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# Genesee County Master Gardener Newsletter

## DOWN TO EARTH

*June*

**2016**

**VOLUME 14**

**5**



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### **FEATURE ARTICLE**

## **Sunflowers Can Make Bargain**

For just \$10, a renter can plant a summer festival of bloom that transforms your yard into a colorful pollinator heaven. Anyone with a small patch of ground will find growing this plant from seed a most rewarding first garden. What is this great annual plant that is at once a North American native wildflower, a food source and cutting flower? It is the sunflower, of course, with all its exciting modern progeny that rise from seeds poked into soft earth.

This flower of the open plains and wayside places is so well known to a wide range of native bee species as well as honeybees. After pollination, flowers fade and seed forms, then when released songbirds of many stripes arrive to perch upon the during stalks pecking seed out of the dried disk-like centers. From these wild plants of the Midwest, the huge mammoth sunflower was developed and spread around the world as a seed oil plant. The original strains used in breeding were those selected over centuries by agricultural tribes growing sunflowers on the river flood plains.

Go through seed house websites of catalogs to discover all the different sunflower types that are smaller and more ornamental in your garden than the mammoth. They offer a range of colors popular for cut flowers that just as easy and cheap to start from seed.

Another way sunflowers vary is by growth habit, with single stem dwarf types sold as cut flowers, which look like mini-mammoths. These are short lifespan plants averaging 60 to 80 days for quick harvest.

The branching varieties are quite similar in growth habit to

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those wild sunflower progenitors of the Indian gardens, and thus more recognizable to birds and pollinators. Most are 90- to 110-day plants with few exceptions. Colors range from the standard sunflower to browns and reds and oranges with a number of double forms that are even more ornamental. All evoke memories of Van Gogh's sunflower paintings, where we see some of these early varieties in cases rendered by an impressionist.

One of the best selections of reliable decorative sunflower seed varieties is at [Johnnyseeds.com](http://Johnnyseeds.com). They offer a useful comparison chart in the print catalog that shows at a glance each of the 30-plus varieties' flower size, plant height, flower color and days to bloom. It's a big help with choosing the best sunflowers for your individual garden at about \$3.95 per packs of 50 seeds plus much larger quantity discounts.

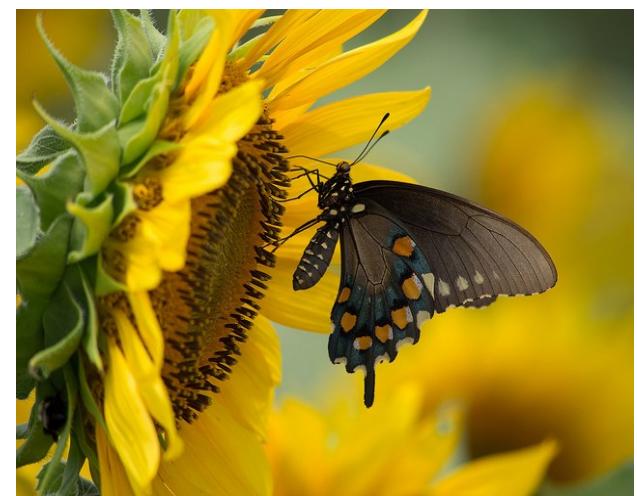
Branching varieties produce lots more flowers but can become a bit rangy over time. These produce flowers the size of a dessert plate held on a multitude of stems. It's common to cut the top bud when they reach a desired size to force side branching and more flower production. These branching varieties integrate nicely into a wide range of spaces as a decorative flower. The more you bring into your garden, the greater your pollinator draw.

For large projects or for those with big landscapes, rural homes, farms, and little money, consider sowing black sunflower gird seen wherever ground is disturbed. Rake in before an expected spring rain to sow on a large scale and naturalize. The result is ideal wildlife food source where sites have lost habitat due to grading. This idea re-establishes the original native type wildflowers that will self sow for generations to come.

The best time to plant sun flowers is after the last frost date in your area. For best results, choose locations where you can improve the soil with compost and manure since sunflowers are heavy feeders. Compost also helps improve drainage and water holding capacity depending on your soil type.

Even if you've never grown flowers in your life, you can find great success with branching sunflowers. For a few dollars turn your yard into a Pollinator Heaven, but later on the birds will come to extract those seeds for great entertainment long after the color is gone.

Maureen Gilmore



**HOME GROWN 869**

**How soon can I put in some of my vegetable seeds? How soon can my transplants that I have been growing go in? My tomatoes are already so tall that they are falling over. How do I handle that one?**

The usual time for planting seeds in gardens is mid to late May. It has to do with soil temperatures, not air temperatures. Sure, you can put some of the cool season vegetable seeds in earlier, but if the soil is cold, they don't grow. They just sit. There is what's called a minimum temperature and there is an optimum temperature. For cool season vegetables, the minimum is about 40 degrees. The optimum temperature at which they will germinate and grow is 70 to 85 degrees. Optimum means your seeds will grow instead of sit. For warm season vegetables, the minimum is 60 degrees but the optimum, or best temperature is 80 to 95 degrees. Since the air temperatures have not been that high all year, the soil temperature could not be either. To find out the soil temperature, use a thermometer and check the soil temperature first thing in the morning before the sun warms it up. This is the true temperature. Check at the depth the seeds need to be planted. You could use a soil thermometer or a kitchen probe thermometer that measures both hot and cold. For the floppy tomatoes, you either started them too early or they did not get enough strong light. You need to do what is called "hardening off" of tomatoes before they go into the garden. The plants are gradually introduced to sunlight outdoors. The plants are put under the shade of a tree for an hour and each day the time is increased a bit. You are looking for new leaves to form at the top of the plant that are darker green with possibly a red-dish tint and are smaller and sturdy. These are sun leaves. The current shade leaves would burn to a crisp in just a day or two if put outside. When planting tall leggy tomatoes, do not plant the more deeply. Dig a shallow trench and lay the plant sideways and curve the top of the plant up. Tomatoes will grow roots all along the stem. But if you planted them deeply, the soil is too cold for them to do that successfully. Many transplants are warm season vegetables like pepper, eggplant, tomatoes and melons. Wait until the end of May for them to be happy and grow.

**I have a raspberry patch that I put in about four years ago. It produced well the first and second year but now, I am getting more dead canes showing up each year. They just die after I pick the fruit. These are called Heritage and they produce in the early fall. I thought that raspberries just had to be planted and there would always be fruit. You know, just plant and forget. What's wrong with them?**

Nothing is plant and forget except a dead raccoon. All plants require some management. Most raspberries have canes or stems that are good for two years. The first year the shoot is called a primocane and is just vegetative growth. The second year, it is a florican and it produces fruit. Then it dies. You currently have a big mix of old, dead canes and growing canes. Heritage produces in the fall and can grow enough in one season to produce fruit in one growing season. You have two choices. If you want fall fruit, cut all the canes down to an inch or two from the soil. Do this every early spring and you will have producing canes each fall and no dead wood. Or you can leave the canes and as they begin to grow, take your pruners and cut the tip so the canes become bushier. In June, there will be a small crop and then remove just the fruiting canes and leave the others. Dead canes need to be removed because they could encourage disease problems and also make picking a nightmare because there are too many useless canes and your hand and arm have to fit in places to get fruit.



## COOKS CORNER

### BAKED HAM

Source unknown

#### INGREDIENTS

1 fully cooked bone in ham 10 to 15 lbs.  
20 whole cloves  
1 can Dr. Pepper not diet  
1 cup pineapple juice  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  cup brown sugar  
1/3 cup Dijon mustard

#### DIRECTIONS

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Score ham in a diamond pattern and dot with cloves. Transfer ham to roasting pan and cover loosely with tin foil. Bake until warm throughout about 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 3 hours.

During the last 30 minutes of cooking heat Dr. Pepper, pineapple juice, brown sugar and mustard in a sauce pan reducing by 50%. Remove foil and brush with glaze, continuing every 10 minutes until caramelized and shiny. Remove from pan and let rest for 15 minutes.

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## FENTON OPEN GATE SUMMER GARDEN TOUR: 2016

Fenton Open Gate Garden Club holds 19<sup>th</sup> annual Summer Garden Tour on Sunday, July 19, 2016, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. Seven gardens in Fenton open to the public, featuring variety of garden design: fairy, rural, suburban, country, heritage, island, and residential. Note concrete hardscapes, unique garden structures, and water features plus numerous flower beds, perennials, and a wooded glen. Visitors will be fascinated by a Walker's Maze and an "Emerald City" made of green glass objects.

Skilled gardeners available to answer questions and many plants labeled. Admission fee includes maps, garden guides, refreshments, merchant discounts, and raffle for garden bench.

\$8 advance tickets available from members and area merchants: Bordine Nursery, Gerych's, Heavenly Scent Herb Farm, Holly Twp Library, Sweet Variations, Yard 'N' Garden, The Weed Lady. Day of tour \$10 tickets may be purchased at A.J. Phillips Fenton Museum, 310 S. Leroy St. in Fenton. Children 12 and under are free!

For more information, visit [www.opengategardenclubgardentour.com](http://www.opengategardenclubgardentour.com) or contact Phil at 810-750-0888.

# MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION

## MEETING April 21, 2016

The Master Gardener Association's regular meeting was called to order at 6.45 p.m. by President Vicki Laurin.

**Review of Minutes:** The previous month's minutes were not reviewed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Michelle gave the treasurer's report. The March 2016 beginning balance was \$35,693.24. Income was \$2085.31. Expenses for the month were \$309.14. The ending balance is \$37,479.42 (includes \$10.01 from Square UP).

President Laurin motioned to adjourn the meeting. It was moved and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Alan Grove and Alicia Ellis to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dick Moldenhauer, Secretary

# MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION

## MEETING MAY 19, 2016

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by President Vicki Laurin at 7:18 pm.

**Review of Minutes:** Motion and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mary Gartland and Alicia Ellis to accept both the March 17, 2016 and April 21, 2016 meeting minutes as presented. Passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Michelle Chockley reviewed the Treasurer's report for April 2016. The beginning balance was \$37,469.41, income was \$4,155.16, expenses were \$2,503.21 and the ending balance was \$39,131.36 which includes \$10.00 in the Square One account.

Vicki announced the resignation of Katie VanPatten from The MGAGCM Board of Directors effective May 18, 2016 and thanked Katie for her service.

### Kay McCullough - Projects Reports:

#### Funded Projects

Desert Oasis

#### Chairperson

Alicia Ellis (acting)- Critters have been visiting the Oasis but work

#### Non-Funded Projects

Ask A Master Gardener

#### Chairperson

Alan Grove / Michelle Chockley- 2 weeks are done in this fund raiser but we need more volunteers for the last 2 weeks. Contact Alan to volunteer.

Clio Veterans Memorial

#### (tbd)

Easter Seals

Carol Groat / Betty Draper- work days on Tuesdays

Farmers Market – Davison

Alan Grove- started, to go all summer

Farmers Market – Grand Blanc Beth Fromholz-Davies/Alan Grove- started, 47 people stopped at the booth the first day, Sunday from 10 am – 3 pm

1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church-Flint Corrine Kage-Planting day will be Saturday May 21, 2016

GCCARD Gardens Alan Grove/Gwen Barney-started 2 weeks ago, \$150 was donated for flowers by the building owner - planting day will be May 31, 2016 at 10 am.

#### Library Gardens

#### Rest Stop Projects

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GCCARD Gardens      Alan Grove/Gwen Barney-started 2 weeks ago, \$150 was donated for flowers by the building owner - planting day will be May 31, 2016 at 10 am.

Library Gardens

Rest Stop Projects

I-69

Brenda Monty-An email from was read at the meeting

US-23

Loretta Elwood- Mulched last Monday, planting day is Monday May

23,2016

**Kay McCullough - Standing Committee Reports:**

Banquet (Spring/Awards) Loretta Ellwood / Caroly Malaski- The banquet went well and a small profit was made. Attendees ate well. The Banquet Committee was commended for doing an excellent job on this year's banquet.

Bulb Sale                    Randy Tatro- Bulbs on sale until Friday May 20, 2016. Randy still has Japanese Maples for sale.

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. 83 seats paid for, 102 available. Signup and pay to reserve your seat by June 1, 2016.

Garden Tour                    Kay McCullough-The date is Sunday June 26, 2016. Volunteers are needed at the host gardens on Sunday. Clio area events are being planned to complement the garden tour. Tickets are \$5 for members and \$10 for guests.

Holiday Party                    (Open)

Hospitality                    Gloria Roudebush- Julie Gulish is in the hospital.

Tool and Garden Supplies                    Dick Moldenhauer- 1<sup>st</sup> order is complete. No order planned until the end of the summer. Go to [www.amleo.com](http://www.amleo.com) to view tools online.

VMS Ambassadors                    Ruth Simon / Jim Harrow- a reminder to everyone to make sure your information in VMS is up to date!

**Old Business:**

Project chair is still needed for:                    Holiday Party

The MGIT (Master Gardeners In Training) Class of Spring 2016 was welcomed to our meeting. Everyone passed the class. One MGIT even has 40+ hours already!

**New Business:**

The ByLaws vote is a success. 108 votes were cast by email, USPS and meeting ballot and 105 ballots were 'Yes' votes. Thank you for participating!

Kay McCullough and Les Frazee gave a presentation on the need for a new engraver to make plant ID signs, options investigated and a proposal of what engraver and support equipment to buy with prices. It was moved and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mary Gartland and Maggie Gregg to purchase the Roland engraver system, cutter, chip vac and supplies that are recommended by Les and Kay for \$7,685.00. Passed

Abi encouraged members to participate in the MG College Extraordinary Project Search contest. The goal of this new program is to showcase outstanding contributions EMGs make in their communities (lots in Genesee Co). What is submitted is a poster of your project. Deadline for registering is June 1, 2016. The poster is taken to MG College in June. Abi

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and Rebecca Gale-Gonzales are available to help design/make posters with you. More info at: <http://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?eventID=165B02DBFCED9673> Contact Abi if interested.

Dick Moldenhauer quickly reviewed the following SOPs: Nomination and Election, Board Member Position Descriptions, Logo Use and Speaker.

Ruth Ann Donaldson announced she has compost available. Call her for more info.

Sabrina and Nettie asked for help starting a vegetable garden (and maybe small fruit) at the G.C. Juvenile Facility on Pasadena. Funds are available for planting. Contact Sabrina if interested in helping.

Alicia Ellis announced that May is Stroke Awareness month and she has magnets available.

**Close of Meeting:** Moved and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Helen Mitts and Shirley Smela to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 pm. Passed.

Respectfully submitted: Dick Moldenhauer, MGAGCM secretary

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## Go the (Proper) Distance When Planting This Year

Spacing plants --- be they trees, shrubs, flowers, or vegetables and herbs --- can make the difference between growing success and failure, to proper alignment when planting does make a difference.

When planting too close together, plants compete with each other for moisture nutrient and sun. In the case of vegetables and flowers that impacts on how well they produce and quality of the fruit and blooms. Thick canopies of foliage also reduce air circulation, resulting in excessive moisture on leaves and encouraging disease such as powdery mildew.

Large--leafed plants such as zucchini and cabbage tend to shade out lower growing neighbors as they expand later in the season. The good news is that if you're planting a small vegetable garden, most seed companies include special varieties of smaller plants for use in containers and square foot gardens. Most plant tags and seed packets include the spacing requirements, so just follow the directions.

For some, eyeballing spacing when digging may work, but for most of us it's probably wiser to use a measuring tool, especially when planting trees and shrubs. One of the biggest mistakes homeowners and even landscapers make is planting too close to the houses, driveways, walkways and porches. It's always a good idea to leave enough room to be able to walk behind a shrub so you can easily do required maintenance to windows and walls.

Rather than carry a ruler for little jobs, I use my fingers, hands and other body parts to do the job. The space from the tip of my middle finger to the first joint measures an inch and from the tip of my middle finger to my knuckle measures 4 inches. The length from my thumb to my pointer finger is 6 inches when spread open.

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## MGAGCM 2016 BANQUET

A good time was had by all at the MGAGCM 2016 banquet. A few were surprised as they received their well-deserved trophies although they should not have been. It is wonderful having so many who will step in and help out in so many ways to make our organization better. They have brought volunteerism to a new height. The recipients were Michelle Chockley for Outstanding Master Gardener. Loretta Ellwood also received Outstanding Master Gardener Award. They were awarded this because they both have over 200 hours of volunteer service and stand out as someone who is always there to pitch in whenever something needs to be done. The Distinguished Master Gardener Awards went to Jim Harrow and Vicki Laurin. These two have the most volunteer hours in 2015. Vicki Laurin had a total of 824 volunteer hours and Jim Harrow had a total of 558 volunteer hours. We are all proud to have them among us. Alicia Ellis was awarded a certificate for having over 10,000 lifetime hours. Wow, that is impressive. The following people also received pins for their impressive accumulation of hours: 2500 hours-Vicki Laurin, 1500 hours - Pam Kvasnicka, Sandy Keirns, Sabrina Van-Dyke, George Rappold, Christine Schwind; 1000 hours - Randy Tatro, Joyce Bellaire, Rebecca Gale Gonzalez, Gloria Roudebush ; 500 hours- Alan Grove, Jesse Gutierrez. The excitement of winning the awards was not the only excitement. Caroline Malaski did an outstanding job providing a door prize for every banquet attendee. It was a wonderful celebration.



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Anyone who has done much sewing knows that the distance from the tip of your nose when looking straight ahead to the tip of your middle finger when your arm is out stretched at your side is about 3 feet. The length of my foot when wearing my garden shoes is 11 inches.

One of my favorite new tools is the Radius lightweight yet heavy-duty Pro Lopper that's perfect for pruning shrub roses. It will cut branches up to 1 ¼ inches in diameter and that's the distance from the tip of my thumb to the first joint. Cut too large a branch with this or any other cutting implement and you risk doing permanent damage to the tool and tree or shrub.

Nancy Szerlag

# VMS ASSISTANCE

**Master Gardener Coordinator:** Abi Saeed (810) 244-8531 [saeedabi@anr.msu.edu](mailto:saeedabi@anr.msu.edu)

**Link to VMS:** <https://michigan.volunteersystem.org>

Enter your password and click on GENESEE. If you forgot your password, contact one of your VMS Ambassadors: Ruth Simon ([simonru@anr.msu.edu](mailto:simonru@anr.msu.edu)) or Jim Harrow ([joker108@sbcglobal.net](mailto:joker108@sbcglobal.net)). Ambassadors cannot look up your old password, but can reassign you a new one.

**Let's answer some common questions:**

**1. What is a MGAGCM garden project?**

These are projects approved by MGAGCM MG Coordinator. Projects are chaired by a MGAGCM chapter member. Project chairs are able to report monthly at chapter business meetings. Most projects are self-funded, but may request for one time or continual funding.

All projects are for nonprofit.

These projects are listed in VMS under "Projects".

**2. Can I work on other garden projects and earn volunteer hours?**

Absolutely. As long as you are working at a nonprofit site, gardening and providing educational information, you can enter these volunteer hours on VMS. We have gardeners who work at community gardens, churches, etc. You are doing beautification and answering questions. Your site is not listed on VMS, so you would choose "beautification" and enter where you work under "event description" on VMS.

**3. Who do I contact to have my project approved as a MGAGCM project site:**

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

**4. It is the end of the season and I have not entered any hours on VMS. What do I do?**

Remember to enter your hours on VMS on a regular basis. At the very least, please try to enter monthly. You may "lump" hours. For example: If you work all of May at Easter Seals, you would choose "beautification" as your project on VMS, then enter "total hours for May 2016 at Easter Seals" under event description. Enter the total for the month under volunteer hours and "SAVE".

**5. What do I do if I need educational hours?**

There are links on VMS on the right side of the screen for tutorials for educational credits. They are free and very informative! Take the time to log in and explore your options on VMS.

**6. Who do I contact if I need volunteer hours?**

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

**7. I am unable to garden anymore, but want to stay involved and be a certified Master Gardener.**

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**. Who do I contact if I need volunteer hours?**

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

**7. I am unable to garden anymore, but want to stay involved and be a certified Master Gardener. What do I do?**

You may apply for Emeritus status. Do you meet the following criteria?

- 1.) Minimum of 500 hours of volunteer service
- 2.) 10 continuous years of volunteer service
- 3.) Exemplary service to the MSU Extension MGP
- 4.) Have limited ability to remain active

If so, you may qualify for Emeritus Status and must apply by a certain date in December.

Please contact an ambassador, your coordinator or VMS Buddy for the form.

**8. What is a VMS Buddy?**

A VMS Buddy will be able to mentor you thru the VMS process. Assisting you with entering hours and sharing volunteer and educational opportunities.

**Michelle Chockley (Lead Buddy) 810-659-8014 [chockleym@gmail.com](mailto:chockleym@gmail.com)**

**Kay McCullough 810-635-9341 [birdieball@aol.com](mailto:birdieball@aol.com)**

**Dick Moldenhauer 810-695-2649 [rnmold1050@aol.com](mailto:rnmold1050@aol.com)**

**Carol Pittard 810-639-2442 [cpittard@mac.com](mailto:cpittard@mac.com)**

**Sandy Keirns 989-624-4346 [c.keirns@speednetllc.co](mailto:c.keirns@speednetllc.co)**

**Theresa Henderson 810-869-1415 [etweaver@yahoo.com](mailto:etweaver@yahoo.com)**

**Melville Kennedy 810-275-8822 [mkennedy60@charter.net](mailto:mkennedy60@charter.net)**

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Photos taken in the back yard of Michelle Chockley. If you would like us to publish photos of your favorite spot in your garden send them as an attachment.



# 2016 Master Gardener College On the Road to Grand Rapids!

The Prince Conference Center on East Beltline in Grand Rapids, Michigan will once again be home base for our two-day event, June 17-18, 2016. The theme for the event is “Dig It! Plant It! Grow It!”

June 17 offers a selection of all-day bus tours, each with a different focus. Those not taking a bus tour can choose to participate in the afternoon workshop regarding diagnostics. Everyone comes back together for a stop at the MSU Extension Grand Ideas Garden (the GIG) to cruise the annual plant sale and visit the incredible, plant-packed gardens. The party will then move back to the Prince Center, where folks can relax, socialize, have dinner and attend the Annual Michigan Master Gardener Association’s membership meeting.

June 18 will begin with our first keynote speaker, who will get our juices going in preparation for an education-filled day. You will have an opportunity to select your preferred breakout sessions from a wide variety of topics ranging from bees to water and lots in between. Beginning at 7:30 a.m., the Garden Marketplace will be open for shopping—the next best thing to digging, planting and growing! Everyone can always use another great book, gloves, pruners/nippers, shirts, lotion, soap, garden art, plants (of course) and lots, lots more.

So, mark your calendar now, then watch for updates and begin to make those tough decisions—which bus tour, what breakout sessions, how many plants can I cram in the car for the trip home? And don’t forget, contact your EMG friends from throughout the state to get them on-board so we can all connect at the conference to Dig It! Plant It! Grow It!

**Questions?** Contact Betsy Braid at (517) 884-7081, [braibet@anr.msu.edu](mailto:braibet@anr.msu.edu) .

## Endless Supply Of Fresh Green Onions

Green onions, aka scallions or spring onions, are sold with a root end that you always trim off. But did you know you can encourage those roots to regrow new onions? Here’s how easy it is to upcycle this common food scrap you used to throw away:

- Slice off the ends of the bulbs, leaving roots attached.
- Stand the bulbs root-end down in a small jar. (I started them in an egg cup.) Add enough water to cover the roots.
- Set on a windowsill and keep the roots moist. After a few days, green shoots will emerge from the tops of the bulbs. After that, they’ll grow very quickly.
- Keep the roots submerged; change water at least once a week.
- When the shoots are or four or five inches long, you can plant them in the ground or a pot, or you can keep them growing in the jar.

Snip off what you need; the onions will continue to grow almost indefinitely.



**Master Gardener Association  
Genesee County Garden Tour  
2016, Sunday, June 26, 2016 10:00  
AM to 5:00 PM**

We might want to call the MGAGCM Garden Tour 2016 “The Wow Garden Tour” because we certainly have some wow gardens. We have gardens to match everyone’s taste and you will enjoy the relaxing country drive.

For only \$10.00, you can enjoy this self-guided tour. Tickets will be sold at each site and many local businesses. Tickets available Monday, June 6, 2016. Information and driving directions will be posted soon!! For more information check out this link:<http://gchgardentour.weebly.com/>

**2016 Annual Educational  
MGAGCM Bus Trip, Thursday,  
July 21, 2016**

If you haven’t signed up for this bus trip you still have time to join us for an exciting day. We will be visiting Four Star Proven Winners Display Gardens in Carleton, Mi and then enjoy lunch in the historic town of Tucumseh and then on to the botanical gardens of Hidden Lakes in Tipton, Mi. The cost is \$45.00 and for more information and to download a registration form go to our website:[geneseecountyMG.org](http://geneseecountyMG.org)

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

We will be holding our June MGAGCM MEETING ON June 16th, 2016 at WoJo’s Garden Splendor at 7360 E Court St. Davison, Mi. We will be meeting at 5:30 pm for social time and our speaker from WoJo’s will begin at 6:00 pm. The presentation will be “Pollinating Plants” and will include non-native perennials and annuals that pollinate. After a short break we will begin our business meeting. This day will also be the first day of our fundraiser. The 2nd day of our fundraiser will be the following Saturday, June 18th. It allows our supporters within the general public an entire day to shop for us.

WoJo’s has graciously designated a percent of their sales to our Master Gardener Association on June 16th and 18th as a fundraiser. 10% of sales those days will be donated to our association by mentioning Genesee County Master Gardeners at time of sale.

**Our annual MGAGCM picnic at Crossroads Village** will be the venue for our July 17th meeting. Plan on coming out to see the beautiful gardens in a setting that is relaxing and reminiscent of days gone by. We ask that you bring your own table utensils and a dish to pass along with your drinks. There will be no business meeting this month.

**MGAGCM OFFICERS (2015)**

President 810-744-0725	<b>Vicki Laurin</b> laurinvicki@gmail.com
Vice President 810-635-9341	<b>Kay McCullough</b> birdieball@aol.com
Secretary 810-695-2649	<b>Dick Moldenhauer</b> rn mold1050@aol.com
Treasurer 810-659-8014	<b>Michelle Chockley</b> chockleym@gmail.com

**Election Information**

According to our new bi-laws passed at our May membership meeting we will be forming a Nomination and Election Committee at our June MGAGCM membership meeting.

1. The board will solicit Nomination & Election Committee volunteers to establish a committee of only 1 Board member who is not running for office and no less than 3 members from the membership. If there are no volunteers, the president will appoint committee members.
2. The board will supply board position descriptions to association members at the June meeting.
3. The president will appoint a board member to chair the Nomination & Election Committee.

The following positions will be open at the next election. President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, and one director.

THIS NEWSLETTER PREPARED BY:

Vicki Laurin, laurinvicki@gmail.com.  
George Rappold, grappocp@att.net,  
of counsel Ruth Simon .

**CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITES**

MMGA Inc Website at:  
[www.michiganmastergardener.org](http://www.michiganmastergardener.org)  
MMGA Inc Facebook Page at:  
[www.facebook.comMichiganMG](http://www.facebook.com/MichiganMG)  
MGAGCM Website at: Genesee County MG.org  
MGAGCM Facebook Page at:  
<http://facebook.com/groups/2169046232310/>

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

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

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

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

MSU EXTENSION-GENESEE COUNTY  
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