

BRADLEY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS



May 2017 Newsletter

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: June 1, 2017



Web of life

The JMG class was having fun learning about the "web" of life. Each person in the circle was asked a plant or animal question and then given a piece of string to hold on to. As the string made its way around and back and forth from person to person, a web was formed. Then, each person was asked to drop their string based on a "what if" a part of the web wasn't there, thus collapsing the "web." The lesson was how all things, plant, animal and human depend on each other for survival.



Message from Johnnie

Hello everyone, hope your garden is growing well. With all this rain, things should be doing great. I know the JMG garden is looking nice. Thanks to all the students and volunteers who are working so diligently.

Our 2017 Master Gardener Class just finished up and we are looking forward to their graduation on May 25. Congratulations to all our new interns, we are excited about having you in our organization. Also, thanks to all the awesome mentors who volunteered this year. Jerry & Ernie Eppinga did a great job directing the mentor program.

We had a great meeting in May. Carie Kurtesz with Emerald Turf was our guest speaker. We had 42 members present, including the new MG class. Our next meeting will be on June 1, hope to see you there!

Johnnie Arnett, President BCMG
Master Gardener

Volunteer and CEU Opportunities

Volunteer opportunities

- ◆ **Bradley Healthcare & Rehabilitation Center.** Work with residents on planting and maintaining flower and vegetable gardens. 2910 Peerless Rd, Cleveland. Contact Anita Walcheski at farmers2aw@yahoo.com or Arleen Mcaree at mac-intenn@hotmail.com
- ◆ **Spring Forward Fest , April 21, 2018**
Presented by us, Bradley County Master Gardeners!
 Here's the best chance yet to get involved. You can work on classes and displays, make crafts, even grow gourds. Committees have been formed to secure vendors, booths, crafts, advertising, logistics and more. Find your niche and join the fun for our first ever expo-like event. Contact Jerry Eppinga, jerryann66@gmail.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



Want to drive nature *back into* our neighborhoods? Here's a recommended reading:

Planting in a Post-Wild World, by Thomas Rainer & Claudia West.

"This is both a post-wild manifesto and practical guide that describes how to incorporate and layer plants into plant communities to create an environment that is reflective of natural systems and thrives within our built world." West recently presented these concepts at the annual Wild Ones Symposium in Chattanooga.



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—Ooltewah Nursery & Landscape Co., Inc./ 5829 Main Street/ Ooltewah, TN 37363**
 Contact: 423 238-9775. Class are free unless otherwise marked.

May 20, 9:00 a.m., Hydrangeas—Southern Beauties

June 3, 9:00 a.m., Hastas & Other Shade Perennials

- ◆ **June 8, 6:00 -7:30 p.m. Weeds and Bugs**
 Organic Answers & IPM, a Tennessee River Seed Library workshop. E.G. Fisher Library Community Room, Athens. Free.
- ◆ **30th Annual Spring Garden Tour**
Saturday, June 10 from 10 am to 6 pm
Sunday, June 11 from 1 pm to 6 pm

Presented by the Hamilton County Master Gardeners, there are five private gardens and two public gardens on the agenda this year. They are in Hixson, E. Brainerd and Chattanooga. Cost is \$15. Addresses of the gardens are available online. Descriptions will be added so check back for more information. <http://mghc.org/30th-annual-spring-garden-tour/>.

Put it on your calendar NOW!

Eastern Region Extension Master Gardener Workshop June 8, 2017

The Annual UT Extension Master Gardener Workshop is coming up on June 8 in Crossville, TN. UT Plateau Research and Education Center and UT Gardens: Plateau Discovery Gardens, Crossville, TN. Hosted by the Cumberland County Master Gardener Association.

Highlights include tours of the Plateau Research and Education Center and the UT Gardens - Crossville: Plateau Discovery Gardens with sessions on dogwood trees, garden photography, demonstration and youth gardens, MGs and research, garden IPM, and managing home ponds.

We hope you can attend. I think you will enjoy it, but you must be signed up by June 1, so go online and check it out.

<https://extension.tennessee.edu/MasterGardener/Documents/Registration%20form%20-%20Eastern%20region%20workshop%202017.pdf>