



Charlevoix Area Garden Club

A PUBLICATION OF THE
CHARLEVOIX AREA GARDEN CLUB,
MEMBER OF
MICHIGAN GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
& NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC.

August 2026

www.charlevoixareagardenclub.org



President's Message

Dear fellow gardeners,

This year seems to be speeding by.

If you have not been to see the CAGC vegetable garden out by the airport, you should get there to see it. The Chairs Beth Cowie, Beth Rosenthal and Beth Booth plus Charlotte Koger, Patti Mc Creadie, Melinda McTaggart Stone, Marty Sutton, Sue Thurow, and prospective member Anna Alioto-Hogan have planted and tended to an amazing garden which is now producing lots of vegetables for the Charlevoix Food Pantry.

Last year 400 pounds were given and the goal this year is much higher! They were awarded two grants which allowed them to build raised beds and purchase soil enhancements. Looking great ladies!

Now is the time to start planning for next year so sign-up sheets will be available at our August meeting on the 11th. After we visit the Bear Creek Organic Farm, we will have lunch at Shanahan's Pub at the Charlevoix Country Club and have time to sign up for the gardens and committees you want to work on in 2027. Don't forget we'll be planning and hosting a Garden Walk in 2027.

Congratulations to all the members who have worked so hard in the Depot Heritage Garden over the past 25 years! It is truly a show place and the Board members at the Historical Museum appreciate it very much.

The eight Civic Flower Gardens that we have been working on again this year are all looking great! Thanks to everyone who has put in time planting and weeding to Keep Charlevoix Beautiful. It's working!!

Carolyn and Mary Lynn

August Membership Meeting and Field Trip

Our Tuesday, August 11 meeting will include a field trip to Bear Creek Organic Farm. We will meet at 9:15 am in the parking lot of the Genesis Church (located on US-31 opposite the Charlevoix Pool) to organize carpools. From there we will drive to the farm, which is located at 4012 Atkins Road, Petoskey. Our tour begins at 10:00 am. Following the tour, we will return to Charlevoix for lunch and a business meeting at Shanahan's Pub in the Charlevoix Country Club.



National Garden Clubs

Plant America Grants: Plant America empowers communities through green initiatives and fosters a culture of sustainability and environmental stewardship. By providing grants to support public spaces and community gardens, the goal is to educate individuals of all ages about the benefits of gardening and cultivate a sense of pride within neighborhoods. Grants have been awarded to NGC member clubs since 2017. More than 250 grants have been awarded (including to the CAGC Community Vegetable Garden in 2026). Grants are awarded in amounts up to \$2,000.

To learn more, to donate to the program, or to apply for a grant, visit the NGC website: <https://gardenclub.org>



Michigan Garden Clubs

Gardening School Course 4, September 18 and 19, 2026. Harbert Community Church, 6444 Harbert Road Sawyer, Michigan.

Topics included: Outdoor Identification of Plants, Plant Classification and Nomenclature, Specialized Styles of Gardening, Invasive Bugs and Worms, Pruning Techniques, Techniques for Growing Woody Ornamentals.

To read the brochure and register for the class, click on the following link: <https://migardenclubs.org/gardening-school-course-4-september-18-19-2026/>



Thru the Garden Gate Summer 2026: *Thru the Garden Gate* is published quarterly with content from garden clubs around the state of Michigan. To read the latest issue go to:

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/Thru-the-Garden-Gate-MGC-Summer-News-2026.html?soid=1113645395326&aid=5ifClScFhGg>

Foundations of Gardening Fall Session



Are you interested in becoming a MSU Extension Master Gardener? The fall session of Foundations of Gardening takes place from September 15 to November 24, 2026. Live sessions take place once a week for the duration of the class. The online format enables you to participate from home with a variety of learning materials, including videos, readings and webinars. Foundations of Gardening is designed for the gardening enthusiast who wants to understand how to create beautiful, productive and sustainable gardens for personal use, a business or a community. It is also the first step

needed to apply to become an MSU Extension Master Gardener. Registration is open through August 26:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/courses/foundations-of-gardening>



Beyond Honey Bees

From MSU Extension

Some plants require specialists to help in the pollination process. While many of us spend time looking for pest insects in our gardens, we should also be looking for beneficial insects. Among beneficial insects are those that help pollinate flowers, including the flowers that grow into fruits and vegetables. Most plants cannot pollinate themselves; pollen grains must be carried from flower to flower of the same species in some way, through wind, water, animals or insects. Bees are some of our most efficient pollinator insects and are essential to sustaining life on earth. As populations of insects decline, it is important that we find ways to attract and retain native pollinators in our gardens.



European honey bees (*Apis mellifera*) are helpful pollinators in many crops, but some crops benefit from other species of pollinators. Some plants such as blueberries and tomatoes benefit from pollinators that can “buzz” the flower, shaking the pollen loose rather than go in to collect it. Native bumble bees are better at this than honey bees, making them valuable for setting fruit in these crops.

To bring alternative pollinators to your yard or garden, MSU Extension recommends creating gardens or spaces that provide habitat for native pollinators. It is easy to attract and support bees with native plants and other flowers that are selected to bloom at a variety of times throughout the growing season.

To read the full article: https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/seeking_alternative_pollinators

MGC District 5 Fall Meeting

The Fall Meeting of Garden Clubs in District 5 will take place on Thursday, September 10 at the Great Lakes Center for the Arts in Bay Harbor. All CAGC members are welcome to attend the event. The Petoskey Area Garden Club will be hosting the meeting – which includes a silent auction, vendors, speakers, and a catered lunch.

If you wish to attend, you must make your reservation before August 11. The CAGC will be subsidizing the cost to attend, so our members will pay \$35. To confirm your space, send an email to marthasutton13@gmail.com. Then send your check (made to CAGC) to Marty Sutton 9280 Fairway View, Charlevoix, MI 49720.





SOIL HEALTH FIELD DAY

HOSTED BY:



August 19th 9am-3:30pm

Farmhouse Vineyards
(8450 Channel Rd, Petoskey MI 49770)

Charlevoix Conservation District Events

The annual Conservation District Garden Party on August 13 takes place at their offices at 303 North Street, Boyne City from 5 – 7 pm. All are welcome to come and enjoy light refreshments, tour their native plant garden, and learn the benefits of planting natives. RSVP by calling 231-582-6193 or emailing alison.adams@macd.org

Pre-order native plant garden kits by August 31 – for pick up on September 3. These kits are great for starting a new garden or adding to existing beds. For a plant list, visit their website: <https://www.charlevoixcd.org/native-plant-sale>

Soil Health Field Day takes place on August 19 from 9 am – 3:30 pm at Farmhouse Vineyards, 8450 Channel Road, Petoskey. Expert speakers on soil health and regenerative agriculture, as well as live demonstrations and resources from agriculture and conservation partners. FREE and open to the public, but reservations are required:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScpuNqpoZ7aBISrE4PMnkbWd4iMF-SgZRG6IU6wKpeFLOnSEQ/viewform>



CHARLEVOIX CONSERVATION DISTRICT
6TH ANNUAL GARDEN PARTY
AUGUST 13TH 5-7PM

STROLL THE NATIVE PLANT GARDEN
ENJOY A PHOTO GARDEN TOUR
NATIVE PLANT BOUQUET RAFFLE
ENJOY LIGHT REFRESHMENTS
CONSERVATION RESOURCES AVAILABLE
PLEASE RSVP

RSVP 231-582-6193 / 303 NORTH ST. BOYNE CITY
WWW.CHARLEVOIXCD.ORG



FALL NATIVE Flat Sale
38-PLANT NATIVE GARDEN KITS ONLY \$100 PRE-ORDER ONLY

AVAILABLE KITS:

- BUTTERFLY
- POLLINATOR
- MONARCH
- SHORELINE
- TALL PRARIE
- RAIN GARDEN
- GRASSLAND
- SEMI-SHADE

PRE-ORDER BY AUGUST 31

ORDER FORMS AVAILABLE AT
WWW.CHARLEVOIXCD.ORG
✓ MAIL IN OR DROP OFF ORDER ✓ CASH OR CHECK ONLY

303 NORTH ST. BOYNE CITY MI, 49712 231-582-6193



CAGC Events and Community Calendar

August

- 6 **CAGC Board Meeting**, 10:00 am, Charlevoix Public Library.
- 6 **Protecting our Monarchs, NCMC Lifelong Learning**, 11:30 am. In-person lecture with Lauri Juday. Learn about the life cycle of Monarch butterflies and find out how all of us can do our part to preserve their habitat. Register: <https://www.ncmclifelonglearning.com/event-6724225>
- 8 **Native Plant Sale**, 9 am – 1 pm, Gruler Gardens, 1298 E Gruler Road, Petoskey. To see the plant list go to: <https://www.grulergardens.com/nativeplants>
- 10 **Registration deadline for the MGC District 5 Fall Meeting.** The meeting takes place September 10th at the Great Lakes Center for the Arts in Bay Harbor. The cost to attend is \$45, but the CAGC will offset \$10. Notify Marty Sutton if you wish to attend.
- 11 **CAGC Member Field Trip to Bear Creek Organic Farm**, 9:15 am – meet at the Genesis Church parking lot to carpool. Tour begins at 10 am at Bear Creek Organic Farm, 4012 Atkins Road, Petoskey.
- 13 **Charlevoix Conservation District Annual Summer Garden Party**, 5 -7 pm, 303 North Street, Boyne City. Stroll through the native plant garden at the Conservation District office and enjoy snacks and beverages, as well as a floral arrangement raffle, and information tables.
- 15 **Wings of Walloon Butterfly Festival**, 11 am – 2 pm, Melrose Township Park. Families can take part in face painting, sidewalk chalk art, rock painting, free seed distribution, coloring stations, butterfly themed crafts, nature themed books and of course, a butterfly release, among other activities.
- 15 **Emmet County Native Plant Sale and Workshop.** The workshop takes place from 11 am – 1 pm and the plant sale from 1 pm – 4 pm at 306 Stimpson (US-31), Pellston, MI. The plant sale will take place in the DNR garage. <https://www.emmetcd.org/native-plant-sale.html#/>
- 19 **Soil Health Field Day**, 9 am – 3:30 pm, Farmhouse Vinyards, 8450 Channel Road, Petoskey. Sponsored by the Charlevoix Conservation District. Expert speakers on soil health and regenerative agriculture, as well as live demonstrations and resources from agriculture and conservation partners. FREE and open to the public, but reservations are required: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScpuNgpoZ7aBISrE4PMnkbWd4iMF-SgZRG6IU6wKpeFLOnSEQ/viewform>
- 25 **Nature's Best Hope – Lecture by Doug Tallamy**, 5:30 pm, The Botanic Garden at Historic Barns Park, Traverse City. Doug Tallamy is an award-winning author and leader in the native plant movement. Tickets \$17.85 <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/doug-tallamy-lecture-natures-best-hope-tickets-1992786220229?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>
- 31 **Orders due for Charlevoix Conservation District Fall Native Plant Flat Sale.** Flats of 38 native plants can be ordered for \$100. Several varieties are available to suit any garden type. Plants can be picked up on Sept 3. https://www.charlevoixcd.org/files/ugd/c26106_78454fca806f4af394561a0457fa2a30.pdf

September

- 3 CAGC Board Meeting**, 10:00 am, Charlevoix Public Library.
- 8 CAGC Member Meeting**, Noon, Charlevoix Public Library. Annual Potluck and State of the Gardens Address.
- 9 LTC Wild Wednesday: Goldenrod and Asters**, 6:30 pm, Charlevoix Public Library. LTC environmental education staff will discuss the wildflowers that close out northern Michigan's growing season in gold and purple.
- 10 MGC District 5 Fall Meeting**, 9 am – 2:30 pm, Great Lakes Center for the Arts, Bay Harbor.
- 11 Tree ID Hike**, Noon, Little Traverse Conservancy Hailand/Helstrom Family Nature Preserve, 4855 West Conway Road, Harbor Springs. Brad Von Blon will share a wealth of information about the beautiful trees found at this nature preserve complex. <https://landtrust.org/events-template/tree-id-hike-with-brad-von-blon/>
- 12 Native Plant Sale**, 9 am – 1 pm, Gruler Gardens, 1298 E Gruler Road, Petoskey. To see the plant list go to: <https://www.grulergardens.com/nativeplants>
- 12 Serene Shade Gardens with Deer Resistance**, NCMC Lifelong Learning, 10 am – Noon, NCMC Health and Science Building, Petoskey. Class fee: \$40, Registration required: <https://www.ncmclifelonglearning.com/event-6778373>
- 18-19 NGC Gardening School**, hosted by the MGC River Valley Garden Club. In-person classes on plant identification, specialized styles of gardening, invasive bus and worms, pruning, and growing woody ornamentals. For more information: <https://migardenclubs.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/06/Gardening-School-Course-4-Brochure-DRAFT-2.pdf>
- 23 Creating a Pollinator Garden**, NCMC Lifelong Learning, 5:30 pm – 7 pm, NCMC Health and Science Building, Petoskey. Class fee: \$30, Registration required: <https://www.ncmclifelonglearning.com/event-6736985>



CAGC Newsletter, Website, and Social Media

Submission deadline for the September newsletter is August 25. Email your photos, information, and articles to newsletter editor Beth Cowie at bethcowie@mac.com. You can also send information and photos for our website and social media.



Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/CharlevoixAreaGardenClub/>
Instagram [@charlevoixareagardenclub](https://www.instagram.com/charlevoixareagardenclub)

