



Heart of Missouri Master Gardener Newsletter

"Helping People Learn to Grow."



March Meeting

Rob Lawrence, MDC Entomologist, began his presentation for 35 MG's with this bit of wisdom: "With biological systems, change is the only constant." This began an interesting program on the unpredictability and adaptability of insects. Rob gave us information about invading insect species in general,



Late stage emerald ash borer larvae: note bell-shaped segments

but honed in on one he has conducted research on: the **Emerald Ash Borer**.

This insect, originally from Asia and not to be confused with our Native Ash Borer, has damaged over 25 million Ash trees in the Eastern U.S. and is expected in Missouri. Lawrence said this level of destruction compares to Chestnut blight or Dutch Elm disease.

Three main ways this insect pest spreads is through milled logs, nursery stock and firewood. While milled logs and nursery stock are regulated and monitored, firewood is unregulated, and is perhaps

the quickest way that the insect is introduced into new territories. Therefore, it's recommended that all firewood remain local. Key signs of the Emerald Ash borer: D-shaped, 1/8 inch exit holes in tree bark, S-shaped galleries just under bark, and flat larvae with bell-shaped segments, or unusual sprouts on Ash tree trunks. To report a suspected Emerald Ash Borer, contact 1-866-322-4512. For more info:

<http://na.fs.fed.us/fhp/eab/>

Thanks Rob Lawrence for a great presentation, useful handouts and for the important work you are doing to protect our beautiful Missouri trees.

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Special points of interest:

- Fine Gardening Newsletter and Plant Guide: <http://www.taunton.com/finegardening/>
- Great Sunflower Project: www.greatsunflower.org
- Garden Blog: <http://www.gardenrant.com/>
- Runge Nature Center: <http://mdc.mo.gov/areas/cnc/runge/>

Growing Water Gardens

We will pay homage to Missouri's April Showers with a presentation by **Tim Moloney of Rost Landscaping**. Tim will give us great information on the **basics of pond construction**, then the program will continue with **choosing appropriate water garden**

plants, their placement and care. Please plan to join us at **Extension Center, 7:00 pm** for Tim's presentation followed by our meeting.



The Golden Trowel

The Golden Trowel Award was implemented to honor an outstanding Master Gardener. Julie Fisher was passed the award by Alice Havard, and at our last meeting Julie passed on the award to **Peggy Ann Eichen**. Peggy not only travels a great distance to attend meetings but does a terrific job with her various MG projects, notably Educational Displays. Peggy's enthusiasm and dedication is inspirational.

Community Garden Coalition: Great Growing, submitted by Barbara Michael, CGC Chair

The Community Garden Coalition (CGC) began in 1983 and provides seeds, plants, land, water, tools and gardening help for low-income and disabled gardeners. The CGC is aligning itself with The Big Canoe and The Jefferson Institute in order to provide more services to Columbia residents in need of food. The past couple of years, the CGC worked with a local Boone county farmer in growing produce that was delivered directly to the Food Bank. The CGC also provides seeds and plants to the Boonville Correctional Center where their food in turn is also donated to the Food Bank. CGC gardeners donate food to the Plant-a-Row for the Hungry project (PAR). The CGC has a number of gardens scattered throughout Columbia. Some of them are: Claudell Lane, 9th Street, Paquin Towers, Ash Street, Circus/Lyons

Sts., St. Joseph St., and Windsor St. The CGC receives seeds from the Interfaith Alliance, America the Beautiful Fund and from a local nursery that grows plants to donate to the CGC.

The CGC is most active during spring and summer when the gardens are tilled and composted, seeds and plants are distributed and gardens are assigned. Each garden has a leader who oversees the activities. There are various projects throughout the gardening season and the garden leader determines needed help as well as how many volunteers.

In spring, the CGC has their "Spring Thaw" where interested people learn

about the CGC as well as receive seeds and sign up for a garden plot. Every fall there is a Harvest Dinner where the gardeners are invited to celebrate the fruits of their labor and visit with the other gardeners. The CGC also has a presentation at Earth Day and at the Sustainable Living Fair.

Last year's local contributions to PAR totaled approximately 3500 pounds of produce!

The CGC is a vital presence in the community and provides much needed garden space and resources for people who would not otherwise be able to garden. To volunteer, contact: **Barbara Michael at: (573) 445-0661, bam626_us@yahoo.com**

Advanced Training Courses at Cole County Extension

The Central Missouri Master Gardeners, Cole County are conducting Advanced Training classes for various MG groups. Classes held at Cole Co. Ext. unless noted otherwise **.

Orchids: April 12, 9-noon: Barbara Giles; Giles Orchids

Landscaping in A Wooded Area: May 5, 6-9 pm: Michele Jansen; Rost Landscape Inc.

Hybridizing: May 10, 9-noon: Jesse

Emmons, Claire Brown; MG's.

How to Grow Roses: May 17, 9-noon; Chance Gardens**; Jim Lee; Chance Gardens

Propagation: May 19, 6-9 pm; MG Greenhouse**: Dr. David Trinklein, MU

Plant ID: 9-noon: Dr. Chris Starbuck, MU

Container Gardening: June 2, 6-9

pm: MG Greenhouse**: Trinklein, MU

Tropicals in the Landscape: 6-9 pm: Jeff Oberhaus; Vintage Hill Farm.

Entire course: \$90; or per session \$15, except "Propagation" and "Container Gardening": \$20 each.

Contact Jane Kempker at the Cole County Extension office, 573-634-2824 to register. More info: Frank Richards, Education Chair, at: packerfan678627@yahoo.com

A Growing Cause

Dear Master Gardeners, We have just launched "The Great Sunflower Project", a community science project with the goal of increasing our understanding of where bees are doing poorly and how the pollination of our garden and wild plants are being affected. We're hoping you will join us by planting sunflowers in your garden. Community, demonstration, and school gardens are invited to participate.

We'll send you some free native sunflower (*Helianthus annuus*) seed and twice a month, we'd like you to time how long it takes for 5 bees to visit one flower on that sunflower. This information will give us an index of pollination that we can compare across the United States.

Once we know where bees are in trouble, we can start develop-

ing a plan to help them. You can see the details about the project and register at: www.greatsunflower.org, or contact us at sfbee@sfsu.edu.

Do join us!

Thanks so much, Gretchen LeBuhn Associate Professor; San Francisco State University



Mark Your Calendars

Attention Hotline/Farmers' Market Volunteers & prospective volunteers: Please attend an important meeting at 6:00pm, before the regular MG meeting on April 15th, Extension. More info: Emily Bonwich 449-0444 or Marie Pasley 474-5245.

April 19th, 4 pm: Art and Vera Gelder's 40th Wedding Anniversary; Walkabout Acres. Bring a covered dish. 573-474-8837.

2008 Master Gardener State Conference: Branson, MO; Sept. 26, 27, 28. For more info and registration: <http://www.momg08.org:80/>

April 12th, Native Plant Sale and Bird Watching Tour: Bradford Farms. Plant sale begins at 9 a.m. Birding tour begins at 7:00 a.m. with RSVP to 573-289-2018.

Compost for sale, city landfill, \$12 plus tax/cu yd. April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 from 1:00-5:00 pm; April 5, 19 from 8:00 am - noon. 573-474-9145.

Free mulch loaded at Capen Park April 12 and 26.

Saturday, April 12th: Clean up Columbia. Annual springtime city-wide cleanup. Registration **deadline is Friday, April 4.** (for more info, click on: [Cleanup Columbia](#))

April 29, 7 p.m. Speakers' Bureau; Columbia Public Library, "Vegetable Gardening," by Betty Gayle Smith.

Earth Day 2008, Sunday, April 20, 12 noon - 7 p.m. Free. MU's Peace Park, along Elm Street between 6th and 9th Streets.

June 14th, Tiger Pilot Club Garden Tour. (Details upcoming). If you're interested or know of a yard to suggest for the tour, contact Robyn Kaufman, rkaufman@bcfr.org

Volunteer Opportunities

Habitat for Humanity needs volunteers to assist 3 Habitat families with planting trees and shrubs. Proper planting, care, & mulching will be discussed and demonstrated. For more info contact Phyllis Barks:(573) 698-3845, barksp@missouri.edu

Volunteers needed for Earth Day booth, Columbia's Peace Park on Sunday, **4/20**, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. MG's

are needed for set up (begins at 10 a.m.), shifts in the booth, donation of plants, seeds, & ideas for the educational display competition & dismantle. Contact Peggy Ann Eichen at: ejchenp@missouri.edu or 660/841-5253.

Walk About Acres hosts field trips for area school children, K-1st grade. Volunteers needed for stations. Kids are in small, supervised groups, and spend about 15 minutes per station.

Materials are provided. Bring drinking water, snack & wear weather appropriate clothing. For available dates: Contact Vera Gelder: 573-474-8837 or Alice Havard at: 573-445-4624. Or email the Gelders at: walkaboutacres@agristar.net

Extension Grounds project needs help with sprucing up and planting. Contact Kaye King: 573- 673-6753 or kayeking@socket.net

Committees and Chairs

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: Brenda Jones (573) 884-6190, jonesbj@missouri.edu or Phyllis Barks, (573) 698-3845, BarksP@missouri.edu

Hotline: Emily Bonwich (573) 449-0444,

ebonwich@mchsi.com;

Gardening with Youth: Lea Langdon (573) 447-1257; langtrea@yahoo.com

Mentoring: Open

Missourian Articles: Don Day (573) 445-9792, daydr@missouri.edu

Mizzou Botanic Garden: Hsiao-Mei Wiedmeyer (573) 445-4735, WiedmeyerH@health.missouri.edu

Newsletter: Julie Fisher (573) 445-3488, Julie8401@tranquility.net

Plant-a-Row for the Hungry: Betty Gayle Smith (573) 874-3997 turtleisland@tranquility.net

Plants of Merit: Phyllis Barks (573) 698-3845, barksp@missouri.edu

Speakers' Bureau: Alice Havard (573) 445-4624

Web Page/Plant Protection Grant: Don Day, daydr@missouri.edu

OFFICERS:

Rich Frieden, President: friedenr@missouri.edu, 573-875-5078

Julie Fisher, Vice-president: julie8401@tranquility.net, 573-445-3488

Kaye King, Secretary: kayeking@socket.net, 573-442-2877

Sandy Perley, Treasurer: perleys@missouri.edu, 999-2643

Debbie Scholes, State Representative: ScholesD@missouri.edu, 573-657-9731

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Newsletter
University of Missouri Extension-Boone
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We're on the Web!

[Mu.extension.missouri.edu/boone/
mg.html](http://Mu.extension.missouri.edu/boone/mg.html)

NEXT GENERAL MEETING: TUESDAY, April 15, 7:00 p.m.

Boone County Extension Center

Tim Moloney, Rost Landscaping Services presents:

Water Gardens

Refreshments provided by Barbara Michael & Julie Fisher (snacks); Emily Bonwich (drinks)

Remember to wear your nametag!

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

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Boone County Extension Center
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