

UPCOMING EVENTS

(Some events may apply for volunteer hours and/or continuing education credits.) For any questions, please contact **Nate Walton at 231-256-9888** or waltonn2@msu.edu

MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION OF NORTHWEST MICHIGAN (MGANM)
Presentations require registration at www.mganm.org Presentations offer Continuing Education credits unless otherwise noted. A \$5 donation is requested for non-MGANM members.

June 6 (Tue.) 6:30 p.m. via Zoom "*Climate Change: Extinction in our Backyards*" Join us and speaker Meredith Zettlemoyer who will discuss how habitat loss, land use, and climate change have influenced the extinction of many Michigan prairie plant species. Human activities threaten thousands of species with extinction, but it remains difficult to predict extinction risk for many vulnerable species. Meredith has examined whether human-caused changes, including nitrogen fertilization, deer herbivory, invasion, and climate warming, have influenced local extinctions by planting locally extinct species back into local restored prairies. Meredith Zettlemoyer is a postdoctoral research associate at the University of Georgia, where she studies the effects of climate change on alpine plant communities in the Rocky Mountains. She earned her PhD from Michigan State University, where she studied biodiversity loss in response to anthropogenic change, with a focus on potential causes of local prairie plants extinctions. Before her PhD, she studied biology and English at the University of Virginia and worked in environmental education with AmeriCorps.

June 27 (Tue.) 6:30-8:00 p.m. "*Farm Tour at Maple Bay Farm*" Maple Bay Farm is an 11-acre property on the west side of U.S. 31 owned by GTRLC. It includes a farmhouse (fully restored in 2019), root cellar, sugar shack and pole barn building. The farm property is used for demonstrations, community gardening, remote office space and more. As a longtime resident of Manhattan, Marcella would garden by asking friends with homes if she could plant and prune in their yards. Retiring to Traverse City in 2018, she became an Extension Master Gardener, a volunteer docent at Grand Traverse Conservancy District and "farmer" at Maple Bay Farm. Locally Marcella has worked to control the spread of invasive species, recently convincing TC Parks and Recreation to remove a Tree of Heaven grove along the Boardman River and to treat another one by Oryana. Please see the website for more information and registration. www.mganm.org

Love photography and your garden? Submit your photos to us. We would love to include them on our website, in Facebook posts, Instagram page or The Real Dirt Newsletter. Please send them to Sue Sensenbaugh-Padgett at ssensenbaugh@yahoo.com We also are discussing having a photo contest! Stay tuned.

Looking for writers! Yes, in every Real Dirt newsletter we have asked for people to write a fact-based gardening/environmental/conservation article that interests them. We are also looking at including a topic titled: **"What Are You Reading?"** Even if you don't want to write the article, but have ideas please let us know. Did you know you get volunteer hours for doing that? Is there a gardening question you wonder about? Are there pictures you can share? (Remember these must be yours) What projects are you planning or volunteering on? Please send your ideas and pictures to Sue Sensenbaugh-Padgett. ssensenbaugh@yahoo.com. Additionally, Sue can help you edit it.

NORTHERN MICHIGAN MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION-SMART GARDENING BOOTH-MACKINAC ISLAND DURING THE LILAC FESTIVAL

June 9-June 18 (Fri.-Sun.) 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. each day. One of our region's Extension Master Gardener Volunteers, Anne Borowicz, is the new Lilac Docent on Mackinac Island and will be conducting classes and lilac tours during the Lilac Festival, June 9th through June 18th. The Northern Michigan Master Gardener Association will be operating a **Smart Gardening booth** during the festival if they can find enough volunteers to help staff the booth. They hope that some of the Smart Gardening Volunteers in the NW region can help them. **Ferry tickets and free parking** will be provided. Contact **Ginny Heinritzi** if you are interested in volunteering. Ginnyh1974@gmail.com 517-974-6031

THE BOTANIC GARDEN AT HISTORIC BARNS PARK

Some events may have a charge and most all need pre-registration. Events usually sell out quickly. Please consult the website and Facebook page for cost, information on the presenters and registration. * Please check the website and the Facebook page to see if there are any additions since events sometimes are added after the newsletter is written. *

www.thebotanicgarden.org/events/

The gift shop is now open The Botanic Garden is always looking for new folks willing to give a little time (and have lots of fun doing it!) volunteering as **Docents, Gardeners, Hosts and Hostesses or 'Possums'** (grounds and maintenance helpers).

June 1 (Thur.) 4:00-6:00 p.m. "Design Your Own Fairy Door & Toadstool (Family Workshop)" Join us at the Garden for a magical afternoon inspired by fairies! Create your own fairy door & toadstool for your backyard fairy garden. For more information and to register please see <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/design-your-own-fairy-door-toadstool-family-workshop-tickets-625273518927>

June 1-22 (4 sessions on Thurs.) 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. "Designing with Great Lakes Native (Partnership with Northwestern Michigan College)" Join the

Executive Director of The Botanic Garden at Historic Barns Park, Matthew Ross, on a multi-week experience perfect for gardeners to create an inspiring native landscape. Through a series of courses, you will be introduced into a diverse plant palette of the flora of the Great Lakes, learn their characteristics, review the basics of landscape design principles and techniques, and design your very own native garden. This is the perfect class for those seeking to improve the sustainability of their home landscape or determining the perfect plant to add to their existing garden.

https://nmc.augusoft.net/index.cfm?method=ClassInfo.ClassInformation&int_class_id=1852&int_category_id=6&int_sub_category_id=17&int_catalog_id=0

June 4 (Sun.) "Fields of Wonder: A Fun Fairy House Competition (Partnership with Life and Whim Studio)". It's finally that time of year again to dream up and work on your fairy house for this year's Fun Fairy House Competition on June 4th! This year's theme is "Fields of Wonder." Help us celebrate the beautiful farms, fields, and forests in Northern Michigan by creating a unique fairy house in this theme. We're partnering once again with Life and Whim Studio for a fun, no-pressure, all-ages competition to encourage fairy house building and to fill our Fairy Trails! (But if you'd prefer not to be in the competition, we would still love for you to build a house to add!)

Create your own fairy house and place it on the trail anytime from **Friday, June 2nd through Sunday, June 4th before noon.** Houses will be judged by Life and Whim and The Botanic Garden the week of June 5th and results announced via email. Please visit the website for full event details/rules and to register your build!

June 11 (Sun.) 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. "Wellness Day in the Garden" Improve your overall wellbeing and your connection to nature through an inspiring day of wellness-inspired activities and programs at The Botanic Garden. From meditative arts to herbal teas to the therapeutic benefits of nature, you're sure to discover something new and leave feeling refreshed and full of healthful vitality.

FREE SESSIONS INCLUDE:

* Herbal Tea Basics * Terrariums for Kids * Experience the Labyrinth * Meditative Forest Walk * Qigong * Keynote Lecture (on Quality of Life for Adults with Autism) * and more! For your convenience and to provide the opportunity for more people to participate, most workshops are scheduled twice throughout the day. Sign up for one session or come all day! Session participant amounts are limited to sign up early.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wellness-day-at-the-garden-registration-631706921407>

June 14 (Wed.) 6:00-8:30 p.m. "Fifteen Plants You Wish You Grew This Summer (Partnership with Northwestern Michigan College)" "The diversity of plants with blooms, blossoms, and incredible textures during the summer months can be a bit overwhelming. With so many options of plants to add to your landscape this

time of year, it's hard to find the perfect fit. Join Executive Director of The Botanic Garden at Historic Barns Park and discover an array of dynamic plants that provide the perfect accent to the summer garden. From the romantic flowers perfect for cutting to understory plants to give your areas of shade a pop of pizzazz, you won't go home empty handed. Literally... As you will take home a custom six-pack of plants to try out in your own garden following class."

https://nmc.augusoft.net/index.cfm?method=ClassInfo.ClassInformation&int_class_id=1853&int_category_id=6&int_sub_category_id=17&int_catalog_id=0

June 18 (Sun.) 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. "Start Your Own Bonsai" Join us on Father's Day for a hands-on, family-friendly event where you'll learn more about bonsai before creating your own indoor starter. For more information and to register please see <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/start-your-own-bonsai-tickets-625475252317>

June 20, 22, 27, 29 and July 6, 11 and 13. "4-H Junior Master Gardener Spin Club" 2nd-4th Grade 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. 5th-7th Grade 1:00-3:00 p.m. The program is free. For more information and to register please contact Grand Traverse 4-H Program Coordinator, Emily Kotz, 231-922-4825 kotzemil@msu.edu

June 21 (Wed.) 3:00-4:30 p.m. "Create Your Own Container: Tropical Breeze" Just because we live in Michigan, doesn't mean we can't enjoy a little taste of the tropics in our own yard! Join Carrie Freeman of Monrovia as she guides you through the process of picking the perfect combo of tropical plants to jazz up your containers this year. In addition to getting more familiar with which tropical accents work well in our climate, Carrie will provide some tips and techniques to ensure you have a successful season. At the end of class, you'll take home a tropical-themed container display featuring some of the amazing plants grown by Monrovia, a care sheet, and fertilizer for your container, too! All materials, including container, are included in the cost of this class. This program is likely to sell out so register today to save your spot!
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/create-your-own-container-tropical-breeze-tickets-631750862837>

June 21 (Wed.) 6:00-7:30 p.m. "Create Your Own Container: Elegance & Roses" There's nothing more elegant than a beautiful flush of rose flowers mixed with an array of elegant supporting plants in a formal setting. Join Carrie Freeman of Monrovia Nursery as she highlights the newest and most durable roses grown by Monrovia in a hands-on container class. Explore the possibilities of grown roses in containers and learn how best to keep them flourishing throughout the season with expert guidance on their culture and care. At the end of class, you will take home an elegant container display featuring a gorgeous rose grown by Monrovia, a care sheet, and fertilizer for your container, too! All materials, including container, are included in the cost of this class. This program is likely to sell out so register today to save your

spot! <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/create-your-own-container-elegance-roses-tickets-631781464367>

June 28 (Wed.) "Authors in the Garden" We're so excited to be teaming up again with our friends at the Traverse Area District Library to present this summer's installment of Authors in the Gardens! Pack a picnic lunch and bring the whole family for a fun-filled morning of storytime and music in the Garden! Celebrated local children's authors will be stationed at various garden spaces throughout the Garden's grounds and will read their children's books over the course of the morning. After the stories, head over to the Pavilion to enjoy family-friendly music from the Cherry Blossom Ramblers. This family folk band plays fun tunes, geared to preschool and early elementary audiences. The event is **free**, and no registration is required. ****Note-times were not listed. Please check with The Botanic Garden for more information****

July 5 (Wed.) 12:00-6:00 p.m. "The Garden Party (Partnership with the National Cherry Festival)" This event is co-presented by the National Cherry Festival. From the Cherry Fest's website: "Join the National Cherry Festival & The Botanic Garden as they host the first ever Garden Party. The Garden Party boasts both free and ticketed experiences to be family fun for all!"

<https://www.cherryfestival.org/events/2023/gardenparty>

July 20-22 (Thur.-Sat.) "Great Lakes, Great Plans Symposium (Partnership with Northern Michigan Nursery & Landscape Association)" Please see the website for pertinent information and to register:

<https://mnlteam.wufoo.com/forms/m1321uze1a6lji4/>

PLANT IT WILD

***The programs will be in person and on Zoom. The new in-person location is the Mills Community House at 891 Michigan Avenue (US 31), Benzonia, MI. To join via Zoom, e-mail plantitwild2day@gmail.com to register for the program. A Zoom invitation will be sent to you prior to the Program. ***

June 2 (Fri.) 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. "Native Plant Event"-Black Cap Farm

Join Black Cap Farm, the Manistee Conservation District and Plant it Wild to browse educational booths, register for raffles and shop for native plants. Black Cap Farm, 5265 Crescent Beach Road, Onkema, MI.

June 14 (Wed.) 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. "Dune Wildflowers at Arcadia Dunes Baldy" with Leader Paula Dreeszen, GTRLC Steward. Look for Endangered Pitcher's Thistle and search for orchids. Attendance is limited. For more information and to

register please see: www.gtrlc.org/recreation-events/events/

June 21 (Wed.) 7:00 p.m. "Plants for Shade: Take a Cue from Nature" Join Alysia Babcock, Garden Guru, Conservation Steward, Master Naturalist and Advanced Master Gardener as she explains how nature preserves things to see throughout the year and how it can help design your shade garden. **The program will be in person and on Zoom. The new in-person location is the Mills Community House at 891 Michigan Avenue (US 31), Benzonia, MI. To join via Zoom, e-mail plantitwild2day@gmail.com to register for the program. A Zoom invitation will be sent to you prior to the Program.**

July 9 (Sun.) 3:00-4:30 p.m. "Sacred Grounds at the Presbyterian Church" Tour the church grounds where National Wildlife Federation Sacred Grounds Funding has assisted native plant installations. Educational information from ISN, County Forester, AuSable Institute, Plant It Wild, and more will be on hand. 701 Westminster Road, Traverse City.

July 19 (Wed.) 7:00 p.m. "Garden for Wildlife-Attracting Birds, Butterflies and Other Backyard Wildlife" This presentation by David Mizejewski, Naturalist and author, National Wildlife Federation, will "teach you how to create a wildlife habitat garden". Co-sponsor: Four Season Nursery. **The program will be in person and on Zoom. The new in-person location is the Mills Community House at 891 Michigan Avenue (US 31), Benzonia, MI. To join via Zoom, e-mail plantitwild2day@gmail.com to register for the program. A Zoom invitation will be sent to you prior to the Program.**

July 20 (Thur.) 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. "A Traverse City Native Yard" (Field Trip) Cheryl Gross shares her 11 landscaped native beds coexisting in a suburban neighborhood. Location: 4628 Westbrook Drive, Traverse City.

POLLINATOR WORKSHOP-LELAND TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY & CHARTER SANCTUARY

June 14 (Wed.) 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Leland (203 E. Cedar Street, Leland) and **1:00-3:00 p.m. Charter Sanctuary** (5020 N. Putnam Road, Omena). Join the Leelanau Conservation District and experts in exploring pollinators and beneficial habitat from backyards to agricultural landscapes. Join us Wednesday, June 14th, for a two-part Pollinator Workshop! LCD will be joined by pollinator experts Connie Crancer (Project Wingspan Michigan State Coordinator & NRCS Pollinator Liaison) and Kay Charter (Executive Director at Saving Birds Thru Habitat) to provide an educational classroom workshop and field day focused on creating native habitat for bees, butterflies, and everything in between. The **\$15 registration fee covers your choice of lunch from Fiddleheads in Lake Leelanau**. We hope you can make it! Register by contacting our office here: **231-256-9783** www.leelanaucd.org

GRAND TRAVERSE CONSERVATION DISTRICT-BOARDMAN RIVER NATURE CENTER-1450 Cass Road, Traverse City

June 8 (Thur.) 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. "Project Learning Tree K-8 & Project Wild K-12 Certification Workshop" Join Grand Traverse Conservation District environmental educators for a day full of a wide variety of engaging, hands-on activities. This workshop will include professional development opportunities for teachers, summer camp staff, naturalists, scout leaders, and other environmental educators. ***You do not have to be a k-12 educator to participate in this workshop. Registration is required. \$70 per person.** Please see the website for more information and to register.

<https://gtcd.wufoo.com/forms/qj26xun1s6oqt5/>

June 10 (Sat.) 1:00-2:30 p.m. "Protecting our Lakes & Shorelands: Shoreland Ecology and Sustainable Management" Trees are a critical component of any healthy waterfront as they provide many functions, including bank stabilization, reduced erosion, carbon sequestration, and soil structure, in addition to providing food sources for many land based and aquatic organisms. District Forester Ellie Johnson will discuss the importance of trees to the shoreland ecosystem and how to sustainably maintain this human/surface water interface. **Registration is required. A virtual join-in option is available.** <https://gtcd.wufoo.com/forms/q15xhes123tno5/>

June 9 and July 14 (Fri.) 5:00-7:00 p.m. "Night at the Nature Center" Join us for after-hours fun at the Boardman River Nature Center where we will discover the world around us through indoor and outdoor activities.

<https://gtcd.wufoo.com/forms/q2oar7s0x7iq5t/>

July 21 (Fri.) 5:00-7:00 p.m. "Mini Makerfest" Bring your family out for a fun evening of engaging activities with members of the STEAM/Maker Alliance! Hang out and engage in activities with the Grand Traverse Conservation District, and other area STEAM organizations. The STEAM/Maker Alliance's goal is to create opportunities for youth to explore STEAM in Northwest Michigan.

<https://gtcd.wufoo.com/forms/q199lqq91tr35wy/>

NORTHWEST MICHIGAN INVASIVE SPECIES NETWORK (ISN)

"Japanese Barberry Trade-up Days": **June 13 (Tue.) 4:00-7:00 p.m.** Manistee Conservation District, **June 14 (Wed.) Grow Benzie 4:00-7:00 p.m., and June 17 (Sat.) Boardman River Nature Center 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.** ***Registration is required.** Please see the website for more information and to register:

www.habitatmatters.org/events

NORTHERN MICHIGAN MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION ANNUAL PLANT SALE-PETOSKEY

June 17 (Sat.) 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Emmet County Fairgrounds, 1129 Charlevoix Avenue, Petoskey, MI This annual plant sale is supported by the

gardens of Master Gardeners. These are hardy plants accustomed to the growing conditions in Northern Michigan. Learn about the perennials for sun or shade, native plants, trees, and shrubs as you browse the collection of plants.

<https://nmmga.squarespace.com/>

GROW BENZIE-BENZIE BAYOU BLUES & ZYDECO FUNDRAISER

July 28 (Fri.) 4:00-11:00 P.M. For more information please contact Gaia Pampu gaia@growbenzie.org

FOUR SEASON NURSERY PROGRAMS-BRIAN ZIMMERMAN

June 22 (Thur.) 6:30-7:30 p.m. "Plants for Small Spaces" To accommodate smaller garden spaces a movement by major growers and retailers are "going small". These smaller plants are dominating the retail market. We will have a handout and will get inside the nursery to look at these plants. If the weather doesn't cooperate, we will bring the plants inside. For more information and to register please see

<https://www.fourseasonnurserytc.com/nursery-events>

July 13 (Thur.) 6:30-7:30 p.m. "Hydrangeas; Untangling Their Confusing Habits" No other plant genus is so confusing to understand. To further the confusion growers are continually adding new cultivars. We will help you get a better understanding and what will work best for your gardens. Included will be a handout separating the different cultivars, their size and flower habits. This will help you on your next visit to the nursery. <https://www.fourseasonnurserytc.com/nursery-events>

MICHIGAN GARDEN CLUBS 2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

June 6-June 7 (Tue.-Wed.) Sheraton at the Grand Rapids Airport Hotel, 5700 28th Street S.E., Grand Rapids, MI. There will be many speakers, vendor shopping, a silent auction, and educational exhibits. Trams and docent led tours of Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park will be on Wednesday. For more information and to register please see www.migardenclubs.org

POLLINATOR PARTNERSHIP 2023 POLLINATOR WEEK AND VIRTUAL POLLINATOR POWER PARTY

June 19-June 23 (Mon.-Fri) There are a great many activities and events. Please see the website for more information and registration www.pollinator.org

FRIENDLY GARDEN CLUB 40TH ANNUAL GARDEN WALK

July 20 (Thur.) 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. This year marks our 100th anniversary as a garden club. With that in mind, our "*Celebrating History and Gardens*" theme focuses on two historic neighborhoods in Traverse City: the Boardman and Central neighborhoods. Along with viewing the delightful and unique gardens, the Hannah Mansion (Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home) will welcome the public for a tour of all three floors that day with refreshments under the tent in their beautiful garden. There

are special exhibits scheduled; the Sakura Bonsai Society will have displays of Bonsai trees and shrubs and there will be Ikebana demonstrations by members of the Ikebana International Club. Jeanine Rubert, from Pine Hill Village Gardens, will demonstrate how to transition container plantings from one season to the next. There will also be Plein Air artists on hand at Crooked Tree Art Center and in some of the gardens. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased from many local nurseries or on www.mynorthtickets.com, with tickets also available the day of the Garden Walk at Reynolds-Jonkhoff and the other gardens on the walk. For more information, please visit our website: www.thefriendlygardenclub.org.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Visit Volunteer Central for a complete list of local volunteer opportunities.

https://msu.samaritan.com/custom/502/volunteer_home

OLD TOWNE CORNERS SEASON KICK-OFF WORKBEE

June 4 (Sun.) 1:00-3:00 p.m. These gardens are in the corner cuts on Cass Street and Union Streets that were planted by neighborhood volunteers and EMGVs in 2021. The plants are primarily native perennials that provide flowers for pollinators and provide a traffic calming effect. Educational signs are provided, and community volunteers learn about gardening from EMGs during the workbees. Meet in the St. Francis School Parking Lot at the corner of Cass and 11th Street. Please contact Judy Reich to sign up or for more information: jlr.tvc@gmail.com 231-633-5635

OUR NEIGHBORS' GARDEN (ONG) WORK BEE

June 19 (Mon.) 9:00 a.m. This is a big day as we get 15 rows of warm weather crops in the ground and hill and mulch potatoes. We are now using the LifePoint Bible Church driveway access off of 3 Mile Road to enter ONG and using their parking lot for our cars. CORNER OF GARFIELD AND 3 MILE RD S, 1251 Three Mile Rd. S, Traverse City. Transplant: Chinese and standard cabbage, winter and summer squash, cucumbers, peppers and tomatoes. Lay irrigation lines by newly planted rows. Hill potatoes and add straw mulch to potatoes. Contact Tom Emling to RSVP emlingt@msu.edu

MSU EXTENSION PLANT DIAGNOSTIC CLINIC-LEELANAU/GRAND TRAVERSE

Every Wednesday from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. at the Grand Traverse (520 W. Front Street) and Leelanau County (8527 E Govt Center Dr, Suttons Bay, MI) MSU Extension offices. Every Wednesday 10 a.m.-2 p.m. throughout the summer, you can join me and other MSU EMG volunteers as we assist with plant ID, bug ID, and plant disease diagnosis and recommendations. No prior experience is necessary! You can learn alongside other volunteers as we work together to solve problems for area residents. **Contact me to RSVP and for any questions you might have!** No prior experience is necessary! You will have "on-the-job" training. Contact Nate Walton if you would like to get involved waltonn2@msu.edu

MSU EXTENSION PLANT DIAGNOSTIC CLINIC – BENZONIA

Every second Tuesday of the month from 10:00am–2:00pm at the Mills Community House, you can use your gardening knowledge to assist local residents with their garden and plant health questions. Contact Nate Walton if you'd like to get involved (waltonn2@msu.edu)!

EMG PROJECTS IN BENZONIA

EMGs will be volunteering in these garden spaces throughout **June** and will be needing assistance for clean-up, weeding, planting, and other maintenance:

U.S. Post Office Garden Beds

Dorothy's Corner Garden-Kitty-corner to the post office garden

Mills Community House gardens

For more information, please contact Steve Stephens sastephens45@gmail.com
630-816-5588

LEELANAU COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER NATIVE PLANT GARDENS

Tuesdays 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Master Gardener Volunteers Tom Patton, Kathy Spinniken, Jim Egan, and Sue Warren meet during the summer every Tuesday morning for about 2 hours working to maintain these beautiful gardens. They weed, mulch, prune, thin plants and replace plants that are not happy in their current locations. They enjoy working together and it is a treat to get together each week. More help is welcomed, since it seems that everything never gets quite done each week. As a bonus you will learn about native plants you might incorporate into your own landscape. For more information, please contact Sue Warren warrensusani@gmail.com

HULL PARK POLLINATOR GARDENS

Hull Park gardens, located near the TACS boathouse on Boardman Lake, with the cooperation of Traverse City staff, have been transformed into Smart Gardening Pollinator Friendly demonstration gardens by MSU Extension Master Gardener Volunteers. Master Gardeners meet on the **2nd and 4th Monday mornings** to plant, weed and maintain gardens. For questions, information about parking or opportunities to work in those gardens, call Barbara Backus **231-714-5054**.

CLINCH PARK POLLINATOR GARDENS

Clinch Park Pollinator Friendly Demonstration Gardens, located on either side of the pedestrian underpass to Clinch Park, have been transformed into Smart Gardening Pollinator Friendly Demonstration Gardens by MSU Extension Master Gardener Volunteers. Master Gardeners meet on the **1st and 3rd Monday mornings** to plant, weed and maintain gardens. For questions, information about parking or opportunities to work in those gardens, call Barbara Backus **231-714-5054**.

GRAND TRAVERSE CONSERVATION DISTRICT-BOARDMAN RIVER NATURE CENTER

9:00-11:00 a.m. every 2nd and 4th Wednesday- "Native Plant Gardens at BRNC". If the weather really heats up, the workbees might start before then. The work bees will go for the foreseeable growing season! **Volunteers are also needed to help maintain The Green Roof Project,** mainly watering and occasional weeding. Feel free to just show up and meet near the pavilion behind the Boardman River Nature Center: 1450 Cass. Rd, Traverse City. For further information please contact Shelly Stusick sstusick@gtcd.org 231-299-0805.

THE SACRED GROUNDS AT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH-TRAVERSE CITY

June 6, 13, 20, 27 (Tue.) 9:30-11:30 a.m. Workbees. The Sacred Grounds at the Presbyterian Church in Traverse City is where National Wildlife Federation Sacred Grounds funding has assisted native plant installations. They need some TLC in advance of the Garden Tour scheduled for July 9, 3:00-4:30 p.m. It is an approved Master Gardener project for volunteer hours and an opportunity for EMGs to work with Michigan native plants. Cheryl Gross and Linda Racine are the project leads. Volunteers should bring their favorite hand tools, gloves, and drinking water. For more information and/or questions please call Cheryl Gross **231-651-9656** or Linda Racine **231- 499-0044**. 701 Westminster Road, Traverse City.

CINDY ASPER MEMORIAL BUTTERFLY GARDEN AT HULL PARK

1st and 3rd Wednesdays 9:00-11:00 a.m. The idea of the garden came from Nelson Asper, a TC man in memory of his wife, Cindy, who died from Leukemia and was an avid gardener. Nelson arranged the project with the city and donated it to the city and the public. His hope is that it will bring healing to all that visit there. For more information, please contact Nancy Larson **231-932-2232** nk614@outlook.com

ANTRIM COUNTY-GLACIAL HILLS WORK BEES

"Invasive Species Removal Workbees". We will be meeting each **Tuesday morning at 9:00 a.m. throughout the year until November, generally for 2 hours.** The extreme ecological diversity found at the Glacial Hills Pathway and Natural Area speaks to its statewide significance. The property contains 12 distinct habitat types, including two hardwood forest types, three wetland habitats, and the shrub thicket and wet mesic forest types that support more than 20 species of trees, more than 100 species of flowers, and more than 100 species of birds, including great-horned owls, eagles, and the threatened red-shoulder hawk. Protection of this parcel also safeguards water quality in the beloved Chain of Lakes watershed.

Volunteers are needed to help combat invasive species and everyone is welcome. Anyone interested can call Sue Haadsma-Svensson **317-442-6364** or email srhs49615@gmail.com for details.

NORTHWEST MICHIGAN INVASIVE SPECIES NETWORK (ISN)-BABY'S BREATH WORKBEES-ELBERTA BEACH

July 8, July 12, July 22, July 25, and Aug. 3. Please see the website for all pertinent information. www.habitatmatters.org/events

LONG LAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

June 6 (Tue.) 1:00 p.m. Please contact Joan Longton for more information joanlongton@gmail.com

FRIENDS OF THE VILLAGE AT GT COMMONS

EMG Volunteers helped the Friends of the Village install an educational garden near the entrance to Trattoria Stella at the Grand Traverse Commons. Now, we need volunteers to work with residents to keep the gardens looking at their best! Contact Nate Walton for more information waltonn2@msu.edu.

GRAND TRAVERSE AREA CHILDREN'S GARDEN

We are gearing up for seed starting at the GTA Children's Garden, 536 Woodmere Ave., Traverse City, MI Interested? Contact Erin Hafeli erinhafeli@gmail.com 313-850-3649

GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY CIVIC CENTER

1213 W Civic Center Dr. Traverse City. The civic center has some garden beds near the main entrance to Howe Arena that they would like to develop into education/outreach and pollinator gardens. These are high traffic areas that would see tens of thousands of visitors a year. They are looking for help from EMGs to work with GT Parks Dept. staff and volunteers to renovate the garden spaces and create educational programming. 1213 W Civic Center Dr. Traverse City. Contact Nate Walton for more info waltonn2@msu.edu

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE HISTORIC APPLE ORCHARDS

This is an ongoing EMG volunteer project. Time spent planting and pruning fruit trees counts as EMG Volunteer Hours. Interested parties should contact the park historical architect, Kimberly Mann (231)326-4771 kimberly_mann@nps.gov

Here is just a sampling of the local EMG Volunteer Activities. Full details and contact info can be found on Volunteer Central:

Leelanau County Government Center: Native Plant Landscape Gardens-Suttons Bay
Green Roof Project-Boardman River Nature Center
Preserve Historic Sleeping Bear
Antrim County Glacial Hills
East Bay Township Community Food Garden
Village of Suttons Bay
Friends of the Village at GT Commons

Grow Benzie Community Garden
Traverse City East Middle School Garden
Northwest Education Services School Gardens (Westwoods Elementary, Courtade Elementary, Central Grade Elementary, Suttons Bay Public School, Leland Public School, Northport Public School)
Blue Fish Early Learning Center
Grand Traverse Area Children's Garden
Traverse Heights Elementary-Community Garden
Become a Garden Mentor
Grand Traverse County Civics Center
The Downtown Traverse City Pollinators Planters Committee
Citizen Science in Downtown Traverse City
La Franier Loops - Greenspace Project
Grand Traverse Pavilions - Courtyards
Smart Gardening Outreach
Lilacs on Mackinaw Island
National Park Service-Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore
Rejuvenation of The Shielding Tree Cultivated Nature Garden

BITS AND PIECES

CAN A MOTH HELP MONARCH BUTTERFLIES?

The invasive swallowwort vine which is akin to native milkweed is disrupting the life cycle of monarch butterflies. A new biological control is the *Hypana opulenta*, a defoliating moth that only develops on invasive swallowworts.

MICHIGAN INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM-GARLIC MUSTARD APHIDS

Garlic mustard aphids love to eat garlic mustard and could be the solution in controlling this incredibly invasive species. For more information please see:

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/MIDNR/bulletins/3512dfb>

MISP needs help reporting the sightings of the aphids. Their Facebook page also has more information.

SOIL TESTING RETURNS THROUGH MSU EXTENSION

For more information, please see <https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/soil-testing-returns-through-msu-extension>

MICHIGAN INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM

The **NotMISpecies** webinars series has many interesting programs. For more information, please see https://www.michigan.gov/egle/outreach/not-mi-species-webinar-series?utm_campaign=webinar+spring2023&utm_medium=pr&utm_source=govdelivery

LEELANAU CONSERVANCY 35 MILES FOR 35 YEARS TRAIL CHALLENGE

We are 35 years old this year! We are celebrating with a Trail Challenge, and we'd like you to join us. We have over 35 miles of trails in our combined natural areas. Complete 35 miles of hiking, biking, snowshoeing, skiing, or paddling, and get a 35-year patch to commemorate your accomplishment. The challenge will run for the rest of 2023! For more information, please see <https://leelanauconservancy.org/trailchallenge/>

NORTHWEST MICHIGAN ISN-NWMI INVASIVE SPECIES NETWORK

The website has a wealth of information. Some of the topics include a full list of ornamental invasive species for NW Michigan, Go Beyond Beauty information and online resources, and ISN's tool library. Please see www.habitatmatters.org There is also a great article about the relationship of Japanese Barberry and black-legged ticks at www.bioone.org Another great website regarding invasive plants is www.mipn.org (Midwest Invasive Plant Network).

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION-NEWSLETTERS

There are many wonderful newsletters available on many topics, including Pollinators and Pollination, Gardening in Michigan, and Water Quality. Some of the recent articles are: "*Poison Hemlock Identification*", "*What Should I Do If I Find a Swarm of Bees*", "*Emerging From the Deep*" and "*Wildfire Resistant Landscape Plants Can Protect Your Home*", Please see www.canr.msu.edu to view the list and sign up.

THE LEELANAU CONSERVANCY

Wildflower Rescue Sites Wanted: Help save the native plants and flowers of Leelanau by contacting the Wildflower Rescuers before you clear a wooded lot for construction, a new drive or road, or an addition to structures. We provide a team to dig, pot and place plants for sale at the annual sale to benefit Leelanau Conservancy. Email Volunteer Manager, Lindy Kellogg lkellogg@leelanauconservancy.org

IMPROVE YOUR GARDEN WITH MSU ENVIROWEATHER'S TOOLS AND INFORMATION

Enviroweather's weather-based models and forecasting interpret Michigan's conditions to help gardeners make better decisions about plant care and pest management. www.canr.msu.edu/news/improve-your-garden-with-msu-enviroweather-tools-and-information

CONTINUING EDUCATION AND WEBINARS

MGANM, BGS and other events may offer educational and volunteer credits. For any questions, please contact Nate at **231-256-9888** or waltonn2@msu.edu

POLLINATOR CHAMPION ONLINE TRAINING!

Become a champion for pollinators. Pollinator Champions is a free, self-paced online course offered by Michigan State University. The course is packed full of videos, articles, and fun activities to guide you through the amazing world of pollinators and pollination. For more information see

<https://pollinators.msu.edu/programs/pollinator-champions/>

EXTENSION MASTER GARDENER SMART GARDENING VOLUNTEER (EMGSGV)

Smart Gardening is MSU Extension's campaign using research-based messages to help MI residents make environmentally friendly choices in their own backyards. The goal is to equip consumers with a "tool kit" of research-based knowledge to use immediately at home.

To become a Smart Gardening Volunteer, all you need to do is complete the online training using the Desire to Learn system (D2L). Once you enter the D2L class you will find an introduction video as well as all the smart gardening material that may be available at an outreach event. There are also optional enrichment materials there where you can earn additional badges to go along with your EMGSGV certificate. All the material is in one convenient place where you can refer back to it at any time. As you work through the class, you will check off the work you have completed. You can work a little at a time and check off items in D2L as you go. Time spent doing this training in D2L or viewing the optional enrichment material can be counted as education hours and entered into volunteer central for your master gardener education hours requirement.

To get started, if you have not used the system before, you will need to enter your information and get an MSU guest account. If you have done the pollinator champion course or done any of your master gardener training online, you should already have an account. The following link will take you to a page with instructions to set up a MSU guest account and get to the EMGSGV class where you can check off the training as you do it. If you have questions, you can email your local consumer horticulture educator (Nate Walton, waltonn2@msu.edu).

Thank you for working toward becoming an EMGSGV. You are an important part of getting the smart gardening message to the residents of Michigan and your efforts are appreciated! **Link to create a guest account and sign up for the D2L EMGSGV course:**

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1SGRQdANUZ378HrF747eE5V6VjurvP1zbrVZvl4IiQyq/edit?usp=sharing>

THERE ARE MANY WONDERFUL WEBINARS AVAILABLE from MMGA, Wild Ones, Monarch Joint Venture, Xerces Society, Ohio State University, Smithsonian Gardens, Wildflower Association of Michigan, Pollinator Partnership, and many others. Please see their websites and Facebook pages for more information.

ARCHIVED WEBINARS:

Language of Trees
Can We Live with Gypsy Moths and Not Go Nuts?
Improving Success in Container Grown Woody Plants
Butterflies and Moths in Michigan
Totally Tomatoes
Season Extension Techniques for Growing Food
Climate change
Volunteer Selection Process (VPS)
Spotted Lanternfly
The Latest Buzz on Pollinators
Boxwood Blight
Wearisome Weeds
Sustainable Lawns
The Fascinating World of Ants, with Dr. Erwin "Duke" Elsner
Practical Emerald Ash Borer Management
Dealing with Drought: Helping Landscape Plants Cope with Water Stress
Become a Pollinator Champion 4 units with 6 hours C.E. credit
Squash Bee Pollinators and EMG Citizen Science Project
Pesticides, People and Pollinators
Invasive Plants and Being a Thoughtful Gardener
2017 MG College: Climate Change & Effects on Insect Pests
2017 MG College: Plants, Passion & Perseverance
Spotted Wing Drosophila
Oak Wilt Disease
Smart Gardening Videos
State of Monarchs
Uninvited Garden Guests: What's Eating Your Plants
Hidden World of Soils
Quit Stressing Me Out: Abiotic Stressors of Woody Plants
Lead in City Water: New Challenge for Gardeners
All Bugs Good & Bad: Help Pollinators with Pesticides
All Bugs Good & Bad: Don't Let the Insects Eat Your Vegetables
All Bugs Good & Bad: Alien Invasions, Zombies Under Foot & Billions of Decapitated
Fire Ants
Gardening in Urban Soils
IPM for Tomato Early and Late Blight
Cucurbit Downy Mildew
Insect Pests of Landscape Trees and Shrubs and IPM Strategies
Protecting the Power of Pollinators
Conifer Diseases in the Landscape
Brown Marmorated Stink Bug
The Buzz about Pollinators

Insect Pests in the Landscape

Growing Strawberries for the Home Garden Using IPM

Growing Raspberries and Blackberries Using IPM

Growing Conifers for Homeowners Using IPM

Growing Apples for Homeowners Using IPM

Growing Squash, Cucumbers & Pumpkins for Homeowners Using IPM

All Bugs Good & Bad: Pesticide Strategy-The Good, Bad & Ugly

All Bugs Good & Bad: Wildlife in the Backyard-A Double-Edged Sword

Managing Invasive Species in Landscapes

Mitigating Pollinator Decline in Landscapes

WEBSITES

MSUE Newsletter Signup <http://msue.anr.msu.edu> (a great selection of newsletters)

Michigan Volunteer Central (VC) <http://msu.samaritan.com>

Extension Campus (webinars) <https://campus.extension.org>

Gardening in Michigan <http://migarden.msu.edu>

MG Information <http://mg.msue.msu.edu>

Master Gardener Association of NW Michigan www.mganm.org

Michigan Master Gardener Association <http://michiganmastergardeners.org>

Michigan IPM <http://ipm.msu.edu>

MSU Horticulture Department & Gardens <http://hrt.msu.edu>

Northwest Michigan Horticulture Research Center www.canr.msu.edu/nwmihort/

MSU 4-H Children's Gardens Family Programs www.canr.msu.edu/hrt/our_gardens/

Native Plants <http://nativeplants.msu.edu>

NW Michigan Food & Farming Network www.foodandfarmingnetwork.org

Bumblebee Watch with Xerces Society www.xerces.org

Xerces Society www.xerces.org

Midwest Invasive Plant Network www.mipn.org

Northwest Michigan Invasive Species Network www.habitatmatters.org

Wild Ones www.wildones.org

Jr. Master Gardener-Texas A&M University www.jmgkids.us

Missouri Botanical Gardens www.missouribotanicalgarden.org A great plant resource

North Central Regional Water Network www.northcentralwater.org

Monarch Watch www.monarchwatch.org

Monarch Joint Venture www.monarchjointventure.org

Ohio State University www.u.osu.edu

Grand Traverse Conservation District www.gtcd.org

Pollinator Partnership www.pollinator.org

Boardman River Nature Center www.natureiscalling.org

Plant it Wild www.plantitwild.net

Botanic Gardens at Historic Barns Park www.thebotanicgarden.org

Leelanau Conservation District www.leelanaucd.org

Benzie Conservation District www.benziecd.org

Grow Benzie www.growbenzie.org

Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy www.gtrlc.org

Leelanau Conservancy www.leelanauconservancy.org

Friendly Garden Club www.thefriendlygardenclub.org

Sakura Bonsai of Northern Michigan Please check their Facebook page

Saving Birds Thru Habitat www.savingbirds.org

Smithsonian Gardens www.gardens.si.edu