



# The Colonial Master Gardener

August  
2020

PUBLICATION OF JCC/W MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION &  
VIRGINIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY PATSY MCGRADY

Here we are in the middle of the summer heat wave when just keeping your garden alive is a challenge and you dread to think what your next water bill is going to be. This time makes me think of the drama associated with gardening. The drama comes from various aspects of gardening, but for me it primarily comes from my relationship with certain plants -- plants that I love and plants that seem to exist to cause me pain.

Plants that I love and appreciate include four-o'clocks (*Mirabilis jalapa*), annual vinca (*Catharanthus roseus*), and impatiens (*Impatiens walleriana*). Four o'clocks and annual vinca reseed themselves in my flower beds and do it in a very well-behaved way. There are just enough but never too many volunteers, and the volunteers do not come up in places where they are not wanted. Both can tough out periods of heat and drought. Four o'clocks have large seeds that are easy to plant. Several years ago, I had impatiens in my front yard by the walkway. They were shades of pink and they were lovely. They were in an area that got enough shade that the plants were able to make it through the summer without too much extra watering. And, bless their hearts, they reseeded themselves so that I had lovely pink impatiens for several years with no work. Then, tragically, one summer the deer discovered the impatiens and almost overnight they were gone. In retrospect, I do not know how the plants survived for several years without the deer finding them.

I both love and hate cleome (*Cleome hasslerana*). A "friend" gave me my initial plants. The flowers are striking and look like they were brought to earth by aliens. They are easy to grow and don't seem to mind hot and dry too much. The trouble is my backyard flower beds apparently are super suited to cleome. The plants produce a lot (like an infinite number) of small seeds that get dispersed everywhere and they germinate freely. This spring I have removed literally hundreds of seedlings. They are so strikingly pretty that I have left a few in place. My goal is to cut off the blooms before they form seeds.

Then there are those plants that you would like to have but find them impossible to grow. I dream of having a large bears breeches plant (*Acanthus spinosis*) with their beautiful, tall, huge flowers. I'm on my third plant. This one has lasted for three years but it has not prospered. It's less than a foot high and has never produced



Photo by Patsy McGrady

a flower, but I continue to be encouraged every spring that it returns. I have it in a location that seems to match its requirements, yet it struggles. I'm beginning to think that it's just too hot here for it to do well. So sad and heartbreaking to want something so much and never be able to achieve it. Another plant that is impossible for me to grow is variegated lirioppe (*Liriope muscari*). A landscaper put it along my driveway, and it seemed a great choice. Except... First the rabbits ate it. I tried various repellents to no success. Someone recommended Plantskydd and that seemed to do the trick as long as I reapplied it at appropriate times. However, once the rabbits stayed away, the voles moved in. I lifted struggling plants with damaged root systems, nurtured them in pots and planted them in other places. The rabbits found them. I've never had any plant that attracted rabbits like these lirioppe, and I had always thought of lirioppe as one of those indestructible plants that were barely above a weed. No plant has disappointed me greater than this plant.

### Next Meeting:

Thursday, August 6  
9:30am (NOT 9:00)  
VIA ZOOM

Program:  
Cool Unusual Plants to Try

Speaker:  
Joseph Tychonievich

(The president's message is continued on the next page, page 2)

2020  
MGA Board

*President:*  
Patsy McGrady

*President Elect:*  
Marty Oakes

*VP Administration:*  
Dee Arbegast

*VP Projects:*  
Rick Brown

*VP Internal Ed:*  
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*Secretary:*  
Paulette Atkinson

*Treasurer:*  
Linda Neilson

*VMGA Rep:*  
Marilyn Riddle

*Past President:*  
Cathy Hill

*VCE ANR Program  
Assistant:*  
VACANT

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE — CONTINUED

**Board Membership:** Our secretary, Beth Deer, had to step down. Paulette Atkinson has accepted an appointment to fill that position.

**Meeting:** As mentioned in our June newsletter, our August 6 meeting will be via Zoom. Rick Brown will send out the Zoom invitations with the secure link to everyone on Sunday, August 2. Rick will also offer a Zoom practice session to members on Friday, July 31, at 2:00. Refer to his blast email of July 26 for the link.

**Donations:** There have been differences in understanding of the association policy on donations. The MG board reviewed that policy and agreed on a standard donation policy. That policy was emailed to members on July 27 and is also provided at the end of this newsletter.

**Updated VCE Guidance:** In a MG board meeting in early July, the MG board assessed the impact of the revised VCE guidance, dated June 9, on our ability to work various projects. Members were informed of that assessment via email on July 6. That assessment is also provided at the end of this newsletter with a modest change. When we issued the assessment on July 6, we thought that we could operate Landscape Love, Tree Call, and Turf Love in a Covid19-safe manner and requested approval from our regional director. Given the significant increase in Covid19 cases in James City County since early July, this no longer seems appropriate. The marking for these projects continues to be TBD (to be determined). They will be addressed again when virus cases decrease. Please remember, as we are able to open projects in a modified way, no one has any obligation to work in a situation in which they do not feel comfortable. There is no requirement for any service hours for 2020.

## THIS MONTH'S SPEAKER, BY HAZEL BRAXTON, VP FOR INTERNAL EDUCATION

Joseph Tychonievich is a lifelong gardener and lover of plants. He studied horticulture, plant breeding, and genetics at the Ohio State University.

Joseph has worked for nurseries in the US and Japan and was the nursery manager at [Arrowhead Alpines](#), a premier rock garden nursery in Fowlerville, Michigan. He has been a repeated guest on public radio's food show [The Splendid Table](#) and was named by *Organic Gardening Magazine* as one of "...six young horticulturists who are helping to shape how America gardens."

Joseph is the author of *Plant Breeding for the Home Gardener*, *The Complete Guide to Gardeners*, and *Rock Gardening: Reimagining a Classic Style* and is the editor the North American Rock Garden Society's quarterly journal, the [Rock Garden Quarterly](#). He currently lives with his husband, two cats, a dog, and an absurd number of plants in Williamsburg.

The title of Joseph's program is **Cool Unusual Plants to Try.**

Newsletter Editor:  
Hope Yelich  
hopeyelich@gmail.com

The MGA board meets on the third Thursday of each month at 9:30am at the Williamsburg Regional Library, Room B, on Scotland Street, Williamsburg.

PLEASE NOTE:  
During the pandemic and while the library remains closed, the board meets through video conferencing.

Don't forget to check out our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/VCEMasterGardeners/>. Lots of great articles, educational videos, beautiful photographs, upcoming events, and more! Marion Guthrie is doing a great job keeping us up to date, especially during this time when things are changing so frequently.

To get to our VCE James City County/Williamsburg Master Gardener homepage quickly, click on <http://jccwmg.org/wordpress/>

## NEWS OF THE UNIT'S PROJECTS, OLD AND NEW

BY RICK BROWN, VICE PRESIDENT FOR PROJECTS

Despite limitations placed on several of our volunteer projects we have some leadership changes taking place that you will notice in the future when we return to our mission of providing education and assistance to the public in this area we serve.

**New Water Steward, Shoreline Conservation Project** – Gary Streb has stepped forward to propose and plan a new project that will employ the knowledge and training of our unit's Water Stewards, working in tandem with the [Colonial Soil and Water Conservation District](#) to focus on shoreline erosion and storm water management. This is the organization that also works with our unit's Turf Love project.

Essentially, the project would include property visits conducted by a representative of the conservation district and Master Gardener volunteers, who would examine and advise homeowners on shoreline concerns. They would also provide "upland" recommendations for steps that property owners could take to reduce the overall water-quality impacts of development or land use on their property. This project concept has received tentative approval from the board and will be submitted in due course to the VCE district director, Janet Spencer, for her approval.

**Landscape Love** - Barbara Floyd, Sherry Walker, and Susan Zickel will be the new leaders for this project beginning this summer.

**Farmers Market** - Cathy Hill will assume the responsibility of this program in 2021, when the project may be allowed to reopen its informational booth. She will be consulting with Justin Diaz and others responsible for the Farmers Market operations.

**Pruning Clinic** - Harry Fahl has agreed to work with Patricia Paquette and Jeanne Millin during the upcoming season, whenever that opportunity is permitted to resume.

Of course, all of these projects are subject to whatever Covid-19 restrictions are applicable that may delay or require restructuring of some, if not all, of these projects. That is still to be determined based on future VCE guidelines.

Many thanks for everyone's willingness to take leadership positions in these projects and shepherd them in the future. Gary is especially to be commended for having done such a great job of keeping the three existing projects running for the past several years, and we look forward to his efforts with the new Water Steward project that will engage the talents of the members of our unit who have received specialized advanced Water Steward training.

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## THOSE MYSTERY SEED PACKETS

By now you've probably heard about those mystery seed packets, thanks in part to Marion Guthrie's coverage on [our unit's Facebook page](#). Several residents of Virginia (and elsewhere) have reported getting these unsolicited seeds in the mail that were apparently sent from China. Officials warn not to plant the seeds or put them in the trash, since they might be an invasive or harmful species.

The [Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services](#) asks anyone who receives these seeds to contact the Office of Plant Industry Services (OPIS) through the [ReportAPest@vdacs.virginia.gov](mailto:ReportAPest@vdacs.virginia.gov) email. A press release appears [here](#). There have been several news stories about this issue, including:

- From the Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia: <https://mgnv.org/2020/07/27/mystery-seed-packages/>
- From the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*; [https://richmond.com/business/ag-officials-warn-about-unsolicited-packages-of-seeds-arriving-in-the-mail-possibly-from-china/article\\_aed7481c-7b8a-568c-abf5-7b0776c0a483.html#:~:text=John%20Reid%20Blackwell,-Jul%2027%2C%202020&text=Residents%20of%20Virginia%20and%20several,an%20invasive%20and%20harmful%20species.](https://richmond.com/business/ag-officials-warn-about-unsolicited-packages-of-seeds-arriving-in-the-mail-possibly-from-china/article_aed7481c-7b8a-568c-abf5-7b0776c0a483.html#:~:text=John%20Reid%20Blackwell,-Jul%2027%2C%202020&text=Residents%20of%20Virginia%20and%20several,an%20invasive%20and%20harmful%20species.)
- From the *New York Times*: <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/07/26/us/seeds-from-china-mail.html>

## STATUS OF THE 2021 EXTENSION MASTER GARDENER TRAINING CLASS

BY JENNIFER CAMPBELL, TRAINING COMMITTEE

While it is unknown if there will be a 2021 Master Gardener training class, the training committee is working with the Master Gardener Association (MGA) executive board to identify potential options and revisions to safely convene the next class --- whether that is to be in 2021 or even 2022. The decision to have a class will be based on guidance from Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE). The latest guidance limits face-to-face activities to volunteering in gardens, and it requires use of safety protocols such as masks, social distancing and sanitization.

We discussed the option of holding a virtual class, but we quickly dismissed it. Our James City County/Williamsburg unit has a long history of having a quality training program featuring ample opportunity for hands-on interaction with fellow students and seasoned Extension Master Gardeners. Let's face it, most of us have waited a long time to be able to take the course and would want to get the full experience. Even if VCE guidance should change, the second hurdle to holding a class would be registering sufficient students to make the class worthwhile. One of our major recruitment tools is our kiosk at the Farmers Market that solicits interested prospects. Current guidance precludes us from participating in the market to gather names of interested candidates.

With so much uncertainty, safety is central to our strategy to host a class. We would start by shifting the dates of the class to March through May, on Tuesdays and Thursdays to allow us to capitalize on spring's better weather. The later dates would also allow added time for recruiting. The goal is to strive for outdoor, hands-on classes to better facilitate social distancing. Historically, our best-received classes have been outdoors and/or hands-on. Warmer weather would help expand outside learning opportunities, allowing us to capitalize on local agricultural and gardening establishments, such as AgriBerry Farms, Brent and Becky's Bulbs, and our Williamsburg Botanical Garden. What could be better than learning outside in the springtime as gardens start to bloom? Class size would also be limited to about twenty students to further enable separation.

We will place additional focus on integrating students into our MGA and working with Extension Master Gardeners during the classroom portion of training. Students will be allowed to start working on projects in their second week of class, provided they have completed the risk management component, their background checks, and two core gardening classes. They will have the opportunity to ask questions about programs and share their experiences and excitement with fellow students while still attending the "classroom" portion of training. Additionally, no classes would be scheduled the first Thursday of each month so students can join and attend our MGA meeting and program. We want them get the full effect of getting to know our talented and enthusiastic Extension Master Gardeners.

In conclusion, we think these refinements are a great addition to an already highly regarded training program. Now we just need to learn when we will be able to put our strategy into action.

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## INVITATION TO A WILLIAMSBURG BIRD CLUB PROGRAM "PLANT CONSERVATION IS FOR THE BIRDS"

BY PATSY MCGRADY, PRESIDENT

Last year scientists documented a staggering loss of nearly three billion breeding birds in North America since 1970. Around that time the [Cornell Lab of Ornithology](#) identified a few simple actions individuals can take to help birds. \* \*\* High on the list is growing native plants.

The [Williamsburg Bird Club](#) has invited JCC/W Master Gardeners to its August 19 meeting (via Zoom) where Matt Bright, conservation manager at [Earth Sangha](#) will present a program on native plants and bird diversity.

Earth Sangha is a nonprofit organization based in Northern Virginia whose mission is ecological restoration. Matt Bright will address how intact native plant communities support bird diversity, cite some relationships between native plants and native birds, and give examples of native plant restoration and bird conservation in the D.C. area and on Hispaniola. Along the way Matt will talk about how we can make urban-suburban landscapes more amenable to birds through the conservation and restoration of appropriate native plants.

The program will follow a brief business meeting starting at 7:00pm August 19. Master Gardeners will receive an email with a Zoom meeting invitation later in the month. Space will be limited to forty Master Gardener participants.

\*\*\*You can find the Cornell lab's list of seven actions to help birds at <https://www.birds.cornell.edu/home/seven-simple-actions-to-help-birds/> .

## INTERNS IN THE GARDEN

BY JENNIFER CAMPBELL, TRAINING COMMITTEE

Under the latest COVID-19 guidance from the Virginia Cooperative Extension, Master Gardeners are able to volunteer on select projects—and that includes our latest crop of interns. Unlike seasoned Master Gardeners, the requirement to accumulate fifty volunteer hours has not yet been waived; however, their time to accrue it has been extended.

With only a handful of projects open this may be challenging, but the Master Gardener Class of 2020 is proving they are up to the challenge. They are currently able to work at Matthey's Garden; Blayton Elementary School garden, Williamsburg Botanical Garden, and the Historic Triangle Learning Garden.

If you also find yourself working on one of those projects, take the time to meet and work with an intern. They are a smart, enthusiastic bunch who are anxious to get the full Extension Master Gardener experience.



Bill Burruss at Matthey's Garden



Edwin Velez-Rivera gives plants at WBG a much-needed drink



Left: Sue Barton at Matthey's telling the story of her sons attending Matthew Whaley School



Right: Jill Burruss takes a pause at Matthey's Garden

*This article is continued on the next page, page 6*

**INTERNS IN THE GARDEN *CONTINUED***



Fred Rojek works hard to tame the overgrowth at Mattey's Garden



Camille Fisher working incognito at WBG



Kim Owens making plants tidy at Mattey's



Jeff Mellinger isn't afraid of a little dirt

## THIS AND THAT

### Thank You, WBG Volunteers!

The WBG is thankful to the many volunteers who continued working individually in the garden - with correct social distancing, of course - over these past few months. Their hard work is entirely the reason the garden looks so luscious.

Many thanks to everyone who helped make the Honor Box ongoing plant sale a successful alternative to the plant sale. The Honor Box sale is closed for the summer but will start up again in the fall. If you have plants that you would like to donate, please hold them until we announce the reopening. Also, we are currently overstocked with empty pots and respectfully ask that you hold them for later as well.

—Judith Alberts  
Photo, left, by Elizabeth McCoy



### Plant Identification Flash Cards

Thanks to Peggy Krapf for passing on information she received about a new way to learn about plants.

Developed by a horticulturalist, three plant identification flash card decks consisting of sixty plants each of trees, shrubs, and flowering perennials are for sale for \$29.00 each, or all three for \$75.00. Take a look at <https://www.plantidcards.com/>.

These could be a clever and useful tool, but remember VCE's Trade and Brand Name Statement, "Commercial products are named in this publication for informational purposes only. Virginia Cooperative Extension does not endorse these products and does not intend discrimination against other products which also may be suitable."

### Two Goofs

The editor apologizes for cutting off the end of Marilyn Riddle's VMGA report on page 6 and for inadvertently adding text at the right margin on page 7 of the July newsletter. All has been corrected in the version on the MG website. FYI, Marilyn's report ended this way: "There being no interest from units, banners will not be purchased for their use. The August meeting will be virtual. There is the expectation that we will be able to go to Charlottesville in October and Danville in December. There is no host unit for February, April, and June of next year. The meeting was adjourned."



pixabay

*This and That is continued on the next page, page 8*

## THIS AND THAT — CONTINUED

### New Email for Barbara Gustafson

Barbara is still staying with one of her daughters in New York, hoping to settle into her new place in Vermont sometime next month. She has a new email address, and I'm sure she'd like to hear from her Master Gardener friends:

[barbararsg33@gmail.com](mailto:barbararsg33@gmail.com)

—Linda Lucas



### Master Gardener College

Several of our members enjoyed the first virtual MG College in June, where for \$50.00 you could have your choice of a variety of sessions on numerous topics. In addition, participants are able to watch recordings of any of the sessions through December of this year. MG College provided an opportunity for many educational credits!

—Joanne Sheffield

### Online Continuing Education Opportunities

From the state EMG office, Kathleen Reed lists \*several\* online CE resources MGs can utilize while away from projects. Click on: <https://mastergardener.ext.vt.edu/biweekly-update/>

At the Blayton Elementary School garden, last fall's onion and garlic crop was recently picked and then dried before being delivered to the Williamsburg House of Mercy.

Over twenty pounds of produce were donated to the charity.





## WILDFLOWER OF THE MONTH AUGUST 2020

BY HELEN HAMILTON  
JOHN CLAYTON CHAPTER, VIRGINIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

### MISTFLOWER and Monarch Butterflies

*Conoclinium coelestinum*  
(formerly *Eupatorium coelestinum*)



**Photo:** Blue Mistflower (*Conoclinium coelestinum*) taken by Helen Hamilton at the Williamsburg Botanical Garden. Below: Monarch butterfly on a mistflower.



This is one of the native perennials highly regarded as nectar food for monarch butterflies. The typical life cycle of monarchs includes four flights each year, the third in July-August, and the last September-October that produces a different butterfly, capable of the long migration south. Monarchs lay their eggs on milkweed, the leaves furnishing food for the growing caterpillars.

The adult butterflies get their energy and maintenance food from the flowers of milkweed as well as many other late summer flowers, such as cardinal flower, blue vervain, wild bergamot, New York ironweed, goldenrods, bonesets. Plants with massive heads of tiny flowers are favorites of butterflies since they can easily collect nectar from the closely packed blossoms, not using energy to fly to other nearby plants.

Mistflower is an ideal candidate, blooming from July through October to feed insects from late summer into fall. This native perennial is topped with masses of soft, fluffy violet-blue flowers. It's a member of the Aster family, but there are no rays on the flowers. Each flowerhead has as many as fifty little florets, each with five tiny lobes and a long style that gives the flowers a fuzzy appearance. Other asters like black-eyed susans, dandelions, and sunflowers have both ray and disk flowers.

This plant grows three-to-four feet tall, and spreads by creeping roots. It can take over an entire border, but the roots are shallow and easy to pull out. The plant grows best in full sun to light shade, in moist conditions – it does not handle drought well but requires little attention.

A cultivar 'Wayside' is somewhat shorter, but there is little information about butterfly visits to this plant. "Gregg's Mistflower" is native to Texas, Arizona, and New Mexico and south, and it is a good pollinator plant in that region. Our native mistflower can sprawl and become weedy in appearance by late fall, but it is a butterfly magnet, and is the only mistflower that should be planted here. Deer do not typically browse on the bitter-tasting leaves.

It is also known as wild ageratum because the flowers resemble those of the shorter (six-to-twelve inches) annual dwarf ageratum (*Ageratum houstonianum*), sold in garden centers as bedding plants. Blue boneset is another name; the eupatoriums were thought to cure broken bones since the stems of some species grow through the leaves.

Mistflower grows wild in woods edges, stream banks, ditches, meadows, and fields, in nearly every county in Virginia. The leaves grow opposite on the stems with soft toothed edges, three inches-by-two inches.

For more information about native plants,  
visit [www.vnps.org](http://www.vnps.org)

## Important Dates



Photo by Timothy Eberly on Unsplash

## THINKING OF OUR MEMBERS

The organization sends cards to members with difficult medical issues or who have experienced a death in the immediate family.

We also acknowledge achievements/ milestones and donations made to the association.

If you know any member who should receive a card, please contact our new secretary, Paulette Atkinson, at (757) 813-7234 or [papinehurst@gmail.com](mailto:papinehurst@gmail.com)

## NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for submissions to the September 2020 newsletter will be Wednesday, August 26

Please send any submissions to Hope Yelich, newsletter editor, at [hopeyelich@gmail.com](mailto:hopeyelich@gmail.com)

### JCC/W Master Gardener Mission Statement

*The purpose of the James City County/ Williamsburg Master Gardener is to learn, educate, and communicate environmentally sound horticultural practices to the community. Trained by the Virginia Cooperative Extension, Master Gardener volunteers are committed to offering information to the public through sustainable landscape management educational programs.*

## ABOUT THE VIRGINIA MASTER GARDENERS AND VIRGINIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Virginia Master Gardeners are volunteer educators who work within their communities to encourage and promote environmentally sound horticulture practices through sustainable landscape management education and training. As an educational program of Virginia Cooperative Extension, Virginia Master Gardeners bring the resources of Virginia's land-grant universities, Virginia Tech and Virginia State University, to the people of the commonwealth.

Virginia Cooperative Extension programs and employment are open to all, regardless of age, color, disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, veteran status, or any other basis protected by law. An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Virginia State University, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating. Edwin J. Jones, Director, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg; M. Ray McKinnie, Interim Administrator, 1890 Extension Program, Virginia State University, Petersburg.

# JAMES CITY COUNTY/WILLIAMSBURG EXTENSION MASTER GARDENER DONATION POLICY

July 27, 2020

## JCCW EMG Donation Policy

1. In general, any donations to the organization are placed into the general fund. This includes:
  - funds that a project may collect as part of the project
  - gratuities offered to a project in appreciation for service provided
  - general donations to the organization made by either a MG or non-MG
2. Formal donations made expressly to a specific project will go into the general treasury and be credited as an addition to the specified project's current budget. This is done to honor the request of the person submitting the donation. Members should never request that a gratuity paid for volunteer services be designated for a specific project.
3. It is the goal of the association's budgeting process that the amount requested and provided in the official budget meet the needs of the project. However, occasionally members wish to provide additional funds for a project in which they participate. In this situation, members are encouraged to handle these transactions informally within the project. This is equivalent to members funding some aspect of a project, such as purchasing materials for the project, and not requesting reimbursement. When a project has found it necessary to rely on a substantial amount of participant-provided funds, this increased need should be reflected in the requested budget for the following year.
4. **Stewardship Funds:** The situation may arise when either a member or non-member may donate a substantial amount of funds, here defined as over \$50, for a specific objective. The objective should be an item of lasting value. Examples include a MG banner sign, a memorial bench, or a garden sign. These targeted funds will be credited into a Stewardship Fund within our budget and within our checking account. The funds will be used only for the specific designated objective. Any funds remaining in the Stewardship Fund after the objective is achieved will revert to the general treasury. This is not intended for consumed items. Donations for items consumed, i.e. used by, a project, should be handled as defined above.
5. Budgets are defined on a yearly basis. Amounts allocated to a given project in a given year but unspent at the end of that year do not rollover as an addition to the project budget for the next year.

## ASSESSMENT OF PROJECTS GIVEN VCE JUNE 5 GUIDANCE

JCCW Extension Master Gardeners

July 27, 2020

### Assessment of Projects Given VCE June 5 Guidance

Any project must adhere to guidelines in VCE guidance: social distancing, sanitize high touch areas, do not share tools. Wash hands or use sanitizer frequently. Based on the specifics of the project, individuals should consider wearing a mask for added protection. All projects must have permission from property owners to be on property. See VCE Guidance dated April 10 and Addendum dated June 5 for specifics. In addition we strongly encourage the use of gloves. Project leaders should assess the ability to maintain social distancing. Shift work may be considered to limit the number of volunteers at any one time. We encourage including interns where the project and conditions allow.

Remember: Your health is the most important factor. No service hours are required this year. No MG or intern should participate in any project unless they are completely comfortable with the conditions and safety precautions. Project leaders should implement any additional safety precautions they see as appropriate and beneficial for the project.

#### Status Color Definitions

Green	Major aspects of projects can be performed with some modifications.
Yellow	Only selected aspects of project can be performed.

PROJECT	Status	Notes and Comments
Incredible Edibles		Will reach out to interns. Providing advice to development of local service organization garden. For near-term, consider this as a customer contact of the Incredible Edibles program.
Mattey's Garden		Focus on maintaining garden. No in-person interaction with children. Able to incorporate interns.
Blayton School Garden - Summer/Fall 2020		With permission of appropriate school personnel, stabilization of garden for summer. No interactions with children..
Clara Byrd Baker Garden Club - Summer/Fall 2020	Pause	School personnel are providing essential garden maintenance
Wbg Botanical Garden - EMG Demonstration Gardens		Include interns as possible.
Everyday Uses of Trees, Hotwater Tract Settlement of Freedom Park		Include interns as possible.
Water Wise Low Maintenance Garden		County offices working with clients by appointment only, thereby reducing walk-up traffic. Will look to incorporating interns later after garden has been stabilized.
Farmer's Market at Merchant Square	Pause	No for remainder of 2020. Probably requires implementation of broad vaccination program.
Help Desk		Functioning remotely. Do not expect to be able to function within VCE spaces until vaccinations are generally available. Need to examine possible inclusion of interns for research.
Landscape Love - Fall 2020	TBD	Given the increase of COVID 19 cases in JCC, will address again after number of cases decrease.
Tree Call - Summer 2020	TBD	Given the increase of COVID 19 cases in JCC, will address again after number of cases decrease.
Turf Love/Garden Love	TBD	Given the increase of COVID 19 cases in JCC, will address again after number of cases decrease.
Pruning Clinic Jan 2021	TBD	Decision toward end of year based on conditions at that time.

*Continued on the next page, page 13*

## ASSESSMENT OF PROJECTS GIVEN VCE JUNE 5 GUIDANCE — CONTINUED

CW Arboretum, Educational Tree Tour		Can conduct work related to CW Arboretum. No interns because this is a Tree Steward project and required specialized Tree Steward training. No tours in near future.
CW Learning Gardens		CW opened volunteer work at the gardens before MG received broader guidance. MG volunteers can now charge hours to MG and should charge hours retroactive to June 5, date of revised guidance.
Speakers Bureau	<b>Maybe</b>	Not in person. Could do via Zoom if that fits the situation.
JCCW Seeds of Learning	<b>TBD</b>	Traditionally operates in spring. Lost 2020 season. 2021 depends on availability of broad vaccination program and other variables.
Therapeutic Gardening		Maintain therapeutic garden within WBG. No in-person contact with clients.
Monthly MG Meeting		Via Zoom in August and forward until events indicate other wise
Master Gardener Training, Class of 2020	<b>TBD</b>	
Shoreline Conservation (NEW)		Potential Water Steward project in association with JCC Soil and Water Conservation office. Board approved proceeding into exploratory and planning stage. VIMS representative would be part of any team along with MG Water Stewards. POC: Gary Streb. Initially charge time to Administration. As project concept develops, project proposal will be required.
Consultation to Boy Scout (NEW)		Project in support of achieving Eagle Scout badge. MG to offer guidance and consultation. Interaction by phone, email, video conference. No in-person contact is required..