

BRADLEY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS



April 2017 Newsletter

BRADLEY COUNTY
UTEXTENSION
INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE
THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

Our Mission

The Bradley County Master Gardeners promote environmental stewardship through a network of volunteers who provide research-based information and education to Tennessee communities in home gardening and related areas. As part of our mission, the program supports continued education and development for committed volunteers.

2017 Officers

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Next meeting: May 4, 2017
Speaker: Carrie Kurtesz of the Emerald Turf Group



It was “All About the Green” for Bradley County Master Gardeners at Cleveland State Community College event.

Several Bradley County Master Gardeners and Interns dropped by the college on April 8 to volunteer at the BCMG booth as well as participate in the day’s activities. Above, Linda Merritt (far right) talks with visitors about pollinators and Arlene McAree (far left) shows off her accumulation of purchases and door prizes.



Message from Johnnie

Hello everyone,

I hope you are enjoying this beautiful weather and getting outside and working in your yard and garden.

We had a great turnout for the Cleveland State Green Day. Thanks to all that came out and worked. Be sure to watch for future events to volunteer. This is a great way to get your hours and we have fun.

Our Master Gardener Class is winding down; May 4 will be the last night. This has been a great class and the class presentations have been very good. Thanks Jerry and Ernie Eppinga for being in charge of these and the mentors. We have had 14 mentors who have done a great job. Thank you all for being in our class each week.

Our next meeting is May 4th. This will be a great meeting as our new class will be there. So be sure to introduce yourself to someone you don’t know and get to know our new interns. Our meeting will be upstairs at 6:00 p.m. Hope we will see you all there.

*Johnnie Arnett, President BCMG
Master Gardener*

Volunteer and CEU Opportunities

Volunteer opportunities

- ◆ **Junior Master Gardener Project Assistants Needed**
Wednesdays, starting March 22 for 13 weeks, 5:30-7:00 p.m.
The Jr. Master Gardener Project is a cooperative project with the Bradley County Juvenile Court and BCMG Volunteers. For more info, contact Leslie Humberd at lshumberdpersonal@gmail.com.
- ◆ **April 21 - 22 Reflections Riding, Spring Native Plant Sale**
Volunteers needed for setup and sales. Email yonunteer@reflectionsriding.org
- ◆ **May 6, 9:00 - 2:00 Ask a Master Gardener Day at Ace Hardware**
This is really a fun day! We partner with the Magnolia Garden club in assisting customers with garden questions, helping them pick out plants and drawing interest to our group. Contact : Linda Merritt: clanofmany@aol.com

T-shirts! If you'll be volunteering at our upcoming events this year and need a BCMG logo shirt, you can get them at Express Athletics. 15 Broad St, Cleveland, ph# 728-6000. You can bring your own shirt or you can buy a shirt from them. The embroidery cost is \$8.95+tax. There is usually a week or so lead time. Any questions, please contact Linda Merritt. Clanofmany@aol.com



Ever go a little overboard with your vegetable garden? Here's a recommended reading:

The \$64 Tomato: How One Man Nearly Lost His Sanity, Spent a Fortune, and Endured an Existential Crisis in the Quest for the Perfect Garden, by William Alexander.

"Bill Alexander had no idea that his simple dream of having a vegetable garden and small orchard in his backyard would lead him into life-and-death battles with groundhogs, webworms, weeds, and weather; midnight expeditions in the dead of winter to dig up fresh thyme; and skirmishes with neighbors who feed the vermin." Let's just say his cost/benefit ratio surprised him. It's a fun, funny and, er, all too familiar read.



Stay connected!

Master Gardener, Matt Thayer, has taken on maintenance of our website and Julie Halsey maintains our Facebook page. Check them out frequently to stay connected with our organization and each other.

www.bradleycountymastergardeners.org
www.facebook.com/bradleycomastergardeners

Continuing Education Opportunities

- ◆ **Upcoming classes —Reflection Riding Nature Center**
Contact: 423-821-1160
- April 21, 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m., Planting for Hummingbirds**

11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Tree Identification

1:00pm-2:00pm, Butterfly Gardens

2:00 p.m.-3:00pm, Spring Ephemerals tram ride
- April 22, 9:00 .am.-12:00 p.m., Migratory Birds**

10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m., Spring Ephemerals tram ride

11:00 a.m.-12:00pm Azaleas of Reflection Riding

1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m., Caring For Your New Plants

2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m., Spring Ephemerals tram ride
- ◆ **Upcoming classes—Ooltewah Nursery & Landscape Co., Inc./ 5829 Main Street/ Ooltewah, TN 37363**
Contact: 423 238-9775. Class are free unless otherwise marked.
- April 22, 9:00-11:00 a.m., Plant an Herb Garden**
Drop in during those two hours. Discounted materials.
- May 4, 3:30 p.m., Growing Great Tomatoes**
- May 6, 10:00 a.m., Using Tropicals in Your Landscape**
- May 13, 9:00-11:00 a.m, Plant Mom a Container Garden**
Drop in during those two hours. Discounted materials.
- May 20, 9:00 a.m., Hydrangeas—Southern Beauties**
- June 3, 9:00 a.m., Hastas & Other Shade Perennials**
- ◆ **May 11, 6:00 -7:30 p.m. Urban Gardening**
Small space Considerations, a Tennessee River Seed Library workshop. E.G. Fisher Library Community Room, Athens. Free
- ◆ **May 13, 10:00 -11:00 a.m. Pollinator Class, Five Points**
We'll discuss pollinators, why they need our help, how they help us be better gardeners and how to draw them in. Five Points Museum.

SAVE THE DATE : June 8

Eastern Master Gardener Conference, Crossville TN.

Class descriptions and times are posted on UT website or in the latest Takin g Root newsletter. Registration info to come.