

Master Gardeners of Bergen County

September 2022 – Potting Shed Mid-Month Update

Fall Harvest Festival this weekend

This bookmark will be available for children to color at the “Bees = Pollinators” display created by Class of 2022 interns Maureen Caban, Karen Clemments, and Debra Sweet. Debra created the bookmark.

Other MG-themed displays cover the spotted lanternfly; container gardens; cut-flower gardens; and composting.

The festival runs from 10 am-5 pm, Sept. 17 and 18 at Van Saun Park, 216 Forest Ave., Paramus.

Show our interns some love by introducing yourselves while viewing their displays. And don't forget to bring one or more non-perishable food items to donate to the Bergen County Food Task Force.



BEES

Pollinator Fun Facts

- 1/3 of all food we eat depends on pollinators
- They are central to wildlife from songbirds to grizzly bears, plant reproduction
- Honey bees communicate with “waggle dance” to share direction and distance of new food source
- Bees can live in hives, holes underground, wood grasslands, and marsh
- Bees use “smelly footprints” to help in finding food by avoiding flowers already visited



Contents	Page
Five Questions for Anita Pazcoguin	2
Webinars	2
Events	3
This and That	3

Links are clickable and are noted in [blue](#).

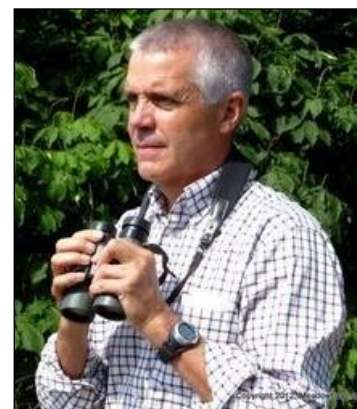
Meeting reminder: Tuesday, Sept. 20

Announcements at 7:20 pm; program to follow.
 Click [here](#) to join the meeting at 7:15 pm.
Meeting ID: 926 9258 8641; password: 692429

Jim Wright: High Mountain and the Clove

High Mountain is a 1,160-acre nature preserve in Passaic County. The Clove is a geological and historic gem located at the north end of the preserve. Too few people know about either, according to Jim Wright.

Jim, a local nature writer and author of the Bird Watcher column for The Record, has been visiting and learning about High Mountain and its Clove for more than a decade. Jim will discuss the scenic small ravine itself, a nearby waterfall, rare plants, local wildlife, and a human history that predates the Lenapes by more than a millennium.



Jim Wright

Jim will also talk briefly about local efforts to get New Jersey to ban rat-poison bait stations. These poisons are lethal to raptors, other wildlife, and pets.

Jim is a deputy warden at the [Celery Farm](#), a 107-acre freshwater wetland in Allendale. In addition to writing, Jim is a blogger with an environmental bent; author of “The Real James Bond”; and is on the council of the New Jersey Chapter of the Nature Conservancy.

Fall calendar

Sept. 20: MG of BC meeting. Slate of 2023 nominees for treasurer, recording secretary, and corresponding secretary announced.

Oct. 1: NJ Botanical Garden Harvest Fest, 10 am-5 pm, 2 Morris Road, Ringwood. Click [here](#) for event information.

Oct. 9: Garretson Forge & Farm Harvest Festival, 10 am-4 pm, 4-02 River Road, Fair Lawn.

Oct. 25: MG of BC meeting. Election of treasurer, recording secretary, and corresponding secretary for 2023.

FIVE QUESTIONS FOR...

Anita Pazcoguin, Class of 2020, answers five questions for the Potting Shed. Anita volunteers at the Hermitage and Thielke Arboretum.

1. What prompted you to become a Master Gardener? I came across an ad for a Master Gardener class, which intrigued me. I am not known for having a green thumb; my kids say I torture plants. I figured I would try to learn more about gardening, thereby preventing more plants from being tortured.

2. What's the most important thing you've learned or been exposed to as a Master Gardener? I am learning that there is so much that I don't know and the way to expand my knowledge is to hang out with other MGs — volunteer as much as I can, ask questions, observe, and research the answers to some of my questions.

3. Have your interests in gardening changed over time? If so, how? I used to just buy the plants, water them, fertilize, and hope for the best. Now I acquire plants that butterflies would like and are native to New Jersey. With other plantings I always consider if they are native plants and trees before I plant them.

4. Briefly describe your own garden. I have a small vegetable garden in containers: Tomatoes, eggplant, strawberries, and herbs. I am working on developing an English-type garden along the edges of my front and back yards. This is so the children will have a playground and also my plantings would not get trampled by little feet. I'm trying to have a lot of butterfly friendly plants and colorful flowers that bloom all summer long.

5. Did you have a garden project for 2022? Basically, I'm trying to have blue flowers coming at the same time, then the pinks, then the pink and whites with yellow and whites as the finale. It's a slow process since I have to wait on how it will look next year.



Anita Pazcoguin

WEBINARS

For your convenience, all times are Eastern.

Sept. 15, 9 pm: Sonoma Land Trust sponsors Language of the Land-Bringing Nature Home; speaker is Douglas Tallamy. Free. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

Sept. 16, 10-11:30 am: Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia sponsor Saving Seeds from Your Urban Garden. Free. Click [here](#) for more information and to register. Registration deadline Sept. 15.

Sept. 21, 12:30 pm: University of Kentucky sponsors Digging and Storing Dahlias. Free. Click [here](#), then scroll down to Sept. 21 for more information and to register.

Sept 21, 7-8 pm: Penn State Extension sponsors Rain Barrel Workshop. Free. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

Sept. 21, 7-9 pm: Native Plant Society of New Jersey sponsors Home Landscapes for Our Changing Future. Free. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

Sept. 27, 2:30-3:30 pm: University of Illinois Extension sponsors Dahlias-Digging, Dividing, and Diseases. Free. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

Sept. 27, 7 pm (rescheduled from July 14): Frelinghuysen Arboretum sponsors Why You Should Consider a Water Feature for Your Garden. Members, \$10; non-members, \$15. Click [here](#), then scroll down to Sept. 27 for more information and to register.

Sept. 28, 6:30-7:45 pm: Penn State Extension sponsors Gardening for All Seasons-Brambles, Blueberries, and Strawberries. Free. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

Sept. 29, noon: Smithsonian Gardens sponsors Many Layers of Invitation Our Gardens Offer. Free. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

Sept. 30, 10-11:30 am: Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia sponsor Putting the Garden to Bed. Free. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

EVENTS



Photo courtesy of Cora Hartshorn Arboretum & Bird Sanctuary

The arboretum and bird sanctuary features 3 miles of trails within its 16-plus acres.

Native plant celebrations in Essex and Hudson counties

Two chapters of the Native Plant Society of New Jersey have scheduled events where you can learn about native plants and buy native plants and seeds.

Sept. 24: The Essex County Chapter's Native Plant Fall Celebration will run from 10 am-2 pm at the Cora Hartshorn Arboretum & Bird Sanctuary in Short Hills. Rain date is Sept. 25.

Click [here](#) for a list of the activities/times, which comprise seed-starting demonstrations, kids activities, and a sale of plants from [Toadshade Wildflower Farm](#). The arboretum is located at 324 Forest Drive South, Short Hills. Park on the arboretum side of Forest Drive. Click [here](#) to visit the Cora Hartshorn Arboretum website.

Oct. 1: The Hudson County Chapter sponsors a native plant sale (with plants from Toadshade Wildflower Farm and [Pinelands Nursery](#)) from 10 am-2 pm at James Braddock Park, North Bergen, across from the Nature's Park Cafe, 5 Lakeside Drive South.

A live podcast of "Native Plants Healthy Planet" will be recorded at 1:15 pm in front of a live audience. Hosts Fran Chismar and Tom Knezick of Pinelands Nursery will interview Randi Eckel, owner of Toadshade Wildflower Farm and the new president of the Native Plant Society of New Jersey.

For more information about the event, visit the Toadshade Wildflower Farm [website](#) and scroll down to Oct. 1 to register to hear the interview while it's being recorded. Seating is limited.

Jersey-Friendly Yards conference returns

Welcoming Wildlife to Your Jersey-Friendly Yard is the theme of the Jersey-Friendly Yards in-person conference after a two-year hiatus. The conference is scheduled for Oct. 1 from 8 am-1 pm at Ocean County College, Toms River. The fee is \$20 Click [here](#) for the schedule and to register.

The conference features:

- A viewing and Q&A of the documentary "[Wild in the Garden State](#)" by Sarah Galloway and Dave Comins.
- Speaker David Mizejewski of the National Wildlife Federation who will discuss Garden for Wildlife.
- A native plant sale.

Click [here](#) to visit the Jersey-Friendly Yards website.

THIS AND THAT

Hear ag agent Joel Flagler discuss gardening indoors and outdoors while a guest Sept. 2 on Alison Stewart's "All of It" radio talk show on WNYC 93.9. Click [here](#) for the recording. Kerry Nolan, who anchors the morning newscasts on WQXR, subbed for Alison that day.

Flourishes and flops



Clearly this sunflower was a flourish! Tell us about *your* hits (or misses) in the garden this season. Send a photo along with a description of what happened to [Miriam Taub](#), Class of 2011. We'll run the submissions in an upcoming Potting Shed. Thanks!