

The Tollgate Farm News

VOLUME 30

ISSUE 4

APRIL 2024



MSU Tollgate Garden Volunteers General Meeting

Thursday, April 18, 2024

7:00 PM

(In the Conference Center)

The Science of Climate Change

Former director of the Environmental Interpretive Center, **Claudia Walters, PhD**, will talk about the **science of climate change**, its impacts, and possible solutions. Dr. Walters is a geography lecturer at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. She completed a master's degree in American Studies from MSU, a geographic information science and cartography certificate from Penn State, and a PhD in geography with a specialization in climatology, also from MSU, and has contributed to over 20 publications.

TOLLGATE GARDEN VOLUNTEER IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS 2024

APR	MEETINGS		MAY	MEETINGS	
2	TGAC Meeting – Zoom	7:00 pm	7	TGAC Meeting – Zoom	7:00 pm
18	TGV General Meeting	7:00 pm	16	TGV General Meeting	7:00 pm
APR	WORKDAY ACTIVITIES		MAY	WORKDAY ACTIVITIES	
6	Rose Garden/Pond	9:00 am	4	Entrance/Nursery-plant div.	9:00 am
13	Demo Garden	9:00 am	11	Farmhouse	9:00 am
20	Office/Heritage/Rain	9:00 am	18	Shade/Hosta	9:00 am
27	Children's/Xeriscape New Volunteer Orientation Pancake Brunch	9:00 am 9:00 am Noon	25	Memorial Day Weekend - Rockledge planting	9:00 am

The Tollgate Farm News

A Special Thanks!

To all of you who donated to help the Tollgate Gardeners make Tollgate a more beautiful place - your donation is greatly appreciated! The support you have provided will continue to help our program prosper and grow. Thanks again and Happy Gardening!

Linda Bodzin
Monica Chrzaszcz
Lisa Drew
Wendy DuVall-Angelocci
Garret Frost

Sue Gerber
Jillian Hall
R. E. Luetje
Georgia Mae Roed
Michelle Snow

Geremiah Toler
Wanda Whalen
Mark Wilson
Lenora Woloszyn
Sue Woodsum



Photo from MSU Extension website

The Tollgate Farm News

FROM THE TOLLGATE FARM MANAGER



GREETINGS Roy Prentice

Greetings all,

Maple Syrup Making

Although the maple syrup production was uninspiring this year, we educated a lot of school and adult groups. The final production count was 30 gallons. The final assessment of people influenced was priceless. The word for the season was “educational,” as many in-person groups visited the farm to learn the intricacies of the maple making process. The season culminated with a very successful MapleFest event, over 660 people this year! The maple syrup volunteers again did a wonderful job managing the syrup making process and working with all the varied groups who came to the woods to watch and learn. The MSU Tollgate education staff has indicated how thankful they are for the support of the many volunteers who make maple syrup season possible.

New Volunteer Orientation

As winter of 2023/24 releases its grip, the Tollgate volunteers are returning to the farm. We have had several successful garden workdays and have gotten a good start on the season. **Tollgate will again be hosting a volunteer orientation on Saturday, April 27 at 9:00 am.** The orientation will be an opportunity to introduce potential volunteers to the farm. Help us identify individuals who would like to join us in the gardens. After the orientation, attendees will have the opportunity to join the garden workday.

As a special treat, in lieu of our customary hot dog, pancakes with yummy maple syrup will be served for lunch.



Thanks for all that you do to make Tollgate such a special place!
Roy

Photos of 2023 Volunteer Pancake Lunch
provided by Kathy Johnson

The Tollgate Farm News



**Notes from the President
Renee Cottrell**

“All gardens have something to yield in the way of wisdom”

~ Margaret Elphinstone, Scottish author, gardener

Greeting Tollgate Garden Volunteers!

April is our jumpstart month for clean-up activities in the gardens if the weather will cooperate. We will hold a new member orientation on April 27th in conjunction with our scheduled work day. Following at Noon will be a Pancake brunch! All Active and Supporting members are welcome to attend to celebrate the success of the maple syrup season and welcome the spring! This is a great opportunity to socialize with your fellow volunteers and gardeners.

With the milder temps for much of the winter, the weeds kept growing and are already in bloom. Know the weeds in the gardens: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/pestid/resources/plant-and-weed-identification/index>.

The sooner we can get on them the better, knowing our Michigan spring, once started, often skips quickly into summer heat. We have a schedule for group Saturdays, but I am also happy to find individual assignments. If you wish to come on other days, please contact me directly by email. Thank you in advance for your interest and efforts.

We are making a push to complete our 2024 membership enrollment this month. Members have had reminders in the newsletter and via email. Please mail in or scan your form and send by email to the membership contact as soon as possible. Those who have **not** renewed by the **end of the month** will be purged from the contact list. Please renew!

Teresa LaRosa will be happy to process your renewal form. tlrehab@gmail.com

Just a reminder to active gardeners: Please use the QR code (located at the back of this newsletter) to record your Tollgate hours for our **on-site data collection** of volunteer hours for our 2024 season. This data assists in program planning and development. This is **NOT** where you would record your Extension Master Gardener hours for (re-) certification.

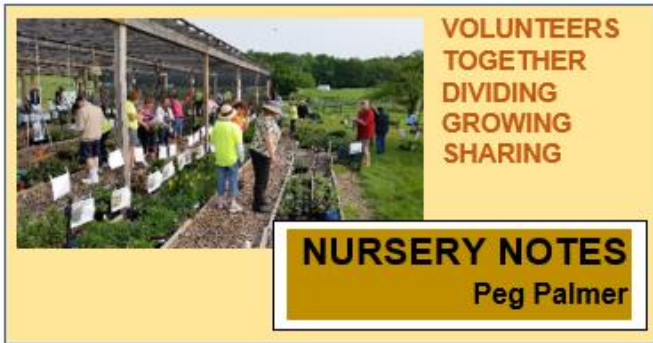
Check out the activity calendar for the month and other articles in this edition for the latest on our gardening plans and farm activities. The nursery team is accepting donated plants for our spring plant sale; a list was emailed to membership. The PAR garden team is prepping for their season and other garden teams are working their magic. All teams will welcome new members; feel free to email me about these opportunities.

I invite you to visit the site and catch all the spring blooms and emergent plants. The hellebores, pulmonaria, spring bulbs and budding spring growth are all over the property to enjoy. Perhaps you will find a niche for your garden enjoyment and talents.

Thank you for being a Tollgate Garden Volunteer.

Renee Cottrell, Adv. EMG, President
Tollgate Garden Volunteers
rncottrell4@att.net

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As of Saturday April 13, the Nursery is open for donations! The next few weeks are the busiest time in the Nursery, as we get prepared for the **Plant Sale on SATURDAY, JUNE 1st**. With winter lingering off and on, and an early plant sale this year, we will be hustling over the next few weeks to get ready.

We really need your plant donations! The [PLANTS WANTED](#) list has been published, and we're hoping this will help you identify some plants in your home gardens that you can divide to share some with the Nursery. Our list includes about 300 garden perennials that we have traditionally stocked and sold, including both the botanical (Latin) and common name. As you get out in your gardens in the coming weeks, keep the Nursery in mind as you clean up, move, and divide plants.

We rely on the generosity of our Tollgate Garden Volunteers to stock the Nursery and generate financial support for all Tollgate Gardens. We also receive many donations from all the wonderful gardens at Tollgate. Last fall the Nursery was fairly well stocked, but we always experience winter losses. The wide temperature fluctuations of the typical Michigan winter exposes plant roots to a constant freeze/thaw cycle, holding moisture from rain and snow melt in the pot. We mulch around our pots to provide some insulation from rapid temperature changes, but some losses each spring are inevitable.

Please provide clear identification for all donated plants! Botanical, common name and bloom color/cultivar would be perfect –but provide as much as you know! It is not necessary to divide and pot your donation, but it is critical that the roots are covered with soil and in some type of container so they will last until Nursery volunteers can complete the process. Pencils and plastic plant sticks are available in the container on the Nursery “workbench” to provide identification – ink pen notes on paper may not be readable if soil is damp!

BEFORE LEAVING – be sure to place your donations in the “pop-up” enclosure and close all zippers to protect plants from hungry critters!!

LAST DAY TO DONATE IS Saturday, May 18... This provides the lead time required to inventory plants on hand and ensure appropriate signage and promotional materials are ready for the sale. We hate to turn down donations after the deadline, but we really need this time to get organized. Please bring in your donations **as soon as possible!**

AND FINALLY, THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE NURSERY!

Does all this make you wonder about what it's like to work in the Nursery at Tollgate? It provides an opportunity to learn about lots of different plants, as well how to maintain healthy perennials in a pot, while working to benefit all the Tollgate Gardens. And it's a great way to support all the gardens at Tollgate! Contact me for more information at palmermargaretanne@gmail.com .

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"April is a promise that May is bound to keep."
– Hal Borland

"Welcome, April! Fill everyone's life with showers of blessing." – Anonymous

March decidedly did not go out like a lamb, and cold weather, snow, and rain continue to thwart our best efforts to get out in the garden. But not all is lost, as we have been able to take advantage of the few warmer and sunnier days in the garden, as well as get started in the greenhouse.



year to appear is doing great!

Although the rain is keeping us from the garden many days, it is actually assisting future efforts, by helping get the soil ready and making it more pliable for the renovation efforts, as well as prompting the garlic to spring up – our first crop of the



Garden renovations have begun! Half of the black plastic covers and most of the old irrigation have been removed. The new irrigation plans are complete, and work has started on making uniform 4-line headers for each bed, using as

many of the parts from the old system that could be salvaged and new irrigation tape. We have a couple of days scheduled to work with the farm team to complete setting up the zones and the main lines and working on the new bed headers. There is plenty of clean up in the garden yet to come this month – gathering all the large stones and bricks strewn about the garden and stacking them against the west fence, collecting all loose staples, cleaning, and airing out the shed, and straightening up the back of the shed. In addition, there are walnuts, branches, and yes, weeds (especially dead nettle again) that need to be removed and disposed of.



Each bed has been marked with green stakes to a 30' x 4' footprint with 2' pathways in between the beds. Many of the beds require substantial effort to remove mulch and replace it with soil / compost, as well as edging and leveling the bed.

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PAR Report continued from Page 6

This often leaves bare pathways that will need to have mulch applied – there are piles of mulch at each end of the garden, and the best method is using buckets to cover the 2-foot pathways. Both Saturday workdays designated for mulching pathways had to be cancelled due to inclement weather, so this remains to be completed this month. This effort will proceed based on the stamina of our volunteers and should be completed in time for planting to begin in May.



But all is not hard labor – we started all the seeds for our alliums (shallots, red onions, yellow onions, and leeks), cabbage, hot peppers (poblano, jalapeno, and serrano), kohlrabi, and cucumbers

in the greenhouse the day of the solar eclipse! So, we have managed to get our hands in at least seed starter and begun the process of planting for the season. If all goes well with the renovation, we will also be planting the first crop of collard greens this month.

There are still openings to sign up for in the greenhouse this month to help with the watering, as well as openings to help complete the garden cleanup and bed renovation. We have added Saturday and Sunday afternoon watering slots to make sure that we can keep our seedlings well hydrated, especially as the days grow warmer.

Please use SignUpGenius if you are interested and able.



All volunteers, whether Extension Master Gardeners, avid gardeners, or individuals interested in gardening and community service, regardless of experience level, are welcome to join the team once cleared through the MSU Volunteer Selection Process. We have an enthusiastic, fun, hard-working team, and plenty of rewarding opportunities to help those in need. Come check us out.

If you would like to learn more about volunteering at MSU Tollgate Farm, please contact Roy Prentice (prentic1@msu.edu, 248-347-3860 x251) or Carmen Hamilton (hamil466@msu.edu, 248-347-3860 x239) for more information.

“The coming of April heralds the time to plant seeds of magic and fill the heart and home with the joy of light and life.” – Lotuwulf Satyrhorn

Hope to see you in the garden this year,

Kathryn Fitzpatrick

Photos on Pages 6 & 7 provided by Kathryn Fitzpatrick

The Tollgate Farm News

Box Tree Moth at Tollgate – 2024 Updates

Last year, the Tollgate boxwoods were found to have been infested with the Box Tree Moth. We did treat the plants, but it was a time-consuming task that needs to be repeated several times over the course of a year.

This year, we needed to do something different. Recognizing the time commitment to maintain all the boxwoods in the Farmhouse and Hosta gardens and the certainty that the Box Tree Moth will return, the Area Garden Leaders and Roy made the decision to remove many of the boxwoods. We left a few plants that are architectural to the gardens which we will monitor and treat to save these plants.

On Friday March 29, seven of us worked to remove approximately 75 shrubs. It took just under 3 hours and 4 trailer loads of cut material to complete the task. Going forward, the AGLs will work to ensure no resprouting occurs and will remove plants that are adjacent to the remaining boxwoods that will interfere with any spray treatments.



From the MSU Website on Box Tree Moths - <https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/what-the-box-tree-moth-quarantine-means-for-michigan-homeowners>

“Box tree moths overwinter in their larval stage, also known as caterpillars. When temperatures warm in the spring, they continue through seven larval stages, which take approximately four weeks before pupating. Pupation takes around one week before they emerge as adult moths. Females can start laying eggs as soon as two days after they begin flying. Eggs hatch after three days, and it takes 40–45 days to complete a single generation, depending on temperature. Multiple life stages may occur simultaneously, depending on environmental conditions. In southern Michigan, box tree moths are expected to have two to three generations per year.”

We encourage all gardeners who have boxwoods to look carefully at the interior of your bushes to see if they may also be infected as the temperature rise and help communicate this new invasive pest risk. The quarantine area for boxwood plants now includes all Southeast Michigan.

For more information, please use the following links:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/tag/box-tree-moth>

https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/mdard-establishes-box-tree-moth-quarantine-in-four-southeast-michigan-counties?utm_source=cc&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=extensiondigests

<https://www.michigan.gov/invasives/id-report/insects/box-tree-moth#:~:text=%2D%20green%20and%20yellow%20caterpillars%20with,shaped%20mark%20on%20each%20forewing.>

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Tollgate Hanami Festival

The Tollgate Hanami Festival is coming up fast. This year, the Hanami festival will be from **11:00 am – 3:00 pm on Sunday, May 5**. The event features food, music, and Japanese cultural activities. The heart of the event is gathering with family and friends and celebrating spring under the cherry blossoms. You can find event and registration information at: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/hanami-spring-picnic>



Photos provided by Roy Prentice

The Tollgate Farm News

Member Spotlight

Lee Kindermann



Years gardening... “I helped my mother garden, starting as a preschooler.”

Master Gardener since... “I’ve been a certified EMG since 2013.”

Volunteer at Tollgate since... “Tollgate has been my primary garden since I started in 2013.”

Favorite garden... “I just volunteered to be the AGL for the Demonstration Garden, so that is my favorite.”



To encourage all members to wear their name badge when on-site at Tollgate, we will continue spotlighting a current member found wearing their badge, monthly during the workday season in the newsletter. The name badge indicates your status as a garden volunteer and is very helpful to new members, as well as visitors. **The badges are in a box on the table in the Volunteer Center and have been updated. PLEASE CHECK THE BOX FIRST.** If your badge is missing, there is a sign-up sheet nearby, and one will be made for you. You are welcome to take your badge with you, or keep it in the box to grab each time you are on-site. We will be looking for volunteers wearing their badge on Saturday workdays and may ask to take your picture for the next newsletter.

Photos provided by Nancy Powell

The Tollgate Farm News

Welcome New Tollgate Garden Volunteer Members

We are glad you are with us! Please feel free to contact Renee Cottrell with any questions on our planned activities and schedules for 2024. You may email your questions about the gardens and volunteering at rncottrell4@att.net. This is a wonderful place, full of educational opportunities, with personal satisfaction and social connections as reward for volunteering. Our membership holds a large amount of collective knowledge and expertise that is willingly shared with a strong team approach to make every effort to direct new members to areas of most interest on the site. We want to guide you to a great experience with the Tollgate Garden Volunteers. Check out these links to start exploring your garden opportunities:

Garden Orientation PDF

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/tollgate/uploads/Tollgate%20Garden%20Volunteer%20orientation%202024.pdf>

Tollgate web pages for the Gardens

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/tollgate/gardens/>

2024 Tollgate Garden Volunteer Activity Calendar

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/tollgate/uploads/tollgate%20activity%20cal%20draftFeb%20Final%20release%20Draft.pdf>

Other volunteer info at Tollgate

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/tollgate/volunteering/>



Photo provided by Roy Prentice

The Tollgate Farm News

Membership Update April 2024

*Thanks to everyone who renewed
their membership this month!*

*We are still waiting for 67 previous members
from the 2023 roster to renew.*

*Please take a moment to return your membership form
(at the back of this newsletter).*

See you at Tollgate!

Teresa LaRosa
tlrehab@gmail.com



The Tollgate Farm News

Tollgate Garden Volunteer Membership Levels

When you renew your TGV membership each year, we ask you to designate your status as an ACTIVE member or a SUPPORTING member. As a reminder, these designations mean the following:

ACTIVE MEMBER: Volunteer in the gardens on workdays or individual assignments, volunteer at events and projects on the site, receive all communication and participate in monthly meetings.

- All active volunteers must go through the MSU Volunteer Selection Process (VSP) screening to work on site and maintain their VSP status yearly or as required by MSU volunteer selection procedure policy.
- Extension Master Gardeners (EMG) are screened through the VSP process either at the start of the program when you take the EMG class or when you renew your EMG certification/VSP update each year or as required by MSUE. If you are an active/current EMG and choose to volunteer at Tollgate your VSP status is complete.
- Previously certified EMGs who decide to let their certification lapse can still volunteer on the site, but still must go through the VSP screening requirement as above. We have onsite personnel who can help you complete the process.
- If you are an active MSU volunteer through another program on site and have maintained an active VSP status, then your VSP status is complete
- Individuals who have not gone through the VSP screening, will need to pursue the VSP screening before they can be an active volunteer at Tollgate (or at any MSU site or program). We have onsite personnel who can help you complete this process.
- Note that once an individual has participated in the initial VSP screening, they need only approve a background check in subsequent years. No need to obtain references and other activities that are required with the initial VSP screening.

SUPPORTING MEMBER: Support the volunteers and participate in monthly meetings and general activities.

- Notified regarding monthly membership meetings.
- Informed about Tollgate events via the Farm News newsletter and other informative e-mail notifications.
- Supporter status will **not** allow you to participate as a volunteer in the garden maintenance activities, maple syrup project or any MSU Extension events on site.
- Return to an "ACTIVE" status at any time by completing the VSP screening process.

A donation is NOT required to renew your membership. All donations are greatly appreciated and go into our account to maintain the gardens.

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Attention Area Garden Leaders

Garden Plant Label Project 2024 - Update

Tollgate's plant label project for this year is done thanks to our recent March snowstorm that kept Tollgate gardeners indoors. About a dozen volunteers put the finishing touches on the labor-intensive project. Roy kept the engraver in working order and started it up first thing on the days Linda Piasecki and I arrived to engrave. We put in about 15-20 hours each, reviewing lists and engraving labels. Saturday's crew beveled and prepped the labels to then be glued to stakes. Our "assembly-line" crew completed the job in under 2 hours. Roy and Linda Piasecki photographed our process. Thank you ALL!

Your completed labels are on the shelf in the Volunteer Center for you to place in your gardens. Remember to keep complete records of any new plants obtained this year for next winter's project.



2024 Garden Budgets

Many of you have already submitted your 2024 Garden Budget Planners. Thank you! If you haven't yet done so, please **submit them to me by May 7**, if at all possible. The correct form is attached at the back of this newsletter.

Marilyn Alimpich

The Tollgate Farm News

HELLEBORES IN BLOOM



Top left photo provided by Kathy Johnson
Top right photo by Julie Semroc
Bottom photo by Renee Cottrell

The Tollgate Farm News

BOXWOOD REMOVAL WORKDAY



Top row left photo provided by Lori Heiden
All other photos by Nancy Powell

The Tollgate Farm News

SPRING SATURDAY WORKDAYS



Top row photos provided by Kathy Johnson
All other photos by Nancy Powell

The Tollgate Farm News

SPRING SNOW



Photos provided by Renee Cottrell

The Tollgate Farm News

SPRING BLOOMS



Top photo provided by Julie Semroc
Bottom photo by Renee Cottrell

The Tollgate Farm News

**THE (Almost) TOTAL ECLIPSE AT TOLLGATE
(PLUS ONE TOTAL ECLIPSE FROM TEXAS)**



Top four photos of Tollgate eclipse provided by Roy Prentice
Bottom photo of total eclipse from Texas provided by Linda Piasecki

The Tollgate Farm News



Garden quotes submitted by Nancy Powell

The Tollgate Farm News

Take a Tollgate Picture

Next time you are volunteering at Tollgate, consider taking some pictures for the Tollgate Calendar. The preferred format is jpeg, landscape files. **It is important to send high-resolution photo files at full or actual size.**

Photos from your cell phones work great - just keep at maximum size/resolution when submitting.

Send photo files in separate emails, if necessary, to Judy Warren, Tollgate Calendar Editor at TGFarmPhotos@gmail.com.

Photos are also appreciated for the monthly Farm News. Photo files can be sent to napowell77@gmail.com.

Every season is magical at Tollgate. Think about capturing that magic in a photo for the Tollgate Calendar or Farm News.



Top left photo provided by Dave Komraus
Bottom left by Renee Cottrell
Top right photo by Roy Prentice
Middle right photo by Norm Powell
Bottom right photo by Kurt Westermann

Tollgate Volunteer Information

Activity Days: January - October

- Activity Day hours are 9:00 am – Noon, unless otherwise noted on the Activities section of the first page of the newsletter and the full year calendar (2024 version will be available in February).
- Lunch will be provided on scheduled workdays.
- Active members will continue to get email reminders of these activities.

NEW: We strongly recommend you bring your own tools for your garden activities. All tools borrowed from the Toolshed should be cleaned and sanitized with the wipes provided, prior to returning the items to the Toolshed after use.

TIP: If you aren't getting **The Tollgate Farm News** email, check your SPAM folder

Volunteer Activity Day and Meeting information will be communicated by email

Garden Tools Available for Use at Tollgate

Spades	Leaf Rakes
Garden Rakes	Garden Hoe
Brooms	Long-Handled Garden Forks
Wheelbarrows	Weed Buckets

Suggested Gardening Implements to Bring from Home as Needed

Trowel	Plant Division Forks
Pruners	Shrub Rake
Loppers	Sunscreen/Insect Repellent
Garden Scissors	Garden Gloves
Hand Saw	Knee Pads
Weeding Implement	

Tollgate Garden Advisory Committee (TGAC)

Farm Manager – Roy Prentice

248-347-3860 Ext.251 prentic1@msu.edu

- President**..... Renee Cottrell
Vice President Marilyn Alimpich
Secretary..... Theresa Bridenbaugh
Treasurer..... Karen Harris
Membership & Hospitality Teresa LaRosa
Communications Kathy Johnson
Programs..... Jackie Stengel
Farm News Editor Nancy Powell
Event Coordinator.....Lori Heiden

- The TGAC meets monthly virtually on Zoom (until further notice) on **the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM**. All Tollgate Garden Volunteer members are welcome to attend and should contact Roy Prentice for meeting link.
- Contact information for individual TGAC members and Area Garden Leaders (AGL) are available by contacting Roy Prentice to have message or contact forwarded for response. Contact info can also be found in the Garden Binders in the Volunteer Communication Center.
- Tollgate Volunteer Membership is renewed annually. The 2024 Tollgate Garden Volunteer membership is valid from **January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024**.

For membership questions or to update your current membership information, email tlrrehab@gmail.com

For general information and questions, contact Roy Prentice or see Website: <http://tollgate.msu.edu/volunteering/>

MSU Tollgate Farm and Education Center



28115 Meadowbrook
 Novi, MI, 48377-3128
tollgate.msu.edu
 Contact Roy Prentice:
 248-347-3860 ext. 251

**MSU Tollgate Garden Volunteers
Activity Calendar-2024**

January	February	March
2-TGAC Meeting 7:00 PM 18-TGV General Meeting 7:00PM via Zoom 20-AGL Planning Meeting 10:00AM 	6-TGAC Meeting 7:00 PM 15-TGV General Meeting 7:00 PM via Zoom 	5-TGAC Meeting 7:00 PM 21-TGV General Meeting 7:00 PM via Zoom <u>Activity Days</u> 2-Pruning 9:00AM 9/10-Maplefest no work day 16-Grass Cut Back-all 9:00AM 23-Pathway/demo mulching 9:00AM 30-Multi-garden/Easter wk 9:00AM
April	May	June
2-TGAC Meeting 7:00 PM 18-TGV General Meeting 7:00 PM  <u>Activity Days</u> 6-Rose/Pond 9:00AM 13-Demo 9:00AM 20-Office/Heritage/Rain 9:00AM 27- Children's/Xeriscape 9:00AM New volunteer orientation 9:00AM Pancake Brunch 12:00PM	7-TGAC Meeting 7:00 PM 16-TGV General Meeting 7:00 PM  <u>Activity Days</u> 4-Entrance/Nursery-plant divi 9:00AM 11-Farmhouse 9:00AM 18- Shade/Hosta 9:00AM 25-Memorial Weekend Rockledge/planting 9:00AM	4-TGAC Meeting 7:00 PM 20-TGV General Meeting 7:00 PM  <u>Activity Days</u> 1-Spring Plant Sale 9am-2pm 8-Rose/Entrance 9:00AM 15-Office/Heritage/ Rain 9:00AM 22-Pond/12Mile 9:00AM 29-Demo 9:00AM
July	August	September
2-TGAC Meeting 7:00 PM  <u>Activity Days</u> 6- Farmhouse/Rose 9:00AM 13-Children's/Xeriscape 9:00AM 18-TGV Garden Open House 6-8:30PM (Thursday-no mtg)19th rain date 20-Hosta/Shade 9:00AM 27-Heritage/Office 9:00AM	6-TGAC Meeting 7:00 PM 7-Rose Garden Dedication 5:00 PM 15-TGV General Meeting 7:00 PM  <u>Activity Days</u> 3-Entrance/Rain 9:00AM 10-Pond/12 Mile 9:00AM 17-Demo 9:00AM 24-Nursery/plant division 9:00AM 31-Labor Day Weekend Rockledge, divisions 9:00AM	3-TGAC Meeting 7:00 PM 19-TGV General Meeting 7:00 PM  <u>Activity Days</u> 7-Shade/Hosta 9:00AM 14- Farmhouse/Rose 9:00AM 21-Nursery Fall Plant Sale 9:00-12:00 28-Xeriscape/Children's 9:00AM
October	November	December
1-TGAC Meeting 7:00 PM 17-TGV General Meeting 7:00 PM <u>Activity Days</u> 5/6-Pumpkinfest no workday 12-Nursery Clean up 9:00AM 19-Pond clean up 9:00AM 26-Fall Clean up 9:00AM	2-Recognition Dinner 4:00PM 5-TGAC Meeting 7:00PM <u>Activity Day</u> 9-Rose winterizing 10:00AM 28-Thanksgiving 	3-TGAC Meeting 7:00 PM 25-Hanukkah 25-Christmas 26-Kwanza   

****All activity days, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, begin at 9 am and are subject to change. Please consult the newsletter or call 248 347-3860 ext 251 or look for e-mails for updated information.**

Visit on web: www.tollgate.msu.edu

MSU TOLLGATE VOLUNTEER SIGN IN

LOGGING YOUR VOLUNTEER HOURS HELPS US TELL TOLLGATE'S STORY TO THE MSU COMMUNITY

- USING THE CAMERA ON YOUR SMART PHONE, HOVER OVER THE QR CODE
- A LINK WILL APPEAR
- IF NO LINK APPEARS, YOU WILL HAVE TO DOWNLOAD A QR READER APP
- CLICK ON THE LINK TO THE GOOGLE SIGN IN PAGE
- COMPLETE WITH YOUR INFORMATION
- THIS SIGN-IN PROCEDURE DOES **NOT** LOG YOUR HOURS WITH MSU EXTENSION



NOTE: If you prefer to complete your sign-in on your computer, this link will take you to the site:

[Tollgate Volunteer Sign In 2024](#)

MSU Tollgate gets a lot of credit for all the wonderful volunteers that tend the gardens, make maple syrup, and support programming. The farm would not be the unique place that it is without the support of many willing hands. Traditionally, Tollgate has relied on a sign-in sheet in the volunteer center to capture the hours of volunteer service. Many of our volunteers who work in the maple project or distant gardens may not visit the volunteer center when they are on the farm. To capture all of our volunteer hours, we are trying a new recording system. By following the instructions below and scanning the QR code, you can record your Tollgate hours online from anywhere. After you have scanned the code, you can even bookmark the link so that you can access the hours reporting form without the code.

Thank you for making Tollgate such a wonderful place! Roy



MSU Tollgate Garden Volunteers Membership Form

Please legibly print all entries. Thank you.

2024

Name _____

Date Submitted _____

Address _____

Telephone Number

City _____ MI

Day _____ - _____

Zip _____ - _____

Evening _____ - _____

Email _____

Name you would like on badge, **ONLY IF NEEDED**

Choose one only (please do not leave blank):

Supporting member: I wish to support the volunteers and participate in monthly meetings but will **not** be participating *as a volunteer* in garden activities, projects or other events on the site.

Active member: I plan to participate *as a volunteer* in meetings, garden activities and/or other events or projects on the site and have or will complete the required Volunteer Selection Process.

Were you a Tollgate volunteer member last year? Yes () No ()

Are you interested in serving on a committee or garden project? Yes () No ()

If yes, please note below if you have a particular area of interest, skills to share.

A donation in support of the Tollgate Volunteer organization would be greatly appreciated (\$20 suggested). If you would like the newsletter mailed to you rather than emailed, please include an additional \$10 to cover postage.

Check here to have the newsletter mailed to you.

Make checks payable to: **Michigan State University**

Return to: **Tollgate Gardens Volunteer Office**
28115 Meadowbrook
Novi, MI 48377-3128

Questions: **Phone: 248-347-3860 Ext. 251**

Email: tlrrehab@gmail.com

2024 Membership is from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024

Please read this Privacy Policy:

By filling out and submitting this form you authorize the Tollgate Garden Volunteers (TGV) and MSU to use your contact information to communicate with you via email, newsletters and other formats. If you wish your email and other identification information to not be used by the TGV and MSU, please check this box (). (By checking this box you will not receive email notification of workdays, or other volunteer opportunities, special events and educational opportunities, or the availability of the newsletter via e-mail).

In the event of an emergency please notify:

NAME: _____ **PHONE:** _____