

What's Coming Up:

Janet Macunovich and Steven Nikkila answer your growing concerns

Issue #155, August 24, 2011

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Anticipating fall star-shine: Chocolate Joe Pye (dark foliage *Eupatorium m.* 'Chocolate') and variegated obedient plant (*Physostegia v.* 'Variegata',

foreground) have yet to show their white and pink flowers this year. We

keep nearby plants such as big betony (*Stachys micrantha*, arrow) and butterfly bush (background) deadheaded so they keep blooming or won't clutter this fall vignette with brown seed pods. Deadheading on pages 11 - 13.



Detroit grows!

"You live near Detroit?! With the urban farms?! Cool!"

We hear this more and more when we speak in other States. While we are very glad to hear our hometown's name spoken so enthusiastically, we do wonder what people picture. Acres of beets in space once full of 1900's wood frame homes? Apple orchards stretching south from Palmer Woods? Farm equipment rolling along on Outer Drive?

We've talked with some "**urban farmers**" and took some pictures for you.

If you gather just one thing from this **photo tour**, we hope it's this: What's going on in Detroit is not a municipal plan or a scheme organized from the top down. **It's a groundswell** driven by hundreds, even thousands, of people, many of them but not all of them gardeners. It's people seeing open ground and saying, "Couldn't we do something productive with this space?" and gardeners saying, "Hmm, what can we grow there?" We've talked to dozens of people, many of them the spark plug or catalyst for their community's piece of "the farm." Yet to name any one or even all of them would be an injustice to the magnitude of this change.

To live among Detroit's urban farms is to look out as you open your blinds in the morning, or drive along the street, or walk to the store and see a garden that proclaims, "We're here, and we're in charge of this land!" It's meeting to clear a vacant lot, experiencing the thrill of an old-time barn raising -- many hands accomplishing monumental feats -- and being energized by that project to do more. It's growing like a plant perfectly suited to its site, and it's that beautiful to see.

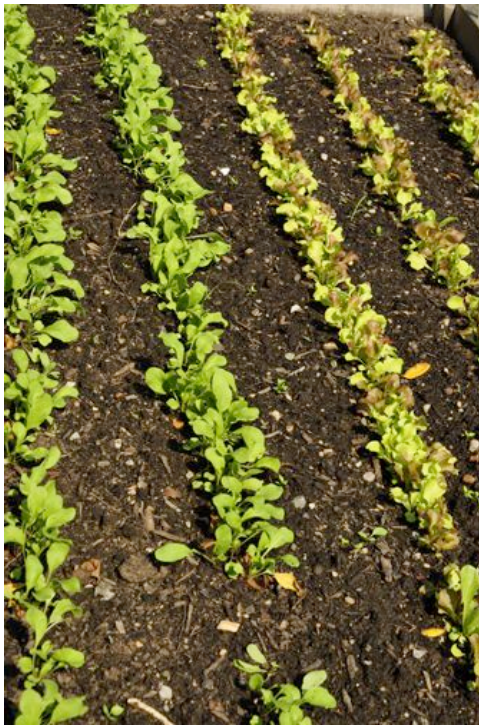


Georgia Street Community Collective garden.
<http://www.georgiastreetcc.com/>



Like many neighborhoods in a city hit by hard times, it went from fully occupied to peppered with vacant, neglected buildings, yet still full of people determined to maintain the community. Now, a community garden fills several lots cleared by neighbors. The organizers aimed to and have succeeded in keeping youngsters involved in programs at the main gardens and at the local elementary school (middle, left).

Left, the community area includes a place for taking a break, which also serves as a spot for kids' movie nights.



How many acres of lettuce and broccoli grow in the heart of the Motor City? Get a tape measure to add up hundreds of community plots all over the city.

Above: Earthworks Urban Farm, a program of the Capuchin Soup Kitchen www.cskdetroit.org/EWG/
Right: Georgia Street community beds, near Detroit City Airport, is signed for plant types and also life lessons.



Top right and bottom right: Plots in the Brightmoor neighborhood in northwest Detroit.

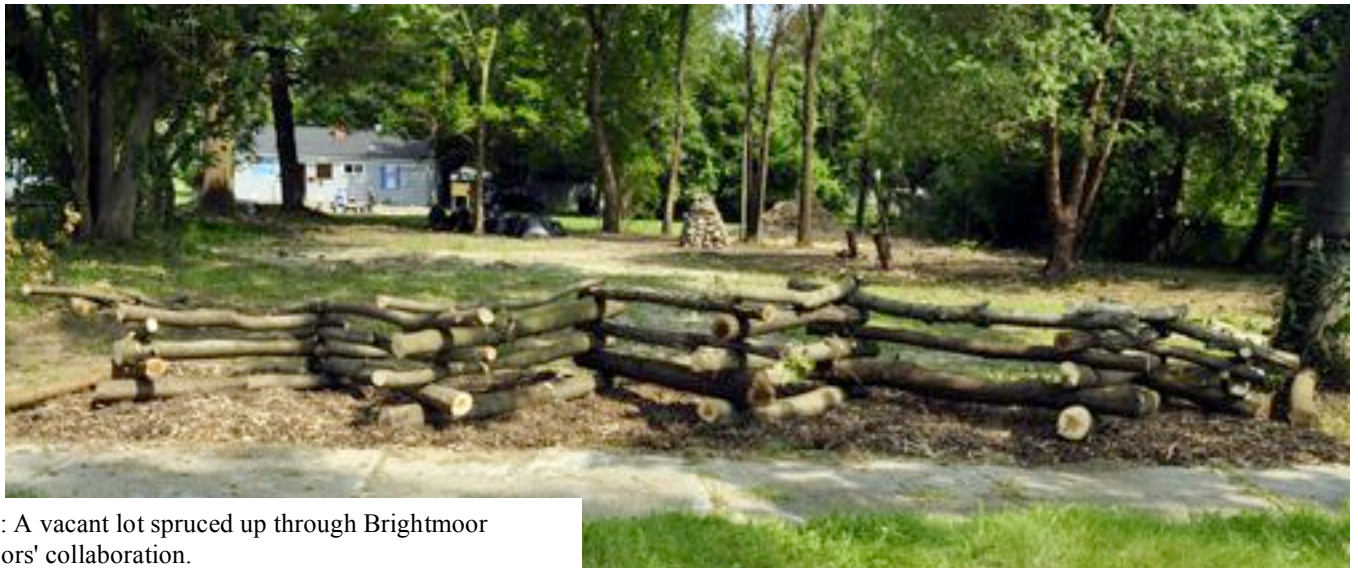


Earthworks Urban Farm near Detroit's Eastside Historic Cemetery District has grown from one corner lot to many, in several places, and branched out into fruit-tree plantings, providing vegetable plants and seeds to neighborhood gardeners and other programs that further Capuchin Province aims: To promote sustainable agriculture, nutrition and care for the Earth.
www.cskdetroit.org/EWG/



Does it look like your old neighborhood, the corner where you used to catch the bus, the elementary school you attended? Could be -- this "farm" and so many others have taken root, all over. The planted row is Motown's new groove.





Above: A vacant lot spruced up through Brightmoor neighbors' collaboration.

Right: an Edible Playscape in Brightmoor.

Below: Teens from the Brightmoor Youth Garden assist at the garden's market stand. The stand is at the vibrant, produce-entertainment-and-more Northwest Detroit Farmers' Market organized by the adjacent neighborhood, Grandmont-Rosedale.

Below: Young people also work in the Brightmoor gardens, where produce shares the spotlight with the kids' bright, painted signs.





**Northwest Detroit
FARMERS'
MARKET**

ORGANIZED BY GRANDMONT-ROSEDALE
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

**Issue #12
August 11, 2011**

Operating Thursdays 4-8 PM at
Bushnell Congregational Church
15000 Southfield at Grand River
May 26 through October 13, 2011
313-387-4732, ext. 103

TODAY: MOSAIC YOUTH THEATRE OF DETROIT

We are pleased to welcome



Young people's art makes a big splash throughout these new, garden neighborhoods. Top: A fence-long mural shields Georgia Street's big garden area and gathering space from traffic and heralds the community spirit. Bottom, left: Brightmoor neighborhood youngsters painted signs for a variety of areas, including the group's native plant seed production area, a joint effort with University of Michigan. Below, right: The vacant building can't yet be torn down or renovated? It can be painted!



Need water? Open wide to Ma Nature!

The Brightmoor Youth Garden features a device to collect, store and direct water to the garden. Young people's artwork celebrates this in colorful side panels.



The roof of the structure is the rain collector and the cover for the storage tanks. Gravity takes the water down and out to the gardens.



Imagine your neighborhood with this kind of energy, determination and innovation, with kids using the central row of a garden to stage a breaktime dance contest, and young families working for fresh produce while their toddlers play in a homegrown playscape. *That's* Detroit, farming!

Aiming for Answers: Hit or Miss?

Showing you what we are doing, as we do it, is always a hit or miss proposition. When we have a story that's a "hit" for you, it's a high five, slam-dunk, county fair blue ribbon. Yet we can learn when we miss the mark, too. Thanks for letting us know, either way!

Hit: Timely transplanting advice works for lilac, too

I just read "What Up #154", on transplanting. How timely. Sometime within the next three weeks I have to move a lilac bush (tree?) that is approximately 6 ft tall. I brought it as a tiny baby when we moved, 9 years ago. We are putting up a fence and I have to move it.

Thanks for such detailed directions that I can follow. I will let you know how it went, when I get done. - S.S. -

We're so glad to have been there when you needed it, and thrilled that you'll tell us how it went. Give yourself plenty of time to dig that lilac, since it takes only a few years for one to sucker into an extensive, tough root system. Steven swore off moving old lilacs after spending an entire day on an old one Janet wanted to save. "Next time," he says, "we'll dig around one edge, find a well rooted sucker and saw it away from the clump. We'll have a good sized start, an identical plant, with a lot less work."

Speaking of last week's transplanted Japanese maple, we've responded to a number of readers who wondered if "cutting all those roots was okay -- didn't it hurt the tree?" Yes, separating a tree from almost all of its fine feeder roots (right) is a blow, yet plants can recover from that loss.

Despite the cutback, we left issue #154's tree with a far greater percentage of its roots than what remains after such a large, well-established plant is dug with a tree spading machine. So that little tree has excellent prospects.

We also made the move at a time when the air's cool and the soil warm. Keep the plant's remaining roots moist and its leaves misted on hot days, and the tree will quickly generate new, highly absorbent root tips.

Above: We've washed the soil off this spruce root ball and teased out one of its tight-wound roots to show you how far its roots would have spread if not restrained by the burlap wrap. Note the dense feeder roots at the end of the root, just outside the "drip line" -- that area directly beneath the plant's branch tips. These feeder roots must be regrown if cut in a move.



Hit: Peony prognosis

D.J. wrote to report:
...(peonies) bloomed the end of May but within a few weeks the foliage (turned color) to totally GRAY!...

We replied: We've seen lots of mildew on peonies this year... Cutting them down is a good idea, and if they were up through bloom time they will have had enough time to set buds for next year. Have you cleared the soil from any of the crowns to see if buds for next year are set, and are clean and firm pink-white or red? If so, the plant's fine. D.J. responded:

Please forgive me for not getting back sooner... it's been wall to wall... company for days and (then) it's been tomato canning time. BUT... yesterday we went out to dig down and take a look at what is under the soil and HOOOO-RAY!! there are the sweetest little pink - white buds there! I am so happy you suggested doing that. It seems such a simple way to find out if there is viable tissue there.



We unearthed and washed this intersectional peony (cross between herbaceous and woody species). It has buds set for next year, white below ground, pink on the woody stem bases. It can be cut to the ground, leaving white buds below.

Miss on *Gaura* split and move

You asked whether the *Gaura* you split and moved here, made it. Nope, none of the divisions came up, and neither did the mother plant you cut back. It's okay, it was way overgrown and like you said, what do we lose cutting back something we can't stand, especially when a new one is only a few dollars? - D.M. -

Ah well, we had high hopes. We'll try again, and again, until we can see the pattern and know whether time of year or specific after care can make a difference.

On time in our region, adjustable for others

For 19 years we've been reporting and showing you what we do as we do it. It means that in a current issue we're right on for readers in some regions. However, we're ahead or behind the game for others.

As we load archive articles into our website (getting it ready to launch) we're also making it a searchable library, with guides for those South- and north of us to gauge how many weeks to go forward or back as they check previous years' editions for "right now" help.

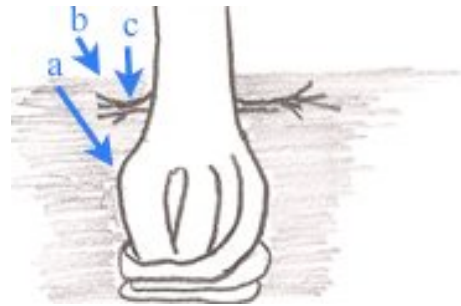
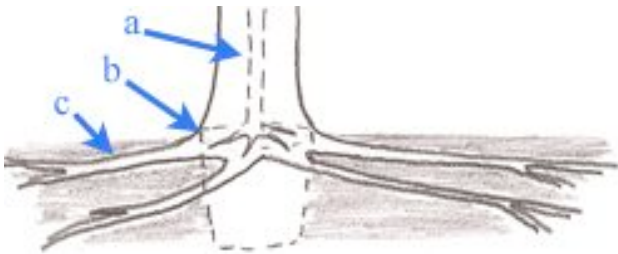
Hit on willow roots

J.K. told us about her corkscrew willow:

...it's been in for years. It's 18' tall now but falls over regularly. We have to keep it staked!

We wondered whether it might have been root bound when plants, in which case its roots may have circled, never spread outward, and so can't provide the wide base a tree needs to support itself. This week we dug around the base of the tree, found what you see here, sawed through coiled roots, re-set the tree. We'll all cross our fingers and see if it can grow out of that mess.

What we suspected:

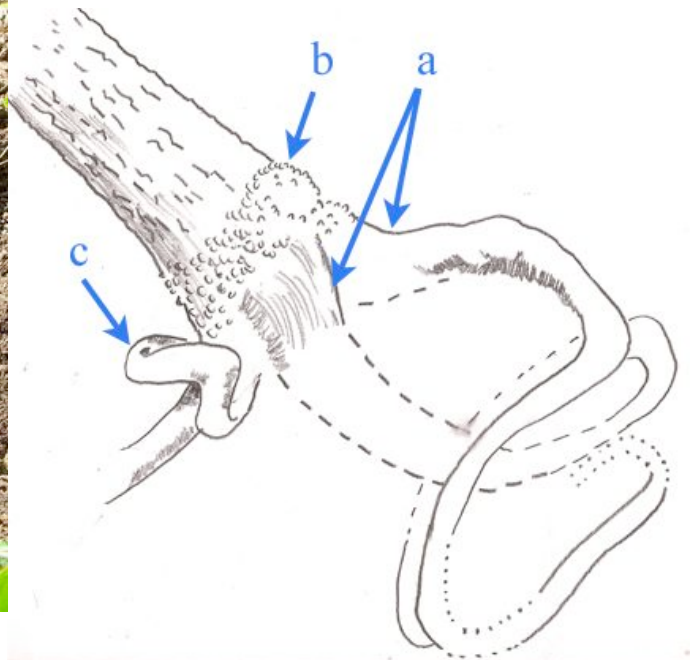


Above, left: A tree (a) and pot (b) at planting time, and how main roots (c) should have grown -- out to form a wide base. **Above, right:** While in a pot, your tree's main roots had grown to the pot edge, then down and coiled around the pot bottom (a). No one uncoiled or spread them at planting time. They thickened in place. The tree also sunk or was planted too deep (b) and weakly attached adventitious roots formed. Neither the new roots (c) or the coiled mass of roots can ever provide the tree enough physical support.

What we found:



Left: J.K.'s willow's root ball. Taken on a sunny day, the photo is full of confusing shadows. However, even those who were on site needed help sorting out what they saw.



Right: We've drawn two of the willow's flare roots (a), leaving out the rest of the mess to show you the main roots trapped into vertical and then coiled growth. Dotted/dashed lines indicate sections hidden in the photo by other roots. Moss grew (b), where the bark was rotting because the tree was too deep. One root that did grow outward was being girdled by the increasing girth of another coiled up and around it (c).

This week in our garden

Grow with us! This week:

We're **still deadheading**, with special attention to annuals that love cool weather (pansies, snapdragons, edging lobelia, salvia, etc.) and fall blooming perennials. In the case of annuals, the clipping we did during the summer is the reason we have a fine show now. Unless there's an early frost it can continue that way for two more months if we keep cutting. As for the fall perennials, well, look and see.



Left: A snapdragon that we kept deadheaded while it bloomed sparingly during summer's heat. Now that cool weather's arrived, it's showing us lots of flower buds (arrows).

Below, left; Learn to recognize seed pods by their withered petals and other flower parts (arrows). Distinguish them from flower buds, so you can cut off individual pods, and stalks with more pods than flower buds.

Below, right: Remove the seed pods from annuals and more flowers will form!





Left: Petunias, July 12.

Below: The same petunias six weeks later, being deadheaded for the fourth time this summer. Stems we've just removed are piled to one side on the walkway. It may seem as you cut that you're decimating the plants but that's not the case. The loss of developing seed pods simply stimulates production of more flowering stems.

Below, left: Carpet roses, just deadheaded July 12 after finishing their second bloom of the season.

Below, right: The same roses six weeks later after another deadheading. This time some flowers and flower buds remain since new shoots formed and matured at various times in the interim



Being there to see what photos miss

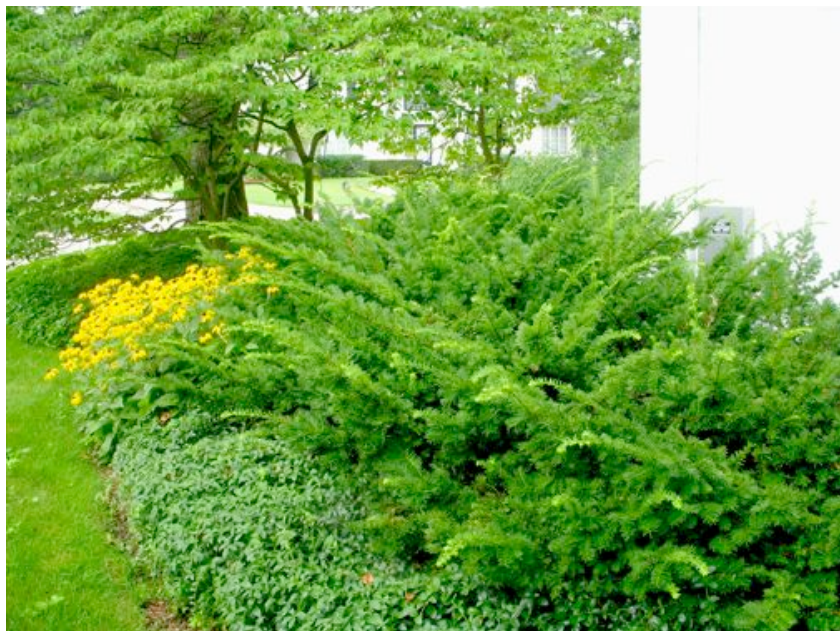
We two are the entire What's Coming Up staff, outdoors and in. Outdoor stuff is our main priority, since if we keep up with gardens, we can keep up with *you*. That means we work when and where the gardens dictate. We can't wait for perfect lighting, often work the camera with dirty gloves, and sometimes can't even pause to pose a shot. So the result's not always perfect. That's why we tell invite you to *Garden by Janet & Steven* (page 17) for that you-had-to-be-there factor.



Deadheading perennials: Helen's flower (*Helianthemum*, a perennial). Top left: Ready for deadheading August 2. Top right: Flower buds (arrows) among flowers going to seed. Bottom left: After deadheading August 2. Bottom right: Back in bloom, ready again for deadheading August 23.



We **continue pruning** those plants we prune just once a year or once every two years to keep them smaller than they would be but still natural in form. We aim for tree-like small trees and shrubs with soft outlines.



Left: Pruned plants don't have to look like sheared sheep. They can be smaller but retain their natural habit. This Ward's yew has a feathery, spreading habit. We cut it in August each year, giving it room to grow for another year without taking away its feathers. (The telltale is the annual re-appearance of the basement window in the lower left photo.).



Cutting all peonies, clipping the stems at ground level. This applies to herbaceous- and also intersectional peonies -- those hybrids between woody "tree" species and types which die to the ground each fall. Thorough fall clean up helps head off the fungi that blight and kill flower buds in spring, disfigure the foliage in summer, and eventually set up shop below ground level. A wet, cool spring put those diseases on the fast track, so our cut down's happening earlier, too.

Right, above: Fungus got in where we deadheaded (discoloration at top of stalk). It's streaking its way

down the stem. The core is beginning to discolor (arrow). If the fungi descends further it erodes the roots and infects new shoots. We want to see all-white pith, to know next year's buds might escape infection.

We're also planning to **clip the leaves off all tree peonies this fall**, prune any blighted twigs and dispose of all that in a hot compost. That's because we're seeing more tree peonies discolored by fungus, like their herbaceous cousins.

Appreciating tough *Phlox*. Always looking for the mildew resistant types, such as 'Orange Perfection', 'Alpha', 'Omega', Franz Schubert, 'Minnie Pearl', 'Jeana' and other tall *Phlox* (*P. paniculata*, *P. maculata* and *P. glaberrima* hybrids and varieties). This year, we're also noting which ones managed to reach normal height and to bloom. In quite a few gardens we have disappointing, runty, or flowerless *Phlox* plants. We're chalking it up to weather anomalies during their early development but so far that's only a guess.

Learning new things. It never ends -- isn't it wonderful!

This week we learned about the brightly patterned moth, here sharing the flower stalk of a great blue lobelia (*L. siphilitica*) with the shed exoskeleton of a cicada. It took a bit of looking to learn its identity (page through insect books; search the Internet in "Images" mode with key words such as *wings orange black bordered white spots August*; ask around among entomology buffs).



It's an **ailanthus webworm moth**, which is a native insect despite toting a common name that links it to an invasive alien plan (*Ailanthus* is tree of heaven, of *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* fame). It appears to have been native to Florida and tropical America where it lives on paradise tree and its relatives (*Simarouba* species), but found tree of heaven palatable and expanded its range with that tree. It probably doesn't overwinter here but migrates north each year. It's a pretty impressive overall development and mighty annual feat. We are once again in awe of Nature.

Wings tightly folded, ailanthus webworm moth can look like a beetle, but its a tropical American taking advantage of a tasty weed. Earlier this year as a caterpillar* it created a silky nest with its siblings and dined on tree of heaven leaves.

*See more at <http://bugguide.net/node/view/430>



Green thumbs up to gardening's tendency to bring out the youngster in all of us.



Green thumbs down to dull pruners and anvil pruners. Clean cuts seal most quickly. So put those stem-crushing anvil pruners away for use in clipping throw-away twigs. Buy some bypass pruners with blades that cross like scissors, and keep them sharp.

Left: Samantha Porter and Mikayla Cheatham, both 3 years old, think watering is the best thing about gardening. They're in the Green Thumbs Up Group of the Bright Stars Program at the Redford Branch Detroit Public Library.

Who's Janet? Who's Steven?

An eternal student of gardening, Janet Macunovich has embraced the perspectives of Thomas Jefferson, 'an old man but a young gardener' and philosopher-garden writer Allen Lacy who can 'spend an entire lifetime in one corner of one garden and still not know all that's going on there'. She aims to keep studying all her life. "It's such a privilege to work in other peoples' gardens," says Macunovich, "where the same plants I grow in my yard show me faces I wouldn't see otherwise. Some years I work in 100 gardens and

don't see the same thing twice. It's all better than gold."

An instructor who finds ways to reach every student. Horticultural photographer Steven Nikkila earned his degree in Landscape Technology from Oakland Community College in 1989. Since then he's helped thousands of people learn about photography, plants and gardens at gardening conferences, professional plant societies' symposia, community education organizations and botanical gardens. He also served as a senior instructor for The Michigan School of Gardening from 1996 to 2008. "I think one of the most important things about both teaching and photography is the angle you take. Everything has to make sense and be useful to the particular audience. Each class is a whole different experience once I tailor it for that group."



Contact Janet or Steven at JMaxGarden@aol.com or 248-681-7850.

Where to catch Janet and Steven in-person:



Chances to *Garden by Janet and Steven* -- observe or try your hand. These sessions are free but require registration. Here's the what, where and when. See page 21 for more about the why and how of such sessions.

Friday, September 16, 10 a.m. - noon *Garden by Janet & Steven* in Milford, Michigan. We're *laying out a woodland garden design*. Observe, or to pitch in with any work and learn by hands-on. This is a free, limited-size workshop. Call or email Janet & Steven to register, and to learn the address. Provide a telephone number in your email or when you call. JMaxGarden@aol.com, 248-681-7850.

Thursday, September 29, 5:30 p.m., *Garden by Janet & Steven* in Macomb Township, Michigan, to diagnose and determine what to do for an ailing shade tree. Come to observe or to pitch in with any work and learn by hands-on. This is a free, limited-size workshop. Call or email Janet & Steven to register, and to learn the address. Provide a telephone number in your email or when you call. JMaxGarden@aol.com, 248-681-7850.

Friday, September 9, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Session is filled *Propagation workshop*, presented by the Kent county Michigan State University Extension in **Grand Rapids, Michigan**. Janet shows you how to and gives you hands-on training for making more perennials. Contact Brenda at the Kent County Extension, 616-336-7734 or Brenda.Angelo@kentcountymi.gov.

Saturday, September 10 and Sunday, September 11, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. each day, "*Natural Gardening and the Wooded Lot Workshop*" in Midland, Michigan. Presented by Janet Macunovich, Steven Nikkila and Celia Ryker and sponsored by the Midland Master Gardeners. A limited number of spaces are open to the public for this one of a kind workshop. Email Susan Gaul (suzflora@gmail.com) or Carol Brown (ckbrown@chartermi.net) for more information and to register. Approximate cost \$100.00.

Saturday, September 24, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. *Fall Gardening Extravaganza*, presented by the Michigan State University Alpine Master Gardeners in **Gaylord, Michigan**. Janet and Steven guide you through *Visualizing Changes to a Garden or Landscape*, and then provide you with ideas for your own landscape makeover in *Trees and Shrubs for Small Spaces, Favorite Plants and Combinations, and Fabulous Foliage*. At the Otsego Club Resort and Conference Center. Early bird registration until September 9 is just \$45; includes a sit-down lunch. For more information call Dee Burau 989-732-2527 or obtain a registration packet at [http://www.otsego.org/amg/Trifold_idea_1d.1\[1\].pdf](http://www.otsego.org/amg/Trifold_idea_1d.1[1].pdf)

The Garden by Janet & Steven series:

You and we are let-me-see, hands-on people. That's how we learn best. So from time to time we schedule *Garden by*



Janet & Steven sessions and list them in this newsletter to afford you that kind of chance to grow. You visit us in a garden to either watch or work with us. Generally, there is no charge and we're in one of two kinds of locations:

- 1) At the **gardens we tend through our business, Perennial Favorites**: Our clients understand our enthusiasm for teaching. Some open their gardens to small groups who want to see and practice "how to." When work we're scheduled to do may be of interest to you, we invite you in.
- 2) In the **Detroit Zoo, Adopt-A-Garden** program where we're 22-year veterans. Many people have worked with us there, some for a day and others for years. We have fun, we learn, we accomplish much. You can check out this program by coming in as our student on a temporary pass. **To join us at the Zoo**, email mstgarden@gmail.com under a subject line "Help at zoo."

Invite Janet or Steven or their expert friends to your club or community.

We go where we're invited! That's taken us all over the country and then some over the past 20 years. We address many topics, drawing from our list of **100+ talks**. We also continue **to meet groups' needs** and expand our horizons with new material and "hybrids" from our basic 100.

So, we're game for...

- a **how-to lesson for a garden club** meeting,
- a **hands-on workshop** at a site of your choosing or
- a **multi-part class** for a small group!

We can also connect you to one or a whole line-up of other experts* who know how to explain how-to. So give us a **call or send an email** to make a date, request our list of classes and talks or get a referral.

JMaxGarden@aol.com or 248-681-7850. Our calendars fill about a year in advance for spring weekends, and six months ahead for most other times.



*Steven Nikkila and Janet Macunovich have been digging, shooting and teaching how-to for 22 years. They began producing conferences in the '90s and ran a gardening school for 12 years, featuring expert instructors who knew their stuff in a garden as well as knowing how to get their messages across in front of a group.

You're true blue... and so is our coneflower!

The yellow coneflower we used as a donation telltale is all-blue. Thank you! We've paid the design and programming bills and are now learning to operate all the component parts of the site. We're itching to launch but determined to have everything usable *and* useful first. We'll keep you advised of progress right here.

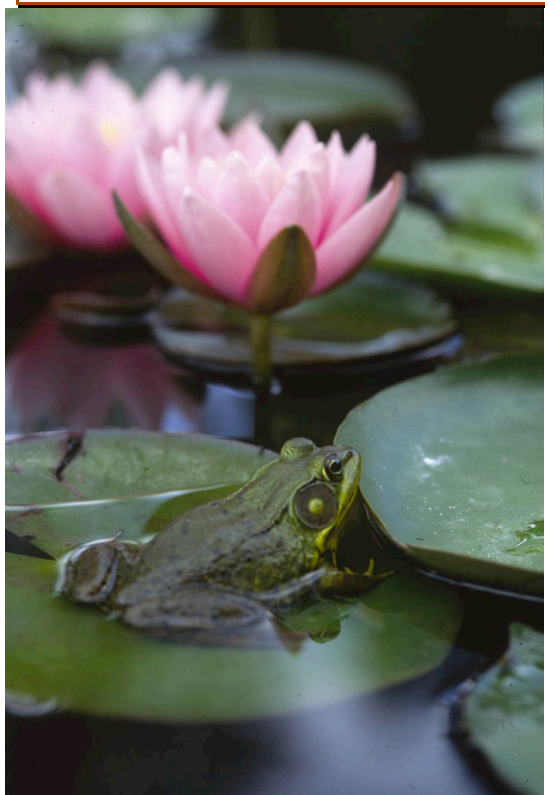


Donations always welcome

You helped us pay for the expert help we needed to insure that our website will be clean, easy to use and secure. Now the project's back to us, and we do a bit more each day after we finish up out on client's gardens. Everything's working smoothly, so far. We're currently loading newsletter archives and working on logistics of the new newsletter format.

We plan to keep our site ad-free, so we will always accept donations. **Send donations**, check payable to Janet Macunovich, to 120 Lorberta, Waterford, MI 48328.

Time to garden your walls...



Steven's decorated many walls with great garden and Nature images. He can help you do the same with photos that capture the garden beauty you love, framed or on canvas to your specifications.

You can purchase hard copies or high-resolution versions of any of Steven's images you see in *What's Coming Up*.^{*} Or name a flower, type of scene or hue in mind you can request that dream. His library includes tens of thousands of plants and natural images. Email us at

JMaxGarden@aol.com for details, to request a sampler or to place an order.

Prices for **Steven's garden art** vary with your wishes in format and size. Examples:

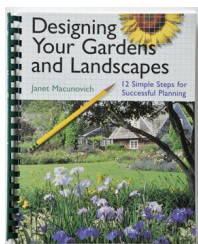
- **Matted, framed,**
overall 11 x 15", \$48
- **No-fade cloth tapestry,**
36 x 48', \$215

Describe your dream image or color to Steven at JMaxGarden@aol.com. He'll send you a photo sampler and price list.

^{*}Images in our newsletter are depicted in low- resolution to facilitate e-mail transmission. Steven's originals and art created from them are full resolution, with so much clear detail they are sharp even as wall-size cloth banners.



You asked for our advice "on paper". We wrote and sell these books plus CDs:



Designing Your Gardens and Landscape

First published in 1990 as *Easy Garden Design*, a 150-page step-by-step recipe that's become a design classic. Janet developed, uses and has trained thousands of others to use this process. People say: "This is exactly the simple, clear approach I need!" This design process is applicable world-wide.

Soft cover, spiral bound. B&W illustrations by Janet. \$19.00

Caring for Perennials

Janet's unique approach to perennial care how-to, the real-time story of one bed from early spring to season's end. The 180 engaging and fact-filled pages make you part of all Janet does and you might ever need to do in each task's appropriate season and sequence. Includes a chart of what to do, when for 70 top perennials. Advice in this book is applicable in all of temperate U.S. and Canada. The perennial chart includes a key to adapt its timing for far southern or northern edges of that range.

Soft cover book. Text by Janet Macunovich. Color illustrations by Steven Nikkila. \$20.00



Asking About Asters CD.

A digital library of six years of Janet's work: weekly columns, newsletters and over 200 extra Q&A letters to individual gardeners. 1,681 questions answered about soil preparation, fertilizing, pruning, design, choosing plants, foiling bugs and much more. No repeated topics. Fully indexed; the entire collection can be searched from one index.

1 CD in jewel case, Windows- and Mac compatible. \$20.00



Potting Up Perennials CD. New for 2011

Practical, beautiful answers about perennials and all kinds of flowers, trees, shrubs, design, pruning and much more is in this collection of 2009 & 2011's *What's Coming Up*. Includes 101 issues with over 1,700 pages, 1,600 articles and 2,400 images. Has a comprehensive index with how-to guide so you can search for any topic or detail in any of the 101 issues. Bonus on this CD: Steven Nikkila's Daydream Screen Saver, 74 of his most vivid works from gardens and nature.

1 CD in jewel case, Windows- and Mac compatible. \$20.00

Janet & Steven's complete digital library New for 2011

Set of two CDs: *Asking About Asters* and *Potting Up Perennials*. \$30.00



Janet and Steven give you: Trees*

A choice collection of Janet and Steven's advice for tree selection, planting and care. Each article made its debut in *Michigan Gardener* magazine and has been on hold since, awaiting completion of its fellows until this comprehensive compilation became possible. Topics include: Selecting trees; fall color; what's happening to ash trees; replacing a big tree; descriptions, lists and photos of great trees; why starting small is a good idea when planting; planting how-to, why's and why not's; staking, watering and fertilizing; mulching; rescuing a tree from the lawn; preventing construction damage; pruning to keep trees and shrubs small; removing suckers; detecting girdling roots; and dealing with maple tar spot and lecanium scale.

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