



The Colonial Master Gardener

September
2016

PUBLICATION OF JCC/WMASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION &
VIRGINIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY GARY STREB

“When man was first placed in the Garden of Eden, he was put there...that he might cultivate it, which shows that man was not born to be idle.” —Voltaire, *Candide* (1759)

Next Meeting:

Thursday, September 1

**Program:
Boxwood Blight in JCC:
A Report**

**Speaker:
Mike Likins**

The leaves of the sycamore and river birch trees throughout Williamsburg are beginning to turn their gorgeous autumn yellow. Fall is on its way even though the temperatures are still in the 90s. Before we know it the seasonal change will be in full colorful glory. Change is inevitable, and we gardeners embrace it: spring with its new growth and renewal, summer with its exuberant flowers and pollinators, fall with its harvest and slowing down, and lastly, winter with its recharging sleep. Several of our Extension projects have enjoyed a summer hiatus, and we are now eager to reengage on our educational mission.

Our treasurer, Amy Higgins, has resigned from our board due to health and personal reasons and has relocated to Texas. We wish her well in all her future endeavors. Liz Favre has graciously agreed to fill the treasurer position for the duration of the term of office (end of 2017). With a background in banking she is off to a running start! Please use the updated reimbursement form on our website if you need to recoup money to support our projects.

Change, renewal and continuity.

We are still putting together the slate for the fall elections. The positions of president-elect, vice-president for internal education, and vice-president for administration all need to be filled. This is your chance to join your association's leadership and make a real difference in our future and direction. No experience necessary! Angela Cingale's article in last month's newsletter explained the personal and professional rewards from volunteering your talents to a beloved cause or passion. It is worth reading again. See the nominating committee of Linda Wever, Anne Nielsen, and Dee Arbegast, or Angela Cingale or me if you have any questions. We simply cannot function without you, without willing volunteers---and we need you now.



pixabay

Applications are being accepted for next year's VCE Master Gardener training class. Let your gardener friends, neighbors, and relatives know about this opportunity to learn and educate. You can find details on [our website](#).

Our speaker at the September monthly Extension Master Gardener Association meeting will be Mike Likins, who will give us all the current information about the encroaching boxwood blight. Our Williamsburg would not be the same without the gorgeous historical boxwood. It is incumbent upon us all to be knowledgeable and to be able to educate our community on this potential problem.

See you all on September 1.

2016
MG Board

President:
Gary Streb

President Elect:
Vacant

VP Administration:
Angela Cingale

VP Projects:
Janet Smith

VP Internal Ed:
Kathy Bush

Secretary:
Cathy Johnson

Treasurer:
Liz Favre

VMGA Rep:
Marilyn Riddle

Past President:
Vacant

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

The MG Board meets on the third Friday of each month at 9:30 am 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.

INTERNAL EDUCATION: BOXWOOD BLIGHT BY KATHY BUSH

We have some beautiful boxwood gardens in Williamsburg and around the county! Their stately order and pleasant aroma always remind me of historical homes and gardens. I recall when hearing lectures in the VCE training class in 2012 that there was a lot of talk about the recent discovery of boxwood blight in nurseries on the border of North Carolina and Southwest Virginia. Well- **NEWS FLASH**- it is here in Williamsburg in 2016!



Extension.umd.edu

Early this summer, a community member brought in a sample of her boxwood, and by asking the right diagnostic questions and seeing pictures of the widespread damage, Kate Robbins was able to notify and raise the concern of a group of experts in

the Virginia Boxwood Blight Task Force. They have been working to get to the bottom of the problem and take measures to halt its spread.

One of those experts was **Mike Likins**, the director of the Chesterfield County Cooperative Extension. He will be our speaker at our September 1 educational meeting.

He is a very skilled scientist, teacher, and diagnostician, and he will bring many pictures and interesting information to help us recognize and deal with this problem and others in our Tidewater community. Remember, VC Extension Master Gardeners need eight hours of continuing education each year. Our monthly meetings are a great opportunity to receive those hours and enjoy the company of fellow gardeners!



The boxwood maze in the Colonial Williamsburg Governor's Palace Garden.

Photo: Richard Due/flickr

INTERESTING AND EDUCATIONAL THINGS TO SEE AND DO

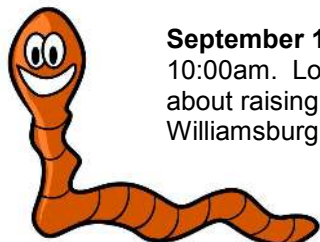
BY KATHY BUSH

September 10 (Lavender Fields Herb Farm, Glen Allen). 9:00am-5:00pm. **Fall Herb Faire.** Free classes, seminars, demonstrations, and tours.



September 10 (Monticello, Charlottesville). **Heritage Harvest Festival.** Speakers, workshops, tastings and tours- A day of fun and learning. <http://www.heritageharvestfestival.com/>

September 10 (Brittingham Mid-town Community Center, 570 McLawhorne Drive, Newport News 23601). 10:00am-3:00pm. **Go Green Expo 2016** is sponsored by the VCE and Peninsula Master Gardeners. This year's event theme is "Eat Local, Grow Local, Live Local." <http://www.nngogreenexpo.org/>



wpcipart

September 17 (Freedom Park Interpretive Center). **Worms and their Uses.** 10:00am. Local worm farmer Ron Crum, will teach you all you need to know about raising worms and vermiculture. Suggested donation is \$5 to help the Williamsburg Botanical Garden grow more beautiful.

September 17 and 18, 24 and 25 (Virginia Living Museum, Newport News). 9:00am-4:00pm. **Fall Native Plant Sale.**



Rikb000/flickr

September 17 (Somerset, Orange County). **From Your Backyard to the Blue Ridge** 9:00am-12:00noon. Presented by the Rapidan River EMGs. Cost: Master Gardeners - \$25; Others registering on or before September 2 - \$20; All registering after September 2 - \$35.

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INTERESTING AND EDUCATIONAL THINGS TO DO *CONTINUED*

BY KATHY BUSH

Two lectures are featured:

Don't Clean Up in the Fall, Plant Instead! Speaker David M. Roos's gardening philosophy emphasizes a hands-on approach and common sense practicality. He has a garden design and consulting practice in The Plains, Va., worked in nurseries, wrote a newspaper column, and currently gives garden lectures. Mr. Roos received his design training at the New York Botanical Garden's Landscape design certificate program in New York City.

Reading the Land: the Importance of Ecosystem and Preserving the Native Plants. Doug Coleman, biologist, naturalist, and director of the Nature Foundation at Wintergreen, has forty years of experience in conservation within development and forest management on Wintergreen's 11,000 acres. Mr. Coleman founded the thirty-five-year-old Spring Wildflower Symposium at Wintergreen and was on the advisory committee of the new Flora of Virginia project. He was instrumental in the design and creation of a 2.5 mile roadway landscaped with native plants using propagated plant tissue collected from and around Wintergreen.

Email questions to rapidanrivermg@gmail.com. Or leave a message at the Culpeper Extension office phone: 540-727-3435. <http://vcemastergardener.blogspot.com/2016/06/from-your-backyard-to-blue-ridge.html>



September 20. (Virginia Living Museum Lab, Newport News). 6:30-8:00pm. **Plants and Ozone: An Unhealthy Mix.** This is part of a free lecture series in celebration of the museum's 50th anniversary.

In well-tended gardens and natural areas alike, there are many challenges to the health of plant communities. Insects, disease and other stresses on plants all contribute to that challenge. But in the air, an invisible air pollutant – ground level ozone – threatens the health of plants and humans alike. Dr. John Skelly, retired Penn State plant pathologist, will help us understand the origins of this atmospheric chemical, its effects on plants, and how to identify ozone symptoms on plants in our gardens and in the natural world. We'll also learn about his ongoing partnership with NASA atmospheric researchers and his contributions to the VLM / NASA ozone garden. **Register in advance:** [online](#) or call 757-595-9135.

October 10. (Our Saviour Lutheran Church, 7479 Richmond Rd., Norge). 1:00pm. Free. Herb Society of America open program- **"Landscaping for Pollinators."** Denise Green, the owner of Sassafras Farm in Hayes, Va., will inspire you with ways to incorporate native plants into your landscape in a common-sense way. She will take a closer look at the planting conditions most often faced in Tidewater and suggest native trees, shrubs and perennials that thrive in those places, thus making your garden more successful, less maintenance intensive, and friendlier to wildlife and the environment in general. Ms. Greene, an expert in native plants, is a vendor at the Williamsburg Farmers Market, and has been a key-note speaker at many local venues, including the CNU and CW Symposiums. Her presentation will feature mountain mint, *pycanthemum michx*, named a Notable Native Herb in 2016. For more information, contact Sally Sissel at (757) 258-9638.



Holly/flickr

Continued on the next page, page 5

INTERESTING AND EDUCATIONAL THINGS TO DO *CONTINUED*

BY KATHY BUSH



Center for Historic Plants gardens, barn, and greenhouse

October 15 (Thomas Jefferson Center for Historic Plants, 1293 Milton Rd., Charlottesville). **Fall Open House.** 10:00am-2:00pm. Monticello's unique nursery and garden center at Jefferson's Tufton Farm specializes in heritage and native plants. Peggy Cornett will speak on "Historic Trees for the Home Landscape," and Monticello's vegetable gardener, Pat Brodowski, will prepare edible treats from wild fruits and nuts foraged from local woodlands. Plants for sale and overstock items will be discounted! Preview at www.monticelloshop.org.



**Knotts Creek
Wholesale Nursery**
6120 Knotts Neck Road
Suffolk, VA 23435
(757) 483-6383
info@knottscreeknursery.com

Watch for the date in October. Knotts Creek Nursery in Suffolk will hold a **fall plant sale for Master Gardeners**—wholesale plus 10%.

January 16, 2017. The Virginia Horticultural Foundation **Home Gardener Day** will take place in Virginia Beach. Registration opens in October.

ONE NASTY CUSTOMER

BY KAT REYNOLDS



Photo: Kat Reynolds

Fellow EMG Kat Reynolds took Kathy Bush up on her suggestion in the last newsletter to send in photos from her garden. In an email, Kat wrote:

"Attached was a recent visitor to my Echinacea blooms. I shot this pic as he was stalking my Honeybees. It is a Wheel Bug, part of the Assassin bug family. After research, I found that he delivers quite an extremely painful bite. He is generally considered a beneficial, as he does eat aphids and other pests...but as I found on this day, he will also eat honeybees. : (His bite is extremely painful and I hear it is nothing to mess with. Thought it might be wise to inform other gardeners to be on the lookout for him. He is quite alarming to see in person with his vary large size (up to 1.5 in) and armored back."

Please email me (hopeyelich@gmail.com) what you've found in your garden so I can share with our readers.

The Colonial Master Gardener September 2016

VCE UPDATE FOR THE VIRGINIA MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION

BY ANGELA CINGALE

Angela passes on the following report given by John Freeborn at the August 13 VMGA meeting in Alexandria. Angela and Marilyn Riddle attended the meeting.

- ◆ Handbook Update: The updated EMG Training handbooks are in print and being shipped. The prices are the same at \$85.00 per handbook for new trainees and \$50.00 per book for existing EMGs. Shipping charges have been updated. Orders of three or more manuals will ship free, two or less have a single \$15.00 shipping charge. Orders for existing EMGs need to be processed the same way as new handbooks. We are in the process of sending out updated pages which contain the new glossary, the complete index, and a listing of typographical changes that were made throughout the book. We are also nearing completion of the PDF version. We are in the process now of going through the document, checking links, and verifying that the format is correct. We hope to release it this fall.
- ◆ Tree Steward manual update – Carol King and a team from Middle Peninsula which includes Agents, Specialists, and other volunteers are working on updating this handbook and work is progressing well. We hope to have more to announce later in the fall or by the end of the year.
- ◆ Water Steward manual update – the first draft is complete; layout and design work are also complete. The new training manual should be ready for the upcoming Water Steward Training that is scheduled in September 17, 18, 24 & 25 in Leesburg, VA. For more information, www.AdvancedMasterGardener.org or contact Sam Allaire at samallaire@comcast.net
- ◆ Module Update—The State Office plans to release 6 modules around September 1. These will be housed online, and along with them will be guidelines for utilizing the modules. There is a statewide team helping to put these modules together as well as the guidelines and recommendations. Associated lab exercises will also be included with the materials to help integrate the use of the modules into the training classes. More modules will be scheduled for development and posting after the September release.
- ◆ HVL Update: Healthy Virginia Lawns has been getting some publicity! We had a poster at the national American Society for Horticultural Science ASHS meeting in Atlanta, Georgia this month. We are also on the agenda to present the program at the state wide Soil and Water Conservation District meetings in Roanoke this winter. We have had one Unit who was able to partner with a local Soil and Water Conservation District and secured funding for a part time person who works with the HVL program. This may be an opportunity that can be explored by other Units with a similar set of needs and relationships.
- ◆ MG College Update: The 29th Annual Master Gardener College (MGC) was a success! Even with the change in days, we had over 200 in attendance and had the opportunity to try several new arrangements of classes and schedules. We have had a debriefing meeting to discuss what worked and what didn't and we also have the MGC survey results. We have not compiled the results, but will do so prior to the next MGC Advisory Team meeting, scheduled for the last week of August. We did get a lot of positive feedback about the new arrangement of classes, with a keynote in the morning, two concurrent sessions, and then an afternoon keynote. We will probably continue this schedule in the future. Thanks also to VMGA for sponsorship of College this year. We are starting this month to work on plans for the upcoming 30th Anniversary Master Gardener College!
- ◆ VCE Budget Update: While we do not have specifics yet, we understand that there will be some budget cuts for VCE this year. At the State level, our travel budget has already been reduced by about 60%. This will cause us to be very sensitive to where and when we can travel. More details should be out by the end of the month. As we learn more, we will continue to share information.

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VCE REPORT TO THE VMGA CONTINUED

- ◆ VCE Budget Update: While we do not have specifics yet, we understand that there will be some budget cuts for VCE this year. At the State level, our travel budget has already been reduced by about 60%. This will cause us to be very sensitive to where and when we can travel. More details should be out by the end of the month. As we learn more, we will continue to share information.
- ◆ Leadership Development Training (LDT) this fall: This year, due to tight schedules and budget reductions, we will be hosting a single Leadership Development Training. We will be working to have an online option for this meeting also. Potential locations will be Charlottesville, Culpeper, or Richmond area. We are looking at dates in October, and need to be scheduled around VCE State Staff and District updates. We should have the dates set in the next two weeks and will be sharing that information as it comes out.

Respectfully submitted,

John Freeborn

SHARE YOUR KNOWLEDGE

BY DENNIS WOOL



Graphics Fairy

The Speaker's Bureau has begun to receive requests for speakers/demonstrations from various garden clubs, civic associations, and community groups.

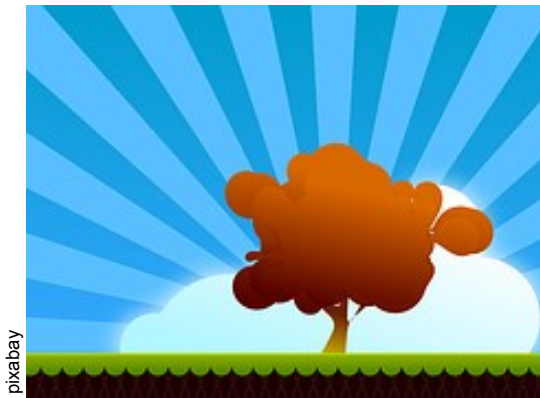
VCE Master Gardeners are well known for their garden/plant knowledge and their enthusiasm for sharing with others. Some even get their pictures in the newspaper!

Please join the fun and offer your ideas/information. Topics cover a wide range from saving seeds and propagation, best practices for lawns/gardens, what's growing now, etc. Assistance is available to help organize the presentations and schedule events that meet your busy calendars. Most programs are designed for twenty-thirty minutes.

If you'd like to give this a try, contact me at wool@cox.net.

Don't make me come looking for you!

“A garden is a great teacher. It teaches patience and careful watchfulness. It teaches industry and thrift; above all it teaches entire trust.” — Gertrude Jekyll, horticulturalist



LANDSCAPE LOVE

BY GARY STREB

In late July, I spent a few days back in my childhood hometown, Fort Lauderdale. The public and private landscapes were familiar to me, but I realized that I didn't know anything about all the plant materials---it was like visiting an enchanting foreign country! This is how many of the new homeowners who request a Landscape Love visit must feel. Our educational endeavor gets them rapidly acquainted with their new landscape and environment.

Fall registration is ongoing—through September 15th. Applications have been light so far, but as more publicity kicks in we expect our normal activity. I've scheduled two training/organizational meetings: Monday, September 19 at 9 am.in Room B of the JCC rec center on Longhill Road. The second session is Thursday, September 22, same time, same place. Visits commence in late September and continue throughout October.

Even if you attended one of the sessions in the spring, we ask that you attend one of these meetings. We are going to modify our report writing procedures and would like to have all of your input before we go on our first fall visit. How about no follow-up written report but a checklist and reference publications given to the homeowner during the visit? The report could be an option if the visit team deems it appropriate. Let's discuss it! I would also like to discuss the elements of conservation landscaping, uniformity of information given to the homeowner, and lessons learned from the spring session.

If you are interested in joining the Landscape Love teams for the fall, please let me know at gstreb11@gmail.com. This is a great opportunity for our interns to accrue necessary hours for the VCE training class requirement.

FOOD OPTIONS FOR THE DEER?

BY AILENE BARTLETT

In the spring I planted the beds around my cottage at Brookdale with what were *supposed* to be deer-resistant plants. Not all of them were! So, for your information and possible future use, is a partial list with an indication as to whether the deer enjoy them. YES means they ate it; no means they stayed away. It might save you some time and money in the future. But remember...our deer might not like the same plants as yours do!

Chelone: YES
Coccineus: YES
Cuphea: YES
Eupatorium: no
Feverfew: no
Gladiolus: no
Heuchera: no
Hibiscus: YES
Hosta: YES
Iris: no

Lobelia: no
Monarda: YES (bit of a surprise)
Mosheutos: YES
Pycnanthemum (mountain mint); no
(and this is a great attractor of bees)
Rudbeckia: no
Ruellia: no
Snapdragon: no
Stokesia: no
Tiarella: no



CONSERVATION LANDSCAPING: CLEAN AIR AND WATER

BY GARY STREB

The Chesapeake Conservation Landscaping Council's *Conservation Landscaping Guidelines---The Eight Essential Elements of Conservation Landscaping* methodically describes how to create and maintain a sustainable landscape through sound conservation means. I have previously condensed the narrative of the first four elements: use design to benefit both the environment and human need; use locally native plants that are appropriate for the site; create a management plan to rid invasive, alien plants and prevent future invasions; and make provisions for wildlife habitats. The fifth and sixth elements focus on healthy air quality and clean water.

The fifth of the eight elements of a conservation landscape promotes healthy air quality and minimizes air pollution by minimizing activities that cause air pollution, promotes the use of trees and other plants that filter pollutants, and reduces or eliminates the use of commercial products that create harmful polluting by-products. Petroleum-fueled landscape machines release pollutants responsible for poor air quality, risking human and environmental health. Formation of ground level ozone (summertime smog) and the introduction of acidic nitrates and mercury are added to sensitive ecosystems as a result. Pollutants settle on the land, which can be carried by storm water into water supplies. Commercial fertilizers and chemicals when overused or misapplied contribute to air pollution.

How can we help improve air quality? Use site appropriate, non-invasive plants to reduce yard maintenance that require fertilizer and petroleum-fueled machinery. Use trees and plants to improve energy conservation by putting them in the proper location. Decrease turf area, which in turn reduces maintenance requirements and moving time. Use environmentally friendly yard machinery and maintain the equipment properly. Avoid spilling fuel or avoid gasoline altogether by using electric or manual options. Minimize the use of toxic pesticide sprays by using organic means of integrated pest management. All of these changes add up and can significantly reduce emissions/pollution if universally adopted. We are each responsible.

Water is a finite and precious natural resource and essential for our existence. The sixth element of a conservation landscape conserves and cleans water. Preserving the natural water cycle and keeping waterways clean in local watersheds are both essential. Rainwater washing off the land as storm water carries chemicals, soil, plant debris, and other pollutants. Percolating rainwater carries pollutants into underground watersheds.

We use a significant amount of potable water to maintain our green turf, but we can deduce it by two thirds during the summer by using conservation landscaping practices. Create water zones/xeriscaping by grouping plants with similar water needs together. Select plants wisely by looking for drought-tolerant natives. Water plants only when they need it and only what they need. Allow cool-season/fescue turf to go dormant in summer. Water thoroughly and deeply but not too often. Water the root zone not the foliage. Use the proper watering technique and equipment—a drip irrigation system provides valuable water to the roots, where it belongs. Mulch properly, two-three inches at most, and less around azaleas and perennials. The time-honored green roof is a gardener's delight and encourages filtering and cleaning rainwater. Retain and reuse rainwater by using rain barrels. Slow runoff by reducing impervious surfaces. Encourage infiltration of rainfall and take steps to avoid rainwater flow. The goal is to keep all of the falling rainwater on your property and not have it wash into the Chesapeake Bay.

All of these actions are in themselves small, doable, and beneficial to the individual conservation landscape. But in the larger sense, if these elements were incorporated in the "normal" way of doing things, we could all aid in creating a healthier planet for our future generations.

"Pure soft water is the most potent of all insecticides"
—James Shirley Hibbard, *The Amateur's Flower Garden* (1884)

MOSS GARDENING

BY HELEN HAMILTON

Go green with mosses! A moss lawn requires little care – no fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, or frequent watering. But any plant needs some care, and mosses are no exception. Weeds, wildflowers, and leaf litter will appear, and water should be supplied in extremely dry weather. Some species grow best in limy soils and others need acidic habitats.

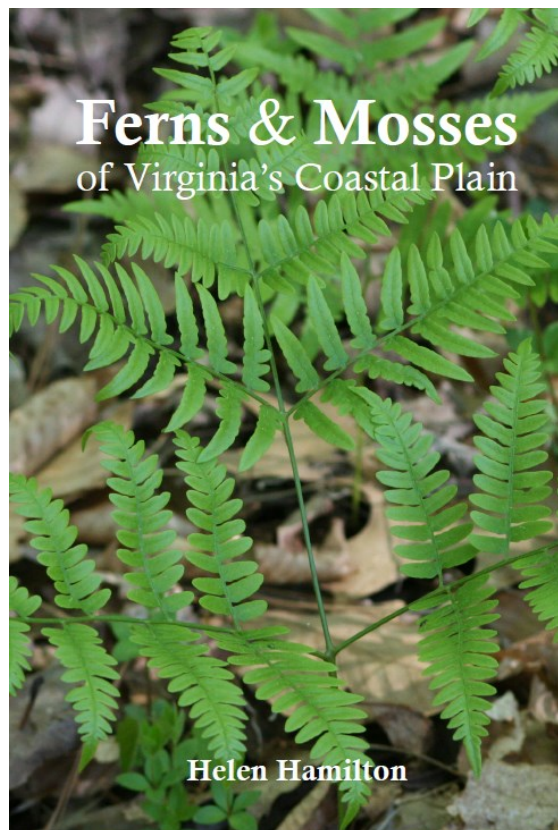
Although without showy flowers and pollinating bees and butterflies, these little plants have a very important role in the ecosystem. Without vascular tissues to carry water, they are always close to the ground, soaking water directly into their tissues. A large patch of moss holds water, controls erosion, and filters rainwater. Beneficial insects like to live in moss colonies, but they do not eat nor damage the foliage because mosses contain bad-tasting chemicals that control herbivory.

Mosses reproduce by fragmentation – break a clump into small pieces and scatter them over bare soil. With a little water and time, patches will grow eventually to cover what was a driveway or gravel path. Companies specializing in moss gardening will sell concoctions with pieces of moss or trays of cultivated species or pre-vegetated mats.

Many mosses are pioneer species, creating soil in rocky and gravelly habitats. They can grow in the cracks of an asphalt path by absorbing dust particles for nourishment and using tiny films of water over the paving.

Easily maintained in shady woodland gardens, the use of mosses is a good alternative to turf that requires much more care.

A few easy to grow species are haircap moss, cord glaze moss, brocade moss, and delicate fern moss, common names that describe their appearance.



NEW BOOK ON THE WAY

Soon to be printed, *Ferns and Mosses of Virginia's Coastal Plain*, by Helen Hamilton, has local color photographs and descriptions of all ferns commonly seen in the Coastal Plain.

Included also are the clubmosses and twenty-six tiny plants, the mosses and liverworts that grow all over tree trunks, fallen logs, stream banks, lawns and sidewalk cracks. A spiral-bound paperback, this is an easy-to-use field guide to help identify plants that are seen everywhere, and up close have very different forms. Two interesting plants included in the book are:

Bazzania, a novel liverwort



Apple Moss



WILDFLOWER OF THE MONTH SEPTEMBER 2016

BY HELEN HAMILTON

PAST PRESIDENT, JOHN CLAYTON CHAPTER, VIRGINIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

TURTLEHEAD

Chelone glabra

These flowers are well named because when viewed from the side, they look just like a turtle with its mouth open; the “mouth” actually opens when the sides are pushed in. White and tinged with pink, the flowers are one inch long in short spikes at the ends of one-to-three-foot stems. Dark green leaves are paired on the stem, narrow and with coarse teeth. Deer won’t eat this plant because the foliage has a bitter taste.

These native perennials like partial shade or full sun, areas with rich soil, and lots of humus and mulch to hold in moisture. Turtleheads usually grow erect but might need some support in deep shade.



Photo: Turtlehead (*Chelone glabra*) taken by Helen Hamilton

They will grow shorter when pinched back in the spring. They can be grown in containers, but the pot should have a saucer of water at all times.

Turtleheads grow naturally on the Coastal Plain along streambanks, in wet meadows, swamps, and marshes. They occur in every state in Virginia and throughout eastern U.S. and Canada. Nurseries and garden centers offer cultivars of this plant and other species with shades of pink. The funnel-shaped flowers are attractive to butterflies and other long-tongued insects, and sometimes hummingbirds.

These are plants for a rain garden or moist perennial border, providing late-summer flowers for insects preparing for winter. With large white blossoms, these plants look wonderful in wetland gardens with Cardinal Flower, Blue Flag and Cinnamon Fern.

The distinctive shape of this flower is reflected in the genus name, derived from the Greek *chelone*, “a tortoise.”

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



Photo: Helen Hamilton

Broad
Beech
Fern

FERNS IN BLOOM PLANT WALK

Saturday, September 10, 10:00 am. Meet Helen Hamilton in Freedom Park for a walk to see native ferns, mosses, and orchids. Contact Helen at (757) 564-4494 or helen48@cox.net for more information. **Bring a magnifier to see features of tiny plants.**

Park between the Go Ape building and the children’s playground. Starting at Go Ape and ending on Multiuse Trail #1, near mountain bike trail C, we will walk in a ravine, along a stream that leads from Colby Swamp. Wear footwear that can get muddy or wet.

THIS AND THAT

Coaches Needed for the Help Desk. The help desk needs more coaches for the interns during September. It's likely to be a busy time, and the coordinators need your participation.

If you can give some hours for this important activity, please contact Avril Purvis at 869-5639.



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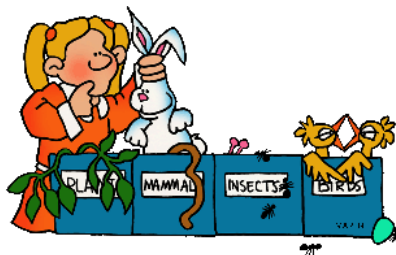


Photo: Hope Yelich

LAST FARMERS MARKET OF THE YEAR

September 10—Therapeutic Gardening

Donna Xander reports that the **FALL DIAGNOSTIC CLINIC** will start up on Monday, September 12, and run through October 24. It will be held in the kitchen of the VCE building in Toano right across from the help desk. This will be a great way for you interns who need a few more hours to complete your required hours, and it's a great learning experience too.

Come and find out how we go about looking up those questions people ask you, knowing that you are almost an Extension Master Gardener. No need to sign up— just come in. Everyone is welcomed.

DO YOU KNOW PEOPLE WHO WOULD LIKE TO BECOME MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS?

BY HOPE YELICH

If so, please let them know that applications are being accepted for the 2017 James City County/Williamsburg Master Gardener Training Program. Classes will begin on Monday, January 4, 2017, and continue through Wednesday, April 5. Classes will meet for three hours Mondays and Wednesdays, 9:00 am until 12:00 noon at the county recreation center on Longhill Road. Course topics include botany, pest management, plant culture, flowers, vegetables, pruning, landscape design, water conservation, and more. The course fee is \$150.

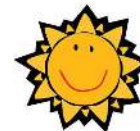
The deadline to receive completed applications is October 31, 2016. Program information and applications are posted at www.jccwmg.org. For questions or more information, contact the Virginia Cooperative Extension office in Toano at 564-2170.

As you know, Master Gardeners are volunteers with VCE who work within their communities to educate and advance sound horticultural and environmental practices. There are more than thirty projects available to volunteers once they complete their training and internships, so spread the word before the class fills up!

Important Dates

- 9/10 Heritage Harvest Festival (Monticello)
- 9/10 Go Green Expo (Newport News)
- 9/10 Herb Faire (Lavender Fields Herb Farm)
- 9/10 Farmers Market—Therapeutic Gardening
- 9/10 Ferns in Bloom Plant Walk (Freedom Park)
- 9/17 Worms and Their Uses (Freedom Park)
- 9/17 Backyard to the Blue Ridge (Somerset)
- 9/17-18 Native Plant Sale (Virginia Living Museum)
- 9/20 Plants and Ozone (Virginia Living Museum)
- 9/24-25 Native Plant Sale (Virginia Living Museum)
- 10/11 Landscaping for Pollinators (Our Saviour Lutheran Church)
- 10/15 Fall Open House (Monticello nursery)
- 1/16/17 Home Gardener Day (Virginia Beach)

SUNSHINE NOTES



In the past month, we sent a card to:

Kathy Briggs—Family Death

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, Cathy Johnson, at (757) 208-0065, or cathypj@gmail.com

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for submissions to the October newsletter will be Monday, September 19.

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

Landscape Love for Homeowners

The James City County/Williamsburg Master Gardeners are offering to residents of the county or city a free consultation on landscape best management practices at the homeowner's home.



Have a landscape problem??

Got a pest problem???

Plants & shrubs dying???

Need free advice???

HELP IS ON THE WAY!

Go to www.jccwmg.org
Click on "Landscape Love"
Fill out application online

Submit by September 15



Virginia Cooperative Extension

Virginia Tech • Virginia State University

www.ext.vt.edu

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Join us!

Become a VCE MASTER GARDENER

Indulge your horticultural interest
while helping your community

2017

VCE MASTER GARDENER TRAINING CLASS

**Applications now
being accepted.**

**Application deadline is
October 31**

**Contact VCE office for more
information and an
application packet
757-564-2170**



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RAIN BARREL WORKSHOP • FAMILY FUN • VENDORS • CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

EARTH-FRIENDLY LECTURES • FARMER'S MARKET • BAKE SALE • CHEF DEMOS

EAT LOCAL • GROW LOCAL • LIVE LOCAL

VCE PENINSULA MASTER GARDENERS

PRESENT

HAMPTON ROADS 8th ANNUAL

GO  GREEN EXPO

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2016

10:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.

BRITTINGHAM MIDTOWN COMMUNITY CENTER

570 MCLAWHORNE DRIVE

NEWPORT NEWS, VA 23601

FREE ADMISSION

(Food available for purchase.)

FOR EVENT DETAILS AND VENDOR REGISTRATION VISIT:

www.nngogreenexpo.org

Call 757-591-4838 to register for the
Rain Barrel Workshop



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EAT LOCAL • GROW LOCAL • LIVE LOCAL