

Hendricks Gardener

The Official Newsletter of the Hendricks County Master Gardeners

April 2017

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Use the webmaster's email address or the contact form under "about" on our website to contact our officers.

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Message from the President

April showers that come your way, they bring the flowers that bloom in May. This is a line from my 6th grade music program. True or not, a thought that lets us know nature is warming up and gardening has to be around the corner.

I want to make sure to congratulate again Kelly Allen for her 20 years as one of us and for a very informative program on Root Crops. I have new ideas to try at home.

Our HCMG chapter is very busy the next 2 months. April 8th at 10:00 a.m. is Colletta Kosiba's "Bare Bones Garden Tour." Gardening for All Ages is April 22nd and our May plant auction is May 16th. Enjoy your fellow MG's and earn volunteer hours at the same time.

REMEMBER: Gardeners are the BEST people.

Come grow with us.

Becky Troutman, President



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Member Meetings & Information

- Date:** April 18, 2017
6:30 Social Time
7:00 Business Meeting
8:00 **Presentation:** Summer Bulbs

Do you want easy to grow plants with great flowers in all sizes and colors? We will explore the wide world of summer bulbs. Asiatic and tiger lilies, oriental and trumpet lilies are all easy --- plant the bulb, enjoy the flowers. There is even a lily to help with your arthritis! Caladiums are great bulbs for color in the shade garden. Master Gardener Colletta Kosiba has beautiful photos of summer bulbs. Plus all the information you need to get started with summer bulbs this year

For Upcoming Member Meetings

Contact the president one week in advance of monthly meeting if you have business or committee reports to be included in meeting agenda.

- Meetings are normally held on the third Tuesday of each month.
- Master Gardener meeting agenda will be forwarded to membership prior to meeting.
- Remember to wear your Master Gardener badges to all HCMG events and meetings.

Future meeting information will be posted on the website.

Meeting Minutes

Meeting minutes will be posted on the members page of the website after the most recent business meeting.

Reporting Volunteer Hours

The method for reporting volunteer hours has changed. We are now using the Purdue on-line system. You must register to use the system. Register for Purdue MG Manager here: www.purdue.edu/mg-volunteer. There is a video on how to register at: <http://tinyurl.com/ze9jaz3>. You will need to obtain the county code first from the extension office.

Once you have registered, the system is very straight forward. You should enter all volunteer and educational activity from last November forward. The system will also accept entries (that you have not submitted previously) for older unreported activity that you want to catch up with.

The old reporting form has been deleted from the website. Reports on the old paper from won't be accepted by the extension office.

Volunteer and Educational Opportunities

Volunteer Opportunities .

HCMG is always in need of volunteers for committees and projects. Full project descriptions and volunteer opportunities will be posted on the HCMG website under the "Members"

Educational

See this month's ANR report for a discussion of qualifying educational activities.

Open Gardens

If you would like to offer an open garden next year please let Vicki Coleman know.

Demo Garden Updates

Serious labor begins on the demo garden this month. Time to volunteer if you want to be a laborer.

2018 Updates

Hendricks County will host the Purdue Master Gardener State Conference on June 7-9 2018 at the Hendricks County Fairgrounds and Conference Center.

The information and registration website for the event is www.indianamastergardeners.com.

The Master Gardeners on the steering committee include Jan Myers, Rose Lenihan, Theresa Byington, Cathy Frederick, Ed Freeman, Chuck Dallas, Pat Dallas, Vicki Coleman, Martha Rardin, Ginny Brandgard, Theresa Mathieson, Jill Clouser, Steve Pearl, and Kathleen Hutton.

Chat with committee members to keep up to date or to let us know how you want to help. Think about how you would like to volunteer to help us host the 2018 Indiana State Master Gardeners Conference.



From Our ANR

A reminder to active Master Gardeners that we have now transitioned to the new Purdue MG Manager online system. That means Master Gardeners will now be entering ALL of their volunteer and education hours. Many of you have already registered and are entering hours. We have more than half of our active MG's doing this already, so thank you! I am hearing positive feedback already from those we registered. Once you are in the system it is very user friendly and easy to use. However, we still have members who have not registered. This is something all MG's must do in order to report hours and stay active- receive a minimum of 12 volunteer hours and 6 education hours per year. If you have not registered, please do so today at: <https://www.purdue.edu/mg-volunteer>.

If you have any questions, please call Janet Cunningham in the Extension office. Janet is quickly becoming our in-house expert on the new database. She has spent countless hours trying to learn the new system and offering suggestions to the State Office to make it better. Thank you to Janet! If you don't have access to a computer, we have guest computers in the Extension Office that you can use to register and enter your hours. Please make an appointment with Janet, Monday – Friday, 8 am – 4 pm, if you would like to use a guest computer. Our goal is to have all our MG's registered and entering hours so we are happy to help.

See our Monday, February 27th email with further instructions. Lastly, I have heard some questions about what counts and doesn't count for education hours. If you attend a seminar, presentation, lecture, or program that is gardening or home horticulture related, you can earn education hours for the time you attended the program. The program does not have to be through Purdue University or through the Association. For example: if you attend a library program on vegetable gardening from 11 am – 12 pm that was presented by a local library, you can earn 1 hour of education time. Your travel to and from the event DOES NOT count for education hours. Another example: the local greenhouse is offering an educational seminar on indoor plants and you attend 30 minutes of the program. You can earn 0.5 education hours. However, if you attend a flower show or exhibit, your time walking around the event and visiting booths and vendors does not count. For example: You attend the Indy Flower and Patio show for 3 hours walking the show, visiting vendors asking the vendors their advice on the best way to grow their plants or use their gardening products. This DOES NOT count as education hours. However, if you attend a garden show and attend an educational presentation at the show, the time you spent attending that presentation counts. For example: You attend Gardening For All Ages and visit over 50 booths talking to many of the vendors. You also attend the presentation on carnivorous plants at 1:30 pm – 2:15 pm. You DON'T earn hours for the time visiting vendors, however you CAN earn education hours for the time spent attending the session on carnivorous plants. So you would earn 0.75 hours of education.

I recommend that you check with me if you are in doubt on what counts and doesn't count for volunteer or education hours before you attend an event or volunteer. Just send me an email if you have any questions and I am happy to work with you to determine if it counts or doesn't count for MG hours.



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2017 Events Update

Hendricks County Master Gardeners
Spring Gardening Show

An illustration of various gardening items including a straw hat, a shovel, a watering can, a bucket, a bag of soil, and several potted plants.

Gardening for All Ages
Hendricks County Fairgrounds
April 22, 2017 9 to 4

The logo for the Purdue Master Gardener Program, featuring a stylized leaf and flower.

It's time to sign up for Gardening for All Ages volunteer jobs. See the members page of the website for more info.

Adventures in Gardening
October 7, 2017

A photograph of an indoor garden show. The room is decorated with autumn-themed floral arrangements. A sign in the background reads "Adventures in Gardening". There are tables set up with various items, and people are visible in the background.