

GARDEN BEET

Master Gardener Association of Tippecanoe County

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May 2023

Message from Your Co-Presidents

Jim and Mickey

This month I am hitting one of those milestones – 70 years old. In 1971 as a graduating senior, I thought all is possible at this age. A span of time ahead of you full of adventure, “mountains to climb and places to see”. But then life gets in the way. Demands that make up who you become. One of those demands is earning a living. Teaching for 35 years helped me develop a sense of giving. And like the energizing bunny you just keep on giving. I am giving to the community by volunteering for many nature groups. I admire the members of our association who volunteer while they are working full-time jobs and still find time to give.

It is all about prioritizing. Family can be a huge demand. I have four children and at the time when they were young it really put a pinch on what I could choose to do. But we end up doing a great job even if we feel like we’re living in a 3-ring circus. In the garden the other day Jim was displaying his talent for rock juggling. We all spend a lot of time juggling our resources. That makes us good at what we do, and attitude makes it easier. Keep that positive attitude and sense of humor.

But as we continue in life, we experience what the aging process can do to our activity level. The mind says go, but the body says no. Or you spend too much precious time walking out to the garden, only to find, you will need to make several trips to get what you need to do the task. You will experience this often, but you must laugh. My husband counts how many times it takes me to leave the house for the garden only to find I have forgotten something. It

is frustrating but, you just must laugh. Aging to me is all about attitude. My great Aunt at 92 was still horseback riding, her mind set was that you are not old until your 96. If that is the case, I have at least 20+ years to garden. God willing.

Remember “happiness is not at the top of the mountains, but in how you climb it.” Gardening is the same. The only mountains I climb these days are mole hills. Mind those mole hills, and keep on growing!

Jim & Mickey

MGATC Programs

May 2 6:30 p.m. TCEO
Social time 6:00 p.m.
Tippecanoe County 4-H and preview of Junior Master Gardener Program
Deidra Nicley
MGATC business meeting will start at 6:30 p.m. with the speaker following. Deidra Nicley is Extension Educator of 4-H youth development in Tippecanoe County.

June 6 6:30 p.m. TCEO
Social time 6:00 p.m.
Hydroponics, Nemali Krishna
MGATC business meeting will start at 6:30 p.m. with the speaker following.

For more information on upcoming events, contact Amanda Burge at amanda_personett@yahoo.com

Websites: <http://www.tippecanoemastergardener.org/> <https://www.purdue.edu/hla/sites/master-gardener/>
Newsletter: Please submit items for the *Garden Beet* to 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 deedee1mg@gmail.com

MGATC Meeting Minutes: April 4, 2023, 6:30 pm TCEO

The meeting was called to order by Co-President Mickey Penrod at 6:30 p.m. following the Master Gardener Interest Fair which started at 5:30 p.m. Committee Chairs had displays and sign-up sheets set up around the room to share information on their areas.

Jan Sadler then reported some corrections for the March 7 monthly meeting minutes. Pat Miller was the member who helped Karen Mitchell and Dee Dee Long in distributing the awards and badges. Jan then apologized to the following members who should have been listed in the minutes as earning the following awards:

Advanced Master Gardener: Debbie Erickson and Sandra Kelly.

Bronze Level Master Gardener: Teri Cook

The March 7 meeting minutes were approved with the above-noted corrections.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Co-President Jim Jeray. He reviewed the income and expenses for the month and noted that the ending bank balance was \$32,557.69 of which \$15,575.83 is in unrestricted funds.

In regard to Garden Expo, Dee Dee Long reminded everyone to pick up a green bandana at the check-in table on Saturday during Expo and then return it after their shift. Those who have their own bandana were asked to wear them.

Dee Dee Long asked that all members be reminded to bring items for the Garden Shed (please clean any used items); do not bring chemicals or fertilizers; and, there will be no holds or early sales in the Garden Shed so as to be fair to our visitors.

Monique Fontaine noted that the Plant Sale will be in a new area this year; it will be located toward the back of the building. She asked members to bring plants and boxes for the Plant Sale on Friday or early Saturday morning. Monique brought a tray of sample plants showing how long it takes for plants to sprout and get ready for Expo. Plants should be well labeled – the more information (such as color, size, sun or shade, etc) the better. Members need to make their own tags this year. The plants will be marked with colored price tags (different color for each price). There will be no half-price sales; instead we will have a BOGO (buy one get one) sale nearing the end of the day.

Jeri Bosworth Parker noted that the Extension

Homemakers will have a lunch booth which will be located next to our Just Desserts booth. They will be serving sandwiches and soup. For the Just Desserts booth, all bags will sell for \$1.00; large items should be packed 2 per bag, medium 3 per bag and small 4 per bag. Pies will be cut into 8 pieces and also sell for \$1.00 per slice.

As everyone is so busy the day of Expo, Pat Miller stated that she would be available after the meeting for anyone who would like to purchase raffle tickets.

Mass emails were sent out for members to sign up and volunteer for Garden EXPO and GAAP.

2023 Green Membership Directories were available at the sign-in table for those who have not yet picked them up.

Jim Jeray reported that the water will be turned on and the port-a-potty installed on April 14 at the Extension gardens.

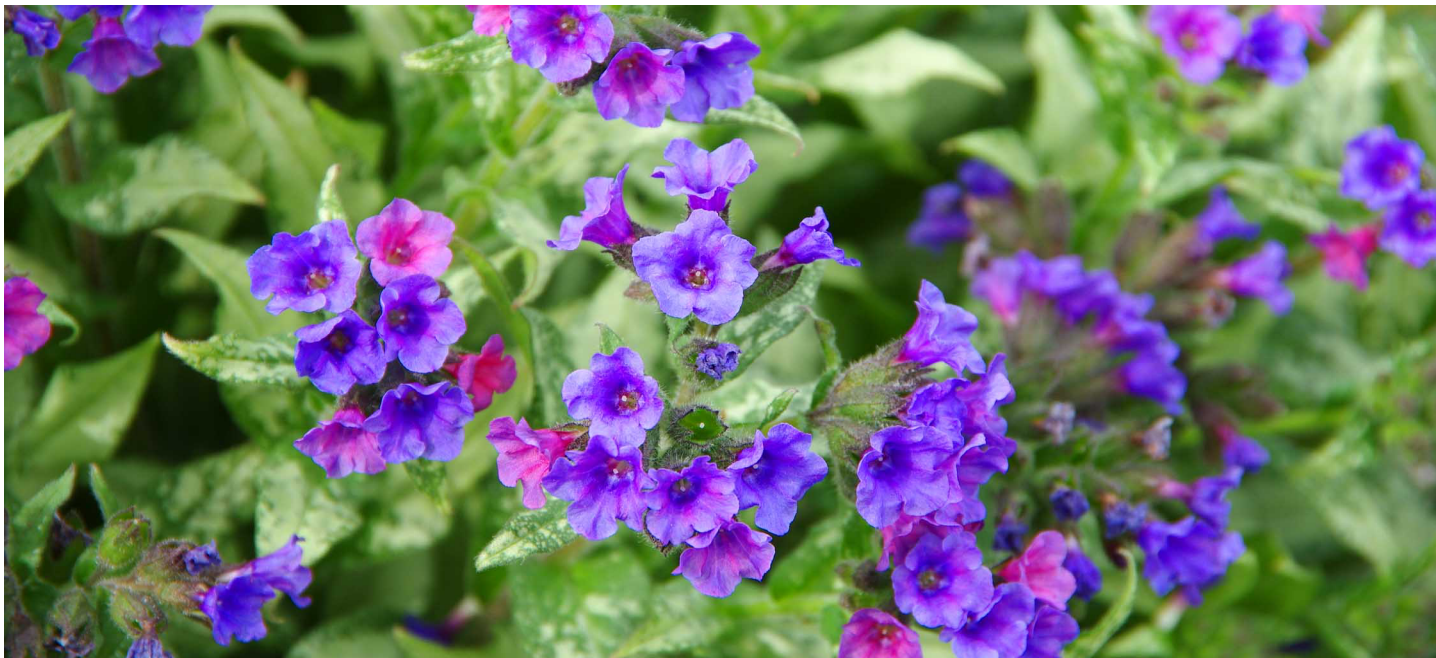
Jan Sadler reported that two more volunteers are needed to man the Information Booth at Purdue's Springfest on Saturday, April 15. Volunteers can sign up through the Sign-Up Genius link.

MGATC is planning a caravan trip to Woldhuis Farms Sunrise Greenhouse in Grant Park, Illinois, on Thursday, May 4. Sunrise is an 8-acre greenhouse with tons of plants and accessories. It is an hour and a half drive from Lafayette and the caravan will be leaving from Meijer in West Lafayette. Dee Dee Long will resend the mass email which includes the details of the trip and a Sign-Up Genius link for anyone wishing to go.

Mickey Penrod stated that this year's theme for the AAS Garden is "Whimsey in the Garden" and asks anyone who might have any gnomes they don't want if they could get them to her to use in the garden.

Kathy Cubberley has taken over the succulent garden at the Extension Gardens and asked for any extra succulent plants that they could donate to her. She asked that they drop them off at the gardens and let her know so she can pick them up. The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m. and was followed by a very interesting presentation by Nick Harby entitled "Edible Wild Mushrooms and Plants of Tippecanoe County."

*Respectfully submitted,
Jan Sadler, Recording Secretary*



Pulmonaria Lungwort blooming in May

Photo: © 2018 K. Reeves & M. Hathaway

MGATC Board Minutes: April 13, 6:30 pm TCEO

The Board meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by Co-President Mickey Penrod. Board Members present were Jim Jeray, Mickey Penrod, Amanda Burge, Cheryl McCool, Deb Rimer, Kathie Cox, Jolaine Roberts and Jan Sadler. Dee Dee Long was absent from the meeting.

The March 9, 2023 Board minutes were approved as posted in the April **Garden Beet**.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Deb Rimer. She reviewed the income and expenses for the month and noted that there were no changes since the April 4 monthly meeting report. She also reported that the Welcome letter from the IN DOR has not yet arrived. She will follow up on this and send a copy to Jim Jeray when it is received so it can be posted on the MGATC website.

Jim Jeray reported that the Interest Fair did not get as many volunteers as hoped for but the effort put into preparing the trifold was not a waste of time as they can be used for other purposes.

Jim Jeray reported that at the Five-Year Planning meeting, the committee discussed Saturday Workshops and the committee felt that since there were only two volunteers that had expressed interest in moving forward with this project, it should be considered a low priority. The Board agreed and decided that it will be reviewed again in the fall for possible implementation.

Chair vacancies were then discussed. As no one has volunteered to chair the Chatham Square Community Gardens, Pat Williams stated that he, along with an intern and another community gardener, would cover this position this year. However, if MGATC plans to keep Chatham Square Community Gardens, a chair is needed, along with more volunteers, additional soil and a composting system.

In regard to the AAS Garden, no one has stepped up to chair this garden. Once Expo is over, Patty Hall (class of 2022) will volunteer in the AAS Garden but does not want to be chair. In addition, Pattie Hall (class of 2018) got several volunteers to sign up at the Interest Fair for the Children's Garden; possibly some of them could also help in AAS Garden.

No one has volunteered to chair the Demo Garden. Jim Jeray is trying to determine how to handle this problem this year.

Kathryn Reeves and Mike Hathaway are the new **Garden Beet** co-editors. They will be changing the logo on the front page but otherwise it will be the same.

Mickey Penrod reported that no one has expressed interest in picking up the stones that were offered to the Master Gardeners as they are large and would be hard to move.

(continued on page 4)

(MGATC Board Minutes continued from page 3)

In regard to the Elliot Ditch, trees will be removed this summer. Work has begun east of 38 moving west toward Ivy Tech. We will be kept informed as the project moves forward.

During construction, MGATC's paved parking spaces will be unavailable. The gravel road at the rear of the community garden will be widened to allow parking between the blue shed and the composting area. However, we will continue to pay the parking lease while the construction is being done so that we will continue to have access to our gardens.

Plants have been dug up from the rain garden and will be potted and sold at Garden Expo. The rain garden sign will be stored on site.

The Board discussed the possible purchase of a flail mower for use in the prairie and for composting. We need to check the cost as well as the specifications of a flail mower in order to make an informed decision. Also, we may want to rent one first in order to determine if it does the job we need it to do.

The purchase of more equipment will require more storage space.

The water will be turned on in the Extension Gardens on Friday, April 14. Also, the port-a-potty will be delivered on Friday, April 14; Jim Jeray will meet them to determine where to place the port-a-potty.

Cheryl McCool gave a report on Garden Expo. She reported that everything is on track and ready. Several gardeners will be picking up plants from Bill Dilling on Wednesday, April 19, for the plant sale.

Jim Jeray gave a report that he received from Nancy Cope regarding publicity.

Nancy will be contacting Star City and WFLI this week in order to get spots on tv as they prefer being contacted closer to the date of the event. She will be asked to contact Chad Evans directly as he plugs the Expo on evening weather. The online J&C ad started on April 13 and will run through April 22. Nancy doubled the hits this year from 25,000 to 50,000 at a cost of \$500. Also, a large Facebook ad is running right now and will run through April 22; so far we have reached 13,300 people on Facebook and Nancy has been answering questions which have been submitted. In the next few days, Nancy is going to place ads on the NextDoor app as well as Craigslist.

MGATC is also working to get signs posted around

around the city to advertise Garden Expo. Signs can be picked up at the new Extension Office.

Other Business:

Master Gardeners received a thank you note from Karen Ward. She wanted to express her appreciation to all of us for the cards and generous gift we provided in this time of need.

Pat Williams reported that he plans to have a Junior Master Gardener Program Camp this summer. He will be meeting with the 4-H Advisors to set the schedule for the program. They could possibly help in the Demo Garden.

Guido Nizzi has assessed our equipment. One mower was leaking gas; he will check to determine if it can be repaired. As Chatham Square has no tillers, one of the tillers at the Extension Garden may be loaned to Chatham Square.

A motion was made, seconded and carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jan Sadler, Recording Secretary*

Treasurer's Report

April 2023 Board Meeting Treasurer's Report

The income for March 2023 was \$70.28. We received \$70 for Expo Vendors, and \$.28 checking account interest. Total Income Year-to-date 2023 is \$4716.90.

In March, for the unrestricted budget, we paid \$18.99 for the Display/Idea Beds and \$250 for 2023 Garden Expo publicity, \$106.33 for the Awards Dinner, \$126.03 for the Social/Interest Fair, and \$22.00 for the Annual Indiana Business Entity Report. Total Unrestricted expense was \$523.35. The Unrestricted Balance was \$15,575.83 at the end of March 2023.

The only Restricted fund expense was \$20 for the Compost Project - diesel fuel for the tractor. The Restricted Fund Balance at the end of March was \$16,981.86. The Ending Checking account balance was \$32,557.69. Savings balance was \$10,555.94.

Deb Rimer Treasurer

Note from your new Co-Editors

We're so happy to have this volunteer opportunity for MGATC. As we navigate through producing our first monthly issue, we're grateful and in awe of Chris Ramsey's years as Garden Beet Editor. Chris has generously agreed to remain on board as Consulting Editor as well as organizing "What's Happening" events and calendar. Our regular monthly column "Great Gadgets and Tools" may reappear from time to time as page space allows.

Mike Hathaway and Kathryn Reeves, Garden Beet Co-Editors

What's Happening

MAY 4th, 8:15 am, MGATC Woldhuis Trip

We hope you will consider caravanning with us to Woldhuis Farms Sunrise Gardens on Thursday, May 4. Since we will be taking State Road 52, we would like to leave from the West Lafayette Meijer parking lot at 8:15 am. If you do not know where Meijer is located on the west side, it is at the corner of 52 and the new 231. Please turn into the Meijer drive located near 52 and 231. We will be waiting for you in the parking lot. We are asking that you use the link below for Sign Up Genius if you plan to attend.

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

It is approximately a 1.5 hour drive. We are an hour ahead of Grant Park so we should be arriving at 8:45 am Grant Park time. We plan on leaving the greenhouse at 11:15 am (Grant Park time) 12:15 Lafayette time, this gives you 2.5 hours to shop. We will meet outside at the entrance to take a headcount before heading back. It is a very easy drive to the greenhouse and a very easy drive home. Some of you may decide to leave early and some may decide to stay longer, so we would like to get everyone's cell phone number to ensure we are not leaving anyone behind.

Dee Dee 765-586-2735
Jan 317-201-4256
Pat 765-714-5463

In addition to the greenhouse there is a USA Family Restaurant in Grant Park that offers great food.

Dee Dee, Jan and Pat

MAY 4th, 6:30 pm, PURDUE EXTENSION / TIPPECANOE COUNTY EXTENSION Volunteer Training

West Wing Tippecanoe County Fairgrounds

We would like to invite all Tippecanoe County Extension volunteers (4-H, **Master Gardeners**, Extension Homemakers, etc.) to join us on May 4th for a training on Civil Rights and Diversity. This will be an informative session to help volunteers learn more about Purdue Extension and the policies and procedures in place to provide an inclusive, non-discriminatory, and welcoming experience for everyone. Please **RSVP by May 3rd** to Holly at hoover47@purdue.edu. Light refreshments will be served. Hope you can join us!

WEDNESDAYS in the WILD

REGISTRATION is required by noon, Monday prior to program: mcutler@tippecanoe.in.gov or 765-567-2993. Programs are LIMITED to 20 participants.

*SHS=sturdy hiking shoes, TP=trekking poles

MAY 3rd, 1-3pm, A Visit to the Boreal Forest at Sebert Woods, SWNP. Scott Namestnik (Botanist, IDNR Div. of Nature Preserves) will lead this hike through a rare boreal flatwoods natural community, home to a number of plant species that are only found in close proximity to Lake Michigan. This newly dedicated state nature preserve in northern LaPorte Co. provides habitat for 430 vascular plant taxa; expect to see some rare plants on this hike! Scott's wildflower field guides will be available for purchase for \$30 (cash/check, Venmo or PayPal). NOTE: 1-3pm EDT (which is noon-2pm CDT—the local time). SHS*

(continued on page 6)

January, February and March are like prison walls to the spirit; April comes as a window opened, admitting sunlight and a patch of blue sky; then May bursts, the rainbow of the months, sent as a sign — a promise of fruition.



~ The National Magazine, May 1899



What's Happening cont'd

(Wednesdays in the Wild continued from page 5)

MAY 10th, 9-11am, Spring on the Wing at Celery Bog Nature Area (morning program), CBNA/LNC Join Susan Ulrich and Chuck Tuttle (Sycamore Audubon Society) for a hike on the Celery Bog trails to see both returning migrants and resident birds. Bring binoculars. NOTE: Program will move indoors to LNC IF RAINING. SHS*

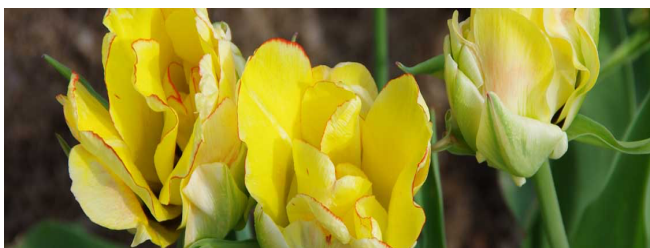
MAY 17th, 1-3pm, Tall Timbers Trail Hike at Big Walnut Nature Preserve, BWNP. Tom Swinford (Director of Stewardship, The Nature Conservancy) will lead this hike to share the human and natural history of this special Putnam Co. nature preserve. Birds and blooms are sure to abound this time of year! Moderately rugged hike with elevation changes and stream crossings. TP & SHS*

MAY 24th, 1-3pm, A Fresh Look at Fall Creek Gorge, NICHES/FCG. Bob Easter (Director of Stewardship) and Sam Cody (Volunteer & Outreach Coordinator) of NICHES Land Trust will lead this hike on new trails at Fall Creek Gorge Nature Preserve in Warren Co.; this property is reopening to the public after being closed since 2021 due to overuse. Enjoy this moderate hike to see the iconic landscapes and potholes of Big Pine Valley. TP & SHS*

MAY 31st, 2-5pm, Pinhook Bog Tour: Exploring One of Indiana's Natural Treasures, IN-DUNES. Join Kipton Walton (NPS Park Ranger) as he shares some amazing experiences on this hike: we'll walk on water, see insect-eating plants, and experience biodiversity on a different level. The program will begin at the Dorothy Buell Memorial Visitor Center in Porter, where we'll view an orientation film and see the park exhibits related to the property. NOTE: 2-5pm EDT (which is 1-4pm CDT—the local time). SHS that get wet*

WEDNESDAYS in the WILD LOCATIONS:

BWNP (Big Walnut N.P.): Near Bainbridge, IN—MORE INFO at https://www.in.gov/dnr/nature-preserves/files/np-BigWalnut_TallTimbers.pdf



(Wednesdays in the Wild LOCATIONS continued)
CBNA/LNC (Celery Bog Nature Area/Lilly Nature Center): Meet 9am in front of Lilly Nature Center at 1620 Lindberg Rd., West Lafayette.

IN-DUNES (Dorothy Buell Visitor Center): Meet 2pm EDT at Dorothy Buell Visitor Center in Porter County (1215 N. SR-49, Porter, IN 46304).

NICHES/FCG (Fall Creek Gorge N.P.): Meet 1pm at the new Fall Creek Gorge parking lot along W. Twin Bridges Rd., Attica.

NICHES/MGW (Moyer-Gould Woods): Meet at 1pm in the property parking lot (1 ¼ miles north of the SR 18/US 421 intersection) at 4620 N US-421, Delphi 46923. The lane to the gravel parking lot is lined with Black Walnut trees.

SWNP (Sebert Woods State Dedicated N.P.): Meet 1pm EDT in parking lot at 3608 W. County Road 925 North, Michigan City, IN 46360.



Master Gardener Online Educational Opportunity

From John Orick, Purdue Extension Master Gardener State Coordinator:

Here is another possible source for Master Gardener web-based education hours: "Tune Up Your Diagnostic Skills with a Podcast and the Purdue Plant Doctor." See this and other topics at <https://www.purdue.edu/hla/sites/master-gardener/continuededhours/>

Just in time for the growing season, this is a **NEW** 30 minute podcast to help you brush up your plant diagnostic skills. In this podcast Margaret Roach, garden writer for the New York Times, interviewed the creators of the Purdue Plant Doctor web page, Professors Janna Beckerman and Cliff Sadof on how to diagnose problems you may encounter on your plants. After discussing the diagnostic process, they describe how you can use the Purdue Plant Doctor web page to help you identify and manage plants problem. See this link for a transcript of the interview and a link to the podcast <https://awaytogarden.com/diagnosing-plant-troubles-with-the-purdue-plant-doctor/>

A separate, short demonstration of the webpage is available here <https://youtu.be/C4rGAP4Jerk>



MGATC

Volunteer Opportunities

Sign up for GAAP 2023 (Great Annual Annual Planting)

GAAP is the time we serve our community and make it more beautiful by planting annual, and some perennial flowers, in public locations around town, including the Tippecanoe County Courthouse, Columbian Park, Indiana Veterans Home, Myers Pedestrian Bridge, and the Art Museum of Greater Lafayette. It's a really fun time to get together and garden. It usually only takes a couple of hours at each location.

Soil prep and flowers are provided ahead of planting time. Master Gardeners bring their own gloves, trowels, knee pads. Bring the tools you are comfortable planting with. We plant in light rain.

When you sign on to Sign Up Genius, note that we have a plant date and a rain date for each organization. Planting dates and rain dates include **May 10, May 12, May 16, May 18, May 19, May 22, May 25, and May 26**. If you can only commit to one date – that's fine. Please click on the link below to pick a time to volunteer.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4CAEA62CA4F8CF8-gaap1>



Interested in helping with other Master Gardener projects? Opportunities are available to assist with Demonstration, Display & Idea Gardens, Chatham Square Community Gardens, Social Committee and others. See pages 7, 8, 9 and 10 in your **Green Book** for committee projects and chairpersons (contact any of them to offer help).

If you'd like to help bring back fun Public Education Workshops on a few Saturdays each year, contact Cindy McDonald, cindymcdnld@gmail.com

Contact Jim Jeray for a trifold brochure that explains various volunteer projects.



If you're wondering which of your Co-Presidents wrote "This month I am hitting one of those milestones" on page one of this newsletter...

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MICKEY!



Other Volunteer Activities

RIP Squad volunteers*

Remove invasive plants with the Indiana Native Plant Society's West Central chapter RIP Squad on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3-5pm. Enjoy spring wildflowers along the way! **May 2** Celery Bog -- **May 4** Ross Hills Park -- **May 9** Cumberland Woods -- **May 11** Prophet's Rock Woods -- **May 16** Happy Hollow -- **May 18** Ross Hills Park -- **May 23** Celery Bog -- **May 25** Prophet's Rock Woods -- **May 30** Cumberland Woods -- **June 1** Ross Hills Park -- **June 6** Happy Hollow -- **June 8** Prophet's Rock Woods.

For more information contact Patty Jones, removeinvasiveplants.wcinps@gmail.com or call landline/voicemail 765-463-3050.

**Removing invasive plants in Tippecanoe County is approved for Master Gardener volunteer hours.*

Recipe of the Month

Emily Hughes found a tasty recipe for **Carrot Gnocchi** by June Xie on the *Delish* website. Complete directions for this copyrighted recipe at: <https://www.delish.com/cooking/recipe-ideas/a39678224/carrot-gnocchi-recipe/>

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Miscellaneous

MGATC Members Green Book

With your 2023 membership in the MGATC you each receive a Green Book for the organization. You can pick up your book at the Purdue Extension Tippecanoe County office, located at 1950 South 18th Street in Lafayette. Please pick it up during regular business hours Monday through Friday at your earliest convenience. Also you will receive your "Thank you berry much" gift for volunteering at the same time. Thanks for all you do for the MGATC!

Pat Miller

May Garden To-Do List

🌷 Deadhead daffodils, tulips and other spring bulbs to prevent seed formation so bulbs can regain their flowering strength for next spring.

🌸 Prune early spring-flowering shrubs and trees after they bloom.

🌿 Start to harvest early leaf crops, radishes and asparagus.

See more tips for indoor & outdoor gardening at: <https://www.purdue.edu/hla/sites/yardandgarden/gardening-calendar-may/>



YOUR MGATC OFFICERS:

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Master Gardener Association of Tippecanoe County's **Garden Expo and Plant Sale 2023** was a wonderful success thanks to all the hard work of volunteers. Great crowds, great fun, great plants!

Garden Beet

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