Black Covers Can Put Weeds to Bed…. For Good

Taken from the Maryland Grows Blog marylandgrows.umd.edu

Have you experienced one or more of these garden scenarios?

- It’s early April and chickweed, henbit and other winter annual weeds are growing so thickly in a vegetable or flower bed that the soil can’t be seen.
- The winter rye cover crop you mowed last week is growing back.
- You tilled and raked a bed that you couldn’t plant right away and now weeds are coming up everywhere.
- The rainy summer weather is favoring weeds over crops so that the weeds are taking over walkways and dominating beds that you want to plant with fall crops.

Neighboring plots in your community garden have been abandoned and weeds are growing wild and reproducing! Un-controlled weeds compete with garden plants for water and nutrients, are hosts for insect pests and diseases, and can demoralize the toughest gardeners. Tilling, pulling, chopping, and hoeing are all fine weed control techniques under the right conditions, but they also disturb soil allowing even more weed seeds to germinate and flourish.

There’s another way: occultation. The common dictionary definition is “an event that occurs when one object is hidden by another object that passes between it and the observer.” For gardeners and farmers, it’s covering the soil to create a dark, warm, moist envi-

I can’t bear to look… I’m going back inside

Continued on Page 4
Hello Everyone!

Our first day of spring was a snowy one and it really still feels like the 75th January. But I hear a rumor that April Showers Bring May Flowers. Here are some things we’re getting ready for.

⇒ We need ALL Hands on Deck— It’s going to be a busy Spring
  ⇒ The Plant Sale Committee needs Bakers, Plants, and YOU!
⇒ We need a speaker for our September Meeting. Please let me know if you have any suggestions.
⇒ Our April 18th Master Gardener Meeting is at the Wye Research and Education Center directions are on page 3
⇒ Thank you to everyone who turned in hours so far we have logged 385 volunteer hours. If you haven’t had a chance to go into the OTS to record your hours please do so today. You can login to the OTS at: [http://extension.umd.edu/mg/program-management/tracking-volunteer-hours](http://extension.umd.edu/mg/program-management/tracking-volunteer-hours) For the month of April if you enter in hours your name will be added into a drawing.
⇒ All of our volunteer activities are on: [http://signup.com/go/QdpYbQP](http://signup.com/go/QdpYbQP)

Best,
Rachel

**COORDINATOR’S CORNER**

**MASTER GARDENER APPARELL**

We'll be doing a bulk order for MG T-Shirts. Please click the link below to make your selection. We will purchase a Women's T-shirt in Jade and a Men’s T-shirt in Blue. Please make sure that you place your order by Thursday, April 19th. The cost for each shirt is $15. Please make all checks payable to QAC EAC and send them to 505 Railroad Ave, Suite 4 Centreville, MD 21617 [https://goo.gl/forms/gDFRjWtG2wjib7pq1](https://goo.gl/forms/gDFRjWtG2wjib7pq1)

The MG Website does offer other varieties of apparel if you wish to order any of those it can be done here: [https://umdhg2018.itemorder.com/sale](https://umdhg2018.itemorder.com/sale) If you are ordering items separate from our bulk items all orders must be placed by April 22nd. All orders will ship or be available for pick up the week of May 7th, 2018
### 2018 MG Meetings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Place</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 18, 2018</td>
<td>Dr. Sara Via, UMD- Healthy Soil</td>
<td>9:30-11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>WYE Research and Education Center</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| May 16, 2018      | Topic: Native Foraging
Speaker: MG Shane Brill | 5:30-7:30 p.m.  | Centreville Library                       |
| June 20, 2018     | Picnic                                      | TBD              | TBD                                        |
| July 18, 2018     | MG Business Meeting                        | 5:30-7:30 p.m.  | Centreville Library                       |
| September 19, 2018| Topic: TBD                                  | 5:30-7:30 p.m.  | Centreville Library                       |
| October 17, 2018  | 20th Anniversary Celebration               | Evening          | Prospect Bay Country Club                  |
| November 21, 2018 | 2019 Planning Meeting                      | 9:30-11:30      | TBD                                        |
| December 11, 2018 | Trip to Longwood Gardens                   | 8-5 P.M.        | Cost:TBD                                   |

### Road Construction has Started

For the next **2 years** (yes, that's right, 2 years), the town of Centreville will be going through major road work. Commerce Street and Liberty Street will be gutted to improve aging water and sewer lines. Construction has begun on Liberty Street. Please make sure that you take this construction into account when coming to MG meetings. It might be easier to take Route 304 into town. For more information on the construction visit: [http://www.townofcentreville.org/liberty-street-commerce-street-construction-project/](http://www.townofcentreville.org/liberty-street-commerce-street-construction-project/)

### Directions to WYE Research & Education Center

The WREC is seven miles southeast of Queens-town. From US Route 50 West, turn Left onto Carmichael Road. From US Route 50 East, turn Right onto Carmichael Road. About one-half mile beyond the Carmichael Methodist Church, turn right onto Cheston Lane. Follow Cheston Lane past Education Lane on the left. Turn left at the second lane. Class will be held in the conference room of the red brick WREC Administration Building. Please enter through the main administrative office door. **Weather Policy:** Class will be held as long as WREC is open. If WREC closes due to inclement weather, a recording will be posted on the main phone line: (410) 827-8056
Black Covers Can Put Weeds to Bed….
For Good

Continued from Cover

ronment. In 2-4 weeks, this no-till technique can:
1. smother and kill young weeds
2. smother larger weeds and grasses
3. accelerate the decomposition of mowed cover crops and weeds
4. promote the germination of weed seeds and then smother the seedlings

When the cover is removed you are left with a mat of decaying organic mulch. New weeds will be fewer because the soil was not disturbed. Spread a 1-inch layer of compost and you’re ready to plant seeds or transplants. Of course, you could plant transplants through holes cut into the weed barrier.

Gardeners can use black tarps or weed barrier fabric. Some farmers use black silage covers (new or used). Weed barriers allow water and air to penetrate while tarps and silage covers are water-resistant. I’m not aware of research that has compared the types of covers used in occlusion. I’ve had good luck with heavy-duty woven polypropylene weed barrier fabrics (they last for many years). Four-foot widths work well for most gardens and strips of the fabric can be overlapped for wide beds. It’s important to completely cover the target area and pin down the edges of the cover with landscape staples, bricks, or soil. If possible, weed-whack or mow the weeds first. DO NOT cover the fabric with any organic material. Weed seeds will germinate on top and grow roots down through the weed barrier.
April Monthly Tips

**Fruit Trees (Apples & Pears)**
Fireblight may be observed on susceptible apple and pear cultivars during and after the bloom period if the weather is warm and wet. The “ugly stub” pruning method for fireblight control should be used for cutting out all affected plant material. “Ugly Stub” means that after you prune off the fire blight affected parts, don’t cut back to the next branch, instead leave a 4 inch stub. This stub serves as a “buffer” to prevent the fireblight bacteria from invading healthy tissue.

**Peaches**
- Prune peach trees during the bloom period or immediately after.
  - Peach trees require severe pruning to encourage the development of new wood on which next year’s fruit buds will form.
  - Maintain an open vase shape to encourage good air circulation and fruiting throughout your peach trees.
  - Shorten branches and thin out weak growth.
- Brown rot of stone fruits can be controlled with fungicide sprays during the bloom period. The first spray should be made when 10% of the flowers are open and the second spray when 90% of flowers are open.

**Veggies**
- Sow more seeds of spinach, lettuce, arugula and other salad greens in cold frames or in the vegetable bed, under row covers. (Floating row covers are made of spun-bonded polyester. They let in air, light and water, offer some protection from frost, and exclude insects and bigger critters.)
- Avoid the temptation to set out warm season crops until after all danger of late frosts.
- “Harden-off” transplants one week prior to transplanting to toughen the plants and ready them for outdoor conditions.
- Mix a small handful of gypsum or finely ground lime in the planting soil of each pepper and tomato transplant to help prevent blossom-end rot.

**Lawn**
- Lawn overseeding can still be done in April. Good seed to soil contact is important if the seed is to germinate and survive.
- Lawn mowing season begins in April. The height and how frequently you mow your lawn is very important. Cool season grasses such as tall fescue and bluegrass should be maintained at 3.0 inches for most of the growing season.
- Keep your mower blades sharp to prevent turf damage. Dry white or tan colored grass blade tips are an indication that the mower blade is dull. Dull mower blades tear turf grass and can lead to disease problems.

**House Plants:**
- This is a good time to re-pot and divide houseplants. Use lightweight, well-drained soilless potting mixes containing peat moss, vermiculite, and perlite.
- If a houseplant is already in a very large container and you cannot move it up to a larger one, you can remove the plant and prune its roots. Fill the outside with fresh potting medium. Pruning some of the roots may set the plant back a little but it will recover and it will have more space for the roots and improve pot drainage.
- Begin to fertilize houseplants again. The increase in natural light will prompt them to grow.

**Ornamentals:**
- Butterfly weed, California poppies, gaillardia, cleome, bachelor’s buttons, strawflowers, chamomile, alyssum, nigella, and annual phlox can be directly sown into the garden at this time.
- Most spring bulbs have fully emerged and are flowering at this time. Remove the spent flowers but leave bulb foliage alone until it dies back naturally. Now is a good time to apply a complete fertilizer (one that contains nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium) to enhance leaf growth. Healthy leaves ensure stronger and larger bulbs.
Plant Sale Committee Updates
Submitted by: MG Laura Klingler & MG Cathy Tengwell

Mark your calendars! The Queen Anne’s County MG annual plant sale May 12th 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM will be in full bloom at the extension office, rain or shine. Let’s make this the best plant sale in our 20-year history! We can do it with your help. Please sign up, donate plants, green elephant items and maybe even consider baking. The plant sale is our largest group volunteer activity of the year! It is a time for gathering together with the community for a morning spent talking about gardens, natives, vegetables, Baywise, pollinators, IPM and more. Everyone’s help is needed. The Plant Clinic “Ask a Master Gardener” booth will be set up and need volunteers along with the Baywise and IPM/Pollinator displays. There are many volunteer opportunities, from set up, restocking, boxing up plants at check out, or simply being on hand to answer plant questions. Put your name on the sign up sheet at our next monthly meeting or log into http://signup.com/go/jcdxUOs

We need your plant donations. What do you have happening in your garden this year? Have you already thought about what you will donate to the plant sale? If you started plants by seed and are repotting, or out in your garden dividing sedum, irises, or other plants, why not set some aside for our plant sale? We welcome all variety of annuals, perennials, shrubs, trees, herbs and vegetables and especially love natives. Thank you to all our MG’s who grow, divide, pot and bring plants to the sale every year. Plants can be dropped off anytime on Friday May 11th. If you plan to bring plants the morning of the event, or need to drop them off earlier in the week, please call Rachel to make arrangements.

This year, thanks to our volunteers Christie Little and Louise Shearer, plant labels will be provided. That’s right... We’ve got the labels! Just email or phone in your plant information and we will make labels for you.

Cleaning out your garden shed? Have garden books that are gathering dust? If you have something that needs a new home or garden, the plant sale is the perfect opportunity to donate your items. The “Green Elephant” table will be back under the direction of Sue Goward. All donations from gardening books, pots, houseplants, tools, seeds, bee boxes, garden gnomes… are welcome. Bring in your items with you or drop them off at the extension office the week before the event.

We’re on the hunt for tea cups and saucers for a mothers day craft to use at the plant sale. We need 10, please make sure that they aren’t chipped or cracked. Please bring the to our April 18th MG meeting.

The Bee cookies will be back along with lavender biscotti. Can you bake? Sharlotte Beecher is the chair of our bake sale table. If you are a baker, consider signing up to help with the bake sale. The plant sale is our only fundraiser. All proceeds from the plant sale go to support the costs of our educational programs and volunteer committees. Please sign up to help with the plant sale and donate plants. Remind your family and friends to come and enjoy a great morning with us. Let’s make this the best plant sale in our 20-year history!
Plant Sale-Labeling Plants Before Plant Sale

We have labels covered this year! Christine Little and Louise Shearer have volunteered to make labels for all the plants donated for the plant sale this year. The self adhesive labels that were made available last year were great until plants were watered and some labels washed off and non permanent ink smeared and bled making labels illegible. Another challenge was noted when the labels were adhered to the plastic pot and arranged in rows on our sale tables. The labels became hidden by surrounding pots and could only be read if picked up. Other challenges are those inevitable plants dropped off with a label on one plant but none on the other 6 of the same variety. And then there are always some mystery plants with no labels. The plant sale committee decided that creating a uniform label, one that would be waterproof (at least for the duration of the plant sale) and durable was needed. This will make it easy for all MG’s who wish to donate plants but find making labels tedious.

This is our plan:
Once you have decided what plants you will be donating to the plant sale, email the information to Rachel with the subject line: “plant labels”.
In the body of the email, please include following:
Your name__________
the plant name ____________/ quantity______

Other helpful information to include would be basic:
for perennial plants - common name, botanical name, height/size, sun/shade
for annuals: herb/flower/vegetable, name, color/height

Christie and Louise said that they would look up the rest of the label info if you don’t include it. Christie and Louise will format the labels which will then be printed out, cut into squares and laminated. The labels will then be stapled to a stake (cut from donated venetian blinds) These labels will be bundled together with your name and ready for you when you drop off plants. When plants are dropped off on May 11th, the day before the plant sale, our sorting volunteers will be on hand to help put the labels on your plants.

If you would like to pick up your labels from the extension office prior to drop off, please let Christie and Louise know so that they can have them ready for you.

Fliers for the plant sale will be handed out at the April 18th MG Meeting.

Save the Date: Our next Plant Sale Meeting is on May 2nd at 9AM at the Extension Office.
BAKE SALE Updates  
Submitted by MG Sharlotte Beecher

This year for the bake sale the committee agreed to keep things nice and simple. For starters we would like to have everyone either make biscotti with the recipe provided or lemon bars. Both are easy to make and would make a great mothers day gift along with flowers from the plant sale. If you’d like to volunteer to help with the bake sale please sign up via [http://signup.com/go/jcdxUOs](http://signup.com/go/jcdxUOs) and touch base with MG Sharlotte Beecher at nannysharlotte@gmail.com. Whatever you choose to make, please make sure that they are packaged in two per bag.

**Lavender and Orange Biscotti**

1/2 cup sugar  
3 Tlbs of butter softened  
1 1/2 Tlbs chopped fresh lavender leaves  
1/2 tsp grated orange rind  
1/2 tsp vanilla extract  
2 large egg whites  
1 1/2 cups all purpose flour  
3/4 tsp baking powder  
1/8 tsp salt  
cooking spray

**Step One**
preheat oven to 325

**Step Two**
Beat the first 5 ingredients at medium speed of a mixer until well blended. Beat in egg whites. In a separate bowl combine flour, baking powder and salt. Gradually add flour mixture to sugar mixture, beating until blended.

**Step Three**
Turn Biscotti dough out onto a baking sheet with cooking spray, with lightly floured hands, shape into a 10 inch long roll; flatten the roll to a 1 inch thickness. Bake the roll at 325 for 30 minutes. Remove the roll from baking sheet and cool for 10 minutes on a wire rack.

**Step Four**
Cut roll diagonally into 14 (1/2 inch) slices using a serrated knife. Place the slices upright on a baking sheet. Bake the slices at 325 for 15 minutes (the cookies will be slightly soft in center but will harden as they cool).

Remove from cookie sheet and cool completely on wire rack.
**MG Intern Training Speaker Schedule**

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<th>Topic</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 5th</td>
<td>5:30-8:30pm</td>
<td>Integrated Pest Management</td>
<td>Emily/Mikaela</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 7th</td>
<td>9-11am</td>
<td>Composting</td>
<td>MG Denise Malueg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11am-12pm</td>
<td>Public Speaking</td>
<td></td>
<td>Rachel/Mikaela/Emily</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 12th</td>
<td>5:30-8:30pm</td>
<td>Grow It, Eat It/Bay-Wise/Plant Clinics</td>
<td>MG Sabine Harvey; Mikaela, Emily, Bay-Wise Representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 14th</td>
<td>9-12pm</td>
<td>Jeopardy &amp; Study Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 19th</td>
<td>5:30-8:30pm</td>
<td>EXAM DAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 21st</td>
<td>9-12pm</td>
<td>Group Presentations</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>12pm-3</td>
<td>Potluck &amp; Celebration</td>
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Remember..... If you’re interested in a MG Training topic you do not have to be a hostess/host to attend a class.

**Save the Date — April 21st Intern Class Presentations & Potluck**

Our 2018 MG Interns are only weeks away from graduating! Please make sure that you join us on April 21st at the Higher Education Building on the Chesapeake College Campus to help celebrate. The class will do their group presentations from 9-12 and immediately following we will have a pot luck. If you are a mentor this would be the perfect opportunity to spend time with your intern and get to know them! Please let Rachel know if you’ll be joining us. All are welcome!
As most of us are rapidly getting cabin fever, and “seed swap” events are sprouting up in various locations, it seemed like a great idea to have the topic for the March plant clinic be “Starting from Seed.” We had a display board featuring a “how-to” and “step-by-step” process for starting those seedlings with plenty of handouts and seed packets to give away.

In addition, we had a “What is This” display featuring leaf spot on rhododendron and holly. Thanks to Rachel for supplying the affected specimens! Also, Deane brought a pot of kale and a pot of Brussel sprouts that he had started.

We had about 20 people stop by to check out the display and chat with the master gardeners about starting gardens. One of the interns in training, Jim Mullikin happened to stop by and join us for awhile. This happened to be very advantageous as he is very knowledgeable about blueberries. We had a visitor stop by the booth inquiring about their blueberries, and Jim was able to answer their questions! Thanks also to the other MGs who helped out, Barbara Graham, Jackie Kelly, and Debbie Longhurst. Thanks also to Nick Stoer who stopped by!

The next plant clinic will be Thursday, April 12, and in keeping with the upcoming growing season, we’ll have a “Grow It, Eat It” theme. Come join us if you can in April—it’s a great way to get MG volunteer hours!
Liz Hammond 410-758-2992 er93hammon@aol.com
Deane Horowitz 410-604-0969 deanoch@yahoo.com

Upcoming Plant Clinic Dates: (at the Kent Island Farmers Market-unless otherwise noted)
⇒ 4/12/18
⇒ 5/10/18
⇒ 6/14/18
⇒ 7/12/18
⇒ 8/9/18
⇒ 9/13/18
⇒ 10/11/18
⇒ 11/08/18
⇒ 12/13/18

To sign up for a particular day email Liz, come to an MG meeting or clink on this link: http://signup.com/go/qWhYAOw
What-to-do at A Plant Clinic Training

Monday, April 16, 4:00 – 6:00 pm
709 Morgnec Rd, Chestertown (Kent County Ext.)

Standing behind the table at an “Ask a MG” plant clinic is a ton of fun!
Truly, I’m not kidding!

I understand some of us may feel that we do not know enough to answer people’s question, but here are some things to remember:

- You are not alone
- You do not need to have all the answers
- You can do other things besides answering questions

To show you what you can do at a plant clinic AND to make you feel more comfortable, we are organizing a special “training.” At this “training” you will learn:

- Where to get information
- What resources are available at a plant clinic booth
- How you can help at a plant clinic
- How you can prepare information at home

In addition, please bring plant/insect samples and questions so we can practice our diagnostic skills. You can sign up three ways, either by emailing Sabine Harvey sharvey1@umd.edu, Rachel rjrhodes@umd.edu or by http://signup.com/go/gepTWCt

Ask a Master Gardener-Statewide Meeting

Submitted by: MG Liz Hammond & Deane Horowitz, KI Plant Clinic Chair

The Ask a Master Gardener Plant Clinic Statewide Meeting was held on Wednesday, April 14, in College Park and was attended by Liz Hammond and Deane Horowitz. The meeting started at 9:30 with sign-in and refreshments, and then at 10:00 a.m. Jon Traunfeld, Extension Specialist, welcomed the group with introductions of the speakers.

The first speaker, Dave Clement, Ph.D., talked with us about plant diseases of concern in 2018 – some of the diseases he discussed were anthracnose, powdery mildew, brown rot, fungal leaf spots, cankers, leaf blight, and a whole host of others. This talk also focused on treatments for these diseases; although, unfortunately, many times nothing can be done except to get rid of the plant. He encouraged us to check out this website www.facebook.com/horttips/

Mary Kay Malinoski, Extension Specialist, Entomology, gave a talk on Insect Pests of Concern in 2018. The Spotted Lantern Fly is definitely the one to watch out for - even though it has not been seen in Maryland yet, it is expected to show up this spring. You can check out this beautiful but destructive little pest by visiting mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/Pages/spotted-lantern-fly.aspx. If you observe any egg masses or insects which look
Ask a Master Gardener-Statewide Meeting

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similar to this, please try to collect them, and inform the Maryland Department of Agriculture at (410) 841-5920 or DontBug.MD@maryland.gov as soon as possible. Another interesting and informative website to check out is www.agriculture.pa.gov/spottedlanternfly.

Sara Tangren, Ph.D., Senior Agent Associate, MG Trainer, Native Plants Sustainable Horticulture, gave a presentation on Native Plant Questions and Concerns. We received a handout for plants that would be suitable for starting a meadow, but the recommendations were for the Western Shore. Hopefully, they will have a handout for the Eastern Shore in the near future. She also discussed native plant FAQs that are frequently asked at plant clinics. Dr. Tangren suggested we visit the website of the Maryland Native Plant Society — www.mdflora.org or the Virginia Native Plant Society at www.VNPS.org!

After a quick lunch break, Jon Traunfeld gave a talk on Vegetable and Fruit Pests and Issues. Topics discussed were Integrated Pest Management for Clientele, preventing and managing pest problems without pesticides, spring issues, mid-late summer issues, organic insecticides, and organic fungicides. He suggested several websites for information on these topics including http://vegetablemdonline.ppath.cornell.edu; http://usablight.org; http://cdm.ipmpipe.org for cucurbit downy mildew; and to check out the Kudzu bug http://mdkudzubug.org.

The rest of the afternoon was devoted to presentations by each county as to what they are doing at their plant clinics, what’s working, what’s new, and tips to share. Some of the suggestions offered were taking visitors e-mail addresses so they could be made aware of the various master gardener events and newsletters, be better aware of the various media resources available; require interns to participate at a plant clinic; and to make use of various displays that attract visitors to the table such as interesting insects, plants, etc.

All and all, it was an interesting and informative day and well worth attending.
Galilee Garden
Submitted by: MG Nancy O’Conner

Spring is here and we have gardeners that are anxious to get their early crops in the ground, but Mother Nature has a different idea! Hopefully in the next week or so we will be able to think spring and gardening. Watch out early spring crops, here we come!

We had our planning meeting on March 1 and made some decisions for the garden. We decided to try for a grant from Chesapeake Bay Trust for the purpose of having a stone path from the bridge to the gardens. It would also be nicer for our gardeners and garden visitors. Having a solid path would make it possible to build beds for handicapped persons. We would also get the added funding needed for a shed and a new sign.

Other topics to be completed are getting gardeners for all of the beds, setting up our composting station and having events and classes for people on gardening and food. Right now, we have 6 beds available.

We had a very successful Seed Swap and Garden Day at the KI Library on March 17. Coming up on June 21st, 6:00 to 7:00 p.m, will be a Pollinator event at the garden. We are looking forward to working with the Master Gardener Pollinator Committee. If other persons are interested in making presentations please see me. This would be a good way to some Master Gardener volunteer hours.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, April 1, 2018 at Galilee Lutheran Church at 7:00 p.m. Anyone interested in gardening or working with the garden are invited.

MG Christy Little (above) helped answer questions at the ‘Ask A Master Gardener’ booth at the Seed Swap while MG’s Carol Jelich and Lois Noonan (right) discussed pollinator habitat.
Bay-Wise
Submitted by: MG Debbie Pusey

March was not very cooperative weather-wise for any kind of outdoor scheduling. However, we did manage to find a day to schedule a consult in the Prospect Bay area. April has to be better!

We participated in the Garden Day at Kent Island Library on Saturday, March 17th. This was a very successful event for us. We had continued interest throughout the time we were there and had six sign-ups for consultations. Future exhibits for our program include the Shore Rivers River Friendly Program on Saturday, April 7th and our Plant Sale on Saturday, May 12th. If you are interested in helping with either of these, please let Rachel or Debbie know.

In addition to scheduling the homeowners interested in consults, we will start to schedule MG’s for certification as well. April and May should be busy months for us. We are looking forward to a very productive season.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 15, 2018 at 1:30pm in the Extension Office. All MG’s and Interns are welcome to join us.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>2018 Bay-Wise Meeting Schedule</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, May 15th at 1:30 pm at the Extension Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, July 17th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, September 18th</td>
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<td>Tuesday, November 20th</td>
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20th Anniversary Planning

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<tr>
<td>April 11th at 1 P.M.</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 20th at 1:30 P.M.</td>
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<td>October 3rd at 1 P.M.</td>
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***ALL Meetings will be held at the UME Extension Office unless otherwise noted.***
Cunningham Manor
Garden Tour
Tuesday, June 5th
1151 Ivy Hill Rd
Cockeysville, MD

Cunningham Manor is a private residence in Cockeysville, MD that opens their gardens up for private tours. The Queen Anne’s County MG’s will be touring Cunningham Manor on Tuesday, June 5th. We will be carpooling for this trip. Cunningham Manor does not charge for the tour but they do ask for a donation to the House of Ruth.

A suggested donation of $10 per person and R.S.V.P should be sent to Rachel by Tuesday, May 29th. All checks should be made payable to QAC EAC (Queen Anne’s County Extension Advisory Committee). There is no limit of participants for this trip nor do participants need to be strictly Master Gardeners. If you’d like to sign up please email Rachel directly or by clicking on this link: http://signup.com/go/JYFJJYZ
Volunteer Opportunities….

Washington College Campus Garden

Join the Washington College students at their Bay-wise certified Campus Garden as they establish a food forest following permaculture principles.

Please contact MG Shane Brill (shanebrill@gmail.com) if you are interested in volunteering with them.

Ask A Master Gardener at the Chestertown Tea Party Saturday, May 26th

One of our biggest outreach events for our Master Gardeners happens at the Chestertown Tea party on Saturday, May 26th. At this event you get to mingle with Tea Party goers from all over Maryland and Beyond and expose them to the great big world of Master Gardeners and the University of Maryland Extension. Not to mention the delicious fair food, music, costumes (not required but certainly encouraged), and parades! The shifts are as follows:

- 8:30-10 A.M. (2 volunteers needed)
- 10 A.M.-12 P.M. (3 volunteers needed)
- 12 –2 P.M. (3 volunteers needed)
- 2-4 P.M. (3 volunteers needed)

Sign up either by contacting Sabine Harvey (sharvey1@umd.edu) or you can sign up at http://signup.com/go/pYKeAfT
Volunteer Opportunities….

**Ask A Master Gardener Plant Clinic**

_Chestertown_ Master Gardeners look at samples of ailing plants to make diagnosis, give recommendations, answer questions, and provide printed information on a variety of gardening subjects

- Saturday, April 21st (1 volunteer needed)
- Saturday, May 5th (2 volunteers needed)
- Saturday, June 9th (2 volunteers needed)
- Saturday, June 23rd (2 volunteers needed)
- Saturday, July 7th (3 volunteers needed)
- Saturday, July 21st (3 volunteers needed)
- Saturday, August 4th (2 volunteers needed)
- Saturday, September 1st (3 volunteers needed)
- Sign up either by contacting Sabine Harvey (sharvey1@umd.edu) or you can sign up at http://signup.com/go/pYKeAfT

**Bakers needed:** MG Sharlottee Beecher has volunteered to chair the Bake Sale Committee for the plant sale. If you would like to volunteer to bake biscotti or lemon bars please give her a call at 443-804-8333 or send an email at nannysharlotte@gmail.com

**Pollinator Committee:** The pollinator committee needs you! We are looking for two ambitious co-chairs to help manage the pollinator committee. The major grunt work has already been accomplished by the committee we just need a fearless leader! Please contact Rachel (rjrhodes@umd.edu) if you’re interested.

**House Call Fridays:** Do you need volunteer hours but are unable to help at any of our other events? On Friday’s I block off the day to do house calls to Queen Anne’s & Kent County residents (as needed). Think of it as “Ask A Master Gardener” on wheels. Having an extra set of eyes is always welcome. This would be strictly as needed and not every Friday. Please contact Rachel (rjrhodes@umd.edu) if you’re interested.

Sign up at http://signup.com/go/jcdxUOs

**Plant Sale:**

**Greenhouse Help:** If you like to start seeds or transplant plants but can’t help with the Plant Sale on May 12th, then the greenhouse house would be the perfect place for you to get volunteer hours. If you volunteer to help at the greenhouse please make sure that you wear clothes that you can get dirty, that you’re not afraid of snakes (yes you read that right), and that you bring water and gardening gloves with you.

- April 16th (3 volunteers needed)—we’ll be repotting plants and starting seeds.
- May 10th (3 volunteers needed)—we’ll be moving plants from the greenhouse to the Extension Office.

**Pricing & Sorting (May 11th)** help get the plants ready for the plant sale sorting and pricing we’ll start at 9 A.M. (2 volunteers needed)
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<td></td>
<td>Mentor meeting 9:30 A.M. at the Centreville Library</td>
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<td>Master Gardener Basic Training, Gali-lee Garden Meeting 7 P.M.</td>
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<td>Sudlersville School Garden, 9 A.M.</td>
<td>Horn Point Field Trip</td>
<td>20th Anniversary Mtg, 1 pm at Extension Office</td>
<td>Master Gardener Basic Training, Kent Island Plant Clinic 3:30-6:30 P.M.</td>
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<td>Master Gardener Basic Training</td>
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<td>Greenhouse work for plant sale 9 A.M.; What-to-do at a Plant Clinic, 4 P.M. at Kent Co.</td>
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<td>Master Gardener Monthly Mtg, 9:30 am Wye Research &amp; Education Center</td>
<td>Centre-ville Library Demogarden 9AM. Master Gardener Basic Training</td>
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<td>Master Gardener Basic Training: Ask a MG Plant Clinic Chestertown</td>
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**Newsletter Submissions Due**
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<td>1</td>
<td>2 Plant Sale Meeting 9AM at Extension Office</td>
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<td>5 Chester-town Plant Clinic 8-noon Fountain Park</td>
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<td>10 Kent Island Plant Clinic 3:30-6:30 P.M.</td>
<td>11 Drop Off Plants for Plant Sale at Extension Office</td>
<td>12 Plant Sale 9-noon at the Extension Office</td>
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<td>13</td>
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<td>15 Bay-Wise Meeting 1:30 PM at the Extension Office</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17 Centreville Library Demogarden 9AM. Master Gardener Monthly Mtg 5:30 PM @ Centreville Library</td>
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<td>26 Chester-town Tea Party Plant Clinic Booth 8:30-4</td>
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<td>29 <em>RSVP For Cunningham Manor</em></td>
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*Newsletter Submissions Due*
May Newsletter Submission due on April 22nd

University of Maryland Extension
505 Railroad Avenue, Suite 4
Centreville MD, 21617
Phone: (410) 758-0166

QACMG Website: http://extension.umd.edu/queen-annes-county/master-gardener-home-gardening
QACMG Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/QueenAnnesCountyMasterGardeners

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Queen Anne’s County
505 Railroad Ave.
Suite 4
Centreville, MD 21617

Vision Statement: A healthier world through environmental stewardship