



Charlevoix Area Garden Club

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

May 2026

www.charlevoixareagardenclub.org

President's Message

After what has seemed like a long winter it looks like spring is finally arriving. It is such a happy time to finally see daffodils in blossom as I drive through town and since my lilac is starting to bud, and soon we will be seeing the green haze on the trees as a sure sign spring is arriving. We can all start watching for our perennials to be showing their shoots once again, always a happy indication they have survived another winter.

Our first major fund raiser is fast approaching the end of the month and if you have plants to share this would be a good time to separate them and get them potted to donate to the sale. The committee chairs, Susan Thurow, Marie Eckstein and Beth Booth will be looking for help for several committees going forward to the sale on May 23rd. Since we will not be having a summer fundraiser this year it will need to be an "All Hands on Deck" for this fundraiser!!

Happy Gardening!

Carolyn



May Membership Meeting



Join us at 1:00 pm on Tuesday, May 12 in the Library's Community Room for our monthly Member Meeting.

Our speaker will be from Morgan Composting - makers of Dairy Doo products. The company is a family business started in 1996 as a solution to a manure management problem on their 200-head dairy operation. Now the cows have been sold and just the composting operation remains. Through their Dairy Doo line, they promote sustainable agricultural practices and are an innovative provider of economical and healthy soil products.

Will My Turf Recover from Spring Flooding?

From Michigan State University Extension



Heavy rain and melting snow resulted in localized flooding in Michigan. In many instances, flooding during spring results in minimal damage to turfgrass. Factors that determine turf survival under water include turfgrass species, submergence duration, submergence depth, water temperature and light intensity.

Turfgrass species differ in their ability to survive flooding. As submergence depth increases, the potential for injury increases. If the leaf tissue is above the water line (even just a little bit) the turf will probably survive. Flooding in the spring when temperatures are relatively cool seldom results in death in comparison to the summer when temperatures are high and turf can be killed when it's submerged for even a short time.

Flooding may cause the turf to turn yellow or brown. The discoloration is related to the turf losing its ability to take up nutrients. It doesn't take long once turf is submerged for soil oxygen levels to decline and root hairs to begin to die. As the root system becomes impaired, nutrient extraction and water uptake will be limited. Keep this in mind once the water has receded as the turf may benefit from a light fertilizer application.

To read the full article, use the following link:

https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/will_my_turf_recover_from_spring_flooding

National Garden Clubs

The National Gardener

Read the latest issue of the e-magazine published by the NGC. There is a wealth of useful information in the Spring Issue – from health of your garden soil to invasive animals to smart tips for a strong start to gardening season.

You can read the latest issue here:

<https://gardenclub.org/sites/default/files/2026-04/spring-2026-tng.pdf>



Michigan Garden Clubs

The Michigan Garden Clubs Annual Conference & Flower Show takes place June 7 and 8 in Ann Arbor at the DoubleTree Hotel, 3600 Plymouth Road. Registration opens April 20. To view the line-up of conference speakers, use this link:

<https://migardenclubs.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/Accommodations-and-Speakers.4.pdf>

MGC Member Meeting” “MGC Youth Activities”, Thursday, May 14, 6pm, via Zoom.

Learn how Garden Clubs around Michigan are doing exciting and imaginative activities to teach kids about horticulture and the environment. Use Meeting ID: 845 759 9482 and passcode: mgcmeets.



The MGC Gardening with Purpose initiative is a program for MGC members and clubs to help reduce food insecurity in the state of Michigan. In 2025 MGC recorded 33,305 pounds of fresh produce donated to food pantries and soup kitchens across the state. The CAGC Community Vegetable Garden is part of this effort and we received two separate grants this season in support of our garden. Individual CAGC members who grow food in their own gardens are welcome to add to our weekly donation to the Charlevoix Community Food Pantry.

<https://www.charlevoixareagardenclub.org/post/vegetable-garden-awarded-grants>



Spring Plant Sale

Your help is vital! Our annual Spring Plant Sale takes place on Saturday, May 23 at Ferry Beach from 8 am - Noon. Set-up takes place on Friday, May 22 at 9 am. Sign-up sheets will be distributed at our May meeting. We will need help distributing flyers and putting up signs – as well as help during set-up and the sale. We have 800 plants potted and ready and an order of annuals to sell.

Hat Crafting

Following our June Meeting you are welcome to stay and create a custom head covering to wear when our Club visits Elk Rapids in July for their Garden Walk. Bring some ribbon, faux flowers, and a glue gun. Join the fun and create your own masterpiece!



Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest Tea



The Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl poster tea will take place at St. Mary School on May 18th. We need lots of help to honor the children. We had 2 State winners this year, so we are very excited.

We need volunteers to help with set up, help with keeping cookies supplied and cleanup. We also need people to bake 2 dozen cookies and bring them to the school. Everyone who has helped in the past has said it is a lot of fun. Please let Martha Rohr know if you can help and/or bring cookies.

Adopt-a-Highway Cleanup

The first highway cleanup of the year will take place on Monday, May 11. Meet at the Genesis Church parking lot across from the Charlevoix Community Pool at 9am.

Bring gloves and wear sturdy boots or shoes. Safety vests and trash bags will be provided. Help us keep our 2 mile stretch of US-31 litter free! In the event of rain, we will meet on Friday, May 15 Hope to see many of you there!



CAGC Book Club

Please join us for the next meeting of our book group in the Charlevoix Public Library Trustees Conference Room. Exact date to be determined. We will be discussing *The Moonlight Gardening Club* by Rosie Hannigan.

Though they come from the same small Irish village, lonely widow Ruby and struggling single mother Frankie couldn't be more different. Then they discover the Moonlight Gardening Club, founded to remind its members that even on the darkest of nights, beauty and light can still be found. As they plant flowers chosen specially to be enjoyed under a carpet of stars in the gentle glow of moonlight, an unexpected friendship starts to bloom – and it might be just what each of them needs.



Little Traverse Conservancy Events

Little Traverse Conservancy has a wide array of free events open to the public. Many are listed in our Community Calendar (below) and include Wildflower Walks, Wild Wednesday programs at the Charlevoix Public Library, and tours of their nature preserves.



At our April Membership Meeting, Amy Lipson of LTC gave an excellent presentation on the conversion of a former golf course to the Offield Family Viewlands Preserve located at 995 Hideaway Valley Drive, Harbor Springs. She also provided helpful information about invasive plants – including the list below from “Go Beyond Beauty”.



Invasive Ornamental Plants

The below list consists of high-threat plants that statewide *Go Beyond Beauty* participants have agreed to remove from sale/stop using (including cultivars)



Go Beyond Beauty celebrates garden professionals, at no cost to them, (nurseries, growers, and landscapers) who commit to not selling or using high-priority invasive species. Other participants include garden clubs, private businesses, and individuals who are dedicated to the same mission.

Please keep in mind, depending on your region, this list may vary slightly and contain additional species to remove from sale and use. More information can be found at:

www.GoBeyondBeauty.org

Go Beyond Beauty is primarily funded through the Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program.



CAGC Events and Community Calendar

May

- 2 Getting Started with Cut Flowers**, NCMC Lifelong Learning, 10 am – Noon. \$30. NCMC Health and Science Building, Room 333. Presented by Monica Gruler Farrier, Master Gardener and owner of Gruler Gardens in Petoskey. <https://www.ncmclifelonglearning.com/event-6488133>
- 3 Discover Enji-minozhiyaamigak: The Place of Peacefulness**, 4 pm, 6413 Division Ave, Charlevoix (in Bayshore – turn north on Townline Road opposite the Shell gas station). A short, half-mile universally accessible trail leads you to a lake overlook platform along the shore of Little Traverse Bay. Please register at the link here: <https://freshcoastfilmtraversecity.ludus.com/select.php>
- 4-6 NGC Annual Convention**, St. Louis, MO
- 7 CAGC Board Meeting**, 10:00 am, Charlevoix Public Library.
- 9 Apple Grafting Workshop**, Bear Creek Organic Farm, Petoskey. Join Paul Holcroft from Holcroft Acres to learn the ins and outs of Apple Grafting. Attendees will get to take home two grafted trees. Cost: \$35. Register online: <https://bearcreekorganicfarm.square.site/s/order?cs=true&cst=custom&item=DMOD2LANW24VZPAGPKZQ7AOT#GBW4DKVFWIIHIEG2KDDZDMWN>
- 10 Mother’s Day Wildflower Walk**, Noon – 1:30 pm, Hoogland Nature Preserve, Join Little Traverse Conservancy’s Amy Lipson as she leads a walk through the Hoogland Nature Preserve, 4135 S Lake Shore Drive, Harbor Springs, MI 49740. <https://landtrust.org/events/event-register/>
- 11 Adopt-a-Highway Trash Pick-up**, 9:00 am. Meet at the Genesis Church parking lot across from the Charlevoix Community Pool.
- 12 CAGC Member Meeting**, 1:00 pm, Charlevoix Public Library. Presentation by Morgan Composting. Through their Dairy Doo line of products, they promote sustainable and organic agricultural practices.
- 13 LTC Wild Wednesday: Wetlands**. 6:30 pm, Charlevoix Public Library. Presentation by Little Traverse Conservancy
- 14 MGC Member Meeting: “MGC Youth Activities”**, 6pm, via Zoom. Learn how Garden Clubs around Michigan are doing exciting and imaginative activities to teach kids about horticulture and the environment. Use Meeting ID: 845 759 9482 and passcode: mgcmeets.
- 16 Wildflower Walk**, 1 – 2:30 pm, Offield Family Working Forest Reserve, 515 Quick Road, Harbor Springs. Join Brad Von Blon for a meander through the Offield Family Working Forest Reserve to enjoy spring wildflowers. <https://landtrust.org/events-template/wildflower-walk-with-brad/>
- 18 Smokey Bear/Woodsey Owl Poster Contest Tea**, 2 pm, St. Mary School. Please contact Martha Rohr if you can help.
- 19 CAGC Floral Design Group**, 1:00 pm, Charlevoix Public Library, Community Room.
- 21 Birding with Quinn Sommer**, 8 - 10 am, Waldren Fen Nature Preserve, 9417 Banwell Road, Alanson. Join Quinn Sommer, seasonal technician and avid birder, for a walk through a Little Traverse Conservancy birding preserve. <https://landtrust.org/events-template/birding-waldron-fen-with-quinn-sommer/>
- 23 CAGC Plant Sale**, Ferry Beach Park
- 27-31 Aldo Leopold Festival**, Les Cheneaux Islands, MI. Celebrate the legacy of Aldo Leopold – one of America’s most influential naturalists. Activities include paddling excursions, orchid and wildflower tours, birding, presentations, and more. <https://aldoleopoldfestival.org>
- 30 Northern Michigan Master Gardener Plant Sale**, 8:30 am, Emmet County Fairgrounds.

June

- 4 CAGC Board Meeting**, 10:00 am, Charlevoix Public Library.
- 6 Spring Native Plant Sale**, 12 – 2pm, Charlevoix Conservation District, 303 North Street, Boyne City. The Sale will be a browse and buy style event with garden kits available to preorder ONLY. All plants are grown locally by Birdsfoot Native Nursery. <https://www.charlevoixcd.org/native-plant-sale>
- 6 Getting Started with Native Plants**, 10 am, NCMC Lifelong Learning, Petoskey. Are you curious about native plants but don't know how to use them in your garden? If so, this class is for you! Led by Monica Gruler Farrier, of Gruler Gardens in Petoskey. \$30 <https://www.ncmlifelonglearning.com/event-6488094>
- 6 – 14 Mackinac Island Lilac Festival**
- 7 – 13 National Garden Week 2026** <https://gardenclub.org/sites/default/files/2026-03/ngw-proclamation-2026.pdf>
- 9 CAGC Member Meeting**, 1:00 pm, Charlevoix Public Library. Presentation by Brenda Hough of the Little Traverse Bay Beekeepers Guild.
- 10 LTC Wild Wednesday: Passenger Pigeon**, 6:30 pm, Charlevoix Public Library. Presentation by Little Traverse Conservancy.
- 17 Passenger Pigeon Week**, Offield Family Viewlands, 4 pm, 995 Hideaway Valley Drive, Harbor Springs. Join Little Traverse Conservancy Director of Environmental Education Dylan Klinesteker for a guided walk through the Offield Family Viewlands, exploring one of the most astonishing stories in North American natural history, the passenger pigeon. FREE, please register using the following link: <https://landtrust.org/events-template/passenger-pigeon-week-offield-family-viewlands-event/>
- 23 Monarch Joint Venture Conservation Webinar**, 2 pm, virtual. Stay informed about the latest in monarch conservation by joining our free monthly webinar series! Register once to receive access to all webinars in the series. <https://monarchjointventure.org/events/monarch-conservation-webinar-series>



CAGC Newsletter, Website, and Social Media

Submission deadline for the June newsletter is May 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)

