



Virginia Cooperative Extension

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October 27th 2016 – EMG Monthly Meeting Agenda

Historical Introduction to James Madison's Montpelier and Annie duPont's Formal Garden:

Montpelier was built in the 1760s on about 4,500 acres with a formal garden landscape focused on the Georgian style of the mansion. The original landscape echoed the traditional English park style, with broad expanses of lawn surrounded by native and exotic trees. Madison made an effort to plant black walnuts, tulip poplars, and even planted a Cedar of Lebanon which stands at the entrance to the formal garden. The original formal garden was a four-acre multi-purpose garden that included vegetables, fruit trees (Madison was very fond of figs), flowers (stock, China pinks, love-lies-bleeding, amaranthus, hyacinths, jonquils, daffodils, lilies, sweet William, peonies, tulips, snow drops, hollyhocks, and primroses), and a wide variety of shrubs.



The current two-acre formal garden was influenced by the duPonts who bought the estate in 1900. Mrs. DuPont added the brick walls, which enclose the garden, Italian statuary, crescent-shaped beds, and the wrought-iron garden gate that graces the entrance to the garden. She also added many beautiful trees to the landscape including saucer magnolias, American hollies, golden arborvitae, false cypress, and the current state champion Spanish fir. An herb garden was also added, along with terraced parterres. Although the mansion has been restored to how it was in Madison's time; the formal garden helps to keep alive the legacies and impact on the landscape of both the Madisons and the duPonts.

Reminder of Upcoming Diseases, Insects, and Abiotic issues:

- **Cole crops:** powdery mildew
- **Fruits:** bitter rot, black rot, powdery mildew
- **Ornamentals:** aphids, bagworms, spider mites, webworms; powdery mildew, leaf galls
- **Turf:** white grubs; spring dead spot
- **Watering Ornamentals:** Remind people to water shrubs once per week if rain is lacking. Many shrubs like Camellias and Rhododendrons are setting flower buds for next year at this time and most evergreens will overwinter better with consistent soil moisture up until the ground freezes

Fall Vegetable Garden Planning and Landscape planting:

- Lettuce, radishes, spinach, turnip, and peas can be started from seed
- Sweet pea seeds can be sown now and will sprout in the spring
- Start planting bulbs like crocus, hyacinth, daffodil, and tulip as soon as you can
- Do not become alarmed if your yews, pines, arborvitae, and junipers begin to shed their interior needles. It is natural for them to do so at this time of year

Upcoming Announcements and Events:

- *Extension Master Gardener Leadership Development Training:* November 2nd 2016 in Charlottesville, VA. More information still to come
- *Gillette Forum at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden:* November 3rd and 4th 2016

- *Ginger and Turmeric Field Day*: November 10th 2016 (8 am to 12 pm) at VSU Randolph Farm, 4415 River Road Petersburg, VA 23803. Please call (804) 524-5960 or email mklein@vsu.edu for more information
- *Beekeeping Classes*: November 14th, 16th, and 18th 2016 (4 pm to 6 pm) at Greene County Extension Office, 10013 Spotswood Trail Stanardsville, VA 22973. Please contact VCE Greene (434) 985-5236 or seweaver@vt.edu
- *2016 Holiday Greenery Workshops*: December 2nd and 3rd at Harrisonburg/Rockingham Extension Office, 965 Pleasant Valley Rd. Harrisonburg, VA 22801. Please contact www.csvmga.org or the Harrisonburg/Rockingham Extension Office at (540) 564-3080 for more information
- *Piedmont Master Gardeners' Events*:
 - Apple Harvest Festival: November 5th 10 am to 5 pm, Albemarle Cider Works, 2545 Rural Ridge Rd North Garden, VA 22959
- *Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Training*: Starting on January 11th 2017 and will continue on Wednesdays at either the VCE - Culpeper, Greene, Madison, or Orange offices. Classes will be held from 9am to 12pm.

Helpful Links and Interesting Information:

- Brown Marmorated Stink Bug: http://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/2902/2902-1100/2902-1100_pdf.pdf
- Crape Myrtle Bark Scale Identification and Control: <https://extension.msstate.edu/sites/default/files/publications/publications/p2938.pdf>
- Creating a Water-wise Landscape: http://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/426/426-713/426-713_pdf.pdf
- Fall Lawn Care: <http://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/430/430-520/430-520-pdf.pdf>
- Fall Vegetable Gardening: http://pubs.ext.vt.edu/426/426-334/426-334_pdf.pdf
- Galls made by aphids, adelgids, phylloxerans, psyllids, and midges: <http://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/ENTO/ENTO-146/ENTO-146-pdf.pdf>
- Fooling Mother Nature - Forcing Flower Bulbs for Indoor Bloom: <https://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/HORT/HORT-76/HORT-76-PDF.pdf>
- Lawn Leaf Management: http://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/430/430-521/430-521_pdf.pdf
- Multicolored Asian Lady Beetle in Virginia: https://pubs.ext.vt.edu/444/444-275/444-275_pdf.pdf
- Persimmons, Asian and American: <https://attra.ncat.org/attra-pub/viewhtml.php?id=10>
- Pest Management Guide for Home Grounds and Animals: <https://pubs.ext.vt.edu/456/456-018/456-018-16-Home-grounds-and-animals.pdf>
- Spanish fir: Rare in the Northwest, but worth the effort to discover: <http://www.seattletimes.com/life/spanish-fir-are-rare-in-the-northwest-but-worth-the-effort-to-discover/>
- Three fruits you thought were tropical, but can grow in your back yard: https://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/home/three-fruits-you-thought-were-tropical-but-can-grow-in-your-back-yard/2015/09/22/91414a44-60a7-11e5-9757-e49273f05f65_story.html

