

Sevier County Area Master Gardeners Association

Master Gardeners Meeting March 19th, 6:30pm Sevier Co. Courthouse

Last meeting before the Flower & Garden Show! Volunteers needed... a fun way to earn your hours!

TMG State Conference

June 8th-10th MeadowView Convention Center and Resort in Kingsport, TN
<http://tnmgc2007.net>

Reserve this weekend on your calendar, the Northeast TN MG's promise to host a great event with great garden speakers! Registration now open!

Events & CEU's

Volunteers In The Garden – Sevierville Senior Center... 1st Saturday of the month and 3rd Wednesday of the month, 10:00am. Come spend some time helping and earn volunteer hours!

Friends of the UT Gardens 525-4555

March 31st – Course – Best Picks in Annuals, Perennials, Herbs and Tropicals Course #272592

April 7th- Course – The Best in Great Gardening Writing & Reference Course #273577

IJAMS 577-4717

March 10th 1pm, March 17th 6pm

The sounds of Spring & Summer are familiar to all of us... come learn about our local frogs! Register at x 10 March 31st – 10am-2pm

18th Annual River Clean Up – Help clean up the shorelines of Knox, Blount & Anderson county rivers. Volunteers, zone captains, additional sites & boats needed. Contact Alison x24

Bailey's Orchard

March 17th – Come learn about pruning your fruit trees – and bring your pruners!

Keep Sevierville Beautiful

March 24th 9:00am – noon at Sevierville city park - River Clean up!

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

April 24th - 8:00 am – noon Sevierville city building complex This is a chance to bring in old hazardous waste free of charge. Things like old pesticides, paint, batteries, etc can be gotten rid of here.

The Flower and Garden Show – April 14th

Booths are already being sold, door prize donations are being gathered.... We're well on the way to our 2nd Annual show!

Volunteers still needed in all aspects!

Don't forget to dig up those extra plants and start extra seeds for donation to our MG plant booth! Jo Golden and Barbara King are again heading up that wonderful booth. Please identify and price your offerings! Low sided boxes and plastic grocery sacks are needed.

For the Wildlife Crafts, the following is needed. Contact Glenna Julian or Donna Little, or leave your donations at the Extension Office:

For the Bee Houses: cans- empty vegetable, soup cans etc. rinsed clean, bundles of hollow stem sticks- such as sedums, butterfly bush stems etc., twine, newspaper- just enough for a small ball in each can, hand pruners for cutting sticks, scissors for cutting twine

For the Water dripper: cans, twine or wire, nails to punch holes, hammers for the nail punches, boards to hammer the nails into as we make the punches

For the Pine cone feeders Pinecones, twine, peanut butter, birdseed, buckets or bowls to hold the birdseed, spoons or knives to spread the peanut butter paper towels or hand wipes, bags to take to peanut butter craft home in

For the bread boards: Boards- non treated wood nails and or hooks to make a spike for the bread and hanging, twine or wire, hammers, scissors.



Sevier County Area Master Gardeners Association

Gardening Tip of the Month

When you go shopping for new plants this season, don't reach for the largest specimen. Smaller plants adjust to their new growing conditions faster than more mature plants and often grow quickly enough to catch up in size. This will save you money, the effort of digging a larger hole and it will result in a hardier plant.

Submitted by Rich Wasman

We've all gotten our soil tests done, right?

It's about as easy as it can get... pick your test kit up at the Extension Center! Once you have your results, then you can really plan your garden... and here's a list borrowed from the Farmer's Almanac for the Ph levels preferred by these plants....for a full list, visit

www.almanac.com

Flowers

Bee balm 6.0-7.5
Black-eyed Susan 5.5-7.0
Canna 6.0-8.0
Chrysanthemum 6.0-7.5
Clematis 5.5-7.0
Coleus 6.0-7.0
Coneflower, purple 5.0-7.5
Cosmos 5.0-8.0
Daffodil 6.0-6.5
Daisy, Shasta 6.0-8.0
Daylily 6.0-8.0
Geranium 6.0-8.0
Hollyhock 6.0-8.0
Hyacinth 6.5-7.5
Lupine 5.0-6.5
Marigold 5.5-7.5
Peony 6.0-7.5
Petunia 6.0-7.5
Phlox, summer 6.0-8.0
Rose, rugosa 6.0-7.0
Sunflower 6.0-7.5
Tulip 6.0-7.0
Zinnia 5.5-7.0



Vegetables

Bean, pole 6.0-7.5
Broccoli 6.0-7.0
Carrot 5.5-7.0
Cauliflower 5.5-7.5
Cucumber 5.5-7.0
Garlic 5.5-8.0
Kale 6.0-7.5
Lettuce 6.0-7.0
Pea, sweet 6.0-7.5
Pepper, sweet 5.5-7.0
Potato 4.8-6.5
Pumpkin 5.5-7.5
Radish 6.0-7.0
Squash, crookneck 6.0-7.5
Tomato 5.5-7.5



REPORT YOUR HOURS!

Sevier Co. Certification Officer Leo Lubke needs your hours...by telephone, fax, email, paper or fast donkey... email: lhlubke@aol.com, or phone the Extension office at 453-3695

Links and Sites

<http://www.treehelp.com/>
<http://plantsciences.utk.edu/>
www.arborday.org
www.pestfacts.org
<http://www.gardensalive.com>
[Starting Plants from Seeds](http://www.startingplantsfromseeds.com)
[friendsoftheutgardens.org](http://www.friendsoftheutgardens.org)
[Mulch Calculator](http://www.mulchcalculator.com)



The Newsletter needs your contribution! Events, pictures and articles are welcome!
Email to jssutton@mindspring.com

Sevier County Area Master Gardeners Association

The Weather Rock

Greetings from the Weather Rock! Well, I finally got unstuck from the rock....wow, February was cold!....it was not your imagination....figures are still being audited but it looks like the 3rd coldest February in fifty years. We will make our temperature forecast for the winter (I'll have that for you next month)....below normal...but as for the snow, I have measured a total of four inches here in Jones Cove and I know Gatlinburg has had a bit more....but....it's going to take a lot to pile up eight more inches by the end of the snow season...."always a bridesmaid, never a bride"....but....watch out for those infamous spring snows....can you tell I like snow? We missed the snows because it's dry. We had a wet Fall but the Winter has been a bit dry and when it snows, low dew-points suck the moisture out of the snow (evaporation) before it hits the ground.

For March expect a cold shot again the first week and then a warm-up the second week....thenstorms may abound the last two weeks, and don't rule out another cold shot, strong enough to bring back Winter precipitation...that's what they say....as for the cold....it will be back to normal for the month of March....but as we approach spring planting, my money says the ground will be longer warming up....watch that ground temp! It's a little hard to tell about moisture levels....with a dying el nino, the southern branch of the jet stream may or may not be available to deliver moisture in the form of precipitation.

Well, it's time to go prune trees, bloom will start in 4-6 weeks....Spring is coming and March will be a lion for sure.

From a warming Rock....*Jack Bailey*

SEARCHING FOR SIGNS OF SPRING

Explore the forests, trails, and plant collections of the UT Arboretum with forester, plantsman, and UT Arboretum Society Board Member, Jeff Holt, in search of the first signs of spring. Learn clues to identifying trees and shrubs without their leaves; see the first blooms of spring, and the tell-tale signs of the emerging spring season. WEAR STURDY SHOES AND DRESS APPROPRIATELY!

...at the UT ARBORETUM SATURDAY,
MARCH 10, 2007 — 9 AM

"PRUNING WITH THE PROS" WORKSHOP

The "Pros":

Sam Adams, *Certified Arborist, Cortese Tree Specialists, INC*, Neal Denton, *UT Extension Agent & County Director*, Richard Evans, *Certified Forester; UT Arboretum Director* Tom Simpson, *Certified Arborist; TN Div. of Forestry, Urban Forester*, David Vandergriff, *Certified Arborist, UT Extension Agent, Urban Forestry*

A "Hands-On" Workshop for homeowners and landscape professionals — learn how to properly prune trees and shrubs... techniques for rejuvenating overgrown & older plants... selecting the right size plant for the landscape... why tree-topping hurts... and much more! BRING YOUR PRUNERS!

...at the UT ARBORETUM SATURDAY,
MARCH 10, 2007 — 1 PM

For more information call: 865-483-3571, or visit www.utarboretumsociety.org or www.discoveret.org/utarboretum