



January 2008

MONTHLY MEETING

Date: Tuesday, January 8, 2008

Time: 7 p.m.—Business Meeting
7:30 p.m.—Guest Speaker

Place: St. Margaret’s Church, Parish Hall
1601 Pleasant Plains Road
Annapolis, MD 21409

For More Information Call:
Anne Arundel County Cooperative
Extension Office at 410-222-6757

**Volume 12--Issue 1
January 2008**

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In Addition to the Newsletter:

- Calendar of Events**
- EBA Minutes**

DOUG MUSSER

**ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS AND
PERMITS**

Meet the Answer Man! Doug Musser can give you straight talk about regulatory issues in AA County. As a member of the Forestry Division in the County, Doug is the County Forester and makes inspections of areas where trees and vegetation are an issue. His determinations result in permits, plans, and authorizations. You'll find his knowledge of our County and its rich environment a helpful complement to Master Gardener activities.

Not sure what regulations and codes govern your property or your subdivision? Not sure of where the conservation zone is in your area or if you have one that affects activities in your subdivision? Ask Doug!

While he will present some basic information about Inspections and Permits, vegetative management plans, and the control/elimination of invasives, Doug's real mission is to make people aware of the value of their trees, the

regulations that pertain to them, and what they mean for property owners in Anne Arundel County. He will offer guidance on how to comply with the regulations, obtain permits, and ensure that we observe the protections that have been established to protect the environment.

He has allotted time for answering questions! So bring all those things you have been wondering about...the ordinances, the zones, the permit process, the codes, and the guidelines the county uses for making determinations about property use.

THE COORDINATOR'S CORNER

Mike Ensor, Coordinator

I hope everyone had a great Holiday Season and a Happy New Year! I want to especially thank Susie Blackwell and Susan Smith for chairing the most wonderful Holiday Party 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.

I find that the Master Gardeners are always there when a job needs to be done. The many projects are all vital in keeping the program's mission "Educating Maryland residents about safe, effective and sustainable horticultural practices that build healthy gardens, landscapes and communities".

In Anne Arundel County we will continue to have an Executive Advisory Board (EAB); Project Chairs; Intern and Advanced Training; Monthly Meetings; Newsletters; Open Houses; and much more. The intern mentor program and rotation schedule will continue into the New Year. Also this year will be a big year as we prepare to celebrate the 30th Master Gardener Celebration Year in Maryland. It just doesn't seem like it has been 30 years since the program was piloted when I was working in Carroll County.

February is our mandatory Master Gardener monthly meeting month. **PLEASE NOTE THAT THE FEBRUARY MONTHLY MEETING IS TUESDAY FEBRUARY 19, 2008.** This is the 3rd Tuesday of the month rather than the 2nd Tuesday. The change was made due to the church hall being used for polling on the 2nd

Tuesday.

The February newsletter will include the Biographies of Candidates for the EAB and also the 2008 Project Descriptions for sign up. You will also receive newflashes of the candidate biographies and project descriptions between mid to late January.

I want everyone to know that I am here to give each one of our Master Gardeners the support and encouragement that you need for the programs that you are involved in. I wish each of you "Full Speed Ahead" with your goals and achievements as Master Gardeners in the upcoming year.

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS NOMINATING COMMITTEE PROCEDURE

Purpose of the Committee. [A nominating committee is created to ensure a selection of qualified candidates to fill positions vacated on the EAB.] The nominating committee shall conduct a search and identify two certified Master Gardeners in good standing as candidates for each vacant position on the Executive Advisory Board (EAB).

Appointment of the Committee. The committee shall be chaired by the immediate past chairman of the EAB. The current chairman of the EAB with the concurrence of the full EAB shall appoint four Master Gardeners in good standing to the nominating committee no later than August 1 each year. No current member of the EAB shall be eligible for appointment to the nominating committee.

Duties of the Committee. The committee shall select two Master Gardeners in good standing deemed best qualified as candidates for each vacant position on the EAB. The chair of the committee shall contact each proposed candidate to determine interest and availability to serve a two-year term. The chair shall submit to the EAB no later than October 1 of each year the list of nominees.

Additional Nominees. Nominations will be accepted from the floor at the annual meeting provided that the nominee is present and has agreed to the nomination. If, prior to the election at the annual meeting, a nominee is unable to be a candidate, the nominating committee shall reconvene and select another candidate.

ADDRESS CHANGES

Help us keep you informed. If you change your address, phone number and/or email address, or if you have just come on line, please notify Ralph Beedle at rebeedle@verizon.net

Many Master Gardeners use a SPAM/Junk Mail filter that screens email. One of the features of these systems is to send to the Junk Folder any mail from an addressee that is not in your address book. If that is the case, please add Rose Mary Swartwood at swartwrm@pgcc.edu and Ralph Beedle at rebeedle@verizon.net to your address book. Rose Mary sends the MG Newsletter and the MG newsflashes. Ralph will send email concerning MG volunteer hours.

WANT AN EASY WAY TO COMMUNICATE WITH YOUR FELLOW MASTER GARDENERS?

If you would like an easy way to send a message out to the whole MG group or see messages sent by others, think about joining our Yahoo MG email group. This is a way for anyone to send or respond to messages or announcements (separate from the newsletter). All you need to do is to let Robin Costas know you want to be on the list by sending her an email at costasrt@comcast.net.

PROJECT REPORTS

LONDON TOWN PROPAGATION AND PLANT SALES

Margaret Karnes, Chairperson

Since construction of the new greenhouse and potting shed are now complete, this project will be expanded in 2008 to include more members from the current 13 to 20. Also, the Propagation Committee will now be a year-round endeavor.

Because 20 people cannot fit into the potting shed or greenhouse at any given time, the committee will consist of two groups: (1) Warm Weather Propagation, meeting March through September, and (2) Cold Weather Propagation, meeting September through April.

To allow more MGs to gain knowledge in propagation techniques and greenhouse management, new members will be on the committee for two years. This will give them the opportunity to attend 4-6 formal propagation training sessions by the on-site horticulturist, Cathy Umphrey, and gain experience at four plant sales where they will interact with the public and answer horticultural questions.

The groups will still meet the same time as previously, Fridays, 10 a.m. – 12 noon. The first Friday of each month at 9:15 a.m. the group will meet to discuss the following month's activities. Seven additional MGs will be added to this group either from the current waiting list first or from those who sign up in February.

It is the policy of the University of Maryland and Maryland Cooperative Extension that no person shall be subjected to discrimination on the grounds of race, color, gender, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, age, marital or parental status, or disability. Equal opportunity employers and equal access programs.

