

January, 2012

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UNIVERSITY OF
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EXTENSION

Solutions in your community

Anne Arundel County Master Gardeners



January Meeting—Brown Marmorated Stink Bugs

Polly Katauskas, MG and Mary Ellen Keck, MG

Polly Katauskas is a Master Gardener, class of 2002 and a member of the EAB. She and Mary Ellen Keck have been co-chairs of the B&A Trail Demonstration Garden since 2006.

She retired as an enlisted Navy weather forecaster in 1997 and still considers herself a bit of a “weather geek.” She thinks the world of insects is fascinating and can often be found wondering around her yard with a hand lens spying on six (and sometimes eight) legged creatures.

Mary Ellen Keck, MG class of 2004, holds multiple Master’s degrees (in Library Science and Public Administration) as well as a Doctorate in Public Administration.

She worked for the Department of the Interior in multiple capacities, and retired in 1999. She has been a volunteer for over 11 years at a hospice care center in Florida, and recently began volunteering at a local retirement home in Catonsville.

Our presentation is aimed at providing information to help MG's answer questions about stinkbugs that may come up while dealing with the public. It is based on a "train the trainer" class we attended in Carroll County. Much of the information is from studies conducted by the USDA-ARS (Agricultural Research Service).

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The Coordinator’s Corner

Mike Ensor, Anne Arundel County Master Gardener Coordinator

I hope everyone had a great Holiday Season and Happy New Year! I want to especially thank Cindy Wells, Janet Clauson and their committee for putting together that most wonderful holiday celebration last month.

I also want to thank all of our Master Gardeners for all of your dedication, support, talents, and time for making our Anne Arundel Master Gardener Program a true success. You have all accomplished many goals and successes and hopefully have had “fun” doing this as well.

I find that our Master Gardeners are always there when a job needs to be done. The many projects are all vital in keeping the program’s mission of “Educating Maryland residents about safe, effective and sustainable horticultural practices that build healthy gar-

dens, landscapes and communities” for a better quality of life.

During 2012 we will continue to have an Executive Advisory Board (EAB), Project Chairs, Intern and Advanced Trainings, Monthly Meetings, Newsletters and much more. The intern mentor program and rotation schedule will continue. We will continue with most of the ongoing projects and there are several new ones for this year.

I want all of our Master Gardeners to know that I am here to give each one of you the support and encouragement that you need or the programs that you are involved in. I wish each of you “full speed ahead” with your goals and achievements as Master Gardeners in throughout year.



ANNE ARUNDEL MASTER GARDENER PROJECT REPORTS

Composting & Native Gardens at Quiet Waters Park

Pam Dennison, MG, Project Chair

Congratulations to Malcolm Doying for receiving the Blue Heron award at Quiet Waters Park. This award is given to select volunteers for their outstanding service to the park.

The Composting and Native Gardens project had another successful season. We discussed and demonstrated composting to 596 people this year at both Quiet Waters Park and several

off site locations.

Thanks to the members of our team for their hard work and dedication: Mary Beam, Susie Blackwell, Betty Bryant, Kathleen Cornell, Malcolm Doying, Carole Fullagar, Ginny Klocko, Pat Logan, Jeanne Paglee, Denise Peach, Lisa Schick and Terence Wright.

Dairy Farm

Elizabeth Matarese, MG, Project Co-Chair

The Holly Glen is now waiting for spring, and Sue Owens is going through withdrawal! Elizabeth and Susan are breathing a sigh of relief and contentment, so gratified with the response from Master Gardeners to this effort! What Our Group accomplished! The energy and the time that people committed to getting this work underway were phenomenal, a testament to the ideals of the MG Program. We:

- Removed tons of invasive vegetation (not in weight, but in volume), including Poison Ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*), briars (*Smilax rotundifolia*), Pokeberry (*Phytolacca americana*), White Mulberry (*Morus alba*), et al. (We didn't touch the ultimate invasive, *ailanthus altissima*)
- Created paths to gain access to Holly Glen views
- Teamed with Karyn Molines, Chris Coates-Arborist, and Dennis Skaggs-eco landscapes to beautify the area in an ecologically positive way
- Received a grant from Unity Gardens and combined that with our MG Program funds to purchase materials. These included plants from American Natives Nursery, which were augmented by several generous donations from Master Gardeners, and many bags of Leaf-Gro to enrich the soil
- Teamed with the Girl Scouts to create "The Copse" where vines and ivies reigned and which now is an inviting resting place
- Established an understory of vegetation appropriate to our area... all natives, naturally

This season has ended... sort of! It didn't feel like December this year... with temps in the upper 50's-low 60's (feeding Sue's withdrawal!). However, January and February are our winter months. A visit to the Holly Glen in, say, late January might prove challenging... who knows... we may have 6" or even 1' of snow to traipse through.... But in any season the Holly Glen will be beautiful, and it stands as a tribute to hard work, persistence, and the generous giving of time, materials, and energy that have been invested in it. Picture this with snow!

(Photo by Sue Owens)





Intern/Mentor List

Scott Doran, MG, Project Co-Chair

Many thanks to the MGs who volunteered to mentor the 2011 MG class. I appreciate your generosity in sharing your time and experience to help our newest MGs navigate through their first year as interns.

MG	Intern
Droneburg, Linda	Aden, Jean
Stringfellow, Kay	Arasteh, Shahrzad
Allred, Nancy	Baker, Ann
Lindsay, Sue	Beschenbossel, Jeane
Werre, Deborah	Biddle, Anne
Knisely, Susan	Bowen, Kylia
Doran, Scott	Burgess, Mary Sue
Shreet, Sharon	Gillum, David
Robey, Mary Jo	Halsey, Kimberly
Thompson, Judy	Hutcherson, Kelly
Dail, Joyce	McGarvey, Francis
Fitzgerald, Guler	Payne, Edwin
Wells, Cindy	Peterson, Rebecca
Noonan, Robin	Presti, Bridgette
Lambert, George	Smouse, Anthony
Katauskas, Polly	Smouse, Susan
Matarese, Elizabeth	Spano, Katharine
Bilson, Maida	Sunday, Rebecca
MacNemar, Barbara	Urick, Susan
Runk-Zeunges, Nancy	Weaver, Jacob
Patterson, Sandy	Yee, Mary

Unity Gardens

SAVE THE DATE

UNITY GARDENS PRESENTS

Tracy DiSabato-Aust

March 31, 2012

Native Plants: Design and Maintenance'

Tracy DiSabato-Aust has earned international acclaim as one of America's most entertaining and knowledgeable garden writers and speakers AND she's coming to Annapolis !

On Saturday morning, March 31, Tracy will present a rare half-day seminar on Maryland native plants, design and maintenance. More info to follow!

Woodland Garden

Bonnie Pavlak, MG, Project Chair

The TKF Foundation bench has been finished and put back in the Woodland Garden.

Our final planting of American Beech Trees, Joe-Pye Weed and Phlox (donated by Sue Maher) was done on December 16, 2011.

The Weed Warrior Program has had two workdays to remove multiflora rose and oriental bittersweet vines from trees near the Visitors Center in Kinder Farm Park.

Our next scheduled workday is Saturday, January 14, 2012 from 10-12. Bring tools, gloves, and wear protective clothing. We will meet at the Visitors Center.

News from the State MG Office

Robin Hessey, State Master Gardener Advanced Training Coordinator

MG ANNUAL TRAINING DAY- SAVE THE DATE

MG Annual Training Day 2012 will be on Wednesday, May 23

If you have any recommendations for speakers, please let Robin Hessey know (410-531-1754, rmhessey@umd.edu.)

MG STATEWIDE ADVANCED TRAINING for Feb and March 2012

Youth Gardening Education

This will be a joint MG/ Food Supplement Nutrition Education (FSNE) program. We'll have panels on starting gardens, managing kids in the garden and engaging different age groups. We'll also have presentations of safety and resources and break-out sessions on Grow-Lights, Cooking with kids, Raised beds, Container Gardening, and the Growing Healthy Habits Curriculum (you'll be able to attend 3 break outs). Participating MG's will be encouraged to contribute at least 5 hours of volunteer time in the area of youth education. Program will go from 9:30am-3:30pm and will be repeated in 3 locations:

Baltimore County Extension- Saturday Feb 25, 2012

Washington County Extension- Friday, March 2, 2012

Sheridan Street Garden (PG Co.) Saturday, March 3, 2012

Registration fee: \$30. For a complete description of the program and to register, go to the MG State website at: <http://mastergardener.umd.edu/AdvancedTraining/YouthGard.cfm>

Master Composter

Location: University of Maryland Extension- Montgomery County (Derwood)

Date: Wednesdays March 14 and April 4 - 9:30am-3pm (includes field trip)

Instructors: Lew Shell (Hort. Consultant, HGIC; Anne Arundel Co. MG), Susan Levy-Goerlich (Howard Co. MG)

Registration Fee: \$45 (plus any texts) **Registration Deadline:** March 7, 2012 **Class Limit:** 25

Course Description:

Learn all about composting from dedicated Master Gardener Composters. This advanced course, designed to teach the teacher, will not only enable you to improve your own composting techniques, it will empower you to share your knowledge with novices and experts alike. You will be given instruction in both the science and the art of creating compost and be given the opportunity to hone your own personal teaching skills.

Also included:

- Vermicomposting demo and hands-on exercise
- Field trip to a Maryland Environment Services facility

For a complete description, go to: <http://mastergardener.umd.edu/AdvancedTraining/MasterComposter2012.cfm>

News from the State MG Office



Robin Hessey, State Master Gardener Advanced Training Coordinator

REGISTRATION FORM State MG Advanced Training Classes, Feb-March 2012

Date: _____ MG County: _____ Phone: _____
Email _____

Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____
Zip _____

Course Title	Item	Cost	Check	Am't Enclosed
Youth Gardening	Tuition (Indicate desired location) <input type="checkbox"/> Baltimore County Sat. Feb. 25 (Snow date Sat. 3/17) <input type="checkbox"/> Washington County Fri. March 2 (Snow date Mon. 3/5) <input type="checkbox"/> Sheridan St. Garden, P.G. Co. Sat. 3/3. (Snow date 3/10)	\$30	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Master Composter March 14, April 4 Montgomery Co.	Tuition- (includes handbook)	\$45	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
	<u>Required Text:</u> NRAES' 50 page booklet Composting to Reduce the Waste Stream	\$10	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
	<u>Optional Texts:</u> Rodale Book of Composting by Grace Gershuny, Deborah L. Martin (\$14) (highly recommended)	\$14	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
	Worms Eat My Garbage by Mary Appelhof (\$12) (great, but optional)	\$12	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Total Enclosed				

When registering, please include your tuition and payment for any of the course books you'd like us to order. If you don't already have these texts you can purchase them on your own, or for your convenience, you can order them from us. We will deliver them to you the first day of class.

To Pay by Check: Make checks payable to the University of Maryland. Please fill in and return your application with check to: MG Classes, HGIC, 12005 Homewood Rd. Ellicott City, MD 21042.

To Pay by Credit Card: Type of Credit Card: Master Card Visa Discover

Your name as it appears on Credit Card: _____

Credit Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

If paying with credit card, you can email this form to rmhessey@umd.edu; or you can mail form, or fax to HGIC, Attn: Robin Hessey at 410-531-5567.



Anne Arundel County Master Gardener Program

Anne Arundel County Extension
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Anne Arundel County Government Office Building
7320 Ritchie Highway, Suite 210
Glen Burnie, MD 21061

We're on the web! Visit us at
www.annearundel.umd.edu/MasterGardeners



It is the policy of the University of Maryland, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station, and University of Maryland Extension that all persons have equal opportunity and access to programs and facilities without regard to race, color, gender, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, age, marital or parental status, or disability.

The University of Maryland Extension (UME) conducts the Maryland Master Gardener Program.

The Master Gardener Program's mission is to educate Maryland residents about safe, effective, and sustainable horticultural practices that build healthy gardens, landscapes, and communities.