



GREEN TIMES

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Special Edition

Announcements for August and September

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE: NJ BOTANICAL GARDENS

Passaic County Master Gardeners will be participating in the Holiday Open House at NJBG Skylands on December 3 - 6. The theme this year is the 1920s. We will be decorating the Great Hall with memories of the Silent Movies. We have opportunities for volunteers in the following areas:

- ♦ Docents will work in shifts. We will have 2 shifts on Thursday, December 3rd and Sunday, December 6th. The shifts will be 9:30am - 1pm and 1pm - 5pm. We will have 3 shifts Friday, December 4th and Saturday, December 5th, 9am - 1pm, 1pm - 5pm and 5:30pm - 8:30pm, when hours are extended for the evening reception. We will have "prepared scripts" for the docents describing the room and the theme for the decorations.
- ♦ Set-up will take place Monday, November 30th, Tuesday, December 1st and Wednesday, December 2nd. We will be working between 9am and 3:45am.
- ♦ The cleanup takes place on Monday, December 7th between 9am and 12pm.
- ♦ We have workshops scheduled for November 7th at 10am at NJBG to make silver stars with movies and movie stars. The second workshop will be November 14th at 10am at the Bloomingdale Senior Center to decorate silver balls and stars.

Come join us for our next planning session which will be August 19th at 1pm in the Carriage House at NJBG Skylands. If you have Allium or Stachys, please cut and bring them. We will be spraying them silver on Wednesday. Any questions, please contact Sharon Remia at sremia@hotmail.com or 973-853-4279.

-- Sharon Remia

BUS TRIP TO TOMATO TASTING AT SNYDER RESEARCH FARM

First come, First Serve: Wednesday, August 26th \$20.00 per person ~ that includes bus ride and admission. Leaving Nike Base at 2pm returning before 7pm. Please park in lower parking lot. Contact Jo-Ann at 973-305-5740 or pituch@AESOP.Rutgers.edu.

-- Jo-Ann Pituch

The Snyder Research and Extension Farm and
The Melda C. Snyder Teaching Garden present the Annual

Great Tomato Tasting



August 26, 2015, 3pm – 7pm (rain or shine)
140 Locust Grove Road, Pittstown, NJ

The Great Tomato Tasting at Snyder Farm, one of the most popular events organized by the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station and Rutgers Cooperative Extension, will take place on August 26, 2015 (rain or shine) and will offer more than ever to experience and enjoy.

Starting with the actual tomato tasting, this year there will be more than 60 heirloom and hybrid varieties of beefsteak, plum, cherry, and grape tomatoes to sample. Other produce, as well as varieties of basil and honey, will be available.

Activities will include a chef's cooking demonstration and tasting, guided educational wagon tours of the farm's research plots, visits to the farm's gardens with opportunities to ask questions and get answers, insect displays, information booths on various foods grown in the Garden State, and much more.

One highlight will be the Melda C. Snyder Teaching Garden which showcases demonstration plots of deer tolerant ornamentals; ethnic greens; blueberries, hazelnuts, dogwoods, and hollies from the Rutgers breeding programs; a turf labyrinth; an "apple wall" featuring the Experiment Station Tree Fruit Breeding Program for home orchards; and fun family farm photo opportunities. New this year will be a "sunflower pyramid," a display of various varieties of sunflowers of different heights and sizes that form a living pyramid.

Rutgers faculty and staff and Rutgers Master Gardeners, whose hard work preparing for this popular event makes it possible, will be on hand to answer gardening questions.

Admission is \$7 for visitors 10 years of age and older, payable at the door (cash or check only). Children under 10 years are free. Service dogs are allowed on the farm grounds, but no other animals, please. For more information, call 908-730-9419, extension 3501. Please be sure to [register](#) well in advance.

RUTGERS
New Jersey Agricultural
Experiment Station

HORTICULTURAL THERAPY

Horticultural therapy at Llanfair House, Black Oak Ridge Road, Wayne will take place on Tuesday, September 15th, at 10am. We will be making fall wreaths with the residents.

Contact Helene at 973-694-1201 (butterfleye@verizon.net) or Margaret at 973-835-2666 (kermar154@gmail.com), if you wish to help us in this venture. All are welcome. We will meet at the front door.

-- Margaret Kerstner



www.laurelwoodarboretum.org

NEW! NOW TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS ARE VOLUNTEER DAYS

9am – 12 noon Meet in the pavilion

Get your volunteer hours on Tuesday or Friday or both!

Bring water, hat, gloves, insect repellent, sun-block and small hand tools

Aug. 15th Sat. 4pm

Rick Mikula (The Butterfly Guy) Program

Family event – Free for FOLA members/ \$15 non-members

Aug. 20th Thurs. 4pm

Native Tree Tour

Led by Gerry Lowry and other FOLA Plant ID Committee members - Free

Sept. 13th Sun. 2pm

Story Time – *Why Would Anyone Cut Down a Tree*

Led By Margaret Kerstner

For children Kindergarten to 3rd grade – must be accompanied by an adult – Free

Sept. 15th Tues. 12noon

Dividing Perennial Plants

Led by Executive Director, Elaine Fogerty

Free for FOLA members/\$15 non-members

Sept. 16th Wed. 3pm

Gardener's Journal

Come join a discussion of topics in the Oct. issue of Fine Gardening - Free

Japanese Gardens * Asters * Specialty Ferns

-- Bonnie Joachim

LILAC SATURDAY IN SEPTEMBER

Join us September 5th in the Skylands Lilac Garden for a lesson in lilac care by Dan Ryniec (formerly lilac curator at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden) and an opportunity to practice pruning. Bring gloves, pruners and loppers if you are so equipped. We begin at about 9am, lesson is at about 10am, then work into the early afternoon as we are having only one session this fall. Bring something to drink and we will provide snacks and cookies.

-- Edith Wallace

VEGETABLE GARDEN VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

We have scheduled the following work day at the vegetable garden:

- ◆ Tuesday, August 18 at 10 a.m. -weeding, watering, harvesting tomatoes



Laurie and Patrick O'Connor and Linda Wescott picking string beans last month.



Linda Wescott, Kathie Hetherington, Laurie O'Connor and Patrick O'Connor display the string beans, collard greens, Boston lettuce and Romaine lettuce harvested from the MG garden last month.

-- Joe Di Giacomo

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR PASSAIC COUNTY FAIR

Volunteers are still needed for the Passaic County Fair for Saturday, August 15th and Sunday, August 16th from 3pm to 8pm.

The Passaic County Fair is at Garret Mountain, Woodland Park. The volunteers will "man" our table, answer questions, and promote the Master Gardener program.

Please let Jo-Ann know if you are available to volunteer (973-305-5740). She has free parking passes for anyone who volunteers.

-- Jo-Ann Pituch

2015 NJ State Conference**Rutgers Master Gardener Association of New Jersey
THROUGH THE GARDEN GATE****October 3, 2015**

Course Code: AH0203IA16

The Rutgers Master Gardener Association of New Jersey (RMGAN) will hold its 2015 Conference on October 3, 2015 at the Cook Student Center in New Brunswick.

The Master Gardeners Association of New Jersey (MGANJ) is an organization made up of representatives from each of the county Master Gardener programs. The purpose of MGANJ is to unite Rutgers Master Gardener programs in a statewide group that will assist Rutgers Cooperative Extension in its basic mission to disseminate research-based information to the general public. It also provides a forum for developing activities in support of Certified Rutgers Master Gardeners/Educators or current Rutgers Master Gardener Interns. MGANJ consists of representatives from all current programs and designated RCE faculty and staff.

Registration FeesOnline registration: <http://www.cpe.rutgers.edu/RMGANJ/>

\$30 per person
(On/before September 4, 2015)

\$40 per person
(After September 4, 2015)

\$10 Optional Box Lunch

NOTE: Registration closes on September 18, 2015.

No walk-ins will be accepted.

Featured Speakers:

Kerry Ann Mendez, *Expert Gardener*
[Perennially Yours](#)

Kerry Ann Mendez is a noted low-maintenance perennial gardening/landscape expert and author of recently released book, *The Right Sized Garden*, presents "Hydrangeas Demystified."

Margaret Roach, *Author*
[A Way to Garden](#) blog

[Margaret Roach](#) is a former editor and associate at Martha Stewart Living and the author of her newest book, *The Backyard Parables*. She will show you how to extend your garden throughout the year with "Nonstop Plants: A Garden for 365 Days."

Dr. Sara Webb, *Biology Professor*
Drew University

[Dr. Sara Webb](#) is an award winning Professor of Biology and Environmental Studies at Drew University and Director of Drew University Forest Preserve. She will present, "After the Trees Blow Down: Forest Recovery and Restoration."