



### 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.

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**Next meeting: August 4, 2016**

### Congratulations Junior Master Gardener Class of 2016!



The Juvenile Justice Center Junior master Gardener program graduated 13 young people on June 29th, representing the sixth class to graduate the program! Master Gardeners, along with the Juvenile Justice Center Staff, spend 13 weeks — one night a week — with the students, teaching them the basics of gardening along with environmental lessons, team work, cooking and nutrition. Leaders also try to instill the concept, that with a little work and care good things will grow!. This program and all the work that goes into it couldn't be accomplished without all the great Master Gardener volunteers.



### Message from Johnnie

Hello everyone,

I trust that each one of you had a great 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday. We are pleased with the rain in the last few days. It sure is helping us enjoy the tomatoes and green beans. I am sure all of you are harvesting veggies from your gardens as well. If you plan to do any canning this summer, be sure to try the Bradley County Cannery. It is located behind the Farmers' Market on Peerless Road, but you will need call them

for an appointment, 423-728-7031.

We will be gearing up soon to work on our upcoming projects, the Cow Pea Festival and the Apple Festival. Be sure to attend our August and September meetings as we will be planning for these events. Also, if you need more volunteer hours, we can use more help with the JMG garden. Just contact Robin Ramsey, at the Ag Extension Office, for more information.

Our September meeting will be hosted by Julie Halsey. We are planning to roast hot dogs at the Halseys' and we'll discuss the details at the August meeting.

Hope to see you at our August meeting.

*Johnnie Arnett, President BCMG  
Master Gardener*

## Volunteer and CEU Opportunities

### Volunteer opportunities

- ◆ **Junior Master Gardener Gardens Upkeep, Ongoing**  
The gardens at the Justice Center, will need to be watered this summer. If you would like to volunteer, Contact Robin Ramsey, 4-H Agent and JMG Liaison at [rramsey3@utk.edu](mailto:rramsey3@utk.edu) or 423-728-7001.
- ◆ **Junior Master Gardener Planning Meeting, July 26, 4:30 p.m.**  
Planning for the next JMG session will take place at the Extension Office.

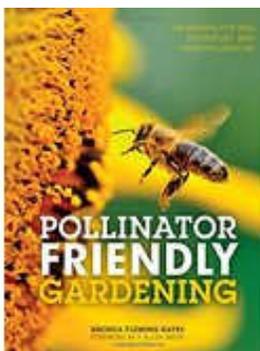
### Continuing Education Opportunities

- ◆ Coming up at Tennessee River Seed Library Organic Gardening Workshops  
**Seed Saving & Fall Planting, August 9**  
**Season Extension & Cover Crops, September 13**  
Workshops are led by Troy Teets of Spring Creek Veggies and take place 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. at the E.G. Fisher Library Community Room, Athens.
- ◆ **Volunteer Gardener, 10:00am Saturday mornings, PBS**  
This half-hour program features different gardening techniques each week.

### Interested in gardening for pollinators?

#### Here's a recommended book:

*Pollinator Friendly Gardening*, Rhonda Fleming Hayes



If you're interested in growing a naturally healthy garden and making sure your property helps bees, butterflies, and birds thrive, this book could be just what you're looking for. Identifying pollinators and describing their synergies with various plants, it provides vital information that makes it a unique sourcebook to share the ways that anyone can make a yard a more friendly place for pollinators.



## Bees in your pool?!

During the dearth of summer when nectar is not available, honey bees need water to drink. Your pool is a likely source of attraction! Don't panic, simply provide them an alternative that is more appealing. Here are several options that will appeal to honey bees and other pollinators such as birds and butterflies:

- 1) Provide a "bee board." Lean a board underneath a slowly dripping faucet. Conserving water? Place it under the faucet of a rain barrel.
- 2) Fill a shallow bird bath with stones or corks for perching.
- 3) Create a "beetainer" out of old soaker hoses and use as both a planter and a bee water source. Use zip-ties to attach the rows to each other forming a circle. Make it as large as you like. Fill the circle with a good potting mix and a native plant. The water the bees don't use is recaptured to water the plant. Two great pollinator plants for the fall landscape are Joe Pye weed and asters.

Stacie Campbell-Eckhoff  
Master Gardener



## Stay connected!

Master Gardener Julie Halsey maintains our website and Facebook page. Check them out frequently to stay connected with our organization and each other.

[www.bradleycountymastergardeners.org](http://www.bradleycountymastergardeners.org)  
[www.facebook.com/bradleycomastergardeners](https://www.facebook.com/bradleycomastergardeners)

