

Master Gardeners of Bergen County

August 2019 – mid-month update

Calling all future Master Gardeners to the Class of 2020

Tell your friends and neighbors: Rutgers Cooperative Extension (RCE) of Bergen County is accepting applications for the MG Class of 2020. The first class will be Friday, Oct. 4. Classes are held at 1 Bergen County Plaza, Hackensack. The fee is \$250. For more information, contact [Karen Riede](#) or call her at 201-336-6788.

Volunteer for a good cause at Bill Kolvek's nursery this weekend

Can you devote at least two hours to tidying up Bill Kolvek's nursery in Chestnut Ridge, NY, Aug. 17-18?

Volunteers are needed to assist Bill, an area nurseryman and long-time friend of the MG of BC. Chores will include removing dead plants from containers, weeding, and making small repairs, such as to deer fencing. Bring gloves, water, and a hoe. **Note:** Your time does *not* count toward MG volunteer hours.

Work will begin at 10 am both days and continue until it's completed. Volunteers are asked to work a minimum of two hours. The address is 5 DeSalvo Court, Chestnut Ridge, the first property on the right when you turn onto DeSalvo Court. The mailbox at the property's entrance has the number "16" on it and the words "The Ranch."

To volunteer, send a text to Maria Wind, a friend of Bill's and owner of [Wind Garden Design](#), at 201-982-0561 with your name and preferred date and time to work. Maria will coordinate volunteers and contact you in case of any change, for example, if all work is completed in one day.

Volunteers needed Sept. 20-22 for fall festival

Volunteers are needed for the MG tent at the Bergen County Fall Harvest Festival at Van Saun Park, Paramus, on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, Sept. 20-22. In particular, we can use your help for the set-up on Friday afternoon (hours TBD) and breakdown after 5 pm Sunday. *Please consider volunteering for this important community event and show your support for the MG Class of 2019.*

Fall festival hours are 10 am-5 pm Saturday and Sunday. Contact [Karen Riede](#) or call her at 201-336-6788 for more information and scheduling.

At right, Donna Dorgan, Class of 2018, at last year's fall festival.



Photo by Karen Reide

Tomato tasting

Up to 100 varieties of heirloom and hybrid varieties of beefsteak, plum, cherry, and grape tomatoes will be available at the Rutgers Great Tomato Tasting and Snyder Farm Open House. The event runs from 3-7 pm Wednesday, Aug. 28 at 140 Locust Grove Road, Pittstown. Cost: \$10. For more information and to RSVP, click [here](#).

Coming up

A selection of meetings, events, and volunteer activities.

- Aug. 18** **Bergen-Passaic Chapter of the Native Plant Society** seeks volunteers to remove weeds and plant at the NY-NJ Trail Conference headquarters, 600 Ramapo Valley Road (Route 202), Mahwah, from 9 am-noon. Wear long pants; bring gloves, water, bug spray, and your favorite garden tools. Click [here](#) for more information. Then click on “more details” to sign up. Please register so the organization will know how many people to expect and notify you of any weather-related updates.
- Aug. 26** **Bergen-Passaic Chapter of the Native Plant Society** seeks volunteers to remove weeds and plant at the NY-NJ Trail Conference headquarters, 600 Ramapo Valley Road (Route 202), Mahwah, from 4:30-6:30 pm. See item above for details and how to sign up.
- Sept. 5** **Garden Club of Harrington Park** will meet at 7:30 pm upstairs in the Harrington Park Library, 10 Herring St., Harrington Park. Mary Jo Sichak, Passaic County MG, will speak about indoor gardening.
- Sept. 12** **MG Janet Schulz** will speak about bulbs at 1:30 pm at the [Senior Source](#), across from Arhaus furniture on the second floor of the Shops at Riverside, Hackensack.
- Sept. 20-22** **Bergen County Fall Harvest Festival** will take place over three days in Van Saun Park, 216 Forest Ave., Paramus, featuring the Master Gardener tent with exhibits and hands-on activities, among other things. See the poster sent with this “mid-month update” for hours and activities.
- Sept. 24** **MG of BC meeting**, our first meeting of the 2019-2020 season, will be held at 1 Bergen County Plaza, Hackensack. Refreshments at 7 pm; announcements at 7:20 pm; program to follow. See details in the September *Potting Shed*.

Photos wanted

Have you repurposed an old bathtub, sink, or commode as a planter? Send us a photo of the most unusual item you've covered in plants, flowers, or shrubs and we'll share in future issues of the *Potting Shed*. Be sure to include any instructions or suggestions for planting. Send photos to janet-schulz@hotmail.com.