

April 2022

# Garden Beet



MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION OF TIPPECANOE COUNTY

## Message from Your Co-Presidents

Jim and Mickey

It's always nice to be needed. People write songs about it, write books about it, and make movies about it. That's why Master Gardeners are especially lucky. You are really needed this year.

The MGATC has gone through significant changes over the past year including signing a lease agreement with the county for the property on Sagamore. With that comes more responsibility for details of the operation that we didn't worry about in the past. (The lease agreements are posted on our website.) As any tenant knows, our landlord can terminate the lease if the property doesn't meet with their approval. Our intention is not to just meet with their approval but to impress the county commissioners, the

new owners of the adjacent building, and the public in general with our professionalism, our ability to beautify the area, and our donations to local food pantries. We want to be proud of these gardens along with the rest of our gardens and projects.

Additionally, after taking two years off, the Expo, our primary fundraiser, is back! Setup begins Friday morning, April 22, with the main event the next day. Sign up sheets are already out by email. (If you missed them, contact Dee Dee Long.) In the meantime, please grow or dig up items for the plant sale and collect boxes to help our customers haul away their treasures. Imagine the size of our Garden Shed sale after a two-year hiatus!

As an organization we will have to work together to make both these projects successful. The MGATC is a little smaller than in recent years. We have lost members due to age, family commitments, and pandemic-related reasons. So you are needed more than ever. Please volunteer some extra time to help with the gardens - daytime, evenings, weekends, whenever you can spare some time. Meanwhile, save-the-date cards and flyers for the Expo are available at the new extension offices. Pick up a few and spread them around. You are truly needed.

Jim and Mickey

## Volunteer Opportunities

### GAAP

It's time to sign up for GAAP (Great Annual Annual Planting) 2022. Spring will soon be in the air and Master Gardeners love to plant. GAAP is the time we serve our community and make it more beautiful by planting annual and perennial flowers in public locations around town. We will be planting at the Tippecanoe County Courthouse, Columbian Park Zoo, Lafayette Art Museum, Indiana Veteran's Home, and Myers Pedestrian Bridge. May is a busy month and we could use your help.

Enter the following link and it will take you to SignUpGenius, where you will be able to sign up for the time and site you are interested in. It's quick and easy. Put a check mark in the box for each site you want to volunteer for. Then click submit and sign up at the bottom of the screen. You will get a confirmation email from SignUpGenius.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4CAEA62CA4F8CF8-gaap>

We hope it will be sunny and warm, but we will still plant in light rain. For questions, please email Dee Dee Long

## Programs

April 5 • 6:30 p.m. • TCEO  
1950 South 18th Street  
Natural Regions of Indiana  
Scott Namestnik

Botanist extraordinaire Scott Namestnik will present "Natural Regions of Indiana" with hybrid viewing through zoom. Also we will be having a pot (plastic) exchange in preparation for the Expo. There is plenty of parking with accessibility to the basement on the north side of the building.

May 3 • 6:30 p.m. • TCEO

For more information on upcoming events, contact Amanda Burge at [amanda\\_personett@yahoo.com](mailto:amanda_personett@yahoo.com).

at [deedeelmg@mail.com](mailto:deedeelmg@mail.com) or Jan Sadler at [jansadler23@comcast.net](mailto:jansadler23@comcast.net).

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Please submit items for the *Garden Beet* to [MGATCGardenBeet@gmail.com](mailto:MGATCGardenBeet@gmail.com) by the 15th of the month for the next month's issue.

Items to be emailed to the membership should be sent to Dee Dee Long at [deedeelmg@gmail.com](mailto:deedeelmg@gmail.com).

<http://www.tippecanoeastergardener.org>

<https://www.purdue.edu/hla/sites/master-gardener/>



# MGATC Minutes: Mar 1, 2022, 6:30 p.m., Virtual

At 6:30 p.m. on March 1st, the monthly MGATC meeting was held virtually. The speaker was scheduled to be Amber Slaughterbeck on "Landscaping for Wilderness." Unfortunately Amber was unable to attend at the last minute, so we went ahead with the business portion of the meeting.

There were two questions asked of the 52 members who attended the meeting.

The first was the question to the members required to change the bylaws. "Are you in favor of changing the bylaws to allow a new category of members, being alumni?" The change in the bylaws was approved by 98%.

The second question was about holding the monthly meetings. Purdue has lifted their restrictions on holding meetings in person. How do the members feel about the monthly meetings beginning in April? Would you like them to continue to be completely virtual, completely in person, or a combination of the two? The members responded: 12% virtual, 20% in person, and 67% a combination.

The 2021 Master Gardener Awards were announced. Because the last graduating class was so small, a Rookie of the Year was not selected. However, Joan Straber won the Outstanding Master Gardener Award and Guido Nizzi won the Best Supporting Master Gardener Award.

Pat Williams announced the list of Master Gardeners advancing to the next level this year. They are:

**Certified:** Sara Ostheimer

**Advanced:** Ginger Borden, Sandra Burbank, Amanda Burge, Kathy Cubberley, Brian Leung, Jeanna Luck Smith, Cindy McDonald, Nina Morgan, and Brenda Nicholson

**Bronze:** Anna Brickler, Pattie Hall, Doug Ketterer, and Paulette Moody

**Gold:** Diana Allen (1000), Perry

Schnarr (1000), Julieann Davis (2000), Jan Sadler (2000), Mickey Penrod (5000)

**Alumni:** Sheila Koller, Esther Chosnek, and Jan Scarcelli

Pat also reminded everyone that the rules will be enforced this year on the 12 volunteer and six educational hours required to keep current. He also recommended a big cleanup at the extension gardens after a couple years of letting things go.

He also announced that the final tally of members is 117 and all are compliant with the annual agreement. Great job!

He said that they are starting to sign up people for plots in the community gardens. The meetings for the plots are going well.

Jim Jeray said they are looking for volunteers in the community gardens and the Display and Idea Garden. They are also looking for a demo garden leader.

Dee Dee Long updated everyone on the Garden Expo. She said that people who are going to raise plants should be starting their seeds now. Also people should be thinking of perennials in their gardens that could be dug up and divided. The group still needs pots for people to put their plants in, so contact her if you have some, or bring them to the April monthly meeting. She will be using SignUpGenius to have people volunteer for the Expo. She will send out an email with the signup within the next week. The group also needs boxes for people to put their purchases in as well. They can be brought to the fairgrounds Friday evening before the Expo. Cheryl McCool added that people should go through their garages for items to sell in the Garden Shed, and think of things to bake for the Just Desserts bake sale. Save-the-date cards are ready for anyone to pass out. They

can be picked up at the new extension office.

Please pass them around your neighborhoods, post on bulletin boards, put it in your car window, etc.

With that, the meeting was adjourned.

- Nancy Cope, Recording Secretary

They came on one of April's most brilliant days—a day as sparkling as a newly-washed lemon . . . a day when even the shadows were a melange of blue and orange and jade, like the shadows that poured from the tipsy brush of Monet

~Beverley Nichols

# MGATC Board: Mar 10, 2022, 4 p.m., Virtual

Jim Jeray called the meeting to order at 4 p.m. on March 10, 2022. Present were Pat Williams, Andy Hughes, Cheryl McCool, Deb Rimer, Dee Dee Long, Jan Sadler, Jim Jeray, Amanda Burge, Kathie Cox, Nancy Cope, and Jolaine Roberts.

Minutes from the February meeting were approved as published in the *Garden Beet*.

Deb Rimer read the Treasurer Report.

Pat Williams said the Green Books are printed and will be ready to hand out sometime next week. However they're actually purple! He also noted that we gained one more member, so we are now up to 118 members.

The subject of creating a new category of gardeners called "past supporters" was discussed. There are two people interested in being in this category. After much discussion on the logistics of how complicated this might be, and people just interested in continuing to receive the *Garden Beet*, it was suggested to just add them to the mailing list but not put them in the Green Book. The motion was passed.

Andy Hughes said that the mailing list will be updated and then he will change the password on the website and send out an email with the new password.

Andy also gave a report on the compost project. He gave a short history of how it came about and where it stands now. He said that in order to handle the amount of garden material being produced, the group should purchase some equipment that would make the job more efficient. He pointed out the pros and cons of purchasing vs renting the equipment, and suggested that purchasing the equipment would make more sense, considering how often it would be used. He noted that the project budget is available online for anyone who wants to see it. The

motion was passed to purchase the equipment for the compost project.

Cheryl McCool gave an update on the Expo. She said that Bill Dilling is growing plants for the Expo in his large greenhouse. However he will need help the Wednesday before the Expo to pick up the plants. Dee Dee Long volunteered to help. Dee Dee also announced that the Expo now has 20 vendors signed up. She said they have room for around eight more vendors. She asked if anyone had suggestions for local businesses who might be interested in having a booth at the event. Nancy Cope suggested contacting 21 Petals Farm. Cheryl and Jim Jeray got the layout of the swine barn done so they know where to put all the booths. Dee Dee noted that she has a friend at Star City Broadcasting who will push the management there to do an interview for our Expo. The question was who they would interview. Pat Williams said he has lots of experience giving interviews and volunteered. Dee Dee said she would also talk to Chad Evans at WLFI and see if they would be interested in doing the same thing. Someone suggested checking out the "What's Happening in Tippecanoe County" Facebook® page to post the Expo.

Nancy Cope talked about her conversation with the new owner of the Shopsmart flyer in the Lafayette area. Evidently the previous owner died over a year ago and a new person bought the franchise. The previous person had a long standing agreement with MGATC to give us an almost full page, front page ad for the month of the Expo. She found records of this going back to at least 2010. But evidently the past owner never kept any record of it. So she had to renegotiate with the new owner, who was not willing to do the ad for free. However, he suggested he could give us a good deal if we could do a sponsorship on the Expo. Nancy wanted to know

what the board thought of that. She noted that in the future, the advertising budget for the Expo should really be looked at, because the big advertising (radio, tv, newspaper, etc) costs big bucks. But it reaches many more people than what we're doing now. However sponsorships might be a way to save some money on publicity. Pat Williams brought up that the MGATC is an entity of Purdue, and as such is not allowed to show favoritism to any corporations. If we only do sponsorships to one or a couple of companies, that might look like favoritism. So the board decided not to advertise in the Shopsmart flyer this year.

Jim Jeray reminded everyone that the time of future board meetings has changed to 6:30 p.m. He asked everyone whether they wanted to start meeting in person, or continue meeting virtually. Everyone voted to keep meeting virtually for the time being.

The board then discussed the format of the monthly meetings. The MGATC members had voted on March 1st to have future meetings be a mix of in person and virtual. So how would that be set up and how would it be run? Would the speaker be in person at the extension office or could they be virtual? It was suggested that the speaker be in person, which might encourage members to show up in person. Also having snacks and drinks again at the meetings would help. Dee Dee said she would contact Jeri Bosworth about refreshments. It was also suggested to remind members of the camaraderie at the meetings. As for technology in the new extension building, it wouldn't be very hard to set up the virtual part of the meeting in the room where it would be held.

Dee Dee announced that before the April monthly meeting the Expo committee will have a pot swap for anyone who needs pots for plants they are

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# Treasurer's Report

## March 2022 Board Meeting Treasurer's Report

Income for the month of February 2022 was from Dues and Garden Expo 2022 Vendors, Donations, and Bank Interest. Total Income was \$334.25, \$2,904, for total Income of \$4,314.98 for Year-to-date 2022.

Early February, we paid \$400 for the remaining balance on the Swine Barn Rental for the 2022 Garden Expo and made a deposit on the Swine Barn for the 2023 Garden Expo for a total of \$800 and \$2 for the Land/parking lot leases on Sagamore. The Restricted Fund Balance is \$16,429.68. A total of unrestricted funds available is \$16,215.92 as of February 28, 2022.

*Deb Rimer, MGATC Treasurer*

## Minutes

(continued from page 3)

growing for the sale, and anyone who has pots they want to get rid of. Please make sure the pots are relatively clean. All sizes are needed.

Dee Dee said that Pat Williams suggested digging up some plants from the rain garden at the old extension office parking lot for the Expo. Mickey said that some plants don't like being transplanted, and some have very large root systems. Dee Dee and Mickey will meet to discuss the project.

Cheryl McCool said she is working on several speakers for the summer monthly meetings.

Jim Jeray said that people are having problems finding the links to past monthly virtual meetings in emails. Andy suggested that the links could be posted on the website as an archive. Pat Williams said he would send the links to Andy so he can do that.

Jim also said he will be working on parking signs for our leased spots at the extension gardens. He will talk with Pat Miller about it.

Jim also announced that although the demo garden leader position is currently open, he will serve as interim until someone can be found.

Jim asked how to buy items on Amazon without paying sales tax. Someone said that Pat Miller is the one to talk to on that, but she didn't make this meeting. He will talk to her about it.

Dee Dee said that in the office move a popcorn machine was discovered in storage. It was brand new. In the past it was going to be sold at the Expo, but somehow that never happened. To get it out of the way for now, it is in Jan Sadler's garage. Cheryl suggested having a silent auction at the Expo to sell it. Jim Jeray said that his wife has several paintings that can be put into a silent auction as well. Everyone agreed having a silent auction was a good idea. The Expo committee will set it up.

Mickey Penrod said she was asked by a master gardener if it was ok to ask companies for free stuff in the name of the MGATC. Mickey knew that we get free seeds from some stores, but wasn't sure about other things, such as building materials. The board said that if any master gardener could go into a store and get stuff in the MGATC's name, the board might not even know about it. It could be a big problem. The board said that they need to know who is buying what. Pat Williams suggested creating a list of people who are authorized to talk to local companies about buying items or receiving items for free in the name of the MGATC. The motion was passed to allow this one time purchase because it was a known project. In the future the board will need to come up with a list of approved buyers for the group.

Mickey also said for future business, the pollinator garden sign is turning black and needs replacing. She will get a price for replacement for the next board meeting.

The meeting was then adjourned.

*- Nancy Cope, Recording Secretary*

## Vegetarian Enchiladas

Serves 4

### INGREDIENTS:

1 tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil  
1/2 medium onion, chopped  
2 cloves garlic, minced  
2 cups frozen corn, rinsed and drained  
3 small zucchinis, chopped  
Kosher salt  
1 tsp. chili powder  
1 tsp. cumin  
1 (15-oz.) black beans, drained and rinsed  
1 (10-oz.) can enchilada sauce  
Juice of 1/2 lime  
8 flour tortillas  
2/3 cup shredded Monterey jack  
1/3 cup shredded cheddar

### FOR TOPPING:

1 cup quartered grape tomatoes  
1 avocado, sliced  
1/4 cup finely chopped onion  
1/4 cup fresh cilantro leaves

### DIRECTIONS:

Preheat oven to 350°. In a large skillet over medium heat, heat oil.

Add onion and cook until soft, 6 minutes. Stir in garlic and cook until fragrant, 1 minute more.

Add corn and zucchinis and season with salt, chili powder, and cumin.

Cook, stirring occasionally, until corn is turning golden and zucchini is tender.

Add black beans, a 1/4 cup of enchilada sauce, and lime juice. Cook 2 minutes more.

Pour half the remaining enchilada sauce into a 9" x 13" baking dish, and spread into a thin layer. Add a large scoop of vegetable mixture into the center of each tortilla and roll up tightly. Place rolled up tortillas side by side in baking dish, then top with remaining enchilada sauce and cheeses.

Bake until cheese is melty, 15 to 18 minutes. Garnish with tomatoes, avocado, onion, and cilantro.

*~Lena Abraham*

# Expo Exchange

## From the Co-Chairwomen Garden Shed

The Garden Expo is coming soon! April 23rd will be here before you know it. I hope many of you have started seedlings for the plant sale; any plants - vegetables and flowers - are welcome, but tomato seedlings, especially Heirloom, are needed. Plants that you want to divide in your yard and bring are also welcome. Go through your garden tools and yard décor to donate to the Garden Shed.

Please bake some cookies, pies, or cake and bread for the Café. Please package them in baggies with two or three cookies to a bag and label each container. If you don't want to package them yourself, then bring some bags with you for our Café committee to do so.

We are having a scholarship raffle and Master Gardeners can purchase raffle tickets for the drawing.

Please plan on participating, as this is our largest fundraiser and supports all our gardening activities for the year, we need your help to make our program a success. If you haven't already done so, please sign-up using SignUpGenius. It's quick and easy. Put a check mark in the box for each activity you want to volunteer for. Then click submit and sign up at the bottom of the screen. You will get a confirmation email from SignUpGenius. Below is link for SignUpGenius.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0D45A8AB2FA5F85-2022>

*Dec Dec and Cheryl*

**In the spring, at  
the end of the  
day, you should  
smell like dirt**

*~Margaret Atwood*

## A Note From Candy --

Master Gardeners, think outside the box and use your imagination about how something could be repurposed for the garden. Your 'put this in the trash' could be someone else's 'OMG I've been looking for one of these' moments. Like colored wine bottles upside down on stakes for garden art or that ugly chip and dip dish shaped like a huge shell that turned into a bird bath! Think outside the box!

These are all the kinds of things we want for the Garden Shed this year. This is a good time to clean out your basement, garage, or wherever you stash all your garden 'stuff.' Donate whatever you no longer use/have room for/know what it is/or want and we'll find a new home for it.

See the list below for some ideas:

Wine bottles, books and magazines, garden related tools (shovels, rakes, etc.), hand tools, pots/fancy pots (empty of soil), garden flags and holders, fence and garden stakes, bird feeders and houses, garden ornaments, chimes, 'rusty stuff,' scarecrows, plant markers, clean/unused garden gear like gloves and hats, wreaths, stepping stones, hoses, fountains, artificial flowers, garden furniture, containers that could be used for planters, rain gauges, pavers, baskets, thermometers, outdoor clocks, buckets, garden related picture frames, dishes, and linens, garden totes, sprinklers, vases/flower-frogs, large/small hooks. All items should be gently used; please no chemicals or fertilizers. You get the idea.....stuff! Drop your 'thingies' off Friday afternoon or early Saturday morning before the Expo and we'll do the rest. Contact Candy for more info at 765-563-3497 (home), 765-494-7311 (work), or email at [candy@purdue.edu](mailto:candy@purdue.edu).

## Just Desserts Café

NEEDED FOR THE EXPO  
JUST DESSERTS GARDEN CAFÉ!!

Homemade Desserts: Lots of fruit pies, (apple, peach, berries, rhubarb, strawberry). Cookies of any variety. Brownies, fudge, snack mixes. Finger food desserts.

Please label your item if you use peanuts or peanut butter. We would like you to put individual servings in a zip-lock, plastic bag. Some items you can put on a small paper plate, then put in a plastic bag. We sell all items for \$1 a bag, so bag accordingly.

Please call if you have any questions.

*Jeri Bosworth Parker, 765-490-5511*

## Pot Swap

**Do you need plant pots for the Garden Expo? Do you have plant pots for the Garden Expo? Come to the Pot Swap Meet on April 5, 5:45 - 6:20 p.m., right before the monthly Master Gardener meeting.**

Clean out your garage and shed. Ask your friends and neighbors for old plant pots. Every pot or planter helps the Garden Expo Plant Sale.

Bring plastic plant pots, terra-cotta, ceramic, etc. of all sizes - small, medium, and large pots. Clean pots preferred. Washed, recycled plastic food containers that can be used for plant pots are good too.

Meet in the parking lot at the new county extension building, located at 1950 South 18th Street, just west of Durgan Elementary School.

BYO boxes and bags for pick-up.

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# What's Happening

## Wednesdays in the Wild

Registration for the WITW programs is required by noon on the Monday prior to the program at 765-567-2993 or [mcutler@tippecanoe.in.gov](mailto:mcutler@tippecanoe.in.gov). Many of the programs may already be at full capacity, but there is a waiting list. Facial coverings and/or physical distancing are highly recommended.

If you would like a copy of the *Native Roots* flyer which has more detailed information on the WITW programs and many other interesting events, please email Joan Mohr Samuels at [mohrsamuels@comcast.net](mailto:mohrsamuels@comcast.net).

### March 30 • 1-3 p.m. • ROSS BR *Spring at Ross Biological Reserve* Kerry Rabenold

Spring is both reassuringly predictable and fascinatingly variable. We'll explore the early blooming spring ephemeral plants found along the trail with Dr. Kerry Rabenold (Professor Emeritus of Biological Sciences, Purdue University) as he shares information about their relationships with pollinators, seed-dispersal strategies, and sensitivity to soil types and disturbances. Wear sturdy hiking shoes and bring trekking poles, if desired. Limited to 20 participants.

### April 6 • 1-3 p.m. • HORT *Woodland Wake-Up at Hort Park & Stewart Woods* Lenny Farlee

Lenny Farlee (Extension Forester, Purdue Hardwood Tree Improvement & Regeneration Center) will lead this hike in search of spring flora in the rolling woodlands on the west edge of the Purdue University campus. Along the way, evidence of forest ecology principles will abound as well! Wear sturdy hiking shoes. Limited to 30 participants.

### April 13 • 10-noon • MARTELL *Cameras in the Sky: Testing New Capabilities to Assess Natural Resources*

Brian Beheler, Jarred Brooke & Cameron Wingren

Brian Beheler, Jarred Brooke, and Cameron Wingren (from Purdue University) will explore how drone and camera technologies are being applied to natural resource assessment and management. The program will also include a stroll through the woods to look at a silvicultural approach to regenerating white oak the slow way. Wear sturdy hiking shoes. Note the time change. Limited to 30 participants.

### April 20 • 1-3 p.m. • CBNA *Celery Bog Saunter* Dan Childs

Refamiliarize yourself with local spring ephemerals on this casual walk on the Celery Bog trails with Dan Childs (wildflower enthusiast and author). His woodland wildflower book, *Into the Woods*, will be available for purchase for \$10 (cash or check). Wear sturdy hiking shoes. Limited to 20 people.

### April 27 • 1-3 p.m. • NICHES/SB *Shawnee Bottoms Spring Wildflower Hike* Bob Easter

Bob Easter (NICHES Stewardship Director) will lead this first in a series of hikes at Shawnee Bottoms to highlight the seasonal changes in the oak woodlands of this special property in Fountain County. Wear sturdy hiking shoes; easy to moderate terrain. There will be a caravan to the location from LNC at noon. Limited to 12 people.

#### LOCATIONS:

**CBNA (Celery Bog Nature Area):** Meet at the Celery Bog Outdoor Amphitheater (1620 Lindberg Road, between Northwestern Avenue and McCormick Road in West Lafayette).

**HORT (Purdue Horticultural Park):** Meet at 1 p.m. in the parking lot on the west side of McCormick Road, just north of its intersection with SR 26 on the west side of the Purdue Campus.

**LNC (Lilly Nature Center):** 1620 Lindberg Road, between Northwestern Avenue and McCormick Road in West Lafayette.

**MARTELL (Martell Forest):** Meet at 1 p.m. at the east access road for Martell Forest, at the intersection of 650 W and SR 26 (on the south side of SR 26).

**NICHES/SB (Shawnee Bottoms):** Meet at 1 p.m. in property parking lot (directions can be found at [www.nicheslandtrust.org](http://www.nicheslandtrust.org)) or join the noon caravan from LNC.

**ROSS BR (Ross Biological Reserve):** Meet at 1 p.m. at the Biological Reserve, 451 S 875 W, West Lafayette.

Upcoming programs:

May 4, Birding at Celery Bog Nature Area

May 11, A Diverse Prairie Restoration in Spring at Kankakee Sands

May 18, Exploring Willow Slough Fish & Wildlife Area

May 25, Black Rock Barrens & Black Rock Walk

June 1, The Key to Tree ID

June 8, A Bird in the Hand: Using Mist Nets to Capture Birds

June 15, Parks & Pollinators: The Stewardship ABCs of a Public Pollinator Habitat

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## Et Cetera

### Green Books and More

For those of you who ordered a Green Book this year, they are ready for pickup at the extension office. I believe I heard they were actually "purple books" this year! There are a few more for purchase if you did not order one.

New name badges for those who advanced to the next level are also available for pickup at the extension office.

*One never knows the idyllic charm of our northern woods who has not seen them in April, when it is all a feast of birds and buds and waking life. . . This month belongs to the birds and flowers; but most of all to the robin*

~Fannie Hardy Eckstorm

# Volunteering

(continued from page 1)

## Demonstration Garden

Greetings,

Spring has sprung, and it's nearly time to start planting the Demonstration Garden. This is the first year we will be "on our own," leasing the garden space, and without the extension office nearby. I am asking for your help to make the garden flourish. We all have different schedules, so I am using SignUpGenius instead of a meeting to find out who can commit to helping out. By the end of April, I will contact each volunteer by email to learn your areas of interest and the best times for you to be there.

There will be many opportunities for volunteers, and I would be very grateful if one or two signed up as chair or co-chair to help me run things throughout the season. Thank you in advance, Jim Jeray.

Please sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0a44ada92ca7fb6-demonstration>.

## Purdue Spring Fest

Volunteers are needed for the Master Gardener Education Booth at the Purdue Spring Fest on Saturday, April 9.

Two volunteers are needed for each of the following time slots:

- 10 a.m. to noon
- Noon to 2 p.m.
- 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
- 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

These time slots will be filled on a first come-first served basis. If you are interested in volunteering to man the booth, please contact me at [jansadler23@comcast.net](mailto:jansadler23@comcast.net) with your first and second choice of time to volunteer. I will reply with a confirmation of your scheduled time.

Thank you, Jan Sadler

## Native Plant Fest

Volunteers are needed for the Soil and Water Conservation District's native plant sale and Native Plant Fest at Ross Camp. Preparations begin Monday, May 9, and continue through the event on Saturday May 14.

Volunteers will receive a discount on plant purchases. Contact Angie Miller, at 765-474-9992, ext. 4006 or [Angela.Garcia-Miller@in.nacdn.net](mailto:Angela.Garcia-Miller@in.nacdn.net).

## RIP Squad

The RIP (Remove Invasive Plants) Squad will have its spring season walks on Tuesdays in West Lafayette Parks April 5-June 7 from 3-5 p.m. and Thursdays in Tippecanoe County Parks April 7-June 9 from 3-5 p.m. Learn about native plants, see the spring wildflowers and remove invasive garlic mustard and small bush honeysuckle shrubs. For a full schedule with locations contact Patty Jones at 765-463-3050 or [removeinvasivesplants.wcinps@gmail.com](mailto:removeinvasivesplants.wcinps@gmail.com).

## Garlic Mustard Pulls

Two evening garlic mustard pulls are scheduled at the Tippecanoe Amphitheater Park on Tuesday April 19 and 26. Both evenings are 6:30-8 p.m. Contact Angie Miller at 765-474-9992, ext. 4006 or [Angela.Garcia-Miller@in.nacdn.net](mailto:Angela.Garcia-Miller@in.nacdn.net).

## Happening

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### Virtual EMG Training

**April 21 • 10-11 a.m. • Virtual Native Alternatives to Invasive Plants in the Home Landscape**  
Lisa Meek  
Purdue EMG, Hamilton County

Register for this session at: [https://purdue.ca.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_1TYU1u9zcvQms2a](https://purdue.ca.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1TYU1u9zcvQms2a). Connection

information will be sent by email to registrants prior to the training.

Recordings for all sessions will be posted here: <https://www.purdue.edu/hla/sites/master-gardener/continuededhours/>.

To own  
a bit of  
ground,  
to scratch  
it with a  
hoe, to  
plant seeds,  
and watch  
their renewal  
of life,  
this is the  
commonest  
delight of the  
race, the most  
satisfactory  
thing a man  
can do

~Charles Dudley Warner

# Expo

(continued from page 5)

## General Info

Hello Master Gardeners!

If you are planning on supplying plants for the Garden Expo, whether you have started seeds for the plant sale or you plan on dividing plants from your yard, please let us know. We are trying to judge the amount of space we will need for the plants this year. If you will need plastic pots to put your plants in please attend the monthly education meeting on April 5th at the new extension office, located at 1950 South 18th Street. Meeting time is 6:30 p.m. The plant pot swap starts at 5:45 p.m.

Please make sure the plants you are providing are not on the invasive plant list by visiting the links below.

New link for invasive plants prohibited by Indiana law (it is illegal to sell plants on this list) Terrestrial Invasive Species - Plants - <https://www.in.gov/dnr/rules-and-regulations/invasive-species/terrestrial-invasive-species-plants/>.

See also "Indiana Invasive Plant List" - [https://www.entm.purdue.edu/iisc/pdf/2020\\_public\\_rank\\_common\\_name.pdf](https://www.entm.purdue.edu/iisc/pdf/2020_public_rank_common_name.pdf). (This list includes prohibited plants as well as additional plants that probably shouldn't be offered for sale.)

Another way to help is to go through your garden tools and yard décor and donate to the Garden Shed. If you can't help with providing plants or donating for the Garden Shed, how about baking some cookies, pies, and bread for the Café? Everyone loves baked goods! Please package them in baggies with two or

three cookies to a bag and label each container.

An abundance of boxes and nursery flats are needed for carry-out.

We are having a scholarship raffle and Master Gardeners can purchase raffle tickets for the drawing. We will have tickets for sale at our first in-person meeting on April 5th. If you choose to attend by Zoom, you will still be able to purchase tickets at the Expo. This is our largest fundraiser and supports all of our gardening activities for the year, we need your help.

We are trying something new this year, a Silent Auction booth. If you haven't signed up to work the Expo yet, please click on the link below and sign up to work the Silent Auction. We need two volunteers for each shift.

It's quick and easy. Put a check mark in the box for each activity you want to volunteer for. Then click submit and sign up at the bottom of the screen. You will get a confirmation email from SignUpGenius.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0D45A8AB2FA5F85-2022>

Let's have fun this year and make the MGATC Garden Expo a success!

*Dee Dee and Cheryl*

Happy Easter  
and  
Happy Passover

## Lemony Brussels Sprouts & Breadcrumb Spaghetti

4-6 servings

### INGREDIENTS:

4 tablespoons olive oil, divided  
1 1/2 cups coarse fresh breadcrumbs (from about 4 ounces crusty bread)  
1 1/4 teaspoons kosher salt, divided, plus more as needed  
Freshly ground black pepper  
Finely grated zest of 2 medium lemons, divided  
1 pound dry spaghetti  
3 cups cooked or roasted Brussels sprouts, coarsely chopped if large  
1 clove garlic, minced  
1/4 teaspoon red pepper flakes (optional)  
1/2 cup dry white wine  
2 tablespoons freshly squeezed lemon juice, plus more as needed  
Grated Parmesan cheese, for serving

### INSTRUCTIONS:

Bring a large pot of heavily salted water to a boil. Meanwhile, toast the breadcrumbs.

Heat 2 tablespoons of the oil in a large, nonstick frying pan over medium heat until shimmering. Add the breadcrumbs and 1/4 teaspoon of the salt, and season with pepper. Cook, stirring occasionally, until golden-brown and toasted, about 7 minutes. Remove from the heat and stir in half of the lemon zest. Transfer the breadcrumbs to a medium bowl and set aside. Wipe out the pan with paper towels if needed.

Add the spaghetti to the boiling water and cook according to package directions until al dente. Meanwhile, heat the remaining 2 tablespoons of oil in the frying pan over medium heat until shimmering. Add the Brussels sprouts, garlic, and red pepper flakes, if using, and cook until heated through, 2 to 3 minutes. Add the wine, remaining 1 teaspoon salt, and season with pepper. Cook until the wine is reduced by about half, about 2 minutes. If the pasta is not ready yet, remove the pan from the heat.

When the pasta is ready, return the frying pan to medium heat. Using tongs, transfer the pasta directly from the cooking water to the pan. Add the 2 tablespoons lemon juice and 1 cup of the pasta cooking water and cook, tossing constantly, until the sauce thickens and coats the pasta. Add more pasta water a tablespoon at a time as needed if the pasta is dry.

Remove the pan from the heat and stir in the remaining lemon zest. Taste and season with more salt, pepper, and lemon juice as needed. Sprinkle with the toasted breadcrumbs and Parmesan cheese and serve immediately. Serves 4-6.

### RECIPE NOTES:

Make ahead: The breadcrumbs can be toasted, cooled completely, and stored at room temperature up to 2 days ahead.

Storage: Leftover pasta can be stored in an airtight container in the refrigerator for up to 4 days.

~ Christine Gallary



# Great Gadgets and Tools

By Katherine Reeves and Mike Hathaway

The National Gardening Association declared April National Garden Month. It's a busy time for gardeners. April 3 is National Find a Rainbow Day, April 14 is National Gardening Day, and April 16 is National Orchid Day. April 19 is National Garlic Day, April 20 is National Lima



photo: © 2018 Kathryn Reeves

Bean Respect Day (not kidding: respect the beans), and April 22 is both International Earth Day and National Earth Day. Some ways you can celebrate Earth Day: plant wildflowers, plant a tree, make your own biodegradable pots and containers, make compost and leaf mold, teach someone to garden, and volunteer for an organization that is dedicated to helping or improving the environment.

April 22 is also the day to set up for the Garden Expo and drop off plants for the sale. April 23 is the Garden Expo!

We transplanted salad crops and leafy vegetables in late March and we'll continue this month. Early cold hardy vegetables can go outside now, especially if you can provide some protection like a floating row cover, cloche, or cold frame. Lettuce, arugula, and chard love cool weather, but we protect transplants with DIY cloches made from scraps of Plexiglas, wooden stakes and twist ties.



photo: © 2021 Kathryn Reeves

This is our variation on Victorian cloches that were made with metal fittings and panes of glass. Wood stakes are screwed to the plex and extend into the ground. Our little "A Frame" cloches have an open space on the top to vent excess heat. If temperatures drop much below 32°F, we'll throw a blanket or floating row cover over everything. The plex cloches are easy to assemble; they're also reusable, easy to disassemble, and store flat.

For advice on when to plant your crops, see Purdue Extension's Indiana Vegetable Planting Calendar: <https://ag.purdue.edu/hla/pubs/HO/HO-186.pdf>.

April 1st is a good day to check your fertilizer supplies and get a soil test to determine if your soil is lacking trace minerals including some recently discovered new elements. Read more at: <https://www.theonion.com/chemists-announce-upgraded-periodic-table-with-dozens-1839288701>. We hope your soil has enough nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, calcium, molybdenum, deluxium, delirium, and pandemonium to support all your crops. And you don't even have to grow onions to enjoy reading *The Onion* on April 1st.

But seriously and no fooling, do consider getting a soil test. A & L Great Lakes Laboratories in Fort Wayne, Indiana is your closest soil testing lab. See <https://algreatlakes.com> for info on collecting and submitting soil for testing. The University of Massachusetts at Amherst is another reliable soil testing lab. See <https://ag.umass.edu/services/soil-plant-nutrient-testing-laboratory/ordering-information-forms>.

If you have extra plastic pots or need pots for the Garden Expo Plant Sale, plans are in the works for a pot swap before the April Master Gardener Monthly Meeting on April 5. The swap meet will be in the new county extension office parking lot, located at 1950 South 18th Street, just west of Durgan Elementary School in Lafayette.

See you at Expo!

## April TO-DO List:

- Start vegetable and herb seeds indoors - tomato, eggplant, cucumber, basil, and other warm season crops.
- Sow flowers seeds indoors - marigolds, zinnias, and other quick annuals. (Check seed packet for those that need to be started 4-6 weeks and 2-4 weeks before last frost.)
- Make sure seedlings have good air circulation indoors - use a small electric fan to make stems of seedlings stronger.
- Sow or transplant outdoors - spinach, lettuce, salad greens, peas, radishes, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, onions, leeks, chives, and other cool season crops.
- Lift and divide perennials. Pot up extras for the MG Plant Sale.
- Add compost/organic matter to flower and vegetable beds.
- Remove winter mulch from strawberries and perennials.
- Prune the "3 D's" dead, damaged, diseased branches from trees, shrubs, and roses.
- To avoid losing flowers on spring-blooming trees and shrubs, wait to prune until after their blooms are finished. Prune summer-flowering shrubs by early April.
- Wait to prune maples until they start to bud out to avoid excessive sap running.
- Don't prune oak trees during active growth from April through June to help avoid Oak Wilt disease.
- For fun, check out the Gardening Moon Calendar, a biodynamic planting guide by phases of the moon and astrological moon signs: <https://mooncalendar.astro-see.com/gardening-moon-calendar-farmers-guide>.
- See more garden tasks and tips at: <https://www.purdue.edu/hla/sites/yardandgarden/april-garden-calendar/>.

MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION OF TIPPECANOE COUNTY

FREE ADMISSION



TONS OF PLANTS FOR SALE  
GARDEN SHED TOOL & SUPPLY SALE  
OVER 20 GARDEN BOOTHS  
RAFFLE  
FOOD TRUCK  
JUST DESSERTS GARDEN CAFE

MGATC FOLLOWS PROTECT PURDUE GUIDELINES

TIPPECANOE.MASTERGARDENER.ORG/EXPO

# Garden EXPO & PLANT SALE

SATURDAY, APRIL 23RD  
9:00AM-3:00PM  
TIPPECANOE COUNTY  
FAIRGROUNDS  
1406 TEAL ROAD  
LAFAYETTE, IN

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