

October 2020

Garden Beet

MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION OF TIPPECANOE COUNTY



The Latest Spin from D&J

Dee Dee and Jan

Why should you be a MG? Why are you a MG?

There are many reasons. The MG program is a great resource for sharing gardening information. Maybe you just like to garden or work with others to beautify the community. Maybe you just want to socialize with friends. Maybe you like to work alone or maybe just a commitment to grow personally.

Did you know that being a Master Gardener can be a great conversation starter? Also, you get to work with other gardeners learning from their life experiences and using some of these practices on how to garden in our own local hardiness zone.

Whatever the reason is, don't forget to renew your membership for the coming 2021 year. Due to COVID-19, we haven't seen many of you this year; that doesn't mean we aren't still going strong and growing. Hopefully, next year we will be able to get together again.

Don't forget the Virtual Hoedown is on October 6 on Zoom and is Open Mic Night. If you haven't signed up to share a topic of interest, please make sure to contact Maralee Hayworth to get on the agenda.

Since we can't get together for pot luck, please feel free to have your dinner with you and we can have a "virtual" dinner together.

*See you (virtually) at the Hoedown,
Jan and Dee Dee*



October's the month
When the smallest breeze
Gives us a shower
Of autumn leaves.
Bonfires and pumpkins,
Leaves sailing down —
October is red
And golden and brown.

~Author unknown

Treasurer's Report

Income for the month of August was from interest and Amazon Smile donations for a total of \$25. Expenses included Garden Expo refunds, various garden projects, admin items, and two garden structures for \$778. Restricted funds expenses for the month totaled \$312 for the arbor and the sign in the Display and Idea Gardens, leaving a balance in the fund of \$18,387. The total of unrestricted funds available is \$19,761 as of August 31.

The tax exempt certificate for 2020 and the form for reimbursement are available on the Master Gardener website. For reimbursement you can mail your requests to my home address which is 3801 South River Road in West Lafayette, IN 47906 or you can drop them in the black mail box outside the extension office outer door. If you have any changes to your membership details please send them to me at pmillerathome@comcast.net.

Pat Miller, Treasurer

Programs

October 6 • 6:30 p.m. • Zoom
Annual Hoedown

November 3 • 6:30 p.m. • Zoom
*Feeding the Community -
Presented by Growing Places Indy*
Victoria Beaty

Victoria Beaty is the Executive Director of Growing Places Indy.

Note: This meeting may be rescheduled due to election day.

For more information on upcoming events, contact Maralee Hayworth at mhaywort@purdue.edu.

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.

<http://www.tippecanomainstergardener.org>

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



MGATC Meeting: Sept 1, 2020, 6:30 p.m., Virtual

At 6:30 p.m. Karen Mitchell explained that our scheduled speaker, Victoria Beaty, Director of Growing Places in Indianapolis, was unavailable due to family problems. Instead Karen presented a video on the Grow Local program in Lafayette. The program provides space for large urban sharing gardens to benefit food-insecure community members. There is more information on their website. Anyone interested in becoming a mentor for Grow Local should let Karen know.

She also discussed the weather station and explained how to access up-to-date weather information at the Extension Gardens. She will send out the links.

Mary Quinn is unable to remain as chairperson for the Demonstration Garden. A volunteer is needed.

Karen gave an update on the virtual Master Gardener class. It is a

statewide class on Tuesdays for two hours with an additional one-hour session for a county program on Thursdays. Eighteen students are from Tippecanoe County. Karen will try to get us access to the recorded sessions.

Karen shared pictures of the compost project and other improvements to the back area.

The next meeting is the Hoedown where interested members will share, for about five minutes each, their experience from this season. Contact Maralee Hayworth to volunteer.

About 43 master gardeners signed on to the meeting. There was no business meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jim Jeray, Recording Secretary

The month of
Carnival of all
the year,
When Nature
lets the wild
earth go its
way
And spend whole
seasons on a
single day.

~Helen Fiske Hunt Jackson
(1830-1885), "October"

MGATC Board: Sept 10, 2020, 4 p.m., Virtual

Dee Dee Long called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. In attendance were Jim Jeray, Pat Miller, Dee Dee Long, Jolaine Roberts, Jan Sadler, Mickey Penrod, Kathie Cox, Brooke Stafford, and Karen Mitchell.

The August board meeting minutes were approved as posted in the *Garden Beet* with one change, that Jan Sadler called the meeting to order.

Pat Miller delivered the treasurer's report. Since the beginning of the month, we received \$27 in dues, paid \$1,500 in scholarships and reimbursed one member \$55.46 for a lost check. Those are the only changes to the monthly treasure's report that appears in this month's *Garden Beet*.

Send dues for 2021 to the extension office or drop them in the black box outside the doorway. Forms are online and in the *Garden Beet*. Likewise, reimbursement forms should also be sent to the extension office.

Membership: The presidents' letter in the *Garden Beet* will highlight the benefits of membership.

Hoedown 2020: The October meeting will feature short presentations from individual members as we did last year. Volunteers should contact Maralee Hayworth to sign up. The board discussed how to make this meeting a success.

2021 Garden Expo: Planning needs to begin soon. The core team is beginning to research alternate venues in case the fairgrounds is not available. COVID restrictions make meeting more difficult. They will meet again soon.

Take One - Leave One: Jolaine suggested the idea of seed exchange for the extension gardens similar to local book exchanges. Both collected and packaged seeds would be acceptable. She will look further into the feasibility and possible implementation.

Alumni Membership: After reviewing information Karen gathered on the experiences in other counties about the question of honorary or inactive members, the board discussed various ideas. This will be finalized soon. Those who become alumni members need not fulfill annual hours requirements but can still participate in meetings and other activities. They should understand that becoming an active member again with a gap of more than 5 years would require retaking the class.

Extension Gardens: Mickey expressed a concern about limited resources and the amount of work able to be done. The gardens are far less attractive and productive this year.

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 5:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Jeray, Recording Secretary

What's Happening

Annual Hoedown

The 2020 Annual Hoedown has gone VIRTUAL!
Tuesday, October 6th
at 6:30 p.m.

Obviously, things will be different for 2020. We won't be able to share a meal together, but we can still share our garden stories. Similar to last year, we will be hosting an Open Mic Night for our Master Gardener members. Do you have a garden project you are proud of? Did you grow new fruits or vegetables? Please share your successes and failures in the garden and educate us!

Each Master Gardener will be given 5-7 minutes to share their project ONLINE! The presenter will be able to share their computer screen and audio. Email Maralee Hayworth, our vice president, to be added to the agenda - mhaywort@purdue.edu. Please contact Karen Mitchell with any questions regarding the technology.

Monthly meeting connection information: Join the Zoom Meeting at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83828659931?pwd=VGNsdG9jaHVvTzZoQzE1WmVidXV4UT09>.

Meeting ID: 838 2865 9931
Password: 3150

If you need to join the audio by phone:

1. Call: (415) 762-9988 or (646) 568-7788 AND follow the verbal instructions.
2. Enter the meeting ID number followed by the # key.
3. You will be asked to enter your participant ID (If you are not at your computer and do not have the Participant ID just press #). You will be joined into the zoom meeting.

You can reach me via email or at 765-357-6956 (call or text) if you are having trouble accessing the meeting.

Hope to see you at the Hoedown!!
Karen Mitchell

Wednesdays in the Wild

Registration is required by noon on Monday prior to the program at 765-567-2993 or mcutler@tippecanoe.in.gov. Facial coverings and/or physical distancing are state mandated.

Sept 30 • 1-3 p.m. • ROSS BR
Ross Biological Reserve: A Gem of Natural Heritage & Laboratory for Ecological Study for over 70 Years
Dr. Kerry Ravenold

Established by Dr. Alton Lindsey and colleagues in 1948, the Ross Reserve is one of the best understood forests in the Midwest. Dr. Kerry Rabenold (Professor Emeritus of Biological Sciences) will lead this stroll down toward the Wabash, revealing a surprising diversity of habitats. The changes that have occurred there over several time scales illustrates both the resilience and the vulnerability of forest ecosystems. Moderate hiking; wear sturdy shoes and bring trekking poles, if you have them.

Oct 7 • 1-3 p.m. • PSTPK
Prophetstown Fen Nature Preserve Hike
Scott Namestnik

Fen and seep wetlands were important repositories of unique plants and animals, and were utilized historically by Native Americans in a variety of ways. Currently, much of this flora and fauna is rare in our state. Join Scott Namestnik (Botanist, Division of Nature Preserves, IDNR) on this exploration of a restored fen at our local state park and learn about the wildflowers in the area. The state park gate fee is \$8 unless you have a park pass.

Oct 14 • 6-8 p.m. • WOLFPK
Canid Co-Existence & Conservation
Wolf Park Staff

Wolf Park staff members will discuss co-existence with foxes and coyotes in our area. Following the presentation, participants will tour Wolf Park and learn about conservation practices at

the park and efforts to educate Wolf Park visitors on conservation efforts they can practice at home to maintain backyard ecosystems favorable to wildlife. Note: this is a 6-8 p.m. evening program. There is a \$10 program fee if you do not have a member card.

Oct 21 • 1-3 p.m. • NICHES/WL
Using Fire as a Tool: NICHES Land Trust Controlled Burn Program
Gus Nyberg

Hike with Gus Nyberg (NICHES Land Trust Executive Director) at this diverse property in Warren County and learn how and why NICHES uses controlled burns to manage natural areas. The hike through the restored prairie and oak savanna woodlands will showcase the positive impacts that fire can bring to landscapes! A caravan will leave from LNC at 12:15 p.m.

Oct 28 • 1-3 p.m. • WNC
Prophet's Rock Ramble
Mary Cutler

Explore a local landscape, shaped by fire and ice, which was important in local legend and lore. Naturalist Mary Cutler (Tippecanoe County Parks & Recreation Department) will lead this moderate hike featuring both human and natural history. Wear sturdy shoes and bring trekking poles, if you have them.

LOCATIONS:

LNC (Lilly Nature Center): 1620 Lindberg Road, West Lafayette.

NICHES/WL (Weiler-Leopold): Meet at 1 p.m. in Weiler-Leopold parking lot at N 1100 E, Otterbein in Warren County (detailed directions can be found at www.nicheslandtrust.org).

PSTPK (Prophetstown State Park): Enter the park via Swisher Road (off North Ninth Street just south of Battle Ground). Meet at 1 p.m. at the Prairie View picnic area parking lot.

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

WNC (Wah-ba-shik-a Nature Center): In Battle Ground, at the end of the Battlefield Monument parking lot off North 9th Street.

WOLFPK (Wolf Park): In Battle Ground, take Main Street to Jefferson Street (which becomes Harrison Road). Turn onto the gravel road 800 N. Follow the Wolf Park sign to the parking lot.

Correction

Please make the following correction to your Green Book - Sue Bracey's email has changed to:

braceys@mymetronet.net

For full demographic information, please see the membership listing on the MGATC website.

The harvest moon hangs round and high
It dodges clouds high in the sky,
The stars wink down their love and mirth
The Autumn season is giving birth.
Oh, it must be October...

~Pearl N. Sorrels, "It Must Be October"

Roasted Cauliflower Black Bean Chicken Chili

1/2 medium cauliflower
1 - 14.5 oz. can of black beans
1 - 13 oz. can chunk chicken breast
1 - 24 oz. jar chunky salsa
1 tbsp. olive oil
salt, pepper, garlic salt, chili powder to taste
Optional - Tortilla chips and shredded cheese

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Cut the cauliflower into bite-size pieces, wash well, and pat dry. Toss the cauliflower in the tablespoon of olive oil and spread in a single layer on a baking sheet. Season with salt, pepper, and garlic salt to taste.

Roast in a preheated oven, stirring occasionally, until golden brown.

Break apart the chunk chicken and combine with the black beans and salsa in a medium stock pot, adding chili powder if needed. When the cauliflower is golden brown add it to the chicken, black beans, and salsa. Simmer until ready to enjoy!

Serve with tortilla chips and shredded cheese on top.
Serves 4.

~morewithlesstoday.com

Pennsylvania Dutch Apple Butter

3/4 cup unsweetened apple cider or juice
1/3 cup sugar
1 tsp. ground cinnamon
1/4 tsp. ground cloves
6 medium apples, peeled and quartered, (3 lbs.)

Place the apple juice, sugar, cinnamon and cloves in a blender; cover and process until blended. Adding 3-4 apple pieces at a time, cover and process until smooth.

Pour into a saucepan. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and cook over low heat for 1 hour, stirring occasionally.

Uncover and cook 1 to 1-1/2 hours longer or until thickened. Store in airtight containers in the refrigerator. ~ 2T = 46 cal.

~tasteofhome.com

Master Gardener Association of Tippecanoe County

2021 Membership Application & Annual Dues

The Master Gardener Association of Tippecanoe County dues are \$25 per year for an individual or \$40 per year for a couple at the same address. We are now on a calendar year and these dues will be for all of 2021. This annual fee allows access to the Garden Beet by email, the 'Members Only' area on the website, and the monthly educational seminars, as well as, voting rights during the annual election. If you would like to receive printed copies of either the monthly Garden Beet or the Green membership book, please select the option below.

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please check the membership options that you would like below:

- | | |
|---|------|
| <input type="radio"/> Individual Annual Dues | \$25 |
| <input type="radio"/> Couple Annual Dues (please include both names above) | \$40 |
| <input type="radio"/> Garden Beet (if you wish to receive monthly printed copies) | \$12 |
| <input type="radio"/> Green Membership Book (if you wish to receive a printed copy) | \$2 |

TOTAL = \$ _____

Areas in which I think I can be an effective Master Gardener and achieve volunteer hours:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Speaking | <input type="checkbox"/> Staffing info booths |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Great Annual Annual Planting | <input type="checkbox"/> Planning workshops |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Serving as an officer | <input type="checkbox"/> Presenting workshops |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Serving as committee chairperson | <input type="checkbox"/> Writing for the Garden Beet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Working at Adopt-A-Spot | <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse or nature center docent |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Event planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Working in Display & Idea Gardens |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Preparing publicity | <input type="checkbox"/> Working in Demonstration Gardens |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Working with youth | <input type="checkbox"/> Helping at the Garden Expo |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Helping with plant sales | <input type="checkbox"/> Helping at the Annual Open House |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Veteran's Home gardens | <input type="checkbox"/> Ext Office Community Garden |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MG Educational Center | <input type="checkbox"/> Chatham Sq Community Garden |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hosting Garden Tours | <input type="checkbox"/> Cumberland Community Garden |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____ | |

Please return this completed form and a check for the amount of your dues payable to **Master Gardener Association of Tippecanoe County (MGATC)** by the December 2020 monthly meeting, or mail them to:

Attn: Master Gardener Membership,
3150 Sagamore Parkway S, Lafayette, IN 47905

Updated 8/13/2020

Gadgets

(continued from back)

these. You can fill them with ice to cool beverage bottles and cans. They're incredibly useful!

Our tip for stacking empty tubs: put a section of newspaper or a recycled plastic bag between the tubs to keep them from sticking together. You'll be glad you did.

This month, gardeners are busy harvesting fall crops. **Traditional wood trugs** are good for carrying vegetables and cut flowers. They're beautiful and expensive. Sometimes these can be found in antique shops (for an even higher price).



Think of this month as OAKtober. This is a great time to plant trees as well as perennials and shrubs. If you're planting trees, the best practice (based on extensive horticulturalist research) is to dig a square hole, wider but not deeper than the root ball. Mulch around base of the tree, but leave several inches bare around the trunk. To avoid disease problems, don't place mulch against the bark.

Drought conditions in summer and fall can put trees (including evergreens) at risk during winter. Make sure all your trees and shrubs have adequate moisture, and continue to water soil around them in fall until the ground freezes. See "Drought? Don't Forget the Trees" Publication FNR483W <https://www.extension.purdue.edu/extmedia/fnr/fnr-483-w.pdf>.

Thinking more about OAKtober, oak wilt disease has become a serious threat to oaks trees in the U.S. There's no treatment for this fatal disease. Oak

wilt is most active from April to July, which is why you should never trim oak trees in the summer. To be safe, avoid pruning between April 1 and October 1. Arborists recommend pruning oak trees between November 1 and no later than March 31. Fall and late winter are the best times to have your oaks pruned. While tree paint is generally not a good idea for most pruning, oak trees are the exception. The new protocol to prevent oak wilt is to cover pruned areas with tree wound paint (aka pruning sealer).

Whether you're lucky enough to have apple trees or not, celebrate National Apple Day on October 21. Crisp apples for crisp weather sound good.

October TO-DO List

- Average first frost date is October 8-10 in Tippecanoe County, but could be as early as September 25 or as late as October 18.
- Empty and put away garden hoses before freezing temperatures.
- Dig up tender tubers and corms of caladiums, cannas, dahlias, and gladiolus.
- Bring in houseplants when evening temps begin to drop into the 50's if you want to "over-winter" them indoors. Hose them off with water and spray with insecticidal soap to prevent bringing in unwanted pests.
- Buy or order spring bulbs. Pre-dig areas for bulbs, refill with loosened soil or set soil aside until you're ready to plant. Add animal repellent granules to discourage bulb raiders.
- Pot up some paperwhite narcissus bulbs for holiday forcing.
- Plant porch and patio containers with fall mums, asters, pumpkins, and decorative gourds.
- Plant trees, shrubs, and perennials so their roots will establish before winter.
- Continue watering new and established garden plants and trees through fall.
- Deadhead and cut back spent perennials as needed. Leave plants with attractive seed heads, especially wildflowers, for winter interest and to feed birds.
- Keep raking autumn leaves so lawn grass is not smothered. Let leaves lie in borders and woody areas to help invertebrates. Compost leaves or keep them in bags as "browns" to mix with "greens" next year.
- Fertilize lawn and apply broadleaf herbicide. See <https://mdc.itap.purdue.edu> for details, application rate, and schedule in free Purdue publications: "Lawn Improvement Programs" AY-13-W, "Turfgrass Management: Fertilizing Established Cool-season Lawns" AY-22-W, and "Maintenance Calendar for Indiana Lawns" AY-27-W.
- Continue mulching and weeding. Prevent weed seed formation to make next year's maintenance easier.
- Harvest and preserve herbs by drying or freezing.
- Continue growing spinach, cabbage, lettuce, and kale under row covers or in a cold frame for tasty fall and winter salads.
- Clean up all fallen fruits to reduce disease and pest problems.
- For more tips, see Rosie Lerner's Purdue Extension October Garden Calendar <https://www.purdue.edu/hla/sites/yardandgarden/october-gardening-calendar/>.
- Enjoy the colors of autumn!



Great Gadgets and Tools

By Kathryn Reeves and Mike Hathaway

This is a wonderful time of year. With summer heat behind us, garden clean-up is a pleasure. And a good **garden tub** or **trug** makes it easy. We have a number of heavy plastic tubs with sturdy handles.



Garden Supply Co. (www.gardeners.com) calls this a **tubtrug**. It's available in many different sizes and beautiful colors. There is a colander insert that

fits inside one. The color tubs are 100% food grade plastic. These tubs were originally developed in Spain for harvesting fruit in orchards. There are food grade **tubtops** to adapt these for storage and the tops allow for stacking.

They also carry some heavy-duty black tubtrugs made from 100% recycled polyethylene in sizes from 20 gallons to 3.5 gallons. They're washable, bendable, and nearly indestructible. Tubtrugs brand is now owned by Red Gorilla (<https://redgorillausa.com>) - so you can find all of these sold as **Gorilla Tubs** too.

After many years use, we did manage to tear one of our plastic trugs - it split down the side near one of the handles.

YOUR MGATC OFFICERS:

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Cheryl McCool, mikeandcherylmc@msn.com

Jolaine Roberts, jolaineroberts@gmail.com

We slapped on some duct tape, drilled some holes in the bottom and grew potatoes in it this year. Sometimes we use them to collect rainwater. We also give produce their first wash in one of

(continued on page 7)

Garden Beet

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