

UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND
EXTENSION

MASTER
GARDENER
Frederick County

Frederick County GARDEN SMART

Our mission is to educate Maryland residents about safe, effective and sustainable horticultural practices that build healthy gardens, landscapes and communities. Most of our services are FREE.



To subscribe to this publication, e-mail fgardenersnews@gmail.com

LATE SUMMER 2024



Master Gardeners at the Great Frederick Fair Friday, Sept. 13 – Saturday, Sept. 21 Building 44 – City Streets/Country Roads

Talk with Master Gardeners and learn more about:

- Growing vegetables, herbs, flowers, small fruits & more in containers on display
- Bay-Wise landscaping for healthy waterways and communities
- Attracting, sustaining, and protecting pollinators
- Importance of native plants

See bit.ly/FCMGFacebook for more details and updates.



STOP BY OUR

Fairgrounds Demonstration Garden, located next to Building 44, showcasing pollinator-friendly perennials and other plants that provide vital habitat for wildlife.

Want to Become a Frederick County Master Gardener? Apply Soon!

FCMG in-person training includes classes that will run from January 30 through April 24, every Tuesday and Thursday from 1:00 to 3:30 pm. You must attend more than 75% of these classes, as well as complete additional training by the end of 2025, including 40 volunteer hours.

To receive an enrollment packet, please email strice@umd.edu. Please put 'Class of 2025' in the subject line. An interview and background check will be required. Class limit is 25. First come, first served. We welcome both experienced and inexperienced gardeners!

Ag Olympics at Rose Hill Manor

October 5, 10 am – 4 pm

1161 N. Market St., Frederick

Learn what it takes to be a farmer! Hosted by the University of MD Extension at the Frederick County Farm Museum Fall Fest, this event challenges you to complete tasks in six areas important to farming, including tractor races, a milking contest, feed bag toss, straw bale stacking, compost chaos, and an egg operation. For more info see <https://www.recreator.com/Calendar.aspx?EID=556>

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For more information: Susan Trice, MG Coordinator
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330 Montevue Lane, Frederick, MD 21702
Visit us at bit.ly/FCMG-Home-Gardening,
bit.ly/FCMGFacebook or bit.ly/FCMGinstagram

PLAN TO ATTEND LATE SUMMER/ FALL FREE SEMINARS & EVENTS

Join us for FREE seminars, suitable for both beginning and advanced gardeners.

University of Maryland Extension office
330 Montevue Lane, Frederick

Registration opens 3 weeks before each seminar.

Use the links below or call 301-600-1595.

Seminars focused on growing vegetables and other edibles are marked GIEI (Grow It, Eat It).

SEPTEMBER

Wednesday, September 4, 10 - 11 am

STORY TIME IN THE GARDEN

For young children accompanied by an adult. Registration not needed. A Master Gardener will read a short story and offer activities appropriate for youngsters. Pack a snack and enjoy time in our Children's Garden. Rain date is September 11, 10-11 am.

For weather updates, check www.bit.ly/FCMGFacebook.

Saturday, September 7, 10 am - noon (GIEI)

SEED SAVING FOR A SUSTAINABLE KITCHEN GARDEN

Pre-registration required. Learn seed-saving basics to ensure you always have a supply of your kitchen-garden favorites. An overview of plant reproduction will be followed by a hands-on demonstration and seeds to take home for next season. ▶ bit.ly/FCMG2024SeedSaving

Saturday, September 28, 10 am - noon

PAWPAWS, A LITTLE KNOWN TREASURE

Discover a native gem you can grow right in your own backyard! Find out how and why to grow this large, tasty fruit—and how native plants can help your entire garden thrive. Tour our pawpaw patch.

▶ bit.ly/FCMG2024Pawpaws

IT'S NOT OVER 'TIL THE HARD FROST: ENJOY COOL-WEATHER CROPS

Many fall crops—such as collards, kale and carrots—not only survive light frost but improve in flavor. [Carrots](#) can be over-wintered in the garden by covering the bed with a deep straw or leaf mulch. You can pull carrots through the winter as needed.

While you are harvesting your collards and kale, consider planting greens to enjoy next spring. Lettuce, spinach, arugula, and kale can be planted through the middle of October. Cover these late plantings with a cold frame, temporary greenhouse, or [row cover](#). Be sure to fertilize seedbeds, keep the soil moist, and protect seedlings from pests. The young plants will go



dormant and re-grow in spring. Check out monthly gardening tips and tasks from the U of MD Extension at

<https://extension.umd.edu/resources/yard-garden/resources-gardeners/monthly-gardening-tips/>.

OCTOBER

Wednesday, October 2, 10 am - noon

STORY TIME IN THE GARDEN

For young children accompanied by an adult. Registration not needed. A Master Gardener will read a short story and offer activities appropriate for youngsters. Pack a snack and enjoy time in our Children's Garden. Rain date is October 9, 10-11 am.

For weather updates, check www.bit.ly/FCMGFacebook.

Saturday, October 5, 10 am - noon

MINDFULNESS IN THE GARDEN

Experience the healing power of the garden and plants. We will start with a discussion of the benefits of plants to your wellbeing and then take a walk in the demonstration garden for mindfulness activities.

▶ bit.ly/FCMG2024MindfulnessGarden

Saturday, October 12, 10 am - noon

PROPAGATING NATIVE PLANTS

Limited to 15 participants. Native perennials are a wonderful addition to any landscape! Learn the benefits of native perennials and why they're essential for pollinators and wildlife. Learn how to propagate various natives and expand your garden, then take a few plants home.

▶ bit.ly/FCMG2024PropNativePlants

NOVEMBER

Saturday, November 2, 10 am - noon

RIGHT PLANT, RIGHT PLACE: DESIGN FUNDAMENTALS

Use basic design principles in your flower gardening to add interest and increase impact! Learn basic landscape design concepts that can be applied to any garden—including shape, color, texture, framing, rhythm, focal points, and other considerations.

▶ bit.ly/FCMG2024DesignFundamentals

Saturday, November 9, 10 am - noon

HONEY, I SHRUNK THE LAWN

Small changes to our yards can have a big impact on our environment. Join the grassroots movement to restore biodiversity by turning turf into native plantings, and become a part of the Homegrown National Park! Learn more at www.homegrownnationalpark.org.

▶ bit.ly/FCMG2024ShrinkLawn

NATIVE PLANTS OFFER BRIGHT FALL BLOOMS & ESSENTIAL BENEFITS FOR POLLINATORS

Asters, goldenrod and other fall-blooming native plants are adding brilliant color to yards in our area. They also are essential sources of food and shelter for butterflies and bees. The U of MD Extension's Home and Garden Information Center (HGIC) encourages gardeners to add more [native plants](#) to their landscapes as time and budget allow, and advises that fall is a good time for planting. According to Anahí Espindola, U of MD Assistant Professor of Entomology: "The end of summer/fall is a special time for many organisms in our temperate regions. This is usually the last chance these organisms have to gather energy and resources to get ready for the winter. In the case of pollinators that are active during this period, the fall is key for collecting sufficient pollen (food) for their nests, and for finding appropriate overwintering spaces for the adults and/or the offspring, all of which will impact survival until the following year/season." Learn more at <https://marylandgrows.umd.edu/2022/09/12/goldenrods-asters-important-fall-flowers-for-pollinators/>.