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# The Green Thumb

A Newsletter of Extension Horticultural Activities and Events

For York County Extension Volunteers

Aug 2009  
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Joe Ranalli  
Editor

## Future Calendar Events

Sept 7	Labor Day – Extension Office Closed
Sept 8	2009 Peninsula Master Gardener Training Begins @ Northside Christian Church
Sept 8 9:30-11:30a	Monthly Programming Meeting @ St. Luke's Methodist Church
Sept 9-10	Virginia Environmental Education Training @ Hampton University
Sept 10	2009 Peninsula Master Gardener Training (Basic Botany) @ Northside Christian
Sept 12 10a-12 p	Cool Season Lawn Clinic @ Ken Matthews Garden Center (Grafton - Route 17)
Sept 12	Community Garden Festival, VA Beach (Contact VA Beach Ext office 385-4769)
Sept 15	2009 Peninsula Master Gardener Trng (Soils/Fertilizers)@Northside Christian
Sept 16 12-1 p	Gardening HearSay Radio Program, WHRV 89.5 FM, 1-800-940-2240
Sept 16 9-11a	Hort. Extravaganza Curriculum Dev. Committee Mtg, Ext. Office. Donna Gorcys 872-0663
Sept 17	2009 Peninsula Master Gardener Trng (Lawns) @ Northside Christian Church
Sept 22	2009 Peninsula Master Gardener Trng (Woody Plants) @ Northside Christian
Sept 22	Hort. Therapy @ York Convalescent Center. Contact Carol-Marie Kiernan 890-1289
Sept 24	2009 Peninsula Master Gardener Trng (Plant Identification)@Northside Christian
Sept 26	Go Green-Save Green, MidTown Comm. Ctr, Sponsored by NN Ext Office 591-4838
Sept 29	2009 Peninsula Master Gardener Trng (Basic Entomology) @Northside Christian
Oct 3 9a-12p	Landscape Extravaganza, St Joan of Arc, schedule ready after 1 Sept @ <a href="http://www.yorkcounty.gov/vce">www.yorkcounty.gov/vce</a>

For additions/corrections to the Calendar of Events, contact Joe Ranalli at 868-3429 or [pd422vt@aol.com](mailto:pd422vt@aol.com) (put **Green Thumb in the subject line**), or Becky Wells at 890-4940. The deadline for *The Green Thumb* is ALWAYS the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.

**Email address update for Eleanor Hill:** [eleanorb.hill@gmail.com](mailto:eleanorb.hill@gmail.com). Sarah Kressaty's new mailing address: 3726 Mariner's Dr, Hayes, VA 23072. No new phone number yet.



### Master Gardener Mission Statement

*Our mission, as trained volunteers in partnership with the York County, Virginia Cooperative Extension Agent, is to provide horticultural educational opportunities to the public through research-based horticultural programs and activities to enhance our environment, lives and community.*

[www.ext.vt.edu](http://www.ext.vt.edu)

Extension is a joint program of Virginia Tech, Virginia State University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and state and local governments.

Virginia Cooperative Extension programs and employment are open to all, regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status. An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

## Greetings from Jim

By the time that you read this, I will have completed my 33<sup>rd</sup> summer 4-H Camp, and my last. Preparation for camp is a time hog. Thank you to everyone for your help with preparation and your patience with the office. Thanks also to all who volunteered to teach a class at camp, to stay all week, and others that were so helpful to the success of camp. Thank you also for your help in answering the phones as well as help with the soil test kits. As of July 1, the cost for soil sampling services has increased (still a deal). Please make people aware of this when dealing with them.

### New Cost per sample

Soil Test desired	In-state	Out-of-state
Routine	\$10.00	\$16.00
Organic Matter	\$4.00	\$6.00
Soluble Salts	\$2.00	\$3.00
Fax Results	\$1.00	\$2.00

Thanks, Jim

### Unit Coordinator's Corner – Patsy Wells

I am still in fantasy cooking mode here in our Queens Lake kitchen remodel. Things are ahead of schedule and going well. A lot of you have voted and the consensus is for a Potluck Italian Social in October. (There were no nays) If you know what type of food you would like to make zing me an email. The categories are appetizer, main, side, salad and dessert. I am going to see what I can find out about Italian Ice. Zing me an email with the number of participants from your family. This will be great fun. If you are traveling this summer be safe and we will see you in September.

### Horticultural Therapy Reminder

Please remember to save laundry caps for Horticultural Therapy over the summer! We are getting low on them. Caps can be dropped off at the Extension office, or held for the September meeting. Thanks, Carol-Marie Kiernan ([drbellwood@verizon.net](mailto:drbellwood@verizon.net))

### Williamsburg Botanical Garden Learn and Grow Educational Series

The Williamsburg Botanical Garden presents their Monthly Learn and Grow Educational Series, "Photography in the Garden" with Jackie Camire, Norfolk Master Gardener and Fine Art Photographer on Saturday, August 15, 2009 (Rain Date August 22nd) 10:00-11:00 AM 5535 Centerville Road (Freedom Park - intersection of Centerville & Longhill Roads). Nature, wildlife, and landscapes can be fantastic subjects for fine art photographs. Let a Master Gardener/Photographer explain how she does it, then follow up with a hands-on demonstration on how to take great pictures in an outdoor garden setting. Bring a water bottle and your camera. Admission is free. Williamsburg Botanical Garden 757-229-7265 [www.williamsburgbotanicalgarden.org](http://www.williamsburgbotanicalgarden.org) (Clare Britcher, WBG Programs Volunteer, 229-7265)

## **Master Gardener Training Class 2009**

The Fall '09 class has been chosen. We will have twelve interns. Congratulations to: Mary Buckelew, Joe Bussey, Melissa Carlson, Susan Dexter, Peggy Fink, Marilee Hawkins, Theresa Jones, Louise Lynch, Gary Parks, Mary Roberts, Viola Ross, and Kathy Thomasson. Thanks to everyone for recruiting! (Rebecca Cho, [tombeccacho@cox.net](mailto:tombeccacho@cox.net))

### **2009 Lawn Team Clinics Update**

August 29, 2009 Saturday 10:00-12:00 – Cool Season Turfgrass Maintenance Clinic – True Value Hardware. Carl Ennis will be the primary lead; Joanne Roberts, Evelyn Parker, and Mary Francis Baker will assist.

September 12, 2009 Saturday 10:00-12:00 – Cool Season Turfgrass Maintenance Clinic 2 – Ken Matthews Garden Center. Evelyn Parker will be the primary lead; Karen Ward will assist. (Mitch Wauhoh, [Wauhoh@cox.net](mailto:Wauhoh@cox.net)). Lawn Team Coordinator

### **Master Gardeners – A Valuable Resource**

The USDA recently published a press release that describes the Extension Master Gardener program in glowing terms. The release (USDA Release No. 0298.09) is available online at the following website: [http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/!ut/p/s.7\\_0\\_A/7\\_0\\_1OB?contentidonly=true&contentid=2009/07/0298.xml](http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/!ut/p/s.7_0_A/7_0_1OB?contentidonly=true&contentid=2009/07/0298.xml). This is great publicity for the Extension Master Gardener program. Please take the time to read this outstanding article.

### **2009 Landscape Extravaganza**

Mark your calendars for the 2009 Landscape Extravaganza on Saturday, October 3, from 9 to 12 noon, at St. Joan of Arc Church in Yorktown. Schedule to be posted after September 1. Register online after September 1 at [www.yorkcounty.gov](http://www.yorkcounty.gov). A morning of educational classes that address expressed horticultural questions and programs requested by York County citizens. Some topics include: Pitfalls in Home Landscaping, Attracting birds into your Landscape, and more. This program is free.

### **4-H Flag Heads into Space Aboard Shuttle Endeavor**

The National 4-H flag was carried into space aboard the Space Shuttle Endeavour recently as part of the STS-127 mission. The flag, featuring the familiar 4-H clover, was originally scheduled to head into space earlier this year, but was delayed a record five times before finally lifting off in mid-July.

“The inclusion of the 4-H flag on this mission reflects the commitment 4-H has to building young leaders in science, engineering and technology,” said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. “As the global economy expands, these leaders will strengthen the United States' global competitiveness and leadership in these fields.”

4-H promotes positive youth development, facilitates learning and engages youth in the work of the land-grant universities and USDA to enhance their quality of life. Nearly 7 million youth, ages 5-19, participate in 4-H youth development experiences in all 50 states, territories and military installations worldwide.

## Instructions for Accessing and Using the York County MG Timesheet 2009 (word version) from the YCMG Website

This procedure will allow you to electronically save and then submit your timesheet to Terry Hanson on a monthly basis using email

1. Go to: [www.yorkcounty.gov/vce/progareas/mastergardeners/mgs.htm](http://www.yorkcounty.gov/vce/progareas/mastergardeners/mgs.htm) (This is the website for York County Master Gardeners)
2. At the screen scroll down to “forms” at bottom of screen; select (single click) time sheet (word.doc) – You will be prompted to either “open”, “save” or “cancel” this action. Choose “save”.
3. Save the file to your “desktop” folder – this way it will be readily accessible.
  - a. File name will come up as 2009 Time Sheet – save as a Microsoft Word Doc.
  - b. You will be prompted with an indicator that the “download is complete”. The file now rests in desktop folder and is accessible for entries on a regular routine without having to access the internet.
  - c. Each time you fill it in save the update as you would a normal word file. On the worksheet, use the highlighter function to indicate category rather than “circling” the category of volunteer work number.
4. On a monthly (or periodic) basis, send the updated time sheet to Terry via email. ([hanson5t@cox.net](mailto:hanson5t@cox.net))
  - a. Make your email subject: 2009 Time Sheet
  - b. When you start your email, click “attach file”. This will lead you to your choice of files on your home computer, from your desktop folder select your 2009 Time Sheet word document, then click “attach” or “open” and this will place your file into your email note as an attachment.
  - c. Send your email to Terry.
5. During the next month as you update your hours on your desktop file you can either repeat the above steps to retrieve a new Time Sheet or simply delete your old data from the current file and update it with the new month’s hourly data. **Remember that before deleting any data ensure that you have kept a copy of the previous form for yourself (either electronically in your desktop folder or in hardcopy form).**
6. Be sure to remember to keep current the “Carry forward hours” and “MG hours” sections on each month’s time sheet.

Please provide feedback to [hanson5t@cox.net](mailto:hanson5t@cox.net) or [pd422vt@aol.com](mailto:pd422vt@aol.com). Thank you.

Please continue to record your hours for all programs and activities that you do as a Master Gardener for the York Extension office. Remember that we want to get a true representation of the volunteer time donated to Extension in 2009. I appreciate you keeping up with this and all that you do for Extension.

