***New* *Weeds***

**Lee County Master Gardeners weekly up-date**

**February 19, 2018**

**Hello gardening friend,**

**If you would like an announcement to appear in New Weeds, please send it to** **nancy@redcrayon.biz****and** **freemja@auburn.edu** **by Friday night.  Please be sure to include “New Weeds” in the subject line or your announcement may be missed.  We plan to get outNew Weeds on Sunday or Monday of each week.**

***Nancy and Julia***

***LCMGA Announcements***

**URGENT:  For the February 24th Mulch Sale, we need volunteers  for talking with customers or light raking  if you bring a rake.  Shifts are 8-10:30 a.m. and 10:30-1:00 p.m.**

***To volunteer, contact Steve Carter,*** ***334-332-6100******.***

**Please help the Master Gardeners - Harvest for Health Collaboration.  At Harvest for Health, we match local cancer survivors with Master Gardeners.  Together, these teams build and maintain raised-bed gardens of herbs and vegetables at cancer survivors’ homes.  There is no cost for the participants.  Our project covers the costs of garden construction and all the supplies needed for 12 months.  Surviving cancer is so much more than doctors’ appointments and physical recovery after treatments.  Having something new to think about—something new to learn—can help a survivor reclaim life after cancer.**

**On Wednesday, February 21, Harvest for Health will be participating in Auburn University’s Tiger Giving Day at** [**http://TigerGiving.org**](http://TigerGiving.org)**.  On that one day, you can help us buy seeds, soil, tools, and all the other materials gardeners need to make our joint project a success.    Please help:  go to the website, click on our project “Healing Gardens” and see our video star, Dennis Pinkard, share his story and passion.  Your gift can really make a difference!**

***Contact:  Renee Thompson,*** ***(334) 844-4862******,*** ***thomprw@auburn.edu***

**We would like to welcome members of our 2018 Master Gardener Class to New Weeds! Please participate in everything as you can to get your volunteer hours and have fun doing so!**

***LCMGA February Event Reminders***

**February 21, Wednesday: Helpline refresher training session, Lee County Extension Office, 9:00 to 11:00 AM, for any Lee County Master Gardener who would like to get current on the operation of the Helpline.  Mallory and Dani will be there and we will try to have enough computers for everyone who attends.**

**To sign up, *Contact: Gene Galloway,*** ***ggalloway4813@charter.net******.***

**February 24, Saturday: MG mulch sale/fundraiser,** [**3327 Moores Mill Road, Auburn**](https://maps.google.com/?q=3327+Moores+Mill+Road,+Auburn&entry=gmail&source=g)**. Volunteers needed to talk with customers or light raking. Steve will load mulch with tractor.**

***Contact:  Steve Carter Cell*** ***334-332-6100***

***Volunteer Opportunities***

**Caroline Dean Wildflower Trail**

**Work will resume when Opelika Parks has fencing materials ready for install. Special work sessions will be scheduled.  Please mark your calendar for Saturday, March 3, 9-12 a.m. for our spring cleanup!**

***Contact: Billie Oliver,  billieoliver@gmail.com***

**Grandma’s Garden**

**2018 workdays to be announced.**

**Grandma’s Garden is located on Highway 14 at the Lee County Historical Society.**

***Contact:  Kathy Hayward* <****bryaub@hotmail.com****>**

**Kiesel Park**

**Workday Thursday, February 22, 2018, 9am -11am**

**Grab a couple of early volunteer hours in 2018 and head out to Kiesel Park for an early spring clean up. We'll be raking, clipping and doing some pruning to get things looking great!**

**You'll need rakes (for soil, not leaves), clippers, hand tools, and of course gloves. If you are good at digging, bring your shovel too.**

**Our demonstration garden at Kiesel Park is located near the Nunn-Winston House in the park,** [**440 Chadwick Lane**](https://maps.google.com/?q=440+Chadwick+Lane&entry=gmail&source=g)**.**

***Contacts: Jimmy Petrey*** ***334 821-6412*** **or *Charlot Ritenbaugh*  334-750-1984 or****cdritenbaugh@gmail.com**

**Kreher Preserve & Nature Center Butterfly Garden is resuming regular Thursday work days on March 8 at 9:00 am.**

**Regular workdays: Thursday mornings at 9:00, weather permitting.**

**Park in the north parking lot off County Rd 72 - across from water tower, walk a short trail to the garden.**

***Contact:  Margaret Holler,*** ***334-740-8548***

***Save the Date***

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***Contact:  Steve Carter Cell*** ***334-332-6100***

**March 2,3 and 4th, Friday, Saturday, Sunday:  Kiwanis Azalea Sale.  LCMG members and Friends will promote LCMG and garden tour, hand out information and soil test kits, and assist people with the selection of the right plant for the right place.  We need volunteers in shifts to cover Friday 9-5, Saturday 8-5, and if needed, Sunday from 10 to 3. (If they have sold all plants by Saturday night there would be no sale on Sunday.)**

***Contact:  Steve Carter,  334-332-6100***

**March 3, Saturday:  Fit as a Fiddle Fair   Master Gardeners will display information at Harris Center in Auburn, 9 am – 1 pm.  We need a coordinator for this event.**

**March 17, Saturday:  MG mulch sale/fundraiser,** [**3327 Moores Mill Road, Auburn**](https://maps.google.com/?q=3327+Moores+Mill+Road,+Auburn&entry=gmail&source=g)**, 8 am-1 pm**

**Volunteers needed 8:00-10:30 and 10:30-1:00 p.m. to talk with customers or light raking.  Steve will load mulch with tractor.**

***Contact:  Steve Carter,*** ***334-332-6100***

**March 24, Saturday:  MG mulch sale/fundraiser,** [**3327 Moores Mill Road, Auburn**](https://maps.google.com/?q=3327+Moores+Mill+Road,+Auburn&entry=gmail&source=g)**, 8 am-1 pm.**

**Volunteers needed 8:00-10:30 and 10:30-1:00 p.m. to talk with customers or light raking.  Steve will load mulch with tractor.**

***Contact:  Steve Carter,*** ***334-332-6100***

**March 24, Saturday:  Opelika Home and Garden Show, 9 am – 1 pm.**

**Volunteers needed 8 am – 1:30 pm for MG display.**

***Contact:  Raleine Sillman,*** ***raleinemg2012@gmail.com******,*** ***334-663-1948***

**April 6 – Field Trip to Eufaula   $14  9:00 am -2 pm**

**For Master Gardeners, Friends, and Interns.   You are welcome to invite friends.**

***Contact:  Cathy Shepard,*** ***chattycathys@bellsouth.net******,*** ***334-734-0688***

**April 14  MG Native Azalea and companion plant sale  Dean Rd. Rec Center,  on Dean Road in Auburn,**

**8 am-Noon.  Volunteers needed for sale/fundraiser.**

***Contact:  Dennis Pinkard,*** ***pinkardd@charter.net******,*** ***334-332-8773***

**April 28, Saturday:  Auburn City Fest, Kiesel Park, Auburn.**

**May 5, Saturday:  Opelika Garden in the Park, Opelika Parks and Rec.**

**May 6, Sunday:  Garden Tour Launch Dinner,  AU Davis Arboretum, 5 p.m.  All MG, MG Friends, & Interns invited ($5, Spouses $15)**

***Contact:  Pat Giordano,*** ***giordape@gmail.com******,*** ***765-409-6001******.***

**May 19-20, Saturday & Sunday:  MG Garden Tour**

***LCMGA Meetings***

**March 7, meeting 11:30, program 12:30 Harris Center, Auburn**

**Speaker:  Joel  Pittard       Topic:  Orchids**

**Following our business meeting, we will leave the Harris Center at 12:15 and caravan to Joel's home (about a 10-15 minute drive) to see his orchid collection and his greenhouse.  Joel and other members of the Orchid Society will demonstrate care of orchids, including repotting.**

**Note:  For this program we are NOT opening it to the public, but members, friends and friends of friends are welcome. We will provide Joel's address prior to the date.**

**April 4 – MG meeting, Davis Arboretum, S. College Street, Auburn, 11:30 meeting, 12:30 program**

**Morgan and Patrick will talk about native azaleas and new projects at the Arboretum.**

**Walk in the Arboretum to follow the presentation.**

***Community Announcements***

**March 31, Saturday:  Second Annual Azalea Festival and Spring Plant Sale, Davis Arboretum at Auburn University, S. College Street.**

**Join us for the Second Annual Azalea Festival and Spring Plant Sale at the Davis Arboretum on Saturday March 31!  Come out to enjoy all of the beauty our native azalea collection has to offer as you stroll through the grounds.  The native plant sale will begin at 8:00am and will be the only time during the spring that we will have Auburn Series Azaleas for sale!  Come check out the array of local artists and makers in the pavilion and stay for the live music and food trucks!  What better way to celebrate the coming of Spring than surrounded by azaleas in blooms?!**

***Contact:  the Davis Arboretum at*** ***arbinfo@auburn.edu*** ***or call us at*** ***334-844-5770*** ***for more information.***

**April 28, Saturday:  Auburn City Fest, Kiesel Park, Auburn.**

**May 5, Saturday:  GARDEN IN THE PARK   Master Gardener information display, Park and Rec., Opelika**

**Everyone is invited to the Farm City meetings each second Tues. of the month at 7:30AM at the Lee County Extension Center. The tours that Farm City promotes are very interesting.**

***Contact:  Lee County Extension Office,*** ***334-749-3353***

***Helpful links***

**It is very important for active members to log in our service and educational program hours at** [**http://www.leemg.org/**](http://www.leemg.org/)**.**

**If you did not log all your 2017 hours, you may log them now. They will be counted in 2018 totals.**

**It is important that we log our hours so that the Alabama Cooperative Extension Service can compute the value of our volunteer work for them.**

**Lee County Extension Office:** **334-749-3353**

[**http://www.leemg.org/apply-for-a-grant.html**](http://www.leemg.org/apply-for-a-grant.html)

[**http://www.auburnalabama.org/news/**](http://www.auburnalabama.org/news/)

[**http://www.opelika-al.gov/**](http://www.opelika-al.gov/)