



# FREDERICK COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS AUGUST 2009 NEWSLETTER

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Every Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Help Desk, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

August 4, 12:30 p.m., Advisory Committee Meeting

August 11, 10:00 a.m. Monthly Meeting, *Photography Committee Presentation*

September 8, 7:00 p.m., Monthly Meeting, *Bartlett Tree Expert, Dan Yates*

September 9, 7:00 p.m., Photography Committee Meeting

September 18-26, The Great Frederick Fair

October 13, 6:00 p.m. Plant Exchange and Potluck

October 15, Third quarter volunteer sheets due; Chair reports due

November 3, 12:30 p.m., Advisory Committee Meeting

November 10, 10 a.m., Monthly Meeting

November 18, 1:30 p.m., Photography Committee Meeting

December 1, 12:30 p.m., Advisory Committee Meeting

December 8, 6:00 p.m. Potluck and Monthly Meeting

December 15- **DEADLINE – ALL VOLUNTEER HOURS MUST BE SUBMITTED/ ALL COMMITTEE REPORTS ARE DUE**

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## TRICE'S TIDBITS:

Can you believe it! August is here already? We have accomplished so much thus far this year. Take a moment to pat yourself on the back. GREAT JOB!

### 2010 Classes

Next year will be the first time we have offered two sets of classes. The first will be from February to April, Tuesdays-Thursdays from 9:00 to 12:00. Due to interest from many people who cannot make it during those times, there will be evening/weekend classes offered. Right now it is set for July 7-Aug 4, Wednesdays 6-8, and Saturdays 9-3. At this point, I have no idea how successful this will be, but I am going to give it a try. I appreciate your continued support with these classes, whether you are hosting, instructing or recruiting.

### Praise, Recognition and Participation

I have encouraged Committee Chairs to submit information about their committee to this venue so that we know what is happening, where you can join in, and give recognition to the members. Please continue to do that.

I missed and would like to recognize Stephanie Brenton for winning the questionnaire administered at the June meeting.

If you have not submitted your time sheets so far this year, you should consider doing that. Avonell and Audrey will be coming in to do that soon. As of this moment, 42 people have submitted hours out of a possible 101.

### Help Desk

The help desk has had a lot of helpers this year. Dawne Howard and Jane Talarico have been a great help. Tony Murdock has looked at the trees as on-site visits for me. I also want to give a special thank you to Meryl Benenati for going the extra mile as an intern. I have had about half of the interns fulfill their requirement so far.

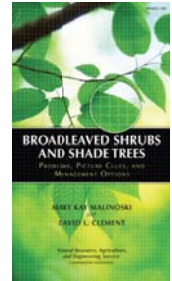
I guess you heard about the 'late blight' that is supposedly running rampant in Frederick County. I haven't seen a one. Carroll County hasn't either. However, I have seen a lot of fungal disease specimens. Be sure to discard the infected parts so they do not overwinter for next year.

The other day I received a call from a lady and was able to help her. She was so pleased that she offered to give us a plug on the webpage she creates. Here is the link: [www.co.frederick.md.us](http://www.co.frederick.md.us) Check it out- I dare you! I was very limited on space.

**New RESOURCE:**

**Broadleaved Shrubs and Shade Trees by Mary Kay Malinoski and Dave Clement**

I just received a copy from the printer. *I really like this book.* It has a chapter in it that lists the symptom and the possible causes. I have felt this type of tool has been needed for help desk or plant clinics. It normally sells for \$35.00. You can order one through me and get the Extension discount and only pay \$21.00, plus shipping and handling. My shipping was \$6.00. I have a copy in my office in case you stop by and wish to look at it, or you can preview it at the monthly meeting. I will take your order in the way of cash or check. Please submit your order to me by August 15<sup>th</sup>.




**Extension News:**

1. The University has reinstated the hiring freeze. More cuts in funds will need to be made. I think my position is pretty secure.
2. The water in our building is questionable as to whether you should drink it. (The kitchen faucet is reported as acceptable.) Meanwhile, I would not suggest you drink it. We have shut down the water fountains. I also suggest you bring a drink for meetings, etc or purchase from the machine.
3. The heating and cooling systems are on the brink. It was 55 degrees on the first floor this morning. It is usually 68. So, come prepared for a cool environment.
4. One more time -- We are now '**University of Maryland Extension**'. We no longer include the words 'Service' or 'Cooperative' as we have done so in the past.



**NOTES FROM MARY RIESCH**

The next Monthly Meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 11 at 10:00 a.m. The Photography  Committee will once again give a presentation.

I'm looking for a volunteer to serve as moderator for the August meeting. Please let me know if you would like to volunteer for this or any future meetings.

If you have any items, announcements or committee reports for the August monthly meeting agenda, please contact me by Monday, August 10.

If you have scheduled any committee meetings or other events, please let me know so that I can add the dates to the monthly calendar.

**GROW IT EAT IT COMMITTEE REPORT**



July was another active month for the Grow It Eat It committee. We had a lovely day at Ted Lambert's house for the field trip portion of the 'Train the Trainer Advanced Training' class. Jon Traunfeld led us through the vegetable garden pests and disease questions that are most common this year.



## GROW IT EAT IT COMMITTEE REPORT (continued)

The library series of talks continued with two talks in Urbana given by Meryl Benanati, Moira Weldon and Lois Royer.

August will bring four more library series presentations:

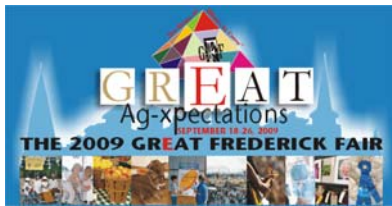
Wednesday, August 5, 7:00 PM -- Middletown Branch, "Fabulous Food Crops for Fall"

Saturday August 8, 2:00 PM -- Brunswick Branch, "Composting"

Tuesday August 25, 7:00 PM -- C. Burr Artz Branch, "Food Gardening with Children"

Thursday August 27, 7:00 PM -- Middletown Branch, "Fall Bed Prep"

### FREDERICK FAIR



Planning for the 2009 Frederick Fair is in full swing and any interested Master Gardeners are encouraged to contact me. Sign up early to get the time slot you would prefer and to be sure to get on the list for a fair pass. Many fun and interesting vegetable related display board materials will decorate the fair booths this year so plan to join us!

Thanks! Lois Royer, Chair Grow it Eat it, Fair



### SUNSHINE

Please contact Avonell Watson, [aswatson2@verizon.net](mailto:aswatson2@verizon.net), 301-834-7269, with news of births, illness, etc. in our Master Gardener group. A card or call contact in the name of the Frederick County Master Gardeners will be made and the group at large will be notified. Thanks so much.

### BAY-WISE

The Howard County Master Gardeners would like to invite you to our annual Bay Wise Garden Tour September 19 from 1-4, Rain date of September 20.



This year the garden tour is being held at the home of Ellen and Ken Nibali, 3452 Rosemary Lane, West Friendship.

Enjoy seeing this beautiful 5 acre property that is managed using Bay Wise Principles. The landscape contains pasture, native woods, small fruit gardens, tree fruit, winter garden, aquatic garden/water feature. All the gardens have a lovely blend of native and ornamental plants.

**Chesapeake Native Plants will be present to sell native plants.**

For more information email [bev.devuono@gmail.com](mailto:bev.devuono@gmail.com) or see our announcement at <http://mastergardener.umd.edu/local/Howard/files/WebAnnouncement2.pdf>

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## Sharing a Letter:

### HEIRLOOM TOMATO TASTING

Alex and Doris Alexander, Master Gardeners and docents in our museum, suggested I contact you about an upcoming program I'm planning. For the past 9 years we have maintained a demonstration garden behind our headquarters at 24 E. Church St. in Frederick. Each year the garden has a theme that relates to the changing exhibit in the museum. We've had gardens based on ersatz or substitutions used during the Civil War, a dye and fiber garden, a garden with vegetables that are related to German influences, etc. This year the garden theme is "Eat Your Way Across the USA" and compliments the "In and Out of Frederick County: 300 Years of Travel and Tourism" exhibit. Plants in the garden all have names that include locations, like Kentucky Pole Beans, Detroit Red Beets, and Nebraska Wedding Tomato. Another important aspect of the garden is our efforts to use heirloom plants and to not use chemical pesticides.



In the past I have given talks about heirloom gardening since I've been raising heirlooms for more than 15 years. This year I decided that instead of a traditional program, we would have an heirloom tomato tasting event. In our garden here we are growing two heirloom varieties and in my home garden I have 5 additional types of heirloom tomatoes. I've talked with Pat Brodowski about her tomato tasting event in Carroll County and the master gardeners there have been a great help to her. I don't envision the event to be nearly as large as hers but I'd like to be able to have people try these great tomatoes and learn how easy it is to grow heirlooms and how important they are to the well being of our agricultural future.

I am encouraging people to bring their own heirloom tomatoes to add to the tasting – as long as they can identify them and provide some history about the tomato. **The event is scheduled for Saturday August 29, from 2-4pm in our garden at 24 E. Church Street.**

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