



# Charlevoix Area Garden Club

A PUBLICATION OF THE  
CHARLEVOIX AREA GARDEN CLUB,  
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April 2025

[www.charlevoixareagardenclub.org](http://www.charlevoixareagardenclub.org)



## President's Message

Welcome Spring! Why did you bring all the rain and ice with you? It has not been fun these past few days.

CAGC Members, especially those few of you hardy souls who have stayed in Charlevoix for the winter, spring is sure to show its face sooner than later. Will we be ready?

Hopefully the Hospital Garden will be ready once Site Planning completes renovating and reinvigorating the five Hospital beds, (pun intended). Remember members, we need everyone who is able to help out at the Hospital gardens at least once this summer. The same goes for the vegetable garden. Many hands make light work so if everyone takes a turn, in addition to the usual team for each garden, we should end up with sensational Civic Gardens this year. Check with Dawne Jordan to get on the schedule.

Next to get a do-over should be the Pere Charlevoix Garden.

Stay tuned.

*Mary Lynn*

## April Membership Meeting

**Our next membership meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 8, at 1:00 pm** in the Community Room at the Charlevoix Public Library.

**We have had to make an adjustment to our program this month** – our scheduled speaker is unable to attend. Instead, we will be presenting several short videos about garden tools and their care. Charlevoix Ace Hardware will be providing us with a display of new tools, and we will have a work station set up for sharpening – bring your clippers!

If you are joining via Zoom use the following link:

<https://zoom.us/j/91810792364?pwd=h18t7ZXas8CNDIG3BymlGqCzQ80cFZ.1>

Meeting ID: 918 1079 2364 Passcode: 487217



# What's Eating My Viburnums?!

From MSU Extension, Gardening in Michigan

## **Viburnum leaf beetle larvae and adults may devour the shrubs in Michigan.**

Since 2008, viburnum leaf beetle (VLB), *Pyrrhalta viburni*, has made its way across the state in search of viburnums to feed on. This invasive pest is a specialist that only feeds on the leaves of shrubs in the genus *Viburnum*. Not all viburnums are equally appealing to VLB.

### **Viburnum species Susceptible to defoliation:**

Arrowwood (*V. dentatum*)  
 American cranberry bush (*V. trilobum*)  
 European cranberrybush (*V. opulus*)  
 Rafinesque viburnum (*V. rafinesqueanum*)  
 Sargent viburnum (*V. sargentii*)

### **Somewhat susceptible:**

Blackhaw viburnum (*V. prunifolium*)  
 Nannyberry viburnum (*V. lentago*)  
 Wayfaringtree viburnum (*V. lantana*)  
 Burkwood viburnum (*V. burkwoodii*)

### **Least susceptible:**

Doublefile viburnum (*V. pilcatum* var. *tomentosum*)  
 Judd viburnum (*V. juddii*)  
 Leatherleaf viburnum (*V. rhytidophyllum*)

### **The pest life cycle**

Larvae hatch from overwintering eggs in May. The emerging larvae are greenish-yellow and feed gregariously on the underside of tender newly expanding viburnum leaves, skeletonizing the foliage. Damage usually starts on the lower leaves with only the midribs and major veins left intact. As larvae mature, they grow to about 1/3 an inch long, darken, and develop spots on both sides of the abdomen. Mature larvae migrate to the soil to pupate. Adults emerge from July-September and will also feed on foliage. VLB adult feeding damage consists of irregular circular holes. and severe feeding can nearly defoliate shrubs once again. When disturbed, the beetles will fly away or drop to the ground. Adult VLB are 1/4 to 1/3 inch long and are generally brownish.

### **Control options**

Handpicking will only be effective if done regularly, and populations are low. During Fall, gardeners should search branches for egg-laying sites and prune these out. Insecticidal soaps, pyrethroids (such as bifenthrin, cyfluthrin, and lambda-cyhalothrin), or chlorantraniliprole (acelepryn) can help control the VLB. These pesticides work best when applied to smaller larvae, which are typically active in late April or early May. Soil-applied systemic products that contain imidacloprid are also effective but should also be applied after flowering for pollinator protection. If using insecticides, be sure to read the label and follow all instructions. Generalist natural enemies such as lacewings and lady beetles will feed on VLB eggs and larvae. Broad-spectrum insecticides may have a negative impact on these predators, and insecticide should be avoided if you spot beneficial insects controlling VLB.

*For more information:*

[https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/keep\\_your\\_eyes\\_open\\_for\\_the\\_viburnum\\_leaf\\_beetles](https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/keep_your_eyes_open_for_the_viburnum_leaf_beetles)





## Welcome Sada!

**At our March Meeting we welcomed new member Sada Crawford to our Club.** A native of Traverse City, Sada has lived most of her life in the mountain west and California. She moved back to Charlevoix during the pandemic to be closer to family. After renovating and selling 8 homes, and installing beautiful gardens in each of them, she decided to start a garden design and yard-scaping business in 2021.

Sada is also a metalsmith, photographer, fiber artist and ultra runner. When not gardening or doing upholstery projects she loves to be miles out into the wilderness.

## National Garden Clubs

**The 2025 National Garden Clubs Convention** takes place May 18 – 22, 2025 in Charleston, SC. Enjoy four full days of workshops, tours, seminars, and shopping in a “Charmingly Southern Destination”. The registration deadline is May 4. For more information: <https://gardenclub.org/2025-ngc-convention-details>



**National Garden Week:** NGC clubs across the country will celebrate National Garden Week, June 1-7, 2025. This week is an opportunity to encourage pride in your community, interest new members, and work with other groups to be part of those efforts. This is the perfect time to invite your friends and neighbors to visit our club’s nine Civic Gardens in Charlevoix – and maybe get them to lend a hand working to beautify these spaces!

## Michigan Garden Clubs

**MGC Monday Member Meeting:** April 14 7:00 pm, via Zoom. “Neonics, The Toxic Truth”. Presentation by Dan Raichel and Nick Haddad. Join the Zoom meeting using the Meeting ID: 912 729 4983 and Passcode: mgcmeets.

**Michigan Garden Clubs Annual Conference:** It’s a Shore Way to Connect June 9 – 10, 2025, Haworth Hotel and Conference Center, Holland, MI Conference registration is now open!

<https://migardenclubs.org/2025-michigan-garden-clubs-annual-conference-june-8-9-10/>



### 2025 Smokey Bear Poster Contest

Congratulations to CAGC’s **Martha Rohr** for another successful year as the MGC Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Youth Contest Chair! There were seven clubs that participated from five different districts. Martha indicated that the posters were received from public schools, private schools, girl scouts and home school/library programs. She has submitted the MGC State winning posters to NGC.

### MGC District 5 Fall Meeting – September 11-13, 2025

at the Manistee Senior Center  
The meeting, hosted by Spirit of the Woods Garden Club, Portage Lake Garden Club, and the Periwinkle Garden Club will feature a Standard Flower Show. Flower show submissions will be accepted on September 11, the meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup>, and on the 13<sup>th</sup> the Flower Show will be open to the public. If you wish to stay, book your hotel now.

For Flower Show Information: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1rxPEu6NM1IAgbLpEKgQpMENwsHI84UQJ/view>

# News and Notes



**Planting for Pollinators**, April 12, 10:30 am, North Central Michigan College Lifelong Learning, 10:30 am – Noon. \$30. Participants will learn the variety of pollinators, their roles in the natural world and in the backyard garden, as well as the current issues they are facing. Also discussed will be how to become a Michigan State University certified “Pollinator Champion” in order to share information about the pollinating world. Participants will get a voucher for a tree or shrub through the Emmet Conservation District.

<https://www.ncmclifelonglearning.com/event-6068848?CalendarViewType=1&SelectedDate=4/18/2025>



**Walloon Wildflower Walk with CAKE CISMA**, May 3, 10 am, Fields Preserve, 4175 Resort Pike Road, Petoskey. Guided by CAKE CISMA Coordinator Katie Gray, participants will look for spring wildflowers (aka spring ephemerals). Learn about their fascinating adaptations, ecological significance, and the role they play in the delicate balance of our natural ecosystems.

Space is limited. Please register.

To register: <https://www.cakecisma.org/event-details/walloon-wildflower-walk-2>



**How Can I Help? Saving Nature with Your Yard: Dr. Doug Tallamy**, Author and Professor, University of Delaware. American Horticultural Society Webinar, April 17, 2025, 2-3 pm ET. Virtual Event, \$15 for AHS members/\$20 non-members. In this talk, Dr. Douglas Tallamy shares his new book to address questions about ecological landscaping and further motivate people to help restore ecosystem function. Tallamy will offer insight on topics such as biodiversity, invasive species, insect declines, native and non-native plants, conservation and restoration, residential and city landscapes, urban issues, oak biology, keystone plants, Homegrown National Park, monarchs, supporting wildlife at home, and more.

<https://ahsgardening.org/ahs-live-how-can-i-help-saving-nature-with-your-yard/>



The above photo is from an exhibit at the 2025 Philadelphia Flower Show. To see more (and read about Beth Cowie’s trip to “America’s Garden Capital” – read the latest blog post on our website:

<https://www.charlevoixareagardenclub.org/post/spring-in-america-s-garden-capital>

# CAGC Events and Community Calendar

## April

- 8 CAGC Member Meeting**, 1:00 pm, Charlevoix Public Library.
- 10 Preserving MI Harvest – Foraging and Preserving Michigan Plants**, 1-2 pm and 6-7 pm, Zoom. It is important to make sure that the plants you pick in the wild are safe AND we preserve them safely.  
<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/preserving-mi-harvest-foraging-and-preserving-michigan-plants-april-10>
- 12 Planting for Pollinators**, North Central Michigan College Lifelong Learning, 10:30 am – Noon. \$30. Participants will learn the variety of pollinators, their roles in the natural world and in the backyard garden.  
<https://www.ncmclifelonglearning.com/event-6068848?CalendarViewType=1&SelectedDate=4/18/2025>
- 14 MGC Monday Member Meeting**, 7:00 pm, via Zoom. “Neonicotinoids – the Devastating Impact on Pollinators”, presented by Dan Raichel and Nick Haddad. Join Zoom meeting using the Meeting ID: 912 729 4983 and Passcode: mgcmeets.
- 17 Preserving MI Harvest – Preserving your spring harvest**, 1-2 pm and 6-7 pm, Zoom. Fresh produce like rhubarb and asparagus will soon be available. Discover how to preserve produce and herbs from your spring harvest.  
<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/preserving-mi-harvest-preserving-spring-produce-and-herbs-april-17>
- 17 How Can I Help? Saving Nature with Your Yard**, 2-3 pm ET. Virtual Event, \$15 for AHS members/\$20 non-members. Dr. Douglas Tallamy shares his new book to address questions about ecological landscaping and further motivate people to help restore ecosystem function where they live, work, play, worship, and farm. To register: <https://ahsgardening.org/ahs-live-how-can-i-help-saving-nature-with-your-yard/>
- 22 Earth Day 2024**
- 25 Arbor Day 2024**
- 26 Charlevoix Conservation District Tree Sale Pick-up**, 9am – 1 pm, 303 North Street, Boyne City

## May

- 2-3 Otsego County Conservation District Tree Sale Pickup – walk-ins welcome**, 800 Livingston Boulevard, Gaylord, 8:30 am – 5:30 pm. Conifers, hardwoods, wildlife shrubs, fruit trees, and native ground covers will be sold.  
<http://www.otsegocd.org/tree-sale.html>
- 3 Walloon Wildflower Walk with CAKE CISMA**, 10 am, Fields Preserve, 4175 Resort Pike Road, Petoskey. Guided by CAKE CISMA Coordinator Katie Gray, participants will look for spring wildflowers (aka spring ephemerals). Learn about their fascinating adaptations, ecological significance, and the role they play in the delicate balance of our natural ecosystems. To register: <https://www.cakecisma.org/event-details/walloon-wildflower-walk-2>
- 3 Serene Shade Gardens**, NCMC Lifelong Learning, 10 am, \$40. Learn how to create a visually appealing design incorporating layering, color and texture for shade plants. Mulching, weed and pest management will be discussed. Registration required: <https://www.ncmclifelonglearning.com/event-6098975>
- 8 CAGC Board Meeting**, 10:15 am, Charlevoix Public Library.
- 10 Container Gardening: Fun Pots & Planters for Summer**, NCMC Lifelong Learning, 10 am, \$40. Learn to leverage leaf color and texture as well as bloom color for maximum show. Learn about the best and worst performing plants for pots. Registration required: <https://www.ncmclifelonglearning.com/event-6109234>
- 13 CAGC Member Meeting**, 1:00 pm, Charlevoix Public Library. Presentation by Anna Watson, Monitoring Coordinator for the Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council.
- 16-18 Lavender Hill Farm Plant Sale**, 7354 Horton Bay Road, Boyne City. The team at Lavender Hill will help you select the best lavender varieties for your garden during their annual plant sale.
- 17 Spring Ephemeral Hike with CAKE CISMA**, 10 am, Glacial Hills Pathway and Natural Area, 3169 Eckhardt road, Bellaire. To register: <https://www.cakecisma.org/event-details/spring-ephemeral-hike>
- 18-24 National Garden Clubs Annual Convention**, Charleston, SC
- 24 CAGC Plant Sale**, fundraiser, Ferry Beach Pavilion.
- 31 Otsego Conservation District Native Plant Nursery**, open house/plant sale, 459 Livingston Blvd. Gaylord. Choose from more than 30 species of native flowers and grasses for your property. Pre-order online <https://otsego-conservation-district.square.site>

## June

- 1-7 National Garden Week**
- 5 CAGC Board Meeting, 10:15 am, Charlevoix Public Library.**
- 6-15 Mackinac Island Lilac Festival, Mackinac Island.**
- 7 Northern Michigan Master Gardener Association Plant Sale, 8:30am – Noon, Emmet County Fairgrounds.**
- 8-10 Michigan Garden Clubs State Conference, Holland, MI**
- 10 CAGC Member Meeting, 1:00 pm, Charlevoix Public Library. Presentation by Erica and Craig Boss of Charlevoix Lavender.**
- 12 Preserving MI Harvest – Veggies from Garden to Freezer, 1-2 pm and 6-7 pm, Zoom. Learn how to freeze your fresh vegetables by blanching and freezing. We'll discuss what blanching is, what to blanch, and tips for freezing. <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/preserving-mi-harvest-veggies-from-garden-to-freezers-june-12>**
- 20 First Day of Summer!**



## CAGC Newsletter, Website, and Social Media

**Submission deadline** for the May CAGC newsletter is April 26. Email your photos, information, and articles to Beth Cowie at [bethcowie@mac.com](mailto: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)

