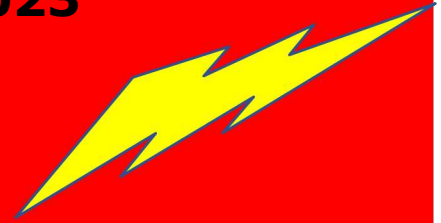


**November 24, 2023**

**Friday Flash**



**November Meeting Topic: Holiday Party**

The party is FREE and catered by YOU! Each guest is asked to bring a potluck dish, serving 5-6 people, based on the first letter of their last name. Each year we rotate the food assignments and this year's assignments are as follow:

Last names beginning with:

- A-C -- Desserts**
- D-F -- Appetizer**
- G-L -- Salad or Vegetable**
- M-Z -- Main Dish**

The church does not have electric outlets, but Sterno's are fine. Please remember to bring appropriate serving utensils (and to bring both your dishes and utensils home with you! Consider labeling with your name on your dishes and utensils You are feeding your fellow friends and gardeners so please bring something delicious!

**Continuing Education**

It's time to PARTY! It is finally time for the annual **Master Gardener Holiday Party** which is guaranteed to be the most fun monthly meeting of the year. This year's party will be held on **Tuesday, Dec. 12th from 7PM-9PM** back at the Harundale Presbyterian Church, 1020 Eastway, Glen Burnie-- a venue which has seen many of our past holiday parties and pre-pandemic monthly meetings. As in the past, all MG's are invited and are allowed to bring one adult guest.

**THE HOLIDAY RAFFLE!!!!**

The main event of the party is our famous Holiday Raffle. Every year, you and your fellow MG's contribute an amazing and impressive array of 30-40 gift baskets, boxes, artworks, table arrangements, etc etc. to be raffled off to a very appreciative audience. Raffle items can be baskets of themed goodies (coffee/tea, chocolate, birds, pets, books, did I mention gardening?) or items such as artwork, pottery, fused glass, jewelry, floral arrangements, quilting, photography. Go wild with your inner artist and showman. We welcome your creativity and imagination! Please think about contributing a Raffle item to the party. Just bring it with you that night. If the contents need explaining, please attach a card listing what is included.

**A**t the party raffle items are displayed on tables for all to see and admire. Each item has a numbered bucket in front with a slit for raffle tickets. MG's can buy as many raffle tickets as they wish and can put tickets in as many buckets as they choose. Feel free to load a bucket up! Raffle tickets will be sold at the party at a rock-bottom price -- 6 tickets for \$5 (cash only please).

**A**nd **we welcome back BOTTLES AND BONBONS!!!** A few years ago, we started an additional raffle that included bottles of wine and any kind of candy. This is how it works: generous MG's contribute a bottle (or 2!) of wine (we recommend in the \$15 range) of white, red, sparkling or dessert wine OR an offering of any sort of candy or sweet. If a wine, please bring it in a wine bag so the bottle can't be seen. Each bag will then be tagged with a color-coded ribbon denoting the type of wine. All wines and candies/Bonbons are then put on one raffle table with one very large raffle bucket for tickets. Winning tickets are drawn in between the main raffle items. Winners then simply choose a wine bag of their preferred type of wine or opt for a Bonbon. No peeking! Each guest can win one raffle item and one Bottle or Bonbon. We want everyone to go home with *at least* one treasure.

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So put December 12th on your calendar, consider putting together a Raffle item, perhaps bring a Bottle or two of wine or a Bonbon, bring cash and your assigned food dish and get ready to party! The evening starts at 7pm, dinner usually started about 7:15, we begin the Raffle at 8pm and we usually finish around 9pm. Anyone who can stay and help put away tables and chairs and clean-up is very welcome. **Please RSVP** your plans to attend the party **AND** bring a Raffle item. It helps us to plan the table arrangements and seating. **RSVP anytime to [Cindy Wells](#) or [Janet Clauson](#)**

Find recordings of previous meetings at [Just for Master Gardeners | University of Maryland Extension \(umd.edu\)](http://Just for Master Gardeners | University of Maryland Extension (umd.edu))  
Scroll to the bottom of the page.

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# BUS TRIP LONGWOOD GARDENS

to view its outstanding holiday displays



Cost of \$120/person includes  
luxury motor coach transportation,  
admission to the gardens, snacks, beverages and gratuity

Meet at Naval Academy Stadium parking lot,  
Gate #6 (Taylor Avenue), Annapolis

**To register and for more information,  
please call 410-570-4465**

*sponsored by Friends of Helen Avalynne Tawes Garden, Inc.*

**Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>  
10:00 a.m. –8:30 p.m.**

*All proceeds benefit the Helen Avalynne Tawes Garden,  
Annapolis' only free public garden*

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## **Earn volunteer (Interns) and education (MG) hours!**

Next month the **Annapolis Horticulture Society lecture** on Wednesday, December 6, 7:00 PM will host Mikaela Boley, Principal Agent Associate for University of Maryland Extension in Talbot County. St. Anne's Parish Hall, downtown Annapolis, enter through side entrance from Charles Street, will speak on "A Seasonal Approach to Weed Management". Consider carpooling with a friend or two or three!

**Date:** Wed., 12-6

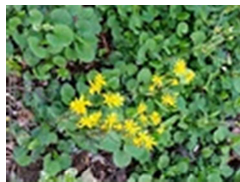
**Time:** 7:00 PM

**Location:** St. Anne's Parish Hall (note parking notes above.)

**Cost:** Free



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Informative article by Nancy Lawson "The Humane Gardener" entitled "[How to Fight Plants with Plants.](#)"

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## **Invasive Species: Understanding the Problem and Finding Ways to Address the Issue Together**

is sponsored by the Chesapeake Bay Trust. For more information including the agenda and registration, click on the above link. This is a free event, but you must register for the webinar.





[Turning a New Leaf Conference - Chesapeake Conservation Landscaping Council \(chesapeakelandscape.org\)](https://www.chesapeakelandscape.org) See this link to gather more information about this conference occurring 12/6-12/8.

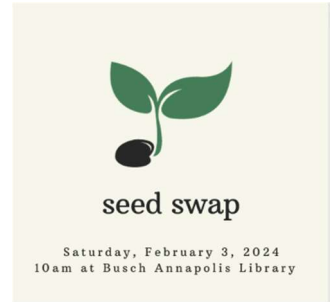
**Volunteer Opportunities**

**It is Seed Swap Time!**

**DONATE SEEDS:** Bring your saved, unused seeds to the Extension Office or one of our seed cleaning and packaging workshops (details below). Please remember to put the **seed name, year it was harvested, and name, and contact number/information** on your packets. **No invasives will be accepted.** You do not need to participate in a workshop just to drop off seeds.

**See workshop dates/info in Events Grid below.**

**For further information: [Sophie Sterling](#)**



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**Note:** The **December Meeting/Holiday Party** is recorded as Education Hours in the **VMS**. MG's record 2 hours for all who attend. Any MG who volunteers to set up and tear down will record volunteer hours as follows: Admin/Admin Support; travel time is included in the volunteer time.

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**Holiday Party VOLUNTEERS needed!**

Each year we rely on fellow MG's to help us make the Holiday Party a success. Please consider volunteering to help Cindy and Janet make the party a success. We need about 9-10 volunteers. Volunteers receive volunteer or education hours and are still able to bid on raffle items and enjoy the buffet. Volunteering is truly FUN and you get to wear reindeer antlers! Attention Interns: If you still need hours, this is a great way

to squeeze a few more in. Anyone can volunteer -- veteran MG's as well as Interns. We need volunteers for the following jobs:

**Early set-up at 5:45pm – 3 people** to help set up tables and chairs and later, to help with arriving MG's and with the raffle.

**At 6:15pm – 5 people** to help greet, "run" food and raffle items, sell raffle tickets and help with the raffle.

**At 6:15pm – 1 person** solely responsible for setting up and replenishing the beverage table (an easy but important task)

All party volunteers will be asked to multi-task as things get a bit chaotic at the beginning of the evening and during the raffle so be prepared to do anything that looks like it needs doing. Having said that, if you have an arrival time or job preference, please let us know and we'll be sure to make a note of it. More detailed information about what to expect will be sent out closer to the date (but nothing is complicated!). Please RSVP to [Cindy](#) or [Janet](#). And please be on time. We are counting on you!

## English Ivy Removal Event

## The English Ivy Is No Longer Welcome!

Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup> 1-4 PM

The negative aspects of English Ivy are innumerable! It has been in the US for almost 300 years and has more than worn out its welcome! Forest Conservation Area #9 in Park Retreat subdivision is overrun with English Ivy and it must go! Volunteers are needed to help remove the ivy. Feel free to come late and/or leave early. Refreshments are provided. When reporting volunteer hours, please state that approval was given by Fran Garcia.



103 Natalie Lane,  
Millersville, MD  
Ample parking.  
Follow signs to site.  
( 2-minute walk)  
For more information,  
contact [Andrea Weir](#)

### For Your Information



Our friends at Ujamaa Cooperative Farming Alliance are seeking input from seed system stakeholders like you. Ujamaa works to improve access to culturally meaningful seeds. Your feedback will aid in their endeavor.

Are you a gardener or farmer, seed grower, seed company or seed retailer, food wholesaler/distributor, grocer, value-added food business, chef or restaurateur? Or know someone who is? *If you participate, you can opt into a raffle for one of 50 \$100 gift certificates.*

*Do you know what culturally meaningful seeds/plants are? Read more about them at:*

**[10 Most Culturally Significant Plants From Around the World](#)**

**[Take the survey now and share with your network.](#)**

For more information, go to **[The Southern Exposure Seed Exchange](#)**

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**Master Gardener hours must be in the VMs by December 31<sup>st</sup>.** This is also **"BE KIND to CAROLE FULLAGER MONTH!"** Please don't wait until the last minute to record your hours!



**December 31st**



There is a new **phone** system in the **Extension office** and the phone numbers have changed.

The general number is 301 226-7470

Maxine's direct line is 301 226-7475

Christie's direct line is 301 226-7471

## Friday Funshine



## EVENTS

Project/Activity	Date/Time	Location	Contact Information
<b>English Ivy Removal Event</b>	11/26 1 PM-4 PM	103 Natalie Lane, Millersville	<a href="#">Andrea Weir</a>
<b>Tawes Garden</b> trip to <b>Longwood Gardens</b>	12/5 10:00 AM- 8:30 PM	Meet at Tawes Garden	410-570-4465
<b>Annapolis Horticulture Society Speaker</b> "A Seasonal Approach to Weed Management"	Wednesday, 12/6, 7:00 PM	St. Anne's Parish Hall, downtown Annapolis, enter through side entrance from Charles St. <a href="#">Directions</a>	<a href="#">Contact</a>
<b>Monthly MG Meeting Holiday Party</b>	7:00 Tuesday, 12/12	Harundale Presbyterian Church 1020 Eastway, Glen Burnie	<a href="#">Cindy</a> or <a href="#">Janet</a>
<b>EAB</b>	9:00 AM- 10:00 AM 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday monthly (except December 13 <sup>th</sup> )	<a href="#">Zoom</a>	<a href="#">Maxine Yoon</a>
<b>2023 Seed Swap workshops</b>	Mondays: 12/4; 12/11 10 /AM – 2 PM	Firehouse Bldg. Extension Office 97 Dairy Farm Rd., Gambrills	<a href="#">Sophie Sterling</a>

Full Disclosure Statement: "University programs, activities, and facilities are available to all without regard to race, color, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital status, age, national origin, political affiliation, physical or mental disability, religion, protected veteran status, genetic information, personal appearance, or any other legally protected class."