



# Macomb County Master Gardener Association Monthly News

April 2019 -----

*Happy Spring!*



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## General Information

**Membership Forms and Project Grant forms are always available on the MCMGA website**

**Next Board of Directors Meeting is April 17 at 2:00 p.m.**

**Quarterly meeting April 18, following the educational program. Refreshments will be available. Come say “Hi” to your fellow Master Gardeners!**



## Educational Programs



To register for any of the following events, please Email: [macombcountymga@yahoo.com](mailto:macombcountymga@yahoo.com) Please remember to bring your membership card and wear your MG badge to all events.

**2019**

**Thursday April 18, 2019**



**“Seed Starting”**, William Jaquinde, MSU Tollgate Market Manager will lend his expertise on everything you need to know and consider when starting plants from seed. 6:30-7:30 P.M. at the Mt. Clemens Library, 150 Cass Avenue. **Free to MCMGA Members + 1 guest. \$5.00 each for all others. Quarterly Meeting to follow. (1.0 education hour—Project area: Environmental Stewardship—Soils/Soil Testing).**



Lynn from English Gardens will be at this event to sell the Flower of the Month on the spot. She will have samples of the flowers and plants to show attendees.

**MCMGA Quarterly Meeting will follow. Please attend.**

**Tuesday May 14, 2019**



**“Heirloom Vegetables”**, Former Macomb MSUE consumer horticulture coordinator and Master Gardener Mary Gerstenberger. This presentation will cover what is an heirloom vegetable, what are the benefits or drawbacks of growing them, where can we get seeds or plants to grow our own heirlooms. 6:30-7:30 P.M. at the Mt. Clemens Library, 150 Cass Avenue. **Free to MCMGA Members + 1 guest. \$5.00 for all others. (1.0 education hour—Project area: Food-General Gardens)**

**Wednesday June 12, 2019**

**“The Rose – Unequaled by Any Other Plant Form”**. Duane DeDene, American Rose Society (ARS) certified Master Consulting Rosarian and current President of the Metropolitan Rose Society. This presentation has something for everyone – beginner to master gardener/rosarian. The colorful program provides insight into the various types or classes of roses focusing on those most commercially available and their sources It will then discuss the ins and outs of what to look for when purchasing a rose, describe how to plant roses as well as give tips on caring for your roses throughout the year. 6:30-8 P.M. at the Mt. Clemens Library, 150 Cass Ave. **Free to MCMGA Members + 1 guest. \$5.00 for all others. (1.5 education hours--Project area: Community Beautification--Public Areas)**



**Saturday June 22  
MCMGA Garden Tour  
More Details Coming Soon!**



Thursday July 18, 2019

**"Butterfly Gardening"**. John Blair, will share his more than 20 years of experience in designing native habitats for attracting butterflies and hummingbirds. 6:30-7:30 P.M. at the Mt. Clemens Library, 150 Cass Ave. Free to MCMGA Members + 1 guest. \$5.00 for all others. **Quarterly Meeting to Follow. (1.0 education hour—Project area: Environmental Stewardship: IPM-Pollinators)**

**MCMGA Quarterly Meeting will follow. Please attend.**



**Janet Macunovich Doubleheader!**

**Tuesday August 13, 2019**

***"Plant it Well, Even When the Roots are Wrong"***

and

***"Weeds: To Know Them is to Beat Them"***

Janet Macunovich, author of several gardening books, newspaper columnist and provider of the on-line gardening help site, Garden A to Z will give two presentations. First up is "Plant it Well, Even When the Roots are Wrong." As Janet explains, the gardening community, nation-wide, is already suffering the effects and facing even more calamity because of the condition of roots in nearly all woody plants being produced. It is very likely the people doing the planting and aftercare have absolutely no idea of what's up. The root situation causes immediate failures, but even worse it causes poor growth, health problems, and plant death in the long run. In her presentation, she will explain the problem, help people recognize the symptoms in the plants they are growing and buying, and demonstrate individual-planting solutions. Next up is "Weeds: To Know Them is to Beat Them." This is one of Janet's most popular presentations and she gives an in-depth look at how remove weeds and keep them out of the garden, with many how-to examples featuring some of the most common and worst weeds a gardener confronts. **6:00-8:00 PM** at the Mt. Clemens Library, 150 Cass Ave. **\$5.00 to MCMGA Members and \$10.00 for all others. (2.0 education hours--Project area: Community Beautification --Public areas)**

Thursday September 5, 2019

**"Healthy Soils and Wise Fertilizing"**. Sue Grubba, landscape designer since 1985 and founder of the company, Creative Scapes. Sue's presentation is built along the premise that healthy soil is the key to gardening success. Learn how focusing on soil and fertilizer can eliminate many other chores and problems. You'll see what's in the soil, how to change it and how it affects our choice of plants, soil additives and planting techniques. 6:30-7:30 P.M. at the Mt. Clemens Library, 150 Cass Ave. Free to MCMGA Members + 1 guest. \$5.00 for all others. **Annual Meeting to follow. (1.0 education hour—Project area: Environmental Stewardship: Soils/Soil Testing)**



**MCMGA Annual Meeting will follow. Please attend!**

Wednesday October 9, 2019

**"Bees, Pollination and Beekeeping"**. Dave Putt, Advanced Master Gardener and MCMGA Board Member, will begin by explaining the many different types of bees in Michigan and their role as pollinators. This will be followed by a primer on beekeeping with emphasis on how you can become a beekeeper. 6:30-7:30 P.M. at the Mt. Clemens

Library, 150 Cass Ave. Free to MCMGA Members + 1 guest. \$5.00 for all others. **(1.0 education hour—Project area: Environmental Stewardship: IPM -Pollinators.)**

**Tuesday November 12, 2019**

**“Succulents”.** George Papadelis, owner of Telly’s Greenhouse will share his knowledge of growing and selecting succulents for your home and garden. 6:30-7:30 P.M. at the Mt. Clemens Library, 150 Cass Ave. Free to MCMGA Members + 1 guest. \$5.00 for all others. **(1.0 education hour--Project area: Community Beautification--Public Areas)**

**Education Hours 2019:**

**January 17,** Starting Dahlia’s Indoors, Project area: Community Beautification: Public Areas..... 1 Hr.

**February 9,** Orchard Restoration and Pruning Program, Project area: Food: Produce for Donation – St. John and Paul Church Apple Orchard..... 2 Hrs.

**March 26,** Wildflowers in Michigan Gardens Project area: Environmental Stewardship—Native Plants...2 Hrs.

## Fundraisers

### English Gardens Flower of the Month - \$35.00 for the Year!

How to Order: Fundraiser only gets credit when you order via one of these 3 methods:

1. Call or text Lynn at 586-604-6907, mention Macomb County Master Gardener’s when ordering
2. Online: [adxionline.com](http://adxionline.com) Put “Macomb county Master Gardener’s and the start date you would like in the notes section, or
3. By mail: ADXL Promotions Put “Macomb County Master Gardener’s” in memo section. 48542 Van Dyke Ste. 100, Shelby Twp., MI 48317

### Kroger Rewards:

This is a great program, just sign up and Kroger does the rest, all at no cost to you. Having a Kroger card does not automatically sign you up for the Community Rewards.

The Kroger Co. Family of Stores is committed to bringing hope and help to the local neighborhoods we call home. Our stores are on a mission to go beyond being a part of the community to also helping create a stronger community. We appreciate your participation in our Community Rewards program to help accomplish that mission!

We have recently upgraded our Community Rewards system, and as a result, your Non-Profit Organization (NPO) has a new account number. **(CQ024)** Please reference the new number when contacting us for assistance. New members can enroll by searching for either the **new number** or the **name of your organization**.

Kroger Community Rewards.com

Sign in/Register for Kroger Rewards Account

Proceed as directed

Edit Kroger Community Rewards, enter Kroger Plus Card #

Enter NPO – CQ024 or Macomb County Master Gardener Association

You will see group name on right side of page. Questions/Problems: 877-576-7587

## MCMGA Items Available for Purchase

The MCMGA now has totes and aprons available for purchase at our meetings. Totes have end pockets and zipper. Aprons have front pockets. Cost is \$15.00 for bags and aprons, \$12.00 for mugs.



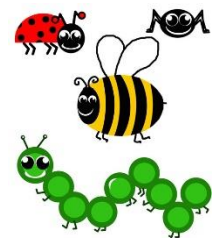
## Other Educational Events and Opportunities:

### Yardeners of St. Clair Shores

All Presentations are free and will be held at the St. Clair Shores Library located at the corner of 11 Mile & Jefferson

#### MONDAY, APRIL 8th - 7pm "SMALL WONDERS OF THE EARTH...WHY WE NEED BUGS?"

presentation by Mike Reed. Mike has over 25 years of making people aware of the value of some of the earth's smaller critters. He has mentored students of all ages with local elementary students giving him the nickname: the "Spiderman". He will show us the world of spiders in our gardens.



#### SATURDAY, JUNE 8 – 9am to noon YARDENERS NATIVE PLANT SALE



Advanced orders encouraged, MAY 24 is the deadline to place your order for pick up on the day of the sale at the **Selinsky- Green Farmhouse Museum** behind the St. Clair Shores Library parking lot, located at the corner of 11 Mile and Jefferson. This is your opportunity to introduce or add native plants to your gardens. When we grow native plants in our own yards, we create vital Michigan habitat areas to help ensure the continued existence of both plants and wildlife. Native plants are beautiful and they attract birds, butterflies and bees, all important pollinators. **Order forms and information is found at the end of this newsletter.**

The Yardeners of St. Clair Shores is a non-profit group dedicated to achieving beneficial environmental results by teaching and practicing earth friendly gardening. This includes the use of Native Plants, wildlife habitat landscaping, composting and Integrated Pest Management minimizing the use of harmful chemicals. The funds we raise go back into the community through donations, educational programs and planting projects. For more information please contact Laurel Fowler at (586) 415-7110 or email [scsyardeners@gmail.com](mailto:scsyardeners@gmail.com). Everyone is welcome to attend Yardener meetings. There are no fees or dues to pay nor is membership required. The scheduled meeting dates are February 11, May 13, June 10, July 8, August 12, September 9, and November 25 at 7:00 pm. All meetings are held at the St. Clair Shores Library at the corner of 11 Mile and Jefferson.



# Friendly Gardener

**Location: Riverwood Community Church (Directions below)**

**Guests are welcome.** Guests please fill out a **green information** slip on your **first** visit.

**SEED & BULB EXCHANGE APRIL & MAY:** Label with name and color, sun/shade and place in a bag/envelope. Please no loose bulbs or seeds. These can be placed on the “New Home” table.

**NEEDS A NEW HOME TABLE:** Members may bring any gardening related items they no longer want. Plants, garden themed jewelry, garden tools, placemats, napkins, mugs, garden books & magazines and other household items with garden themes. Members need to take back anything that is not taken *unless* it is small and fits into a single plastic storage container.

**APRIL 11, 2019 SUE GRUBBA \*\*\* 7:00 pm \*\*\* \$3 donation appreciated**

**Winning Annuals & Perennials for Michigan Gardens**

Are you looking for a special plant to add to your garden, but just don't know where to turn? This class offers an in-depth view on a variety of flowering plants, each of which has the characteristics to make them “winning plants” for your yard.



**MAY 9, 2019: TOOL SHARPENING BY JON LINDNER**

Pruners \$1, Ax/Hatchet \$2, Shovel \$3, Lawn Mower Blade \$5.

**MAY 9, 2019: 2019: JEAN PERSELY \*\*\* 7:00 pm \*\*\* \$3 donation appreciated**



**Pick a Pollinator!** We all love to love honey, but did you know that pollinators are more than just honey bees? Who else pollinates flowers? What food requires pollination? When you pick any one pollinator to focus on, they all win! Let's explore which pollinators like which plants as well as how and why we should create pollinator habitats.

**Meeting Donation:** To cover expenses a **donation of \$3** per meeting is appreciated. Please avoid paying with coins if possible, this helps make counting easier.

**Directions to Riverwood Community Church:**

12000 Clinton River Road, Sterling Heights, MI 48313

Located on west side of Clinton River Road, south of 19 mile \*\*\* Next (north) to Farmstead Park

**For more information contact:** [gailstraughen@gmail.com](mailto:gailstraughen@gmail.com)

**Recycling Events at Sterling Hts. DPW: 7200 18 MILE RD. (just west of Van Dyke)**

**APRIL 6 HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

**APRIL 13 ELECTRONICS RECYCLING 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

## Homemakers & Handymen

The Homemakers and Handymen group will have a presentation and be discussing "Spring Gardening" on Thursday, **April 4, 2019**, starting at 7:00 p.m. Free program and everyone is welcome. Mary Gerstenberger will give the presentation and lead the discussion. Meeting is held at the Metropolitan Church of the Nazarene, 18945 Frazho Rd., Roseville. If you have questions you can contact Mary at [mgmgerst4x4@gmail.com](mailto:mgmgerst4x4@gmail.com)



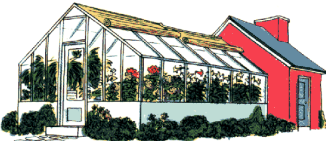
## Meadow Brook Garden Club Programs

### Meadow Brook Garden Club Perennial Plant Sale

Rochester, MI – Perennial plants are those that come back every year. Luckily, the Meadow Brook Garden Club Plant Sale does too, this year on **Thursday, May 16**. A large variety of Michigan grown plants, including many from the Meadow Brook Hall gardens, will be available at very reasonable prices. Several pots, both terra cotta and plastic, will also be available to purchase. Plan to shop from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Meadow Brook Hall located at 350 Estate Drive, Rochester, MI 48309. Credit cards are accepted. All proceeds benefit the gardens at Meadow Brook Hall. For further information, please call 248-364-6210, email [MBGCmembers@gmail.com](mailto:MBGCmembers@gmail.com), visit [www.meadowbrookhall.org](http://www.meadowbrookhall.org) or find us on Facebook.



### Meadow Brook Greenhouse Plant Sale



The Meadow Brook Greenhouse yearly plant sale of annuals will be held **Thursday, May 16** from 8:00 am – 6:00 pm and **Friday, May 17** from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm. Located at Meadow Brook Greenhouse 527 Golf View Ln., Rochester, MI 48309. Follow the signs on campus. Please call (248) 364-6171 for more information.

### Meadow Brook Garden Club Invites Gardeners

Meadow Brook Garden Club maintains the gardens on the estate grounds of Meadow Brook Hall, 350 Estate Drive, Rochester MI. 2019 gardening days are every Tuesday morning April 9 through October 8, from 8:30 a.m. to 12 Noon.

All who are interested in gardening are invited to join in helping to maintain these beautiful gardens, designated as a Proven Winners Signature Garden. Master Gardeners and candidates will earn volunteer hours toward your Master Gardener required hours. Bring hand tools (pruners, trowel, cultivator) and any other gardening items that you normally use. Come and join us and meet fellow gardening enthusiasts. Experience is not required. For further information, call 248-364-6210 or contact [MBGCmembers@gmail.com](mailto:MBGCmembers@gmail.com).

For details go to: <https://meadowbrookhall.org/programs/meadow-brook-garden-club-programs/>

## Troy Garden Club Programs

Troy Garden Club meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month. Meetings begin with check-in at 11:45 AM and a light lunch at 12:00 noon. Guests: \$7.00 Speakers begin at 1:00 PM. Location: Big Beaver United Methodist Church 3753 John R. Road, Troy, MI 48083 (just south of Wattles) Website:

[www.TroyGardenClubMI.com](http://www.TroyGardenClubMI.com)

**April 10** - Monthly TGC meeting. Mary Andrews, President of Michigan Koi and Pond Club will present, "So....You Want Koi in Your Water Garden".

## Volunteer Opportunities:

**Don't forget to check the VMS for Projects that need volunteers!**



## The Healing Gardens on Shoreline Drive

The Healing Gardens on Shoreline Drive are inviting interested gardeners to our project, it's a great place to earn your volunteer hours. We are located at: 14900 Shoreline Drive, the access road from Hayes to Lakeside Mall, just west of Penna's Banquet Center. The gardens were established by a dedicated group of master gardener's 30 years ago, and have been continuously maintained since then, extending more than a football field in length with a sidewalk meandering throughout. They are regularly visited by residents from the adjacent Medilodge and those living in the nearby senior high rise apartments.

Volunteers usually find an area reflecting their interest, and their efforts are involved in typical garden chores to keep the area looking good, respond to changing conditions, and providing plant information to visitors through direct contact and informational signs.

The project allows volunteers to choose work times that fit their schedule; plus periodic group work days. This project is sponsored and supported by the Evangelical Homes of Michigan.

Contact Sharon Patrick, [sharonpat@wowway.com](mailto:sharonpat@wowway.com) or 586-268-3626, for more information or to advise that you will attend the planning meeting, (please leave a message if no answer).



# MT. CLEMENS FARMERS MARKET

## ANNUAL SPRING CLEAN-UP DAYS



*Saturday, April 20, 2019*

*Saturday, April 27, 2019*

*9:00 A.M. - 12:00 A.M.*

*Lawn & Leaf bags will be provided.*

*Please e-mail Marilyn if you are available.*

*Saturday, May 4, 2019 the Market will open.*

*This will be Flower Daze thru June 1, 2019.*

To volunteer for hands-on garden maintenance (weeding, deadheading, watering, planting, dividing) you only need to come to the market when it's convenient for you. No signing up is needed. (A great way to start earning your volunteer hours).

We are here from 7:30 AM - 11:30 AM. (**New Hours**)

To help with the **Information Booth** please sign up with Marilyn [medcowalt@aol.com](mailto:medcowalt@aol.com). The booth is open from 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM, Fridays and Saturdays. (May 4 thru October 26, 2019)

Join us, **EARN HOURS** and have fun. Work whatever fits your schedule. All help is greatly appreciated. Please bring your tools as we do not provide them and water, gloves, hat, etc.

The Mt. Clemens Farmers Market is located at 141 North River Rd

The Market is open Fridays and Saturdays until November 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**OUTREACH EVENTS:** Master Gardener Booth-Mt. Clemens Farms Market

## **Docents needed for Indian Village Garden Tour**

*(Volunteers may need to contact the Macomb MSUE office to check if the hours may be counted toward Master Gardener volunteer credit)*

On Saturday, June 8 and Sunday, June 9, Indian Village will be hosting its 46th Home & Garden Tour. The Tour includes six beautiful homes, three churches, the historic Waldorf School, its Centennial Garden, and another public green space.



The Centennial garden was created from three empty lots in the neighborhood in 1996 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the auto industry in Detroit. We invite members of the Macomb County Master Gardeners to participate. We use SignupGenius for our volunteer signups.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0a48a9ad22abfc1-20194>

Volunteers receive docent lanyards that enable them to tour the homes for free (normal admission is \$25). They are also invited to the Workers' Thank You Party on Saturday night as our guests (normal admission is \$20).

If there are other questions contact Kathy Krasity at [kathleenkrasity@yahoo.com](mailto:kathleenkrasity@yahoo.com) or Aislinn Scofield at [ivhgtour@gmail.com](mailto:ivhgtour@gmail.com).

# YARDENERS of St. Clair Shores 2019 Native Plant Sale

## Order Form

All plants are Michigan nursery grown perennials. Plants are in 2" pots and are \$2.50 each, or 5 pots for \$10 - species may be mixed.

**Pickup: Pre-ordered plants** are available for pickup at the Selinsky-Green Farmhouse Museum in St. Clair Shores (11 Mile Rd. just

east of Jefferson) during the stated hours of the Native Plant Sale: **Saturday, June 8, 2019 (9 a.m. - 12 p.m.)**

**Flowering Native Plants** *n* (nectar) *b* (birds – seeds or fruit) *lh* (butterfly larval host) *hm* (hummingbirds)

Quantity	Common Name	Scientific Name	Height	Sun	Color	Bloom Time
_____	<b>Wild Columbine</b> ( <i>n, hm</i> )	<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	1-3'	F – S	Red/White	May-June
_____	<b>Swamp Milkweed</b> ( <i>n, lh, hm</i> )	<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	2-4'	F - P	Rose	Jul - Aug
_____	<b>Whorled Milkweed</b> ( <i>lh, n</i> )	<i>Asclepias verticillate</i>	1-3'	F – P	White	Jul-Aug
_____	<b>Sand Coreopsis</b> ( <i>n, b</i> )	<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>	1-2'	F – P	Yellow	Jun-Jul
_____	<b>Purple Coneflower</b> ( <i>n, b</i> )	<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	2-4'	F – P	Pink	Jul - Sep
_____	<b>Rose Mallow</b> ( <i>lh, n, hm</i> )	<i>Hibiscus moscheutos</i>	2-3'	F – P	White	Jul - Aug
_____	<b>Blue Flag Iris</b> ( <i>n</i> )	<i>Iris virginica</i>	2-3'	F – P	Blue	Jun - Jul
_____	<b>Northern Blazing-star</b> ( <i>n, hm</i> )	<i>Liatris scariosa</i>	2-3'	F	Pink	Jul - Aug
_____	<b>Marsh Blazing-star</b> ( <i>n, hm</i> )	<i>Liatris spicata</i>	2-4'	F	Pink	Jul - Aug
_____	<b>Cardinal Flower</b> ( <i>n, hm</i> )	<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>	1-2'	P	Red	Jul - Aug
_____	<b>Great Blue Lobelia</b> ( <i>n, hm</i> )	<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>	1-2'	P	Blue	Jul - Sep
_____	<b>Bee-Balm</b> ( <i>n, hm</i> )	<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	2-3'	F	Lavender	Jul - Aug
_____	<b>Foxglove Beardtongue</b> ( <i>n, hm</i> )	<i>Penstemon digitalis</i>	2-3'	F – P	White	Jun - Jul
_____	<b>Prairie Phlox</b> ( <i>n</i> )	<i>Phlox pilosa</i>	2'	F - P	Pink	May-Jul
_____	<b>Wild Petunia</b> ( <i>n</i> )	<i>Ruellia humilis</i>	1-1.5'	F	Lavender	Jun - Aug
_____	<b>Stiff Goldenrod</b> ( <i>n</i> )	<i>Solidago rigida</i>	2-5'	F	Yellow	Aug - Oct
_____	<b>Prairie Heart-leaved Aster</b> ( <i>n</i> )	<i>Symphotrichum oolentangiense</i>	2-3'	F – P	Blue	Aug-Oct
_____	<b>Tall Meadow-rue</b> ( <i>n</i> )	<i>Thalictrum dasycarpum</i>	3-6'	P - S	Cream	Jun-Jul
_____	<b>Early Meadow-rue</b> ( <i>n</i> )	<i>Thalictrum dioicum</i>	2-3'	P - S	Green	Apr-May

Quantity Total x \$2.50 each -- OR 5 plants for \$10

Total Amount Due (check payable to Marcia Schwarz/Yardeners) – DUE BY MAY 24, 2019

Mail Order Form with check to: Marcia Schwarz, 22024 L'Anse, St. Clair Shores, MI 48081

Please keep a copy for yourself.

NAME: PHONE:

ADDRESS:

E-MAIL:

Are you already on the Yardeners' mailing list (email or overland)? Please circle one: Yes No

**"PLANT MILKWEED...ENJOY MONARCHS!"**

**THANK YOU!**

Please LIKE us on FACEBOOK ...Yardeners of St. Clair Shores

## Culture Guide for Using Native Plants

• **Right plant, right place!** Even though these plants may be native to your area, they have specific conditions under which they flourish. To ensure success, choose plants that meet these conditions or adjust the conditions that you have to meet their needs.

• **Be aware of growth patterns.** Some plants grow and/or spread quickly, while others take time. Some plants will remain small while others grow quite tall. Some can be aggressive and need space or tending. Keep this in mind when planning and planting.

• **Plan, plan, plan!** But don't be afraid to experiment and try new plants. They may grow differently in your yard than expected, and grow differently in different places in your yard.

For more information, refer to *Landscaping with Native Plants of Michigan* by Lynn Steiner

**Plant that prefer well-drained to dry, often nutrient poor soil** (NOTE: These plants may not do well in typical fertile garden soils)

• Whorled Milkweed • Sand Coreopsis • Prairie Phlox • Wild Petunia

Others good plants for these conditions include: Little Bluestem, Side-oats Grama and Prairie Dropseed (grasses); Hairy Beardtongue, Prairie Smoke, Flowering Spurge, and Early and Gray Goldenrods.

**Plants that prefer moist to wet soils** (may need additional watering during hot, dry summers; good for rain gardens)

- Cardinal Flower
- Swamp Milkweed
- Rose Mallow
- Marsh Blazing Star
- Great Blue Lobelia

**Plants with attractive foliage.** These plants are valuable not only for their flowers but their foliage before and after blooming

- Wild Columbine (foliage may die back in mid-summer but will return as the weather cools)
- Early and Tall Meadow-rue (both have foliage reminiscent of maiden-hair fern)

**Plants with vertical flower stalks or clusters above basal plants.** Height listed may reflect that of flower stalk, not actual plant base.

- Sand Coreopsis
- Southern Blue Flag Iris
- Blazing-stars
- Cardinal Flower
- Great Blue Lobelia
- Foxglove Beardtongue
- Prairie Heart-leaved Aster
- Meadow-rues

**Plants that need good air flow** (susceptible to mildew during late summer)

- Wild Columbine • Bee-balm

**Plants that will self-sow.** Under the right conditions, these plants will grow readily from seed if the spent flowers are not removed

- Wild Columbine
- Swamp Milkweed
- Sand Coreopsis
- Great Blue Lobelia
- Wild Petunia
- Heart-leaved Aster

**Plants that may spread** may need to be trimmed back/dug up to restrict spreading. Can be aggressive.

- Prairie Heart-leaved Aster (spreads by rhizomes)

**Plants that are larval hosts for butterflies.** Look for eggs and caterpillars. Leave dead plant material to support pupae.

- Swamp & Whorled Milkweed (monarch)
- Rose Mallow (painted lady; may also be prone to Japanese beetle and sawfly)

**Plants that provide seeds for birds.** Refrain from dead-heading; these plants will provide much needed food for migrating and over-wintering birds, particularly goldfinches (who do stay for the winter – the males just aren't bright yellow any more!)

- Sand Coreopsis • Purple Coneflower

**Plants that provide nectar.** Nectar isn't just good for honey bees and butterflies. Many other bees, small wasps, flies (especially bee and wasp

mimics), moths, even beetles and ants, will use the nectar from many of the smaller flowers

- Platform flowers like the swamp milkweed and stiff goldenrod are good for large butterflies
- Small compound flowers like asters attract many small, interesting pollinators
- Asters and goldenrods are crucial for migratory butterflies, like monarchs
- Spike flowers like blazing-stars and Great Blue Lobelia attract many different pollinators
- Bumblebees and other solitary bees love foxglove beardtongue! (and they don't sting – really!)

**Email:** [macombcountymga@yahoo.com](mailto:macombcountymga@yahoo.com)

**Website:** <http://www.macombcountymga.com/>

**Mailing address for MCMGA forms and information:**

Macomb County MGA

P. O. Box 380463

Clinton Township, MI 48038

**Board of Directors:**

Dennis Beltz

Mary Gerstenberger

Lisa Lane

David Putt

Joann Roman

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