Plant Sale to Benefit MSU Horticulture Gardens!

May 18th 5 pm to 7 pm  Members Only
May 19th 7 am to 2 pm  Open to the Public

The MSU Horticulture Gardens’ annual plant sale will be open to the public on Saturday, May 19. All MSU Garden Members can get in early to search for the special treats on Friday evening, May 18.

All proceeds are used to support the ongoing activities of the largely self-funded MSU Horticulture Gardens. Support our special gardens and fill your yard with plants!

Plants available for purchase

- **Annuals** – a wide range of common and exotic
- **Herbaceous perennials** – includes divisions from our perennial displays – an eclectic collection of common, select and rare plants
- **Ornamental grasses** – a range of tender and hardy
- **Vegetables** – heirlooms, hard-to-find cultivars of tomatoes and peppers, also eggplant, squash, melons, leeks, basil and more
- **Trees and shrubs**
  Also – limited supplies of bamboo poles for trellising and professional potting soil for containers

Some plants may sell out more quickly than others. Come early for the best selection!

MSU Horticulture Gardens Members

Members support our gardens, shop one day before everyone else, and receive a 10% discount on all plant purchases! You can still join online (or download a paper membership form). Or you can join at our members-only sale on Friday evening or at our open public sale on Saturday. Ask to see Jennifer Sweet and her volunteers if you’d like to become a member during the sale.
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Location
Our popular plant sale will be located in the Plant and Soil Sciences Building (1066 Bogue, MSU Campus). For maps – go to http://www.hrt.msu.edu/visitor-and-tour-information/ Please consider factoring in some extra time to avoid frustration since there are a multiple of new road construction projects on campus to make directions difficult, even if you have GPS!

Michigan State University Horticulture Gardens
For more information go to our website http://www.hrt.msu.edu/our-gardens/

Visit the East Lansing Art Festival
An added benefit for you, our Spring Sale this year is the same weekend as the East Lansing Art Festival, so it’s a good excuse to combine a trip to both events and make a weekend of it!
2012 Summer Solstice Celebration, June 23-24

Officially, the 2012 Summer Solstice in the northern hemisphere will be precisely at 11:08 pm on June 20. The solstice is that moment when the sun’s rays are exactly perpendicular to the earth’s surface, also coinciding with our longest day of the year. In the Gardens, we plan to celebrate this great season with flowers and creative plant displays, art and creativity exhibits, and a tribute to our hard-working pollinators. Be sure to stop at our Visitor Booth located in the Garden Lot. Our greeters can give you the most up-to-date information and location of each of our exhibits.

Art in the Garden – June 23-24

Two local artists - Pamela Timmons and Jim Wolnosky - will exhibit their garden art on June 23 and 24. Pamela is known for her creative pottery sculptures and Jim for his inventive mobiles and garden features. The combination of the two will certainly add some flair and fun to our gardens. Pieces will be for sale and a portion of the cost will support the MSU Horticulture Gardens.

National Pollinator Week – June 18-24

Interested in honey bees or how to encourage our Michigan native bees into your yard? Come and learn from the experts as we celebrate National Pollinator Week. We now have pollinator gardens, bee hotels and bee hives in the MSU Horticulture Gardens for your inspection! On June 23, experts will be on site to answer questions on a variety of related topics. Ask at our Visitor Booth for details.

New Willow Structure

Plans are being made to host Bim Willow, a Michigan willow artist, to create one of his interesting structures in our garden during our solstice events. It won’t be as large as this (see photo left) one installed in the Morton Arboretum, but it will be fun! Once built, it should remain until the end of the year. We’ll keep you posted once the plans are finalized.
2012 Garden Day – Friday, August 3, 2012

Please mark the date! Stephanie Cohen, “Perennial Diva” will be our opening keynote speaker. She has written a popular book, Perennial Gardener’s Design Primer, she speaks regularly to garden groups and she has been on several TV shows expressing her love of herbaceous perennial plants! She is full of energy and a barrel of laughs.

In the afternoon, the mother-daughter team of Jessica Wright and Val Albright will give a lively presentation on “Tips and Tricks for Getting Herbs from Garden to Table”. Last year, Jessica and Val had standing room only at their workshops on cooking with herbs, so this year we have asked them to take center stage!

For complete details and for full workshop descriptions – visit http://www.hrt.msu.edu/garden-day-2012/

Online registration coming soon. Contact Jennifer Sweet (hgardens@msu.edu) if you have any questions.

Workshops

1. Herbal First Aid, Coleen French, Advanced Master Gardener, Owner, French Garden Creations
2. Dividing Perennials, Karen Bovio, Owner, Specialty Growers
3. Green Side Up – Plants on Rooftops, Dr. Brad Rowe, Professor, MSU Department of Horticulture
4. Garden Sized Trees, Rebecca Finneran, MSU Extension Horticulture Educator and Garden Columnist
6. Rain Gardens – Clean Up Our Rivers, One Garden At A Time, Susan Bryan, MLA, Rain Garden Coordinator, Washtenaw County Water Resources Commissioner
7. Floral Design From the Vegetable Garden, Tim Latimer, Certified Florist
9. Organic Gardening Essentials: Composting and Effective Weed Control, Dan Fillius, Production Manager, MSU Student Organic Farm
10. Horticultural Therapy, Cathy Flinton, HTR, CBIS, Horticultural Therapist, Hope Network and MHTA Board Member/Conference Coordinator
11. Cultivating Creativity in the Garden, Art Cameron, Director, MSU Horticulture Gardens.
12. The Garden-Kid Connection: Experience the Magic, Dr. Norm Lownds, Michigan 4-H Children’s Garden curator
Consider Sponsoring a Brick or a Bench in the Garden

We have many donor opportunities in the MSU Horticulture Gardens. $250 donation to the Gardens will sponsor a 4" by 8" brick, a $1,000 donation to the Gardens will sponsor a 8" by 8" brick, and a $10,000 donation to the Gardens will sponsor a garden bench. The inscription can honor special person or occasions in your life. Benches can be placed in many locations throughout the gardens. Contact Art Cameron (cameron@msu.edu) or Kate Powers (517/355-9547 or mobile 517/648-1011).

Tri-County Iris Society presents their 45th Annual Iris Show Saturday, May 19, 7 am to 2 pm.

Enjoy some irises while taking a break from shopping at our Plant Sale next week and check out the irises. Specimens, arrangements and youth categories will be on display. Visit www.tricountyirissociety.org for more information. Ask directions at our plant sale.

2012 Africa Violet Society of America Annual Convention will be held jointly with the AVSC (Canada) at the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center (RenCen), Detroit on June 3-10, 2012. The theme is "Violets Bridge Borders". The convention will include a spectacular judged show of violets and other gesneriads plus a sales room of national vendors. This is a unique horticultural event in our geographic area. It will be the largest collection of African violets in North America. The last AVSA convention in Detroit was held in 1959! Check it out at http://www.avsa.org/convention