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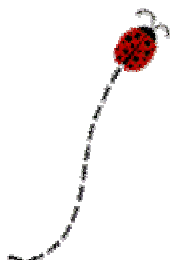
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## Monthly Meeting

Date: Tuesday, January 12, 2010  
Place: St. Margaret's Church, Westminster Parish  
1601 Pleasant Plains Road  
Annapolis, MD 21409-5928

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

## "MASTER GARDENER ECOLOGY"

Elizabeth Matarese

Elizabeth is a member of the Master Gardeners' Class of 1998. She earned certificates in Horticulture and Landscape Design at the USDA Graduate School in 2003 and taught landscape Design and Horticultural courses at USDA. She is completing additional certificates through the University of Maryland Extension Service.

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Anne Arundel County Extension

(410) 222-6757 ☎ FAX (410) 222-6747

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY GOVERNMENT OFFICE BUILDING ☎ 7320 RITCHIE HIGHWAY, SUITE 210 ☎ GLEN BURNIE, MARYLAND 21061

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 COORDINATOR'S CORNER

Mike Ensor, Coordinator

I hope everyone had a great Holiday Season and Happy New Year! I want to especially thank Lisa Winters and her 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 gardens, landscapes and communities" for a better quality of life.

During 2010 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.

February 16, 2010 is our "Mandatory" Master Gardener Monthly Meeting. Please hold the date. This will be an evening with all the project displays for sign up and an evening for recognition of our Master Gardeners. Also the slate of new officers will be presented. Please read the newsletter for further details about this meeting.

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 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.

### ABOUT THE SPEAKER

**Elizabeth is a member of the Master Gardeners' Class of 1998. She earned certificates in Horticulture and Landscape Design at the USDA Graduate School in 2003 and taught landscape Design and Horticultural courses at USDA. She is completing additional certificates through the University of Maryland Extension Service.**

**She retired in 2006 after 20 years with the Federal Aviation Administration, where she was an Airport Certification Specialist and Inspector; a Hangar 6 pilot flying the Citation 560, a business jet; and an accident investigator on the Investigation Go-Team. While at FAA, she also worked on airport wildlife mitigation issues with the wildlife biologist, which has provided insights into residential gardening woes!**

**Elizabeth is an avid gardener and hosted the May Master Gardener meeting at her gardens in Davidsonville. She spends too much money at Homestead Gardens and Patuxent Nursery...like the rest of us...and is trying to overcome this addiction.**

**She is presently on the MG Executive Advisory Board and serves as the Financial Advisor.**

**She developed and taught this presentation on Ecology, Chapter two of the Master Gardener text this past September to the incoming Intern Class of 2009. She has also prepared presentations for the MG Speakers Bureau, including Growing from Seed and Native Orchids of the Mid-Atlantic Region.**

**Has your contact information recently changed? Update your info today!  
All it takes is an email to [rebeedle@verizon.net](mailto:rebeedle@verizon.net)**

Announcing the

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Anne Arundel County MG Advanced Training Day**

Date/ time: Saturday, March 13, 2010 1 – 5 pm

Speaker: Mike McGrath on “Seven Secrets of Successful Organic Gardening”

Tour: Award winning Chesapeake Bay Foundation Merrill Center

Location: Canvasback Conference Room at the Chesapeake Bay Foundation

Fees: \$15 for speaker and \$5 for the tour.  
Refreshments and Door Prizes are included in the fees.

Advanced Training Credit: 1 hour (tour) and 2 hours (lecture)

### PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

**MIKE McGRATH** is the nationally syndicated host of NPR’ s “You Bet Your Garden”. He also hosts “Garden Plot” on Washington DC news radio WTOP (103.5 FM) at 43 minutes past the hour every hour between 5:43 am and 2:43 pm on Saturday. In the past he has served as editor of *Organic Gardening* and currently edits the quarterly newsletter *Greenprints*. Mr. McGrath has authored several books on gardening particularly emphasizing organic methods. We are fortunate to be able to have him as a speaker for our Training Day. There will be time for questions and a book signing.

In addition to the speaker, we will have the opportunity to tour The Philip Merrill Center at the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF). The center and its sophisticated systems have won international acclaim as a model for energy efficiency, high performance, and water conservation. The tour will be conducted by CBF tour guides who will show you the construction and workings of a genuine “green” building.

**PRE-REGISTRATION IS A MUST** and fees must be paid ahead of time (no refunds).  
No registration will be available on Training Day.

For any questions, contact Anne Nourse ([aonourse@verizon.net](mailto:aonourse@verizon.net)) or Jim MacNicholl ([jmacnich@comcast.net](mailto:jmacnich@comcast.net)).

The Registration Form and instructions are on the next page.

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REGISTRATION FORM  
 for  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Anne Arundel County Advanced Training Day  
 Saturday, March 13, 2009 1:00 – 5:00 PM  
 Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF)

This year Master Gardeners have an opportunity to hear radio personality **Mike McGrath**, “Garden Guru” of WTOP (103.5FM) speak on “Seven Steps to Successful Organic Gardening” **AND** take a tour of the award-winning “green” CBF Building before Mr. McGrath's presentation.

Please register by placing an “X” by one **OR** both activities below.

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to take a tour of the CBF (1:00 – 2:15pm).  
 (FEE: \$5.00)

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to attend Mr. McGrath's talk (2:30 – 5:00pm).  
 (FEE: \$15.00)

\_\_\_\_\_ Total Fee  
 (Includes Refreshments & Door Prizes)

ONLY CHECKS OR MONEY ORDERS ACCEPTABLE  
 MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: “UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND”  
 (Mail must be postmarked by Fri., Feb. 26)

Send to:  
**SANDY PATTERSON**  
 113 OTIS DRIVE  
 SEVERN, MD 21144

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

To receive confirmation that your check has been received, please include your e-mail address:  
 \_\_\_\_\_

## 2009 Holiday Party

Just a quick note of thanks to everyone who helped to setup and clean up at the holiday party. I also would like to thank everyone who donated a basket this year. Once again, they were incredible and we had more donations than we had ticket containers. We raised just over \$600.00 from your generous donations.

Although everyone enjoyed themselves this year, we need to think about the future of our holiday party. At the February mandatory meeting, there will be a short survey to complete to get an idea of what direction the membership would like to take. Please take the time to fill it out. If you don't participate, your views will not be counted. Lisa Winters

### Philadelphia Flower Show Excursion

Make your reservations now for the Master Gardeners trip to the Philadelphia Flower Show—Wednesday, March 3, 2010. Don't wait, because seats are going fast! And it's a real deal, including bus fare, coffee and treats, show tickets and



the outstanding company of other master gardeners.

Make out your check to the University of Maryland for \$75 each person and send with the names of guests, if any, and their phone number. Please mail to Marilyn Kinkel.

## ANNE ARUNDEL MASTER GARDENER PROJECT REPORTS

### Apprentice Gardens

Anne Nourse, Chair, MG

Shh, the Apprentice Gardens and the welcoming front flower beds are sleeping for the cold, chilly air that is expected this coming wintertime. If you visit them now, you will see an ocean of straw with a boardwalk made of wood covering the area to control the weeds that will invariably come as a sign of spring. You will also see long straight greenish-purple blades of annual rye peeking out of the straw. Hopefully, we will have better amended fertile soil for next year's veggies and flowers and will win more blue ribbons at the county fair. How gracefully they blow in the wind. Enjoy this scene as our gardens have now come to rest.

This past season was a very busy one for the families and MGers who participated. We did a lot of weeding, watering, de-bugging and harvesting while teaching and learning about the wonderful ways of nature and gardening. Our

program included guest speakers, arts and crafts, music, poetry, laughter and sharing our bounty through a tasting event with fellow community gardeners at Kinder Farm Park.

My co-leader, Rosie Tucker and I would like to offer our heartfelt thanks to everyone for all of their support, involvement, enthusiasm and hard-work. Everyone was amazing and contributed so much! We hope to have many MGers returning to be a part of this project in the new year and welcome all of the new MG Interns to spend a little time with us.

And, to all of you reading this, we hope you enjoyed a wonderful Holiday Season and are wished a New Year full of fantastic surprises!

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## **The Woodland Garden**

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Bonnie Pavlak, Chair, MG

The Woodland Garden is resting now under the snow. The woodchips will have to wait until next

year to get spread on the path. The bulbs and seeds are awaiting the return of spring.



**A list of 2009 Projects with descriptions can be found on the web ([click here](#))**

### **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@gmail.com](mailto:costasrt@gmail.com)

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## LEARN TO START YOUR OWN SEEDLINGS

Arden Gardeners will be sponsoring a workshop on this topic at Town Hall located on Omar Drive (call for better directions if interested, 410-923-0874) on February 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. We will have two Arden residents who are both experts in starting flowers and vegetables from seed. Dave Hulteng will talk about his amazing success with starting pepper plants and Jane Norman will be talking about her almost magical ability to start flower seeds.

Please join us as we all learn from our two talented neighbors on what equipment works best, where to purchase it, what varieties of plants are preferable for our region, why bother with starting your own plants and other seed starting topics. As usual, we will have some free samples for attendees so plan on being there and not only get a head start on your flower or vegetable gardens but get special plants that you might not otherwise find or be able to afford.

Susan Guyaux

## NEWS FROM THE STATE MG OFFICE

Update your county [MG logos](#). Lots of folks have added the new University of Maryland Extension logo on their flyers and promotional announcements, but have not yet updated their own county/city MG logos. Your new logos can be found at

<http://mastergardener.umd.edu/Administrative1/Maryland%20Master%20Gardener%20Logos.cfm>

We are eliminating the word “cooperative” from our name wherever it appears.

## MG Annual Training Day 2010

Master Gardener Annual Training Day will take place on Tuesday May 25 or Wed. May 26. We cannot firm up a date until December 1, so save both of them!

Our keynote speaker will be Lee Reich. Lee Reich, PhD, is an avid farmdener (more than a garden, less than a farm) who turned from plant and soil research with the USDA and Cornell University to writing, lecturing, and consulting. His books include *A NORTHEAST GARDENER'S YEAR*, *THE PRUNING BOOK*, *WEEDLESS GARDENING*, *UNCOMMON FRUITS FOR EVERY GARDEN*, and *LANDSCAPING WITH FRUIT*. He writes regularly for Associated Press and publications such as *FINE GARDENING* and *HORTICULTURE*.

## Statewide MG Meetings for January

**Grow It Eat It** – Wed. Jan 13, 2010; 10am- 1 pm; 4H Center in College Park  
(Snow date Wed. Jan 20)

Join this on-going statewide committee to help Maryland residents grow more of their own food. This very successful outreach was created to meet the high public demand for food gardening information in tough economic times. Our one-year-old effort is now more organized, has more resources and is picking up speed. However, we need lots of help to successfully bring our efforts to the public. Please join us for this meeting to find out what's happening and be part of the coordinated spring effort.

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**Plant Clinic Annual Meeting-** Thurs. Jan 14, 2010- 10 am- 1 pm; 4H Center in College Park  
(Snow date Thurs. Jan 28)

Once a year Plant Clinic (Ask a MG) coordinators and participants gather to discuss what's worked, what hasn't, to share resources and plan coordinated efforts for the coming year. If you are working in or in charge of a plant clinic, please join us. This is a great way to meet and share information with MGs in other counties.

**Multicultural Outreach** – Tuesday Jan 19, 2010- 10 am- 1 pm; 4H Center in College Park  
(Snow date Tues. Jan 26)

The communities around us are becoming more and more diverse. The MG State Strategic Planning group, in turn, has decided that the MG program needs to become more multicultural in its approach and serve many we don't usually reach. We are gathering anyone who can help us- whether MG or not, to discuss and plan an outreach strategy. Please join us if you'd like to be part of this initiative.

- Do you have any helpful resources about these communities?
- Would you be willing to interview experts to see what the best approaches might be (before this meeting)?
- Would you be willing to talk to these communities to see what they are growing, what their needs might be how we can serve them? Anything you can find out before this meeting would be helpful.

For more information about any of meetings above, contact Robin Hessey, 410-531-1754, [rmhessey@umd.edu](mailto:rmhessey@umd.edu). Snacks and beverages will be provided at each meeting, but you may want to bring your own lunch and drink. Also, please wear your MG name badge.)

**MG Handbooks make great gifts- don't let any of your friends or relatives garden without one!  
You can order one online or download a form to mail in at  
[mastergardener.umd.edu/handbook.cfm](http://mastergardener.umd.edu/handbook.cfm).**

**If you belong to a garden club or other interest group, please remind them about the Handbook and refer them to the Handbook webpage, or print that page out and give it to anyone you think would be interested in the Handbook.**

**Get the HGIC Electronic Newsletter for free.**

This 6-times-a-year publication will keep you updated on what's happening in the garden and landscape. It's written by HGIC (Home and Garden Information Center) staff and updates you on pests, diseases, vegetables, Grow It Eat It, timely tips and other information useful to MG's and the public. If you'd like to subscribe, just go to the HGIC website <http://hgic.umd.edu/> and click on the link in the middle of the page. If you'd like to see previous newsletters, click on the link on the left called "What's new".

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