

2010 TMG Winter School

Murfreesboro, TN

February 17*, 18-20, 2010

Sustainable Solutions

The 2010 theme for TMG Winter School is “Sustainable Solutions.” Words like “sustainable,” “organic” and “environmental” are often clichéd but we felt that these were the best words to describe our vision for the Winter School program. Winter School is broken down into two tracks: 1) educational track to train MG in garden-related programming and 2) leadership track to concentrate on coaching for leaders. The TMG Advocacy Board has developed an excellent program for 2010. This year we are privileged to have some outstanding speakers on topics and issues recommended by participants of last year’s Winter School. We hope you all take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to learn and meet new friends. **Pre-registration required by February 9.**

Winter School is open for all Master Gardeners and Extension personnel. Tracks are separate rather than concurrent to allow leaders to participate in education and educators to participate in leadership activities. MG and agents have a 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.

*Optional Pre-Winter School TYN Workshop February 17. FREE DINNER

The Tennessee Yards and Neighborhoods Program is a full delivery program for Extension offices and local water resources folks to partner on educating the public on better landscape management practices. Several of MG counties have been piloting this program and Master Gardener participation is essential to the program’s potential success. You may attend this workshop without attending the full Winter School, but you must register for the opportunity. This workshop is sponsored by the Tennessee Water Resources Research Center. See the 2010 WS Registration Form for details.

Educator Track: Open to Extension agents and MG educators. This training will provide educators with teaching methods, skills and resources about best gardening practices.



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.



Janet Carson

Leadership Keynote Speaker

Since 1992, Janet Carson has served as Arkansas’ Master Gardener Statewide Coordinator, and gives statewide leadership to the program of consumer horticulture. She is responsible for providing information to 75 counties in all areas of horticulture related to home gardening, with an emphasis on ornamentals. Janet shares her knowledge through her weekly call-in radio show and television segments taped at the beautiful Garvan Woodland Gardens. She writes gardening columns in the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette and monthly columns in Arkansas Gardener magazine. In 2003, Janet received the John White Award for Excellence in Extension Education.



Kelly D. Norris

Leadership Speaker

Looking to recruit the next generation of volunteers or gardeners?-You know those generation Y “kids” between 9-35. Kelly D. Norris will help us better understand these young whippersnappers and how we can make gardening interesting to them. Kelly is a horticulturist, plant breeder, plantsman and “gen y-er” who hails from Bedford, Iowa. He is an award-winning author with two books to his credit. As a speaker, he has garnered national acclaim for his high-energy, zealous presentations of information and personal stories that share his love and knowledge of horticulture.

Optional Pre-Winter School Workshop Tennessee Yards and Neighborhoods



TYN Winter School Workshop Summary: You will learn about the Tennessee Yards & Neighborhoods (TYN) Program and the potential roles of Master Gardeners. We'll then divide into teams to take the first steps to developing an evaluation tool that will be used by Master Gardeners to assess/certify a TYN Home Landscape. A certified landscape architect will close out the workshop with an introduction to an increasingly popular low-impact-development "green roof" strategy. As a thank you from the Tennessee Water Resources Research Center for making a contribution to TYN, all are then cordially invited to a free dinner for good food and fun.

Time	Afternoon of Wednesday, February 17
12:30 – 1:30	<p>Session I: Introduction to the TYN Program</p> <p>Learn more about the mission, structure, evolution and outstanding partners this program brings to Tennesseans. Find out how Master Gardeners can play a key role in facilitating this water quality program.</p>
1:30 – 2:00	<p>Session II: Introduction to Extension's Local TYN Partner – Municipal Stormwater Programs</p> <p>Who comprises this group? What actions must they take for their municipality to comply with the Clean Water Act? How does TYN help stormwater programs achieve these mandates? What types of expertise do municipal stormwater staff bring to the community and to the TYN Program and why are they such a valuable partner?</p>
2:00 – 2:15	Break
2:15 – 4:00	<p>Session III: Master Gardener Development of a Draft Set of TYN Homeowner Assessment Criteria</p> <p>This is a "roll up your sleeves" working session where participants break into groups and brainstorm criteria upon which to judge whether the homeowner has accomplished a TYN landscape action or not. It will also be the basis for the TYN Yard Certification Manual. Since we envision Master Gardeners playing the primary role in this aspect of the program, we can think of no one better to develop it!</p>
4:00 – 4:15	Break
4:15 – 5:00	<p>Session IV: You Enjoy Gardening; How about on Your Roof?</p> <p>Curtis Stewart, CLA will share a very old concept that is now beginning to take hold in the United States and has recently started migrating into Tennessee. Rooftop gardening can be a fascinating approach to managing stormwater while also helping to reduce energy costs, increasing sound insulation and improving the visual attractiveness of a community. The participant will take home reference sheets of where to go for more information and how they could become a part of the green movement.</p>
5:00	Dinner

Education Track: Sustainable Gardeners

Time	Thursday, February 18
7:30- 9:00 a.m.	Registration
9:00-9:30	Rutherford County Welcome
9:30-10:30	Extension’s Organic Solutions for Garden Problems Tom Stebbins, UT Extension Hamilton County “CSI” Agent
10:30-10:45	Break and Networking
10:45-Noon	Garden Savvy: Recycling Around the Home and Garden Jason Reeves, UT Gardens Coordinator Jackson
12:00-1:00 p.m.	Lunch with Southern Living Plants
1:15- 2:00	Education Breakout Sessions A. Growing Your Own Groceries: Edible Landscaping B. Kitchen Table Wisdom from a Gardener (limit 20) C. Gardening in Small Spaces
2:00-2:45	Education Breakout Sessions Repeated A. Growing Your Own Groceries: Edible Landscaping B. Kitchen Table Wisdom from a Gardener (limit 20) C. Gardening in Small Spaces
2:45-3:00	Break and Networking
3:00-4:00	Creating Community Gardens James Newburn, Assistant Director of the UT Gardens
4:00-5:00	Community Gardens Panel A panel of experienced community gardeners discuss their experiences and offer you advice on building community gardens.
5:15-7:00	Rutherford County MG Welcome Dinner Soup and Sandwiches
Time	Friday, February 19
7:30-8:30 a.m.	Educational Breakfast- “How do I teach?” An opportunity to self assess your teaching skills with your peers.
8:30-9:30	Community Composting Jeffery Ezell, Education Specialist for Metro Beautification & Environment Commission
9:30-9:45	Break and Networking
9:45-10:30	Education Breakout Sessions A. Food Preservation B. Understanding the Age: Appropriate Gardening Activities for All Kids C. Creating the Teachable Moment: Activities for Adults
10:30-10:45	Break and Networking
10:45-11:30	Breakout Sessions Repeated A. Food Preservation B. Understanding the Age: Appropriate Gardening Activities for All Kids C. Creating the Teachable Moment: Activities for Adults
11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.	Business Lunch with Leadership Track Please indicate on the registration form if you plan to participate in the business lunch.

Leadership Track: Sustainable Volunteers

Time	Friday, February 19
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Business Lunch and Registration
1:15	Welcome and Sustainable Volunteer Program Introduction
1:30-2:45	Making Sure Volunteers Aren't a One Season Wonder Janet Carson, Arkansas State Master Gardener Coordinator
2:45-3:00	Break and Networking
3:00- 4:00	Breakout Sessions: Strategies for the Future A. "You're the Greatest!"-- Recognizing and Retaining Volunteers B. Communication Is the <i>Real</i> Work of Leadership C. Gifts to Keep on Giving-- Creating Sustainable Funding
4:00-4:15	Break and Networking
4:15- 5:15	A. Creative MG Training Programs B. Don't Just Say "Tag Your It"-- Identifying Leaders, Cultivating Individuals C. How Do You Say "Hello" to the Public- Outreach Programs That Make a Difference
5:15	Dismiss for Independent Social at Baymont Inn and Suites at 7:00 p.m.
Time	Saturday, February 20
8:00-9:15 a.m.	"Moving Forward" Regional Alliance Meeting
8:00-9:15	Break and Networking
9:15-10:45	Gardening with a Y Recruit the next generation of volunteers or gardeners...Generation Y, those "kids" between 9-35. Kelly D. Norris, Horticulturist and Generation Y Gardener
10:45-11:00	Break and Networking
11:00- 11:45	Breakout Sessions: Building Blocks A. Superfriends: Building Teams and Empowering Members B. Communicating to the Future C. Taking the Lead: Stepping into Their Shoes
Noon-1:15 p.m.	Search for Excellence Awards Lunch
1:15-2:00	Breakout Session: Taking Stock A. For the Record-- FYI, KISS, TMI B. Creative Job Placement-- Identifying and Delegating C. Staying Out of The Red by Managing the Green-- Record Keeping and Reporting
2:00-2:15	Break and Networking
2:15-3:15	Knowing When to Let Go As volunteers, it is sometimes hard to move on from one idea or project. It's even harder to self evaluate. This course offers volunteer groups some tips for how to move on.
3:15-4:15	The Volunteer Paycheck Dr. Tim Cross, Dean of Extension at the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture
4:15	Salutations and Dismissal