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The Green Thumb

A Newsletter of Extension Horticultural Activities and Events

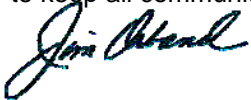
For York County Extension Volunteers

Sep 2009
Vol.10, Issue 9
Joe Ranalli
Editor

Future Calendar Events

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| October 1 | 2009 Peninsula Master Gardener Trng (Plant Propagation) @ Northside Christian Church – Rt 17 |
| Oct 3 9a – 12p | Fall Landscape Extravaganza, St. Joan of Arc Church, www.yorkcounty.gov/vce |
| October 6 | 2009 Peninsula Master Gardener Trng (Plant Pathology/Plant Damage) @ Northside Christian Church – Rt 17 |
| October 8 | 2009 Peninsula Master Gardener Trng (Water Quality) @ Northside Christian |
| Oct 10 8a – 12p | YCMG @ 3 rd Annual Farmer's Market @ Riverwalk Landing, Contact Jean Thompson @ 890-0784 to volunteer assistance |
| Oct 11 12 – 3p | York County MG Social |
| October 13 | 2009 Peninsula Master Gardener Trng (Trees) @ Northside Christian Church |
| Oct 13 9:30-11:30a | Monthly Programming Meeting @ St. Luke's Methodist Church |
| October 15 | 2009 Peninsula Master Gardener Trng (Pruning) @ New Quarter Park |
| October 20 | 2009 Peninsula Master Gardener Trng (Landscape Design/Herbaceous Plants) @ Northside Christian Church |
| Oct 21 12 – 1p | Gardening HearSay Radio Program, WHRV 89.5 FM, 1-800-940-2240 |
| October 22 | 2009 Peninsula Master Gardener Trng (Plant Intro) @ Northside Christian |
| October 27 | 2009 Peninsula Master Gardener Trng (Integrated Pest Mgmt) @ Northside Christian |
| October 29 | 2009 Peninsula Master Gardener Trng (Principles of Organic Horticulture) @ Northside Christian Church |

For additions/corrections to the Calendar of Events, contact Joe Ranalli at 868-3429 or 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 15th of the month. **E-Mail changes:** If you have changes to any of the methods of communication to you please notify Becky. We want to keep all communication channels open.



Help needed in the Learning Garden on Thursday mornings!

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

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

As the summer winds down, the program gears up. On page 4, you can see all of the wonderful educational opportunities that you can participate in. If there is enough interest in any one event, I would be glad to try to arrange a County van for transportation. I hope that you will be available to attend one of the programs.

Please save the date: Oct 11 – the Master Gardener Social. I hope that I have to use a wide-angle lens this year because there are so many people present. See you then!



Thanks!
Jim

Unit Coordinator's Corner – Patsy Wells

I am off taking a break from the grueling job of watching people work and waiting for phone calls and inspectors that never materialize. We are in the glorious woods of the Blue Ridge Parkway with Pileated Woodpeckers calling and hanging around in the trees right outside the cabin windows. The Joe-Pye weed is in bloom as well as the native coneflowers and Black-eyed Susans. I also saw turtlehead flower, a first for me. So tomorrow we return home, to finish the job and look forward to a fall of Master Gardener activities, a new class of interns, Landscape Extravaganza, Market Days, Christmas decorations and our MG social. See you at the Meeting!

Learning Garden

The Learning Garden has been busy through the summer. The watering schedule was intense as some of the shrubs that barely made it through the past few summers were showing signs of stress. Many thanks to Joe, who took over the Rhododendrons – almost a full time job keeping them watered. As fall approaches we will be weeding, mulching, and planting. Many hands are greatly appreciated, Thursday mornings 9:30- noon. We usually have a fall work day, so stay tuned. As with your yard, we will have lots of leaves to take care of.....a seemingly endless supply! In September I will be turning the reigns of Learning Garden Coordinator over to Carol Bartram. I know she appreciates the volunteers who come out, both those who come every week as well as those who can show up every so often. This summer we received some trellises from Ken Matthews Garden Center. There is one at the entrance to the Shade Garden and Azalea Area. The other all the way down at the other end of the garden at the pathway into the Trees and Shrubs Area. Come and see the garden as it changes through the seasons. (Janet Ledebuhr, queenofseaford@yahoo.com)

Loudon County Master Gardeners Association Demo Garden

Members of the YCMG Learning Garden visited the Loudon County Demo Garden on July 23 at Ida Lee Park in Leesburg, VA. Our group had the opportunity to see the results of the Loudon County MG Association dedicated work of 17 years to their gardens. Areas toured included the Raised Vegetable Beds (produce donated to Interfaith Relief), Heritage Garden (circa 1770's plantings), Children's Garden, Butterfly Garden (shaped in the manner of a Butterfly), Ornamental Grasses, Turf Plots Demonstration, Compost and Mulch Bins, and "Wedding" Garden. For additional information visit: www.loudoncountymastergardeners.org



Time Keeping

Thank you to those of you who have sent me your hours over the summer. Did any of you try to follow the instructions that were given in the last Green Thumb for keeping your hours on your computer and sending them to me via email? Give it a try, you might like it!! We are too quickly approaching the end of another year. Remember you need 20 hours of service and 8 hours of education. If you have not met those requirements, call the office and see what they need done. (Terry Hanson, Hanson5t@cox.net)

2009 Lawn Clinics

The final Cool Season Turfgrass Maintenance Clinic for 2009 will be held Saturday, September 12, 2009, 10:00a – 12:00p @ Ken Matthews Garden Center. Primary lead is Karen Ward with Harry Haley and Agnes Evans assisting. Eighteen (18) brand new posters have been received from the printers for use by Master Gardeners during lawn clinics. (Mitch Wauhopp, Wauhopp@cox.net, Lawn Team Coordinator)

2009 Peninsula Master Gardener Training

2009 Training commences Tuesday, September 8, running through mid-November at Northside Christian Church on Route 17. Be sure to check the monthly calendar and Future Calendar events sections of the *Green Thumb* each month to ascertain the dates of instruction and class matter for each day of instruction. (Rebecca Cho, tombeccacho@cox.net)

September/October Educational Opportunities

- September 12th, 10 am to 3 pm, the **10th Annual Community Gardening Festival: “Spring into Fall”**, presented by the Virginia Beach Master Gardeners. Speakers and Topics include Turf Grasses for Hampton Roads (Jim Orband), Herbs (Cynthia Wyskiewicz), Camellias (Mike Andruczyk) and Sustainable Landscaping Practices (Laurie Fox). Additionally, proper mulching and composting will be demonstrated, and the Plant Clinic and Tree Stewards will also be available to diagnose plant and tree problems and answer gardening questions. For more information visit www.vbmg.org or contact the Virginia Beach Cooperative Extension Office @ 757 385-4769.
- September 13th, at the Women’s Club in Newport News, The Virginia Peninsula Rose Society (VPRS) will conduct a Rose Show for beginners starting at 2pm. Rose growers are invited to participate in the show. The show will consist of two Divisions: a Horticultural Division (conducted by Joy Long); and an Arrangement Division (conducted by Marti Youmans). The show is for all rose growers who have not won a trophy at a rose show and entry by others who desire to learn more about how to prepare their roses and rose arrangements for show competition are welcome to participate. The Horticultural Division includes large and miniatures roses displayed as single specimens or in clusters. A good exhibition hybrid tea should be about 18-21" long. The stem on a miniature should be around 6-7" long, depending on the size of the bloom head. The Arrangement Division’s theme is: “Back to School”. Individuals participating in the Arrangement Division will bring their own backdrops. Individuals participating in the show must register their entries by 2:00 pm on the 13th. Water filled vases and entry tags will be provided. Trophies will be awarded for best rose and best arrangements. This rose show will provide education on the fundamentals of grooming roses for entry into a rose show by Mrs. Joy Long, Mrs. Marti Youmans and other VPRS Consulting Rosarians. Directions to the Women’s Club: from I-64: Take Exit 258-A (Route 17) West/J Clyde Morris Blvd. Follow J. Clyde Morris Blvd. Cross Jefferson Ave. The entrance to the Women’s Club is two traffic lights after you cross Jefferson Ave. On the right hand side on the road just before you get to Riverside Hospital. Please RSVP to Robert Little (Consulting Rosarian) at 757 851-1140 ASAP.
- September 17th @ 7pm in the Fred Heutte Center, 1000 Botetourt Gardens, Norfolk, VA: **Urban Garden Lecture Series: Growing Fall Vegetables** -- Great satisfaction and pride come from growing your own vegetables, not to mention counting your savings! From initial plant selection, soil preparation, planting, care, and harvesting, Portsmouth Extension Horticulture Agent, Cyndi Wyskiewicz, covers all the steps required to successfully grow fall vegetables. You’ll be surprised at the quantity and quality of vegetables a small urban garden plot can produce! The session is free for members, \$5 for non-members. Pre-registration is requested! Call 757 441-2513 or send an email to fhcgarden@cox.net to register.
- September 19, 2009, 8:30 am (registration) to 4:30 pm, the Henrico Master Gardener Association is offering the **Henrico Harvest Fair** in cooperation with Virginia Cooperative Extension and Henrico Recreation and Parks at Armour House and Gardens at Meadowview in eastern Henrico County. This is the second year of the Henrico Harvest Fair. The Master Gardeners have coordinated a great offering of classes, hands-on workshops, demonstrations, garden-related vendors and food vendors, as well as the Green Elephant Sale. Pre-registration for classes has already opened and will continue to September 4th and is first-come, first-serve. After that, registration will be taken at the door. The registration form can be found at www.co.henrico.va.us/extension or you can call Lisa Sanderson, Henrico Extension Office, 804 501-5160, for additional information.
- September 26, 2009, 9am-12:45pm, Newport News Master Gardeners present **Go Green - \$ave Green**, a program designed to offer homeowners Earth-friendly landscaping, lawn care and water use techniques that are money-saving and practical. Located at the Brittingham-Midtown Comm. Center, 570 McLawhorne Dr, Newport News. Registration: <http://nnmastergardeners.org/files/registration%20flier.pdf>
- October 3, 2009, 9am-12pm @ St. Joan of Arc Church in Yorktown on Route 17, **Fall Landscape Extravaganza**. Register by e-mail to ex199@vt.edu, or phone 890-4940. 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, Bulbs, and more. This program is free.
- October 13, 2009, 9:30am to 3 pm @ Tufton Farm (near Monticello): **“Moving Toward Sustainability”**, a joint Master Gardener – Master Naturalist Training Program. Registration is now open. The Registration Form is posted on the VMGA website-- type in www.vmga.net; click on Educational Events; the Home page and the Calendar pages have links to the form. Program is open to all Master Gardener/Master Naturalist Volunteers; cost is \$10.00 for VGMA Members and Master Naturalists (all others - \$20.00). Box Lunch is available by pre-order (\$10.00). Take advantage of the rare [and low-cost] chance to tour Tufton Farm and the Historic Plant Garden with the Director; other topics include wildlife and butterfly Habitats, Invasive plants/Native replacements and fall/winter season vegetables. An optional tour of the Monticello Flower and Vegetable Gardens is available for \$10 after the program. This is the first of the 2009-2010 FY VMGA Continuing Education programs.

September 2009

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3 9:30a Learning Garden	4	5
6	7 Labor Day – Ext. Office Closed	8 9a-12p Peninsula MG Training (Orientation) 9:30 – 11:30 Monthly Programming Meeting, St. Luke's Methodist Church	9	10 9a-12p Peninsula MG Training (Basic Botany) 9:30a Learning Garden	11	12 10a – 12p Cool Season Turfgrass Maint. Clinic @ Ken Matthews Garden Ctr 8a-12p Market Days @ Riverwalk. Contact Jean Thompson 890-0784
13	14	15 9a-12p Peninsula MG Training (Soils/Fertilizers) Green Thumb Deadline to Joe Ranalli	16 12 – 1pm Gardening HearSay Radio Program, WHRV 89.5 1-800-940-2240	17 9a-12p Peninsula MG Training (Lawns) 9:30a Learning Garden 7p – Fred Heutte Center – Urban Garden Lecture Series: Growing Fall Vegetables, call 757 441-2513 or email fhcgarden@cox.net to register	18 7 pm Horticultural Society Meeting	19 8:30a – 4:30p Henrico Harvest Fair Presented by the Henrico MG Assoc. @ Armour House and Gardens at Meadowview, registration info can be found at www.co.henrico.va.us/extension or call 804 501-5160
20	21	22 <i>Autumn begins</i> 9a-12p Peninsula MG Training (Woody Plants) 10a -12p Horticultural Therapy @ York County Convalescence Center	23	24 9a-12p Peninsula MG Training Field Trip @ Smithfield Gardens (Plant ID) 9:30a Learning Garden	25	26 8a-12p Market Days @ Riverwalk. Contact Jean Thompson 890-0784 9a-12:45p NN MG "Go Green - Save Green" Brittingham- Midtown Comm. Center
27	28	29 9a-12p Peninsula MG Training (Basic Entomology)	30			Mark your calendar: Fall Extravaganza: 3 Oct, 9a-12p at St Joan of Arc Church, Yorktown