

MICHIGAN STATE

UNIVERSITY

EXTENSION

**IONIA COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION
NEWSLETTER**

MAY/JUNE 2007



Dear Master Gardeners:

It's time to get those gardening tools out and sharpened up! Our favorite season is about to begin!

April 5 marked the last day of classes for the Master Gardener Program of 2007. We had eleven attendees this spring and also some new class presenters, Michelle Mucha from Meijer Gardens on Houseplants, Dario Stefanelli on Composting, and Tom Smith on Turf Management.

We have been approached about participating in a community garden located in Saranac next to the Senior Housing building. It is still in the preliminary planning stage, and the coordinator for the project is looking for some commitment from community volunteers. Give me a call if you are interested.

We will again participate in the Bertha Brock Park Fall Festival and the Ionia Free Fair this year. We need a lot of volunteers for both booth projects. Please give me a call.

We had 24 people attend the open house and presentation on Pondscapes on April 2. A BIG thank you to Doug Steffens of Grand Rapids Waterfalls & PLS and CSI Geoturf.

We will have a general membership meeting and planning session for the IMG Association on May 7th. This will be our only planning meeting until this fall, so please plan on attending and signing up for some of the projects that need your time. Please

consider becoming a member of the association. We need your great ideas and fellowship!

We value input from Ionia Master Gardeners on what they would like to see in terms of education, volunteering opportunities, and workshops.

Our Master Gardener Graduation and Awards Potluck Dinner will be May 17th at Clarksville. You should receive your invitation soon. Please RSVP to me at 616-642-9750 or sandi.clark@maryfreebed.com.

We also have a guided tour of Beal Garden at MSU planned for Sunday, June 3rd.

Hope to see you soon and happy gardening!

Sandi Clark
Ionia Master Gardener Coordinator

Hello! My name is Renee Reed. Sandi has graciously offered me the task of producing this newsletter. I hope to do it justice. Please feel free to submit any interesting articles or tidbits for consideration. Contact me at renee_r_reed@Yahoo.com.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Clarksville Town Square Project

If you are interested in volunteering your time on this project, please contact Teresa at 616-693-2230.

Boyce Nature Trail and Boyce Elementary

Please contact Melissa Eldridge at the Ionia Soil Conservation office, 616-527-2620.

Bertha Brock Park

Contact Sandi Clark at 616-642-9750.

Ionia Hospice Office Building

We need a chairperson to head up this project. All work must be approved by Hospice beforehand. Please Contact Sandi Clark at 616-642-9750.

October Tree Sale Ionia Soil Conservation

Contact Melissa Eldridge at 616-527-2620.

Saranac Community Garden at the Senior Housing Center

Don Benjamin chairs this project. Contact Sandi at 616-642-9750.

