

2008 Master Gardener Volunteer SPRING CONFERENCE Michigan State University – East Lansing, Michigan March 8

YOUR INVITATION

Michigan State University, home of the Michigan Master Gardener Volunteer Program, is the setting for the 2008 Master Gardener Volunteer SPRING Conference – *Learn to Grow Green*. All active Michigan Master Gardener Volunteers, MGV Trainees and gardening friends are cordially invited to come, learn and grow. Be inspired by exchanging ideas with MGVs from around the state and find gardening related items to purchase at the Green Marketplace and Master Gardener Shopping Mall.

The 2008 SPRING Conference comes just in time to get us prepared to dig in for another exciting gardening season! Registration is processed on a first come-first, served basis. Registration with credit card payment is available on our secure website. If paying by check, your REGISTRATION FORM must be mailed to us with payment included. Save money and register by the Early Bird deadline. A confirmation letter with details and directions to MSU will be sent via email once your registration has been accepted.

The Eli Broad Business College Complex on the beautiful MSU campus will again be our headquarters. Lodging is available at area hotels and a new bed and breakfast listed in this brochure. Special rates have been arranged and contact information is available for you to make your own reservations.

You will earn 8 Master Gardener Volunteer educational hours by attending this full day conference.

Wear your *Green*, bring your gardening spirit, and *Learn to Grow Green!*
See you March 8th!

KEYNOTE PRESENTATION



Our keynote presentation will come from a Great Lakes (Milwaukee) gardener who knows how to garden in the north! **Melinda Myers**, best known for her gardener friendly and practical approach to gardening, has more than 25 years of horticulture experience in both hands-on and instructional settings. She hosts “Great Lakes Gardener,” seen on PBS stations throughout the United States, including most of Michigan from Marquette to Detroit. Melinda has written 20 books, including “Can’t Miss Small Space Gardening”, “The Birds and Blooms’ Ultimate Gardening Guide” and the “Perfect Michigan Lawn”. Some of Melinda’s books will be available at the Conference and she will be doing a book signing as well.

In 2007 some of Melinda’s speaking engagements included the Philadelphia Flower Show, the San Francisco Flower & Garden Show, the Northwest Flower Show in Seattle, the Cleveland Botanical Garden Flower Show, the Chicagoland Flower Show and Michigan’s Great Lakes Trade Expo. We are excited to bring this dynamic presenter to our own Michigan Master Gardener Spring Conference!

You can learn more about Melinda (before you meet her in person), hear her podcasts, explore “Melinda’s Choice” plants, and get year round gardening tips and much more at: <http://www.melindamyers.com>.

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

Saturday, March 8

7:30am-5:00pm •Green Marketplace *Open*
•MG Shopping Mall *Open*

7:30-8:50am Registration/Check-in
Coffee

9:00-9:10am Welcome - Mary McLellan
9:15-10:15am KEYNOTE Speaker: Melinda Myers

10:45a-12:15p *Concurrent Sessions*

12:15-12:50pm LUNCH

1:00-2:30pm *Concurrent Sessions*

3:00-4:30pm *Concurrent Sessions*

The End ...until 2009!

★ *Learn to Grow Green* ★

CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

SATURDAY: 10:45am - 12:15pm

A01 Turfgrass Species and Cultivar Selection – Dr. Suleiman Bughrara – It is important to select a grass species cultivar that is well adapted to the area, able to perform well and well suited to the intended level of management. We will focus on how to choose and establish the right turfgrass species and cultivars to ensure that your turfgrass will be healthy.

A02. Seven Steps to Success with Roses – Nancy Lindley – Nancy Lindley, owner of Great Lakes Roses, reveals the seven secrets to success with roses. Consistently apply her secrets and you'll be rewarded with armloads of rose blooms all summer long.

A03. Green Side Up! Gardens on Rooftops – Dr. Brad Rowe – Expanding your garden to the rooftop? Learn about the various types of green roofs, how they are constructed, different methods of installation, what plant species are suitable, and how these roofs impact the environment. See photographs of numerous examples from around the world and learn how you might do this at home.

A04. Compost Tea – Beth Clawson – Compost Tea is created through liquefaction (process of making or becoming liquid) of compost to increase the numbers of beneficial organisms as an organic approach to plant/soil care. Come and discover how to make compost tea, learn the different uses, hear why it is different from other "teas", and gain knowledge of the science behind why and how it works as a foliar spray and soil conditioner.

A05. Herbs: The Useful Plants! – Coleen French – Put your garden to work! See how you can easily prepare wonderful fragrant gifts, all compliments of your herb garden. We'll discuss how to grow, when to harvest, and how to dry several herbs that are especially helpful around the home. You'll learn how to use these herbs all year to make fragrant herbal gifts for yourself, family and friends. Everyone will love receiving such herbal treats as Lavender & Calendula Tea, Lemon Verbena Sugar, Herbal Dryer Sachets, Layered Fragrant Bath Salts, Herb-Infused Nail Oil, Lip Balms, Hand Treatments, Facial Steams, and More! These gifts are fun to make, many are delicious, and all are definitely more popular than a new pair of socks! Recipes and instructions included.

A06. MSU Tollgate: An Oasis of Green in an Urban Environment – Roy Prentice – Tollgate Farm is a 160 acre oasis in the middle of the Detroit suburb of Novi. The farm is home to horses, cows and sheep and contains several MSU research and demonstration projects. Over the past ten years, MSU staff has worked with hundreds of Master Gardener Volunteers to create a unique collection of plants that are not only educational but a beautiful compliment to the historic buildings on the site. Roy Prentice, MSU Tollgate Farm Manager, will discuss the history of the farm and its gardens and the role of MSU and the Master Gardener Volunteer Program at Tollgate.

A07. The Basics of Landscape Maintenance – Marcus Duck – Do you want to have that landscape that makes people say "Wow!!"? Come learn the basics of maintaining a healthy and beautiful landscape. The topics covered will include Plant Health Care, Weed Management, Winter Protection, and much, much more.

A08. Gardening in the Shade – Ralph Heiden – More and more landscapes are becoming dominated by large trees and the shade they cast. This does not mean the end of flower gardening, however, for there are many beautiful plants that perform well in the shade. This program will cover the basic challenges and opportunities for creating wonderful gardens in shaded landscapes. Featured will be the "Queen of the Shade," the hosta, and all the plants used to complement them. Bulbs, woodland plants and other shade tolerant species will also be included in this presentation!

A09. Michigan Wildflowers – Vern & Susan Stephens – Learn how to use native Michigan wildflowers and grasses in your landscape; site preparation, site selection, plant species selection, installation, and maintenance. Find out why native wildflowers are preferred by butterflies & other favorable insects. Vern and Susan will tell you why they like to use Native Wildflowers in the landscape. They grow their own wildflowers and are excited about sharing their presentation with you.

A10. Daylilies: Something Nice for Everyone! – Mike Creller – This class will introduce students to the species and cultivars that make up the genus *Hemerocallis*. Mike, horticulturist and founder and past president of the Central Michigan Daylily Society, will cover daylily species, modern cultivars, and propagation techniques.

SATURDAY: 1:00-2:30pm

B01. Beds and Borders* – Lynn LaPointe Wiese – (**All afternoon class: 1:00–4:30pm**) *Must also sign up for C01 to complete this ALL Afternoon session* – How would you like to be able to design your own breathtaking garden beds or borders? Join Registered Landscape Architect, Lynn LaPointe Wiese, as she walks you step-by-step through the design process. You will learn how to apply the theory behind garden design in a “plain-language”, practical way. Lynn will draw upon her experience as a designer at Longwood Gardens, to teach you how to create beautiful gardens in your own yard. A comprehensive manual will be yours to take home. No plant knowledge is required. *Materials fee: \$10.00.

B02. Simple Landscape Makeovers – Melinda Myers – Make your landscape a welcome retreat, entertainment center or just a pretty space to view. Changing the layout, adding a few key plants and containers or fine-tuning your maintenance practices can make a big difference in the beauty and enjoyment of your landscape.

B03. Theme Gardens – Dr. Norm Lownds – Create gardens within your garden that are full of fun and will interest and engage garden visitors. We will explore themes from the 4-H Children’s Gardens, local gardens and gardens across the country for inspiration and ideas. Everyone will have time to develop their own special theme garden ideas, share ideas with others and have some good garden fun! Join us for some exciting and engaging fun that will transform your garden!

B04. Bugs and Blooms: Integrating Insects into the Youth Gardening Experience – Jessica Albright – Discover unique ways to engage young gardeners using our six-legged friends. Come and explore the good, the bad, and the ugly sides of insects in the garden with hands-on learning projects and activities. We will be observing bugs, making bugs, writing stories about bugs, and we will even be eating bugs!

B05. Grow Organic – Gardening with What You’ve Got! – Dr. John Biernbaum & Corie Pierce – After completing this workshop, gardeners will be able to practice organic gardening with a greater understanding of how and why it works. Learn how to build soil organic matter, cultivate the soil food web, plan for crop diversity and rotations, and hear about other steps to efficiently and economically nurture healthy soil and healthy plants with locally available resources.

B06. Great Shrubs for the Midwest Landscape – Brett Myers – Discover underutilized shrubs that are great for the Midwest Landscape. Come and learn how to prune these plants as well as other key cultural information. Often people will ask, “How do I get my hydrangeas to bloom?” This class will highlight the steps necessary to keep your spring shrubs flowering from one year to the next.

B07. Best Practices to Protect Water Quality – Dr. Roberta Dow – Do you think about your gardening practices in relation to water quality? Why in a state surrounded by 20% of the world’s fresh water do you even need to care? Unlike gas or electricity, there is no substitute for water! Come enjoy this visuals-packed program which will send you away with new insight as to what you can do to make a difference at your home site and in your community to protect Michigan’s valuable water resources.

B08. How to Grow Clematis Successfully! – Grey Gitzen – Clematis, the right plant in the right spot with the right care will provide the gardener with years & years of consistent growth and bloom. Now to plant, prune and care for them. We will discuss the various groups of clematis and their availability to Michigan gardeners.

B09. Michigan Wildflowers – Vern & Susan Stephens – Learn how to use native Michigan wildflowers and grasses in your landscape. Learn site preparation, site selection, plant species selection, installation, and maintenance. Find out why native wildflowers are preferred by butterflies and other favorable insects. Vern and Susan will tell you why they like to use Native Wildflowers in the landscape. They grow their own wildflowers and are excited about sharing their presentation with you.

B10. Attracting Beneficial Insects and Pollinators with Native Plants* – Anna Fiedler – Learn about beneficial insects and how to provide habitat for them in your garden using native plants. We will talk about identification and biology of insect predators and pollinators. Insect predators can control pest insect populations, and pollinators increase yield of many vegetable and fruit crops. Home and business landscaping often lacks habitats that provide the pollen, nectar and shelter resources that these beneficial insects need to thrive. You will also learn methods of establishment and management of native plant habitats in small and large areas. This knowledge will supply you with tools to increase biological pest insect control and pollination in your garden- using native plants that are now uncommon in the Michigan landscape. ***Materials Fee: \$2.00**

SATURDAY: 3:00-4:30pm

C01. Beds and Borders* – Lynn LaPointe Wiese – (All afternoon class: 1:00–4:30pm) Must sign up for **B01** to complete this ALL Afternoon session) – *Continuation of B01.*

C02. Enjoy the Pleasure of Roses – George Hartley – Enjoy the beautiful roses (*our national flower*) growing in Michigan. You can enjoy the beauty of the rose in your garden by setting aside one hour a week. Learn how to keep pesky bugs in check and at the same time control and prevent most funguses. Join George and experience the more than 700 roses that are grown each year. The abundance of color and fragrance will take your breath away!

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SPECIAL EVENTS

MASTER GARDENER SHOPPING MALL

The *ON-LINE* Master Gardener Shopping Mall will be live and all the merchandise will be available to you at the SPRING CONFERENCE. Master Gardener Volunteer clothing, gardening gadgets, *Cobrahead* hand-weeder and cultivator tool, and much more cool stuff awaits your arrival. In addition, we will have a wide variety of gardening books available at a discount off the retail price. You won't want to miss it!

GREEN MARKETPLACE

Black Cat Pottery – Bowls, Lidded Jars, Mugs and Cups, Bottle Collection, Large Woodfire Jar

Etc. Designs – Wearable sculptures, including whimsical insects and creatures. Collection includes flowers, cats, dogs, etc. etc. etc!

Farmbrook Designs – Individually hand crafted hypertufa planters, fountains & garden accents

French Garden Creations – Herbal soaps, salves, lotions, body butters, eye pillows, organic heating pads, essential oils, room sprays, lip balms, bath bombs, books *written by Coleen French*

Genesee MGV Association – Master Gardener Volunteer garden stepping stones.

Great Lakes Roses – Hardy rose bushes, rose care products, Felco pruners, gloves, and books about roses

David Allen Furniture – Garden furniture and items

MCG Graphics – Nature-related porcelain and stoneware pottery. Functional bowls, platters and vases, as well as jewelry. Detailed pen and ink illustrations - originals and prints

Mount Joy Crafts – Gourd Birdhouses, Feeders, Flowers, Chickens

Nature's Artwear – Hand-painted wearable art. Gardening, flowers and nature themes

Puddingstone – Terracotta pots & finials; Vases

Stone Cottage Gardens – Specializing in hybrid daylilies, perennials, garden art & supplies

Taylor'd Iron Works – Hand-made iron décor for the garden and home. Beautiful trellises, plant hangers, etc.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Registration Information

Full payment must accompany your registration – Check; Money Order; Visa; MasterCard; Discover; or American Express accepted. Registration must be made **ON-LINE –credit card payment only**; sent via **U.S. MAIL** or by **FAX**. To protect your credit card information, *NO* E-mail registrations will be accepted.

SPACE IS LIMITED AND REGISTRATIONS WILL BE PROCESSED ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVE BASIS!

Registration Fee:

NOTE: The only registration option is for the entire day; please do not request partial-day registration or meal credits.

- Early Bird – Registration: postmarked by Jan 17:
- Regular – Registration: postmarked by Feb 14:

RATES:		<i>active</i> MGV**	<i>non-MGV</i>
	\$ <u>85</u>		\$ <u>105</u>
	\$ <u>99</u>		\$ <u>119</u>

****NOTE: MGV constitutes an active Master Gardener Volunteer - one who has taken the MG Volunteer Program and has maintained active status with recertification each year.**

► **ON-LINE REGISTRATION** (by February 14): [CLICK HERE](#) (Credit Card Payments Only)

► Mail-in Registration Form with Payment to (must be postmarked by February 14):

MG Volunteer Program—SPRING CONFERENCE
A422 Plant & Soil Sciences Building
Michigan State University
East Lansing MI 48824-1325

► Fax Registration (by February 14) to: **517/355-0188**

Included: Morning Coffee; Lunch; Surprise Gift; Breakout Educational Sessions; Green Marketplace Tradeshow; MG Shopping Mall; Door Prizes; Fellowship; and Fun.

Contact Information: 517/355-5191, Ext.1-408 or E-MAIL: mg@msu.edu.

Handicap Accommodations: 517/355-5191, Ext.1-408 by February 16, 2008.

Cancellation Policy: Cancellations will be accepted until February 28, 2008 for a refund (registration fee less a \$25 administration fee). After that date, no refunds or credits will be given. You may send someone in your place; notice must be given.

Accommodations Information

Participants interested in staying over must make their own hotel arrangements. Please contact the hotel directly and inform them you are with the MSU Master Gardener Volunteer SPRING Conference to receive the special rates listed below.

HOTELS

Waterford Estates (fka Clarion Hotel)	\$ 79	Ph.517/351-7600 * http://www.waterfordestateslodge.com
Candlewood Suites (adjacent to U-Club)	\$ 89	Ph.517/351-8181 * www.ichotelsgroup.com/h/d/cw/hd/lanmu
Kellogg Hotel (on MSU Campus)	\$ 90	Ph.517/432-4000 * http://www.kelloggcenter.com/
Cozy Koi Bed & Breakfast (historic Lansing)	\$ 105	Ph. 517/881-5938 * www.cozykoibandb.com

MG SPRING CONFERENCE 2008 Mail/Fax-In REGISTRATION Form

March 8 • MSU Campus, East Lansing, Michigan

► Register ON LINE: [CLICK HERE](#) (Credit Card Payments Only)

One person per registration form

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Phone number: Day (____) _____ Evening (____) _____

E-mail address: _____

(Confirmation will be sent to you via E-mail Correspondence)

- I would like Vegetarian meal.
- I am a current *active* Master Gardener Volunteer in _____
Where you took your MG class
- I am *not* a Master Gardener Volunteer. I heard about this from: _____

1. Conference Registration Fee

****NOTE: MGV constitutes an active Master Gardener Volunteer - one who has taken the MG Volunteer Program and has maintained active status with recertification each year.**

RATES: *active* MGV** | *non-MGV*

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Early Bird – Registration: postmarked by Jan.17: | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 85 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 105 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regular – Registration: postmarked by Feb.14: | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 99 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 119 |

TOTAL Registration Fee \$ _____

2. Educational Sessions

*Denotes additional materials fee as indicated in the class description and are due at time of registration.

Saturday, March 8: MORNING Educational Sessions

10:45am–12:15pm

- A01. Turfgrass Species & Cultivar Selection
- A02. Seven Steps to Success with Roses
- A03. Green Side Up! Gardens on Rooftops
- A04. Compost Tea
- A05. Herbs: The Useful Plants!

- A06. MSU Tollgate Gardens: An Oasis of Green
- A07. The Basics of Landscape Maintenance
- A08. Gardening in the Shade
- A09. Michigan Wildflowers
- A10. Daylilies: Something Nice for Everyone!

1st choice _____ 2nd choice _____ 3rd choice _____

Saturday, March 8: AFTERNOON Educational Sessions

1:00–2:30pm

- B01. Beds & Borders*-all afternoon (must also choose C01)
- B02. Simple Landscape Makeovers
- B03. Theme Gardens
- B04. Bugs & Blooms: Insects in Youth Gardening
- B05. Grow Organic: Gardening with What You've Got!
- B06. Great Shrubs for the Midwest Landscape
- B07. Best Practices to Protect Water Quality
- B08. How to Grow Clematis Successfully
- B09. Michigan Wildflowers
- B10. Attracting Beneficial Insects & Pollinators*

1st choice _____ 2nd choice _____ 3rd choice _____

3:00–4:30pm

- C01. Beds & Borders* -all afternoon (must also choose B01)
- C02. Enjoy the Pleasure of Roses
- C03. Theme Gardens
- C04. Bugs & Blooms: Insects in Youth Gardening
- C05. Grow Organic: Gardening with What You've Got!
- C06. Great Shrubs for the Midwest Landscape
- C07. Best Practices to Protect Water Quality
- C08. How to Grow Clematis Successfully
- C09. Attracting Beneficial Insects & Pollinators*

*Constitutes Materials Fee

1st choice _____ 2nd choice _____ 3rd choice _____

MG SPRING CONFERENCE 2008 Mail/Fax-In REGISTRATION FORM *continued*

3. Materials Fee*

- Beds and Borders* (B01/C01): \$10.00 \$ _____
- Attracting Beneficial Insects & Pollinators* (B10/C09): \$2.00 \$ _____

TOTAL Materials Fee \$ _____

4. TOTAL Payment Information

- I. TOTAL Conference Registration Fee \$ _____
- II. TOTAL Educational Sessions \$ **Included**
- III. TOTAL Materials Fee: \$10.00 (B01/C01) and/or \$2.00 (B10/C09)..... \$ _____

TOTAL Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Full payment must accompany your registration – Check, Money Order, MasterCard, Visa, Discover, American Express are accepted.

CHECK **MONEY ORDER #** _____ (*Payable to: MSU*)

CREDIT CARD: **MASTERCARD** **VISA** **DISCOVER** **AMERICAN EXPRESS**

Credit Card Number

Expiration Date

Cardholder Name

Cardholder Daytime Phone Number

Cardholder Address

City, State, Zip

5. Send Registration with Payment to:

**MG Volunteer Program—SPRING CONFERENCE
A422 Plant & Soil Sciences Building
Michigan State University
East Lansing MI 48824-1325**

(Or) Fax: 517/355-0188