

HEART OF MISSOURI MASTER GARDENER NEWSLETTER

“HELPING OTHERS LEARN TO GROW”

August 2008



University of Missouri Extension - Boone County, 1012 North Hwy UU, Columbia, MO 65203
extension.missouri.edu/boone/mg.html

Green Roof – No Goats!

A “green roof” will reduce heating and cooling costs, absorb air pollution, double the life of the roof, and provide a living environment for birds and butterflies. But mention of a green roof still evokes mental images of goats or lawn mowers on top of a building. Nothing could be farther from the truth!

Urban areas have many hard surfaces, such as roofs, parking lots and streets, which can cause problems with storm water runoff. In downtown Columbia, most storm water runoff goes directly into Flat Branch Creek. In many urban areas, the standard response has been concrete channels to remove the water from the hard surfaces as quickly as possible. But this approach wreaks havoc on the nearby streams, causing bank collapse and channel gouging.

One way to address storm water management is a green roof. A green roof can be added onto an existing building or included in the design of a new building. An “intensive” green roof consists of about 1 foot of soil, with trees and shrubs, and can be open to the public since it can be walked on. An “extensive” green roof is not accessible to the public, and generally contains only 1-5 inches of soil covered by grasses and groundcovers.

Surprisingly, a green roof may not weigh more than a conventional roof. Both types of roofs have a membrane which provides the water-tight seal

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needed. But a conventional roof is covered with gravel, which weighs about the same amount as the plants and planting medium used on an “extensive” green roof.

When a green roof was proposed for the new City Hall in Columbia, most residents did not understand how it would work or why a green roof would be a good investment of tax dollars. Even though there are hundreds of excellent examples in other cities, green roofs were ridiculed locally and eventually the idea was scrapped. Instead, the new city hall design incorporates a Land Saver system, in which storm water from the roof goes to a water detention system under the building.

Many thanks to **Mona Menezes**, Storm Water Educator for the City of Columbia, for her informative presentation on green roofs!

For more information on the Green Roof industry, go to www.greenroofs.com

Potential for Partnership between Master Gardeners and City

The City of Columbia’s Director of City Volunteers has asked our Master Gardener group to consider assisting with the popular “Adopt a Spot” program.

Leigh (Nutter) Britt contacted Master Gardener **Carolyn Oates** about the possibility of using volunteer master gardeners to assist with the program, by providing education to participants and potential participants on plant selection, landscape design, proper planting techniques, etc. The volunteers would be available to mentor the person or group who wants to “adopt a spot”, working with the various

levels of expertise and involvement of each participant.

The City has designated 88 “spots” now, with 2 spots currently available. However, they expect the Adopt-a-Spot program to expand soon, due to upcoming improvements on Highway 763.

The proposal was greeted with a very enthusiastic response, and the group asked Carolyn to start working out the details of how the MG organization could make this work. She will present her ideas at the next meeting.

Upcoming Events

Check out **Midwest Crops at Jefferson Farms on August 2, 2008** at 9:00 am and 1:00 pm. Learn about the common and less common crops grown in the Midwest. Also, see tractors and other farm equipment appropriate for managing small acreages.

A new **Show-Me Yards Workshop** is coming soon! This 3-week session is scheduled for **August 11, 18, and 25**, from 6:30 to 9:00 pm at the ARC. It will include chemical-free solutions for basic lawn problems such as moles and crabgrass, as well as tips for healthy soil and rain gardens. To register for this free workshop series, call 874-7616 or email flgordon@gocolumbiamo.com.

The 3rd annual **2008 EcoArtFest** will be held at Cooper's Landing, **September 6th & 7th**. This Festival is the major fundraising event for the Missouri River Cultural Conservancy. There will be information about environmental conservation projects, as well as arts and crafts, music, poetry, and dance. For more info, visit their website at: <http://www.morivcc.org/ecoartfest.htm> or call Mike Cooper at 573-657-2544.

Volunteer Opportunities

Calling all zucchini!

...and tomatoes, peppers, and any other surplus produce you have! The Plant a Row Committee will pick it up for distribution! Contact Betty Gayle Smith at (573) 874-3997 or turtleisland@tranquility.net.

You can also drop off your extra produce at these locations:

- Salvation Army Family Services Pantry, 1108 Ash St., 442-3229
- Central MO Food Bank Pantry, 1408 Indiana Ave., 874-7848
- Salvation Army Harbor House, 602 N. Ann St., 442-1984 (food used in meals for shelter residents)

Stream Team AmericaCorps is recruiting for a full-time position in Columbia, to provide education and outreach for establishment of rain gardens and rain barrels in Columbia. For more info, contact Susan Galeota at susgaleota@gmail.com or 573-256-2602.

Don't forget the **Missouri Master Gardeners Conference** in beautiful Branson, Missouri **September 26-28, 2008**. Sure, there will be plenty of terrific presentations, workshops, advanced training and tours—but let's not forget all of the good food!

Kent Shannon, new Boone County Extension Director, is starting to prepare for the **Fall course for Master Gardener training**. He will have flyers soon to distribute at the Farmers Market. Classes should start **September 15th** and run through early December. He is also trying to setup a Spring class on campus, with help from the Mizzou Botanic Gardens.

It's never too early to start thinking of reasons why you should go on the **Missouri Master Gardener Costa Rica Tour, Feb. 1-10, 2009**. Experience the incredible biodiversity and beauty of Costa Rica AND get a break from our lovely Missouri winter! For more information, call (573) 445-3975 or visit the website <http://www.hiddentreasuresbotanicaltours.com>

Nobody can do everything, but everyone can do something. ~Author Unknown



Change in Plans!

The reception for Master Gardeners originally scheduled for August 6th at the MU Chancellor's Residence has been postponed, due to a scheduling conflict. We hope to have an update by our next MG Meeting on Aug. 19th.

Committees and Leadership

Committee	Chairperson / Contacts	The Latest Scoop!!
Advanced Training	Tony White (573) 443-7949 Green_places_forever2003@yahoo.com	
Community Gardens	Barbara Michael (573) 445-0661 bam626_us@yahoo.com	
Educational Displays	Peggy Ann Eichen (660) 841-5253 eichenp@missouri.edu Melissa Hough (573) 696-0198 mmhough@gmail.com	
Extension Grounds	Kaye King (573) 673-6753 KayeKing@socket.net Mary Jane King (573) 474-2489 mjking@socket.net	
Habitat for Humanity	Phyllis Barks (573) 698-3845 BarksP@missouri.edu Brenda Jones (573) 884-6190 jonesbj@missouri.edu	Plantings on hold until Fall. A Solar Home may be coming soon!
Hotline	Emily Bonwich (573) 449-0444 ebonwich@mchsi.com	Hotline has been getting more calls, probably due the big "publicity drive" by volunteers at the Farmers Market.
Gardening with Youth	Lea Langdon: (573) 447-1257 langtrea@yahoo.com	Since most "youth" are not in school right now, they need help gardening for youth, to maintain gardens till the youth return.
Mentoring	Open	New Chairperson needed!
Missourian Articles	Kent Shannon shannond@missouri.edu	
Mizzou Botanic Gardens	Hsiao-Mei Wiedmeyer (573) 445-4735 WiedmeyerH@health.missouri.edu	
Newsletter	Linda Christensen (573) 256-2590 lchriste@columbia.k12.mo.us	New editor-in-training on-board! Please be gentle with me! ☺
Plant-a-Row for the Hungry	Betty Gayle Smith (573) 874-3997 turtleisland@tranquility.net	Donate your surplus produce! Contact Betty Gayle to arrange pickup!
Speakers' Bureau	Alice Havard (573) 445-4624	
Web Page Plant Protection Grant	Kent Shannon shannond@missouri.edu	
Plants of Merit	Open	New Chairperson needed!

Heart of Missouri Master Gardeners - Officers:

President: Rich Frieden

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Vice-president: Julie Fisher

julie8401@tranquility.net, 573-445-3488

Secretary: Kaye King

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The **Heart of Missouri Master Gardener Newsletter** is published monthly for the Master Gardeners in Central Missouri. For more information, contact:

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Boone County Extension Center Office Hours are:
Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. - Noon and 12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Next Meeting: August 19th at 7:00 p.m.
Location: Extension Center

**“Storing the Harvest”
Presented by Sandy Deraps**

Refreshments provided by:
Snacks - Linda Christensen & Tanja Patton
Drinks - Roseanne Mayfield

Remember to wear your

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