



Imagine

Illinois Master Gardeners' Information,
News and Education

Vol. 10 No. 5

September-October 2009

Coordinators Comments

Fall is the time we recognize our outstanding volunteers and projects. If you could not join us for the 2009 conference, check the MG website (News and Updates) in mid September for a copy of the awards booklet which details the accomplishments of our winners as well as information about our teamwork projects. Mark your calendars now to join us for conference 2010 which will be held at the Clocktower Resort in Rockford, IL on Sept 16-18. Our state conference will be combined with the Upper Midwest Master Gardener Conference, so this will be a special opportunity to meet Master Gardeners from Iowa, Wisconsin and Minnesota. The NW region Master Gardeners will host this four-state event.

Plans are underway for training classes to begin in January 2010. Host sites and schedules will be posted later this fall. The revised and updated Master Gardener manual is due for release this fall as well. **Print and CDrom** copies will be available for sale. More information will be forthcoming about prices and release dates for the manual.

After 10 years of a print format for the *Imagine* Newsletter, we will be changing to an online/email format beginning with the January-February 2010 issue. Print copies will no longer be issued from the state office. Printing and mailing costs have made this form of newsletter cost prohibitive. The newsletter will still be offered six times per year and will be posted on the Master Gardener website. I will be emailing copies of the newsletter to your local Master Gardener Coordinator. If you currently receive email updates from your Coordinator, they will forward the *Imagine* to you or notify you that the newsletter has been posted to the website. For those of you without Internet access, you may wish to view the newsletters in your county office or find a buddy with email who can print you a copy.

 Monica David, IL Master Gardener Coordinator

News and Updates on MG Website

Have you checked the Illinois Master Gardener website lately for news and updates? Items of interest to Illinois Master Gardeners are posted regularly on this site. Currently, the brochure for the Peoples Garden in Washington D.C. as well as a link to their website and information about this project can be found on the website.

Also on the website are the CURRENT recommendations from University of Illinois on treatment options for the Emerald Ash Borer. This is important information as recommendations have recently changed. Remember University of Illinois Extension is only recommending treatment of ash trees if they are within 15 miles of a known EAB infested tree. The posted document has important information on FAQs and insecticide options. Two other websites of interest for EAB are:

<http://www.emeraldashborer.info>

<http://www.agr.state.il.us/eab>

Important Dates

September 26: Dig into Fall– A Fall Gardening Workshop. 8 am to Noon. Knox County Extension Office, Galesburg, IL. The keynote address “Fall Blooming Perennials” will be given by Martha Smith, Horticulture Educator. Four breakout sessions include Curb Appeal, Ornamental Grasses, Hydrangeas and Prairie Wildflowers. Fee is \$15 and registration deadline is September 18. Call 309-342-5108.

October 5: Taking a Closer Look at Prairie and its Restoration. Presented by telenet at 6 pm. Fulton County Extension Office, Lewiston, IL. Ken Robertson from the IL Natural History Survey will talk on original prairies in Illinois and prairie plants. Prairie Restorationist, Don Gardner will present information on restoration techniques. Fee for Master Gardeners is \$5. Register by October 1. Call 309-547-3711.

November 21: Organic Gardening Day. Hawthorne Suites, Champaign, IL. More information to follow.

2009 Outstanding Master Gardener Award Winners

Lyetta Awalt
Effingham County

Carol Killian
McLean County

Sarah Redd
Champaign County

Bill Budd
Sangamon-Menard Unit

Diana Kirby
Macon County

Bill Rosati
McHenry County

Dallas DeShane
Rock Island County

Carol Kohler
Fulton County

Phyllis Schultz
Coles County

Ray Ellington
Peoria County

Dixie Krisher
Peoria County

Purnima Shah
Effingham County

Ruth Gerlach
Champaign County

Marie Luchetti
Macon County

Mary Alice Stonecipher
Vermilion County

Nancy Hansel
Edgar County

Hugh McDermott
DeKalb County

Normalie Strickland
Effingham County

Mary Kay Hinkle
Sangamon-Menard Unit

Lorraine Miranda
DuPage County

Jerry Swartz
McLean County

Diane Hultgren
Jefferson County

Anne Nadakavukare
McLean County

Robin VanDermay
McLean County

Kim Isaacson
Lake County

Sherry Park
Sangamon-Menard Unit

June Vandervest
DuPage County

Venneta Joliff
Macon County

Joy Poos
Sangamon-Menard Unit

Rita Weisiger
Champaign County

Rita Kemme
Effingham County

Marion Powers
Edgar County

Rita Wiessing
Coles County

2009 State Sustained Excellence Winners

Lyn Ash
McLean County

Nancy Gmitro
Jo-Carroll Unit

Elizabeth Champlin
Fulton County

Diane Hatfield
Cook South Suburban Unit

Paul Dennis
Winnebago County

Diana Hetherington
Sangamon-Menard Unit

Roxie DeShane
Rock Island County

Ron Johnson
DeKalb Unit

Paula Enstrom
Coles County

Barb Killelea
Cook South Suburban Unit

Maxi Fitzjarrald
Moultrie-Douglas Unit

Richard Zerfowski
Macon County

2009 Teamwork Winners

2008 Masters Tour
Adams-Brown Unit

Smart Home Garden
Cook County, Cook North Suburban, Cook South Suburban, DuPage, McHenry and Will Counties

The Willow Elementary School Garden
Cook South Suburban Unit

Downer's Grove North Garden Program
DuPage County

"April in Paris" Annual Garden Seminar
Edgar County

The Cross Project
Effingham County

Planting and Growing Gourds
Kane County

Rain Barrel Workshops
Macon County

Illinois Plastic Pot Recycling Initiative
McLean County

Lasagna Garden
Perry County

***Dig It!* Master Gardener Newsletter**
Rock Island County


Demonstration Garden Compost Committee
Sangamon-Menard Unit

Boone County MGs Taking Proactive Stand Against EAB

The discoveries of the Emerald Ash Borer in McHenry and DeKalb counties have prompted Boone County to begin taking actions in the fight against the EAB. Although Boone County has yet to find a positive confirmation of the Emerald Ash Borer they are taking the issue seriously. Late last year, Earle Mailand, County Director, and Karen Durtschi, Master Gardener Coordinator met with Richard Hentschel, Extension Specialist – Green Industry Programming, and John Church, Natural Resources Management Educator, to look at possible ways Extension could assist the county with the impending EAB problem.

Starting in January the University of Illinois Extension office started a process to increase public awareness for EAB. The Extension office began holding a series of monthly meetings with representation from the county, cities, townships and other public agencies. The group began to define a plan that would deal with the EAB once it has been found in Boone. While the EAB discoveries have been gradually making its way towards the county's eastern and southern borders, this group has been proactively working on a plan to handle public notification, homeowner options, removal, and disposal of infected ash trees. Paul Deizman and Mark Cinnamon from the Illinois Department of Agriculture have been instrumental in providing guidance to Boone County throughout this process.

One of the action items that emerged from the county-wide meetings was a request by county administration and township supervisors for Master Gardeners from the Boone Extension Office to provide support on the EAB efforts. From this request the Master Gardeners took on a unique and extensive project. They were asked to conduct an ash tree inventory on all county and township roadways to help their officials understand the potential impact of the EAB. Master Gardeners were given specific training on the Emerald Ash Borer and ash tree identification. Teams have since been dispatched with hand-held GPS instruments to record the exact location of ash trees as they also evaluate the overall health of the trees. The coordinates and tree information will be submitted to the Boone County GIS unit to be plotted on county maps reflecting the location and health of a specific tree. This inventory and the information being gathered is proving to be extremely important in determining the allocation of resources by the county, townships, and cities throughout Boone County as they finalize their plans in dealing with the Emerald Ash Borer problem.

 Karen Durtschi, Boone Co. MG Program Coordinator

Second France 2010 Trip Available

Due to the overwhelming response for the spring France trip, we are adding a second trip in fall 2010. The fall trip to France is scheduled for September 20 to October 1st and the itinerary will be the same as the spring trip. France in the fall will be highlighted by warm sunny days with gardens full of roses, asters, dahlias, rudbeckias, cosmos, other late summer perennials, a full palate of annuals as well as lovely kitchen gardens. Destinations for this trip include stops on the French Riviera in Nice, Monaco and Eze; Arles, Aix en Provence and Avignon; the bullet train to Paris with free time to explore Paris and finally visits to five famous chateau gardens and Giverny in the Loire Valley. The complete itinerary is posted on the Master Gardener website at <http://web.extension.uiuc.edu/mg/events/>
Please contact Robyn Gulstrom as soon as possible to hold your spot. rgulstrom@comcast.net or 269-629-9249.

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