

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

WINTER 2025

For inclement weather check FCMG Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/mastergardenersfrederickcountymaryland>

PLAN TO ATTEND JANUARY, FEBRUARY & MARCH SEMINARS AND EVENTS

Join us for FREE seminars, suitable for both beginning and advanced gardeners, at the 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*).



See page 2 for preliminary info on seminars and special events planned for April-December.

What You Can Do to

Conserve Beneficial Insects

Quite a few beneficial insect species in Maryland spend the winter months in one of their life stages, and many require plant debris like leaves, pithy woody stems, and flower stalks as winter habitat. You can support pollinators, beneficial insects, and other native wildlife in your landscape by: adding a new native plant, leaving the leaves in your beds and around trees, waiting until spring to prune woody plants, leaving flower stalks and seed heads, creating a brush pile, and educating your neighbors. Find more information at:

www.marylandgrows.umd.edu/2022/11/14/we-are-still-alive-how-to-protect-pollinators-in-the-slow-season.

JANUARY

Saturday, January 11, 10 am - noon

PULL THIS, PLANT THAT: INVASIVE PLANTS & NATIVE PLANT ALTERNATIVES

Find out why and how to replace non-native plants—especially invasives—with natives that help our native birds, butterflies and other pollinators. You will learn to accurately identify and control invasive plants and discover native alternatives that are beneficial and beautiful.

► bit.ly/FCMG25-InvasiveNatives

Saturday, January 18, 10 am - noon

GARDEN PRUNING (GIEI)

Learn what to prune in the winter and early spring and how to prune to get the most out of your plants. ► bit.ly/FCMG25-Pruning

FEBRUARY

Saturday, February 1, 10 am - noon

VERMICULTURE & COMPOSTING

From vermiculture to composting, learn ways to benefit the environment and your garden. Find out how to use worms to transform your kitchen scraps into nutrition-rich fertilizer in a small space inside your home.

► bit.ly/FCMG25-Vermiculture

Saturday, February 8, 10 am - noon

BAY-WISE PRINCIPLES

Encourage wildlife; control storm water runoff; mow and water efficiently; mulch appropriately and recycle yard waste; fertilize, plant and manage yard pests wisely; and protect the waterfront. These 'best practices' can earn you Bay-Wise certification—and a distinctive yard sign. ► bit.ly/FCMG25-Bay-WisePrinciples

Saturday, February 22, 10 am - noon

THINK YOU WANT A VEGETABLE GARDEN? (ONLINE ONLY) (GIEI)

Wondering how to plan a home vegetable garden? Learn what kind of garden will fit your needs, when to start, what to plant, how much is enough, and tips on finding resources for planning, garden supplies and seeds.

► bit.ly/FCMG25-PlanningYourVeggieGarden

MARCH

Saturday, March 15, 10 am - noon

CREATING A FLOWER-CUTTING GARDEN & FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS

Learn how to design, plant, and harvest flowers from your own cutting garden. Discover the best sun and shade annuals for cutting and how to maintain the garden for maximum production. We also will demonstrate techniques for creating arrangements.

► bit.ly/FCMG25-FlowersCuttingGarden

Saturday, March 22, 10 am - noon

BUMBLE BEES

Our native bumblebees face many threats from habitat loss, disease, and climate change. Learn about these important pollinators and what you can do to help them.

► bit.ly/FCMG25-Bumblebees

Saturday, March 29, 10 am - noon

NATIVE PLANTS & KEYSTONE PLANTS

Find out how native plants help our native birds, butterflies, and other pollinators. Discover native plant alternatives that are beneficial and beautiful. ► bit.ly/FCMG25-NativePlants

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Susan Trice, MG Coordinator
call: 301-600-1596 or
email: strice@umd.edu
330 Montevue Lane, Frederick 21702

Visit us at
bit.ly/FCMG-Home-Gardening,
bit.ly/FCMGFacebook or
bit.ly/FCMGinstagram



SEMINARS & SPECIAL EVENTS PLANNED FOR APRIL - DECEMBER 2025

Watch for details in future issues of this publication and at bit.ly/FCMGFacebook

APRIL

Saturday, April 5, 10 am - noon (GIEI)

PLANTING THE SPRING VEGETABLE GARDEN

Saturday, April 12, 10 am - noon

BACK TO OUR ROOTS: HUMANS & GARDENING THROUGHOUT HISTORY

Saturday, April 26, 9 am - 1 pm (or until sold out)

ANNUAL PLANT SALE

Thousands of plants at the Frederick Fairgrounds

MAY

Saturday, May 3, 10 am - noon

POLLINATORS LOVE HERBS

Wednesday, May 7, 10 am - 11 am

STORY TIME IN THE GARDEN

For young children accompanied by an adult

Saturday, May 17, 10 am - noon

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (IPM) (GIEI)

Saturday, May 31, 9:30 am - 1:30 pm

ANNUAL EARTHFEST

Family friendly activities and displays by Master Gardeners and other groups at the Extension Building



JUNE

Wednesday, June 4, 10 am - 11 am

STORY TIME IN THE GARDEN

For young children accompanied by an adult

Saturday, June 7, 10 am - noon

SUMMER VEGETABLE GARDENING (GIEI)

Saturday, June 14, 10 am - noon

GROWING HERBS HERE & THERE

JULY

Wednesday, July 2, 10 am - 11 am

STORY TIME IN THE GARDEN

For young children accompanied by an adult

Saturday, July 12, 10 am - noon

CONTAINER GARDENING (GIEI)

Saturday, July 26, 10 am - noon

STORM WATER & IRRIGATION

AUGUST

Saturday, August 2, 10 am - noon

GROWING UP WILD

For educators who work with children 3-7 years old; adults only

Wednesday, August 6, 10 am - 11 am

STORY TIME IN THE GARDEN

For young children accompanied by an adult

Saturday, August 9, 10 am - noon

FALL SEASON VEGETABLE GARDENING (GIEI)

Saturday, August 23, 10 am - noon

MAKE & TAKE MINI-GARDEN

For 1st-12th graders accompanied by an adult



Frederick County Master Gardeners

SEPTEMBER

Wednesday, September 3, 10 am - 11 am

STORY TIME IN THE GARDEN

For young children accompanied by an adult

Saturday, September 6, 10 am - noon

PAWPAWS, A LITTLE-KNOWN TREASURE

Saturday, September 13, 10 am - noon (GIEI)

SEED SAVING FOR A SUSTAINABLE KITCHEN GARDEN

Friday, September 12, 4-8 pm &

Sat., Sept. 13-Sat., Sept. 20, 9:30 am - 8 pm

MASTER GARDENERS AT THE GREAT FREDERICK FAIR

OCTOBER

Wednesday, October 1, 10 am - 11 am

STORY TIME IN THE GARDEN

For young children accompanied by an adult.

Saturday, October 4, 10 am - noon

MINDFULNESS IN THE GARDEN

Saturday, October 11, 10 am - noon

MAKE A HYPERTUFA BOWL

NOVEMBER

Saturday, November 1, 10 am - noon

RIGHT PLANT, RIGHT PLACE: DESIGN FUNDAMENTALS

Saturday, November 8, 10 am - noon

INDOOR PLANTS & WELLNESS

DECEMBER

Saturday, December 6, 10 am - noon

PROPAGATING NATIVE PLANTS

NEW MD LAW HELPS YOU AVOID INVASIVE PLANTS

Thanks to a new invasive species law that took effect in June, 12 highly invasive plants—including Amur honeysuckle and wintercreeper—are banned. These plants are harmful to threatened or endangered species or ecosystems, are widespread and are difficult to control.

Another 13 plants—including burning bush, Japanese barberry, and privet—are still being sold but come with a warning that they may cause environmental harm.

According to the U of MD Home & Garden Information Center, these are more insidious invaders. For example, Japanese barberry and burning bush rarely produce seedlings in your yard, but birds eat the berries and deposit them in woodlands where they sprout and take over the understory, because deer don't eat them.

Find more information and a link to the Maryland invasive plants list at <https://extension.umd.edu/resource/invasive-plants-avoid-buying-your-yard-and-garden-maryland>.

GET ANSWERS

to Gardening Questions at
<https://extension.umd.edu/ask-extension/>

