

July, 2015

Master Gardener Volunteers

Garden Spotlight, Demonstration Garden at Kiesel Park

The Demonstration Garden at Kiesel Park is just one of the many projects that Lee County Master Gardeners support.

3

Boxwood Blight Update

Boxwood blight is now confirmed in Alabama. Brush up on the symptoms of this disease and keep an eye out for it in your landscape!

4

July Lunch & Learn Programs

Check out this month's Lunch & Learn programming and see if there are any in your area!

3



Cherokee County Master Gardeners Receive Award for Beautification Projects

The Cherokee County Master Gardeners have received the honor of the 2015 Beautification Award from the Cherokee County Chamber of Commerce. Billy Tillery, president of the Cherokee County Master Gardeners, accepted the award. The award was given in order to recognize all of the hard work in and around Cherokee County that the Master Gardeners have done through beautification projects within the area. Just a few of their projects include Centre City Hall, Centre Middle School, Yarbrough Sports Complex, Little River Canyon Mouth Park and the Canyon Center.

We are proud of our Master Gardeners for donating their time and hard work to different projects to help the beauty of Cherokee County.

Pictured above (Left to right) Back row: Janette Barker, Wye Cochran, Becky McMichen, Sandra Ledbetter, Janice Knight, Patti Ford, Doug Ford. Front row: Billy Tillery, Ginny Holland, Ruth Hall, Tillie Morgan.

Continued on page 2



Cherokee County Master Gardeners working with the local community to install and plant raised bed planters.

(Continued)

More Community Involvement from Cherokee County MG's...

The Cherokee County Master Gardeners (in partnership with the City of Centre, the Department of Human Resources, the Alabama Cooperative Extension System's Nutrition Education Program, the Cherokee County Sheriff's Office, and the Cherokee Public Library) have planted a community demonstration garden on the site of the old Cherokee County Jail .

Free classes will be held at the Cherokee County Public Library and at the jail site. Master Gardeners will teach basic gardening skills for raised bed and container gardening. **For more information, or to sign up to help, please contact Mary Shewmaker, NEP Agent Assistant at the Extension Office, at 256-927-3250.**

Information and photos courtesy of Bill Tillery.

Volunteer Opportunities at Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Bruno Vegetable Garden

Amanda Clark who is in charge of the Bruno Vegetable Garden at BBG is expecting her second child in August. She is in need of Master Gardener help on **Thursdays starting at 9 am.** to plant and harvest vegetables. [The Magic City Harvest](#) is the recipient of the vegetables being grown in the Bruno Vegetable Garden. She has a core group of people who will continue on the work for Magic City Harvest when she is out on maternity leave, but they need more help. For information on ongoing workdays, contact Amanda Clark at Amanda.Clark@ci.birmingham.al.us.

Plant Adventures

Interested in helping adults with special needs to learn valuable life skills while working in The Gardens? Contact Brooke McMinn, Plant Adventures Program Specialist for The Birmingham Botanical Gardens, at bmcminn@bbgardens.org or 205.414.3914 for more information on our volunteer opportunities!

Get Into the Gardens!

Master Gardeners are needed to help facilitate demonstration activities and talks on the weekends at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens. Contact Volunteer Coordinator, Taylor Steele at tsteele@bbgardens.org or 205-414-3962.

Claybank Master Gardener Volunteer Opportunities

There are several projects in your area where you can become a great asset as a volunteer! There is always a need for additional help! These projects are listed below, along with a contact number if you are interested in volunteering.

Dale County Lake Walking Trail

Contact Carole Ball at (334) 774-5353

Ozark First United Methodist Church Meditation Garden

Contact Jan Lisenby at (334) 774-6998

The Ozark-Dale County Public Library

Contact Carole Ball at (334) 774-5353

Lunch & Learn:

Lunch and Learn occurs once a month, shares a new topic every event, and takes place from **12:00—1:00 p.m.** These programs are a great opportunity to meet new people and expand your gardening knowledge! Drinks are provided, but **bring a sack lunch**. L&L are a cooperative effort between Regional Extension Agents and several hard working crews of Master Gardeners. Are you hosting these in your area?

Autauga County:

Topic: Year Round Color

When: July 2

Where: Christ Lutheran Church, Prattville

Calhoun County:

Topic: Ideas for Using Bountiful Summer Vegetables

When: July 22

Where: Cane Creek Community Garden at McClellan

Dale County:

When: July 14

Where: Dale County Extension Office

Elmore County:

Topic: What's Bugging You? -- Common Pests & Diseases

When: July 14

Where: Elmore County Extension Office



Garden Spotlight:

Demonstration Garden at Kiesel Park

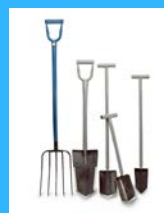
The Master Gardener Demonstration Garden at Kiesel Park, led by Charlot Ritenbaugh, consists of eight different garden plots which demonstrate a variety of garden types. The garden was built by Lee County Master Gardeners for the education and enjoyment of the local community. It is located next to the Nunn-Winston House within Kiesel Park.

There are several areas throughout the garden, including areas for cut flowers, butterflies, vegetables, herbs, heritage plants, and native plants. The garden as a whole is a great resource for the public that showcases a wide variety of plants that grow well in the Auburn area.

The Demonstration Garden at Kiesel Park is one of many projects maintained by the Lee County Master Gardeners. If you are interested in volunteering at the garden, please call Charlot Ritenbaugh at (334) 750-1984.

Autauga County Volunteer Opp's

- Demonstration Garden work days every Tuesday at 8am
- Prattville Garden work days every Thursday at 9am
- Governor's Mansion work days every Monday



(L&L Continued)

Mobile County:

Topic: Christmas in July

When: July 20

Where: Jon Archer Ag Center,
Mobile

Montgomery:

When: July 1

Where: Armory Learning Arts
Center, Montgomery

Morgan County:

Topic: Photography of Plants and
Wildlife

When: July 8

Where: Aquadome Recreation
Center, Decatur

Pest Update:

Boxwood Blight

Boxwood blight is more widespread throughout Alabama than previously thought. It has been found in container grown boxwood in retail garden centers across North Alabama, and has been found in a number of landscapes in the historic district in Huntsville. Please stay aware of this problem and thoroughly inspect any newly purchased boxwood and monitor planted boxwoods for symptoms for 60-90 days. Early symptoms of the disease will show up as light brown to dark brown spots on the leaves, often with a dark brown border. Eventually, the leaves will drop. Black streaks on the stems and shoots of boxwood are another symptom.

If you see suspicious symptoms on your boxwood, submit a sample for diagnosis to the Plant Diagnosis Laboratory. If boxwood blight is diagnosed in your yard, there are many cultural techniques you can use to reduce the spread of the disease. Remove, bag, and discard leaf litter from the soil surface of beds where diseased boxwood have been removed. Do not reestablish boxwood into beds where diseased plants were removed, and make sure to clean tools after trimming or removing diseased boxwood.

**Boxwood Blight Symptoms:**

A: Leaf spot on leaves (Sandra Jensen, Cornell University, Bugwood.org)

B: Black streaks/lesions on shoots (Mary Ann Hansen, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Bugwood.org)

C: Defoliating Boxwoods (Mary Ann Hansen, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Bugwood.org)

(Produced by Evan Ware, graduate student, Auburn University Dept of Horticulture)