

roots

The monthly newsletter of the Sevier County Area Master Gardeners Association

JUNE 2024





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July Meeting Info Monday, July 15, 2024

annual picnic time

Calling all Master Gardeners. July is just around the corner and you know what that means. Picnic time! We would like to host another picnic at my family’s pavilion on the river at 3530 Sam Ellis Way, Sevierville 37876. Last year was our first and we had such a wonderful time, enjoying fellowship while picnicking. This is a thank you picnic for all my fellow master gardeners who helped me with the Tomato Seed Project. However, all master gardeners and their spouses are invited. We will have the picnic on July 15 at 6:00, in lieu of our July meeting that would normally be held at the extension office. My husband and I will provide the meat (hamburgers and hot dogs), buns, and chips. Everyone else can bring a side or dessert. Also, you might need to bring a lawn chair. We have picnic tables but a lawn chair might be a bit more comfortable.

DIRECTIONS:
If you are using your GPS, you may enter 3530 Sam Ellis Way, Sevierville, 37876. This is not the pavilion address, but our rental cabin. The GPS will bring you to a concrete bridge on your left (Sam Ellis Way) where I will also have a sign placed. Once you cross the bridge, you will go up a small hill and turn RIGHT (where I will have another sign) and that will bring you down to the pavilion.
If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 865-850-9644.

Save the Dates

- Sevier County Fair: August 27th thru September 2nd.
- Christmas Party: Monday, December 2nd.
- Wilderness Wildlife Week. January 28th, 2025 - February 1st, 2025



opportunities

volunteer

My People Senior Activity Center
Garden Work Days Wednesday, July
16th, Saturday, August 3rd, Saturday,
August 21st, 9:00 AM.

Demo Garden Work Day, Tuesday, July
16th, August 12th, August 20th 8:30
AM.

Sevier County Fair, Tuesday, August
27th through Monday, September 2nd.
Contact Diane for available slots.

meetings & events

Monthly Meeting, Monday, July 15th
6:00 PM - Annual picnic hosted by Patsy
Farmer. RSVP to patsyefarmer1950@g-
mail.com or 865-850-9644

Monthly Meeting, Monday, August 19th,
6:00 pm, Ice Cream Social

SAVE THE DATE! TEMG State Confer-
ence, October 9th through 11th, hosted
by Davidson and Williamson Counties.

educational

Melody's Monday Musings (Greene
County). <https://sites.google.com/utk.edu/mondaymusings/2023-schedule?authuser=0>

Buncombe County (NC) Master
Gardener Video Series, <https://www.buncombemastergardener.org/gardening-videos/>

Discover Life in America from our own
GSMNP offers a variety of online edu-
cational resources, including a podcast
and archives from the popular Science
@ the Sugarlands (pre-pandemic).
Go to <https://dlia.org/education/> for
information


TEMG First Friday Office Hours in
Horticulture Webinars: July 12th,
August 2nd, and September 6th. 10:00
AM.

NC Herb Association Wild Herb
Weekend, July 26th through 28th, Valle
Crucis, NC. For more information,
visit <https://www.ncherbassociation.org/>

Fall Gardener's Festival, Crossville,
August 27th.

TEMG 2024 Welcome Home Series,
October 1, 8, 25, 22, 6:30 PM.

Save the Date! WNC Gardening Sym-
posium, October 9th, Asheville, NC.
Featured speakers include renowned
environmentalist and author Doug
Tallamy and Craig LeHoullier, the
author of Epic Tomatoes. Registration
information available in August



This year's County Fair will begin on Tuesday, August 27th and end on Monday, September 2nd. We will have a booth in the building but it will not be manned. We will have Master Gardeners out in the Demonstration Garden giving tours and answering questions. There will be a sign up sheet at the picnic for those interested in working this event.

We will also be giving out seeds and plants. If you have any plants that you could donate for the plant giveaway please pot them up and bring them to the gardens on Monday, August 26th. Last year we had lots of Iris to hand out. If you plan on dividing your Iris this year we would love to have your extras. If you have any questions contact Diane McCullen.



letter from the president

Non-Profits are Vital to Communities

Master Gardeners is a non-profit organization. Why are we important? As a non-profit we offer a wide range of benefits to our communities. These benefits include:

Addressing Social Issues:

We focus on addressing critical social issues such as environmental conservation.

Community Development:

We work towards the development of our local communities by providing resources and support.

Providing Services:

We provide an essential service through educational programs.

Volunteering and Employment:

We create opportunities for community members to volunteer, fostering a sense of civic duty and community involvement.

Advocacy and Awareness:

We play a crucial role in raising awareness about important environmental issues. We can influence public opinion and government policy, leading to broader social change.

Building Social Capital:

We help build social capital by fostering relationships, trust, and collaboration among community members.

We often create networks that connect individuals and organizations, strengthening the social fabric.

Educational Opportunities:

We provide educational programs and



resources, from early childhood education to adult learning.

We often offer scholarships, tutoring, and mentorship programs.

Health and Wellness:

We focus on promoting health and wellness through gardening.

We provide health education and preventive care using plants as an alternative to medicine.

Environmental Conservation:

We are at the forefront of environmental conservation efforts, working to protect natural resources and promote sustainability.

We provide activities that might include conservation projects, environmental education, and advocacy for green policies.

Overall, non-profit organizations play a vital role in creating more equitable, healthy, and vibrant communities. We are an amazing group of people who do amazing things! Be proud to be a Master Gardener!

Diane McCullen
SCAMGA President

demo garden news

We are ramping up for the fair. I have three workdays scheduled for July and August. PLEASE try to attend at least one of these. There are still a few big projects left to attend to before the end of August. Interns, your class is responsible for the straw bales and the pollinator garden.

I could also use some wildflowers in the meadow garden. If you have any on your property that you would consider transplanting let me know.

Dates and Times:

July 16th - 8:30 AM

August 12th - 8:30 AM

August 20th - 8:30 AM

Thanks for supporting our gardens,

Diane





biodiversity resources

Go forth and restore!

Nature's Best Hope, by Doug Tallamy

Bringing Nature Home, by Doug Tallamy

The Nature of Oaks, by Doug Tallamy

The Living Landscape, by Rick Darke and Doug Tallamy

Lawns into Meadows, by Owen Wormser

Homegrown National Park (homegrownnationalpark.org)

iNaturalist (inaturalist.org)

Picture This Plant ID app (picturethisai.com)

NWF Native Plant Finder (nwf.org/nativeplantfinder)

Tennessee Smart Yards (tnyards.utk.edu)

Tennessee Native Plant Society (www.tnps.org)

TEC Tennessee Tree Day (www.tectn.org/tennesseetreeday.html)

Roundstone Native Seed (roundstoneseed.com)

Prairie Moon Nursery (www.prairiemoon.com)

Questions?



fun at farm day



What would a farm be without pollinators? That was the question students from North View Elementary and Intermediate schools were faced with when JMG coordinator, Melanie Hill, participated in their schools' FarmDay, June 11.

Activities included knowing your pollinators-it is not just bees, and how to spot butterfly cocoons, and caterpillars in mix and match activity. Students also learned the importance of host plants to our pollinators and what would happen to a farm and its animals if pollinators were no longer around.





SEVIER COUNTY AREA MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION

meeting minutes

JUNE 17, 2024

PROGRAM

Jamie Matzko from Discover Life in America presented an informative program on discovering, understanding and conserving the natural world. She detailed the goals of Discover Life in America and their projects.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Diane McCullen at 7:12 p.m.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The minutes of the June meeting were published in the last newsletter. The minutes will stand as printed.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Andrew Hennigh reminded everyone of the picnic on July 15 at 6 p.m. that will be hosted by Patsy Farmer at 3530 Sam Ellis Way, Sevierville 37876. A list for members to sign up to bring food was passed out.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The May financial report was published in the last newsletter. The financial report will stand as printed.

JMG'S REPORT

Diane McCullen reported that the JMG's had a successful trip to the Cradle of Forestry. Additionally there are twenty-one children signed up for Summer Camp in July.

EXTENSION AGENT REPORT

No Report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

DEMO GARDEN

Diane McCullen stated there will be two scheduled workdays in June. June 18th and June 22nd at 9:00 a.m. Diane stated that help will be needed with two projects: the front area by the fire plug and helping pick up a heavy bench.

SENIOR CENTER

Glenna Julia reported that a successful plant sale was held at the Kodak Library. The next scheduled workday at the Senior Center will be this coming Wednesday. All were invited to help. She also stated that Monica will be reporting for the Senior Center from now on.

PLANT SALE

Karen Hall reported that both sales went well. She thanked everyone who helped with the sales.

BUTTERFLY HOUSE

Karen Hall reported that she is still working on plans for the butterfly house.

NEWSLETTER

Diane McCullen asked all present to have all articles and information to Mandy by July 1st.

OLD BUSINESS

PLANT SALE VENDOR LIST

Diane McCullen requested that members continue to seek out new vendors for the upcoming sales and to forward all information to Dixie Seaton.

LIBRARY EVENT

Diane McCullen related that there will be a Pollinator Educational session at the King Library on June 21st from 9a.m. till 12 p.m. Glenna and Lois present at this event.

NEW BUSINESS

NEWSLETTER

Diane McCullen stated that we will ask people if they wish to receive an emailed version of the newsletter. It will be a modified version and only go out a few times a year. She also reported that the timeline just cannot be moved up. We will work on having dates and events listed in newsletter in a timelier manner. There will be a Looking Ahead section in the newsletter so please inform Mandy of upcoming events. Wilderness wildlife week is scheduled for January 28, 2025, until February 1st, 2025.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Darlene Kemp and Darrin Hennigh, two new students who graduated from the recent class, were congratulated by all present.

Johan Oakberg has moss to give away. Please contact him if you have any questions.

Thank you cards from the children at 4H were shared.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was called to close at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Monica Scaccianoce DNP



Nature's Partners Insects, Flowers and You!

Junior Master gardener Summer Camp 2023 was the place to learn all about bugs in our gardens. Our week began with a visit from entomologist, Dr. Kaushyla Amarasekare who works with Tennessee State University in Nashville. Campers learned about the 5 P's of garden insects: Pollinators, Predators, Parasites, Poopers and Pests and the role each plays within our gardens. Dr. K also brought specimens of bugs they were learning about to share.



On day two, campers learned about the various types of pollinators that may visit our gardens-it isn't just bees and butterflies! They created bees to simulate the pollination process and learned how pollinators have adapted to pollinate certain types of flowers. In an effort to help pollinators in their

own gardens, campers created pollinator drinking stations.

The Butterfly Ladies, Lois, Glenna and Nat, brought caterpillars, cocoons and their host plants as they shared about butterflies we



have in our area. Campers did a trivia scavenger hunt to learn about butterflies. Did you know that when in flight, groups of butterflies are called a flutter or that many caterpillars eat 27,000 times their own body weight before they are ready to enter the chrysalis? After learning about the parts of a butterfly, campers created clothespin butterflies to decorate their gardens.



How do pollinators choose the flowers that they pollinate? Many flowers use visual cues to attract pollinators: showy petals and sepals, nectar guides, shape, size, and color.

Campers created diagrams, dissected, and created flower models as they learned about flowers as host plants to our pollinators. They also learned the importance of native plants in the pollinator/food cycle.

Day four was also our noisiest day at camp as campers created flower art with hammers!

Our last day of camp was a frenzy of activity as campers learned about different insect habitats. They created "Bug Hotels" for Mason bees and other insects. They also finished a week-long project: Bottle Bugs. Each camper chose a bug we had studied and created a paper mache model that will be on display in the demo garden during the Sevier County Fair.



Comments:

My daughter loved it!

It was great.

Loved it!



speakers bureau

Say "Yes!" to Volunteer Hours working the Ask-a-MG Booth

Another opportunity to share our plant and gardening knowledge comes from working our SCAMGA Ask a Master Gardener booth at local events. Starting with our annual booth at the Wilderness Wildlife Week in January to our Sevier County Fair garden tours, we have many occasions to take it "on the road" and interact with the public to promote our club and share information.

Two recent events were very different in topic, but both let us contact our local community in a very positive way. The first was a community event that invited in residents that are organizing neighborhood Firewise events and sharing wildfire prevention knowledge. Dixie Seaton and MG Intern Laura DeCarlo were there sharing materials about planting zones around our homes to lessen wildfire damage. The second was the Pollinator Palooza, held at the King Family Library garden to show off the flower beds tended by Keep Sevier Beautiful. Of course, we had our resident master gardener "butterfly ladies", Lois Worthington and Glenna Julian, along with Nat Cassel, to share their extensive experience with butterflies, plants and other pollinators.

When Matthew puts out a call for volunteers to work the Ask a MG booth, don't hesitate to hold up your hand! He'll help get all the materials together you need. You do not need to have all the answers, but share what information we have, mostly in UT publications. Don't have the answer? Get their contact information and pass their problem on to Matt to respond to them. We also get a great opportunity to invite interested people to join our TEMG classes. It's a great day working with and getting to know other master gardeners, and don't forget your volunteer hours that you can log. It's a win-win and a fun day! Just say "Yes!"

Dixie Seaton



jr. master gardener may financials

Junior Master Gardeners Financial Report May 2024

		Totals Remaining 4/30/24	Expenditures May	Totals Remaining 5/31/24
Knoxville Funds		1129.35		235.49
Sevierville Funds		1120.62		1120.62
Total		2249.97		1356.11
Education				
Leaf and Vine: CS	Consumables	82.32	59.97	22.35
Curriculum supplies	Lesson supplements	56.74	49.53	7.21
Outside the Classroom	Field Trips	150.	63.73	86.27
	Beyond the Classroom	100		100
Summer Programs	Day Camp	250	206.25	43.75
	MG	200	52.57	147.43
	Summer showcase	100		100
Outreach programs	Supplies	202.80	70.50	132.3
Orientation				
Fall Kickoff	Supplies	50		50
Garden				
Demo Garden Bed	Supplies	217.12	212.26	4.86
Plant Sale	Supplies	53.91	39.9	14.01
Snacks				
Leaf and Vine	Meeting snacks	189.02	29.36	159.66
Community Service				
Project	Supplies	112.04		112.04
Other Expenses		478.51	109.79	368.72
Budget TOTAL:		2242.46	893.86	1348.60
Funds Not Budgeted		1387.51		1387.51
Deposit		620.		
Deposits Budgeted		*(2000.		*(2000.
TOTAL Budgeted Funds		4249.97		3356.11

contacts

Diane McCullen, President
ldmccullen@sbcglobal.net 832.605.5769

Andrew Hennigh, Vice President
arsheffer5@icloud.com 517.614.0642

Monica Scaccianoce, Secretary
monicascaccia@aol.com 954.309.0434

John Oakberg, Treasurer
oakbergjl@bellsouth.net 865.428.6265

Linda Douglas, Member-at-large
4mom2go@gmail.com 865.803.3807

Shauna Bayless, Greenhouse Coordinator
shauna.bayless@gmail.com 517-719-7290

Karen Hall, Greenhouse Coordinator
borderhall07@yahoo.com 865.851.2922

Mandy Hyde, Newsletter
mandy.hyde@earthlink.net 951.662.8557

Adam Hopkins,
Sevier Co. Extension Director
ahopkins@utk.edu 865.453.3695

Matthew Anderson
Sevier Co. Extension Agent Horticulture & 4H
mande125@utk.edu 865.453.3695

seviermastergardner@gmail.com

UT Sevier Co Extension Office

