What’s Growing On . . .
The latest news from the Marais des Cygnes Extension Master Gardeners

July 2023
www.maraisdescygnes.ksu.edu

Garden Tour Details
By Jan Thompson

Our tour is just around the corner and we’re excited about the “September to Remember” Garden Tour!

We want you to be informed on some important details about our garden tour which are discussed below. This is one of our major events and will need everyone’s helping to make it the best ever!

Katelyn will be sending out the sign-up information for volunteers in early August. Helen K. and Carol V. will appreciate all EMGs signing up early and filling in as many shifts as you would like to work. They will be 4-hour shifts from 8:30 – 12:30 and 1:00 – 5:00 for both days.

For those of you who choose to volunteer, please mark your calendar for a pre-tour of all six gardens! Pre-tours will be held on Wednesday, August 30th and Thursday, August 31st. Wednesday’s tour will include the three gardens in the Paola area with everyone meeting at Orange Moon and Thursday’s tour including the gardens in the Louisburg area with us all meeting at Wood Gate Hill. We will tour the gardens via the trolley returning to Orange Moon and Wood Gate Hill for refreshments. This will give all of you wonderful volunteers the opportunity to become familiar with the gardens and socialize with the owners and fellow EMGs.

The six gardens and their liaisons are:

- **Flagstone Walk** • Hillsdale
  *Barb Shropshire*

- **Miami County Courthouse** • Paola
  *Lorraine Crawford*

- **Orange Moon** • Paola
  *Donna Cook*

- **Green’s Natural Creations** • Louisburg
  *Jan Thompson*

- **Rodgers’ Prairie** • Louisburg
  *Billie Lenz*

- **Wood Gate Hill** • Louisburg
  *Janette Everhart*

We want to thank the committee members, garden hosts, liaisons and all of the volunteers in advance for all of your hard work and for making this a great event!
Our own Scott Catton won the auction for the Marais des Cygnes Master Gardener spirit pole at the International Master Gardener Conference. Scott notified us that he would like to donate the pole back to EMG to help honor all our past EMG members. What a generous, thoughtful gesture. We will need to determine placement soon.

It’s not too late . . . you can enter your flowers, vegetables, etc. in the Miami County Fair. If you were not able to enter online you can enter on Tuesday, July 25th from 6-8:00 p.m. or Wednesday, July 26th from 8 – 11:30 a.m. at the tent just north of Bldg. 3. We’re hoping for a big turnout from EMG.

Thank you to Sue B. and Helen K. for setting up the Lucy Booth and talking with the Nomad and Louisburg Farmers Market patrons about the Marais des Cygnes Master Gardeners.

A big thank you to Janette E. for volunteering to be the chair for the 2024 Symposium. Janette will soon be organizing a committee. Be sure to contact Janette if you are interested in helping with this event. Janette will be confirming the date and checking with the venue soon.

Don’t forget to put your volunteer hours online. We hope to pass the number of volunteer hours credited to the Marais des Cygnes in 2022!

We are needing volunteers for the Miami County Fair for both the Horticulture and Floriculture entries. Please contact Sue B. (Floriculture) to volunteer as she will coordinate with Chet McL. (Horticulture). The days they need help setting up are Tuesday and Wednesday morning, July 25th and 26th.

Betsy H. also needs volunteers for the Seeds for Kids entries. Last count from Katelyn, there were 170 entries for Seeds for Kids . . . awesome!!

EMG applications are due by end of July. If you know of anyone interested in becoming an EMG, please let them know the applications are due at the end of this month. We currently have three applications and would like to add to this group.

Becky T. is asking for mentors for our new class. Please contact Becky if you are interested.

Carol V., Helen K., and Billie L. have volunteered to be on the Nominating Committee. It is that time of year that we look for new 2024 Board members. We will have 3 vacancies to fill as Anita B-V, Barb S. and Jan T. will not be on the 2024 Board. If you are interested in being on the Board, please contact one of the nominating committee.

“Gardening is cheaper than therapy, and you get tomatoes.”
–unknown
With the 2023 IMGC over, we thought you might be interested in a few statistics:
• There were 1,130 conference attendees.
• 44 states were represented in addition to Canada and England!
• They had over 100 trade show vendors (including one of our very own, plus a lot of happy shoppers).
• They had 12 bus tours, 11 workshops, 5 keynote presentations, 3 evening featured speakers and over 50 sessions.
• 280 Johnson County Extension Master Gardener volunteers who filled over 950 volunteer slots.

The IMGC 2025 will be held virtually and hosted by Texas. They will soon be passing the mail list and social media accounts to Texas. Look forward to information as they make more plans for a virtual conference.

Dear Johnson Co Master Gardeners,

More words are not sufficient to describe your kindness, patience, helpfulness and organization skills. All of which shone even on full display during IMGC 2023! You are amazing! You have displayed to the world the best qualities of what it means to be a Master Gardener. Proud to be a Texas Extension Master Gardener! Keep the good work! Sincerely, H. State Extension Master Gardener

Photos by Lenora L., Katelyn B. and Jan T.

They even got a nice note!

3rd QTR Meeting

Approximately 28 members attended our 3rd Quarter General Meeting. Everyone enjoyed a potluck dinner, chicken provided by the Master Gardeners and other yummy dishes were shared and devoured by members. Thanks to everyone who were able to attend.

Photo by Anita B-V.
The Marais des Cygnes Master Gardeners are hosting “A September to Remember” garden tour on September 8th and 9th this year. The final stages of preparations are underway for what will be a wonderful, diverse tour. Six beautiful gardens are being showcased. Highlighted this month are the three gardens in Louisburg.

Green’s Natural Creations, owned by Bob and Lynn Green is an amazing jewel of a garden. Bob and Lynn have created natural artwork throughout the landscapes. Multiple water features create cozy, calming areas to relax and enjoy the colors and textures of the many trees, plants and artwork. Lynn and Bob created all the landscape beds. Bob has added wonderful driftwood features and hand-made birdhouses. Lynn, a Master Gardener in Johnson County, utilizing her talents, added her eye for colorful ornamental flowers. Talent runs in the family as artwork has been added by Lynn and Bob’s children and grandchildren too.

Rodger’s Prairie is owned by Tim and Susan Rodgers. After purchasing the property, Tim began working with the Conservation Department to return the land to a native tall grass prairie. Twelve species of forbs and four native grasses were planted after an initial burn. Today, Tim keeps an area around the prairie mowed to help create a buffer area against invading weeds. This area teems with life and gazing over the prairie, you can see native bees, insects, butterflies and birds all using this wonderful habitat.

Wood Gate Hill, owned by Chuck Michael and Chris Coffey is a work of love and dedication. Not only does their gardens reflect the owners professional landscaping backgrounds, they are filled with beautiful artwork and statuary. They have turned their 80 acres of undeveloped farmland into elegant gardens. Beautiful manicured lawns lead to a lake, home to geese and ducks. They have created many garden rooms, incorporating art, furniture and textures, each one carefully planned. Many water features, fountains and falls create a tranquil and beautiful atmosphere.
2023 Marais des Cygnes Extension Master Gardener Advanced Training
Please note: More training opportunities will be added throughout the year as they are scheduled.

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<td>Harley Davidson, MdC EMG</td>
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<td>Garden Tool Care and Cleaning</td>
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<td>&quot;Managing Our Clay Soil for Greater Success&quot;</td>
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To Join K-State Garden Hour, 12:00 PM Wednesdays of each Month: Register here for 2023:
https://hnr.k-state.edu/extension/consumer-horticulture/garden-hour/

August 2 – Integrating Native Plants Into Your Home Landscape
September 6 – Seed-Saving From Your Garden
Lunch and Learn, 12:00 PM, Every 1st Thursday of the month.
Native Plants at Noon, 12:00 PM, Every 3rd Thursday.
Register for both webinars at: https://deeproots.org
(Past recordings available on the website)

Below is information on K-state's online AT on Diagnosing Plant Problems: If you're not registered, you will need to register to watch the recordings. These are for Master Gardeners only! The Spring 2023 series has concluded, however you can still watch past recordings please email Barb S. at: barbshrops@gmail.com and she can forward you the information..

- Introduction to Problem Solving Strategies • April 11 Webinar Recording
- Turfgrass focus • May 23 Live Q&A Recording
- Insect focus • June 6 Live Q&A Recording
- Turfgrass focus • June 13 Live Q&A Recordings
- Insect focus • June 27 Live Q&A Recording

THE NEXT TWO PAGES CONTAIN RESOURCES THAT IS VALUABLE TRAINING FOR WORKING THE HOTLINE!!

Please like and follow the Marais des Cygnes EMGs on Facebook at www.facebook.com/mdcemg
Resources
from Spring 2023 Advanced Training Online: Diagnosing Plant Problems
Review the resources shared during each session. Questions? Contact mastergardener@ksu.edu

April 11 Problem Solving Strategies webinar
- K-State Horticulture Newsletter
  - Home Page https://hnr.k-state.edu/extension/horticulture-resource-center/horticulture-newsletter/
  - Subscribe https://www.ksuhortnewsletter.org/about.html
- K-State Mesonet, Historical Weather, https://mesonet.k-state.edu/weather/historical/

May 23 Live Q&A
- Horticulture Rapid Response Center (private link not for public sharing), https://hnr.k-state.edu/about/people/faculty/upham-ward/rcc.html

June 6 Live Q&A
- K-State Turf and Landscape, https://www.k-state.edu/turf/
- K-State Turf and Landscape Blog (subscribe at), https://blogs.k-state.edu/turf/
  - Note: Collect sample as directed, then submit to your local Extension Agent first. If they are unable to diagnose, they will contact K-State for assistance. Thank you.
- Quick Identification Tips for Turfgrasses (UK Extension), http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/AGR/AGR251/AGR251.pdf
June 13 Live Q&A

- Aphids: https://hnr.k-state.edu/extension/horticulture-resource-center/common-pest-problems/documents/Aphids.pdf
- Mealy Bugs on Houseplants (Colorado State University), https://planttalk.colostate.edu/topics/insects-diseases/1466-mealy-bugs-houseplants/
- IPM of Midwest Landscapes, http://cues.cfans.umn.edu/old/ipmbook.htm

June 27 Live Q&A


Go Deeper: Recommended Diagnostic Resources for Master Gardener Volunteers

- Symptoms and Signs for Plant Problem Diagnosis – An Illustrated Glossary (Purdue University Extension)
  - Symptoms and Signs Chart
- Basic Steps for Diagnosing Plant Problems (University of Wisconsin)
- Diagnosing Plant Problems – An Analytical Approach (University of Idaho)