2009 TMG Winter School Agenda

Leadership Track: Open to Extension agents, all current MG leadership and those considering leadership positions in the county groups. This track will provide guidance and demonstration in best practices for leading, communicating and managing volunteers in county MG associations.

Educator Track: Open to Extension agents and MG educators. This training will provide educators with resources to distribute information in their county about best management practices related to water conservation and water quality.

This year, tracks are separated rather than concurrent to allow leaders to participate in education and educators to participate in leadership activities. However, MG and agents have the choice to participate in only one track if desired. Pre-registration is required for each track so there are enough supplies and refreshments for all participants.

Building Effective Leaders – The Leadership Track

Thursday, February 19

8:00-9:00 a.m. Registration – Those who will be here for both tracks can register for both at this time.

9:00-9:30 a.m. Wilson County Welcome

Speakers: JW McGuire (Wilson County Agent), Beth Babbit, Keith Miller (TMGAB) and Jim Houston (TMGAB)

9:30-10:30 a.m. Concurrent Sessions 1

Session A – Postcards, Postcards, Post… What? (Financials)

Tips on filing the right paperwork and organizing your financial records.

Speakers: Keith Miller and Tracy Jackson

Session B – Taking Control of the Ship! (Management) Practical information on keeping the group engaged and involved in volunteer projects that impact the community.

Speakers: Mike Payne and Doris Weakly

10:30-10:45 a.m. Break

10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Concurrent Sessions 2

Session A – Do you know who you are digging with? (Leadership)

Panel of MG and agents sharing how they work with volunteers, select new interns and retain the hardworking MG.

Panel: Mary Wade (Shelby County Extension), Chris Ramsey (Sullivan County Extension/NETNMG), Doug Hilton (TMGAB) and Jack Smith (TMGAB)

Session B – Presenting with Powerpoint (Presentation)

Creating simple presentations that can be used for every audience. Feel free to bring your own laptop computer.

Speaker: UT IT Extension Area Specialist Ryan Heady

12:15-1:30 p.m. Lunch Social
1:30-2:45 p.m. Concurrent Session 3

Session A – Programs That Work! (Projects)

Panel session to help you strengthen existing projects and create new projects that pack a punch!

Panel: Karla Kean (Montgomery County Extension), Tom Stebbins (Hamilton County Extension), Doris Weakly (TMGAB), Jack Smith, and Dave Craig (TMGAB)

Session B – Presenting with Powerpoint Repeat (Presentation)

Creating simple presentations that can be used for every audience. Feel free to bring your own laptop computer.

Speaker: UT IT Extension Area Specialist Ryan Heady

2:45-3:00 p.m. Break

3:00-4:00 p.m. Search for Excellence Awards. (Recognition)

Search for Excellence winners present 8-minute description of the impacts of their projects on the community and/or audience. Awards will be presented.

Speakers: Beth Babbit, Mike Payne (TMGAB)

Friday, February 20

8:30-9:45 a.m. Session 4 – Getting the Word Out! Communication

The basics of communication will be covered, including: creating a hook, knowing your audiences, writing concisely for email and Websites, finding inspiration and proofing your message.

Speaker: Patty Clark McDaniel (UTIA Marketing and Communications)

9:45-10:00 a.m. Break

10:00-11:00 a.m. Session 5 – State Alliance Meeting (involvement)

Speakers: Beth Babbit, Keith Miller and Jim Houston

11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Regional Alliance Breakout Luncheon (Networking)

Regional groups will break out and network at lunch.

Speakers: Beth Babbit, Keith Miller and Jim Houston

Education Track to follow lunch.

4:00-5:00 p.m. Social Networking and Refreshments
Water Smart Winter School: The Educator Track

Friday, February 20

12:30-1:00 p.m. Registration Check-in for Educator Track

1:15-1:30 p.m. Welcome/Introductions/Purpose
Speakers: Beth Babbit, Keith Miller

1:30-2:30 p.m. Water and Soil Relations
Speaker: Dr. Warren Anderson, Professor, MTSU (Lecture and Demonstration)

2:30-3:00 p.m. Networking Break

3:00-4:00 p.m. Surviving Water Extremes with Native Plants
Speakers: Terri Hogan, Ecologist, Stones River National Battlefield (Lecture and Demonstration)

Saturday, February 21

8:30-11:30 a.m. Basic Water Smart Gardening (Lecture, Activities, and Discussion)
Speakers: Beth Babbit, Jack Smith & David Craig

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Lunch (Southern Living Plants Presents: Selecting the Right Plant)
Speakers: Southern Living Presenter

12:30-3:30 p.m. Water Collection Demonstration
Construction of Rain Barrel and Rain Garden at the Wilson County Fairgrounds
Demonstrators: Warren Anderson, TMGAB: Mike Payne, Dave Sams, Jack Smith, Chris Ramsey, Keith Miller, Dave Craig, Beth Babbit

Registration Deadline:
February 10, 2009