimens, and you may be surprised by how quickly they become established. It is, however, advisable to include some larger specimens to give a more mature, finished look to the makeover. For those with the time and an interest, try growing some of your own plants, swap with friends or attend plant-society sales. You can also save money on items such as topsoil, mulch, manure, ground covers, etc. by purchasing them in bulk.

The biggest immediate payback of a makeover is often the front yard, due to its curb appeal and positive effect on property value. Be careful, however, that a modest makeover doesn't become the never-ending garden project with obvious unfinished areas, escalating costs and lack of contractor continuity.

Garden makeovers are really about responding to changes in the gardener's lifestyle, tastes and priorities. It's not a task to fear or shy away from but rather one to embrace. Be sure to keep a garden diary, chart your progress and keep it simple and tasteful. Remember – less is often more with garden makeovers.

Written by: Frank Kershaw

# THE STORY OF A SIGN

Master Gardeners are primarily about education and secondarily about beautification, right? As I get older, I tell myself I should do less of the grunt work and more of the educational part. So I had this idea of putting some interpretive signage out on the trail to explain what the gardens on the trail are all about. Maybe it could make my life easier. Maybe more people would want to help with the heavy lifting. In any case, it would be a great public relations tool for the Genesee County Master Gardeners.

From start to finish the sign project took about a year.

It began with an idea in early 2014. At that time, I didn't have a clue of what it would entail, where to get it done, how to pay for it, whose permission I would need, and what it should say.

I wanted signage similar to that in the state and national parks and on other trails. I asked around for sources of companies that could make it, and one of my faithful helpers said he knew of someone who had done something similar at a wildlife refuge. He was able to contact her and got the name of the company – Badger State Industries in Wisconsin – including the contact information. Through emails back and forth, I got their digital brochures and price lists. I began to peruse the many choices and at last decided on a two by three foot sign, with sturdiness enough to withstand Michigan winters. I estimated the cost at approximately \$500.

The next hurdle to jump was how to pay for it. Michelle, our treasurer told me that I could make the request of the Genesee County Master Gardener Association by filling out a form and submitting it with a rationale of why I thought it was a good use of our funds and other details of the project. The Association voted their approval for the full amount in October of 2014.

At that time, the City of Flushing was searching for a replacement for the retired city manager. Since most of the trail is on city property, we are obliged to get permission from the city manager before making any changes. The new city manager, Brad Barrett, was hired a few months later, and in a meeting with the Flushing Trail committee, was wholehearted in his approval of the idea. So far so good.

Now came the most difficult part. What would go on this sign? I needed to write something compelling, as well as obtain some good high-resolution images of the native plants and pollinators I was writing about. It had to be scientifically correct, and should be vetted by someone who had the right background. At that time, the Genesee County MSUE was in the process of hiring a new coordinator, but it would be June before she was to start. Fortunately, the new coordinator, Abi Saeed is an expert in (ta-da!) pollinators! Yeah! Even though she had barely gotten started, she graciously took the time to meet with me, read over my text and make some necessary corrections.



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Over the past summer, I took many photos of pollinators and native plants. I amassed a pretty good photo library of monarchs, great spangled fritillaries, and red admiral butterflies; bees and other flying insects; native plants in bloom. Last summer whenever I walked past native plants in my garden that were being visited by pollinators, I ran for my camera and clicked away. I got more photos from a friend who helps out on the trail, and Abi sent me some photos she took on a garden tour. Narrowing down the choices was difficult, but I wanted the sign to show how colorful and attractive the natives plants and pollinators could be.



I retired from a career in graphic design, and teaching in Mott Community College’s Fine Arts Division a few years ago, so put my past skills to put it all together. I envisioned a brightly colored design that would attract the attention of passersby on the trail. Even though it was a lot of work, I found the project enjoyable.

I had originally wanted to get some MCC graphic design students involved in the project who would like to get real work experience. However, I was on a timeline to have the sign installed before winter set in, so that idea just didn’t work out for the time being.

In mid-September of 2015, I sent all the digital files to Badger State Industries. Three weeks later, Abi let me know the package was delivered to the MSUE office. I felt like a kid on Christmas morning, unwrapping a long-awaited shiny, new bicycle. It was gorgeous!

The unusually mild weather in late fall allowed us to install the sign in early November -- almost exactly a year from when I requested the funds from the Association. A similar project in the future wouldn’t take as long, as many factors that slowed me down wouldn’t apply.

On Monday, January 11, 2016, I presented a framed duplicate of the sign to the City of Flushing council meeting. This will hang in city hall as a tribute to, and a reminder of what the Master Gardener Association is all about – “volunteers who are trained in horticulture, dedicated to improving the quality of life in our communities by increasing general appreciation for, and use of plants and by providing them with instruction on growing plants using environmentally sound practices.”\*

I don’t claim this trail sign will change the world, I can only wish it to have a positive effect on trail users, which could lead to more people putting native plantings in their gardens, which will attract more pollinators and so on . . . or maybe I’ll get more helpers.

One can hope!

Sylvia Hansen (MG 98)



## 7 Ways to Kill a Houseplant

Want to know how to kill a houseplant in any one of seven easy ways? Here you go:

**1. *Over water it.*** It's the number one contributor to houseplant death. Far more plants die from over watering than under watering, both indoors and out.

**What you should do;** Stick your finger into the soil. If it's damp hold off adding water until it's dry.

**2. *Provide low humidity.*** Climate controlled indoor environments from heaters and air conditioning also act as dehumidifiers making average levels well below the 40 to 60% humidity plants prefer.

**What you should do;** Try placing houseplants on top of pebbles in a shallow tray and keep it filled with water as an effective way to provide additional humidity. Make sure the bottom of the pot is not sitting directly in the water. Misting your plants each day can get messy but is also effective. If you will be away for a week or so, make a temporary humidity tent by placing dry-cleaning bags over the plants or place them in the bath tub with a little water in the bottom.

**3. *Give it very little light.*** Although some houseplants can survive on just artificial light, they are the exception. In fact, the most important criteria in determining if a plant is suitable for surviving indoors is its ability to survive in low light environments. However, nearly all plants benefit from natural light.

**What you should do;** Some amount of natural light per day is good for nearly all plants. Set them in an area near a south-facing window if possible. Periodically rotate the plant so all sides benefit from the most direct sunlight during the week.

**4. *Over-fertilize it.*** Because these plants typically don't photosynthesize at the same rates as outdoor plants in a full-sun environment, their supplemental nutrient needs are less. Forcing plants to grow with artificial stimulants under lower light environments places unnatural stresses and can disrupt a plant's natural cycles and rhythms and deplete reserves.

**What you should do;** To replace nutrients that leech through the soil, feed your plant with a water-soluble fertilizer at half the amount suggested for outdoor plants once or twice a month.

**5. *Exposure your plants to drafts or direct heat.*** Most houseplants are tropical. In their natural environments, they thrive in warm climates. However, exposing plants to direct heat when placed near a vent will quickly dry them out. Conversely, cool or cold drafts can be too much for heat-loving plants too.

**What you should do;** Keep plants away from drafty windows, doors and heating vents.

**6. *Ignore pest problems.*** Just because a plant is indoors, that doesn't mean it's free of pests. Many insects hitchhike into your house undetected under the protective cover of beautiful foliage. In fact, houseplants can be the perfect host for many pests since they aren't exposed to natural beneficial insects and other predators that would otherwise keep populations in check.

**What you should do;** Most houseplant pests such as mealy bugs, white flies and aphids can be dealt with using a mild soap and water bath or horticultural oil. If weather permits take the plant outside and spray it with the hose or leave it outside and let natural predators do the job.

**7. *Allow it to become pot bound.*** Just because that plant you've had since college is still looking good above ground, don't assume all is well below.

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# MASTER GARDNER ASSOCIATION

## MEETING OF JANUARY 21, 2016

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Vicki Laurin at 6:27 PM. Vicki introduced the Board of Directors for 2016: Vicki Laurin-President, Kay McCullough-Vice President, Dick Moldenhauer-Secretary, Michelle Chockley-Treasurer, Katie Van Patten-Director, Christy Jones-Director and Allen Grove-Director.

Review of Minutes: Motion and 2nd by Nettie Sparks and Alicia Ellis to accept the November 19, 2015 meeting minutes as presented. Passed.

Treasurer's Report: Michelle Chockley reviewed the Treasurer's reports for both November and December 2015. The Nov. 2015 beginning balance was \$36,634.97 and the Dec. 2015 ending balance was \$33,674.00 Mel Kennedy gave the audit team (M. Kennedy, N. Sparks & M. Gregg) report-finding the treasurer's books are in order and well organized.

### Projects Reports:

#### Funded Projects Chairperson

Desert Oasis Alicia Ellis (acting)-Alicia still wants to be part of the team but would like someone else to chair the team. The first meeting will be the first Tuesday in March to cut the ornamental grasses.

Genesee County Fair Vicki Perkins-no report (NR)

Grow Lab Carol Groat-Carol mentioned Freeman Elementary where there is a lead in the water problem. Discussion of whether to consume veggies grown this way ensued. Research is on-going regarding the effects of lead in water on plants and the consumption of veggies/fruit from said plants. We'll hopefully have some reports to our membership on this subject later this year.

Jr. Master Gardeners Vicki Perkins-NR

#### Non-Funded Projects Chairperson

Ask A Master Gardener Alan Grove / Michelle Chockley-NR

Butterfly Garden (Clio) Cheri Johnston-NR

Carriage Town Marilyn Nichols-NR-They have the same concerns with the veggies they are growing.

Clio Veterans Memorial (Open) – need chair-NR

Crossroads Village (Monarch Way Station) Joanie Snyder-Joanie will confirm our July picnic date w/ Crossroads.

Easter Seals Carol Groat/Betty Draper-NR

Farmers Market – Davison Alan Grove-NR

Farmers Market – Flint Joyce Bellaire-NR

Farmers Market – Grand Blanc Beth Fromholz-Davies/Alan Grove-NR

Flushing River Trail Sylvia Hansen-Sylvia made a presentation to the Flushing City Council noting the volunteer hours master gardeners contributed to maintain the Trail and presented them with a framed duplicate of the sign on the trail. This will hang in City Hall as a tribute to, and a reminder of, what the Master Gardener Association is all about.

GCCARD Gardens Pat Seals-NR

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Humane Society Maggie Gregg-June 11 will be "Bring a flat to plant day"

Library Gardens

Baker Park (Burton) Diana Callison-NR

Burton Memorial (Burton) Mary Faith Down-NR

Genesee District (Pasadena) Sasi Vemuri-NR

Flint Public Sasi Vemuri-NR

Jennings Memorial (Montrose) Lois Henderson-NR

Johnson Memorial (Genesee) Carol Bobb-NR

Rest Stop Projects

I-69 Brenda Monty-NR

I-75 Ruth Sutton-NR

US-23 Loretta Elwood-NR

Standing Committee Reports:

Banquet (Spring/Awards) Loretta Ellwood- in the planning stage

Bulb Sale Randy Tatro-NR

Bus Trip (Educational) Sabrina VanDyke-The trip will be July 21, 2016. Cost will be \$45 + lunch. They will be visiting Hidden Lakes Gardens and Proven Winner Trial Gardens.

Clothing Vicki Laurin/Katie Van Patten-The order form will be ready by the

February meeting. Clothing prices will include both the MMGA and the Genesee Co. logos.

DTE Vicki Laurin/George Rappold-They will gratefully accept articles for publication in DTE.

Fall Into Spring Loretta Ellwood-NR

Garden Stones/Compost Dick Moldenhauer-NR

Garden Tour Kay McCullough-The date is Sunday June 26, 2016. It will be a good tour.

Holiday Party (Open)

Hospitality Gloria Roudebush-cards were sent to Nettie Sparks for the passing of her father and to Anita Coleman who is ill.

Public Relations Mel Kennedy-NR

Tool and Garden Supplies Dick Moldenhauer-We now have an account w/ AM Leonard. Catalogues are in the office. Place and pay for orders by April 21, 2016. The first order will be sent in by the 1<sup>st</sup> of May. Members may order tools for project or personal use.

VMS Ambassadors Ruth Simon/Jim Harrow- We need one more person to volunteer to be a

VMS buddy, to volunteer please contact Ruth or Jim.

Website Kay McCullough-NR

Old Business:

Project chairs are still needed for: Clio Veterans Memorial, Holiday Party

New Business:

1) The membership celebrated the start of our first Master Gardener class since 2011! A special thanks was given to Abi Saeed for joining our membership as Coordinator and making classes a reality for Genesee County. There were 47 people in attendance at their first class today! We also recognized those students who attended our meeting tonight.

2) Noted the handout highlighting accomplishments in 2015. We hope to do even better in

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(MINUTES -CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10)

- 3) Reviewed the following weather protocol: If U of M-Flint is closed due to weather conditions then our membership meeting will be cancelled.
  - 4) We are currently looking for a better venue to hold our monthly meetings in. If anyone has an idea please talk with someone on the Board of Directors. If necessary, we can afford a small meeting fee.
  - 5) Sylvia Hansen and Pam Kvasnicka volunteered to work with the Board of Directors committee on SOP's (Standard Operating Procedures) in 2016.
  - 6) Board of Directors meetings are at the GCCARD office on the first Monday of each month at 2:00 PM. Members are welcome to attend.
  - 7) Michelle Chockley reminded members to fill out a MGAGCM chapter membership application/renewal and turn it in to her for accurate membership record purposes and to get the \$5 insurance fee paid by MGAGCM.
- Close of Meeting: Moved and 2nd by Randy Tatro and Kay McCullough to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 PM. Passed.

### 2016 MEMBERSHIP MEETING SCHEDULE

January 21, 2016	February 18, 2016	March 17, 2016
April, 21, 2016 Awards Banquet	May 19, 2016	June 16, 2016
July, 2016 Picnic @ Cross Roads	August 18, 2016	September 15, 2016
October 20, 2016	November 17, 2016 (Party)	December-no meeting

(HOUSEPLANT -CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8)

Eventually roots can become so intertwined within the confined space of a container; water, nutrients and even oxygen can have a tough time getting through.

**What you should do;** Once a year or so, lift the plant out of the container and check the roots. If they're in a tightly wound in a circular pattern, it's time to repot into a slightly larger container. Loosen the roots to break up the pattern, refresh the soil and repot.

In spite of a few proven ways to bring houseplants to an early demise, most demand very little to keep them looking their best. With just a minimal amount of care, they can provide years of enjoyment and beauty to any indoor environment.



## Master Gardener Classes began January 21, 2016.

It was my pleasure to attend the new Master Gardener class of 2016. The excitement filled the entire building and it was extremely gratifying to be a witness to this event that we all have been waiting for. The trainees were excited as well and it was great to see them mingling and getting to know each other as well as getting acquainted with our master gardeners.

### ABI WELCOMING OUR 2016 CLASS



### Master Gardener Class of 2016



## DATES TO REMEMBER

Our monthly MGAGCM meeting will be held on February 18, 2016 at the GCCARD building at 605 N. Saginaw St, Flint. Social hour starts at 5:30 p.m. and at 6:00 our speaker guests Abi Saeed and Darren Bagley will be giving a presentation on Flint Water and the current up to date information as it pertains to gardeners. After a short break our business meeting will begin.

### Master Gardener

### Educational Bus Trip July 21, 2016

Will be visiting 4 Stars Proven Winners Display Garden and Hidden Lakes Gardens. Bus Holds 50 PEOPLE so register early. 1st come seating. Deadline for registration is June 1, 2016 or until bus fills up

<http://www.geneseecountymg.org/bus-trip.html> Contact Sabrina VanDyke for comments or questions 810-407-0808  
Mobile COST: \$45.00 (lunch NOT included) Please make checks out to :  
MGAGCM MAIL COMPLETED FORM  
TO: Mailing Address: MGAGCM PO  
Box 34 Flushing, MI 48433

**MGAGCM OFFICERS (2015)**

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THIS NEWSLETTER PREPARED BY:

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CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITES

MMGA Inc Website at:  
[www.michiganmastergardener.org](http://www.michiganmastergardener.org)

MMGA Inc Facebook Page at:  
[www.facebook.com/MichiganMG](http://www.facebook.com/MichiganMG)

MGAGCM Website at: Genesee County  
[MG.org](http://MG.org)

**MSU Extension-Genesee**  
 605 N. Saginaw St. Suite 1A  
 Flint, MI 48502  
 (810) 244-8500

**Plant & Pest Hotline:**  
 (810) 244-8548  
 Hours: Friday from 8:30 am-1:00pm

[geneseeplantpest@anr.msu.edu](mailto:geneseeplantpest@anr.msu.edu)

**Public Office Hours:**  
 8 am - 1 pm Monday through Friday.

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