Celebrate Summer Solstice in the MSU Horticulture Gardens
Free Fun on June 23 and 24

The Gardens are pleased to host multiple events in celebration of the Summer Solstice! Enjoy garden art, willow sculptures, praise of pollinators and storytelling. All are free! Please stop at our Visitor Booth located in the Garden Lot for the most up-to-date information and locations.

Art in the Garden – June 23-24
Two Lansing-area artists, Pamela Timmons and Jim Wolnosky, will exhibit their work in the Judith DeLapa Perennial Garden on June 23-24. Pamela is known for her creative pottery sculptures and Jim for his inventive mobiles and garden features. The combination 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.

Bee Palooza! – June 23
Come and learn from our insect experts as we celebrate National Pollinator Week, hosted in our VIP Garden (Vegetables and Insect Pollinators) near our native bee hotel. In the afternoon, experts will lead short educational programs and will answer questions on a variety of pollinator-related topics. There will be a short scavenger hunt for children. This program will be cancelled if it rains.

http://www.facebook.com/events/435317199813125/

New Willow Structure – June 23-24
Bim Willow and Linda McIntosh, Michigan willow artists, will create a dragon with a long tail in our garden during our solstice events. The idea will be for children to enter through the dragon’s mouth and exit through the tail! Bim and Linda are known for their amazing structures such as this one in the photo to the left install at the Morton Arboretum in Chicago. They plan to construct starting on June 19, so the new dragon should be ready for our Summer Solstice celebration! It will be located across from our Schoolyard Demonstration Garden. Ask at the Visitor Center for directions.

Steveanna Roose – Master Storyteller - June 23
Steveanna is a professional storyteller who served as the first artist-in-residence in the MSU Horticulture Gardens in 2010. She has been a featured performer, guest educator and presenter in past conferences including our Garden Day events. Discover all the buzz around bee folktale, folklore and fun facts in this interactive program for children and families. She will give 2 consecutive programs from 1:30-2:00 pm and 2:00-2:30 pm. She just may slip in a story about our new dragon!
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*, and speaks regularly to garden groups. Stephanie has also appeared on several TV shows expressing her love of herbaceous perennial plants! Always full of energy, she is a source of great info 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 details and online registration: visit our website at [http://www.hrt.msu.edu/garden-day-2012/](http://www.hrt.msu.edu/garden-day-2012/)

Questions?? Contact Jennifer Sweet (hgardens@msu.edu).

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**Garden Day 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
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*, Dr. Art Cameron, Director, MSU Horticulture Gardens
Upcoming MSU Horticulture Garden Events in the 4H-Children’s Garden

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 9</td>
<td>Garden Geocache Event - free</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 14</td>
<td>Butterflies and Bullfrogs Tea Party</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 9-11</td>
<td>Garden Writers Workshop – ages 7 and up</td>
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<td>July 26</td>
<td>Train Day: Lansing Model Railroad Club and Capital Area Railway Society</td>
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<td>July 31</td>
<td>Bug Day</td>
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<td>August 7-9</td>
<td>Camp Monet – Artist workshop – ages 7 and up</td>
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For more details, visit the 4H Garden Website at:
http://4hgarden.cowplex.com/Calendar/June

2012 Plant Sale a Resounding Success

Thanks to everyone who helped make our MSU Horticulture Garden Plant Sale a success last month! Attendance was excellent, sales were the highest they have been in years, and it seemed that customers, staff and volunteers were all still smiling up to the end. As you probably noticed, we moved the date of the plant sale up a few weeks from past years. It was deemed a total success. We had a great sale, emptied the greenhouses of plants, and freed our garden staff and volunteers much earlier in the spring to focus on planting and maintaining our gardens. It also seemed perfect that it coincided with the East Lansing Art Fair.

Nearly 1300 Plants Donated to Community Gardeners!

In addition to growing plants for the plant sale, Dan Bulkowski, MSU Horticulture Garden Manager, (photo above right in purple shirt), with the help of staff and volunteers (including our famous Veggie Girls), grew an extra 1300 vegetable and herb transplants that were donated to the Garden Project, a Program of the Greater Lansing Food Bank. The plants were then distributed to gardeners in the greater Lansing area. The Garden Project supports 90 Community gardens with over 7,000 individual gardeners. If you would like a garden plot, or would like to start a community garden, visit:
http://www.greaterlansingfoodbank.org/the-garden-project.html
Annuals, Perennials and Vegetables on Trial

Each year, hundreds of new (and sometimes old) plants are put on trial in the MSU Horticulture Gardens. Located primarily in the Amien Carter Annual Gardens, the results from these trials are shared with breeders and the public. Katie McCarver is our Trial Garden Manager. Working with summer student interns and volunteers, she plants and maintains these trial plants in the gardens. Each entry is labeled and evaluated several times during the summer. The best of the best are posted on our website.

http://trialgardens.hrt.msu.edu/

This year, several new cultivars of vegetables bred specifically for container production will also be on trial. Many are dwarf or determinate flowering and specifically adapted to life in a container. We expect that gardeners will be able to learn the best performers by regular visits to see these plants develop in our gardens.

Katie and her support team also plant and evaluate a range of annuals and vegetables for All American Selections, an independent non-profit organization that tests new varieties and then introduces only the best garden performers as winners. Look for the sign in our gardens this summer. This year, we will host the All American Selection Committee in August for their annual “Jamming with the Judges” Meeting from August 7-9. If interested in learning more about AAS: http://www.all-americaselections.org/meetings/index.cfm

We also participate in the Fleuroselect Program, an “International Organization for the Ornamental Plants Industry”. A range of annuals and perennials that perform under a wide range of climates and soils will be on display. Submissions are noted on the plant labels.

http://www.fleuroselect.com

You can vote in the American Garden Awards

We are also hosting a trial for the American Garden Award Program. The six entries are now planted in the Amien Carter Annual Trial Garden. Look for the prominent signs in the Annual Gardens and vote for your favorite performer. The results will be collected nationally. To vote, go to:

http://www.americangardenaward.com/
Consider Sponsoring a Brick or a Bench in the Garden

We have many donor opportunities in the MSU Horticulture Gardens. A $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 persons 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).