

**University of Illinois Extension  
Logan-Menard-Sangamon  
Master Gardener and Master Naturalist  
Volunteer Newsletter  
March 2020**

## **NEWS**

### **Mark your calendar**

April 4 & 5, Lincoln Memorial Garden plant sale, Woodland Wildflowers and Ferns, Bare Root Trees, Herbs, Milkweed (maybe), and Pansies (ornamental and edible)

May 2, Springfield Civic Garden Club, Garden Palooza, 8am to 2pm, Illinois State Fairgrounds

May 9, Logan County Master Gardener Plant Sale, Logan County fairgrounds, 8am to Noon

May 9, Illinois Native Plant Society, Central Chapter, Native Plant sale, Illinois State Fairgrounds Commodity Pavilion, 9am to 1pm, <https://illinoisplants.org/central-chapter-plant-sale/>

May 16 & 17, Lincoln Memorial Garden, Prairie Wildflowers, Milkweed, Edible Flowering Plants, Siberian Iris, Tomatoes, Peppers, and Herbs

### **Garage Sale Update**

The quality of the garage sale items has diminished in recent years. One way to possibly improve the quality and quantity of items could be to have the sale every other year. So the next MG Garage Sale will be June of 2021. Save up your items until next year!

### **Home, Yard and Pest Newsletter**

<http://hyg.ipm.illinois.edu/index.php>

This newsletter is written to keep professional landscapers, arborists, golf course superintendents, lawn care personnel, and garden center operators up-to-date on the commercial management of diseases, weeds, insects, and other pests. U of I campus specialist will report on the pests they are seeing and anticipating throughout Illinois.

### **Reporting Hours**

Each volunteer and educational opportunity has a Report as... line directly under the heading for an activity/ event, please review this line before reporting activities. We ask that you report hours as they are listed in the newsletter. Volunteer and education activities listed in the newsletter are pre-approved. Any activities not listed in the newsletter are not approved and pre-approval must be requested from Jennifer.

### **Master Gardener Apparel**

Time to order your [Master Gardener apparel!](#) From aprons to visors we have 22 high quality items available for sale online and anytime. Website will stay open year round. Be sure to click through the many colors available. Each item is a custom order so please allow 3-5 weeks for delivery to your door. You will look cool and help the MG program at the same time. A small

portion of the sales goes toward State MG awards. Word is apparel runs “true to size” whatever that means. Contact vendor for any questions. Now get clicking!

<https://www.sportsworldfire.com/31-master-gardener>

### **Master Naturalist Apparel**

Master Naturalist apparel can be ordered at any time <https://www.sportsworldfire.com/29-master-naturalist>

### **Facebook Page**

Stay connected via our facebook page. Anyone can like or friend our page. Visit Horticulture Program Facebook page. Click on the Facebook logo on the Logan-Menard-Sangamon Horticulture page, [http://web.extension.illinois.edu/lms/sm\\_facebook.html](http://web.extension.illinois.edu/lms/sm_facebook.html)

## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Horticulture Advisory Committee Members openings**

The Unit wide Horticulture Advisory committee has the following openings:

Logan Master Gardener (3 year term)

Sangamon Master Naturalist volunteer

Committee positions open until filled. Email Jennifer for an application.

### **Horticulture Advisory Committee**

*Report as Horticulture Advisory Committee*

The Horticulture Advisory meeting will be **Wednesday, April 15, at Noon**, in Springfield.

Please share additional agenda items, suggestions with one of the committee members.

Members include: Dennis Suttles, Ann Pictor, Mike Zahn, Barbara Thompson, Bev Noble, Ann Klose, Mary Kay Hinkle, Kathy Iler, Randy Thomas, Jennifer Justin, Max Hammer, and Vince Long.

### **Herb and Pollinator Plant Sale**

It is time to start planning for the 2020 Spring Herb and Pollinator Plant Sale! This year’s sale will be April 24 & 25. We will be needing volunteers to bring plants to the Extension office April 23, work shifts on April 24 and 25, and return any unsold plants on April 25. If any of this sounds interesting to you, contact Barbara Thompson [bathompson18@gmail.com](mailto:bathompson18@gmail.com) or Jennifer Justin [jjustin5115@yahoo.com](mailto:jjustin5115@yahoo.com). This is a great way to get some volunteer hours!

### **Fruits and Vegetables Demonstration Garden**

(At the Extension office)

*Report as Fruits Committee*

MG opportunity

Co-chairs: Jim Matheis, Susan Hack, Deb Simik, Cindy Andreasen

Spring will soon be upon us and our committee has started planning for this year's garden. Upcoming activities include getting the square foot garden ready, planting the cold frame, turning the compost units, and pruning the grape vines, fruit trees, and berries.

As a part of the Spring Gardening Series on growing healthy food, committee members will present Square Foot Gardening as a part of the Small Space Gardening program on March 17. Companion Planting, another presentation in the Spring Gardening Series, will take place on March 24.

Our next meeting is on Monday, March 16, 2020 (the third Monday), at 9:30 a.m. at the Springfield Extension Office. Everyone is welcome!

### **Prairies to Perennials Garden**

*Report as Prairies to Perennials Demonstration Garden*

MG and MN opportunity

Chair: Sherry Park

The Prairie to Perennial garden group will meet Wednesday, March 18 at 9:00 am at the Extension office to plan for the coming year. Last year the committee participated in the University of Illinois sponsored I-Pollinate study. The committee will discuss continuing this project as well as plantings for the garden for this season. There will be some outdoor garden clean up: annual pruning of the Beauty berry shrub and cutting the prairie grasses to 4 inches. New members are invited to attend the meeting of this educational committee.

### **Imagination Station Children's Garden at Henson Robinson Zoo**

*Report as Children's Garden Henson Robinson Zoo*

MN and MG opportunity

Co-chairs: Jennifer Justin and Barbara Thompson

Planning for Imagination Station, the Children's Garden at Henson Robinson Zoo has begun!

Plant lists should be finalized by our next meeting, March 19 at the Springfield Extension office at 9 am. We can always use more volunteers for this committee!

### **Plastic Pot Recycling Committee**

*Report as Plastic Pot Recycling*

MG and MN opportunity

Chair: Diana Hetherington and Susie Risser

### **Dean Home Heirloom Garden (at Lincoln Home National Historic Site)**

*Report as Dean Home Heirloom Garden*

MG opportunity

Chair: Cathy Adrien

### **St. Joseph's Home Garden Therapy**

*Report as St. Joseph's Home*

MG opportunity

Chair: Veronica Fesser

### **Dana Thomas House Garden**

*Report as Dana Thomas House Garden*

MG and MN opportunity

Chair: Loretta Mabie, [pretzelmom63@hotmail.com](mailto:pretzelmom63@hotmail.com)

March 4, 10 am, planning meeting at Cottage

March 18, 10 am, work party, weather permitting

### **Plant a Row for the Hungry**

*Report as Plant a Row for the Hungry Committee*

MG opportunity

Chairs: Mary Ann Sievers and Mary Alice Keith

Plant a Row will have their first meeting on March 27 at the Springfield Extension office at 9am. This will be a meeting to set up the chairs and subcommittee chair people as well as look at things we can do or change for this coming year.

The Illinois Products Farmer's Market will have their first meeting on March 5 at 9am, and a second meeting after the PAR meeting on March 27. The first meeting will be to select chairpersons and set the schedule and agenda for the season.

### **Native Wildflower Committee**

*Report as Lincoln Memorial Garden, Native Wildflower Garden committee*

MG and MN opportunity

Coordinators: Brenda Allan ([allan.brenda@uis.edu](mailto:allan.brenda@uis.edu)) or Barbara Rogers ([mbkrogers@yahoo.com](mailto:mbkrogers@yahoo.com))

The **Native Wildflower Garden Committee** will hold its next meeting on Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at the Lincoln Memorial Garden (LMG) Nature Center at 12:30 pm. This committee maintains native perennial gardens for sun (Ostermeier Garden) and shade (Window Shade Garden) at LMG and shares information about native plants and pollinators with community partners and the public. This committee is open to both Master Naturalists and Master Gardeners. Come join us as we continue to maintain the gardens at LMG and to learn about upcoming community projects this growing season.

### **Illinois Products Farmers Market- Master Gardener Booth**

(Illinois Department of Agriculture, Illinois State Fairgrounds)

*Report as Illinois Products Farmers Market*

MG opportunity

Chair: Dennis Suttles

The 2020 IPFM Master Gardener Volunteers will meet on Thursday, March 5, at 9:00 am at the Extension Office in Springfield to organize for the 2020 Market Season.

### **Herb Demonstration Garden/Grape Arbor**

(Illinois State Fairgrounds in front of Building #30)

*Report as Herb Garden Committee*

MG opportunity

Co-chairs: Carol Stapleton, Marilyn Clarke, Debra Shoup

The first meeting of the Herb Committee will be a Brunch Potluck on Wednesday, March 11 at 9:30 am at the Extension Office. All interested Master Gardeners are invited to attend and help us plan for the 2020 season.

### **Idea Demonstration Garden**

(Illinois State Fairgrounds in front of Building #30)

*Report as Idea Garden Committee*

MG opportunity

Co-chairs: Jennifer Justin, Barbara Thompson, Pam Catalani, Sandy Johnson

Several interesting gardens are being planned for the new season at the Idea Garden. Our next meeting is Thursday, March 19 at 10 am at the Extension office in Springfield. All are welcome!

### **Perennial Demonstration Garden**

(Illinois State Fairgrounds in front of Building #30)

*Report as Perennial Garden Committee, IL State Fair*

MG and MN opportunity

Leadership team: Carol Voyles, Brenda Bartelheim

The Perennial Garden Committee will meet March 9, at 9 a.m. at the Extension Office.

Discussion will continue on plans for the 2020 season. Interested Master Gardeners are invited to attend.

### **Compost Demonstration**

(Illinois State Fairgrounds in front of Building #30)

*Report as Compost Committee*

MG opportunity

Contact: Ann Pictor

### **Tree Planting**

Springfield Urban Forestry Commission is sponsoring an Arbor Day tree planting program with the Springfield Boys and Girls Club on April 24, from 3-5 at the Club. Volunteers are needed to assist the city arborist with tree planting. For more information contact Susan Allen.

### **I-Pollinate and Beespotter Citizen Scientist Project**

*Report as I-Pollinate Citizen Scientist*

MG or MN opportunity

University of Illinois [Extension](#) is calling all lovers of bees, butterflies, and other pollinators that keep our crops and gardens growing to join scientists in tracking their distribution and habitat use across the state, from the comfort of your home, school, or community garden.

To learn more about becoming a citizen scientist with I-Pollinate or Beespotter, listen to the webinar, and sign up to join, visit the project website at <https://publish.illinois.edu/pollinatorproject/>.

### **Invasive Plant Phenology Observers**

*Report as Invasive Plant Phenology Observer*  
MN opportunity

### **Stewardship Work at Kickapoo Creek Park**

*Report as Kickapoo Creek Park Stewardship*  
Master Naturalist Opportunity  
Kickapoo Creek Park in Lincoln  
Contact Jim Struebing, 217-671-1086

### **Trash Pick-Up and Work Days at Adams Wildlife Sanctuary**

*Report as Adams Wildlife Sanctuary, Stewardship/ trash pick-up*  
MN opportunity

Trash pick-ups are weekly **Thursday** mornings, 9 to 10 am. No equipment needed, gloves and trash bags provided. Weather permitting.

### **Work Days at Adams Wildlife Sanctuary**

*Report as Adams Wildlife Sanctuary Stewardship/ trash pick-up*  
MN opportunity

Every Thursday, 9 am to 11 am, general sanctuary maintenance. trails, invasives, etc. Tools and safety equipment provided.

### **Friends of Sangamon Valley workdays**

*Report as Friends of Sangamon Valley, (report per specific site)*  
MN opportunity

Visit web site at [www.fosv.org](http://www.fosv.org) or Facebook for latest updates. Unless noted otherwise, meet at the location at the times listed above. Call Vern LaGessee at 217-525-1410 for more information or for directions. Work gloves and boots are recommended for all work days. All other equipment is provided.

Adams Wildlife Sanctuary: Illinois Audubon Society's sanctuary in Springfield. 2315 E. Clearlake Ave.

Knuppel Sanctuary: Next to Old Salem Chautauqua in Petersburg. Call Vern for more info.

Maple Grove: Near Lake Springfield. Call Vern for more information.

Robinson Woods: Access off Stange in Springfield. Call Vern for more information.

Washington Park: Vern LaGessee will be scheduling workdays throughout the season as he is available.

Wolf Preserve: Off Boy Scout Trail Rd. across from the Tallula water station near Petersburg.

## **EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY:**

### **Live Horticulture Webinars**

Counts as MG continuing education, 1 hour

*Report as Horticulture Webinars, specify*

University of Illinois Extension's Four Seasons Gardening.

Slow Flowers: Grow Your Own Cut Flowers, Tuesday, April 14, 1:30 pm. We emphasize buying your food locally, but why not your flowers as well? Join University of Illinois State Master Gardener Specialist, Candice Hart, to learn how to grow a variety of cut flowers here in Illinois, the benefits of having cut flowers in the garden, and how to condition them to be long lasting. Hart will discuss her all-time favorite flowers to grow and share tips and tricks for success.

Landscape Design with Natives 101, Tuesday, May 5, 1:30 pm. This program will compare and define native landscape vs. conventional landscaping and discuss the benefits and impact of using natives, the approach to designing with natives, and give examples of popular native plant selections. Horticulture Educator, Austin Little will also talk about the practical implications of installing native plants in a home/urban landscape.

Illinois Monarch Action Plan, Tuesday, May 26, 1:30 pm. The declining monarch butterfly population has the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service evaluating monarch research before deciding monarch endangered species status. To assist, Illinois brought in key stakeholders to facilitate the development of an Illinois Monarch Action Plan. Join Maria Turner, University of Illinois Extension State IPM Specialist as she discusses the action plan.

Programs will be held at the U of I Extension Buildings, 700 S. Airport Drive, Springfield, and 980 N Postville Drive, Lincoln. To reserve a packet of handouts at one of these locations, pre-register on-line at the Logan-Menard-Sangamon unit website at <http://web.extension.illinois.edu/lms/>.

Participants also have the option to listen to the webinar from home by registering at <https://extension.illinois.edu/global/four-seasons-gardening-webinar-series>. The presentation will be via computer but will allow live discussion between the instructor and gardeners throughout Illinois. Questions call (217) 782-4617.

### **Master Gardener Training**

Counts as MG and MN continuing education, depends on the class

*Report as U of I Extension, please specify*

Classes are on Tuesdays from 9am to 4pm at the Extension office in Springfield.

March 3, Disease and Diagnosis/ Plant Pathology

March 10, Fruits

March 17, Soils

March 24, Integrated Pest Management in am, Living with Wildlife in pm

March 31, Annuals and Perennials  
April 14, Vegetables

### **Spring Gardening Series (REVISED list)**

Counts as MG continuing education

*Report as Spring Garden Series, please specify*

A series of growing your own food classes will be offered on Tuesday's, 6 to 8 pm, at the U of I Extension office, 700 S Airport Drive, Springfield. Coming soon, online registration will be available on our website at <https://extension.illinois.edu/lms> . A fee will be charged for each class.

Small Space Gardening- Square Foot and Straw Bales, March 17, 6 to 8 pm

Basics of Composting and Companion Planting, March 24, 6 to 8 pm

Add Flavor and Scent to your garden with herbs, April 21, 6 to 8 pm

Watering the Garden, April 28, 6 to 8 pm

All About Tomatoes, May 5, 6 to 8 pm

### **Small Space Gardening**

Counts as MG continuing education

*Report as Spring Garden Series, please specify*

Tuesday, March 17, 6 to 8 pm

U of I Extension office, 700 S. Airport Drive, Springfield, IL

Small space gardening is a great option for people who have limited mobility, poor soil quality, or limited space. Mel Bartholomew, founder of Square Foot Gardening said: "The square foot garden system lets you make the most of your garden space to conserve the amount of water, soil conditioners and labor needed to produce the maximum amount of food in that space." Join University of Illinois Extension Master Gardener volunteers as they share information on how to start a square foot garden.

Master Gardener volunteer, Cindy Kvamme and Karla Frank will provide information on how to start a straw bale garden. Pros and cons of straw bale gardening will also be discussed.

### **Companion Planting and Basics of Composting**

Counts as MG continuing education

*Report as Spring Garden Series, please specify*

Tuesday, March 24, 6 to 8 pm

U of I Extension office, 700 S. Airport Drive, Springfield, IL

Companion planting is the practice of pairing up plants that when grown together can maximize garden productivity, increase soil health and may attract beneficial insects. University of Illinois Extension master gardener volunteers will provide suggestions on what plants work well together and which plants should be kept apart.

Food scraps and yard waste are the foundation to compost which is a great soil amendment. Learn how to recycle organic material to make compost in your backyard. University of Illinois

Extension master gardener volunteers will share information about various types of compost bins, how to make them, and how to create better compost. In addition, a brief discussion will be held about vermicomposting, which is using worms to create even better compost.

### **Mason Bee Workshop**

Counts as MG or MN continuing education

*Report as U of I Extension, please specify*

University of Illinois Extension Fulton-Mason-Peoria-Tazewell Horticulture Educator Nicole Flowers-Kimmerle will be presenting a program on Mason Bees on Thursday, March 5, 1:30-3:30 p.m., at the Mason State Nursery, 17855 N. County Road 2400E, Topeka, Illinois.

Stress from chemicals and loss of habitat can put pressure on native bee populations. Learn about this native solitary bee's life cycle, their role in pollination, and how to best support a population in your own backyard. Bring an empty "tin" can to create a simple bee hotel. We will discuss the most effective ways to support the native bee population. Pre-registration required, <https://extension.illinois.edu/fmpt/events>

### **All Gardener's Day 2020**

Counts as MG continuing education

*Report as Gardeners Day*

Saturday, March 14th, 2020

Holy Family Catholic Church – Parish Center

211 E. Columbia Street

Litchfield, IL 62056

On Saturday, March 14th, 2020, the University of Illinois Extension Master Gardener Program will host a half-day All Gardener's Day at the Holy Family Catholic Church Parish Center. This event, which is open to the public, will focus on a variety of horticultural topics.

Cost is \$15 which includes 3 sessions. Register at <https://extension.illinois.edu/cjmm/events>

### **Russel Allen Garden Day**

Counts as MG continuing education

*Report as Russel Allen Garden Day*

The University of Illinois Extension Logan County Master Gardeners will host Russel Allen Garden Day on Saturday, March 28, 2020 at Oasis Senior Center, 2810 Woodlawn Road, Lincoln. Event will run from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm, with registration from 8 to 8:45 am. The public is invited to this event that will feature various presentations related to gardening, as well as displays by area plant and gardening societies. The day is in honor of Russel Allen a charter member of the Logan county Master Gardener volunteer program.

Key note presentation will be provided by Lee and Anne Niepagen of Wendell Niepagen Greenhouses and Garden Center in Bloomington. They will talk about Captivated by Color...Adding Annuals to Enhance Your Landscape. They will look at new annuals and colors for the 2020 spring season, as well as our favorite "tried and true" varieties. Tips on planting and caring for your annuals to maximize their blooming potential and much more!

Come ready to have fun and even learn a little!

Other presenters and session topics will include: *Hydroponic Gardening*, Greg and Mariah Anderson, Mariah's Mums and More; *Making a Monarch Haven*, Kay Henricks, U of I Extension Master Gardener volunteer; *Ways to Stretch your Flower Garden Budget*, Charlotte Talkington, U of I Extension Master Gardener volunteer; *Terrific Trees*, Jennifer Fishburn, U of I Extension Horticulture Educator. Two hands on workshops will be offered by Jennifer Justin, U of I Extension Master Gardener volunteer, *Herbs, Bath and Beyond*, and *Salts and scrubs*.

Pre-registration is highly encouraged. Registration fee is \$15 in advance (before March 20) and \$18 at the door. To view a brochure and register on-line, visit the U of I Extension Logan-Menard-Sangamon website at <http://web.extension.illinois.edu/lms/>. For additional information call (217) 732-8289.

### **Gardeners' BIG Day**

Saturday, April 18, 2020 from 8:30-4:00 at Spoon River College, Canton Campus. Attendees will hear speakers, visit vendors, and see gardening displays. This is the Twentieth Anniversary for this event! Partnering sponsors include: University of Illinois Extension Fulton and Mason County Master Gardeners & Master Naturalists, Spoon River Garden Club, Spoon River College, and U of I Extension Fulton-Mason-Peoria-Tazewell Unit.

Early Bird registration through March 23- \$35, includes lunch

Registration after March 23- \$45, includes lunch

Final deadline April 6. Sorry, no walk-ins.

Register at <https://extension.illinois.edu/fmpt/events>

# **CALENDAR**

**EDU- Education**

**VOL- Volunteer**

U of I Extension office, 700 S. Airport Drive, Springfield, is denoted by Spfld.

U of I Extension office, 980 N. Postville Drive, Lincoln is denoted by Lincoln

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31- Master Gardener Training, 9am to 4pm, Springfield (EDU)  
March 4- Dana Thomas House garden committee, 10 am, at Dana Thomas House (VOL)  
March 5- Illinois Products Farmers Market, 9am, Springfield (VOL)  
March 9- Perennial Garden Committee, 9 am, Springfield (VOL)  
March 11- Native Wildflower Committee, 12:30 pm, LMG (VOL)  
March 11- Herb garden committee, 9:30 am, Springfield (VOL)  
March 16-Fruits and Vegetable Demo. Garden Committee, 9:30 am, Springfield (EDU)  
March 17- Small Space Gardening, 6 to 8 pm, Springfield (EDU)  
March 18- Prairies to Perennials Garden committee, 9 am, Springfield (VOL)  
March 18- Dana Thomas House garden committee, 10 am, at Dana Thomas House (VOL)  
March 18- Prairies to Perennials Garden committee, 9 am, Springfield (EDU)  
March 19- Children Garden Committee, 9 am, Ext office Springfield (VOL)  
March 19- Idea Garden committee, 10 am, Springfield (VOL)  
March 24- Basics of Composting and Companion Planting, 6 to 8 pm, Springfield (EDU)  
March 27- Plant A Row for the Hungry committee, 9 am, Springfield (VOL)  
March 27- Illinois Products Farmers Market, 9:30 am, Springfield (VOL)  
March 28- Russel Allen Garden Day, Oasis Senior Center, Lincoln (EDU & VOL)  
April 14- Grow Your Own Cut Flower webinar, 1:30 pm Spfld and Lincoln (EDU)  
April 15- Horticulture Advisory meeting, Noon, Springfield (VOL)  
April 24 and 25- Herb Plant and Pollinator Plant Sale, Springfield

*Jennifer Fishburn*

*Unit Educator, Horticulture*

*University of Illinois Extension*

*Logan-Menard-Sangamon Unit*

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences.

United States Department of Agriculture. Local Extension Councils Cooperating

University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.

If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this program, please contact (217) 782-4617.

Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time for meeting your access needs.