



# THE GARFIELD GARDENER

THE NEWSLETTER OF GARFIELD PARK MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION

## May 2020 Next Meeting

May 13 (6:30 p.m.)

**Topic:** *Cultivate the Wild:*  
*Wildflowers in*  
*a Traditional Garden*

**Speaker:** Myrene Brown,  
Myrene's Garden

**Virtual Meeting Only:  
No In-Person Meeting**

June 10 (6:30 p.m.)

**Field Trip (Tentative);**

**Speaker:** Bill McKnight,  
*The Mad Botanist*

*Meetings occur the second  
Wednesday of each month at  
6:30 p.m. at Garfield Park  
unless otherwise noted.*

### Future Meetings

July 8

Aug. 12

Sept. 9

Oct. 14

Nov. 18 (Third Wednesday)

Dec. 9

Purdue University is an equal  
opportunity / equal access /  
affirmative action  
university.

If you require an  
accommodation or special  
assistance to attend these  
programs due to a disability,  
please contact Steve Mayer at  
317.275.9290. Some  
accommodations may require  
2 weeks notice.

### Newsletter Editor:

Oren Cooley

[pastpfct@aol.com](mailto:pastpfct@aol.com)

### Learn more at:

[www.IndyGPMGA.com](http://www.IndyGPMGA.com)

[www.IndyMG.org](http://www.IndyMG.org)

[www.IndyHorticulture.org](http://www.IndyHorticulture.org)

## President's Letter

My COVID-19 Victory Garden

There has been a surge in gardening with the stay-at-home orders to minimize the spread of the COVID-19 virus. People are planting more vegetable gardens and we're resurrecting another era of Victory Gardens. Starting in 1917, during World War I, they were called "war gardens" and were meant to free up the food supply for the soldiers. The term Victory Gardens came about during World War II in the 1940s, when people provided nearly 40% of the nation's fruits and vegetables. Then as now, the garden also gives a place to escape from the worries of the world, get some exercise and have some much needed peace and serenity. And, what a great experience to have with your kids and grandkids.

Besides providing food for ourselves, it's food that hasn't been handled by anyone else, and it doesn't cost much. . . . Let's say a seed packet costs \$1.50 and there are 60 seeds in the packet—that's about 3 cents per seed. (And, where the heck is the good old cents sign on my computer? Apparently, it's gone the way of cursive, rotary dial phones, penny candy, pay phones and cash!) Some of my seeds are 3-4+ years old and I've still gotten a fairly high germination rate. So, don't worry if your seeds are old.

Just plant them and see what you get. If you don't get anything then, yes, it's probably time to buy new.

The past few years I have mainly planted herbs in pots and maybe had a couple cherry tomatoes as I've been relying on the Farmers' Markets. But this year, I have resurrected my vegetable garden. I have a nice little 10x12 fenced-in area that keeps the bunnies out, and have already planted radishes, sugar snap peas and Swiss chard. I have heirloom tomato seedlings in the house and am getting ready to direct sow the squashes and some beans. One of my gardening neighbors taught me that direct sowing the warm season veggies (like squash, beans and corn) from seed at the end of April is the best time because they take 7-14 days to germinate and, by then, we are at the end of the freeze/frost season.

The radishes are getting their second set of leaves and I just thinned out the Swiss chard. I like to nibble on the seedlings while I'm at it . . . microgreens! I am going out every day waiting for the sugar snap peas to pop up. With the recent rains and then



Victory Garden poster (c. 1943) (above);  
COVID-19 Victory Garden promotion (2020)



(Continued on Page 5)

## GPMGA Condolences

The Garfield Park Master Gardeners wish to offer Louise Earlywine and Victoria Metheaux our deepest condolences on the passing of their husbands (Robert Earlywine and Pat Metheaux, respectively) last month. We hope your many memories will provide comfort during this difficult time.

## Garfield Park Conservatory Remains Closed

Garfield Park Conservatory, the Sunken Garden, Blake's Garden and other facilities remain closed until further notice because of the current pandemic.

All Indy Parks rentals and programs (except for food programs) are cancelled until further notice.

During the current pandemic, Garfield Park urges people to follow social distancing guidelines and to keep at least 6 feet between themselves and others. People should follow CDC recommended personal hygiene measures as well.

For more information about the Garfield Park Conservatory, visit [www.garfieldgardensconservatory.org](http://www.garfieldgardensconservatory.org). For questions about Indy Parks activities, contact the Customer Service Center at (317) 327-PARK or e-mail [IndyParksCS@indy.gov](mailto:IndyParksCS@indy.gov).

## GPMGA to Host Virtual Meeting May 13

Myrene Brown of Myrene's Garden will present *Cultivate the Wild: Wildflowers in a Traditional Garden* during the GPMGA's virtual meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 13. Please see article on Page 2 for instructions on attending this virtual meeting.

The GPMGA will conduct a virtual meeting because the Purdue Extension—Marion County's guideline for its events (which includes MG association events) remains in effect: **No face-to-face Purdue Extension events may be held until Monday, May 18.** (The date is subject to change). The announcement was made last month in light of the current pandemic.



During the virtual meeting, Myrene Brown will share her surprise at being able to grow woodland wildflowers at the very sunny property she moved to three years ago. She has subsequently learned how tolerant some wildflowers are of growing sites that are very different from the typical woodland of their native habitat.

Her program will include tips so that attendees can experiment with growing these ephemeral beauties in their yards. If successful, gardeners will increase the value of their gardens to pollinators by adding some of the earliest native plant bloomers to their blooming collection.

In business for 22 years, Myrene started with garden maintenance and has since transitioned to garden coaching, lecturing and designing gardens. Her philosophy is that "doing" is the best way to learn how to be a gardener. Her years of providing maintenance in client gardens and her own garden has given her hands-on experience to pass along to fellow gardeners.

Myrene has never lost her interest in native plants, habitat gardens and rain gardens. She comments: "There is always so much more to learn and experience as a gardener. I am learning interesting things every year." Myrene may be reached at [myrene\\_brown@myrenesgarden.com](mailto:myrene_brown@myrenesgarden.com).

## 2020 GPMGA Officers/Committee Chairs

### President

Lane Judkins  
[APJ44@sbcglobal.net](mailto:APJ44@sbcglobal.net)

### Vice President

Bill Bernstein  
[billbe19@comcast.net](mailto:billbe19@comcast.net)

### Secretary

Nancy Boettner  
[nancyboettner@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nancyboettner@sbcglobal.net)

### Treasurer

Cindy Maude  
[cmaude@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cmaude@sbcglobal.net)

### Plant Sale

Kay Martin-Pence  
[guitargirl929@gmail.com](mailto:guitargirl929@gmail.com)

### Program Directors

Carrie Alumbaugh  
[carriesalumbaugh@gmail.com](mailto:carriesalumbaugh@gmail.com)

Debra Boyer

[idealgardenspace@aol.com](mailto:idealgardenspace@aol.com)

### Hospitality—Snack Coordinator

Jayne Queck  
[jaqueck@aol.com](mailto:jaqueck@aol.com)

### Hospitality—Set-up Coordinator

Teresa McCurry  
[tmccurry@iupui.edu](mailto:tmccurry@iupui.edu)

### Hospitality—Pitch-In Coordinator

Carrie Alumbaugh  
[carriesalumbaugh@gmail.com](mailto:carriesalumbaugh@gmail.com)

### Newsletter/Publicity Director

Oren Cooley  
[pastpfct@aol.com](mailto:pastpfct@aol.com)

### Conservatory Tour Coordinator

Victoria Metheaux  
[vmethx@comcast.net](mailto:vmethx@comcast.net)

### Historian

Becky Walker  
[otisdog2@hotmail.com](mailto:otisdog2@hotmail.com)

### Questions about Reporting Hours

Debbie Schelske  
[dschelsk@purdue.edu](mailto:dschelsk@purdue.edu)

Please contact the officers and chairs of the Garfield Park Master Gardener Association if you have any questions or suggestions .

## Guidelines for GPMGA Virtual Meeting

The link below will allow you to join the GPMGA's virtual meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 13. Myrene Brown of Myrene's Garden will be the presenter at the GPMGA's first Zoom meeting. Please see the article on Page 2 for details.

It is very easy to join virtually either via your home computer, Apple device or non-Apple device. Just copy the link below into your search engine or click on the link provided in the Purdue University— Extension Office's meeting notification. Either way, Zoom will start up and, if you have never done a Zoom meeting previously, it will install a small amount of software on your device so that, next time, it is much easier to join. Then, when prompted to "Open Zoom", do so and enter the password. You then will join our meeting.



### Link Needed to Join the Zoom Meeting by Computer

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84607290541?pwd=ZGw2Z0NROGVtQnRpY2ZEN3NuN29wUT09>

Meeting ID: 846 0729 0541  
Password: 009687

**You also may join by telephone.** You may dial +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago) or you may find your local number at <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kuwkVaouP>.

You also may join by one tap mobile. Enter +19292056099,,84607290541#,,1#,009687# US (New York)

### Practice Session Available

To see how to join a Zoom meeting if you have never done so before, the following link takes you to a quick video explaining how to join a Zoom meeting:

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362193-Joining-a-Meeting>. Please enter the link in your search engine.

### During the Zoom Meeting

Zoom allows for video display and audio, thus the meeting has been setup for both. If you do not have video on your computer, tablet or phone OR do not want to be shown on video, that is OK. You may be as comfortable as you like when joining our meeting.

The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. with a short business meeting. This approach will allow people to join if running late. You will be able to talk to people and can even text Chat to the whole group or to a single person.

When Myrene begins her presentation, all members will be muted to allow Myrene to present and talk. The chat at this time will be limited to chat with the host only. If you have a question during the presentation, you will be able to ask our host, Kay Martin-Pence, and she will let Myrene know there is a question. This way, Myrene can address any questions as they come up. There also will be a Q&A session with Myrene at the end of the presentation.

After the presentation, the meeting will be opened up again to complete the remainder of the business meeting and to chat with each other.

If you have never used Zoom before, this is chance to try something new and to see how the world is getting along with everyone staying home—yet still being able to work together and talk to each other. We hope that you will join us!

If you have questions about the Zoom meeting, please contact Kay Martin-Pence at [guitargirl929@gmail.com](mailto:guitargirl929@gmail.com).



## Garfield Park Master Gardener Association

*in association with*



### Purdue Extension - Marion County

Discovery Hall, Suite 201  
Indiana State Fairgrounds  
1202 East 38th Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46205  
Phone: 317.275.9290  
FAX: 317.275.9309

E-mail: [MayerSL@purdue.edu](mailto:MayerSL@purdue.edu)  
Answerline: 317.275.9292 or  
[marioncountymg@gmail.com](mailto:marioncountymg@gmail.com)

It is the policy of the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service that all persons have equal opportunity and access to its educational programs, services, activities and facilities without regard to race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin or ancestry, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, disability or status as a veteran. Purdue University is an Affirmative Action institution. This material may be available in alternative formats.

If you require an accommodation or special assistance to attend programs due to a disability, please contact Steve Mayer at 317.275.9290. Some accommodations may require 2 weeks notice.

Purdue does not endorse nor disclaim information that appears in this newsletter. It is intended only for informational purposes.

Questions: Contact Steve Mayer at [mayersl@purdue.edu](mailto:mayersl@purdue.edu) or Debbie Schelske at [dschelsk@purdue.edu](mailto:dschelsk@purdue.edu).

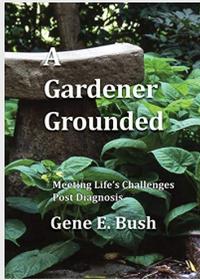
*Helping Others Grow  
Sharing Knowledge  
Volunteer Commitment*

## From the Bookshelf . . .

### ***A Gardener Grounded: Meeting Life's Challenges Post Diagnosis***

by Gene E. Bush

"All gardeners eventually face life-altering events. No matter how long we have gardened, or how passionately we have dedicated ourselves to the second soul we have created, changes will inevitably be forced upon our relationship with gardening."



Gene E. Bush has carried on a 30-year love affair with a hillside shade garden he created at his home in southern Indiana, an affair that blossomed into a mail-order nursery business and then writing and speaking engagements. This book tells how aging and chronic illness are affecting Gene's relationship with his garden, as he comes to realize that change must happen but finds healing power in continuing to work with plants.

Gardeners of all stripes will find encouragement and good humor in Gene's account of his trials and tribulations with gardening following a series of life-altering events.

## On the Web . . .

### ***Xerces Society's Discovering the Insects Around You***

[www.xerces.org/events/webinars](http://www.xerces.org/events/webinars)

Join the Xerces Society staff and volunteers as they explore the lives of incredible insects, provide tips on how to find them and share actions gardeners may take to help them in a series of webinars at 1:00 p.m. (ET) every Thursday in May.

Topics will include fireflies, bumble bees, "tickle bees" and other insects. The full list, more information and webinar sign-ups can be found at: <https://www.xerces.org/events/webinars>. Webinars will be recorded and posted to YouTube as well.

The Xerces Society is a non-profit environmental organization that focuses on the conservation of invertebrates considered essential to biological diversity and ecosystem health. The name is in honor of the extinct California butterfly, the Xerces blue.

## Terrestrial Invasive Plant Rule Implemented

The Indiana Terrestrial Invasive Plant Rule (signed by Governor Eric Holcomb in March 2019) went into effect on April 18, 2020.

The rule states with respect to the 44 plant species included on the rule: "A person must not: (1) Sell, offer or grow for sale, gift, barter, exchange or distribute a species; (2) Transport or transfer a species; or (3) Introduce a species. Provision (3) became effective immediately when Governor Holcomb signed the rule in March 2019.

Selling, offering, distributing and transport did not become effective until April 2020 to allow nurseries some time to sell down their stock. It was an important component of the rule to minimize the economic loss to nurseries that grew and/or sold the few commercially available species on the list. Currently, there is no mandate to eradicate existing plantings in nurseries, landscapes or forested areas.

The species (and their common names) include:

*Achyranthes japonica* (Japanese chaff flower)  
*Ailanthus altissima* (Tree of heaven)  
*Alliaria petiolate* (Garlic mustard)  
*Alnus glutinosa* (Black alder)  
*Artemisia vulgaris* (Mugwort)  
*Arthraxon hispidus* (Small carpgrass)  
*Berberis thunbergii* (Japanese barberry)  
*Carduus acanthoides* (Spiny plumeless thistle)  
*Carduus nutans* (Musk thistle)  
*Celastrus orbiculatus* (Asian bittersweet)  
*Centaurea stoebe* (Spotted knapweed)  
*Cirsium vulgare* (Bull thistle)  
*Conium maculatum* (Poison hemlock)  
*Convolvulus arvensis* (Field bindweed)  
*Coronilla varia* (Crown vetch)  
*Dioscorea polystachya (oppositifolia)* (Chinese yam)  
*Dipsacus fullonum* (Common teasel)  
*Dipsacus laciniatus* (Cut-leaved teasel)  
*Elaeagnus umbellata* (Autumn olive)  
*Euonymus fortunei* (Wintercreeper)  
*Euphorbia virgata* (Leafy spurge)  
*Frangula alnus* (Glossy buckthorn)  
*Humulus japonica* (Japanese hops)  
*Hesperis matronalis* (Dame's rocket)  
*Lespedeza cuneata* (Sericea lespedeza)  
*Lepidium latifolium* (Pepperweed)  
*Ligustrum obtusifolium* (Blunt leaved privet)  
*Lonicera japonica* (Japanese honeysuckle)  
*Lonicera maackii* (Amur honeysuckle)  
*Lonicera morrowii* (Morrow's honeysuckle)  
*Lonicera tatarica* (Tatarian honeysuckle)  
*Lonicera x bella* (Bell's honeysuckle)  
*Microstegium vimineum* (Japanese stiltgrass)  
*Morus alba* (White mulberry)  
*Phalaris arundinacea* (Reed canarygrass)  
*Phellodendron amurense* (Amur cork tree)  
*Phragmites australis subspecies australis* (Common reed)  
*Polygonum perfoliatum* (Mile-a-minute vine)  
*Reynoutria japonica (syn. Fallopia japonica)* (Japanese knotweed)  
*Reynoutria sachalinensis* (Giant knotweed)  
*Reynoutria x bohemica* (Bohemian knotweed)  
*Rhamnus cathartica* (Common buckthorn)  
*Vincetoxicum nigrum* (Black swallow-wort)  
*Vincetoxicum rossicum* (Pale swallow-wort)

(From top to bottom: Amur Honeysuckle, Autumn Olive, Common Teasel)



The Indiana Native Plant Society now offers *The Terrestrial Plant Rule Pocket Guide*. This field guide covers the 49 regulated terrestrial invasive plants in Indiana, with pictures and descriptions on how to identify the species as well as specifics on how to distinguish these invasive species from similar native species. A downloadable PDF of this field guide is available now at <https://indiananativeplants.org/invasive-plants/2019-terrestrial-invasive-plant-rule/>.

The 44 species included in the terrestrial plant rule were assessed through a scientific system by a team of experts from horticulture, landscape, nursery, research, conservation and Purdue Agriculture. Links to assessments are available from the Official Indiana Invasive Plant list at: <https://www.entm.purdue.edu/iisc/invasiveplants.html>.

## Florathon 2020 Now Individual Competition

The Indiana Native Plant Society updated its Florathon this year to have an individual instead of a team competition because of the current pandemic.

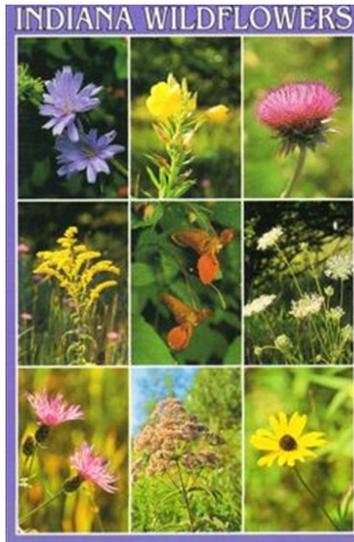
Florathon 2020 is the Indiana Native Plant Society's competition to see how many blooming native plants an individual can spot in Indiana's natural areas during a 24-hour period of that person's choosing. The event, which began April 18, will conclude on May 31.



For the competition, individuals (or small groups who live in the same household) should visit natural areas in Indiana during a 24-hour period of their choosing before May 31. The object is to identify as many native wildflower species in bloom as they can. Individuals (or small groups who live in the same household) also enlist sponsors (family, friends, office mates, church groups, businesses, etc.) who honor the competitor's efforts by making a donation to the Indiana Native Plant Society.

Once onsite, record all the native herbaceous species in flower using the downloadable Species Sightings forms from the Indiana Native Plant Society's website. Participants may use the form with Common Names or the one with Latin Names or they may create a recording method using the website's Excel Spreadsheet. Once completed, send in the Competitor sheet, Sponsor Summary, Species Sightings forms and sponsor checks by June 15 to Florathon Chair Barbara Homoya, 529 Hornaday Road, Brownsburg, IN 46112.

Records of which species bloom where and when are useful for tracking the health of the state's native plants and their response to climate patterns. The Indiana Native Plant Society shares the citizen-scientist data with biologists and ecologists who then analyze the findings and incorporate them into their studies.



The event raises funds to benefit Letha's Youth Outdoors Fund, a project of the Indiana Native Plant Society that enables school and youth groups to visit natural areas and engage with nature. Since 2008, Letha's Fund has supported trips for more than 15,000 children to experience nature under the guidance of knowledgeable naturalists.

For more information, visit <https://indiananativeplants.org/inps-sponsoredevents/florathon/>.

## President's Letter (Continued from Page 1)

some warming sunshine, they should be out any moment. I planted them on 4/16 and, as of this writing, it is day 11. ETA is 7-14 days. I want to just sit in a chair out there and wait for them to pop up!! I do love those time-lapse videos of seeds sprouting - fascinating! I planted Burpee Super Sugar Snap, which is an improved variety with sweet, plump, early pods. Sixty-four days to harvest, so I expect to be eating them by late June. The first ones typically don't even make it into the house as they get eaten in the garden.

I also planted spinach, lettuce, arugula and cress in large pots. The chipmunks love to dig in my pots so I tried putting sticks in the pots to keep them out. It is helping some but they are still digging . . . argh!! And, we haven't even gotten to the flowers yet. I like to grow zinnias, cosmos, marigolds . . . and get lots of cleome volunteers. What's a garden without flowers anyway?!

I hope you are all safe, healthy and gardening! I look forward to the days when we can get together again to share our gardening stories in person. In the meantime, keep digging in the dirt!

—Lane Judkins  
President, GPMGA President

## Florathon 2020 FAQs

### What if I'm not good at identifying native plants?

This is a great opportunity to learn! Here are some wildflower guides you may find useful:

- *Field Guide to Indiana Wildflowers* by Kay Yatskievych
- *Wildflowers and Ferns of Indiana Forests: A Field Guide* by Michael Homoya
- *Newcomb's Wildflower Guide* by Eldon Newcomb

### Are we recording numbers of plants or numbers of species?

The competition is for number of species observed in flower.

### Should I take photos to prove that I actually saw the species we recorded?

Not necessary. The competition is guided by the honor system.

### Is the Florathon intended for INPS members only?

No. Anyone is welcome to compete.

### Can I count the native species in my backyard?

No. The idea is to visit native species in uncultivated natural areas. A fallow woodlot in your neighborhood would qualify as a natural area but not your backyard.

### What's the best way to approach a potential sponsor?

One-on-one conversations with family, friends, coworkers, fellow students, etc., seem to work the best. If they're willing, have them fill out the Sponsor Pledge Form, which provides the Indiana Native Plant Society with their contact data and how they wish to sponsor your team. If you can't make personal contact, leave or e-mail them the Sponsor Pledge Form with a note of encouragement from you.

### Is there a way for donors to give online?

Yes. They can make a donation and designate it for Florathon 2020. They can access the online payment system from the "Donate" button on the INPS home page. The webmaster will match up their donation to the participant's Sponsor Summary sheet so that the sponsorship is credited to the appropriate team.

**More Questions?** E-mail [florathon@indiananativeplants.org](mailto:florathon@indiananativeplants.org).

## EXTENSION HORTICULTURE HINTS—MAY 2020

Steve Mayer, Extension Educator-Horticulture, Purdue Extension-Marion County

Steve Mayer, Extension Educator-Horticulture for Purdue Extension-Marion County, serves as coordinator and instructor for the Purdue Master Gardener program in Marion County.



### **Suspension of Minimum Volunteer Hours Requirement for the Remainder of 2020**

Due to cancellations and restrictions associated with Covid-19, the Purdue Extension Master Gardener (EMG) minimum volunteer hours requirement is suspended for the remainder of 2020. This means that Purdue Extension Master Gardeners will be able to report less than 12 volunteer hours and still maintain active status.

Purdue EMG volunteers should not jeopardize their health or safety through their participation in the program. If Purdue Extension Master Gardeners are able to safely volunteer, they should continue to report these hours in MG Manager. Information reported in MG Manager is extremely important for communicating the impacts of the program to funding agencies and stakeholders.

We also will be very flexible for Master Gardener interns. Current policy states that MG interns should complete their 40 volunteer hours within two years of the training. We will provide an extension of time to interns if needed.

### **No Changes to Minimum Education Hours**

There are many opportunities for education hours – EMG volunteers should continue to report these (6 hours are needed to maintain active MG status). We have already communicated many opportunities. Additional opportunities are below. If you are unable to find sufficient educational opportunities, please contact me (MayerSL@purdue.edu).

### **Purdue Lunch N Learn Programs**

If you missed the first two area Lunch-N-Learn programs, here are the recordings:

- Lunch N Learn Session #1 Recording – Soils & Supplemental Lighting: <https://youtu.be/IHScuRXDDkQ>
- Lunch N Learn Session #2 Recording – All About Asparagus: [https://youtu.be/0wy\\_NKirUT8](https://youtu.be/0wy_NKirUT8)

If you have not signed up yet for the other Lunch-N-Learn programs in May, go to:

<https://extension.purdue.edu/marion/article/36947>

There are a total of seven sessions.

### **Rainscaping Webinar Recordings Available Soon**

If you were not able to register for the Introduction to Rain Gardens and Rainscaping Webinar Series, stay tuned. Purdue has indicated links will be provided to the recorded webinars.

### **CoCoRaHS Training Available**

If you missed one of the CoCoRaHS informational webinars (April 16 and April 17), you can watch a recording: <https://youtu.be/9QHxfnHzkL8>.

CoCoRaHS says all volunteer observers should go through training to best understand the observational best practices that make the citizen science effort most valuable to users of the data. Two duplicate training webinars will be held:

- May 7, 2020, 1:00 PM
- May 7, 2020, 6:00 PM

Contact Steve Mayer for the WebEx training link ([MayerSL@purdue.edu](mailto:MayerSL@purdue.edu)). There is also online training from the CoCoRaHS website ([www.cocorahs.org](http://www.cocorahs.org)).

### **Other Education and Volunteer Opportunities**

Additional education opportunities are found at: <https://www.purdue.edu/hla/sites/master-gardener/continuedhours/>.

Here are some ideas on volunteer opportunities: <https://www.purdue.edu/hla/sites/master-gardener/volunteerideas-at-home/>.

COVID-19 Information from Purdue  
This information is available at: <https://extension.purdue.edu/label/44>.



*Cut and drop your hairy vetch/cereal rye cover crop mixtures in spring after flowers appear but before seeds form (Steve Mayer, 5/14/2018).*

## May Garden Calendar Tips

*Note: Letters and numbers following the tip refer to Purdue publications; other reference links on the topic may also be supplied.*

- **First Week:** May is a key month for planting for many gardeners. If you are interested in planting Indiana-native plants for attracting pollinators, consult the following: 1) Native Plantings for Beneficial Insects and Pollinators (Marion County SWCD) <https://marionswcd.org/wp-content/uploads/marionswcd-native-plantings-for-beneficial-insects-and-pollinators.pdf> and 2) Recommended Indiana-native Plants for Attracting Pollinators (Purdue Extension POL-6) <https://extension.entm.purdue.edu/publications/POL-6/POL-6.html>.
- **Second Week:** Terminate fall-planted cover crops to prepare for planting of vegetables. Wait until flowering but before seed is produced. Mixtures of hairy vetch and cereal rye can be cut to the ground and left as a mulch (chop and drop). Then dig a hole in the stubble and transplant vegetable crops like tomatoes <https://marionswcd.org//soil-health-guide/>.
- **Third Week:** Fertilize the lawn in mid- to late May with a slow release high nitrogen fertilizer if no fertilizer was applied in April. This is especially true if you tend to encounter diseases such as dollar spot, red thread or rust this time of year. They tend to occur on lawns that are growing slowly due to nitrogen deficiency or other stressful conditions. Additional nitrogen can help lawns recover from infection by these diseases. However, most lawn fertilizer should be applied in the fall (AY-22) <https://www.extension.purdue.edu/extmedia/AY/AY-22-W.pdf>.

- **Fourth Week:** Do squirrels or other animals dig in your flower pots and disturb or kill your plants? Use pieces of hardware cloth to help prevent this. View the video here: <https://www.purdue.edu/fnr/extension/video-stop-animals-digging-in-flower-pots/>.

Follow me on Twitter @purduehortindy (or view at: <http://twitter.com/purduehortindy>) for more tips. You can also see my tweets on each Master Gardener association website: <http://indymcmga.org/> and <http://indygpmga.com/>.



*Jasper cherry tomatoes (Steve Mayer, 8/26/2015)*

## The Question Box May 2020

*Steve Mayer, Extension Educator-Horticulture  
Purdue Extension-Marion County*

**Q. In light of COVID-19, what information has Purdue prepared for farmers' markets?**

**A.** Purdue Extension has just developed a new document on COVID-19 guidelines for farmers' markets: *Guidelines to Exercise Essential Status for a Farmers' Market*. It is available here: <https://extension.purdue.edu/marion/article/37123>.

Additional information on the subject is also found online: *A Guide for Farmers' Markets to Navigate the COVID-19 Outbreak*: <https://extension.purdue.edu/article/36616>.

# Show / Event Calendar

## Status of Events as of May 8, 2020:

### Until May 31

#### *Florathon 2020*

Indiana Native Plant Society  
<https://indiananativeplants.org/inps-sponsoredevents/florathon/>

### May 9 - Cancelled

#### *INPS Plant Sale and Auction*

Indiana Native Plant Society  
Keep Indianapolis Beautiful Warehouse

### May 16 (9:00 a.m.—Noon) - Cancelled

*GPMGA Annual Plant Sale*  
Garfield Park Conservatory

### May 16 (10:00 a.m.—Noon)

#### *Wake Up, Woods*

#### *Native Ephemeral Hike*

Indiana Native Plant Society  
100 Acres Nature Park  
Newfields

4000 North Michigan, Indianapolis

[www.indiananativeplants.org/](http://www.indiananativeplants.org/)

### May 16 (1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.)

#### *IDIS Iris Show*

Indiana Daylily and Iris Society

Sullivan Hardware & Garden Pavilion

6955 N. Keystone Avenue, Indianapolis

[www.indianadaylilyirissociety.org](http://www.indianadaylilyirissociety.org)

### May 21 (6:00 p.m.)

#### *Sunflowers* by Joyce Bullington

Spring Green Garden Club of Carmel

John Hensel Government Center

10701 N. College Avenue, Carmel

[www.facebook.com/](http://www.facebook.com/thegardenclubofindiana/posts/)

[thegardenclubofindiana/posts/](http://thegardenclubofindiana/posts/)

### May 31 (2:00 p.m.) Cancelled

#### *The Scoop on Soils*

Carrie Tauscher, Indiana Department  
of Natural Resources

Nora Branch Library

8625 Guilford Avenue, Indianapolis

### June 2 (6:30 p.m.) Cancelled

#### *The Elusive Iris Colors—The Hybridizing Quest*

Indiana Daylily and Iris Society

First Friends Church

3030 Kessler Blvd, E. Dr., Indianapolis

[www.indianadaylilyirissociety.org](http://www.indianadaylilyirissociety.org)

### June 19-28 (Tentative)

#### *Marion County Fair*

Marion County Fairgrounds

7300 E. Troy Ave., Indianapolis

[www.marioncountyfair.org](http://www.marioncountyfair.org)

### August 7-23

#### *Indiana State Fair*

1202 E. 38th St., Indianapolis

[www.indianastatefair.com](http://www.indianastatefair.com)

## GPMGA Plant Sale Donations Update

At present, the GPMGA Plant Sale Committee members are helping to compile an inventory of the plants originally slated for the GPMGA Plant Sale.

The Garfield Park Master Gardener Association cancelled its annual plant sale originally scheduled for May 16 because of the current pandemic. The Plant Sale Committee is considering a plant swap or a members only plant sale in June or later in the year.

The plants, donated by Sullivan's Hardware last fall, currently are being cared for by Kay Martin-Pence at her home. Plants include a large number of shrubs, a wide variety of roses, and numerous sage plants as well as wisteria, clematis, astilbe and some lilies.

The GPMGA will make the list available as well as promote the mechanism for selling the plants soon.



nism for selling the plants soon.

## Garfield Park MG Association Membership Form

Renew your membership in the Garfield Park Master Gardener Association. Dues are \$15.00 per year and help pay for special activities, speakers, the newsletter and donations to community projects.

Monthly meetings occur on the second Wednesday of the month and begin at 6:30 p.m. Unless otherwise noted at the prior meeting or in the newsletter, meetings are held at the Garfield Park Conservatory, 2505 Conservatory Drive, Indianapolis.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Completion date of Master Gardener Training Class \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

I volunteer with: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I wish to be included in the 2020 GPMGA Member Directory.

\_\_\_\_\_ I wish to receive future newsletters by e-mail only.

Submit this form and your \$15.00 annual membership fee to:

Cindy Maude 7416 Roses Drive Indianapolis, IN 46217