

# The Colonial Master Gardener september

PUBLICATION OF JCC/W MASTER GARDENER VIRGINIA COOPERATIVE EXTENS

#### THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE **BY CATHY HILL**

# Are You Prepared?

As I write this Tropical Storm Dorian is ramping up in the Caribbean. Hopefully this area will only experience some rain from this storm even if it becomes a hurricane. This reminds us that we are coming into the active part of the hurricane season. Have you thought about some advance planning to mitigate damage in your garden or the gardens we care for as projects?



**Next Meeting:** 

Thursday, September 5

Program: Sustainable Agriculture

> Speaker: Charlie Maloney

Just two weeks ago we had a storm pass quickly through Williamsburg that brought down some trees, limbs, and lots of leaves. We should be planning ahead before a storm hits us again.

Some tips to consider doing now:

- 1. Trees are the most important thing to think about ahead of storms. Check to see if you have dead or broken limbs to prevent a flying object during wind. Are there any dead trees that might potentially fall on your house or garden?
- Clean out gutters and other drainage structures. 2.
- Stake small trees and shrubs. 3.
- 4. Move containers/large pots inside or in a sheltered spot near the house.
- Protect small garden beds with bags of soil. 5.
- As the storm moves closer, take garden furniture 6. inside as well as tools, bird feeders, hanging baskets, umbrellas, and anything else that might become a projectile.

7. Shut down the irrigation system completely from the main water shut off. This was one thing I didn't think about. This prevents a leak if a tree falls and breaks one of the lines.

After the storm, there are also a few things to do:

- 1. Check small perennials and prune back any broken areas to prevent disease or insect problems.
- 2. As a precaution, rinse the foliage of plants. Salt spray can travel fifty miles on the wind and can cause scorching and burning of the foliage.

We normally don't get hurricane-force winds here, but there can still be a lot of damage.

The old scout adage "Be Prepared" is the best advice.

2019 MGA Board

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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.

# THIS MONTH'S SPEAKER BY HAZEL BRAXTON, VP FOR INTERNAL EDUCATION



Charlie Maloney grew up on a small diversified farm on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, where the farm supplied many crops for the local cannery. As the youngest of six children, Charlie manned the two-acre tomato patch at age thirteen.

In 1968, Charlie went to Duke University for his formal education, where he stayed for ten years, receiving three degrees: BA in religion, master of divinity, and master of theology in pastoral psychotherapy. Charlie became an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ in 1976. He completed a two-year residency program in pastoral psychotherapy at Duke University Medical Center in 1978

In 1982, the Maloney family moved to Williamsburg, where Charlie

became the executive director of Williamsburg Pastoral Counseling Services. Following his success in the pastoral counselling arena Charlie and the Maloney family moved to King and Queen County, where they began to set up their farm.

The family started a small community-supported agriculture (CSA) in 1991 with around twenty members, which has grown to a current membership of 180. Charlie gradually cut back on his pastoral counselling career, and in 2001 he became a full -time farmer.

In 2005 Charlie expand his skill set. He was asked to teach a course in the Environmental Science and Policy Department at the College of William and Mary, where he has developed and taught a class on sustainability and agriculture every spring semester through 2019. Along with the academic role, Charlie is active in the <u>Virginia Association for Biological Farming</u> and the <u>Southern Sustainable</u> <u>Agriculture Working Group</u> (Southern SAWG), and has served on the board of directors in both organizations.

Charlie was recently recognized as the 2016 Virginia Small Farmer of the Year! This is a nice honor for all the work Charlie and the Maloney family have accomplished over the last thirty-two years at <u>Dayspring Farm</u>.



# UPCOMING SEMINARS AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

BY HAZEL BRAXTON, VP FOR INTERNAL EDUCATION

September 4 (VIMS - Seaside Hall (Eastern Shore Laboratory, 40 Atlantic Avenue, Wachapreague 23480). 7:30pm. <u>VIMS Wachapreague:</u> <u>World of Differences - Beasts, Biology</u> <u>and People Shape Mangroves and Salt</u> <u>Marshes</u>. How some paradigms about mangroves and salt marshes are challenged when crossing continents, oceans, or smaller geographic regions The speaker look sto differences in biology, geology, weather, and people to explain this world of differences.

September 7 (Brittingham-Midtown Community Center, 570 McLawhorne Drive, Newport News 23601). 10:00am—3:00pm. <u>Hampton Roads 11th</u> <u>Annual Go Green Expo</u>. Family activities, lectures, green tech, plant sales, and vendors as well as vermiculture, rain barrel, and biochar workshops. Food available for purchase. Free admission.

September 8 (Paramount Theater, 215 E. Main Street, Charlottesville 22902). 3:00—6:30pm. <u>The</u> <u>Future of Our Landscapes in a Changing</u> <u>Environment.</u> Commemorating PMG's 30th anniversary, learn how climate change is making an impact on our communities and natural habitats in Virginia. Explore how global environmental trends are affecting our landscapes, gardens, and food supply. Inspire action as stewards of our environment to manage the challenges of climate change. Adults \$10, under eighteen free. Sponsored by VCE and the Piedmont Master Gardeners.

September 11 (Agriculture Extension Trailer, Great Bridge Civic Center, 212 Holt Drive, Chesapeake 23322). 10:00am. <u>Vermicomposting—Compost</u> with "Red Wrigglers." Cost is \$15.

**September 14** ( (Agriculture Extension Trailer, Great Bridge Civic Center, 212 Holt Drive, Chesapeake 23322). 10:00am. <u>Learn about water conservation</u> <u>and build a rain barrel.</u> Cost is \$55. September 14 (Stryker Center).11:00am-12:00noon. In The Garden (with WRL): Trees of Colonial Williamsburg. Extension Master Gardener volunteer and Peninsula Tree Steward, Rick Brown, will tell us about the 18th-century trees and shrubs found in Colonial Williamsburg. He and a team of enthusiasts have been working for a couple of years to map, identify, and label the many old, unique, and recognized Virginia State and National Champion trees that are found within the historic city. See additional information on page 8 of this newsletter.

September 14 (Warhill Tract, 4725 Stadium Road, Williamsburg 23188). 10:00am. <u>Native Plants and</u> <u>Butterflies.</u> Join butterfly experts Adrienne Frank and Gary Driscole for a walk around the Warhill Tract to watch butterflies collecting nectar from native plants. For more information, contact Adrienne or Gary at <u>adrienne-gary@cox.net</u>. Sponsored by the John Clayton Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society.

September 19-22 (Hilton Norfolk, The Main, 100 East Main Street, Norfolk 23510). <u>Master Gardener</u> <u>College</u>. Online registration closed on August 30, but you can still register in person the week of MG College.

September 21 (Freedom Park Interpretive Center). 10:00am—1:30. Learn and Grow: Stunning Sunflowers! Learn about the botany and historic uses of sunflowers, and get tips for growing, cutting, and arranging them for a stunning display. Details and to register: www.bit.ly/growsep19. Registration is required. Free, but a \$5 donation is gratefully accepted to help the garden continue its mission. Sponsored by the Williamsburg Botanical Garden.

October 19 (The Cheriton Fire Station, 21334 Bayside Road, Cheriton 23316). 8:00am—4:00pm. <u>ESVMG</u> <u>Garden Symposium</u>. Includes five lectures, lunch, and a raffle of local artisan items. \$70, and \$85 after September 15. To read more about this event and to register, go to <u>www.esvmg.com</u>.

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

# TREE STEWARD TRAINING FOR 2020

BY RICK BROWN

Below is the information you'll need if you're thinking of becoming a Tree Steward. Classes, which are offered by the Peninsula Tree Stewards, will run January 8-March 25 and take place at various locations throughout the area. The application process opens on September 15 and closes on November 15. The Peninsula Tree Stewards is a consortium of Tree Stewards from five Master Gardener units located on the Peninsula. Training is done as a group using a manual prepared by that group.

**Course Description**: Expert presentations with seminar style interaction on the following:

Tree Botany, Taxonomy, and Identification (three sessions) Soils and Fertilizers Siting, Selecting and Planting Hormones and Pruning Biotic and Abiotic Problems of Trees Arborist Acquaintance and Tree Calls Trees in Ecological Context Developing Educational Programs and Projects

Responsibilities while attending class and after:

- 1. Attend classes and read assignments. Makeup materials are available for missed classes.
- 2. Develop and implement (in group or alone) a TS project in furtherance of VCE program goals.
- 3. Put in at least twenty hours work on your project by end 2020.

Classes will be held January 8 through March 25, 2020, on Wednesdays from 9:00am to 12:00 noon. Location will vary from Williamsburg to Hampton but no more than forty-five minutes travel for anyone. Cost of the class is \$130.00, primarily for the required books and class administrative costs (copies, instructor gifts, etc). Check for the fee should be sent with your application (payable to JCC/Williamsburg Master Gardeners). Fee is refundable if you are not included in the class; if you are admitted but withdraw after the books are ordered, you will get the books with the remainder of the fee returned to you. Once class has started, there are no refunds.

**Instructions**: Please return the application to the Tree Steward contact in your local MG organization. Names are listed below. If you have questions outside your unit level, please call or email Carol King, Peninsula Tree Steward Coordinator (757-268-6589 cell or 757-327-0414 home, cdkinggardener@hotmail.com).

**Screening/Interview**: Advanced MG training requires that the local agent approve each applicant. In advance of that approval, each MG group will handle its own screening and/or interviews to make sure that applicants understand the commitment they are making and that they are ready for this advanced training.

Tree Steward Contact for Applications for JCC/Williamsburg: Rick Brown (ricklin46@cox.net)



# **APPLICATION FOR TREE STEWARD TRAINING 2020**

Please send your application along with your check for \$130.00 made out to JCC/Williamsburg Master Gardeners to: Rick Brown, 103 Sixpence, Williamsburg, VA 23185

Note: Applications will be accepted between September 15-November 15 only.

NAME
ADDRESS
HOME PHONE
CELL PHONE
EMAIL
MG UNIT
YEAR OF MG TRAINING
Will you need any accommodation for a disability? If yes, please say what you need.

# LANDSCAPE LOVE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING BY GARY STREB, PROJECT CHAIR

Homeowner registration for the fall 2019 session of Landscape Love has been open for the last two weeks with normal community response so far. The open season for applications is through September 15.

Our organizational/training meeting will serve as a "lessons learned" session where we can discuss issues/problems that might have come up and how best they were, or should have been, handled. Additionally, any volunteers who did not participate in the spring sessions will have the opportunity for initial or updated training of how we can best serve the local community. With the hot, humid summer that we have had, several of our local lawns and gardens look tired before their time. We anticipate several questions about premature leaf fall and dried-out plant recovery.

Training/organizational meetings are scheduled for Tuesday, September 24 at 9:00am in Room A of the JCC rec center. The second is the following Thursday, September 26, also at 9:00am in room A of the rec center. You need attend only one of the sessions. The abnormal, delayed scheduling allows our volunteers to attend both Master Gardener College as well as the organizational meeting.

If you have not yet let me know whether you plan to participate this season please do so at <u>gstreb11@gmail.com</u>



Eugene Grasset, "La Belle Jardiniere – Septembre" (1898), courtesy of WikiArt

We are looking forward to another successful season of providing advice to the local community for the creation and maintenance of their sustainable home landscape. Thanks for your participation and for sharing your extensive knowledge.



Ancient Egyptian Painting, c. 1400BC-c. 1390BC, courtesy of WikiArt



# VIRGINIA BIG TREES AND THE COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG ARBORETUM BY KATHY BUSH, CHAIR, SPEAKERS BUREAU

Join us on Saturday, September 14, at 11:00am in the Stryker Center at the Williamsburg Regional Library.

This month, Extension Master Gardener volunteer and Peninsula Tree Steward Rick Brown will tell us about the trees and shrubs found in Colonial Williamsburg's nationally certified arboretum. He is one member of a team of enthusiastic Tree Stewards who have been working for a couple of years to identify, map, and label the many old and unique trees and woody shrubs that are found within the historic area.

The Williamsburg area is home to the largest recognized grouping of Virginia state and national champion trees in the Commonwealth. Rick will also discuss those trees and their significance to the arboretum. This exciting project is another example of the partnerships the VCE and EMGs are seeking to create in order to serve James City County and provide quality horticultural information to local residents and the many tourists who visit our area.

Remember that by attending this presentation, you may count one hour of continuing education on the Volunteer Management System (VMS).

# GARDEN ADVICE FROM THE COLONIAL MASTER GARDENER

Excerpt from Williamsburg's Joseph Prentis: His Monthly Kalendar & Garden Book\*

# The Monthly Kalendar September 1775

The first of this month sow Colliflower and Cabbage Seed, and also some Rhadish. -----after the full of the Moon, sow Spinage. The last of this Month, take your Colliflowers, and plant them on Beds, to stand till November. -----This will prevent their flowering

About the 10<sup>th</sup> sow your Colliflower Seed-----plant cuttings of Currants----also of Gooseberrys-----plant layers of Raspberries plant out Strawberries dress your Strawberry Borders.

#### **Directions about Gardening**

The last Week in September or the first in October, take up your Colliflowers, with as much Earth to the Root as you conveniently can.

Dig a trench eighteen Inches Wide and of a sufficient depth, put in Rotten Dung; then lay your Plants with their Heads to the Sun. cover them with Mould up to their Leaves. Add to this a Coat of Saw Dust. -----

When apprehensive of Frost, cover them with Straw. -----



# WILLIAMSBURG BOTANICAL GARDEN'S BUTTERFLY FESTIVAL SUPPORT PROJECT BY GARY STREB

What a tremendous, enthusiastic turnout the Williamsburg Botanical Garden had for its fifth annual Butterfly Festival on August 3 and 4! Over 3,000 attendees and almost perfect weather made all the efforts worthwhile. The WBG festival coordinator had over 110 volunteers for the two-day event, with thirty-one Extension Master Gardens participating. Other volunteers included Master Naturalists, WBG volunteers, Greenspring Garden Club members, and a few others from the Williamsburg community.

The Extension Master Gardener volunteers assisted with the operation of the two educational butterfly tents, provided advice and guidance at the plant sale, directed youth crdft projects, and operated a VCE help Desk to answer any horticultural issues.

Additionally, several of our Extension Master Gardeners also assisted with



Mary Ann Kimminau at the VCE Master Garden help desk, providing sage horticultural advice to the festival attendees.

other, out-of-our-scope, festival requirements such as setup and teardown, greeting attendees, compiling statistics, and photography.

Our participation in this annual community festival, the WBG spring plant sale/VCE help desk special project, as well as the sustainable gardening initiative at the Williamsburg Botanical Garden VCE project demonstrate the close working relationship we have with the Williamsburg Botanical Garden demonstration garden.

Max Ernst, "33 Little Girls Chasing Butterflies" (1958), courtesy of WikiArt



If you haven't been out to Freedom Park for a while, it would be worth your time to see the interaction of the Virginia native plants with the local wildlife. There are always butterflies on the cup plant, the Mexican sunflowers, and the button bush.

**Reminder for the EMGs who participated**: Record the approved hours that you performed on August 3 and/or August 4 into the VMS by September 4. As a special project of limited duration, the historical data needs to be finalized; your ability to input your worked hours will not be available later. Thank you for all for all that you have done to make this festival such a continued success.

# WATER-WISE TO THE RESCUE

# BY SUSAN NEIDLINGER, PROJECT CO-CHAIR

Like most gardeners, members of the Water-Wise Low Maintenance Gardening project labor against bugs and weather but not sidewalks!

The Master Gardeners were notified in July 2018 that we would be losing part of the garden at the Human Resources Center on Olde Towne Road. In order to satisfy ADA requirements, a sidewalk remodeling had to be done, and that would impact the garden. This news came after spending over a year helping the garden recover from extensive remodeling of the building itself.





We faithful gardeners worked diligently in the rain on multiple days moving plants away from the sidewalk. Fall and winter came along with numerous construction dates, but no work was done on the sidewalk. As soon as we readied the garden to its spring glory in 2019, work on the sidewalk began, including laying plywood on top of one side of the garden.

Not about to be discouraged, the gardeners babied squashed plants and tried to figure what to do with a garden that was now a foot above the sidewalk. "Let's build a wall"; and so we did.

The sidewalk contractor agreed to provide the materials we needed. The Master Gardeners provided the labor, with the guys laying the pavers while the ladies formed a "bucket brigade" to move the pavers from one place to another. The lovely new entryway to the building is the result of great teamwork and remains a source of pride.





# THIS AND THAT

## Would You Like to Volunteer at the State Fair?

**WANTED:** EMGs to work at the state fair on Wednesday, October 2.

We plan to carpool. Of course, you will receive free admission to the fair. This involves about six hours, including the ride to and from the event, which is one exit beyond the King's Dominion exit on I-95. Since we work with another unit, we will have time to explore during our time on duty. If you're interested contact me at <u>mriddle@cox.net</u>

-Marilyn Riddle



Thank you, Ken Caro, for sending us this photo of butterflies in the Blayton School garden!

#### Schedule of the Remaining Monthly Programs

All meetings take place at the Williamsburg Regional Library Theatre on Scotland Street the first Thursday of each month at 9:00am.

	November 7:	Rex Talbot, "Herbs"
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December 5: Helen Hamilton

--Hazel Braxton, VP for Internal Education

#### Be a Master Gardener Recruiter

Did you know that our current Master Gardeners are the most effective recruiting tool we have for finding new Master Gardeners? Those new Master Gardeners help fill the ranks of our Master Gardener Association and increase our ability to serve the community through our numerous garden-related projects.

Over the past several years, we have had relatively small Master Gardener training classes and will likely only graduate twelve from our latest class, which is why we are enlisting your help.

Consider speaking about the Master Gardener program to any civic organization, school, garden club, or church group in which you are a member. Do you have a friend or neighbor has shown an interest in gardening? Why not give her or him a personal invitation to join our 2020 Master Gardener training class? We've found that folks who have been invited by one of us thrive as Master Gardeners. So please help with our recruiting effort as we strive for a robust 2020 class.

Registration is open now until October 31. Refer anyone interested in becoming a MG to <u>our</u> <u>website</u> (<u>www.jccwmg.org</u>) or give an extra nudge with a copy of our application.

If you need a flyer to post at your meeting, please contact Kathy Skube at <u>skubekd@gmail.com</u>. Thanks for helping keep our organization strong!

--Jennifer Campbell, member, Training Team

More This and That on the next page, page 11

# THIS AND THAT — CONTINUED

#### Who Stops to Smell The Flowers?

Thanks goes to Ailene Bartlett for passing on this entertaining site from <u>Bored</u> <u>Panda</u> that tells us it's not just humans who like the scent of flowers! Pour a cup of tea and sit down to enjoy the <u>following photo gallery</u>

(<u>https://www.boredpanda.com/animals-smelling-flowers/?</u> <u>utm\_source=google&utm\_medium=organic&utm\_campaign=organic</u>)



## Free Rain Barrels to a Good Home

Here is a *gift* for someone(s)!

I have two rain barrels graciously donated by Rita Muncy, MG Class of 2013. They are MG made and come with substantial stands to allow for easy bucket filling. One has an overflow pipe which can direct water into another rain barrel or to a splashboard.

Anyone interested in one or two should email me, josheffie@yahoo.com.

---Joanne Sheffield

## For Sale to a Good Gardener

Portable Garden Cart - gently used

Dimensions: 46" wide x 33 1/2" to counter with a removable/ changeable 13" high shelf. This shelf has 6 holes for hand tools.

Work surface measures 46" x 26" and has two interchangeable 16" square surfaces, one solid & one with a grid for debris to fall through.

There are three removable drawers for supplies and a shelf for bags of dirt, etc.

One side has the handle for pushing/pulling the cart. The other side has six spaces for tall tools.

Grey & green color with new brown drawers. One chip at back.

Price: \$150.00

Must come to Kingsmill to pick it up.

Call Tiffeni Goesel (757) 645-8517 or email: tiffenigoesel@cox.net





# WILDFLOWER OF THE MONTH SEPTEMBER 2019

## BY HELEN HAMILTON JOHN CLAYTON CHAPTER, VIRGINIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY



#### **NEW YORK IRONWEED** Vernonia noveboracensis

These are handsome, robust plants with stunning floral color. The sturdy stems grow three to ten feet tall and maintain an upright posture throughout the fall. Leaves are lanceshaped and finely toothed. The intense deep purple flowers bloom from late summer to early fall and are powerful butterfly magnets, especially attracting the tiger swallowtail. Skippers, moths, and native bees are also seen collecting nectar from the flowers.

Ironweed is a member of the aster family that includes sunflowers, daisies, and black-eyed Susans. These flowers have no rays, only flowers in the central disk area.

Photo: New York Ironweed (Vernonia noveboracensis) taken by Helen Hamilton

Ironweeds are usually found in moist or wet areas of fields and streambanks. They are easy to grow in average to wet soils in full sun to part shade. To reduce the height of the plant, the stems can be cut back in mid-summer, or cut nearly to the ground in late spring. In the home garden, ironweed can grow in a rain garden, in a meadow or wildflower garden, or in the back of border plants. Hardy from Maine to north Florida, ironweed is common in all regions of Virginia. Ironweeds are usually not browsed by deer and rabbits.

Some explanations of the common name: One refers to the difficulty of pulling the plant up by the roots – battling a plant with a will of iron; another refers to the plant doing well in areas of old fires, especially with rusted metal nearby; the "iron" could describe the tall and sturdy stems or could refer to the rusty-tinged color of fading flowers and the rusty colored seeds.

Upland Ironweed (*V. glauca*) is a similar plant, with shorter stems and wider leaves, and grows in drier soils. The species name "glauca" refers to the whitish leaf undersides. As the flowers fade, they are replaced with bristly white hairs that are brownish in New York ironweed.

The genus was named for William Vernon, an English botanist who collected in Maryland in the late 1600s. The species name "noveboracensis" refers to New York where the first collections may have been made of this plant. Native Americans made tea from the leaves and roots of ironweeds for relief of female problems and as a blood tonic.

For more information about native plants, visit <u>www.vnps.org</u>

## Important Dates

- 9/4 World of Differences (Eastern Shore)
- 9/7 Go Green Expo (Newport News)
- 9/8 Future of Our Landscapes (Charlottesville)
- 9/11 Vermicomposting (Chesapeake)
- 9/14 Trees of Colonial Williamsburg (Stryker Center)
- 9/14 Native Plants and Butterflies (Warhill Tract)
- 9/14 Water Conservation/Rain Barrel (Chesapeake)
- 9/19-22 Master Gardener College (Norfolk)
- 9/21 Stunning Sunflowers (Freedom Park)
- 10/19 ESVMG Garden Symposium (Eastern Shore)

## **SUNSHINE NOTES**



The organization sends cards to members with difficult medical issues or who have experienced a death in the immediate family. We also acknowledge donations made to the association.

This month we sent a get-well card to Kathy Bush

Please provide names to the EMG secretary, Jennifer Campbell, at (757) 968-9499, or jenkcampbell@yahoo.com



# NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for submissions to the October 2019 newsletter will be Tuesday, September 24.

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

#### 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.