

# The Colonial Master Gardener

PUBLICATION OF JCC/WMASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION &  
VIRGINIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION



**November 2013**



## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY MARGENE HARTSOUGH

Our November general meeting will be Civil Rights Training done by Doris Heath, Southeastern District Director. This training is like Risk Management and is **REQUIRED** for all Virginia Tech volunteers including Master Gardeners. Doris will be here to answer questions during the training. Virginia Tech has clearly stated that “unless there is documentation of the training for an individual, that person cannot volunteer for master gardener activities.” You will need to sign in at the November meeting to insure we have an accurate record that you have satisfied this requirement. Those who cannot attend the November meeting can do the training via computer and provide notification to Doris upon completion. Make it easy on yourself and get your training done in November at the general meeting.

November is also the time for other administrative activities. David Sisson, VP Administration, and Bob Winther, Treasurer,

will be ready to receive your Reinstatement form and \$15 annual dues for 2014 at the November meeting. The Reinstatement Form is on the JCCW website for your convenience. Print it, complete and bring with you to the November meeting to speed the process for all. Come prepared to complete these membership responsibilities for next year.

Once all these administrative requirements are complete we can get back to what we love—educating, sharing, informing and practicing best gardening practices. Happy Gardening, Margene

**NOVEMBER 7  
GENERAL MEETING:**

**Civil Rights Training!!**

## “NOW IS THE TIME” — MEMORIES FROM TYPING CLASS BY DAVE SISSON

When I was a junior in High School, those of us on the Academic Program were offered an elective course in Personal Typing— and the grade I got really hurt my GPA. But I still know how to write, “now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their country” and, “the quick brown fox jumped over the lazy spotted dog.” I was thinking about that first one this week—“Now is the time. . .”

**Now is the time** for all Active and Inactive MG's to do the following:

- 1) Go to the JCC/WMGA web site, Member's Page, Left hand column, and open “EMC Recertification Form 2014” [either pdf or docx—your choice]. Print it, fill it in and bring it to the November Meeting.
- 2) Write a check to JCC/WMGA for \$15 and bring it with you along with the form [Dues for 2014].

3) Check your hours on the VMGA site—Bring it up to date if you have not done so for a while. If your hours are less than 20 volunteer and 8 training and you are an Active Member, decide on a plan of action to meet your required hours by December 31, 2013. Lots of good projects going on that could use your time and attention.

4) Go for a walk and enjoy the Fall weather—Take time to smell the distinct aromas and absorb the colors of the season—Call a friend that you haven't seen in a while and say, “just thinking of you.”

5) [now that you have a list started, you can add the rest of those things you might otherwise put off, but really need to do.] **Plan your work and work your plan, you get more done that way!**

# The Colonial Master Gardener November 2013

2013  
MG Board

**President:**  
Margene  
Hartsough

**President Elect:**  
Sue Liddell

**VP Projects:**  
Debbie Griesinger

**VP Internal Ed:**  
Judy Casone

**VP  
Administration:**  
David Sisson

**Secretary:**  
Patsy McGrady

**Treasurer:**  
Bob Winther

**VMGA Reps:**  
Marilyn Riddle and  
Angela Cingale

**Past President:**  
Linda Lucas

**Co-op Ext Rep:**  
Doris Heath  
564-2170

## INTERNAL EDUCATION BY JUDY CASONE

I hope everyone enjoyed Mary Turnbull and the presentation of the developing of her beautiful garden. I felt better when I looked out my back door and realized it had taken her twenty (20) years. Miles to go before I sleep...Mary was kind enough to send a list of the plants featured in her garden and they are included in this newsletter (last page).

When you get the information sent us from VT, do you read it or just delete? One of particular interest to me is the Technology in the Field, Master Gardener College 2013, Horticulture Web Sites and Apps, sent to us by Pris Sears ([sears@vt.edu/prissears.com](mailto:sears@vt.edu/prissears.com)). APPS!!!! Can one have too many apps? Patsy McGrady and I are always sharing information about apps as I know many of you with smart phones do. This is very interesting and educational. Also the "In Season" newsletter for Fall gardening is available from John Freeborn; it comes to us on the Listserv from VT. Take a minute to check it out...Reducing Plant Disease; Fall

garden prep. We can always learn something.

Now to the November meeting. As has been stated this is a **mandatory meeting** as it is part of the **Risk Management program with VT and is required for your Reinstatement for the coming year**. Patsy McGrady will have a list of the Master Gardeners and will be at a table outside the auditorium prior to the meeting. All you have to do is initial your name and continue. Patsy will compile the list and send it to Doris Heath. If you cannot be at the meeting Doris will provide us with a web site so that you can read it online. Online requires a test to validate that you did receive the information. I will have this site information from Doris after the meeting and will give to Dave Banks to send to all.

Happy Gardening!! Judy

## LOOKING FOR A FEW VOLUNTEERS BY DAVE SISSON, VP ADMIN

It is the time of year when we begin to think about people to serve in various positions for our Association for the year July 2014-June 2015, 2016. I will soon be putting together a list of those who are willing to serve on our Nominating Committee and those who are willing to serve in various openings.

If you want to do either, send me a note at [sisson2@cox.net](mailto:sisson2@cox.net). Please understand that our bylaws call for variety on the Nominating Committee, so if you volunteer you might not be selected {*Wouldn't that be novel—instead of bending a few arms, I might have to turn someone down !?!*} but so far that hasn't been a problem. Remember my favorite quote from Abraham Lincoln: "He has a right to criticize, who has the heart to help."

## PLANTS HUZAZH 2014 BY CHERE' HARPER



We have begun a new method of organization for our major fund raiser of the year; rather than a Chairman, there will be a leadership team of three to four Master Gardeners.

At this time we have three members identified who will work on specific portions of our preparations: Margene Hartsough, Chere' Harper and Nancy Cassano. All elements of Plants Huzzah planning and execution will fall under one of the leadership teams. Stay tuned for more information.

The MG Board meets on the third Friday of each month, at 9:00 am, at the James City County Health and Human Services Building, on Olde Towne Road.

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



## WHY STOP NOW?

BY PATTY TOWNSEND –  
HORTICULTURE PROGRAM ASST., NEW KENT VCE

Spring and summer provide a wonderful variety of vegetables and herbs, but fall planting can continue the joy and flavor. The secret to a bountiful crop is the timing. The Virginia Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners in New Kent County have set new records on the amount of produce harvested and they continue to harvest. The reaction of someone eating fresh broccoli from your garden on Christmas Day makes your efforts worth it.

Varieties of vegetables that will survive a frost are beets, cabbage, carrots, collards, kale, kohlrabi, leeks, lettuce, mustard, swiss chard, turnips, spinach and much more. Don't forget to continue to use your fresh herbs. More flavor and less salt is a healthy start to a better life style.

For more information on Fall Vegetable Gardens contact your local Virginia Cooperative Extension Office for recommendations and publications on how to keep your dinner table filled with fresh vegetables and herbs.

## 2013 FARMERS MARKET YEAR

BY SALLY SISSEL

Thanks to all fellow Master Gardeners and interns who helped make the 2013 Farmers Market a success. For the past six months, everyone volunteering for the Market did a superb job—all showed up on time, ready and willing to help set up and stayed to help tear down. The project chairs came through as always with wonderful information and handouts for the public.

This season, we were given the directive that we needed weights for our tents. Thanks to my husband, Dennis, for making them and they are now part of our ever-increasing “stuff” to be transported to each market.

On the same note: a special thank you to Dan Tevlin, John Giffin, Larry Gaskins, and Richard Stratton who picked up the tents and needed supplies and delivered them back to storage at Market's end.

Come next April, I will, once again, be recruiting. My master plan is always to have one “real” MG and 2 interns at each market, so when I put out the call, I hope you will consider volunteering for one of the 13 markets. Thanks, Sally



Master Gardeners Sue Voigt and Chris Dahlgren harvested vegetables on 10/17/13



Harvested broccoli, mustard spinach, kale eggplant, pak choi, lettuces and swiss chard from Carole's Garden at New Kent Extension Office on 10/21/13.





## PROPOSED BY-LAW CHANGES

BY DAVE SISSON

Proposed below are changes to the Bylaws that reinforce the Board's authority to act more directly when Recommitment form and dues are not submitted in a timely manner. The Underlined sections above are proposed as changes. These will be voted on at the November meeting. If you have questions or comments, please contact Dave Sisson, 757-903-7118, [sisson2@cox.net](mailto:sisson2@cox.net) for further clarification.

### ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP STATUS, OBLIGATIONS AND DUES

C. Master Gardener: One who has completed the full Master Gardener Program - classroom and internship - and is volunteering with VCE, fulfilling the program requirements of 20 hours of volunteer work and 8 hours of advanced training annually. Annual volunteer and training hours should be submitted monthly but must be submitted no later than January 31st of the year following the year during which hours were performed. Annual Recommitment Form to must be submitted with areas of interest listed no later than January 31<sup>st</sup> of each current year. Failure to report required hours or intent on time may result in membership termination.

F. Inactive Master Gardener. The status of Inactive Master Gardener is temporary and is available for a one or two year period upon request of the individual and approval by the VCE Coordinator and Executive Board. An application for Inactive Status may be submitted at any time. However, it must be submitted before the January 31st hours deadline, if the person has failed to complete the necessary annual hours for the previous year. An Inactive Master Gardener pays the yearly dues, is not removed from the mailing list, and may continue to contribute to the organization. During the inactive status, the member remains a qualified Master Gardener without completing the annual program requirements. After a two-year absence, the VCE Coordinator may require the member to take some additional training before regaining active status.

## REMINDERS FROM THE TREASURER

BY BOB WINTHER



Current year reimbursements ...

Please submit any and all requests for reimbursement for the current year (2013) by December 15. The reimbursement form is out on our website. Please affix this reimbursement form to all receipts and have the form signed by your project/committee chair. As in every other year this information is very important for our Board as they prepare the new 2014 Budget and attempt to create a balanced budget.

MGA annual dues ...

NOTE : *I will be collecting dues at the November & December MGA General Meeting at a table set-up at the entrance to the meeting room.*

MGA dues are still \$15. These monies help to support the programs of your MGA and are crucial to the well being of our organization. Since these funds are the primary dollars which support our efforts in the greater community your timeliness of payment is appreciated.

Checks made out to "JCC/W Master Gardeners" with the note "Association Dues" in the memo line may be handed to me at the MG monthly meeting or sent directly to my home address.

Bob Winther - MG Treasurer  
4751 Regents Park  
Williamsburg, VA 23188-1798

Your prompt consideration of both these important matters is well appreciated by your MGA board.

## EASY BEING GREENER: REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

EXCERPTED FROM MARY ANN MOXON BLOG  
SUBMITTED BY ANGELA CINGALE



**“Want to recycle your old gardening sneakers?** Or the ones that are way too weathered to donate to Goodwill, but you want to keep them out of the landfill? You can “upcycle” them by dropping them off at most Nike Outlets or stores. **Nike Reuse-a-Shoe** takes worn out athletic shoes and grinds them down to create a new material, **Nike Grind**, used in high-quality sports surfaces including courts, turf fields and tracks. Since 1990, Nike has transformed 28 million pairs of shoes and 36,000 tons of scrap material into Nike Grind in more than 450,000 locations around the world—covering approximately 632,000,000 square feet. That is nearly enough to cover the entire island of Manhattan (23 square miles).”

## WILDFLOWER OF THE MONTH – NOVEMBER 2013

BY HELEN HAMILTON

JOHN CLAYTON CHAPTER, VIRGINIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

### TEABERRY

*Gaultheria procumbens*

The leaves of this low, evergreen shrub are the source of wintergreen flavoring for chewing gum, teas, candies and medicines. The underground stems creep, forming colonies, and produce short erect branches 2-5 inches tall. Glossy, thick and shiny, the 1-2-inch leaves are slightly toothed and fragrant. In spring tiny bell-shaped white flowers dangle from the leaf axils, followed by bright red fruits with a spicy taste.

Teaberry grows in oak woods, under pines, in clearings, in light to moderate shade. Soil should be acid, and rich in organic material. Scattered across Virginia, the range is from Newfoundland to Manitoba, south to Virginia, Kentucky, northern Indiana, and Minnesota and in the mountains to Georgia and Alabama. Blooms June-August; fruits September-November.

Methyl salicylate produces the wintergreen flavor. While this plant was once a commercial source for wintergreen flavoring, methyl salicylate is now produced synthetically. The chemical has anti-inflammatory and antiseptic properties. Leaf tea was used in the past to treat many ailments such as headaches and fevers, and as a wash for sore muscles and rheumatism.



**Photo:** Teaberry (*Gaultheria procumbens*)  
taken by Jan Newton

The fruit has been used in salads and pies. Many birds and mammals feed on the fruits and deer browse both the leaves and fruits.

For more information about native plants visit [www.claytonvnps.org](http://www.claytonvnps.org).

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## LANDSCAPE LOVE UPDATE

BY GARY STREB



Total 2013 figures are just in.....

The five Landscape Love teams finalized an astonishing 165 homeowner visits during both the spring and fall sessions (81 in the spring and 84 in the fall). Our previous record was 138 during the 2012 sessions. Our project continues to grow, both with the total number of homeowner visits as well as the number of Master Gardener and Intern participants.

To all the Landscape Love team--we all have something of which to be proud. We have accomplished a service to the Williamsburg/James City County community that is unparalleled. The impact that we have is clear by reading the comments in the submitted homeowner evaluations. Your professional customer service is equaled only by the sound and

sage advice and counsel that you provided. The public good that Landscape Love provides will show with more sustainable landscapes throughout the county.

Thank you to the whole Landscape Love team, especially to the new and acting team leaders. The Interns of the Class of 2013 interns have certainly proven themselves. Hope to see each of you back next year.

## TIME TO THINK ABOUT HOUSE PLANTS

BY JOHN ALLISON, ANR EXTENSION AGENT, CHARLES CITY/NEW KENT COUNTIES

The end of the outdoor growing season means bringing in those house plants that have adorned our outdoor living spaces. Plants living indoors during the winter months still have basic needs for light and temperature that were available to them while outdoors. These are the most important factors when deciding where to put the plants. Well placed plants will add living beauty with foliage and flowers to the inside of your house throughout the winter months.

### Light

Light is life to green plants and is the single most important factor to consider for indoor plant environments. Plants use the energy from light and, along with carbon dioxide and water, manufacture food and release oxygen. Proper lighting means maximum growth or longevity of a house plant. Light can be natural or artificial and is usually a combination of both. When managing indoor light for plants consider quantity, quality, and duration.

*Quantity* refers to the amount of light available for plant growth. Natural light intensity in the home varies according to the number of windows the room contains, the direction those windows face, and the presence of curtains or furniture that block light. Care must be taken to select plant species that are able to tolerate the amount of light present. Plants should not be placed directly in front of the window thus avoiding the most direct sunlight. Plants several feet away from the window or off to the side will receive less than 50 percent of the light that would strike the plant directly in front of the window. It is a balancing act to give the plant bright sunlight that is not directly in the sun and may require moving plants during the day.

*Quality* refers to the wavelength or color of light. Photosynthesis is energized by light in the blue and red color wavelengths. Therefore, artificial light sources emitting those two colors of light would be most effective in promoting plant growth. Incandescent lamps emit an abundant amount of red light but very little blue. Fluorescent bulbs sold as plant lights emit abundant amounts of blue and red wavelengths. However they are not available with large wattages and high light output. Therefore, the fixtures must be placed relatively close to the plants if they are to be effective, reducing eye appeal.

*Duration* refers to the amount of time the plant is exposed

to light. Basically, the amount of plant growth is directly proportional to the amount of light energy received by the plant. Plants respond to insufficient light with pale leaves and weak elongated growth. Direct sunlight usually will not shine through the window all day long and even though daylight comes through the window supplying light to the plant, the quality varies with sun angle. Inadequate light duration can be compensated for by using artificial lighting.

### Temperature

House plants are able to tolerate modest fluctuations in temperature. Most house plants grow best at nighttime temperatures ranging 65 to 70° F and daytime temperatures in the 70's. Plants growing in warmer than optimal temperatures, especially at night, become spindly in appearance due to increased rates of respiration. Do not locate plants in front of heating or cooling registers or where you know a draft exists. Do not leave a window open overnight or conversely leave a house plant near an open window. Flowers on house plants last longer in cooler rather than warmer conditions.

Some other parameters to consider when taking care of house plants are air, water, and fertilizer.

### Water

More house plants are killed from overwatering than for any other reason. Direct light, temperature and relative humidity all affect the rate of water use by house plants. The more direct light a plant receives the higher the plant temperature will be. The higher the ambient temperature around the plant the more a plant transpires. These two parameters increase water needs. Humidity on the other hand has the opposite effect. The higher the relative humidity in the air around the plant the less water it uses. The lower the relative humidity, the greater the rate of water loss by the plant. Watering frequency also will vary according to the size and age of the plant and the size and type of container in which it is growing. Clay pots are porous and will result in more frequent watering than non-porous containers. When watering, apply room-temperature water until it runs out of the bottom of the pot. Do not use tap water if it has been softened by a contact process water softener. Contact process soft water is salty and is harmful to the plant. The roots of most potted plants are in the bottom two-thirds of the pot and it is this area that should feel dry to the touch before watering, not the surface of the growing medium.

## HOUSE PLANTS (CONTINUED)

### Air

Not only do house plants remove carbon dioxide and release oxygen but they may prove to be a valuable weapon in the fight against indoor air pollution. NASA scientists are finding them to be surprisingly useful in absorbing potentially harmful gases such as Formaldehyde, Benzene, and Carbon Monoxide. These are three of the worst offenders found in relatively new homes and offices. Buildings constructed with man-made building materials and furnished with synthetic carpeting, fabrics, laminated counters, plastic coated wallpaper, and other materials "off-gas" pollutants into the interior environment. In addition, these buildings are better insulated and sealed tightly to conserve heat and air-conditioning. While this does save both money and energy, pollutants may be trapped indoors and have less opportunity to dissipate to the outside.

According to NASA research, philodendron, spider plant and the golden pothos are the most effective in removing formaldehyde molecules. Flowering plants such as gerbera daisy and chrysanthemums were rated superior in removing benzene. Other good performers are Dracaena Massangeana, Spathiphyllum, and Bamboo Palm. Research has determined that plant leaves, roots and soil bacteria are all important in removing trace levels of toxic vapors. For more plant ideas for reducing indoor air pollution check out <http://www.naturallivingideas.com/air-purifying-houseplants/>

### Fertilization

House plants need nutrients in order to grow just as outdoor plants do. A water-soluble fertilizer containing nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium is preferred. Slow-release fertilizers are not recommended because the nutrients become available depending on temperature and growing medium water content, both variables. As a general rule, fertilize house plants during the spring, summer and fall. Since the reduced light and temperatures of winter results in reduced growth winter fertilization is not recommended. Always read and follow label directions when applying fertilizer. When applying water soluble nutrients always apply sufficient solution so that water drains from the bottom of the pot. This will help to prevent the accumulation of salts in the growing medium and possible root damage.

Having plants in the home is a good way for gardeners to continue their gardening skills in the winter as they await another outdoor growing season.

## A CHEERFUL HELLO FROM E2!

BY KARI ABBOTT



As November quietly comes about, E2 is busy working in 5 schools again this year. November brings discussions about the trees, evergreen and deciduous. This year the first graders in E2 will complete the 4-H Tree Identification Contest #1, identifying 16 trees found in the coastal plain of Virginia. They will start learning some trees this month, and then they will finalize their worksheets on the field trips in May. Our kindergarten friends will be painting with evergreens, which is always a bit of an adventure, but always a fun time.

If you would like to join us in the classroom, please come on and let us know. We have fun, smile a lot, laugh often. Contact Kari Abbott [bearsbaskets@cox.net](mailto:bearsbaskets@cox.net).

As we roll into the holiday season, we at E2 wish you the best.

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## VMGA REPORT FOR OCT, 2013

BY MARILYN RIDDLE

There is a new education chairman, Robyn Puffenbarger. Robyn is employed at Bridgewater College. With that position filled, we can expect the return of programs (2 or 3/yr) for all master gardeners throughout the year. We also have a new newsletter editor. Our total membership is 560. The State Fair was a success this year. Dr. Michael Dirr, University of Georgia's (UGA) preeminent horticulturalist, and Vince Dooley, UGA's longtime football coach, will co-present in Lexington on March 8, 2014 at VMI. The cost will be \$75.

The question of the day, *How does your unit conduct plant sales*, was received very well. I hope to have the details from each unit to provide to our plant sales chairman very soon. If not, I will approach the ones that are doing some things that we might want to consider. Within that discussion, there developed a subset of issues about 501-c-3s and they may lead to inviting a member of VT's legal team to a meeting. I was very impressed with John Freeborn. He has excellent people skills.....friendly, poised, so willing to help.

There were 140 EMGs who took the leadership training. Two sites were filled to capacity. All units are expected to report their hours using VMS in 2014. Master Gardener College (MGC) plans are being worked on earlier this time. Fifteen EMGs from Virginia attended the International MG Conference this summer. Bedford County placed in the competition. A MGC poster should be ready in about a month. The dates of MGC for 2014 are June 25-29. Felder Rushing will be the featured speaker on Sunday.



## TREE STEWARD UPDATE BY SUE LIDDELL



Congratulations to Bev Baker, Dave and Pam Sisson, Janet and John Giffin, Jerry Babski and Larry Gaskins for completing the volunteer hours necessary to become Tree Stewards. Tree Steward Pins and Completion Certificates were presented at the October quarterly meeting at the 4H Education Center. As part of the meeting they presented updates to their three ongoing projects: a review of the 4H Education Center Trail which will enhance the educational potential of the site with signage and tours; a program in Kingsmill which will establish guidelines for environmentally friendly plantings along the miles of roads; and a program which will develop guidelines for establishing an urban forest on a single lot.

The educational hour of the meeting included a walk along the 4H Trail led by Bev Baker, the Giffins, and Ann DeForest. Art and Barbara Gustafson helped plan the walk and Art gave the group some background of work on the trail. A light rain didn't dampen the spirits of participants.



John Giffin and friends



Bev Baker, Dave Sisson, Pam Sisson, Janet Giffin, John Giffin, Jerry Babski, and Larry Gaskins



# The Colonial Master Gardener November 2013

## GARDEN TIPS

BY AILENE BARTLETT

For years, as I have brought houseplants in from their summers outside, I have covered the soil in the pots with PINE CONES. These, being sticky and somewhat smelly, keep the resident cats from either playing in the dirt, or using the pots for litter boxes. And it works!

A few weeks ago I planted pansies in my boxes along the old front walk, and soon found that some critter was munching on the blossoms and buds! I finally figured out that it was the resident squirrels, since they are the only ones who can get up into the boxes. It took me a while to add  $2 + 2 = 4$ , but this morning I covered the bare earth in the boxes with pine cones! Stay tuned...

If you don't have pines and need cones, ask around. It seems to have been a good year for pollinating pines, so probably friends or neighbors will want to get rid of some. Try 'em - you might like 'em! Ailene

NEXT PAGE:  
PLANTS FROM  
MARY TURNBULL'S GARDEN



## Important Dates

- 11/7 Monthly Meeting @ WRL
- 11/18 Newsletter Submissions Due

## NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

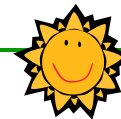
The deadline for submission of material for the **December** Newsletter is **Monday, November 18.**

Please send to Cathy Lohwater, newsletter editor, at [cathy.lohwater@cox.net](mailto:cathy.lohwater@cox.net) or call 757-259-1133.

## 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.*

## SUNSHINE NOTES



If you know a Master Gardener who is ill, facing surgery, has suffered a family loss, or any event in which that person might benefit from a **sunshine note**, please contact the MG Secretary, Patsy McGrady. She will send a note or take appropriate action on behalf on the organization. Patsy may be reached at (757) 258-1181 or [patsymcgrady@cox.net](mailto:patsymcgrady@cox.net).

## 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.

Extension is a joint program of Virginia Tech, Virginia State University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and state and local governments. Virginia Cooperative Extension programs and employment are open to all, regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status. An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

50 of the 88 Native Plants listed below are Site Native and indicated by *		
1	Sundrops	<i>Oenothera tetragona</i> (yellow flowers)
2	Wax myrtle, southern bayberry	<i>Myrica cerifera</i> (either name is OK, optional to use southern w/ bayberry, evergreen)
3	Bluets, Quaker Ladies	<i>Houstonia caerulea</i> (small plant w/ small light blue flowers with a yellow center)
4	Sweetshrub, Carolina allspice	<i>Calycanthus floridus</i> (brown fragrant flowers)
5	Mist flower (wild ageratum)	<i>Eupatorium coelestinum</i>
6	Wild blue phlox	<i>Phlox divaricata</i> L. (blue flowers, not native here but is found on the Peninsula)
7	Gaura	<i>Gaura lindheimeri</i> (not native on the Peninsula - has been found in New Kent & Charles City counties, seems to be working its way down the James River)
8	Joe-Pye weed	<i>Eupatorium purpureum</i>
9	Butterfly weed	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> ( a species of milkweed, larval food for the Monarch butterfly)
10	Coral honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera sempervirens</i> (not invasive)
11	Verbena	<i>Verbena canadensis</i> 'Homestead Purple'
12	Fringetree	<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>
13	Green cone flower	<i>Rudbeckia laciniata</i>
14	Goldenrod (cultivar)	<i>Solidago rugosa</i> 'Fireworks' (not as aggressive as some native species)
15	Wood aster	<i>Aster divaricatus</i> (white flowers in September)
16	American beautyberry	<i>Callicarpa americana</i> (insignificat flowers, clusters of purple berries in October)
17	American Holly*	<i>Ilex opaca</i>
18	Wild red columbine	<i>Aquilegia Canadensis</i>
19	Black-eyed Susan	<i>Rudbeckia fulgida</i> (?)
20	Annabelle (cultivar)	<i>Hydrangea Arborescens</i> (large white flowers, can be cut back in the fall)
21	Yaupon holly	<i>Ilex vomitoria</i> (native to Virginia's outer coastal plain, female has red berries)
22	Winterberry	<i>Ilex verticillata</i> (deciduous holly, clusters of red berries during December)
23	Mountain laurel	<i>Kalmia latifolia</i>
24	Rhododendron	<i>Rhododendron catawba</i> (native in the mountains of Virginia)
25	Eastern redbud*	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>
26	Christmas fern*	<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i>
27	Eastern Red Cedar*	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>
28	American beech*	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>
29	Black highbush blueberry*	<i>Vaccinium fuscatum</i> (berries are black)
30	Dogwood*	<i>Cornus florida</i>
31	Lowbush blueberry*	<i>Vaccinium pallidum</i>
32	Strawberrybush, hearts-a-bustin'*	<i>Euonymus americanus</i>

33	Mayapple	<i>Podophyllum peltatum</i> (white flowers in early spring)
34	Mapleleaf viburnum*	<i>Viburnum acerifolium</i> (clusters of small white flowers in early spring)
35	Enchanter's nightshade*	<i>Circaea lutetiana</i> (leaves: barely toothed, straight base, opposite w/long tip, named for enchantress Circe in Greek mythology, who used nightshade plants in her magic)
36	Bloodroot*	<i>Sanguinaria canadensis</i> (white flowers in early spring)
37	Spice bush*	<i>Lindera benzoin</i> (fruit: little red berries)
38	Sassafras*	<i>Sassafras albidum</i> (three distinct leaf patterns)
39	Poison Ivy*	<i>Toxicodendron radicans</i> (eradicated as soon as possible!)
40	Broad beech fern*	<i>Phegopteris hexagonoptera</i>
41	Shadbush serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier</i> sp. (fruit is dark purple, 1/3", often used in pies and jellies.
42	Persimmon*	<i>Diospyros virginiana</i> (one vein to the stem, has some little leaves)
43	Possumhaw*	<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i> (opposite egg shaped leaves, little branches w/ 2 leaves)
44	Wreath Goldenrod*	<i>Solidago caesia</i> (hairy stems)
45	Sedge*	<i>Carex</i> sp. (blue green leaves, little fruits)
46	Rattlesnake fern*	<i>Botrychium Virginianum</i>
47	Tulip tree*	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i> (flowers in May that resemble a tulip)
48	Wood rush*	<i>Luzula acuminata</i> (yellowish green leaves, branching flowers)
49	Naked tick-trefoil*	<i>Desmodium nudiflorum</i> (3 leaves, flowers on a separate stem, shaped like pea flowers)
50	Jumpseed*	<i>Persicaria virginiana</i> (look for purple 'V', small white flower, previously <i>Polygonum</i> )
51	Striped wintergreen*	<i>Chimaphila maculata</i>
52	Alternate-leaf dogwood *	<i>Cornus alternifolia</i> (found mostly in the mountains but will grow in calcareous soils that were formed by calcium that was leached from sea shells when this area was under water millions of years ago)
53	Golden ragwort*	<i>Packera aurea</i> (just basal leaves present in mid spring)
54	Lizard's tail*	<i>Saururus cernuus</i> (heart shaped leaf, whitish flowers form an arching shape like a lizard's tail)
55	Hog-peanut*	<i>Amphicarpa bracteata</i>
56	Beechdrops*	<i>Epifagus virginiana</i> (a root parasite of beech trees, produces no chlorophyll)
57	Bitternut Hickory*	<i>Carya cordiformis</i>
58	Pignut hickory*	<i>Carya glabra</i> (removed 4/13 after being struck by lightning, 165 years old)
59	Buttercup, hooked crowfoot*	<i>Ranunculus recurvatus</i> (small pale yellow flowers, very small hooks)
60	Coral bell	<i>Heuchera American</i> (flowers bloom in early April)
61	Marsh fern*	<i>Thelypteris palustris</i>
62	False Nettle*	<i>Boehmeria cylindrica</i> (main veins come together at stem, veins are deeper, leaves are opposite & serrated, lacks stinging hairs)



63	Green ash*	<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i> (bark makes X's)
64	Common violet*	<i>Viola sororia</i>
65	Honewort*	<i>Cryptotaenia canadensis</i> (leaves are trifoliolate & sometimes cleft, small white flowers in the summer, unbranched at base)
66	Elderberry*	<i>Sambucus</i>
67	American Elm	<i>Ulmus americana L.</i>
68	Summer grape vine*	<i>Vitis aestivalis</i> (lighter leaves broader than long, alternate, toothed, often lobed, spidery on the back of the leaves, tendrils opposite leaves)
69	Heartleaf wild ginger*	<i>Hexastylis virginica</i> (unusual red/brown flowers close to the ground)
70	Partridgeberry*	<i>Mitchella repens</i>
71	Pinxter-flower, pink azalea	<i>Rhododendron periclymenoides</i> (tight clusters of white to pale pink tubular flowers)
72	Jack-in-the-pulpit*	<i>Arisaema triphyllum</i>
73	Rose Azalea	<i>Rhododendron prinophyllum</i> = <i>R. roseum</i> (native in the mountains of Virginia)
74	Black Cohosh	<i>Cimicifuga racemosa</i>
75	Carolina jessamine	<i>Gelsemium sempervirens</i> (yellow flowers in late winter or early spring, vine can reach 40')
76	Rue Anemone	<i>Thalictrum</i> or <i>Anemonella thalictroides</i>
77	Spring Beauty	<i>Claytonia virginica</i>
78	Ground Pine	<i>Lycopodium obscurum</i>
79	Sourwood*	<i>Oxydendrum arboreum</i> (in the blueberry family)
80	Black Gum*	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>
81	Dwarf iris	<i>Iris cristata</i>
82	Virginia spiderwort	<i>Tradescantia virginiana</i> (blue flowers)
83	Virginia bluebell	<i>Mertensia virginica</i>
84	Southern magnolia	<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i> (native further south, found in several VA/NC counties)
85	Wild yam*	<i>Dioscorea villosa</i>
86	Virginia creeper*	<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>
87	Muscadine*	<i>Vitis rotundifolia</i> (most common grape vine, roundish leaves)
88	Riverbank grape vine*	<i>Vitis riparia</i> (leaves are alternate, coarsely toothed, 2-10" long, 2-8" broad)
	On your way back to the driveway for refreshments, take a walk through the Kitchen Garden.	
	Addendum - Another Native!	
89	Scallops	<i>C. middlesexensis</i> ~6 million years old, <b>site native</b> and <i>C. jeffersonius</i> - state fossil of Virginia ~ 4.5 million years old, found along the banks of the James River.