



*For those who share our interest in gardening . . .*

July/August 2018

*Kris Medic, Bartholomew County Extension Educator and Becky Pinto, Master Gardener Newsletter Editor and Advanced Master Gardener, Silver-level*

*Many gardeners will agree that hand-weeding is not the terrible drudgery that it is often made out to be. Some people find in it a kind of soothing monotony. It leaves their minds free to develop the plot for their next novel or to perfect the brilliant repartee with which they should have encountered a relative's latest example of reasonableness.*

*~Christopher Lloyd, *The Well-Tempered Garden*, 1973*

*At Christopher Lloyd's Great Dixter in 1985, Kris photographed this charming stone bench. See p. 6 for more.*



## **Next Year's Garden Goals**

Now that July/August heat has arrived, the slippery slope to fall is upon us. After a garden walk-about, here are a few plans I've identified for next year's planting season:

Move large snowball bush to South bed (it's too big for its front-of-house location where it's currently living)

Move spiderwort to shadier locale. Replace with new back-of-the-border perennials fall '18 or spring '19.

Group lilies together in Woodland Garden north of garage.

Make new bed on south-facing slope in the back yard using the "pizza" method/will be ready in spring.

Remove failed Colorado Spruce trees from bottom of the hill and plant Jackie's ornamental grass sprouts.

Get that garden bench for the serenity garden! Consider an arbor/bench combo.

Spring '19, plant hyacinth bean vine on arbor.

Get contractor *now* to lay slate path from front door to driveway.

Forget January! Make a list of your very own *now!*

-BP

## Unwelcome Beetle Invasion

The first *Beetle* invasion of the mop-heads in the 60's was welcome. The current one, however, we're anxious to leave behind and not look back! This exchange appeared in the Dr. Dirt column as seen in the July 21 issue of the *Indianapolis Star*.

**Dear Dr. Dirt:** The grapevines are loaded with grapes, and the Japanese beetles are after the leaves. I would rather not use chemicals, so what are the other choices? — *Steve, Indianapolis*

**Dear Reader:** During the past several years, the Japanese beetle population has been declining. However, they have made an amazing comeback and seem to be abundant everywhere, including cornfields. The insecticide Sevin is used to control most beetles. The female beetles lay their eggs in lawns and the grubs feed on the grass roots. Milky Spore is a product specifically used to control Japanese beetle grubs. Unfortunately, it does not control other grubs (about five different beetles have grubs that feed on grass roots). Get Japanese beetle revenge by applying Milky Spore.

Note: If you're a homeowner with a few acres, milky spore can be expensive to provide adequate coverage. Instead, knock adult beetles into a container of soapy water. I use a wide, flat icing spreader to tip them off of their perch. I'm still struggling here out West. -BP

## Succulents Brave the Heat

Want to take the temperature on what's hot in the gardening realm? Take a look at what local garden centers are stocking. I've noticed that, across the board, more succulents are being offered both here in Columbus and in Indianapolis. Blame the hotter growing seasons we've been experiencing (or blame it on the bossa nova, your choice). But you see them offered everywhere.



Beyond agave and yucca plants, there is a limited list of succulents – Googling recommended – that can brave our winters. Most of them (I would argue the “prettiest” ones) require over-wintering indoors. The Moss Rose, or *Portulaca*, has a nice variety of bold bloom choices. It can be used as a ground cover solution that will come back after surviving a typical Zone 5 winter. Even though the USDA has categorized Columbus' growing zone as Zone 6A, I tend to stick with Zone 5 when considering purchasing plants that are “iffy” from the get-go.

-BP

# Garden Symposium on September 22

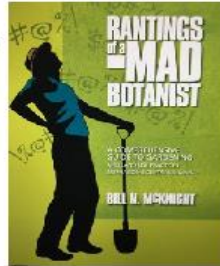


Join us at the Johnson County Purdue Extension Office at 9:30 am to hear from our speakers about native landscaping and bird habitat:

Bill McKnight 'Gardening with Native Plants'

Sharon Sorenson 'Why Your Yard Means Life or Death for Birds'

Books will be available to purchase.



Cost is \$5 per adult. Pre-registration appreciated. Please bring cash or check to the Johnson County Purdue Extension Office (484 N. Morton St. Franklin, IN).

Light refreshments will be served. For more information, contact Sarah at 317-736-3724 or [sspeedy@purdue.edu](mailto:sspeedy@purdue.edu)

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## Thanks and Kudos

Many thanks to you who volunteered to help with Fair Fit and Little Hands at the Bartholomew County 4-H Fair. In the midst of all that, eight dedicated Master Gardeners came to the Extension Office to practice pruning young trees. We have four Master Gardeners set to work the "Plant Info to Go" booth at the State Fair, and four who have volunteered to assist at our Intern Training. Thanks so much for jumping in and lending your skills and talents. Also, big thanks to Becky Pinto, who edits this newsletter for us!

-KM

# Take a tour of...

A fresh  
cut  
flower  
farm  
located  
near  
Scipio, IN.



On Saturday, August 11<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 PM with the  
Bartholomew County Extension Homemakers

To register call the Bartholomew County  
Purdue Extension Office - 812.379.1665.

No fee, but be prepared to enjoy the  
flowers!!





BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY  
**SOIL & WATER**  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT



# 2018 Native Tree Sale

## Trees Available:

### Native Shrubs/Small Trees

Allegheny  
Serviceberry  
Paw Paw  
Redbud  
Flowering Dogwood

### Medium/Large Trees

Hazelnut	Kentucky Coffee Tree	Red Maple
American Hornbeam	Shagbark Hickory	Tulip Poplar
Ohio Buckeye	Northern Pecan	White Pine
Winterberry	Persimmon	Red Oak
	Norway Spruce	River Birch
	White Oak	

## Tree Cost: \$25.00 plus tax

To order: Stop in, Call, or E-mail the district with your orders!

Orders Due with Payment: **September 7th, 2018.**

Payment Methods: Cash, Check, or Card

Pickup: **September 25th, 2018**

**9am-5pm at our office.**

All trees/shrubs will be in 3 gallon containers. Most trees/shrubs are 3-5 feet tall at delivery. We guarantee a healthy specimen will be supplied at pick up.

Due to variations in planting, site conditions, and care, no refunds will be given after tree pick up.

Please contact our office with any questions: 1040 2nd Street, Columbus, IN 47201

Phone: 812-378-1280 x3 Email: heather.shreeman@in.nacnr.net Website: Bartholomewswcd.org

## Page One Quote

Sometimes the source of a quote can seem distant because of fame, or time that has passed. I was thrilled to see his quote on Becky's draft, and recall the day in June 1985 when I met Christopher Lloyd. We were visiting his famous family home, Great Dixter, and the gardens surrounding it in southern England. He never responded to our advance letters of introduction, so we just showed up: five enthusiastic graduate students from the University of Delaware on a traditional garden and pub tour. We found Mr. Lloyd in the garden, on his knees, weeding, with his dachshund resting nearby in a trug. He was kind enough to talk with us, answering our questions, but he did not – at any point – *get up or stop weeding*. He was focused on his task: what dedication! Ever since, I have tried to follow his weeding example: I'll talk, but I won't stop to talk! -KM

### ***Hey, Save the Date!***

<b>Indiana State Fair</b>	3-19 August	State Fairgrounds
<b>State Fair Master Gardener Booth Shift</b>	13 August	State Fairgrounds
<b>Intern Training Begins</b>	16 August	Extension Office
<b>Johnson County Garden Club Symposium</b> , <i>see p. 3</i> Fairgrounds	22 September	Johnson County
<b>2019 MG State Tour</b>	21 June	New Albany

### **Contact**

Kris Medic, Purdue Extension Educator, [kmedic@purdue.edu](mailto:kmedic@purdue.edu)

Or

MG newsletter editor, Becky Pinto, [bandbpinto@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bandbpinto@sbcglobal.net)

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