

MSU IN BLOOM

MSU HORTICULTURE GARDEN NEWS



Spring Program

New format! All
make-and-take
workshops!

New LED Lights

LED lighting technology
gives greenhouses pink
glow

Volunteer Kick-Off

Celebrate the
success of 2017
and plan for 2018

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Volunteer Kick-Off	Mar 13
Spring Program	Mar 24
SHA Spring Show	April 21/22
Spring Plant Sale	May 18/19

Visit

[HTTP://WWW.CANR.MSU.EDU/HRT/OUR_GARDENS/](http://www.canr.msu.edu/hrt/our_gardens/)

2018 CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Greater Lansing Orchid Society Show and Sale: Feb 24 & 25

Volunteer Kick-Off- March 13

Spring Program- March 24

Student Horticulture Association Spring Show: April 21 and 22

Spring Plant Sale

2018 Members: May 18

Public: May 19

Bee Palooza, June 24

25th Anniversary Solstice Soiree: June 21

Garden Day, featuring Traci Disabato-Aust: August 4



Houseplant and Succulent Sale: Nov 1

Holiday Open House: Dec 6

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner: Dec 13

Wine and Chocolate reception: Dec 11 (2018 Member Benefit- "family" level and above)



SPRING MAKE & TAKE

A NEW TAKE ON OUR
POPULAR SPRING PROGRAM

By Jennifer Sweet
Program Coordinator

Three workshops in one.
Great price and great fun!
[Click here for more
information and to register!](#)

\$52 for 2018 MSU Horticulture
Garden Members
([Click here to become a member](#))
\$62 Non-member

The MSU Horticulture Gardens is pleased to
announce our newly designed Spring Program!

Our afternoon format encourages a more relaxed
pace and our workshops ensure each attendee has
many beautiful creations to take home! Unwind to
the aroma of fresh lavender as you create your own
spa blends, add some flair to your garden with flower
pot bling, and wrap things up as you learn to make a
stunning and unique kokedama moss ball (detailed
workshop information available on next page)! During
these hands-on workshops, you will also be educated
by industry professionals about plant care, creative
uses, trends and more! We will take an intermission
from our workshops to enjoy a brief reception of
gourmet desserts, coffee and tea! We hope you will
join us for an interactive, educational, and relaxing
day to welcome spring!

SPRING MAKE & TAKE
Saturday, March 24th
12:30pm – 5:00pm

MSU HORTICULTURE GARDENS
Spring Make & Take
SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 2018 12:30 – 5:00 P.M.
JOIN US FOR AN AFTERNOON OF CREATIVE FUN!
PLANT & SOIL SCIENCES BUILDING - MSU CAMPUS
WWW.HRT.MSU.EDU/SP-REGISTER

THIS ENTERTAINING EVENT
COMBINES 3 WORKSHOPS PLUS
GOURMET DESSERTS, COFFEE &
TEA! LEARN ABOUT CREATIVE
PLANT USES, CARE AND MORE!

FEATURING WYNNE WRIGHT OF
SIXTEEN SPRIGS LAVENDER
FARM & STAFF MEMBERS OF THE
MSU HORTICULTURE GARDENS!

\$52 2018 MEMBERS / \$62 GENERAL
WWW.HRT.MSU.EDU/SP-REGISTER

12:30-1:00 PM
REGISTRATION
1:00-2:00 PM
LAVENDER SALT SPA BLENDS
2:00-2:15 PM
BREAK
2:15-3:15
FLOWER POT BLING
3:15-4:00
GOURMET DESSERTS, COFFEE/TEA
4:00-5:00
KOKEDAMA MOSS BALL

Spring Program

Make and Take Information

Lavender Spa Blends

Wynne Wright will present on the rise in lavender farming as well as diverse ways to harvest and use lavender for crafts, aromatherapy, cooking and more! During her presentation, attendees will learn about lavender blends and have the opportunity to create a spa blend of their own!



Flower Pot Bling

Get creative and add some pizzazz to both your indoor and outdoor gardens. The MSU Gardens staff will show you several techniques using wire, beads, buttons, and more to create decorative accents to nestle in with your favorite plants and add sparkle throughout the garden. Each participant will make some customized flower pot bling to show off at home



Kokedama Moss Ball

Kokedama, commonly referred to as Japanese moss balls, are a form of bonsai used to liven up indoor spaces. Learn about the history, culture, and care for these beautiful pieces of art, then get creative with us by assembling your own with the MSU Garden Staff!





VOLUNTEER KICK-OFF

BY BETHANY TROY
PERENNIAL GARDEN MANAGER

Have you been twiddling your green thumbs, anxiously awaiting the moment when you can come back to the gardens to volunteer? Well, save the date for our annual Volunteer Kick-Off on **Tuesday, March 13th starting at 9AM**. Come learn about opportunities to volunteer with us, and meet with fellow volunteers. Butterfly docent training will begin immediately after, starting at 10AM.

Our volunteers are a huge part of our organization and help in a number of ways, including our visitor's booth, butterfly house, at our plant sale, and outside helping to maintain our gardens. Garden areas include the annual garden, perennial garden, children's garden, Master Gardener Idea Bed, and arboretum. Other volunteer opportunities on campus include Beal Gardens and the Turf Grass Center. From leading tours to weeding garden beds, our volunteers work hard, have fun, and make excellent snacks! See the next page for some photos of our 2017 volunteer crew in action! We are always recruiting more volunteers, so please bring a family member or friend to the kick-off who may be interested in learning more about our opportunities at the gardens.



A year
with our
Volunteers!



GETTING TO KNOW YOU

BILL PRICE, 2017 DOCENT
OF THE YEAR

By Bethany Troy
Perennial Garden Manager



Bill Price touring Fernwood Botanical Garden
on a volunteer field trip

Get to know our 2017 Docent of the Year, Bill Price in our interview below. Bill has been a volunteer with us for over ten years, and has dedicated hundreds of hours annually to help with Children's Garden programs and miscellaneous tasks! Thanks, Bill!

When did you first start volunteering for the gardens? I took the Master Gardener Class in 1999 and I volunteered in the Butterfly House as part of the 40 hours for the certificate. I also volunteered at Beekman Center, Burcham Hills, and the Master Gardener Booth at the Home & Garden Show at the Ag Pavilion.

What interested you in volunteering with us? After I finished with the volunteer hours needed for the Master Gardener Certificate, Alex Kruzel called and asked me to do some tours in the Perennial, Annual, and Children's Gardens. The phone calls never ended and here I am today. Liz Driscoll became the Education Coordinator and she drafted me and put me in the classroom with the school kids. I had no previous classroom experience and as much as I protested she insisted and she got her way. Have been doing lots of classroom work ever since.

Describe some of the tasks you perform while volunteering with us. Butterfly House, Tour Guide in Perennial, Annual, and Children's Garden, Classroom for Seeds of Science, Garden Day, Plant Sale, Spring Program, construction projects with Jess in the Schoolyard Garden and Children's Garden and a hundred other projects Jess seems to find.

What other hobbies do you enjoy? I work MSU football and hockey games. I go to all the MSU basketball games. I have a model train set in the basement I work and play with. I work out at the MSU IM West regularly and ride a bicycle as much as possible, weather permitting (3,000 miles in 2017). Played on several basketball and softball leagues until knee surgery a few years ago. And of course, lots of gardening around the house.

What is your history with Michigan State University? Worked as a part time High School student at 14 years old at the Kellogg Center. Worked at the University Club as Kitchen Manager. I began working full time at Shaw Hall in 1976. Worked in Shaw, Campbell, Mayo, Landon, Yakeley, Gilchrist, and Williams Halls. Worked in Auxiliary Services until retirement in 2005. Worked 30 years full time.

What is your favorite area of the garden? I like them all, but I spend most of my time in the Children's Garden.

What do you enjoy the most about volunteering with us? Seeing the kids' faces when a butterfly lands on their finger is special. Having Jess push me out of my "comfort zone" for a class and going home at the end of the day and say "Wow, I survived". Working with all the great people at the gardens.

Do you have a favorite memory while volunteering? Carpooling to the National Children's Youth Garden Symposiums in St Louis, Minnesota, NJ, and Cleveland and all the fun stuff we did along the way and the Gardens we visited.

What is your favorite plant? You might think it's Creeping Charlie (weed) because there is so much in my lawn, but I like the "McCartney Rose" because it is very fragrant. I like zinnias because each one is unique.

Have the MSU Horticulture Gardens helped inspire your at-home gardening? If so, how? Sometimes when I see a new plant or how plants are arranged in a bed, I will want to buy the plant or do a similar arrangement in my yard.



NEW LED LIGHTING IN TEACHING GREENHOUSES

BY DAN BULKOWSKI
GARDENS AND GREENHOUSE
MANAGER

The next time you're either flying into, or out of, the Lansing airport in the dark, you might notice a pink glow coming from the south side of campus. It's not the new cyclotron melting down. Nope. The high pressure sodium (HPS) lights in the teaching greenhouses have been mostly replaced with LED light modules. Eleven greenhouses have some or all new fixtures. In total, 264 modules were installed. Why pink, and not bright white like the oncoming headlights of a lot of new cars? It's all about the usable light spectrum that plants need. Plants actually do best with the red and blue light, which appears pink when mixed. Plants reflect green light waves, which is why plants are green. We have purchased green lensed glasses to counter the effects of the pinkish light on our eyes. With the green "sunglasses" things appear normal under the new lights.

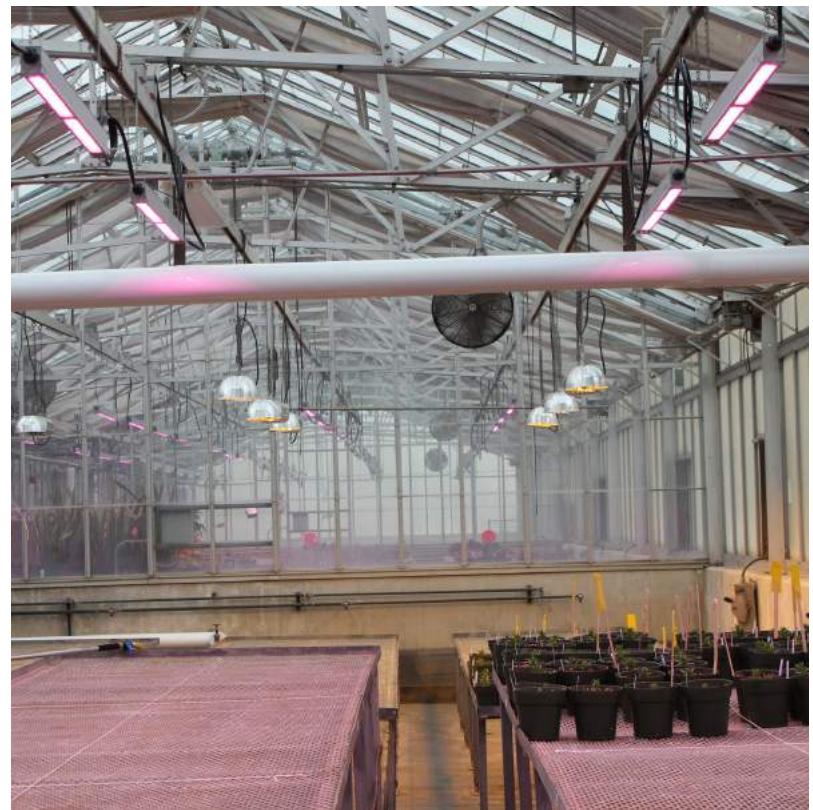
The LED lights are in part a donation from Philips Lighting. The other portion of the funding came from MSU's Infrastructure Planning and Facilities department because of the energy savings that will be realized from the new lights. Reportedly, the electricity usage will be reduced by up to 50% compared to the old fixtures. The old fixtures also cast quite a large shadow over the plants during the day. The new LED's are very narrow and barely noticeable above the benches.

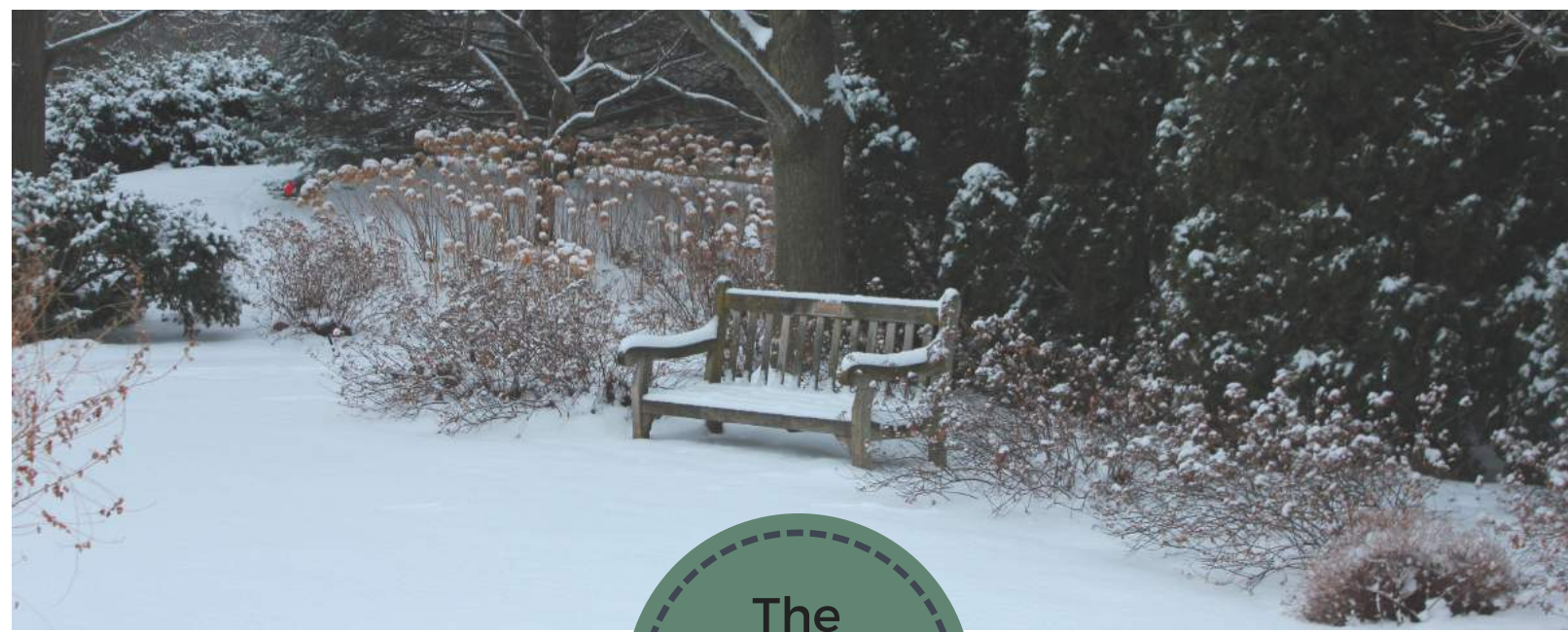
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Dr. Kristin Getter and Dr. Roberto Lopez were instrumental in pursuing this new technology for the teaching greenhouses. In the two houses that Dr. Lopez will be using for his class, we kept the HPS lights installed in half of each house so he will be able to demonstrate the effects of light type on plant growth to his students.

So, the next time you're flying over campus, just note that the pink glow is the newest in lighting technology and impress your fellow passengers. Or tell them that the FRIB is going nuclear.





The
Winter
Garden



GREATER LANSING ORCHID SOCIETY ORCHID SHOW & SALE

February 24-25, 2018
Michigan State University
Plant & Soil Science Conservatory

orchid sales
orchid displays
orchid growing classes



Hours:
Sat. Noon-5
Sun. 11-4

Free admission/parking
Donations accepted
Handicapper accessible



Interested in gardening and want to get more involved in your community? Visit letsgardenlansing.org for a calendar of workshops, classes, and events in the Greater Lansing area.