



The Colonial Master Gardener

March
2018

PUBLICATION OF JCC/W MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION &
VIRGINIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY GARY STREB

“Now ‘tis the spring, and weeds are shallow-rooted; Suffer them now and they’ll o’ergrow the garden.”

-- William Shakespeare, *King Henry VI, Part 2* (1596-99)

Next Meeting:

Thursday, March 1

**Program:
Invite the Magic to Your Garden**

**Speaker:
Judith Alberts,
JCC/W Master Gardener**

Your executive board has been extremely busy wrapping up this year’s project -proposal vetting process and finalizing a list of eligible Extension Master Gardeners who would be eligible to carry out our educational mission. We have received and are considering the annual proposals and authorizations sent in by the project leaders; it’s possible we will modify the focus or adjust the details of some of the current projects to meet the needs and desires of the community better—our reason for being. More to follow....

Even after months of reminders, pleas, and threats we still have several who are not yet in compliance with VCE standards for an Extension Master Gardener. At this point I will just have to rely upon your personal integrity and responsibility to meet these basic, essential requirements.

Annual dues for association membership are still a bargain at \$15. We have extended the recruiting drive to March 15 for you to pay Liz Favre, our treasurer, before we tack on additional assessments. Liz will be available for payment receipt at our next association meeting on Thursday, March 1. Our dues help support the financial obligation of our many projects—the plant sale alone isn’t enough. Association funding allows us to offer charitable contributions and scholarships, while also supporting the monthly educational lectures as part of our association’s monthly business/information meetings. Social events—the summer picnic and “Spring Fling”--- are open only to association members and spouses/guests. The camaraderie of membership is priceless!

Several of us seem to have a problem getting the annual minimum of eight hours of continuing education. If you attend our monthly meetings routinely you will meet the goal effortlessly. The current training class meets on Tuesday and Thursday mornings---check the schedule on [the website](#) to see if any of the remaining classes will assist with augmenting your professional knowledge base. Also, check out the possibilities in the internal education section of *The Colonial Master Gardener*, our newsletter, or take advantage of a program at the

[Williamsburg Botanical Garden](#), which has an approved program every third Saturday.

Or maybe the problem is just inputting your accomplishments into the VMS. By the way, I’m doing great with my New Year’s resolution of adding my hours routinely rather than relying on my usual last-minute push. The board has authorized a new committee to see how we can help you get your persistent efforts properly accounted—we are open to any suggestions to get the job done. We need your input to *prove* how much we are helping our community! The work that you all do is staggering.



Heather/flickr

The president’s message is continued on the next page

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE -- CONTINUED

2018
MGA Board

President:
Gary Streb

President Elect:
Cathy Hill

VP Administration:
Dee Arbogast

VP Projects:
Janet Smith

VP Internal Ed:
Hazel Braxton

Secretary:
Jennifer Campbell

Treasurer:
Liz Favre

VMGA Rep:
Marilyn Riddle

Past President:
Vacant

*VCE ANR Program
Assistant:*
Kate Robbins
(757) 564-2170

The Hillwood Estate field trip on April 25 still has available seats for association members. Liz is collecting the \$45—we will need to cut off the registration shortly to finalize transportation requirements. **Please note a change to the information I gave during our February meeting:** Spouses will be welcomed to join us if we do not have enough association members by March 9.

Don't miss out on this very special trip, which promises to be filled with botanical interest, splendid friendships, and fun.

Surprises are in store for the "spring flingers!" I might propose a lottery game to see if anyone can guess who is going to play "God." Closeout for reservations is March 2. The event itself will be March 9 at 5:00 pm at the Williamsburg Presbyterian Church, 215 Richmond Road, across from the College of William and Mary. Dinner music, special entertainment, Carrabba's catering, and a traditional "Master Gardener" dessert are all the ingredients for a fun and meaningful night of recognition and celebration for us all. Hope to see you all there.

Our next monthly educational lecture will be presented by one of our own, Judith Alberts. "Invite the Magic to Your Garden" will provide us all the information we need to create a welcoming habitat for butterflies. What better way to welcome spring? I know---a Master Gardener plant sale! Plans are progressing for another outstanding event, both financially and educationally. Pat Rathke and Pat Abraham will have soil-filled pots available at the meeting for your new plant-sale contributions.

This is a transition month for us in Tidewater Virginia, getting us out of dreary winter and into the glorious spring. Don't forget that our freeze date is mid April (either 15 or 17, depending on which source you use). I noticed that McDonald's Nursery has already set up the structure for their pop-up summer garden shops around town---it is easy to buy a full yard of annuals only to have the tiny, tender plants not make it. Be sure to take special care with the plants you are readying for the plant sale! And take care of yourselves---it will take quite some time to get our bodies back into shape for our gardening chores and spring cleanup.

Happy gardening planning and dreaming!

"We have found that a moderately sized plant of common groundsel produces about two thousand and three hundred seeds, that of a dandelion about two thousand and seven hundred, and that of the sow thistle about eleven thousand and two hundred. These are facts worth bearing in mind. Wage a constant war against all weeds."

--Robert Adamson, *The Cottage Garden* (1856)



David Stephens/flickr

The MGA board meets on the third Thursday of each month at 9:30am at the Williamsburg Regional Library, Room B, on Scotland Street, Williamsburg.

The board meetings are open to all Extension Master Gardeners, and all are encouraged to attend.

FINAL CALL—DO YOU WANT TO BE A VCE MASTER GARDENER?

BY GARY STREB, PRESIDENT



By now all of us are well aware that each year every VCE Master Gardener must fulfill a couple of requirements to remain on the active rolls and be able to participate in the projects of the JCC/Williamsburg unit.

A signed re-enrollment form and a standards of behavior form must be in your folder in the VCE office of Kate Robbins, our ANR program assistant. Volunteer hours for the previous year (January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017)—total of twenty **AND** continuing education hours—a total of eight— must be recorded in the Virginia Management System (VMS).

We had until January 31, 2018, to get these requirements done. To the vast majority of our unit who have completed the requirements—a sincere **THANK YOU**. But many of us have failed to do so. Time has run out—the projects are starting, and milestone hours have to be reported to the State Master Gardener Coordinator's Office.

I regretfully have to say that if these requirements are not completed and properly documented by March 1 we must drop you from the active VCE Master Gardener rolls. That means you will be a former Master Gardener and unable to participate in any of the projects or association activities. We started collecting the paperwork in November—that is four months. How long does it take to sign two forms?

You have invested quite a bit to become and remain an Extension Master Gardener. We don't want to deprive you of this volunteer opportunity, but we must.

I will be sending separate emails to each of you who are in jeopardy of being inactivated. Please let us know if you want to continue to be a Master Gardener by fulfilling your obligations soonest or simply by replying to the email with a "Please Inactivate." Blank forms are on our website www.jccwmg.org under the Members tab, then Dues, Training, Forms.

Thank you for all that you do for our JCC/Williamsburg Extension Master Gardener Unit and the VCE Master Gardener Program.

REPORTING HOUR CHANGE FOR 2018

BY KATE ROBBINS, VCE AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES PROGRAM ASSISTANT

Beginning in January 2018, the state requirement for reporting volunteer time will fall in to one of just two categories, (1) Volunteer Time or (2) Continuing Education. This will eliminate our third category, contributed time, allowing it to be counted in volunteer time. This was done to simplify time entry, and to recognize that contributed time is also essential to our program!

This means that in the VMS starting in 2018, all hours logged on an educational program can have a single entry, as opposed to two entries in the past, which was one for the educational time and one for the contributed time (also called travel time).

For any questions about this change, contact Kate at kateor@vt.edu or (757) 564-2170.

THIS MONTH'S SPEAKER

Everyone loves butterflies, but why do some gardens teem with butterfly activity while others do not? Judith Alberts, VCE Master Gardener and butterfly enthusiast, will share tips for creating a place that invites butterflies to visit and to set up nurseries for their next generations. Her presentation, called "Butterflies – Invite the Magic to Your Garden," includes the life cycle of a butterfly with still and video imagery from egg to caterpillar, to chrysalis and the emergence of these ethereal creatures. Learn how to create a space – even a small container garden – to nurture the magic of metamorphosis.

Judith Alberts is a native Chicagoan who clearly remembers an empty lot at the end of the block where she grew up that was filled with weeds and bright orange and black butterflies. She received her degree in art education and has taught photography at the high school level, worked in portrait studios both large and small, operated her own wedding and portrait business, and was a sales and marketing instructor and consultant to the industry. Judith also earned the photographic craftsman degree from the Professional Photographers of America. She is currently a marketing consultant and specializes in email and Facebook.

In 2012, at the Norfolk Botanic Garden's Monarch Tag and Release event she held a butterfly and *that* was the beginning of Judith's journey into the world of pollinators and what led to her taking the Master Gardener class. Judith is a member of the Class of 2017.



pixabay

HYDRANGEAS AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

BY CATHY HILL, PRESIDENT-ELECT

The Virginia Master Gardener program Facebook page had an interesting post about bigleaf hydrangeas. It is a good review for us as Master Gardeners, and something you can pass on to friends and neighbors.

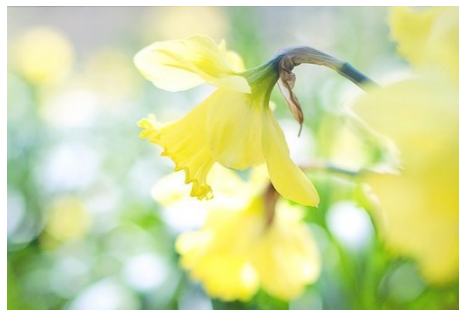
Click [here](http://blogs.lt.vt.edu/mastergardener/how-to-choose-a-big-leaf-hydrangea-for-your-garden/) or cut-and-paste <http://blogs.lt.vt.edu/mastergardener/how-to-choose-a-big-leaf-hydrangea-for-your-garden/>

Also, a good opportunity to build continuing-education hours will occur at Christopher Newport University on March 24, when [its annual gardening symposium](#) will take place. Among the five speakers is Dr. Doug Tallamy, who will be the keynote speaker. Register [here](#) or through <http://cnu.edu/gardening/>

UPCOMING SEMINARS AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

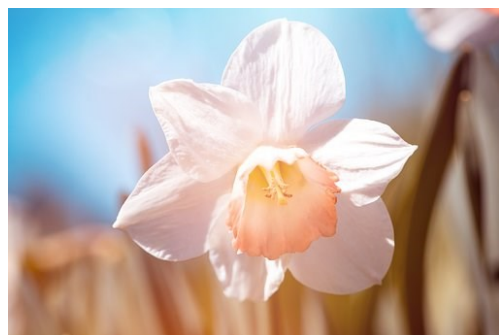
BY HAZEL BRAXTON, VP FOR INTERNAL EDUCATION

March 3 and 4 (Hampton Roads Convention Center, 1610 Coliseum Drive, Hampton, 23666). 10:00am-6:00pm Sat., 10:00am-5:00pm Sun. **Hampton Roads Home Show**. Shop, compare, and save from experts in remodeling, landscaping, decorating and building. Cost is \$10.00.



March 10 (Jepson Hall Auditorium, Ryland Circle, University of Richmond, 23173). 9:15am-3:30pm. **Branching Out: Exploring Trees and Forests of Virginia**. A workshop sponsored by the Virginia Native Plant Society. Tree biology and ecology, interactions with other organisms, in-depth look at two Virginia forests. Refreshments, but provide your own lunch. \$50.00 for members, \$80.00 for non-members (includes cost of membership).

March 10 (The Barn Theatre at Richard Bland College, 11301 Johnson Rd., Petersburg, 23805). 8:30am-3:00pm. **Happy Plants, Bugs, and Earth...Happy You!** The 16th Good Gardening Symposium, sponsored by the Prince George Master Gardener Association and VCE. \$15.00 fee, also optional box lunch fee of \$12.00. Registration closes March 5.



March 13 (King of Glory Lutheran Church, 4897 Longhill Rd., 23188). 1:00pm light refreshments. 1:30-3:00pm. **Don't Put Anything on Your Skin You Couldn't Eat**. Sponsored by the Colonial Triangle Unit of the Herb Society of America. Elizabeth Lord, owner of Elizabeth Lord Naturals, will discuss using natural products on the skin, including essential oils derived from culinary herbs.

Continued on the next page, page 6

UPCOMING SEMINARS AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

BY HAZEL BRAXTON, VP FOR INTERNAL EDUCATION



March 17 (Freedom Park). 10:00-11:30am. Cottage Gardens. Sponsored by the Williamsburg Botanical Garden as part of its Learn and Grow Educational Series. Gordon Chappell will talk about the history and design of cottage gardens and the plants found in them. Open to the public. \$5.00 donation appreciated. Weather permitting, Master Gardeners will be in the garden to answer questions.

March 24 (Freeman Center, Christopher Newport University, 1 University Pl, Newport News, 23606). 7:00am-3:45pm. CNU's 21st Annual Gardening Symposium. Creative Gardening: Where Small Spaces Meet Nature at Large. Plant sales and a variety of informative workshops presented by authors, farmers, expert gardeners, and designers. Among others, Dr. Doug Tallamy will speak on "Restoring Nature's Relationships at Home."



As always, don't forget to take a look at John Freeborn's latest biweekly update from the state EMG office. Click on <https://blogs.lt.vt.edu/mastergardener/current-master-gardeners/sample-page/bi-weekly-update/> . If that doesn't work, click on <http://blogs.lt.vt.edu/mastergardener/>. Then click on "I am currently a Master Gardener/News/Bi-Weekly Update."



All photos by pixabay.

The Colonial Master Gardener March 2018

JCC/W MASTER GARDENERS' 2018 MONTHLY PROGRAM SCHEDULE: REVISED BY HAZEL BRAXTON, VP FOR INTERNAL EDUCATION

All meetings take place at the Williamsburg Regional Library Theatre
The first Thursday of each month at 9:00am
except where noted.

**PLEASE NOTE: THIS IS A REVISED VERSION OF THE SCHEDULE THAT
APPEARED IN THE FEBRUARY 2018 NEWSLETTER**

January 4:	VCE Master Gardener Class of 2017 Graduation
February 1:	POSTPONED
March 1:	Judith Alberts, JCC/W Master Gardener, "Invite the Magic to Your Garden." Learn to create a space to nurture the magic of the butterfly's metamorphosis.
April 5:	Bob Schamerhorn, award-winning nature photographer, "Birds in their Habitat"
May 3:	Gordon Chappell, local landscape architect and former garden director at Colonial Williamsburg, "Boxwoods"
June 7:	Carol Fryer and Barb Landa, JCC/W Master Gardeners, "Great International Gardens"
July	No monthly meeting. See you all at the annual MGA picnic!
August 2:	Dr. Shawn Dash, entomology professor at Hampton University, will present a program on insects.
September 6:	David Everett, owner and chef at the Blue Talon Restaurant, "Food from Farm to Table"
October 4:	Daniel Arbegast, nature photographer and lecturer, "Bugs and Bees"
November 1:	Carol Heiser, Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, "Backyard Habitats"
December 6:	To be determined

VIRGINIA MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION REPORT

BY MARILYN RIDDLE, VMGA REPRESENTATIVE

Occasionally, we are invited to tour a local significant horticultural location. Since I arrived midday on Friday, I took advantage of touring the greenhouse and gardens at Virginia Western Community College.

VMGA REPORT—FEBRUARY 2018—ROANOKE

- The Communication Committee is still seeking a newsletter editor.
- The annual education event will be held at the Holiday Lakes 4-H Center, near Appomattox, on Saturday, September 29. Confirmed speakers will talk about bugs, bats, and wildflowers. Unusual backyard visitors and VIMS are also to be included. Erica is looking for a birds expert.
- Plants, garden accessories, and botanical-themed kitchen and home décor are the most popular items sold at the auction at Master Gardener College.
- In the absence of Frank Reilly and on behalf of the nominations committee, I presented the slate of officers for the next biennium. They are:

President—Wanda Gerard, Suffolk
Vice President—Leslie Paulson, Prince William
Secretary—Nelda Purcell, Franklin County
Treasurer--Georgianna Hall, Green Springs

- No others were nominated from the floor. The term of office is two years.
- Online voting began on Tuesday and will continue for two weeks. All current members received instructions via email.
- State Fair will be the last week of September and the first week in October as is customary. PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO GO UP AS A GROUP. I WOULD GET A DAYTIME ASSIGNMENT FOR US.
- VCE REPORT by John Freeborn is summarized below.

A second Leadership Development training will be held in Wytheville on February 21.

MG College is June 21-24.

Strategic Planning Committee will meet in central Va. on February 21. They have not met in about a year.

Plant disease and insects video series is on you tube channel from VCEMG. Cedar apple rust, Seridium Canker, red thread, and others have been featured.

Dr. Mike Evans, a new hire, will arrive from Arkansas in April. His title will be Plant and Environmental Sciences Director.

Monthly webinars continue.

Continued on the next page, page 9

VIRGINIA MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION REPORT -- CONTINUED

Gary sent me via email a very complete list of the ways that our unit publicizes its events. I, in turn, presented this to the body last Saturday.

The following are sixteen other suggestions that came from other units—

1. Local FM radio station
2. Banners hung on Main Street
3. Church bulletins or newsletters
4. Work with Soil and Water District personnel
5. Constant Contact membership
6. Local Parks and Rec website
7. Business cards
8. *Virginia Gardener* ads
9. VMGA website
10. Facebook
11. Seed exchange and accompanying information at library
12. Flyers
13. Public website
14. Exhibits at each branch of library
15. Racks at Lowe's and Southern States locations
16. Seed packets and information at local science fairs

One of our most senior representatives reminded us that building a working relationship with various organizations pays off well but it does take time.

Our next meeting will be held at Brent and Becky's on April 14 at 10:00am. All are welcome. If you want to order lunch and travel with me, let me know by the April unit meeting.

UPCOMING JCC/WMG - SPONSORED TRIP BY HAZEL BRAXTON, VP FOR INTERNAL EDUCATION

There is still room on the bus for the trip to the Hillwood Estate, Museum & Gardens in Washington, D.C., on April 25. Plan to join us!



Wikimedia Commons

[Hillwood Estate, Museum, & Gardens](#) (4155 Linnean Ave., NW, Washington, D.C., 20008.)

Marjorie Merriweather Post bought Hillwood in 1955 and soon decided her home would be a museum that would inspire and educate the public. Her northwest Washington, D.C., estate endowed the country with the most comprehensive collection of Russian imperial art outside of Russia, a distinguished eighteenth-century French decorative art collection, and twenty-five acres of serene landscaped gardens and natural woodlands for all to enjoy. Opened as a public institution in 1977, today Hillwood's allure stems from the equally fascinating parts that make up the whole. From the captivating life of Marjorie Post to the exquisitely maintained mansion and gardens, the experience of Hillwood outshines even the Fabergé Eggs.

The cost for transportation is \$30.00, and \$15.00 for two tours, for a total of \$45.00. If you are interested in going, contact treasurer Liz Favre at liz.favre@cox.net.

MASTER GARDENER PLANT SALE 2018

BY BESS HOPEWELL AND MARY MILLS, CO-CHAIRS

Winter is racing by quickly, and before we know it, our plant sale will be here! Everyone on the plant sale committee has been working very hard getting their jobs done, and more. Our association is very fortunate to have such a hard-working group of people dedicated to this task.

We're asking all of our members to participate in some way.

Can you contribute some plants from your garden? Can you buy a six-pack of plants and see how big and healthy you can grow them to donate? Do you know anyone who has plants that you might be able to dig and contribute? Can you give some of your time on Friday or Saturday to help where needed? Are you able to advertise our plant sale to friends, family, or anyone you know? Word of mouth is a very powerful tool. How about putting the plant sale flier on your Facebook page? Do you have great things to contribute to our Garden Trash & Treasure ("GT&T")? I know some members are making things to contribute to GT&T. I'm excited to see what items we'll receive as donations. Lastly, if you are unable to do any of the above, we'd greatly appreciate a monetary donation.

Pat Rathke and Pat Abraham are once again providing soil and pots. Pat Rathke will have her truck out in the parking lot before our March MG meeting, so please go out and "literally" lighten her load. Thank you, Pat and Pat.

If you are going to transport plants from Atlantic Growers (2000 Barnett's Road, Providence Forge, Va.) to our plant sale site, you MUST use a covered vehicle (SUV or truck with a cap). We need more people to volunteer to do this. Please sign up on the appropriate sheet.

Sign-up sheets will be at the front of the auditorium on the day of our March MG meeting. We still need people in key areas and need everyone's help to make our 2018 MG plant sale a success!

Location - Historic Triangle Services Center, 312 Waller Mill Road, Williamsburg, Va.

Friday, April 20 - Set up for plant sale 7:00am to completion
Plant Intake 8:00am – 2:00pm
Master Gardener pre-sale – 3:00 -- 5:00 pm

Saturday, April 21- MG annual plant sale 9:00am to 3:00pm

We will contact volunteers and let you know when you'll need to arrive.

Project chairs can come to the plant sale site on Saturday, at 3:00pm, to choose any unsold Master Gardener donated plants that they would like for their project.



Photos: Hope Yellich



SALE!!!

Got junk in your trunk? Trash in your can?
Let us lighten your burden!

On the day of the annual Master Gardener plant sale we will also be selling your old unwanted **Garden Trash & Treasures**. As you clean out for spring gardening keep us in mind.

We will accept any garden-related items: books, tools, pots, hoses, garden signs, doodads and gewgaws, anything that arguably relates to gardening.

Simply drop off your items at the Historic Triangle Community Services Center, 312 Waller Mill Road, between 8:00am -- 2:00pm on Friday, April 20, and we'll tag it and sell it. What could be easier? Any unsold items will be donated or disposed of after the sale, and you will never have to see them, ever again!

We will even do limited pickups prior to April 20 if you absolutely can't drop it off yourself on that day. *We really want your old stuff!* We promise that any treasured items will be shown due respect and handled with kid gloves.

Contact: Rick Brown, ricklin46@cox.net or
Jon Tustin, carjon301@hotmail.com

A BIT ABOUT OUR HISTORY.....AND JOIN US FOR THE SPRING FLING!

BY BARBARA GUSTAFSON



Ailene Bartlett, Barbara Schroeder-Gustafson, and Sally Sissel

Way back in the distant past, I believe in maybe 2001 or 2002, a group of Master Gardeners from our organization decided to try to put together a history of our beginnings. The leader of our mighty group was Janie Fellowes; the other members were Sally Sissel, Ailene Bartlett, and Barbara Schroeder-Gustafson. We got the initial records from York Extension (where the JCC/W Master Gardeners first met) and began collecting photos and slides from our fellow members.

In true Master Gardener style, we ran out of time and interest before we got through the stacks of photos and records. And so the stacks got moved through the years from one MG board member to another. Last month Gary asked if anyone might again attempt to identify any of these early photos, and Sally, Ailene, Barbara, and another of those very early master gardeners, Jean Barter, got together to test their memories.

We have discovered that many things (memories, bodies and faces included) change somewhat over the years. But we have made some progress! Do any of the Master Gardeners reading this happen to still have some old 2001-2006 rosters either printed or filed away that they might loan us? If so, please let one of us know. Since we are one of the oldest groups in Virginia, it would be nice to actually have a history!

JCC/Williamsburg Master Gardener Association Appreciation Event

“Spring Fling” Reservation

Date: Friday, March 9, 2018

Time: 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Where: Williamsburg Presbyterian Church

Richmond Road, across from the College of William and Mary

Cost: \$10.00 per person

Please complete this form and return to Liz Favre by **March 2, 2018**, to secure your reservation. Checks should be made payable to: JCC/W Master Gardener Association. The cost for each attendee is \$10.00.

Your name: _____

Number of attendees: _____

I am including my check for \$ _____, and understand that this will become a non-refundable contribution if my plans should necessarily change.

Mail to: Liz Favre at 4419 Chickasaw Road, Williamsburg 23188

WILDFLOWER OF THE MONTH MARCH 2018

BY HELEN HAMILTON
PAST PRESIDENT, JOHN CLAYTON CHAPTER, VIRGINIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

LOBLOLLY PINE

Pinus taeda

This tall evergreen tree grows rapidly, reaching up to 115 feet. The bark is reddish brown to blackish gray, furrowed to form broad, elongate, flat-topped plates. The needles are long (up to ten inches) and yellowish green, in bundles of three needles per cluster. Young female cones are yellow and near the growing point of the twig; mature cones are slender and oblong when closed. Cones persist for about a year after shedding seeds.

Male cones are in clusters at the ends of twigs, releasing huge clouds of yellow pollen that cover every surface in spring. Researchers have found the pollen can travel as far as 1,800 miles from its source and remains viable despite exposure to moisture, cold, and UV radiation from sunlight. Although suspected of causing allergic reactions, very few people are affected.

Loblolly pine is native in fifteen southeastern states, often forming pure stands in swamp margins and well-drained slopes of rolling, hilly uplands. The tree grows in eastern and

central counties of Virginia and is particularly abundant on the Coastal Plain. Requiring sunny locations, abandoned fields are excellent nurseries for this species which often invades old agricultural lands.

One of the meanings of the word *loblolly* is "mud puddle," where these pines often grow. Among the fastest-growing southern pines, it is extensively cultivated in forest plantations for pulpwood and lumber. The wood is light brown and coarse-grained, widely used for home and general construction, especially for house framing. The Cherokee also used the wood for lumber, and for canoes and carvings.

Trees of the pine family are larval hosts for over two hundred species of butterflies and moths.



Photo: Loblolly Pine (*Pinus taeda*) taken by Helen Hamilton

For more information about native plants,
visit www.vnps.org

Important Dates

- 3/3-4 Hampton Roads Home Show (Hampton)
- 3/9 MGA Spring Fling
- 3/10 Branching Out: Exploring Trees (University of Richmond)
- 3/10 Happy Plants (Richard Bland College)
- 3/13 Don't Put Anything on Your Skin (King of Glory Church)
- 3/17 Cottage Gardens (Freedom Park)
- 3/24 CNU Garden Symposium (Freeman Center, CNU)
- 4/21 Annual plant sale
- 4/25 Field Trip to the Hillwood Estate



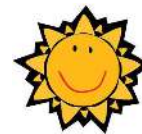
pixabay

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for submissions to the April 2018 newsletter will be Friday, March 23.

Please send any submissions to Hope Yelich, newsletter editor, at hopeyelich@gmail.com

SUNSHINE NOTES



This month we sent a card to

Kathy Skube

The Colonial Heritage Foundation
in thanks for their contribution to the
association

The organization would like to send cards to members with difficult medical issues or who have experienced a death in the immediate family. Please provide names to the EMG secretary, Jennifer Campbell, at (757) 968-9499, or jenkcampbell@yahoo.com

JCC/W Master Gardener Mission Statement

The purpose of the James City County/ Williamsburg Master Gardener is to learn, educate, and communicate environmentally sound horticultural practices to the community. Trained by the Virginia Cooperative Extension, Master Gardener volunteers are committed to offering information to the public through sustainable landscape management educational programs.

ABOUT THE VIRGINIA MASTER GARDENERS AND VIRGINIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Virginia Master Gardeners are volunteer educators who work within their communities to encourage and promote environmentally sound horticulture practices through sustainable landscape management education and training. As an educational program of Virginia Cooperative Extension, Virginia Master Gardeners bring the resources of Virginia's land-grant universities, Virginia Tech and Virginia State University, to the people of the commonwealth.

Virginia Cooperative Extension programs and employment are open to all, regardless of age, color, disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, veteran status, or any other basis protected by law. An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Virginia State University, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating. Edwin J. Jones, Director, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg; M. Ray McKinnie, Interim Administrator, 1890 Extension Program, Virginia State University, Petersburg.