

# The Compost

A Newsletter celebrating Charles County Master Gardener Projects

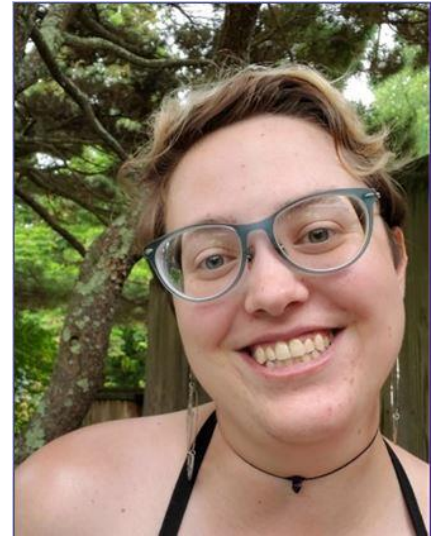
## CCMG Coordinator Update

by CCMG Coordinator Kaitlyn Baligush

Happy Spring and Earth Month!

I hope you are all enjoying the weather. Charles County Master Gardeners have been busy preparing for several upcoming outreach events, so please come on out!

For anyone who has not heard, I am now the Program Management Specialist for the Master Gardener State Office working under Stephanie Pully, the Master Gardener State Coordinator. I am writing to you from my new office at the Home and Garden Information Center in Ellicott City.



I have been working on advertising for our statewide continuing education events and subprogram meetings. Below are the registration links to several upcoming ones. We will be in southern Maryland for this year's summer "Grow It, Eat It" meeting. I hope to see many of you there!

[UME Master Gardener Irrigation Workshop- Wednesday, May 17<sup>th</sup>- Maryland State Fairgrounds](#)

[Spring Ask A Master Gardener Plant Clinic Training- Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>- Virtual](#)

[Summer UMD Campus Food Tour- Saturday, June 24<sup>th</sup>- UMD Community Learning Garden](#)

[Summer Grow It Eat It Meeting- Wednesday, July 12<sup>th</sup>- St. Mary's Fairgrounds](#)

A new Home Horticulture Educator and Master Gardener Coordinator for Charles County will be hired. As soon as the job announcement is posted, I will share it.

Happy gardening!

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As of this issue, CCMG Tina Bailem has passed on the duties of Editor. We thank her for her eight years of service and many hours of putting together and editing *The Compost*.

Thank you, Tina!



Dear Fellow Master Gardeners:

For the last 8 years I have enjoyed being the Editor for *The Compost*. Thank you all for sending in so many wonderful articles of your adventures in the garden – of successes, failures and curiosities and so much interesting information!

Fortunately for me, just as I decided that I would like to try my hand at something new, CC MG Intern Connie Nesbary volunteered to be the new Editor. Please keep sending in those articles and support her the way you did for me.

All the best, Tina

Photo of bee and flower by CCMG  
Rose Markham



# Melwood Horticultural Therapy

Article and photos by CCMG Barbara Hill



The winter months might be slower in the outside gardens but inside work continues at Melwood. In January, the Adult Horticulture Classes made pinecone Snowy Owls and Dried Flower Decoupage and House Plant PROPAGATION (their learned word), dividing the plants, repotting, and taking some home!

The Wounded Warriors Operation Tohidu (OP-T) program in February included their group introductions, discussions about seasonal plant gardens and nature with reflection to contribute positively to the restorative work the women are taking part in through OP-T. Hands on activities starting seeds, and propagations and how to travel with their new plants.



Seed to Table Group continued to learn about planting, caring for and using plants in developing meals. Contact Suse Greenstone, if you would like to be vetted to work in this program (see next page).

# Melwood Horticultural Therapy Project, cont.

Article and photos by CCMG Barbara Hill



Thanks to MG Linda Bronsdon who has agreed to be our Master Gardener Facilitator for Melwood activities.

Linda and MG Barbara Hill pruned and tied up the coral honeysuckle so you can walk underneath comfortably. The birds are using it already!

Thanks to MG Brian Larson for repairing the storm damage to the fence.



Suse Greenstone sends a big thank you to the Weekend Plant Care Patrols by MG Barbara Hill, MGs Paris & Jerry Reed, MG Paul Hutzell, and her husband John.



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Support Us: [Donate Now](#) | [CFC# 21166](#)

## Dr. Samuel Mudd House

Article and photos by CCMG Rose Markham



On April 5, CCMGs Patti Faulkner, Brent Burdick and Elena Wilcox met up for our first visit to the property with Jim Rather, a Mudd House Board Member and Lead Docent. We went over plans to do some pruning to the holly and forsythia bushes, as well as cutting back the Ironweed bush that is dying back. We may have to remove it. We discussed plans to weed and thin out some of the Iris in the front yard bed and doing some light pruning and weeding of the remaining beds on the side and entrance to the house. The boxwoods are overgrown and will require heavy thinning and pruning on our next two visits. He provided mulch for the garden and asked if we could plant some native flowers for the concrete planter in the front of the well.

The Herb Garden was in decent shape and after an hour or so of weeding and pruning out the overgrowth, we were ready to spread the mulch. Our information booth needs to be replenished so we will be copying and adding more information on our herbs and will try to locate some seed packets to offer the public. We are looking forward to offering some short presentations on the medicinal garden herbs and to share information on the other flower beds as well. Jim plans to lead the house tours to our garden when the inside tours are over. The House was finishing a tour for a St. Mary's County elementary school as we arrived, and we were able to speak with them for a few minutes. It was a very pleasant day and the views from the house were breathtaking.

If anyone would like to join us on the first Wednesday of the month from now until October 4 feel free to contact me at [rosemarkham38@gmail.com](mailto:rosemarkham38@gmail.com). Enjoy some of the photos we took during our stay.

# Meditation Gardens at Christ Church

Article and photos by CCMG Terry Thir

Carol Teets, Rose Markham, Kathy Davis, and Terry Thir helped prune plants and native flowers at the Christ Church, 112 Charles Street in La Plata in preparation of the Charles County Garden Club pilgrimage to be held on April 29<sup>th</sup>. MGs helped install the meditation gardens about 6 years ago in partnership with Christ Church members and Port Tobacco River Conservancy.

Photos below show Kathy Davis and a church member.



Rose Markham and Carol Teets



Carol Teets, Terry Thir, and Kathy Davis

# Southern Maryland Food Bank

Article and photos by CCMG Brent Burdick

On Valentine’s Day, we continued a tradition started last year and began doing project work on the Southern Maryland Food Bank “Seeds of Hope” Community Learning Garden. CCMGs Karen Westhead, Linda Ivko, Gail Black, and Derex Thompson met at CCMG Brent Burdick’s garage (photo on right) to start winter sowing seeds to generate transplants for spring crops. We planted twenty-two jugs that day with spinach, kale, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, snap peas, and Swiss chard.

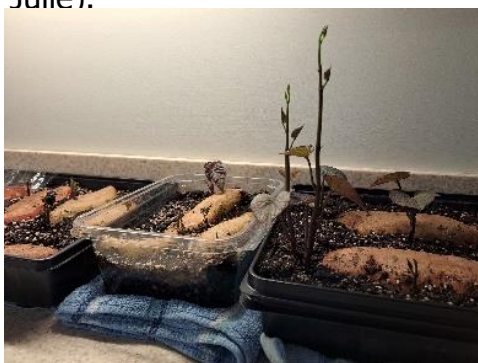


In this photo (left), Karen, Linda and Gail are starting sweet potatoes to grow vines for later generation of slips for later planting. Another session of Winter Sowing was held on February 23, with another eighteen jugs started with herbs and flowers.

Another group, consisting of CCMGs Karen Westhead, Julie Williams, Rose Markham, Gail Black, Sandra Heredia, Bob Peregoy, Derex Thompson, and Intern Karen Trundle, met on March 11 at CCMG Burdick’s garage.



They planted another forty-two jugs of Winter Sown seeds, mostly the warm weather crops that would get transplanted in May. They also started eleven potato baskets with red, Yukon gold, and Adirondack Blue potatoes (photo on right with Sandra, Karen T, Gail, Karen W and Julie).



Sweet potatoes starting to vine (left) and winter sown jugs “doing their magic” in the Food Bank Garden (right).



## Southern Maryland Food Bank, cont.

Article and photos by CCMG Brent Burdick

Actual work in the garden began in March. Two 2'x8' beds were moved from the rear corners of the garden to the front fence where they would get better sun. Work crews started garden cleanup in April. A special thanks goes to CCMGs Bob Peregoy, Inette Furey, Karen Westhead, Linda Ivko, Bill Allen, Teri White, Sally Matts, Derex Thompson, Sandra Heredia, Brian Larson, Rose Markham, and Interns Alexandra Mudry, Jess Richards, Karen Trundle, Elena Wilcox, and Karen Hile for the cleanup. A special thanks also goes to CCMG Intern Jess Richards for bringing in twenty-five everbearing strawberry slips to replace some of the old June-bearing plants in the tied strawberry bed.

Several of the above identified CCMGs/Interns also helped construct bamboo trellises for the snap pea bed and the cantaloupe/squash bed under the knot-tying tutelage of CCMG Bob Peregoy.

We also celebrated our first harvest from the Food Bank! On April 12, CCMG Interns Alexandra Mudry and Elena Wilcox harvested kale that had wintered over in the garden and presented same to the Food Bank.



Karen Westhead and Linda Ivko examining carrots that wintered over in the garden.



Bamboo trellis with transplanted snap peas.



Intern Elena Wilcox with harvested kale.



## Southern Maryland Food Bank, cont.

Article and photos by CCMG Brent Burdick

On April 13, snap peas and broccoli from our winter sown jugs were transplanted into the garden. It was noted that the winter sown Swiss chard, spinach, and Brussels sprouts would be ready for transplanting into the garden within the next couple of weeks. Success with our winter sowing efforts!



And we are looking forward to another bumper year crop – all with the valued help of our CCMGs and Interns.

Many thanks and kudos to all who have helped so far!

Top photo shows tiered strawberry beds with several new slips and bee balm on top tier.

Photo on right: Bamboo trellis for bed of cantaloupe, acorn squash, and butter nut squash.



## Victoria Park Senior Living

Article by CCMG Michelle Chenault

Happy Spring, Fellow Gardeners!

The active growing season for the gardeners at Victoria Park (Vic Park) Senior Apartments is about to start! We will continue in 2023 with the "Best Practices for Raised Bed Gardening" series. The ginger (*Zingiber officinale*) is in a container at Kathy Davis's house to grow indoors until it is warm enough to move outside.

Garlic (*Allium sativum*) cloves are planted in containers and placed on the teaching bed to winter over. Both will be ready for harvesting in the late spring/summer.

The first training session will take place in the first week of May and include a demonstration of the water delivery system, information on watering, soil remediation and crop selection. We will also work on the teaching garden and start potato baskets. Innovative ideas are welcome!

The team completed the research and design of the free-standing water delivery system for the raised bed garden. The system will consist of 2 daisy chained and elevated rain barrels with a siphon pump and rain catchment device in addition to a barrel that can be opened from the top at each of the six raised beds. A small sub-team (Donna Ball, Michelle Chenault, and Linda Ivko) tested components of the proposed barrels and stand options during a work session on April 12<sup>th</sup>. The next step is to assist the managers with ordering all the materials and estimating the timeline for completion of the system.

Thanks again to the wonderful team of CCMGs that are working on the Vic Park effort: Donna Ball, Lori Guido, Linda Ivko, Brian Larson, Rose Markham, Julie Nethon-Williams, Gail Enid Walker, and Karen Westhead.

The Vic Park Project meeting is held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 6pm via ZOOM. Contact Michelle Chenault (cell # 301-526-3225 or email: [vmchenault@gmail.com](mailto:vmchenault@gmail.com)) for more information and to receive email invitations to the meetings.



## Grow It Eat It Presentation

Article by CCMG Meg MacDonald

On April 1, 2023, the Charles County Master Gardeners Grow It Eat It Education project team presented a workshop entitled **"Vegetable Garden Planning"** at the Waldorf West Library. Fifteen county residents attended, and six fellow Charles County Master Gardeners volunteered to help with the event.



The workshop focused on food growing, and covered areas of planning the site, preparing, and testing the soil, planting and selecting food crops, and producing and maintaining a vegetable garden.

Videos from the UMD Extension were included as part of the presentation. Many hands-on demo items and samples were available for participants to explore.

The presentation was based in part on a similar work by the Baltimore County Master Gardeners, whose support is gratefully acknowledged in the presentation.

Feedback from the workshop was positive and enthusiastic. The CCMG GIEI Project team is planning additional workshops in the future, again focusing on food growing, which was the topic most frequently identified as a need by respondents to our CCMG survey at the county fair in September.

The CCMG GIEI Education Project team comprises Michelle Chenault, Beth Grem (co-chair), Lori Guido, Kathy Jenkins, and Meg MacDonald (co-chair).

Click here for copy of the ["Vegetable Garden Planning" presentation](#) or look on the CCMG website at the Master Gardener Program Webinars, Classes section and in the Grow It, Eat It program area under the STARTING A GARDEN section.



# NatureFest 2023

Article and photos by CCMG Marlene Smith

NatureFest 2023 is a wrap! Earth Day on Saturday, April 22, was a beautiful day for NatureFest, despite the wind and approaching rainstorm (which held off until we were leaving). We had a record crowd of over three hundred participants in our third year participating in this community event, hosted by the Neighborhood Creative Arts Center (NCAC) at Tilghman Lake Park in La Plata.

This year the CCMG NatureFest team grew to more than two dozen members, including many of our current interns. Welcome and thank you! In addition to the increased participation by CCMGs, the number of participating organizations also grew and included: Rotary Interact Club, Southern Maryland Audubon Society, Charles County Public Works, Charles County 4-H Nurture Natives Teen Ambassadors, Melwood Horticultural Training Center, Beekeeper Eric Darm, Charles County Science Fair Grand Prize Winner Skylan Brassell with exhibit, Boy Scouts Leave No Trace, Charles County Sheriff Office K9 Dog Team, NCAC Art instructor, Roundhouse String Band with Band History Table, and College of Southern Maryland Eco- Hawk Club.

Charles County Master Gardeners and interns offered activities for kids of all ages. Learning the parts of a plant, creating self-watering planters, growing hairy caterpillars (a new favorite), making fireflies (another new favorite), and planting seed cups were enjoyed by all. Three new demonstrations on planting a potato basket, growing sweet potatoes from slips, and growing food from kitchen scraps were huge successes. Learning about vermicomposting (including taking home red wiggler starter cups) and Bess beetles were also a hit. Matching boards, photo boards (monarch and praying mantis), and outreach displays rounded out our offerings.



**NatureFest 2023**  
Article and photos by CCMG Marlene Smith



Thank you to all the Charles County Master Gardeners and interns who contributed their time, talent, and passion to Nature Fest 2023! Whether you participated prior to the event by attending our kickoff meeting, planning meeting, workday, or at the event, you were a huge part of fulfilling the CCMG mission of “educating residents about safe, effective and sustainable horticultural practices that build healthy gardens, landscapes, and communities.”

See you again next year!

# Bay-Wise Landscape Management

Article and photos by CCMG Rose Markham



Happy Spring! Let me begin by sharing our first activity of the season, our Backyard Buffer Program. On Saturday, April 15, we were busy as “bees” distributing about 130 “buffers in a bag” to many Charles County homeowners who signed up for the program in January. They were offered a small bundle of nine seedlings containing a mixture of buttonbush, persimmon, swamp white oak and sycamore. A partnership between the Maryland Forest Service and the Potomac Watershed designed the program to assist homeowners in planting trees and shrubs to create a streamside buffer on or adjacent to a waterway which provides habitat for wildlife, reduces sediment, fertilizer, and other toxic chemicals from entering the waterways while stabilizing riverbanks and helps to prevent erosion. This was our second year, and the Forest Service provided the seedlings. We had a great response from homeowners and are counting on providing this service every year.



Thanks to Kaitlyn for taking care of the registration and coordination of the event and to Janet McGrane, Barbara Hays, Jennifer Godlewski, Karen Hile and Trundle, June Leyland, Karina Willette, Kathy Davis, and Patrick Allen. A big thank you to Janet, our lead on the Backyard Buffer program, who coordinated and handled most of the details. Our interns were all terrific and helped make the event perfect. As a bonus, our Demonstration Garden leaders, Terry Thir, and Kathy Jenkins, led tours of the garden.

One homeowner brought in this branch from her Rose of Sharon. The dark spots have no texture and look as if someone sprayed it on. Any ideas for what these spots are?



## Bay-Wise Landscape Management

Article and photos by CCMG Rose Markham

I would like to take this time to reintroduce our current master gardeners and interns as well as our upcoming interns to the Bay-Wise Certificate program administered by the University of Maryland Extension and the Master Gardeners. The Bay-Wise program promotes environmentally sound landscape practices to protect our waterways and the Chesapeake Bay. We provide an easy-to-use yardstick as a tool to do a self-assessment of your property prior to you scheduling an onsite certification. Once certified you receive a Bay-Wise sign, a certificate and are eligible for the real estate tax credit. Our goal is to train all our master gardeners so they can go into the community and certify other homeowner properties.

Charles County offers a 50% Storm Water Remediation fee credit that is included in your property taxes for Bay-Wise certified properties. The fee is \$127 for 2023 giving you a savings of \$63.50 on your tax bill, and the credit is applied each calendar year.

Take a few minutes to acquaint yourself with the certification process by downloading these links and check those practices you are already using. The yardstick and application are fill-in PDFs and can be found at: <https://extension.umd.edu/location/charles-county/master-gardener/baywise>

Scroll down the page and follow these three steps:

1. Download the appropriate MD Yardstick along with an application:
  - [Bay-Wise Maryland Yardstick – for Landscapes](#)
  - [Bay-Wise Maryland Yardstick – for Vegetable Gardens](#)
2. Complete the [Bay-Wise Maryland Yardstick Application](#).
3. If you need assistance, please feel free to contact me at [rosemarkham38@gmail.com](mailto:rosemarkham38@gmail.com).

When you finish the application, e-mail it to me and I will contact you to schedule a visit by our Bay-Wise team. I also can arrange a visit to your home before the team arrives to discuss and go over the yardstick with you, if desired.

One last thing, our new Bay-Wise trainees who completed the fall class will be certifying an on-site property for final certification soon. It is usually held at a Master Gardener's home. You will be accompanied by two-three Bay-Wise Master Gardeners to assist you. Look for upcoming emails on location and other updates. It is fun and a day meant to grow our community in friendship and "light comedy."

# Gardening with Birds in Mind

Shared by CCMG Barbara Hill

Do you want to attract more birds to your yard? Are you looking to find native plants that will help your space be more water efficient, eliminate the need for fertilizers or pesticides, provide cleaner air, and welcome the bugs that birds love to eat? The National Audubon Society has a free *Native Plants Database* that will let you do just that! Enter your email to search by zip code at [Audubon.org/native-plants/](http://Audubon.org/native-plants/). Below is a sample of what you will find plus more resource information.

Black-Eyed-Susan  
*Rudbeckia hirta*



This herbaceous annual grows 1 to 2 feet tall in full sun and moist to dry, well-drained soil. The daisy-like flowers are yellow with a brownish-purple center, and bloom on rough stalks from June to October. It attracts birds for its seeds and pollinating insects for its nectar, and is resistant to browsing by deer.

Attributes **Annuals/Per.**, **Butterflies**, **Caterpillars**

Add to your plant list

May attract

<p>Thrushes</p>	<p>Woodpeckers</p>	<p>Nuthatches</p>
<p>Wood Warblers</p>	<p>Orioles</p>	<p>Sparrows</p>

Sample from Audubon Native Plants Database, 4-22-2023, [Audubon.org/native-plants](http://Audubon.org/native-plants)



Photo Credits: Amazing World at <https://www.facebook.com/theamazingw0rld/>





## **Becoming Greener and Expanding Outreach with QR Codes**

**Article by CCMG Marlene Smith**

During Nature Fest 2023, Charles County Master Gardeners took a step in the direction of becoming a little greener. How, might you ask? QR codes were added to all our display literature. QR codes are scannable using smartphones devices by simply pointing your phone’s camera at the code.

Why bother adding QR codes to our documents and books? Access to digital documents via QR codes allows us to provide the most up-to-date content, rather than distributing outdated documents. Scanning a QR code is easier than typing a long website URL. In addition, QR codes help us to reduce costs for printing and/or purchasing handouts.

Here are two that you can try out. If you have any feedback or if you have materials that could use a QR Code, please reach out to me. I am happy to help.

**Scan for digital content**

Native Plants for Wildlife  
Habitat and Conservation  
Landscaping



**Scan for digital content**

Charles County Master  
Gardener - Native Plants



## **Charles County Master Gardeners’ Mentoring Program**

**Article by CCMG Kathleen Jenkins**

The size of the class of 2023 surprised Charles County veteran Master Gardeners. We met nineteen new members at an in-person session at Extension, where they completed final forms and participated in a “meet and greet”.

Class members introduced themselves, asked questions about the Master Gardener’s training course, and got to know each other and us. For our program, they completed surveys so we could match veteran MGs with soon-to-be students. Many of the members asked for additional in-person meetings and social events as all their training will be held on-line. They wanted more time to be together in live settings.

To our amazement, all the attending members requested a Mentor! This left us with a dilemma as there were more class members than Mentors. Fortunately, we have dedicated Master Gardeners who volunteered to take more than one Mentee.

Thank you to the following Master Gardeners who are serving as Mentors: Bill Allen, Kathy Davis, Kathy Jenkins, Theresa Jones, Rose Markham, Sally Matts, Molly Moore, Jerry Reed, Paris Reed, Carol Teets, Terry Thir, Gail Walker, and Karen Westhead. You are the best!

## Meet Some Master Gardener Interns - Class of 2023

Article by CCMG Coordinator Kaitlyn Baligush

The spring 2023 Master Gardener Basic Training is almost finished! We have twenty-one participants in this year's class, and they all have a lot of skills and talents to bring to the program. If you are a mentor, I encourage you to meet up with your mentee at one of our project sites or outreach events. Here are Intern responses to why they wanted to become Master Gardeners.



Jamila Barton (left) writes that she is a new gardener but has a passion for social justice and environmental conservation. She is excited to work with the community as a Master Gardener to build green spaces that provide people with food security, create sustainable solutions for waste, preserve plant diversity, and protect wildlife.



Tiffany Daniel (right) wanted to learn to grow her own vegetables. "And once I started, I saw how rewarding it was to me mentally and physically. I eventually want to share what I have learned."



Connie Nesbary moved from Michigan last summer. She loves the outdoors and wants to become a Master Gardener from a concern about climate change. She also wants to learn what plants and critters are native to Maryland, current best gardening methods and natural ways to control pests.

Antione "Tony" Johnson, PhD says being a Master Gardener provides an enormous opportunity to share fresh gardening information, planting strategies, and useful practices and techniques to others. The real bonus is in getting to help other Maryland gardeners to enjoy our ecologically diverse environment.

We will have more Interns in upcoming issues, so you can get to meet them all.  
Interns – please send in your information!

## Thrillers

### Did You Know?

The Charles County Extension welcomed Maryland Officials on Tuesday, April 4<sup>th</sup>. Master Gardeners and Bay-Wise volunteers arranged displays. [Click here to read more and see photos.](#)



### Watch for news on other CCMG Projects in future issues of *The Compost*

The Misadventures of Peter Rabbit in Farmer McGregor's Vegetable Garden Puppet Show – CCMG Leader Terry Thir

Rebuilding Together Charles County – CCMG Carol Teets

Bel Alton Demonstration Gardens is planning for installations and other educational activities soon per Leader Kathy Jenkins

### Photo Challenge!

Between now and July 15<sup>th</sup>, take photos of the best garden(s) that you've seen and email them with "Photo Challenge" in the subject to [thecompostofccmg@gmail.com](mailto:thecompostofccmg@gmail.com).

The best ones will be shared in the next newsletter! Any ideas for a prize?

### Need a CCMG Shirt?

Members are asked to wear a Charles County Master Gardeners shirt at community events. Our royal blue color and logo shirts must be purchased from our vendor and two styles are available:

- Collared polo shirt at \$37.20 with embroidered county logo. Optional name on the right side is \$9.50. This shirt is 3.8 oz. and sport-Rec fabric.
- T-Shirt is \$19.84. The color is listed as vintage blue with a screen print logo.

To order, contact Terry Thir at [thirccmg@aol.com](mailto:thirccmg@aol.com) with your quantity, style, and size. If polo, let her know if you want your name on it. Terry will coordinate the order with the vendor and confirm your cost via email. Then you will go to the store in Waldorf to finalize your order, which then takes 5-7 days. Once printed, there are no refunds.

## Save the Dates!

### May 20 – Garden Spring Fling

This year we will hold garden educational activities in lieu of our annual plant sale. The event will be held from 7 am - 3 pm, at the La Plata Farmer's Market, 200 Charles Street, La Plata, MD. We will set-up at 7 am in the top parking lot. Shifts will be set-up in Sign-up Genius soon. We welcome all participation. The following activities are planned: Booth 1 - Plant Clinic, Bay-Wise and Master Gardener education booth. Booth 2 - GIEI information and Demonstrations of potato basket and lettuce box Vermicomposting Children activities - planting flower seed, matching boards, head cut-out photo boards Some vegetables and native plants (winter sowed or dug up in your yard) may be given away. Our next Garden Spring Fling meeting will be on zoom, April 20 at 6 pm. A zoom link will be sent out soon. Any questions, please contact Terry Thir, Plant Sale Project Leader, via email: thirccmg@aol.com or cell 240-441-4902.

### May 23 – Charles County Master Gardeners' Awards Ceremony

Join us for our annual spring awards ceremony and potluck. We will celebrate the 2022 Master Gardener class and award years of service. The event will happen from 5:30 to 8pm. A sign-up list and more details coming soon!

### June 3 – CCMG Plant Swap

We will hold our first flower/vegetable plant swap on Saturday, June 3, from 8:30 - noon at Tilghman Lake Park. The park is located off Radio Station Road, La Plata, MD. Physical address: 10598 Box Elder Rd, La Plata, MD 20646 MGs/Interns are invited and encouraged to bring plants/vegetables to swap with others. You can also bring gardening items and old tools to give away. (Items left over will be offered to our projects or donated). If any MG projects would like to request items in advance, please let me know. For more information, please contact Terry Thir via email: thirccmg@aol.com or cell 240-441-4902.

**[2023 CCMG Calendar Link](#)**

Note from the Editor:

It is an honor for me to be the Editor of *The Compost*. As I have prepared this issue, I am amazed at how many projects there are, how many hours are put in, and the range of skills and diversity of CCMG members. Wow!

My background includes photography, video, book, and article editing. I have produced many newsletters over the decades for neighborhood groups up to statewide organizations.

I am open for feedback and suggestions anytime. Let's continue this great work and all the fun.

Happy Gardening!

Connie Nesbary



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Click on photo above to visit our website.

The mission of the Charles County Master Gardeners is to support the University of Maryland Extension service by educating residents about safe, effective, and sustainable horticultural practices that build healthy gardens, landscapes, and communities.



**Submissions to The Compost** - Submit articles, photos, reports, events, and other items for publication to the editor at [thecompostofccmg@gmail.com](mailto:thecompostofccmg@gmail.com) by July 15, 2023, for the Summer 2023 newsletter. Please include a brief description of the activity, names of persons in photos and the photographer's name. Please include scientific names of plants.

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