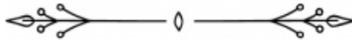


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THE UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT
EXTENSION
MASTER GARDENER

UVM Extension Master Gardener Program News
July 2019



Fast and Furious Summer

Dear Master Gardeners, Composters and Alumni,

Summer is here but we all know it will be gone as quickly as it came. There is so much to do; gardening, outdoor concerts, farmers markets, parades, swimming in rivers and lakes, camping, biking, and hiking. With so much happening, I know that everyone spends less time reading email, so for that reason, I will make this a brief, fast and furious summer update.

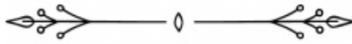
Cindy Heath has been driving around the state to visit all of your amazing projects. Thank you, project leaders, for taking the time to show her around. We love learning about all the amazing work you are doing and the opportunity to visit provides us with more information and photos to share with others and promote what you are doing around the state. We want to be sure your project gets the visibility and recognition that it deserves.

This summer I've been organizing hands-on in-person classes for Master

I've also been working with an EMG volunteer committee to organize the 3rd annual Master Gardener State Conference coming up on November 2nd at Shelburne Museum. Lisa C. has also been busy running the Helpline and working closely with our amazing volunteers who show up every week to answer the public's most pressing gardening and pest questions.

We love hearing from you! Please be sure to stay in touch, call or come by the office. Summer is a beautiful time to visit Jeffords Hall 206 and the gardens on campus! We hope to see you all soon.

~Beret, Lisa, Cindy



Project Spotlight

Master Gardener Bonnie Kern Donahue gives EMG Volunteer Coordinator Cindy Heath a tour around the Northfield Promise Community Playground

NorthField Community Promise Playground

This new community playground in Northfield Vermont is also a Master Gardener project. The playground was developed to improve Kindergarten readiness and access to physical activity for children ages 0-6. It is designed to provide children with multi-sensory play experiences. The space includes a playhouse and a mud kitchen for imaginary play, musical instruments, plants for play, blueberry bushes, a rock garden, a walking track, a pretend car, a friendship swing, and two grass mounds for running up and down.

EMG Volunteers help by choosing, planting and maintaining the playground plants, as well as by creating educational signage appropriate for both young children and families. Exposure to EMG resources helps to teach young families the value of utilizing sustainable gardening practices and research based information.

Master Gardeners Doing Cool Things





Co-Project Leaders Sandy Parr and Claire Gilbertson at the North Branch Nature Center Pollinator Garden in Montpelier.



On July 12th, Master Gardeners and others attended a hands-on class as part of the Master Gardener Summer series. The class focused on Insect identification in the home garden and was taught by UVM Entomologist Vic Izzo at the UVM Hort Farm in South Burlington.



EMG's learning how to collect, pin, ID and manage swede midge, leek moth, cucumber beetles and many more garden pests



Arborist Eric Bragg demonstrates pruning cuts on a pear tree at the Howard Dean Education Center as part of a Windsor Chapter education program on pruning fruit trees.



Master Gardeners and Elm Street Community Gardeners learned about soil bed prep for home gardens on July 13th in Montpelier. The class was taught by Dr. Wendy Sue Harper.



EMG Intern Sarah Edelman and daughter Althea volunteering at the Howard Dean Education Center garden (not pictured Michele Delhaye Project Leader).



(Photo by Judy Mirro)



Charlene Clifford receiving her Gold Badge at the Rutland Chapter event in June. Great job Charlene!!

Program Updates

Did you know we have a
State Program Facebook Page?

If you haven't yet, please visit and like our page.

Go to:

<https://www.facebook.com/UVMExtensionMasterGardener/>



The 2019 Master Gardener Summer Class Series is off to a great start. To learn more about the classes we have happening in August and to sign up click [here](#).

New EMG Program Brochures!

This is a friendly reminder that we updated all of the EMG marketing materials last year. The new materials are shown in the photo below. Please be sure to recycle any old brochures as the contact information, phone numbers etc. are no longer correct. If you would like new brochures please contact Lisa C. in the office, (master.gardener@uvm.edu), or Cindy Heath may be able to drop some off if she's traveling to your area of the state, (cindy.heath@uvm.edu).





**VERMONT
MASTER
COMPOSTER**

SPONSORED BY UVM EXTENSION MASTER GARDENER
AND VERMONT AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

2019 COURSE

VT MASTER COMPOSTER COURSE

September 13 - November 1, 2019

Thursdays, 6-7 p.m.

Fee: \$50/\$150 in-state/out-of-state

100% Live Online - Topics Include:

- Soil & Decomposition Ecology • Composting
- Biology • Recipe Design • Disease Control • Site
- & Container Selection • VT Act 148 • Managing
- the Compost Process • Troubleshooting •
- Educational Outreach • Worm Composting



ONLINE COURSE

Lectures, homework, final exam.
Hands-on session offered on a Saturday.



VOLUNTEER SERVICE

10 hours of hands-on
volunteering in your area*



***Course-only option:** No volunteer service requirement, receive a Vermont Certificate of Home Composting.

DETAILS & REGISTRATION:
go.uvm.edu/emg

802-656-9562 master.gardener@uvm.edu

To request a disability-related accommodation to participate in this program, please contact Beret Halverson at 802-656-1777 by August 23, 2019 so we may assist you.

*4 in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture. University of Vermont Extension, Burlington, Vermont. University of Vermont Extension Department of Agriculture, cooperating, offer education and employment to everyone without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or familial status.

**Registration is open
for the 2019 Master Composter Class!**

Become a Master Composter and be an important change agent as Vermont moves to ban food waste from the landfill in 2020.

September 13-November 2, 2019

[More information here](#)



Save the Date!

"Caring for People, Plants and our Planet"

[The 2019 UVM Extension Master Gardener State Conference](#)
at the Shelburne Museum Pizzagalli Center for Art & Education
November 2, 2019

Information to Advance your Gardening Knowledge and Leadership Skills!

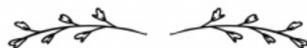


Vermont Community Leadership Summit on August 12th!

Join community members from throughout Vermont working to improve the economy and quality of life in their communities!

<https://www.vtrural.org/Summit19>

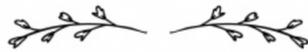
In democracy, ALL citizens are called upon to lead - where leaders step up, towns achieve great things. Local Citizens Make It Happen!



NOFA-VT On-Farm Workshops, Summer 2019

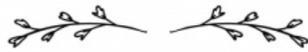
To register or for more information, visit www.nofavt.org/onfarmworkshops, or call/email Educational Outreach &

Thank you for visiting, please register and login if you are a member.



How to Find the Best Answers to your gardening questions?

[Read more...](#)



Habitat Plants for Pest Management

<https://www.uvm.edu/newsstories/news/habitat-plants-pest-management>



Taking it up a Notch: Gardening in Elevated Planters

<https://www.uvm.edu/newsstories/news/taking-it-notch-gardening-elevated-planters>



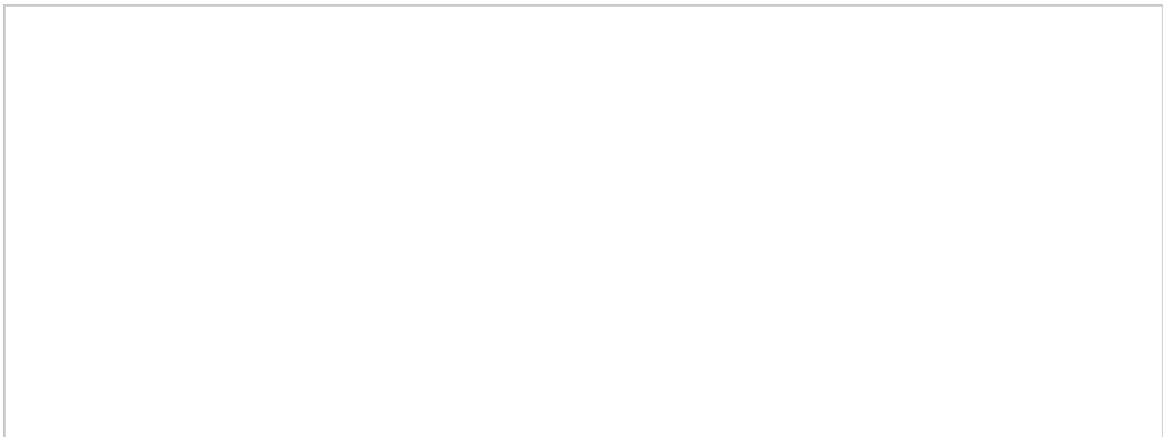
Growing Tomatoes in the Home Garden

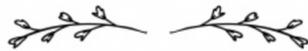
<https://www.uvm.edu/newsstories/news/growing-tomatoes-home-garden>



How to Create a Reading Garden

[Read More...](#)





Test Yourself

QUESTION OF THE MONTH:

What is the insect in the photo above?

ANSWER:

It's a mayfly. Mayflies have a life stage called a [subimago](#), a winged stage between nymph and adult. We often see them hatch from a local lake or river from nymph to the subimago stage and then fly into houses and then moult to the adult form.

Check out this ink: <https://entomologytoday.org/2015/06/01/how-to-survive-a-massive-mayfly-swarm/>

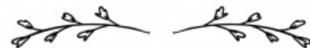
*mayfly hatches can be so dense they show up on radar!



Master Gardener Helpline Happenings!

Master Gardener volunteers are answering the phones on Mondays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays from 9-12. If you have questions, please give us a call @ 802-656-5421, and don't forget to refer others to the helpline.

Don't forget, the old 800 number is no longer in use!



Update from the Plant Diagnostic Clinic

After a cool, wet spring, summer has finally kicked in with hot, humid weather and scattered showers. Various vegetable problems are starting to show up including the fungal leaf spot diseases of tomato (early blight and septoria), squash vine borer in cucurbits, downy mildew in basil and the ubiquitous potato beetle. There is no late blight reported anywhere near Vermont at this point. We have had a couple of pictures from concerned gardeners of a cool insect called the clavate tortoise beetle. The green larvae of this foliar feeding insect has feathery sides and carries its brown feces on its back!

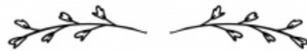


(L) Adult clavate tortoise beetle, David Cappaert, www.forestryimages.org (R) larvae with feces, Yurika Alexander

A small but mighty insect that but blows in on storm fronts from the south in June is the potato leafhopper. The small green adult and nymphs cause damage to a wide range of crops including alfalfa, hops, potatoes, beans, maples, raspberries and apples, among many others. While sucking plant sap, the insect injects a toxin causing yellowing and leaf edge dieback called 'hopperburn'. The insect is difficult to control since it causes damage the rest of the summer.



(L) Potato leafhopper adult, Martin Rice (R) UMass
<https://ag.umass.edu/vegetable/fact-sheets/leafhopper-potato>



Submit an Event to our Calendar!

Below you'll find a wide variety of master gardener and composter events around Vermont. Click on the event to learn more and register.

Extension Master Gardener Events

Today **Saturday, May 18** - [Print](#) [Week](#) [Month](#) [Agenda](#)

10:00am	NW Plant Sale
10:00am	UVM Hort Farm Lilac Walk & Talk with Kitty Werner
Monday, May 20	
6:00pm	Rutland Chapter Steering Committee Meeting
Saturday, June 1	
9:00am	Central/NEK Plant Sale-Open to the public
9:00am	Rutland Chapter Annual Plant Sale
2:00pm	Rhododendron Walk and Talk
Tuesday, June 4	
4:00pm	Williston-Hanging Basket Planting & Class
Saturday, June 8	
5:00pm	25th Anniversary Celebration
Saturday, June 15	

SUBMIT A MASTER GARDENER OR COMPOSTER EVENT →

Submitting an event for the calendar? Events welcome from Certified Master Gardener & Composter Volunteers in Vermont locations. Subject to review. Sorry! We do not accept events from the General Public.

EMG STATE CONFERENCE OCTOBER 13, 2018 → 3

Recruit Master Gardeners and Interns to help with your project. Keep the EMG state network updated on what's happening in your region.

[Click here to Submit](#)

**Please note the event calendar gets updated weekly on Friday afternoon



Help Us Grow!

The UVM Extension Master Gardener Program cultivates gardening communities through volunteer education and demonstration. Our volunteers work throughout the state to promote successful, safe, and environmentally prudent home horticulture practices. As a self-funded Extension program we need your help to keep growing. Please make a donation today!

[Click here to DONATE TODAY!](#)



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Contact us:

[Beret Halverson](#), State & Education Coordinator
[Lisa Chouinard](#), Office & Helpline Support
[Cindy Health](#), Volunteer Coordinator

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