



2017

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7



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FEATURE ARTICLE

Tick Bite Prevention in Michigan's Outdoors

How to prevent tick bites when hiking and camping

Ticks can spread disease, including Lyme disease. Protect yourself:

Use insect repellent that contains 20 - 30% DEET.

Wear clothing that has been treated with permethrin.

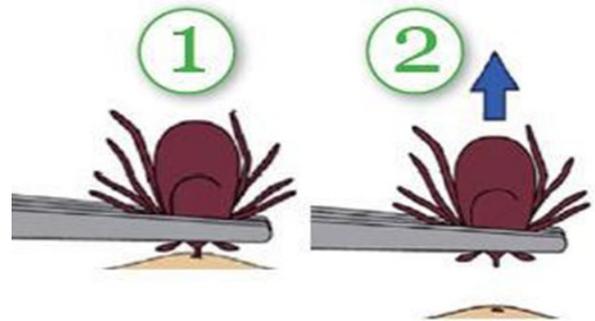
Take a shower as soon as you can after coming indoors.

Look for ticks on your body.

Put your clothes in the dryer on high heat for 60 minutes to kill any remaining ticks.

Feel for bumps and look for tiny brown spots, especially in these areas:

1. Scalp
2. Ears
3. Underarms
4. Belly Button
5. Waist & Back
6. Behind Knees
7. Pelvic Area
8. In Between Legs



How to remove a tick

1. If a tick is attached to you, use fine-tipped tweezers to grasp the tick at the surface of your skin.
2. Pull the tick straight up and out. Don't twist or jerk the tick—

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

this can cause the mouth parts to break off and stay in the skin. If this happens, remove the mouth parts with tweezers if you can. If not, leave them alone and let your skin heal.

3. Clean the bite and your hands with rubbing alcohol, an iodine scrub, or soap and water.

4. You may get a small bump or redness that goes away in 1-2 days, like a mosquito bite. This is not a sign that you have Lyme disease.

Note: *Do not put hot matches, nail polish, or petroleum jelly on the tick to try to make it pull away from your skin.*

Removing ticks promptly (within 24 hours of attachment) can greatly reduce your risk for tick-borne disease.

When to see your doctor

See a doctor if you develop a fever, a rash, severe fatigue, muscle or joint pain, or facial paralysis within 30 days of being bitten by a tick. Be sure to tell your doctor about your tick bite. If you have these symptoms and spent time outdoors where ticks may be found, it is important to get treatment right away.



For more information please contact the Michigan Department of Health & Human Services
Emerging & Zoonotic Infectious Disease Section
333 S. Grand Ave., 3rd Floor, Lansing, MI 48933
Telephone: 517-335-8165

As we spend more time outdoors this summer we should be aware of our surroundings. The aforementioned article was published by Oakland County. Ed.

PLANTS WE LOVE

This is the theme for the 2017 MGAGCM educational conference to be held Saturday, September 30, 2017. Four well known, and well versed in their specialty, speakers have been lined up: Janet Macunovick (hydrangeas), Ric Adams (day lilies), Dr. David Michener (peonies) and Roman Kwarcinski (roses). Master Gardener volunteers will earn 5 hours of education credits for attending.

The conference will be held at the Mott Community College Event Center, 1401 E. Court Street, Flint, Michigan. It begins at 8:00 am and ends at 3:45 pm. There will be vendors and door prizes. A continental breakfast and lunch will be served by a local eatery 'The Lunch Studio'. There is plenty of parking on the Mott campus. The price is \$70 for early registration. The reservation form can be found at the website <http://fallintospring.weebly.com/>.

As much as we may know about things, there always seems to be something else we can learn. Hope to see you there. We hope you will be able to attend this instructive and interesting event. Loretta Elwood 07

HOME GROWN 900

What was wrong with my tomatoes this year? I planted them at the beginning of June but I still had some green tomatoes on the plants in October and they would not get ripe. Then, the plants seemed to rot in about three days. It had to that Blight stuff. Why did this happen and what can I do to prevent this?

What's wrong is that you are expecting things from plants that originated close to the equator to perform as if they originated in the Shetland Isles. It's too cold after the middle of September to expect much for a warm season plant. Tomatoes like it hot with hours of direct sun. In Michigan, it's only hot and sunny enough for several months and if the tomatoes aren't fruiting then, they do not have a great deal of hope. And that means hot enough sun for at least eight hours to ripen fruit and keep plants vigorous. This is like expecting green tomatoes to ripen in the refrigerator. That's not happening either. The more sun the fruit get, the better the flavor. By the time we are limping in to September, we begin getting cold, damp nights. This is tomato purgatory. They cannot handle cold and damp. This also activates Late Blight. That's how it gets its clever name; it usually happens late in the season. It's cold and damp and the plants get Late Blight because of the moisture and cold air. Once a plant contracts Late Blight, it has about three to five days to live. You can almost stand there and watch the disease progress. The leaves are marked with brown areas initially. Affected areas turn dark brown rapidly and turn purple-black. If the stems are involved with the same dark lesions, the plant rapidly collapses. The fruit gets areas on brown, bubbled tissue and become inedible as soon as the first tiny spot appears. Tomatoes are meant for hot sunny days. Try getting plants in between the middle and the end of May, depending on the weather. You can cover the soil around the tomatoes with clear or black plastic for a short period of time to help heat the soil. Tomatoes are going to be delighted if the soil is 75 degrees in the top inch of soil. Tomatoes do not grow in cold soil or cold weather. This includes nights. Your south-of-the-border cuties need more warmth in their lives.

This was my first year with a vegetable garden. I bought a six-pack of radishes in little containers and planted them in the garden. And that's all that I got, six radishes. What's the point? This was more expensive than buying a bag of radishes at the store. How do I do this so I get lots of vegetables to eat and not get cheated?

Buying radishes in a six-pack or corn or beans or many others as started plants is only for two groups of gardeners: those that have virtually no garden space or those that are completely new to gardening. This is a money-maker for the grower and the public demands that they can buy these. This is known as demand and supply. Some plants should be grown from seeds and some should be grown from transplants. The difference is that many plants do best as directly seeded into the garden because they grow fast and do better if their root systems are not contained. These are vegetables like leaf lettuces, spinach, chard, carrots, beets, turnips, radishes, cucumbers, summer and winter squash and sweet corn, peas, beans, to name a few. When the soil is warm enough, some of these seeds can be up in a week if the soil is moist. You also get many more seeds in an envelope than buying six plants. Grow one pack of radish seeds and you will be gagging by the time you have eaten them all. Other plants do best if they are grown from transplants. This is because Michigan's growing season is not long enough for them to grow as seeds. Transplants jump-start the process by six or eight weeks. These are plants like tomatoes, peppers, eggplant, watermelon, muskmelon and giant pumpkins. If you want big, you need time. Other plants are started from small starts like onions bought as onion sets or potatoes bought as seed potatoes and divided. Do some reading about vegetable gardens this winter and it will begin to make more sense.

Gretchen Voyle, Retired, MSU Extension-Livingston County Horticulture Educator

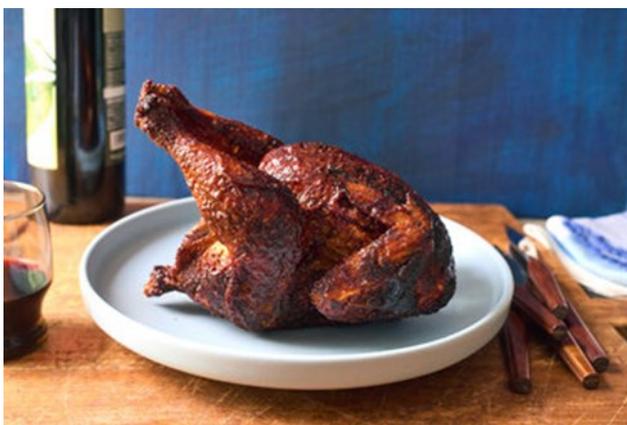


COOKS CORNER

Beer-Can Chicken

Ingredients

1 whole chicken, approximately 4 to 5 pounds
 4 tablespoons sweet paprika, or mild smoked paprika
 2 tablespoons chili powder
 2 tablespoons ground cumin
 1 tablespoon ground coriander
 1 tablespoon brown sugar
 1 tablespoon granulated white sugar
 1 tablespoon freshly ground black pepper
 1 tablespoon kosher salt
 1 tablespoon chile de arbol or red-pepper flakes, or to taste
 1 can beer, ideally yellow in hue, with the top half consumed or poured off



Preparation

Build a fire in your grill, leaving approximately half the grilling area free of coals. If using a gas grill, turn burners to high and then, when ready to cook, turn off the burner on the side where you will place the chicken. If using an oven, heat to 425 degrees.

Remove neck and giblets from chicken. Rinse the chicken in cold water. Pat dry.

Combine all the spices in a large bowl, then apply the dry rub to the chicken, inside and out. Put the beer can on a solid surface. Pick up the chicken and, taking a leg in each hand, put the cavity over the can and slide the bird down onto it. Carefully transfer the bird and the can to the cool side of your grill, its back to the fire, balancing the chicken upright and using the legs to support it in this position. If using an oven, place the chicken upright in a roasting pan using the same method and place carefully into the heat.

Cover the grill and cook for approximately 1 1/4 hours, basting with barbecue sauce twice during the final half-hour if you'd like, until the breast meat registers 165 degrees on an instant-read thermometer or until the legs are loose in their sockets. (If you're using an oven, you can tent the bird with foil after 45 minutes to keep the skin from getting too dark.) De-can and carve.

How to make a perfect summer feast. Featured in the NY Times

AUGUST MEETING DATE CHANGE

The August meeting will be a week early on August 10th due to the celebration of the horseless carriage AKA Back to the Bricks. The meeting will be at the GCARD building.

With your participation we are hoping to attract 100 members so if you are tired of summer TV reruns and the cushion on the rocker is a little worn stretch your legs and plan on attending we would love to see ya. Who knows you might see an old friend or meet a new one.

MGAGCM Meeting Minutes - JUNE 15, 2017

Call to Order: The meeting at Wojos was called to order by President Vicki Laurin at 6:44 pm.

Review of Minutes: Motion and 2nd by Janet Horvath & Alicia Ellis to accept the May 20, 2017 meeting minutes as presented. Passed.

Treasurer's Report: The beginning balance on 01MY17 was \$25,889.11. February income totaled \$1,884.40 and expenses were \$3,661.20. The ending balance on 28FE17 was \$24,412.33, including the Square account of \$300.01.

Mel Kennedy - Projects Reports:

Projects

Ask A Master Gardener

We raised \$765.00

Carriage Town

use more help

Crossroads Village (Monarch Way Station) Joanie Snyder- planted and mulched! 1 PM Sunday 16JL17 will be the annual MG picnic at Crossroads. Wear your name badge and bring a dish to pass and your place settings.

Desert Oasis

We work Tuesdays from 9-12 and could use more help.

Easter Seals

in Jerry Redoutey's honor.

Edible Flint Demonstration Garden

Farmers Market – Davison

Farmers Market – Grand Blanc

Sun of the month from 9-2, we could use more help.

Richfield PSA Vegetable Garden

plants

Flushing Butterfly Garden

more help! Meet Mondays at 5:30 pm

GCCARD Gardens

days at 9

Humane Society

Tuesdays and 4th Thursdays from 10-12

Park Place Community Garden

garden!

Library Gardens

Flint Public

am.

Rest Stop Projects

US-23

mulched. Had a coach pull in with a MGIT from Tennessee on it!

Otisville Veterans Memorial Park

acres.

Alan Grove - Standing Committee Reports:

Bulb Sale

Randy Tatro- Bulb sale is complete, we raised ~ \$750.

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Bus Trip (Educational) Sabrina VanDyke- date is July 20, 2017. Cost is \$60. Visiting: Southern Exposure Herb Farm, Leila Arboretum and 'Clara's on the River' for lunch (included) in Battle Creek and River Street Flowerland Green House in Kalamazoo. Have 61 signed up, need 100 to take 2 buses.

Clothing Vicki Laurin /Kay McCullough- due to quality problems with embroidered clothing, we will try an order with a screen printed logo. Shirts will be \$3.00 cheaper. The next order deadline is 29JN17.

DTE Vicki Laurin / George Rappold- Projects could give an update with photos..... to put in the DTE

Garden Stones/Plant Stakes/Tool & Garden supplies Dick Moldenhauer- Get your project's plant stake orders in!

Garden Tour (Educational) Kay McCullough- the Garden Tour will be June 25, 2017. It's almost ready, buy your tickets! A quilt will be raffled off. Educational displays will be at each site.

Hospitality Gloria Roudebush- nothing this month!

Hot Line Activity Abi Saeed for Jim Harrow- The Genesee County Hotline is one of the 2 busiest hotlines in the state (a reflection on how well we provide solutions to caller's questions!).

Outreach Activity Christy Jones- 27MY17 outreach went well. Next outreach activity is at Heavenly Scent. More info to come.

VMS Ambassadors Ruth Simon / Michelle Chockley- Now is a good time to enter your MG hours for January through May. Contact Michelle if you need help.

New Business:

1) Between the speaker and the meeting we celebrated Abi's imminent wedding to Jeremy with several gifts from the MGAGCM membership and a 'Bee' cake! Congratulations Abi and Jeremy!

2) Dick Moldenhauer reviewed the Nomination & Election process (SOP) briefly and asked anyone interested in being on the 2017 Nomination & Election Committee to contact Vicki Laurin. 3 members are needed, there was 1 volunteer at the meeting. Nominations will be accepted beginning at the August MG meeting. The Nomination SOP and Position Descriptions are on the MGAGCM website.

Announcements:

1) Thank you to WoJo's for allowing us to hold our meeting here tonight and to Roxanne for speaking to our membership.

2) Our next meeting will be our MG Summer Picnic at Crossroads at 1pm Sunday, July 16, 2017.

3) Remember our next membership meeting will be a week early on Thursday Aug. 10, 2017.

Close of Meeting: Moved and 2nd by Nettie Sparks and Beth Fromholz-Davies to adjourn the meeting. Passed. The meeting was adjourned by President Vicki Laurin at 7:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted: Dick Moldenhauer, MGAGCM secretary

The Denny Nichols Memorial Garden At Carriage Town Ministries

The garden at Carriage Town Ministries began in 2010 as a Master Gardener project by my husband Denny and I, along with Diane and Hilliard Shackford. We were fresh from the class of 2009, which had 7 married couples. We were told that was a record for the most married couples, which I don't believe has been broken to this day!

This garden was a great joy for Denny. When he passed away in 2011 Carriage Town Ministries renamed the garden in his memory. In 2013 a brick entryway was added as an Eagle Scout project.

The garden is a partnership between Master Gardeners and Carriage Town Ministries. We grow food for the Mission, as well as providing educational opportunities for the clients there and the surrounding community. We coordinate with them what we will be growing and how we can best serve them through the garden. They provide workers to assist us when we are there, as well as weeding or watering throughout the week.

It is very rewarding to see the pride and ownership they take of their garden as well as the therapeutic effect it has for them. Each year we see how it has impacted different people in so many ways.

At the present time, we have 10 Master Gardeners working with us. One of our new Master Gardeners, Nate Oliver, is the Food Director there and serves as our contact person for the garden. We meet every Wednesday morning from 9-11. Every other Wednesday we provide a class for the women and children staying at their Family Center and the kids enrolled in their summer enrichment program. We provide hands on education in the garden as well as a craft for them. One week they may make their own salad from vegetables they pick from the garden. The next week they are learning about garden pests and beneficial insects and looking for bugs in the garden.

This year we have added a memorial path in the garden. Engraved bricks may be purchased for \$50.00, \$100.00 or \$200.00. The proceeds of this will go toward a children's garden and playground project at Carriage Town's Family Center. To get more information on this, or print an order form to purchase a brick go to: <http://www.carriagetown.org/memorialgarden>

We love to have visitors come see what we're doing or add new volunteers to our group. Hope all of you will make time to come see us this summer!

Marilyn Nichols 09



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Carriage Town Ministries

OTISVILLE VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK



It was a beautiful sunny morning (about 50 degrees) just perfect for starting our first Master Gardener Volunteer Project. I was to meet and work with Project Manager Peggy Banks, who lives in Otisville. I (Sharon Kridner) was driving from my home in Lake Orion to help Peggy clean up and beautify the Veterans War Memorial in the Village Center of Otisville.

As we greeted each other that morning we noted all the garden work that had to be done before their Annual Veterans Day ceremony. The park is very “pleasing

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to the eye” with several flower gardens, shade trees, war monuments, statues and benches. The flags of Michigan, the United States and a Veterans flag were flying high in the center of the brick paver flag plaza. We both laughed as we noted all the weeds, trash, dead branches and debris that needed to be discarded.

The two of us surveyed what had to be done to beautify this 2 acre park area. We began by trimming the tall grass plants, removed weeds, edged around flower gardens, planted new bushes and flower pots, applied weed control and spread mulch. We were very grateful that the Village employees mowed the lawn, but (I)Sharon wanted to give them a lesson on lawn mowing.

The Village accommodated our requests for supplies on this project. They delivered the Weed Control and Cypress Mulch to the areas where needed. As we worked diligently, the village workers also supplied a front end loader to easily dispose of our winter's blight. They made our difficult tasks a bit easier.

Peggy and I had just completed the classroom portion of the Fall Master Gardener Program in Genesee County and were so anxious to get started on a project of our own. Peggy was already a seasoned gardener and knew what had to be accomplished to get the park ready for the Summer.

From an educational standpoint, we are still working on identifying all the trees and plants and are going to have nameplates made of all the plants that exist here. It has been quite a learning experience getting the park in shape for everyone to appreciate its beauty.

A restaurant owner in town saw us working and brought us bottles of water. Everyday people commented on what a great job we were doing. Another group of volunteers were in town to promote Arbor Day at the schools and they purchased our lunch. Every day that we worked, we were amazed that so many townspeople loved what we're doing for their community. We even had some handsome men help us spread mulch.

Even though we have some work left to do over the summer on this project, we both had a lot of fun and enjoyed working with each other. As one travels along M-15 through this quaint little village, it is rather obvious that the community takes a great deal of pride and joy with this park because of its history and fellowship.

If this is something that might interest you two or three additional Master Gardeners would be greatly appreciated. Tuesday from nine to noon are our core hours.



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The preceding article was submitted by Peggy Banks (810-631-6659) and Sharon Kridner (248-814-8321)

GROWING FERNS

Indispensable for shady areas, these delicate plants make the hottest summer day seem cooler. Great variety exists in form and size, giving the creative gardener, many planting options. Most Ferns are slow growing and can take several years to reach their mature size, which varies greatly between varieties.

Light/Watering: All Ferns thrive in light to heavy shade. A few, such as Lady Ferns (*Athyrium filix-femina*) will grow in full sun in the North, provided the planting site is damp. Water Ferns regularly if rain is not sufficient, and do not let the soil get completely dry. A 2" thick mulch of composted leaves or pine needles will help keep roots cool and damp.

Fertilizer/Soil and pH: Ferns prefer soils high in organic matter that are well-drained but do not dry out. Most will tolerate poor soils and a pH of 4 to 7; Maidenhair Fern (*Adiantum*) prefers a more alkaline soil between pH 7 to 8, but will grow at a lower pH. Apply fertilizer in spring, just after new growth has begun. Ferns are very sensitive to fertilizers; use a slow-release fertilizer when new growth appears in early spring. For initial planting of bareroot plants, lay the mat formers (*Adiantum*, *Athyrium*, *Dennstaedtia*, and *Dryopteris*) with buds and old fronds facing up in a shallow hole and cover with an inch of soil. Plant bareroot crown-formers (*Matteuccia*, *Osmunda*, *Phyllitis*, and *Polystichum*) with the growing tips just barely showing through the soil surface. Ferns are notoriously slow to send up new growth after planting, but good things come to those who wait.

Pests/Diseases: None serious enough to worry about, other than the occasional slug attack. Fight back with bait or diatomaceous earth sprinkled around the base of the fronds.

Companions: Ferns are lovely with other shade-lovers such as *Alchemilla*, *Brunnera* (False Forget-me-not), *Dicentra* (Bleeding Heart), *Hosta*, *Mertensia* (Virginia Bluebells), *Phlox divaricata*, *Pulmonaria* (Lungwort), *Tiarella* (Foam Flower), and *Viola*. They add fabulous texture to woodlands and landscape plantings. Ferns are deer-resistant, so they make an excellent choice for a woodland garden where deer are a problem.

Dividing/Transplanting: When Fern fronds appear to be smaller, or the clump has a bare



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center, it is time to divide. Some Ferns form crowns while others grow as mats of fibrous roots. Dig up the whole clump and take 6"-square pieces from the most vigorous growth. Replant at the original depth and water well.

End-of-Season Care: Cut fronds back after a killing frost, and apply a winter mulch of salt marsh hay or evergreen boughs to help prevent winter heaving.

Early Spring: Divide or transplant as soon as new growth appears, and water well if it is unseasonably dry, as plants prefer an evenly moist soil. Fertilize gently with a slow-release fertilizer or use an organic mulch. Recently planted Ferns may be slow to appear, but be patient.

Mid-Spring: Water consistently if rainfall is not sufficient to keep soil moist. Apply a 2" thick mulch of composted leaves or pine needles.

Late Spring: Watch for slug or snail damage and treat as necessary.

Summer: Continue regular watering as needed to maintain soil moisture.

Fall: Cut foliage back to soil level when it dies back after a heavy frost. When the ground freezes, mulch to protect plants from heaving out of the soil in winter.



Tropical Ferns are splendid garden plants where nighttime temperatures are above 60°F, and they make excellent houseplants as well. They require only filtered light and moderate humidity to grow well indoors.

Light: Tropical Ferns grow best in filtered or indirect light. An east- or north-facing window is ideal.

Humidity: Most houseplants are native to tropical or subtropical regions of the world, where relative humidity is typically very high. They suffer in the dry air produced by furnaces and woodstoves. The best way to increase the humidity around your plants is to run a humidifier nearby. You can also set plants in trays filled with pebbles or gravel. Add water to a level just



below the tops of the pebbles (if the potting mix in the pots comes in contact with the water, the mix will draw water into the pot, which will cause the mix to become saturated, eventually leading to rot). Refill trays frequently to replace water lost through evaporation. (Our [Humiditrays](#) perform the same function without the need for pebbles.)

Fertilizer: During the growing season (generally April into September) fertilize potted plants once a month using a houseplant formula mixed at 1/2 strength. Withhold fertilizer in fall and winter, when most plants rest.

FLUSHING RIVERVIEW TRAIL June 2017 WORK SCHEDULE

July 12, 9:00-11:00 am. in the parking lot behind Bueche's. Plan on deadheading berm area, weeding as needed. C.

July 26, 9:00-11:00 am., Meet in the Flushing County park-drive in to pavilion #3.(F)

Please bring your garden tools to each work day. For information contact Sylvia Hansen, 810-659-0130 or sylhans@sbcglobal.net

MGAGCM 2017 Educational

Bus Trip July 20, 2017. Registration will be first come first serve basis. Master Gardeners will receive 5 educational credits for attending. Guests are welcome. Please submit your check for \$60.00 per person (includes lunch) payable to MGAGCM. Mail to MGAGCM, PO Box 34, Flushing 48433

2017 Summer Garden Tour

Fenton Open Gate Garden Club's 20th annual Garden Tour will be held on Sunday, July 9th, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Seven Fenton and surrounding gardens featured, including one nationally recognized garden.

Advanced tickets for \$8 (children 12 & under FREE) available from Garden Club members.

On tour day, July 9th, tickets are \$10 (children 12 & under FREE) at A.J. Phillips Fenton Museum.

Additional information at OGGC website-
www.opengategardenclubgardentour.com

PROJECT HELP NEEDED

Carolyn Malaski, MG 2002, is looking for volunteers who would be interested in assisting with an established project at Beecher High School on Neff Rd. in Mt. Morris Twp. If you are willing to help, contact her

DATES TO REMEMBER

. We will be meeting on July 16, 2017 for our annual MGAGCM Picnic at Crossroads Village at 1:00 p.m. Bring your own table settings, drinks and a dish to pass. To enter the village you are asked to wear your Master Gardener name tag for free admission. Tickets will be available for rides on the train and River Belle. This is always a pleasant way to spend a Sunday afternoon walking back into time at Crossroads Village. Come out and enjoy the quiet atmosphere of the past and enjoy getting together with Master Gardener friends.

REMINDER: AUGUST

MGAGCM MONTHLY MEETING

Will be held on August 10, 2017.. Social hour will be 5:30 pm and speaker will start at 6:00. Please mark this change on your calendar.

Master Gardener Training Course - Imlay City (Lapeer County)

Let's try to help our neighbors in Lapeer County fill this class. If you know of anyone that might be interested in this class please pass this on.

This class will be held at Heritage Church, Imlay City Campus, 543 North Cedar St. (M24- and M-55) Imlay city, Mi 48444.

Class day is Thursday's, 5:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m., Aug. 24, 2017 to Dec. 7, 2017. The cost is \$300.00, including 1,000-page training manual. There are no other out of pocket costs.

Payments can be made with check or credit card. Deadlines for registration are August 16, 2017. Payment by check is August 4, 2017 and by credit card is August 16, 2017.

For complete details and registration go to:
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events_gardener_training_course_imalay_city_lapeer_county.

Or call Jackie Delis, 989-751-0230, delisija@msu.edu

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THIS NEWSLETTER PREPARED BY:

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of counsel Ruth Simon.

**CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITES****MMGA Inc Website at:****www.michiganmastergardener.org****MMGA Inc Facebook Page at:****www.facebook.comMichiganMG****MGAGCM Website at: Genesee****County MG.org****MGAGCM Facebook Page at:****http://facebook.com/groups/2169046232310/****Link to VMS: https://**
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AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION/EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

