

MASTER GARDENERS

Montgomery County, Maryland

18410 Muncaster Rd., Derwood, MD 20855 301-590-9650

Web Site: mcmg.umd.edu Email: mgmont@umd.edu



■ We are volunteers trained to help you garden green by:

- Solving Problems: Ask us about plants and their problems;
- Getting answers from a Master Gardener in person, by phone, email, website, and fact sheets;
- Assisting in creating educational/demonstration gardens;
- Sponsoring an intensive, annual training program in environmentally sound gardening; and
- Bringing a Master Gardener speaker or information table to your special community event.



■ Services for Residential Gardeners

Plant Clinics – Walk-In: Bring your plant cuttings, insect samples and questions to one of our many neighborhood Plant Clinics (locations on reverse side) and get answers from a trained Master Gardener.

Demonstration Gardens: Vegetable, butterfly, children's, fragrance, wildlife, and shade: University of Maryland, Montgomery County Extension Office, 18410 Muncaster Rd., Derwood; Montgomery County Fairgrounds, Gaithersburg. Tours available June-Sept.

Horticultural Hotline, Email Information and Website fact sheets:

Talk to a Master Gardener at 301-590-9650, March-Nov., M-F, 10-1; Closed Dec.-Feb.;
Email address: mgmont@umd.edu. See our fact sheets: www.hgic.umd.edu (click on Publications)

Grow It Eat It: Learn more about improving your individual or community vegetable garden. For Information go to www.growit.umd.edu or email us at mc.growit@gmail.com

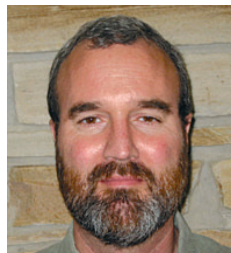
■ Services for Government Organizations, Non-Profits and Special Needs Groups

Landscape Design: Design and consultation services for government and non-profit organizations.

Speakers Bureau: Speakers will address your organization on topics of interest.

Therapeutic Horticulture: Master Gardeners use gardening activities with special needs students and with seniors at recreational and residential-living facilities.

Gardening questions? Ask a Master Gardener! 301-590-9650



• Gardening Questions? Ask a Master Gardener at Our Free Plant Clinics

Montgomery County Master Gardeners answer gardening questions at numerous locations during the gardening season. Bring your intact plant, turf and insect samples, problems and questions to a location below and get free answers. You can also call the **Plant Hotline: 301-590-9650** weekday mornings or email mqmont@umd.edu

Free Plant Clinics -- Walk-in:

Bethesda: Davis Library, 6400 Democracy Blvd., April-Sept., Sat. 10am-1pm.

Bethesda: FreshFarm Market, Norfolk Ave. between Fairmont/St. Elmo Aves.; June-Sept.; 1st Sat., 10am-1pm.

Chevy Chase: Audubon Naturalist Society, 8940 Jones Mill Rd., April-Sept., Sat., 10am. -Noon.

Derwood Extension Office: 18410 Muncaster Rd., **(drop off plant/insect samples weekdays, year-round)**

Gaithersburg/Darnestown: Quince Orchard Library, 15831 Quince Orchard Rd., May-Sept., Sat. 10am-1pm.

Germantown: Germantown Library, 19840 Century Blvd., May-Sept., Wed., 7-8:30pm.

Olney: Farmers Market, Rt. 108 & Prince Phillip Dr., May, 4 Sundays; June-Sept., 1st two Sun., 9am-1pm.

Poolesville: Poolesville Library, 19633 Fisher Ave., Wed., 1-3pm.

Rockville: Twinbrook Library, 202 Meadow Hall Dr., May-Sept.; 1st & 3rd Sat., 10am-1pm.

Silver Spring: FreshFarm Mkt., Ellsworth Dr. between Georgia/Fenton; April-Oct.; 3rd Sat., 10 am-2pm.

Wheaton: Brookside Gardens, year-round, Sat. 10am-2pm; Sun. 1-4pm. April-Oct., Wed & Thurs., 1-4pm.

• Tips for *gardening green* and being Bay friendly:

1. Match the right plant with the right place*

- Count the hours of sun and shade at your plant site. Sun-loving plants need 6+ hours of sun. Most shade-loving plants need some light but not much direct sun.
- Test your soil to know its pH. Match plant and soil types (e.g., azaleas are acid-loving plants).
- Group together those plants with similar sun, nutrient and moisture needs.
- Use native plants when possible. Use plants that resist diseases and pests (e.g., deer, rabbits, insects).

2. Conserve water use*

- Use drought-tolerant plants and lawn types.
- A two- or three-inch layer of mulch in garden beds retains moisture. Keep mulch away from tree trunks.
- Skip the sprinkler! Use drip hoses or systems that minimize run off and evaporation. Try rain barrels.
- Water 1 inch at a time, only when needed, ideally in early morning to reduce evaporation and disease.
- Let grass go dormant in blistering summer heat and save on your water bill.
- To save more water, replace areas of your grass with garden beds filled with drought-tolerant plants, ground covers, mulch and rocks.
- Consider a rain garden in yard low spots.

3. Be careful with pesticides and fertilizers*

- Scout out your garden regularly to solve bug, pest or fungus problems. Use the least toxic and most effective products to control pests. Less harmful products include insecticidal soap and horticultural oil.
- For a healthy living soil, apply compost, preferably homemade or local brands.
- Cut lawns 3" or higher with a mulching mower, leaving clippings. This retains moisture and nutrients.
- Be a Chesapeake Bay-friendly. Our landscapes connect to the Bay by storm drains, streams and rivers.

* **Get more details on these tips from Master Gardener Fact Sheets. Search topics at www.hgic.umd.edu (click publications)**



Steve Dubik, Horticultural Consultant and Master Gardener Coordinator (301-590-9650; mcmg.umd.edu)

The Montgomery County Master Gardener volunteer organization gratefully accepts donations to support its programs. Donations are tax deductible. Make checks payable to Montgomery County EAC (Extension Advisory Committee) and send to Linda Waters, Montgomery County Extension Office, 18410 Muncaster Rd., Derwood, MD 20855.

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