

Maxine Da-Som Yoon <maxyoon@umd.edu>

AAMG October 2023 Newsletter

3 messages

Anne Arundel MG <ckneipp@umd.edu> Reply-To: ckneipp@umd.edu To: maxyoon@umd.edu Fri, Sep 29, 2023 at 8:36 AM

MASTER *

Anne Arundel County Master Gardener News

Coordinator's Corner

Maxine Yoon, Master Gardener Coordinator

It was absolutely wonderful to visit your projects and meet all of you! Thank you so much for allowing me to come see what ya'll have been working on. Just FYI, if anybody needs help with anything please let me know. My email is **maxyoon@umd.edu** and my office phone number is 301-226-7475. Need some more volunteer and/or continuing education hours? Would you like to start your own project? Let's chat and see how I can be of assistance. It's fall now and it will be the end of the year soon; there are some matters that we must attend to.

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Stay classy Anne Arundel,

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Master Gardener Project Reports

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A work party was held to begin removing the common area vegetable debris to the Park compost area, and crimson clover cover crop seeds were planted in the open areas. Okra, a large tomatillo plant and a few peppers were still producing, and were left in the common garden. The zinnia flowers were left to go to seed, and the seeds will be collected for next year. The mint was trimmed back; the hops and Virginia creeper vines were cut off the fences; and the storage box cleaned out. A mouse family has already moved into the shed, but will likely be disturbed again, when the tomato cages and other tools are stored for the winter.

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open until frost, allowing the families to continue to tend their fall crops. A bag of crimson clover seeds was provided to each family, with instructions regarding how to close their individual space, by clearing, and composting the debris and planting the cover crop.

In October, another work party will be held to complete the process of fall garden clean-up. Fresh straw will be laid in the pathways, and newspaper replaced where needed. At the end of the season the gardens will be finally closed for the winter, and cover crop planted in any remaining open areas.

Sincere thank-you's to Co-chair Kristin Silva, Kathy Albers, Wendy Boardman, Kathy Enderle, Deb Fritz, and Lourdes Hergenroeder for their volunteer participation. All help is much appreciated to work with the parents and children, to maintain the common planting areas, the outside edges of our community garden plots, and to provide extra garden checks. Children are always welcome.



We are looking forward to planning next year's season, and we hope you join us any Wednesday at 6:30pm at the

community gardens at Kinder Farm Park in Millersville, April through September.

Co-chaired by Janet Clauson and Kristin Silva janetclauson301@gmail.com, 410.987.2027 ka_silva@verizon.net, 443.254.3133

Composting and Native Gardens at Quiet Waters Park

Saturday compost demonstrations were very well attended this summer. Seems our online media outreach is paying off.

MGs and interns volunteering with the Compost Project were challenged by both bouts of excessive heat and the ongoing drought. Hats off to the dedicated team that kept the plants in the native gardens alive and watered.

The bins in the compost area were drier than usual which provided a temporary home to the resident reptiles. There was an abundance of blue tailed skinks in the open compost bins this summer and even a worm snake.



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If you haven't been to a compost demonstration in awhile, please consider joining us at one of the remaining dates: Wed. Oct. 4, Sat. Oct. 21, Sat. Nov. 4. MG/intern work sessions start at 9am and the compost demonstrations for the public begin at 10 am. Please contact me for additional information: pamdennisonmg@aol.com.

Pam Dennison, MG chair Composting and Native Gardens at QWP

Hancock's Resolution

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Friends of Hancock's Resolution will host a *Harvest Festival* on Sunday, October 8. This event will have extended hours (10:00-4:00) so additional support from Master Gardeners will be needed. Volunteers are needed to provide garden tours, guide visitors with children's activities such as marigold seed saving, making lavender sachets and combing broom corn. Other event offerings will include crafters, food sales, music, colonial games, War of 1812 reenactors, scarecrow construction and more.

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Nancy Allred, Project Chair Hancock's Resolution willnancy3@verizon.net or call/text 410-952-9554





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The group will be available to Maxine as needed for research, photos, and review.

Many thanks to all who have participated in the project or are currently involved.

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The first Tawes Garden Native Plant Festival was held on Saturday, September 16th and, by all accounts, was a great success. We had over 70 visitors come through the garden which was very exciting as it was our inaugural event. It helped that it was a beautiful warm fall day and that there were lots of other happenings in downtown Annapolis which may have brought people into town. The Plant

Festival featured seven organizations who offered information and guidance on a range of topics -- Bay Wise practices, bees and pollinators, sustainable gardening, Master Gardener best practices, lawn and garden care, Bay-friendly landscaping and much more. The array of information held something of interest to both experienced gardeners and those just starting out. Several attendees didn't need converting to the logic and beauty of native plants – they were already convinced and were well on their way to incorporating native plants into their landscape. Others were open to



new ideas and suggestions on which native plants were appropriate for their gardens and skill level. We also had a few dozen asters, milkweeds and butterfly weed plants that were given away to interested visitors.

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One of the highlights of the garden and the focus of several years of Master Gardener work and attention is the Plant Mural. Thanks to funding from Unity Gardens over the past three years, the Plant Mural has been transformed into a vibrant demonstration garden of native perennials. Many people commented on how impressive the Mural was and how well it showcased such a variety of low-maintenance yet beautiful native plants. Given the past summer's drought, visitors were also surprised at how little watering the Mural had required, with plants which were obviously quite happy



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Questions? Contact Kristin Silva, Watershed Steward (ka_silva@verizon.net, ph: 443-254-3133)

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Master Gardener Project Reports (continued)

Anne Arundel County Fair

Greetings all MG's,

We had a great year at the County Fair. Our Flower Department was full of beautiful exhibits and our 20 or so volunteers made this happen. Many thanks to our chairs, Claudia Ploor and Trish Lilek for all they do.

We began with our annual training class about two weeks prior which was well attended.

We cleaned and prepped our booth, took in entries, assisted

the judge, held a children's project, tended to our booth and met with the public during open hours and then assisted in the release of exhibits.

We had 378 exhibits brought in by 98 different exhibitors. This is an increase over last year. We had 145 children participate in the make-it-take project. Many thanks to Ellen LaMere and Trish Lilek for all their efforts to organize and supply the materials.

Also, many thanks to those who tended to the exhibit by watering the plants, cleaning up debris and talking to the fairgoers. We had a total of 462 contacts not counting the exhibitors.

This is a short project in September, so if you would like to join us next year, please read your newsletters and Friday Flashes and we will be happy to have you.

See you all next year, Pat Shema

The Dairy Farm Project

Greetings from the Dairy Farm Project.

We continue to do basic maintenance. Things are dying back now, but the Beautyberry is spectacular and there are still some plants in bloom.

One of our MG's has presented a plan to improve the gardens at the pavilion. We will most likely begin with pruning in late winter and then add some native plants. Thank you, Stephanie, for your great efforts.



We could use a few more volunteers, so please come out and enjoy this beautiful display of Native plants. All are welcome especially interns who would like to check us out.

Fran Garcia had offered to chair this project but is no longer able to do so. Malcolm is not able to carry on to the extent he has for the last 15 years. Anyone who could take over, we would be grateful.

October will be our last two sessions for the year. We will begin again late winter or early Spring with clean up and pruning.

We will meet Saturday, Oct, 14 and Thursday Oct. 26, at 8:00

If you are interested in the Dairy Farm Project, please feel welcome.

We have tools, but please bring your own as well as gloves, water, etc. Pruning shears and loppers will be helpful at this first meeting.

If you have any questions, please contact Malcolm Doying at oldcelt100@aol.com or 410-721-7610

Vegetable Gardening at the Dairy Farm

Greetings all Mg's.

I am pleased to announce that the Veggie garden at the Dairy Farm project is now its own separate entity. So, if you are specifically interested in growing food please join us.

We have harvested most of the cool weather crops. We still have cabbage. The beans, basil, sweet potatoes, carrots,



Tomatoes and peppers are doing well. Cucumbers are coming up too. Squash has also been planted.

Pat replanted the corn since the first planting failed, most likely from lack of water. Onions are looking good – this is the first try for that plant. We will dig garlic at our next meeting.

NOTE: WE ARE SWICTHING TO SUMMER HOURS 8:00 TO 11:00'

We meet the second Saturday and fourth Thursday of each month.

If you would like to added to my mailing list, please let me know.

For continuing information, please read your newsletters and Friday Flashes.

Looking forward to another great year, Pat Shema, Chair pshema@aol.com 410-721-7610

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