



# The Colonial Master Gardener

June  
2021

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

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY MARTIN OAKES

A good day to my friends and colleagues of the JCC / W Master Gardener Association. The month of June "est arrive" and with it the warmer days and the longest day of the year (summer solstice is June 20). A side note about "est arrive." In November, the Nouveau Beaujolais wine arrives in France and the signs are everywhere announcing this event. Very festive. I wander – sorry.

I think it is over. I feel we have conquered the foe. The statistics are showing that the SARS – coronavirus is beginning to subside. I congratulate each of you for your diligence during the epidemic. We followed – and continue to follow – guidelines and restrictions. Thank you. If at all possible, please receive your vaccination. As of May 21 VCE updated their COVID-19 guidance to align with current University, CDC, and Governor's Executive Order 72 Amendment #7 and Executive Order 79. A mass distribution email was forwarded to the membership detailing the new VCE guidance. Bill Dichtel (Education) has been working with the library (thank you Bill) and it appears that we will be able to meet in person for our August general membership meeting. Rick Brown is working on establishing a ZOOM or recording of the meeting. We would like to make this available to those who cannot attend or who remain uncomfortable in large groups. Updates will be provided. Your Board is amazing on the amount of effort spent keeping its members safe. A big thank you when you see them!

I appreciate the work provided by the members of the Plant Sale project. An amazing result – from a member only sale. Thank you and well done. It is just so nice to see everyone work together. Next year will be a public sale, and it will be wonderful to return to normal.

I just received a recent update concerning the new ANR agent for James City County. Janet Spencer informs me that the new agent will be "on board in June." I will, hopefully, have details to present at the June General Membership Meeting. Bureaucracy – it is like turning a battleship in in that it takes a very long time.



Photo Courtesy of Elizabeth McCoy

The Board of Directors and the Training Committee are in the planning stage of having the intern graduation ceremony at the December meeting (2<sup>nd</sup> December). A small – no, a large – congratulatory reception and Christmas open house will be arranged. A time of celebration as we close out the year of 2021. And what a year it has been.

Emeritus status has been awarded to the following members: Jim Pressly, Nelda Pressly, Becky Sutton, Patti Lupton, and Genrose Lashinger. I personally thank each of you for the years of time and service. Milestone awards have also been received. The pins will be "presented" at the June Zoom meeting.

Reminders: (i) Please enter your volunteer hours into Better Impact; (ii) International Master Gardener College in September; (iii) Vaccinate.

As the great songwriter and musician, Mr. John Lennon of the Beatles sang: "we all shine on . . . like the moon and the stars and the sun . . . we all shine on "

You, my friends, definitely shine on. We have pushed through this epidemic and now will move forward. As always, thank you for the support!

**Next Meeting:**  
Thursday, June 3  
9:00am  
VIA ZOOM

**Program:**  
Growing and Cooking  
Fresh Herbs

**Speaker:**  
Barbara Scherer  
&  
Sherry Walker

2021  
MGA Board

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*VCE ANR Program  
Assistant:*  
VACANT

Newsletter Editor:  
Katherine Sokolowsky  
katherinesoko@gmail.  
com

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.

PLEASE NOTE:  
During the pandemic and while the library remains closed, the board meets through video conferencing.

## THIS MONTH'S SPEAKER

BY BILL DICHEL, VP FOR INTERNAL EDUCATION

Be sure to attend the June 3 Master Gardener Meeting Educational Sessions. Our speakers will be Barbara Scherer and Sherry Walker and they will speak on *Growing and Cooking Fresh Herbs*.

Sherry has been a Master Gardener for twelve years. Prior to that, she worked in various corporations, including Jackson and Perkins Roses and Suntory Plants which later became part of Proven Winners so she has a lot of experience behind her green thumb! She moved to the New River Valley of Virginia in 2013 and volunteered with the Hahn Horticultural Garden at Virginia Tech and at the farmers markets with the NRV Master Gardeners. Sherry moved to Williamsburg in 2016 and she has been active with the Williamsburg Botanical Garden, Landscape Love, and the Reid and Shields Gardens at Colonial Williamsburg where she is one of the Team Leads for the Herb Gardens.

Barbara Scherer brings tremendous experience to the table as well, from a culinary standpoint. She is a journeyman with Historical Foodways and she has worked at Colonial Williamsburg for 22 years. She completed her culinary college in England. She worked as a professional chef for eighteen years, ending as an executive chef. While working at Colonial Williamsburg, she worked with Robert Irvine on "Dinner Impossible" and Walter Staib on "A Taste of History."

This is a program you won't want to miss!



Courtesy of Unsplash

## COVID UPDATES

BY MARTIN OAKES AND RICK BROWN,  
PRESIDENT AND VP-PROJECTS

The CDC announced on Thursday, May 13, 2021 that fully vaccinated individuals are no longer required to wear masks or maintain social distancing either indoor or outdoor settings. On May 14, Governor Northam announced Virginia was following the new guidelines. We received notice from Janet Spencer, Southeast District Director for VCE, on May 26, that VCE has authorized the Virginia Master Gardener program to follow suit. VCE updated guidelines now follow University, CDC, and Commonwealth of Virginia protocols.

Accordingly, our members who have been fully vaccinated and engaging in the Unit's recognized volunteer activities that involve personal contact with other members, are no longer required to wear masks, or remain socially distant, from others while engaging in those activities. For those who have not yet been vaccinated, the CDC recommends that they should continue to wear masks to protect themselves and others from possible infection. Of course, any member who personally chooses to wear a mask, remain socially

Don't forget to check out our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/VCEMasterGardeners/>. Lots of great articles, educational videos, beautiful photographs, upcoming events, and more! Marion Guthrie is doing a great job keeping us up to date, especially during this time when things are changing so frequently.

To get to our VCE James City County/Williamsburg Master Gardener homepage quickly, click on <http://jccwmg.org/wordpress/>

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## COVID UPDATES — CONTINUED

distance, or refrain from participating in volunteer activities, is free to do so.

**Please keep in mind that in some activities as Master Gardeners we are guests of other organizations or businesses that continue to have different, and possibly more stringent, rules that we may be required to follow in order to participate in their activities or gain access to their premises. In those circumstances you should respect and follow the guidelines of those organizations if you choose to remain on their premises until they decide to loosen their own restrictions. Some projects may remain inactive. Let us be flexible.**



Courtesy of Unsplash

The new VCE guidance also affects our indoor meetings. The General Membership Meeting scheduled for Thursday August 5 will be held in the auditorium of the Williamsburg Library. The Board of Directors meeting in June and July will continue to be in the ZOOM format. Please remain flexible. Details will follow.

We have forwarded you the e-mail from Virginia Cooperative Extension announcing this latest policy change. Any additional information will be forwarded to you when we receive it.

Project Leaders should review this new policy as it applies to your projects and contact Rick Brown, VP-Projects with any questions.

## BETTER IMPACT BY RICK BROWN, VP-PROJECTS

Despite the limitations imposed on our unit's activities by Covid so far this year our volunteers have logged over 5,200 hours into the new Better Impact [BI] reporting system. However, this does not represent an accurate picture of our work because many of you do not enter your hours and others have not even signed into the new system for the first time.

This is written to encourage you to use this new tool we have been provided. With this new technology we are now able to quickly obtain useful reports on the activities that our members are participating in and gauge the level of interest in all of our on-going volunteer work. The accuracy of those reports depends on the data you provide.

The board will be reviewing these reports following the end of every month and then sending the data to the Project Leaders, before sharing them to all of you in each month's newsletter. It is therefore important that each of us enters our time in BI at the very least on a monthly basis; daily or weekly would be even better. Having this information available in our database will allow us to share reports of our time spent volunteering and the public contacts, with the Virginia Cooperative Extension office as required.

Remember the hours you work are not merely to obtain pins and individual recognition, but satisfy the requirements placed on us as volunteers by the VCE Master Gardener Coordinator's Office.

"VCE-EMGs should not be lax in reporting volunteer time; they deserve recognition for their efforts. Reporting of VCE-MG accomplishments also justifies to funding agencies, such as grant sources and county governments, the expenditure of their money." *VCE Master Gardening Resource and Reference Guide, Chap. 1, at p. 11.*

Thank you for volunteering and thanks for helping us keep track of the collective work that everyone contributes to our group's efforts.

## LOGO CONTEST

BY VICKIE ROCKWELL, VP ADMINISTRATION

**AND the WINNER IS ...**

A very special thank you to everyone who participated in the LOGO Contest. Our appreciation goes to the creators who submitted the concept designs, Bill Dichtel, Carole Mayfield, Alice Kopinitz, Kay Clapp, and Rick Brown. And special recognition to all the members who joined in the fun. Almost half the membership took the time to send in their preference. And the top vote getter and winner is:



This may be familiar to many of our members. It is an older design that will be refreshed. We will add the new slogan "Neighbors Helping Neighbors Grow" around the circle and eliminate the LEARN – EDUCATE - COMMUNICATE. The new LOGO (in color) will be ready for use in about a month.

## PERENNIAL PLANTS OF THE YEAR

BY DEB BUSSERT, PRESIDENT ELECT

Here is the next installment of my ongoing series of articles about the Perennial Plants of the Year and our experiences with them at the Williamsburg Botanical Garden.

### 2013: *Polygonatum odoratum* 'Variegatum'

Commonly called fragrant or Japanese Solomon's seal, this herbaceous perennial in the asparagus family is hardy in Zones 3 – 8. It grows 2 to 3 feet tall and slowly spreads via rhizomes to form extensive colonies. Its pretty green and white variegated foliage on reddish stems is complemented in April by white bell shaped flowers that are fragrant, though one would have to bend down quite low to appreciate it! The flowers are followed by small blue-black berries. The foliage turns yellow in the fall and then falls over, making cleanup very easy. Native to shaded slopes and woodlands in the temperate regions of Europe and Asia, it grows best in part to full shade, in medium to damp soil, although it tolerates drought once established. It has no significant insect or disease problems and appears to be deer and rabbit resistant. Our original planting of three plants at the WBG now covers about six square feet.



*Polygonatum odoratum* 'Variegatum'  
(Photo courtesy of Deb Bussert)



*Panicum virgatum* 'Northwind'  
(Photo courtesy of Deb Bussert)

### 2014: *Panicum virgatum* 'Northwind'

This ornamental grass is a cultivar of the native switch grass that features olive-green to bluish-green foliage on a compact, narrow, erect 4-5' tall clump. It is easily grown in average, medium to wet soils in full sun to part shade, though it performs best in full sun and may flop if grown in overly rich soil. It grows primarily in clumps but it will slowly spread by slightly creeping rhizomes. As a warm season grass, it flowers in mid to late summer with finely textured pink tinged panicles that hover over the foliage like an airy cloud. The entire plant turns beige and the seeds mature in the fall. The seed plumes persist into winter, providing an important food source for birds as well as winter interest. Switchgrass has no serious insect or disease problems and, like most grasses, is deer and rabbit resistant. This particular cultivar is rather too large for the average ornamental garden, and we removed ours from the perennial garden to a more naturalized area of the WBG. There are a number of other switchgrass cultivars that are smaller and make very good garden subjects, such as 'Ruby Ribbons' and 'Shenandoah'.

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## PERENNIAL PLANTS OF THE YEAR — CONTINUED

### 2015: *Geranium x cantabrigiense* 'Biokovo'

This hardy geranium grows 6 to 12 inches high and wide and makes an excellent ground cover. It is hardy in Zones 5 – 8 and blooms in May and June with pretty white flowers tinged with pink. 'Biokovo' grows well in full sun (with adequate moisture) to part shade, attracts bees and butterflies and is deer and rabbit resistant. Deadheading is not necessary as the flowers fade and drop off. If the foliage declines after flowering the plants may be lightly sheared and shaped.

In our climate, the foliage persists through the winter, and though it may look a bit ragged in early spring new foliage quickly emerges. A similar plant, 'Biokovo Karmina' has bright magenta flowers. The original plants were discovered in the Biokova Mountains in Croatia, then developed by hybridizers at Cambridge University. (The epithet *cantabrigiense* comes from a Latin word meaning of or pertaining to Cambridge, England.) At the WBG, we have planted the original 'Biokovo' as well as 'Karmina' and both are doing well competing with tree roots and growing in partial shade. The highly touted geranium 'Rozanne', on the other hand, planted right next to them, is struggling and has been replanted several times. 'Biokovo' is one of my favorite plants!



*Geranium x cantabrigiense* 'Biokovo'  
(Photo courtesy of Deb Bussert)

## PLANTS I LOVE ... AND DEER IGNORE BY ELIZABETH MCCOY, MG AND TREE STEWARD

*Gardening should be fun and bring joy to our lives. That is why I am always happy to discover a new group of plants that thrive in our climate, grow beautifully without a lot of fuss, and that won't attract the attention of hungry deer looking for the salad bar. Allow me to share one of my favorites....*

*Zantedeschia* species, known as calla lilies, may be one of your favorite florist flowers. These very elegant, long stemmed flowers bloom in a wide range of colors including white, pinks, yellows, reds, and deepest purple. *Zantedeschia* leaves are also beautiful enough that you may enjoy their presence in pots and garden beds throughout the growing season. Some leaves are deep green with white or silver markings. Others may be dark purple or maroon.

Many *Zantedeschia* species prove hardy in coastal Virginia and may be left in the ground year-round. Tender varieties may be grown in pots overwintered in a frost-free area, or lifted in November, around the time of the first frost. The tubers may be dried, cleaned, and stored through the winter months to be planted again the following April.



*Zantedeschia aethiopica*  
'White Giant' growing with Japanese Iris  
(Photo Courtesy of Elizabeth McCoy)

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## PLANTS I LOVE ... AND DEER IGNORE — CONTINUED

*Zantedeschia aethiopica* grows 2'-5' tall with a pure white bloom. Z. 'White Giant' has large white flowers and white markings on its leaves. Moisture loving, these may be grown to advantage in rain gardens or damp spots in full to partial sun. They grow a bit taller and clumps increase, year to year, in Zones 7a-10b. Z. 'Swartberg Giant' grows to 54", with deep green, heavily ruffled unmarked leaves. Each leaf may be nearly 2' long. The huge white flowers grow to 7" across. Give both hardy varieties moist, rich soil for best performance.

*Zantedeschia aethiopica* 'African Gold,' grows to only 24", but has beautiful deep green leaves with gold veins. This white flowering variety is hardy in Zones 8b-10.

*Zantedeschia albomaculata*, hardy in Zones 7-10, sport white spotted leaves and somewhat smaller white flowers, growing 12" to 18". They may be grown among other perennials in a bed, or they may be grown in pots in the shallow edge of a pond. Keep the bulbs drier if left outdoors over winter. They are very adaptable for full to partial sun, giving the best flowers in full sun.



*Zantedeschia hybrid*  
(Photo Courtesy of Elizabeth McCoy)

Another stunning Calla is *Zantedeschia* 'Odessa,' with deep purple, almost black flowers. Its deep green leaves are spotted with white. Far more striking is Z. 'Memories,' whose leaves have deep purple stems with some marking. The flowers are nearly black. These are very hardy to Zone 3 and may be left in the ground or in outdoor pots year-round. You can see these two cultivars growing together in a pot in the Rock Garden at the Williamsburg Botanical Garden. They are both hardy to Zone 3 and may be left in the ground or in outdoor pots year-round. Grow in part to full sun. As with all *Zantedeschias*, they flower more in full sun.

*Zantedeschia* leaves and flowers contain crystalline calcium oxalate, which stings and irritates tender tissue in the mouth of any creature who takes a bite. This keeps them safe from grazers. The same is true for all members of the Aroid family, including *Colocasia*, *Caladium*, *Alocasia*, *Philodendron*, *Arisaema* and *Arum*.

Blooming calla lily plants grown in hothouses may be purchased from local shops nearly year-round. These can be planted outside, but please do a little research to determine the hardiness of the cultivar.



*Zantedeschia 'Odessa'*  
(Photo Courtesy of Elizabeth McCoy)

Order *Zantedeschia* rhizomes for spring delivery. The large *aethiopica* varieties are rarely available locally as plants and generally must be ordered from companies like Brent and Becky's Bulbs or Plant Delights. Start them in pots, flats, or even in a zip-lock bag with some damp potting soil. Roots emerge from the top of the rhizome, along with the new stems. Beginners might find it easier to sprout the rhizome before planting to insure it is 'right side up.'

If growing in containers, remember to provide enough water and nutrition to keep the plant in active growth and bloom. Expect these plants to die back for an annual dormant period whether grown indoors or out. Otherwise, these are easy, beautiful plants to add a touch of elegance to all but the shadiest gardens.

## A KEY TO GARDENING SUCCESS: RECOGNIZING HYDRIC SOILS BY DREW MORGAN, CLASS OF 2020

As a Master Gardener Intern taking on my first Turf Love assignment, our project lead gave me a soil map of the homeowner's property. As part of my assignment, I conducted some online research of soil types in our region and kept running across the term "hydric" soil. I learned that an understanding of hydric soils is key to gardening success here in the James City County area.

Hydric soil has been permanently or seasonally saturated with pooled or ponded water, and as a result, does not contain enough oxygen for plants to thrive. This anaerobic earth becomes heavy, with no open passageways for air to travel, and affects microorganisms and plant roots that need oxygen to survive.

Over the course of millennia, the soil in our region was laid down mostly by sediments from upstream higher elevations, creating relatively flat land. As a result, before development, the JCC/Williamsburg area consisted of largely wet and swampy woodlands. You may have noticed that there are still wooded areas that are routinely flooded and retain water for weeks and months at a time. The soils in these areas are hydric or in the process of becoming hydric.

So, why should we care about hydric soils, even if your yard is no longer a wetland? Hydric soils, which can be found typically between one foot to several feet below the surface, have few redeeming qualities. Because of long periods of standing water, these soils have been deprived of oxygen, which is essential for all plants and root development, even if that area is no longer periodically flooded.

The "food cycle" of living organisms in the soil has been disrupted, creating subterranean dead zones. Most of the iron and manganese, vital for photosynthesis and plant cellular development, has leached away, making the soil inhospitable to the types of plants, shrubs, and trees we want to grow.

Have you ever noticed the fallen trees in the forests around our area have very shallow root systems? Many of these trees are missing a tap root that should grow downward as an anchor. For years, I have attributed this to the fact that we reside in an area with so much clay, that roots are forced to grow horizontally vice downward. That is only part of the story.

The other reason the root systems of trees and shrubs grow laterally is due to hydric soil. The roots grow horizontally because they are seeking oxygen, which is closer to the surface. It is also why plants in hydric soils tend to be stunted due to insufficient root growth, and have yellowing leaves due to lack of nutrients. As gardeners, there are several actions that we need to take.



Courtesy of Unsplash

1. When planting trees and shrubs in an area that is relatively flat and may have formerly been wet and swampy, we need to assume that the soil is hydric. Even though it requires more effort, the hole for planting a tree or shrub needs to be dug at least two or three times as wide as the root ball, and at least double or more the depth. Instead of repacking the hole with some soil from the original hole, we need to replace the soil with better quality soil with organic amendments. This will give the plant a much better chance of long-term survival, deeper roots, and the ability to thrive in its first few years.

2. If you suspect your trees and shrubs are on hydric soil, get your soil analyzed. Call our Help Desk for instructions. Once your suspicions are confirmed, you may

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## A KEY TO GARDENING SUCCESS: RECOGNIZING HYDRIC SOILS —CONTINUED

be advised to use fertilizers that contain fair amounts of iron and manganese to ensure the plants are receiving the nutrients they may not be getting naturally.

3. If you or a neighbor have areas of standing water after heavy rains, or areas that remain saturated and flooded for days, weeks, or even months, consider ways to remedy the condition by elevating the ground level, installing French or underground drains, building berms or swales to divert water, contouring the grounds to provide drainage, or installing rain gardens where it makes sense. Although it is often an easy problem to ignore, come next season, the same conditions will persist, and your soil will become increasingly more hydric, and its quality will continue to decline.

We cannot change the fact that we live in an area permeated by hydric soils, but we can take steps to improve planting sites and better inform our neighbors about the soil conditions in our area.

### TURF LOVE

BY JUDY MCCORMACK, TURF LOVE, CO-CHAIR

Turf Love is a cooperative program between the Stormwater & Resource Protection Division, the Colonial Soil and Water Conservation District (CSWCD), and Virginia Cooperative Extension's Master Gardeners. Master Gardener volunteers, called Lawn Rangers, teach homeowners how to produce healthy turf while reducing the use of fertilizers, pesticides, and insecticides through public workshops and home visits. A Lawn Ranger will visit your home, do a soil test to get your soil's make up and provide you with a plan on how to improve your lawn in an environmentally friendly way.

For more information, [please visit the CSWCD website](#).

To request an onsite visit download and complete an application here: [www.colonialswcd.net/turf-love](http://www.colonialswcd.net/turf-love).

## PLANT SALE 2021 RESULTS!

BY DONNA TIERNEY, PLANT SALE, CO-CHAIR

Because of all of the hard work by the Plant Sale Team, the 51 people who donated 1545 Plants, and our partnership with the Williamsburg Botanical Garden, a total of \$5080 was earned for the JCC-W Master Gardener treasury!

The detailed accounting is below. Thanks to all of you who supported this event.

### Plant Sale 2021 Results

Plants Donated for the Sale	1545
Plant Sale Receipts (Day of Sale)	\$2825
Plant Sale Donations	\$738
Sold to WBG	\$1372
Total	\$4935
IOUS due	\$145
Grand Total	\$5080



Photo Courtesy of Elizabeth McCoy

A very special thank you to the dedicated team members whose hard work made this sale possible:

Linda Berryman, Ginny Cranford, Stacy DeMeo, Jean Johnston, Kim Owens, Jim & Nelda Pressly, Gary Streb, Donna Tierney, and Gail Weaver.

## THIS AND THAT

### Diane Relf International Master Gardener Conference Scholarship

Virtual International Master Gardener Conference will be held September 13-17, 2021. VMGA is awarding twenty \$150 scholarships. All scholarship applications must be submitted by unit VCE agent or coordinator, and only 2 applications per unit are accepted. Agents/coordinators have full discretion as to which 2 are submitted.

Even though the Conference will be online, there is still a registration fee and the scholarship will cover the entire cost of registration. If there is a deserving Master Gardener with limited resources, this is a great opportunity to receive a scholarship. However, financial need is only one of the many qualities used in granting the award. Scholarships are available to all active Master Gardeners, except previous recipients and interns.

Scholarship guidelines and a convenient online application can be found at [vmga.net](http://vmga.net), under "Education", "Diane Relf Scholarship". Questions can be sent to Tonya Harper (Scholarship Committee Chair) at: [sunset67@ntelos.net](mailto:sunset67@ntelos.net).

**The deadline is June 5, 2021.** Notification of application receipt will be sent to the submitter. Agents/coordinators and scholarship awardees will be notified by July 15, 2021.

– Vickie Rockwell, VP of Administration

### Invasive Plant Species Resources

I was doing some research into invasive plants in advance of the WBG Plant Sale to be sure we would not be selling any "bad actors" and I came across the attached list of Alien Invasive Landscape Plants in Virginia published by the State Arboretum of Virginia at Blandy Experimental Farm. I thought it was more useful than some other lists I have seen, because it calls out a number of commonly available/planted species that we should encourage gardeners to avoid. I even have some of these in my garden (I'm lookin' at you, Ajuga). The list is at the end of this newsletter *again* (because the second page was missing last month).

– Deb Bussert, Sustainable Gardening at Williamsburg Botanical Gardens, Chair

### Williamsburg/James City County Master Gardener Help Desk

The JCCWVG Master Gardener Help Desk is now able to support all email and phone inquiries remotely. If there are other master gardeners that would like to be part of the Help Desk now that it can be supported from the comforts of your home please contact Bob Howell at 757-566-3278 or [rhowell0727@gmail.com](mailto:rhowell0727@gmail.com).

– Bob Howell, Help Desk, Chair

## THIS AND THAT — CONTINUED

### RECOGNITION OF OUR MASTER GARDENERS EMERITI

#### REBECCA SUTTON

One of our new Emeritus members is Rebecca Sutton from the graduating class of 2003. Rebecca has accumulated over 2277 hours in her 18 years of service to the JCC/W Master Gardeners Association. During this time, she designed the perennial garden for the Williamsburg Botanical Garden. She chaired the Colonial Williamsburg Learning Garden for 10 years; was project chair for the plant sale for 3 years; project chair for "Meet the Gardener" tours and the Intern Project Fair.

We appreciate all that you have contributed to our Association and hope for your continued participation. You and all the Emeriti are inspirations to us.

THANK



YOU!!

Courtesy of Unsplash

#### News from the Williamsburg Botanical Garden

Thank you to all who have continued working in the Garden and making it so beautiful this spring. We have received many compliments and 5-star Google reviews from our visitors, and many of them specifically say "Thank You" to our volunteers. Our Spring Honor Box Plant Sale has been a success and will go a long way to helping fund major repairs that are planned for later this year, and we are still accepting [Give Local 757](https://www.givelocal757.org/organizations/williamsburg-botanical-garden) Donations to help fund these projects. Link: <https://www.givelocal757.org/organizations/williamsburg-botanical-garden>

**June 19 - 10 am - Learn and Grow Session via Zoom:** Dr. Shawn T. Dash, Assistant Professor Integrative Biology Zoology at Hampton University, is our speaker for "The Sound of Cicadas".

Details and Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/157203667401>.

If you missed Patsy McGrady's excellent presentation about caring for trees, watch the replay of "Volcano Mulching and Other Tree Crimes" at <https://youtu.be/9aZcw8RThD4>.

– Judith Alberts, WBG Board Chair

## Important Dates



Photo Courtesy of Elizabeth McCoy

## THINKING OF OUR MEMBERS

The organization sends cards to members with difficult medical issues or who have experienced a death in the immediate family.

We also acknowledge achievements/ milestones and donations made to the association.

This month we sent cards to:

**Drew Morgan — Get Well Soon**

If you know any member who should receive a card, please contact our new secretary, Paulette Atkinson, at (757) 813-7234 or [papinehurst@gmail.com](mailto:papinehurst@gmail.com)

## NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for submissions to the July 2021 newsletter will be Wednesday, June 23

Please send any submissions to Katherine Sokolowsky, newsletter editor, at [katherinesoko@gmail.com](mailto:katherinesoko@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.

## State Arboretum of Virginia at Blandy Experimental Farm Alien Invasive Landscape Plants in Virginia

The following list contains alien invasive plants that are grown and/or used in the landscape/nursery industry. Plants that are not grown, distributed and planted by the industry (such as *Alliaria petiolata*, Garlic Mustard) do not appear on the list.

The following sources provided information to develop this list: Invasive Plant Atlas <http://www.invasiveplantatlas.org/index.html>, Mid-Atlantic Exotic Pest Plant Council <http://www.maipc.org/> and Digital Atlas of Virginia Flora <http://vaplantatlas.org/> Please note that cultivars of these plants can also be invasive.

### Trees:

<i>Acer platanoides</i>	Norway Maple
<i>Albizia julibrissin</i>	Mimosa or Silktree
<i>Evodia daniellii</i> ( <i>Tetradium daniellii</i> )	Korean Evodia or Bee-Bee Tree
<i>Melia azedarach</i>	Chinaberry
<i>Morus alba</i>	White Mulberry
<i>Phellodendron amurense</i>	Amur Corktree
<i>Populus alba</i>	White Poplar
<i>Pyrus calleryana</i>	Callery, Ornamental or Bradford Pear
<i>Quercus acutissima</i>	Sawtooth Oak
<i>Salix alba</i>	White Willow
<i>Ulmus pumila</i>	Siberian Elm

### Shrubs:

<i>Berberis thunbergii</i>	Japanese Barberry
<i>Buddleja davidii</i>	Butterfly Bush
<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	Scotch Broom
<i>Deutzia scabra</i>	Fuzzy Deutzia
<i>Elaeagnus pungens</i>	Thorny Olive or Silverberry
<i>Euonymus alatus</i>	Burning Bush
<i>Euonymus europaeus</i>	European Spindletree
<i>Hibiscus syriacus</i>	Rose of Sharon
<i>Ligustrum amurense</i>	Amur Privet
<i>Ligustrum obtusifolium</i>	Border Privet
<i>Ligustrum ovalifolium</i>	California Privet
<i>Ligustrum sinense</i>	Chinese Privet
<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>	European or Common Privet
<i>Lonicera fragrantissima</i>	Winter Honeysuckle
<i>Lonicera standishii</i>	Standish or Fragrant Honeysuckle
<i>Lonicera tatarica</i>	Tatarian Honeysuckle
<i>Rhodotypos scandens</i>	Jetbead
<i>Rubus phoenicolasius</i>	Wineberry
<i>Spiraea japonica</i>	Japanese Meadowsweet
<i>Viburnum dilatatum</i>	Linden Viburnum

**State Arboretum of Virginia at Blandy Experimental Farm  
Alien Invasive Landscape Plants in Virginia**

**Vine/Groundcovers:**

<i>Akebia quinata</i>	Chocolate vine or Five-leaf Akebia
<i>Ampelopsis brevipedunculata</i>	Porcelain Berry or Amur Peppervine
<i>Clematis terniflora</i> ( <i>C. dioscoreifolia</i> , <i>C. maximowicziana</i> , <i>C. paniculata</i> )	Sweet autumn clematis or Virgins Bower
<i>Euonymus fortunei</i>	Winter creeper
<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>	Ground ivy or Creeping Charlie
<i>Hedera helix</i>	English ivy
<i>Ipomoea purpurea</i>	Common morning glory
<i>Lonicera japonica</i>	Japanese honeysuckle
<i>Lysimachia nummularia</i>	Creeping Jenny or Moneywort
<i>Vinca major</i> and <i>V. minor</i>	Periwinkle
<i>Wisteria floribunda</i> and <i>W. sinensis</i>	Japanese and Chinese wisteria

**Perennials:**

<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	Bugleweed
<i>Polygonum cuspidatum</i> ( <i>Fallopia japonica</i> )	Japanese knotweed or Fleeceflower
<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	Yellowflag iris
<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	Purple loosestrife
<i>Lythrum virgatum</i>	European wand loosestrife
<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i>	Parrot feather
<i>Ranunculus ficaria</i>	Lesser celandine

**Grasses:**

<i>Arundo donax</i>	Giant reed
<i>Imperata cylindrica</i>	Cogongrass or Japanese bloodgrass
<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i>	Maiden grass or Chinese silvergrass
<i>Phalaris arundinaceae</i>	Ribbon grass or Reed canarygrass
<i>Phyllostachys aurea</i>	Golden bamboo
<i>Pseudosasa japonica</i>	Arrow bamboo

**Annuals/Biennials:**

<i>Hesperis matronalis</i>	Dames rocket
<i>Perilla frutescens</i>	Beefsteak plant or Perilla

# Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Program - James City County/Williamsburg

Activity Totals: 1/1/2021 - 6/1/2021

Category	Activity	Hours	Volunteers	Average
Administrative Responsibilities	MGA Board, Officers, Committees, etc.	940.67	36	26.13
	<b>Category Total Hours</b>	<b>940.67</b>		
Demonstration Areas & Public Tours	Colonial Williamsburg Arboretum & Tours	198.42	5	39.68
	Colonial Williamsburg Demonstration Gardens & Public Tours	551.25	25	22.05
	Incredible Edibles - Historic Triangle Learning Gardens	115.25	14	8.23
	Water Wise Low Maintenance Garden	77.50	9	8.61
	Williamsburg Botanical Garden	564.28	35	16.12
	<b>Category Total Hours</b>	<b>1506.70</b>		
Monthly MGA Meetings	Business Portion of MGA Meetings	447.12	113	3.96
	<b>Category Total Hours</b>	<b>447.12</b>		
Public Outreach	Annual Plant Sale	390.42	31	12.59
	HelpDesk	101.17	9	11.24
	Pruning Clinic	72.50	5	14.50
	Shoreline Evaluation Project (Water Stewards)	3.50	2	1.75
	Speakers Bureau	93.50	4	23.38
	Tree Call (Tree Stewards)	6.08	4	1.52
	Turf Love	123.58	12	10.30
	<b>Category Total Hours</b>	<b>790.75</b>		
School/Public Education	Blayton School Garden	110.83	11	10.08
	Mattey's Garden	222.50	16	13.91
	Therapeutic Gardening	25.00	3	8.33
	<b>Category Total Hours</b>	<b>358.33</b>		
Stewardship - Tree & Water	Peninsula Tree Stewards - Volunteer Hrs.	140.05	17	8.24
	Peninsula Water Stewards - Volunteer Hrs.	36.17	6	6.03
	<b>Category Total Hours</b>	<b>176.22</b>		
Training	Master Gardener Training Course	176.08	24	7.34
	Tree Steward Training Course	3.50	1	3.50
	Water Steward Training Course	5.15	2	2.58
	<b>Category Total Hours</b>	<b>184.73</b>		
X- Continuing Education	Approved Continuing Education	894.23	111	8.06
	Approved Tree Stewards-CE Hrs.	73.97	18	4.11
	Approved Water Stewards-CE Hrs.	21.62	5	4.32

	<b>Category Total Hours</b>	<b>989.82</b>		
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>5394.34</b>		