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Coordinator’s Corner

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my major surgery was really rough. I had to go under another two times after the initial surgery and stayed in the hospital for 10 days (it was supposed to be 5). Which was quite the rollercoaster of stress, anxiety, pain, and emotions. Things did start to settle by around March and there was progress little by little every day. I was just cleared by my doctor last week to resume regular daily activities like exercising and swimming (and farming). Thankfully, life feels much more normal now and the hard times feel like a distant memory.

The production garden is back in action! Dave was able to strip till the rye cover crop and I mowed the rest down. Then I raked the beds to make them as flat as I could and laid down some drip irrigation. Next step is to put down some black plastic mulch and start seeding! We will be growing shiso, carrots, lettuce, cucumbers, and summer squash. All proceeds go to the AAC Food Bank! We applied to the county executive grant with them during my medical leave and we should be hearing the results by July. If we do get the grant, it will help cover a lot of equipment to start producing salad greens for the food bank's mobile pantry efficiently and safely. We will be meeting every other Saturday from 9:30-11:30 am starting this Saturday.

Over winter, one of my hives did not make it T.T But we were able to split the hive that survived so we have two hives again, yay! Thank you Kim! If you are interested in beekeeping with us, I would recommend taking a beekeeping course first. You can take one online from UPENN extension or you can take one from our local county beekeepers association.

Let me know if you are interested in joining us for the production garden or beekeeping!

Stay hydrated and safe out there!

Maxine Yoon - maxyoon@umd.edu



EAB Corner

Spring has sprung and our 2025 Master Gardener season is underway. The Executive Advisory Board welcomed Trish Hennesey-Webb as our new board member after the February election. Trish brings a wealth of experience in environmental advocacy through her work with the Watershed Stewards Academy, as well as her volunteer engagement on other boards. One of the roles of our EAB members is as liaison to project chairs and co-chairs. On March 31st, we had a productive meeting together. The focus was on “Leadership in Volunteer Organizations”. We reviewed the past season and goals for this one and had an engaging presentation on this topic by Dr. Joseph Cho, State 4H Faculty.

We have also been engaging with other like-minded organizations in Anne Arundel County. Through the initiative of Pam Hanna (EAB member) and Kim Forry (Master Gardener), the Watershed Stewards Academy is partnering with the Ask A Master Gardener Severna Park project in the creation and maintenance of a native garden at the site. We are also sponsoring a joint field trip with the Maryland Native Plant Society and the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, on May 10th for a guided tour by Dennis Whigham to view native orchids in their natural habitat.

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Program the best it can be!

Catherine M. Salam
Chair, EAB

Apprentice Garden



Apprentice Garden meets at the Kinder Farm Park community garden #105 in Millersville, every Wednesday at 6:30PM, from April through September. The project is opening this month!

Educational Outreach Activities

- During May, we will continue to join the families and volunteers in the Apprentice Garden to work with our families to plan their 8' by 3.5' garden spaces. Families have planted various greens and early season seeds. They have continued to remove the crimson clover cover crop, and to enrich the soil with compost, as they have planted seeds and sets.

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- Volunteers are welcome every Wednesday at 6:30pm at the Apprentice Garden to tend the common spaces and to work with our family gardeners, answering their questions, and demonstrating how-to's. Occasional work parties are scheduled to continue tending and maintaining the common garden spaces, the native plant and pollinator gardens, and the garden pathways.
- Volunteers are scheduled for the next workparty, Wednesday, April 30, from 10 to 12, to clear the pathways, lay newspaper, and cover it with straw to prevent weeds throughout the season.

Accomplishments and Challenges

- The first meeting, an orientation for the parents and sign-painting for the children was held on Wednesday, April 2 in the Harvest Hall at the Kinder Farm Park Visitor's Center. On each Wednesday evening in April, Master Gardener volunteers met with the families, answered questions, assisted with planting early crops, and tended the common areas both inside and outside the fence.
- The family contact information sheets, the media consent forms, demographic information, and \$25 checks were delivered to the Extension office at the Dairy Farm. The family garden signs were shellacked and hung on the fence above their respective plots.
- Many thanks to our volunteers; Kathy Albers, Wendy Boardman, Kathy Enderle, Deb Fritz, Lourdes Hergenroeder, Elizabeth Hontz, Brandon McClary, Opie Owens, and Sharon Smith.
- Thank you to Deb for organizing the major repairs needed to the kiosk – to be accomplished in May!

All is well with the Apprentice Garden project. Janet Clauson and Kristin Silva, Co-chairs

Native Pollinators

The Native Pollinator Project continues into its fourth year of educating the public on native pollinators and how we can support them in our landscapes. This work is vital given the misunderstanding of many pollinators and their crucial role in keeping our ecosystems healthy and prosperous. Much of this education is done at community events. The Native Pollinators Project attends festivals, farmers markets, and other special events. This year,



The Tawes Garden MG team started the spring with a review of what we would like to accomplish this season. We plan to apply for a fall UnityGarden grant which, this year, will target a hillside area which we plan to convert from lirioppe to native shrubs and a suitable groundcover. This season we also hope to revitalize a herb and sensory garden at Tawes. We also are planning our third annual Native Plant Celebration, tentatively scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 13th, which will include displays and information on native pollinators and their habitats and Bay-friendly landscaping and lawn care. We will have tables from Watershed Stewards, DNR, and Master Gardeners, as well as dozens of native plants to be given away. Mark your calendars!

Tawes volunteers got off to a good start this spring with weeding and garden clean-up of the Plant Mural. Our first workdays also tackled the invasives that abound elsewhere in the garden – vinca, lirioppe, ivy, pachysandra. We cleared out dead wood and trimmed back shrubs. The garden already looks much more tidy. We have a great team of volunteers this season with lots of interns so it's a fun and very industrious group.

We meet every first and third Wednesday and second and fourth Tuesday of the month, 8am-12noon and welcome anyone interested in learning more about this hidden Annapolis garden.

Cindy Wells and Kathy Devine, Co-chairs

RePollinate AACO

Educational Outreach and Volunteer Activities

- Every Thursday 3-6
- Every Saturday 10-2

Accomplishments and Challenges:

RePollinate AACO will begin transplanting seedlings next Thursday, 8 May. We will supplement our inventory with BonaTerra seedlings also. Folks that are interested in volunteering should email lauren_toomey@hotmail.com to be added to the weekly distribution list.

RePollinate also had a visit from the Executive Director of Pollinator Pathway last week. AACO was responsible for establishing the Pollinator Pathway for both the state of Maryland and AACO. It was decided to rename it to RePollinate AACO to support our wonderful partnership program between the USGS Beelab, AACO Master Gardeners and AACO Watershed Steward Academy.

The Executive Director was able to tour some of our successful sites to include the Riva Trace community, Mayo Beach Park, and of course the Beelab (see photos).

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Hancock's
RESOLUTION

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Hancock Resolution's opened on Sunday, March 23rd which coincided with Maryland Day Weekend. Hancock's Resolution has been open on Sundays since except for Easter. Attendance has increased with interested members of the nearby community of Bayside Beach and participants in basketry and broom making workshops conducted on site. Last Sunday, members of a photography club came and captured images of plants, insects, and the weathered historic buildings.

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I successfully planted familiar herbs from seeds and propagated others with cuttings. I will offer an introductory talk on herbs at 2:00 on Sunday, May 18. This educational program is geared to park visitors eighteen and older and not Master Gardeners. The presentation I will give is the one developed by UME's Grow It Eat It program and is available for all Master Gardeners review and share.

[Year of Herbs | University of Maryland Extension](#)

I have had good volunteer response so far this year. Thank you, Master Gardeners Betsy Beck, Cathy Crowley, Ruth Ann Emmerich, Neva Leigh, Opie Owen, and Kay Stringfellow. Thanks also to Interns Sheila Carroll, and Johanna Espey and those who have signed up for future volunteer time slots. I am recruiting volunteers mostly from 1:00-4:00 on Sunday afternoons through October. The Sign-up Genius Link is <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4BA5A828AAFE8CF8-47950525-volunteer#/>

Note: Master Gardener Ruth Ann Emmerich will lead the May 4th work event, weather permitting. ruthannemmerich@gmail.com 443-694-2158

If you are not available to make scheduled volunteer events, let me know and I can find alternative tasks that can support the project.

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

Linthicum Walks

Our March and April workdays were lots of fun. We loved meeting interns and new MGs and welcome everyone to join us at our May 6 and May 20 workdays. Summer workdays will be announced in the Friday Flash soon. Our group is identifying/labeling desirable plants, removing invasives, updating the "What's in Bloom" bulletin board, and adopting an additional 400+ square feet garden bed (see photos below for our progress to date). Linthicum Walks will host Crofton HS pre-prom photos on May 16, a perfect opportunity for Master Gardener public outreach using our garden signage and beautiful plants. Last year, residents enjoyed our Monarch Waystation in prom dresses and tuxedos (see photos: www.historiclinthicumwalks.org/post/crofton-high-school-prom).

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this month. Address: 2295 Davidsonville Road, Gambrills/Crofton, MD 21054. Look for the large maroon/white Historic LinthicumWalks sign at the driveway entrance.

Ingrid Watson (Project Chair)

Before:



During:



Ask A Master Gardeners

We are off to a great start! The SP Farmer's Market is heading into its third week as of May 3rd. We greeted our family of vendors with the new Plant Clinic Garden having leveled out most of the piles and planted so many new "babies" donated by organizations and fellow Master Gardeners. Last week we answered questions and shared our progress with eighty-eight visitors -a record number at our site! We have had new team members, substitute volunteers, and numerous Interns. If you are interested in joining us, please email aamgfridayflash@gmail.com The weather has been beautiful, and the rain has held off despite predictions.

We continue to ask for clean gallon containers to water the new plant material. As more new plants are installed, we will need even more gallon jugs and anyone is welcome to bring filled jugs of water, not just the plant clinic folks!

Come visit us, take a garden stroll, and share our excitement

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