

Volunteer Opp's Bulletin

Volume 4 Issue 9

Blount County MGs Serve Up Fun at the 65th Annual Blount County Fair

Last month, the Blount County MGs stayed busy volunteering to help with the 65th Annual Blount County Fair. 45 Master Gardeners supported their community by registering and returning contest entries, helping out with security throughout the week, putting on a cake walk, and managing their own booth in hopes of recruiting new Master Gardener volunteers. They put in many hours of work to ensure their community had a fun and successful fair.



[Activity Spotlights]

Learn about your MG neighbor activities around the state.

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[Pest Updates]

News from the AU Diagnostic Lab

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[Calendar and More!]

Support and promote upcoming events like Lunch & Learn, and other public programs.

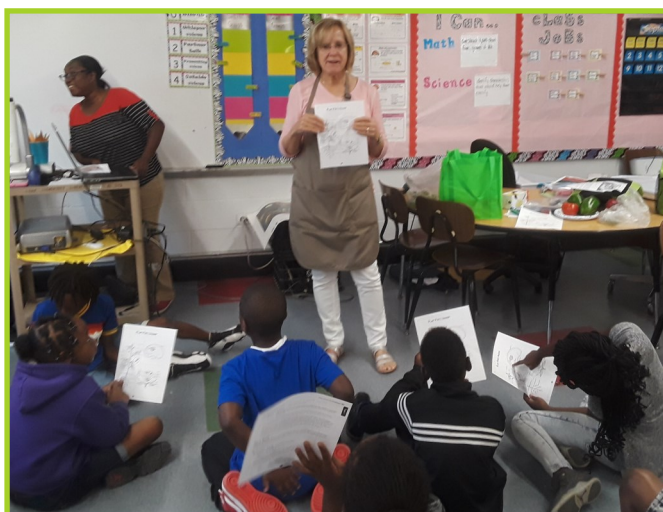
5-7

Activity Spotlights

Jefferson County MGs are Cultivating Future Gardeners

Last month Autauga County MGs visited Marbury Middle School to educate students about plant science through fun, garden-centered lessons.

This month, we have a story on another group of MGs, planting seeds and cultivating young minds in Jefferson County. At the request of their teacher, Ms. Jeulle Benjamin, third graders at Erwin Intermediate School spent an immersive morning with Jefferson County Master Gardeners. They learned about the water cycle, vegetable gardening, and pollinators. Master Gardeners Hana Berres, Charles Murray, Sandy McCarthy, and Kate Musso led the class in various activities. They used a colorful ACES publication poster, [“Vegetable Seasons in Alabama”](#), to teach students when they could grow different veggies. They also brought in some real-life examples of some crops, and wrapped up by creating water cycle bracelets in which each colored bead represents an aspect of the cycle (e.g. white for condensation, blue for precipitation). Beads and bracelet materials were donated by the Jefferson County Conservation District.



Master Gardeners of North Alabama — All Work and No Play? No Way!

The Madison County Master Gardeners had a slower-paced summer, but activities are beginning to kick back up with the approach of fall.

You may remember reading about the Harvest For Health Program in last month’s issue.



Twelve of the MGNA MGs have been making a difference in their community, mentoring cancer survivors to learn vegetable gardening. Both the Master Gardeners serving as mentors and the cancer survivors honing their green thumbs say they are enjoying the program very much.

They also hosted their annual picnic and a 1.5 mile walk around the lake, lead by Bob Goodwin. They enjoyed good food, great door prizes, and an awesome time socializing with each other. They would like to commend their chair, Kendra, and co-chair, Suzanne, for doing an excellent job planning the event.



Activity Spotlight

Morgan County MGs Have a Successful County Fair

Fall is Fair days throughout the state and it's no different in Morgan County. The Morgan County Master Gardeners partnered with the Tennessee Valley Exposition to plan, coordinate and execute one of the largest horticultural exhibits in North Alabama. Of course they did! It's at the Morgan County Fair. With over 42 exhibitors and 300 plants and cut flowers, Master Gardeners worked diligently to check-in plants, assist participants with finding botanical names, and entering the plants in the proper class, division and size. They also hosted the "Ask a Master Gardener" booth to answer questions about the exhibits and share more information about the Master Gardener program and activities.

Theresa Goode and Judith Looney, co-chairpersons of the horticultural exhibits, began the project months ago by promoting the exhibit to gardeners interested in showcasing their talents. They visited garden clubs, schools and churches to distribute the guidelines for entering a plant in the exhibit, and they invited everyone to show off their green thumb at the Morgan County Fair.



Recent Finds from the Plant Diagnostic Lab

Here in Alabama we have a climate that is ideal for a wide variety of plants — but our climate is also ideal for a wide variety of plant problems. It seems like we're always finding new insects and diseases adapting and thriving here!

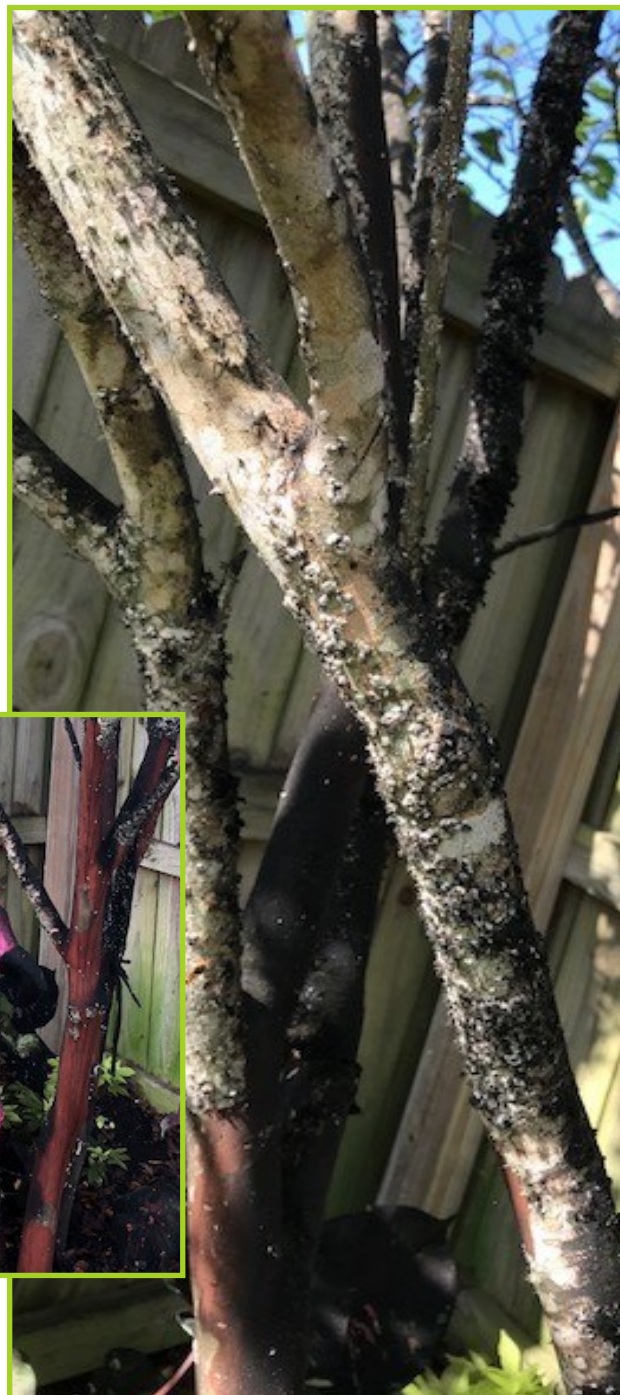
Crape Myrtle Bark Scale

Last month, Crape Myrtle Bark Scale (CMBS) was confirmed in Madison and Baldwin Counties. This pest was first noted in the United States in 2004 when it was discovered in Texas. The tell-tale signs of CMBS are tiny, white, felt-like insects that ooze pink when punctured. The nymph stage of this scale insect produces a lot of “honeydew”, which results in the growth of sooty mold on the tree and surrounding objects—like our poor flamingo friend in the picture below. Heavy infestations of CMBS will cause reduced blooming, and lower aesthetic value.

Be sure to thoroughly inspect your Crape Myrtles and any new Crape Myrtles you plan to purchase for your landscape! Any crevice, loose bark, lichens, or tight branch angles are nymph hiding places.

For further information on CMBS, check out this publication on Crape Myrtle Bark Scale Identification and Control from our friends at Mississippi State University.

<https://extension.msstate.edu/sites/default/files/publications/publications/p2938.pdf>



Volunteering Across Alabama

Autauga County Master Gardeners

Demonstration Garden Workdays

When: Every Tuesday & Thursday, 8:00 a.m.

Governor's Mansion Workdays

When: Every Monday

Capital City Master Gardeners

Lilly's Garden

When: 1st Thursdays, 8:45 a.m.

Where: Forest Avenue School

Contact: Ann Oldham, 334-318-9762

Claybank Master Gardeners

Dale County Lake Walking Trail

Contact Carole Ball at (334) 774-5353

Ozark First UMC Meditation Garden

Contact: Jan Lisenby at (334) 774-6998

The Ozark-Dale County Public Library

Contact: Carole Ball at (334) 774-5353

Calhoun County Master Gardeners

Cane Creek Gardens

When: Every Tuesday morning

Where: Anniston, AL

Chilton County Master Gardeners

Demonstration Garden at Extension Center

When: Monday and Thursdays, 8 a.m.

Where: Chilton Research and Extension Center (CREC)

Contact: Sondra Henley

Lee County Master Gardeners

Kiesel Park Demonstration Garden

When: call Charlot for workdays; 7:30 am

Contacts: Jimmy Petrey 334 821-6412; Charlot Ritenbaugh 334-750-1984

Caroline Dean Wildflower Trail

When: call Billie for workdays; 8:30 am

Where: Municipal Park; Opelika, AL

Contact: Billie Oliver, billieoliver@gmail.com, or text, 334-749-2679

Grandma's Garden

When: October 11th, 8:00 am

Where: Pioneer Park, Loachapoka, AL

Contact: Kathy Hayward, bryaub@hotmail.com

Kreher Preserve & Nature Center, Butterfly Garden

When: Thursday mornings at 8:00 , weather permitting

Contact: Margaret Holler, (334) 740-8548

Lee County MGA Mulch Sale

October 20th 8:00am-12:00pm

October 27th 9:00am-1:00pm

3327 Moores Mill Rd, Auburn

Volunteers needed

Contact: Steve Carter, 334-332-6100

Helpline Reminder!

Please volunteer to work the Helpline in one of the following counties.

Autauga Elmore Lee Montgomery
Jefferson Chilton Etowah Madison
Lauderdale Baldwin Mobile



Find us on
Facebook

Alabama Master Gardener Helpline

Volunteering Across Alabama

Morgan County Master Gardeners

Pond Spring, General Joe Wheeler Home

When: 1st Thursday of the month
Where: 12280 AL Hwy 20, Hillsboro, AL, 35643.
Volunteers meet at Pond Spring.
Contact: Sabrina Green, mskmgreen@msn.com

Hospice of the Valley Memory Garden

When: Weeding, planting, and maintaining occurs when needed.
Contact: Nancy Shannon, swampboss7@aol.com

Morgan County – Decatur Farmers Market

What: Volunteers are needed for the *Ask a Master Gardener Booth* at each special event at the market.
Contact: Judith Looney, judyjill@bellsouth.net

Shoals Master Gardeners

Florence Community Gardens

When: Call the office; Volunteers are needed

Tuscaloosa County Master Gardeners

Eagles' Wings

When: Wednesday mornings
Where: Coker, AL,

Hospice of West Alabama

When: Wednesday mornings
Where: Tuscaloosa, AL

Wiregrass Master Gardeners

Dothan Area Botanical Garden

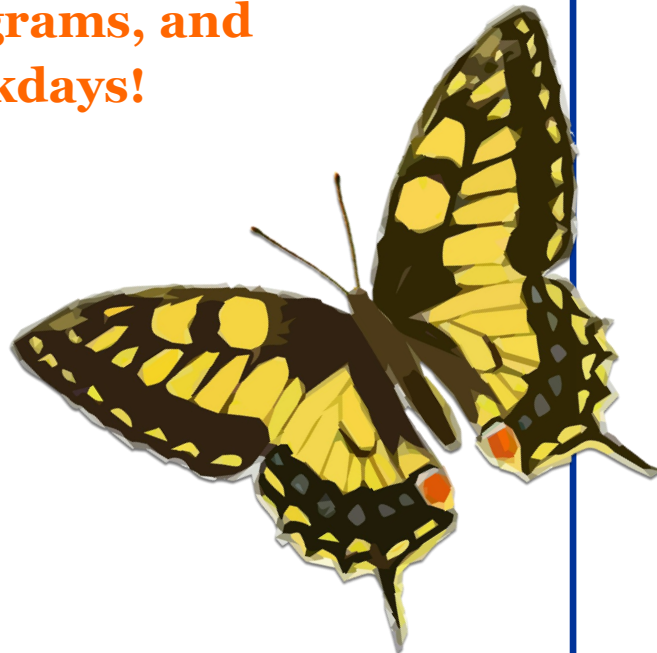
When: Mondays, 8:00 a.m.
What: Maintain demonstration beds

Landmark Park

When: 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month

WE HAVE MORE ROOM FOR YOUR ANNOUNCEMENTS!

Please email Kerry (p. 7) to send your upcoming volunteer opportunities, programs, and workdays!



Helpline Reminder!

Please volunteer to work the Helpline this spring in one of the following counties.

Autauga Elmore Lee Montgomery
Jefferson Chilton Etowah Madison
Lauderdale Baldwin Mobile



Find us on
Facebook

Alabama Master Gardener Helpline

Mark Your Calendar!

Join and promote the following events

Lunch & Learn, and ETC.:

Lunch & Learn occurs once a month, shares a new topic every event, and takes place from 12:00—1:00 p.m. Drinks are provided, but tell friends to bring a sack lunch. L&L is a cooperative effort between Extension Agents and several hard working crews of Master Gardeners. *Similar events are listed here too, but may have other arrangements.*

2	<p>Houston County: Topic: Native Plants Where: Dothan Houston County Library</p>	10	<p>Morgan County: Topic: Cold Frames and Winter Garden Wrap-Ups Where: Aquadome, 1202 5th Ave. SW</p>
3	<p>Montgomery County: Topic: Native Drought Tolerant Plants Where: Armory Learning Arts Center</p>	10	<p>Dale County: Topic: Indoor Plants Where: 202 South Hwy 123, Ste. D, Ozark</p>
4	<p>Autauga County: Topic: Shade Loving Plants Where: Trinity United Methodist</p>	23	<p>St. Clair: Topic: Landscaping For Birds Where: First Baptist Church, Odenville</p>
9	<p>Elmore County: Topic: Growing Succulents Where: Elmore Co. Extension Office</p>		
9	<p>Russell County: Topic: TBA Where: 508 14th Street</p>		 <p>ALABAMA MASTER GARDENERS <small>ALABAMA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SYSTEM</small></p>

Have a cool story or project you'd like to share? We'd love to hear what your MG association is doing in your community. Contact us so we can publish it in an upcoming *Volunteer Opp's!*

Kerry Smith — smithkp@auburn.edu

Produced by Frances Sledge and Taylor Thompson, ACES Home Grounds Assistants

Published by the Alabama Cooperative Extension System (Alabama A&M University and Auburn University),
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www.aces.edu

Upcoming Events — Oneonta AL

Magic IN THE Garden

Presented by Blount
County Master Gardeners
and Alabama
Cooperative Extension
System

4 CEU'S
will be
earned

OCTOBER 4TH, 2018

Sessions

9:00 AM : FAIRY GARDENS
W/ VERA GATES
10:00 AM : MAGICAL YARDS FOR
BIRDS W/ HERB LEWIS
11:00 AM : LUNCH / VISIT PARK
AND VENDORS
12:30 PM : PROPAGATION - NEW
PLANT MAGIC W/ CHIP EAST
1:30 PM : MAGIC FOR THE MATURE
GARDENER W/ MIKE RUSHING
2:30 PM: CLOSING REMARKS

**D.S. Loyd Building
1225 Palisades Park
Oneonta, AL, 35121**

- Registration begins at 8:30 AM
- Sessions are 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM
- Cost : \$20 and includes lunch, program, and snacks

Contact Information
Sherilyn Osborne : 2056819896 /
sherilynosborneebellsouth.net

Registration Form (please print)

NAME:

ADDRESS:

CITY/STATE/ZIP:

EMAIL/PHONE:

Make \$20 registration check payable to Blount County Master Gardener Association and return to Sherilyn Osborne, P.O. Box 13, Locust Fork, AL 35097.

Upcoming Events — Fairhope AL



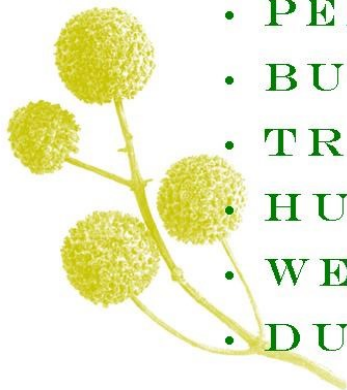
TWENTY SIXTH ANNUAL
**WEEKS BAY
NATIVE PLANT SALE!**

**THURSDAY - SUNDAY,
OCTOBER 11 - 14,
9 AM - 4 PM**



**SAFE HARBOR AT WEEKS BAY
ACROSS U. S. HIGHWAY 98
FROM WEEKS BAY RESERVE**

- SHRUBS
- PERENNIALS
- BUTTERFLY PLANTS
- TREES
- HUMMINGBIRD PLANTS
- WETLAND PLANTS
- DUNE PLANTS



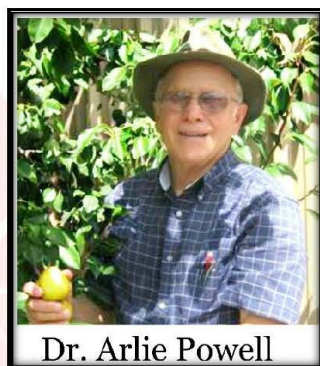
Weeks Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve
11300 U.S. Highway 98
Fairhope, AL 36532
Phone: (251) 928-9792 FAX (251) 928-1792

Upcoming Events – Fairhope AL



2018 Fall Seminar

Excellent speakers, Gardening Fashion Show, and Raffle



Dr. Arlie Powell



Jason Powell

"Citrus in the Home Garden"

Variety selection, care and Maintenance

- * Retired Extension Specialist, Alabama Extension.
- * Specializes in Citrus. His passion is peaches.
- * Educator for more than half a century.
- * Teaches classes at "Petals from the Past".

"Perennials for Every Spot in the Garden"

His Favorite Roses and Perennials

- * Established "Petals from the Past" 1994.
- * Finds and propagates Heritage Roses.
- * Developed the nursery to offer many heirloom perennials, garden shrubs & fruit varieties.

Thursday, October 25, 2018

9am – 3pm

FAIRHOPE CIVIC CENTER

Tickets \$15.00

~ Lunch on your own ~

*For more info: www.BaldwinMasterGardeners.com
[facebook.com/BaldwinCountyMG/](https://www.facebook.com/BaldwinCountyMG/) Tickets: (251)-550-6464*