

February 2018



WEST MICHIGAN NURSERY & LANDSCAPE ASSOCIATION

WMNLA News

President's Message

Happy New Year!!! I hope all of you had a Great Christmas and Holiday season. It's always good to take a little break from the daily grind and spend time with family and friends. Those of you who do snow removal are probably getting a chuckle out of that statement. If you're like myself and our company, it was more of a juggling act of getting to the family Christmas parties and keeping lots and drives clear from snow. Wow have we all seen some snow!

As we move in to the new year, its time to start gearing up for another great year! Time to make sure the equipment is ready, employees are ready and your systems are in place. Many of you will be attending the Great Lakes Trade Expo in Lansing. Great event to get ideas, check out equipment, and learn from the many great speakers. I recommend that you go if you have the chance and bring a few key employees.

Its always great to get feedback from others in your company, especially those on the "front lines" of your business.

The WMNLA has another great seminar coming up. We hope that we see you all at Michigan Wood Fibers for the seminar by Keith Eldred, Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development; 'Green Industry Specific Updates. Always good to go in to the new year knowing what's new in our industry and any changes that have taken place. A big thank you to Michigan Wood Fibers for providing lunch at this event also! See you all there!!

Ryan Weesies
President
Weesies Brothers Garden Centers and Landscape

**Green Industry Update
Presented by Keith Eldred, Michigan Department of
Agriculture and Rural
Development**

**Wednesday, February 14, 2018
At Michigan Wood Fibers
9426 Henry St, Zeeland, MI**

**Lunch provided by Michigan Wood Fibers
Text 616-402-4885 or email WMNLA2013@gmail.com to
reserve**

Keith Eldred (MDARD inspector) will be updating members and friends about current issues affecting the green industry including: Spotted Lanternfly, Hemlock Woolly Adelgid, Boxwood Blight and general nursery issues.

Pesticide Recertification Credits will be available for this meeting. .

WMNLA Scholarship Application

Attention all High School & College Students in Ottawa, Kent, Allegan, Newaygo, Muskegon and Oceana counties interested in a degree in a Green Industry .We are happy to pass along the news that the GHACF Scholarship Application is open! Students have until March 1, 2018 to complete and submit the application. **New this year is an “incentivized” deadline of February 15, 2018 any student that submits by this date will be entered in a drawing to win a \$250 gift card.** The link to the application can be found here: <https://www.ghacf.org/scholarships/>.

Students should go to this page to see available scholarships and then go to the application tab to click the link to begin the E-grant process.

For questions contact: Lauren Grevel, Education and Youth Initiative Officer, Grand Haven Area Community Foundation, 1 South Harbor, Grand Haven, MI 49417. 616-842-6378.

Call for WMNLA Board Nominations

WMNLA has openings for *two* new board members to serve the next three-year term starting in June 2018.

Finishing their terms are: **Chris Howe ,Hortech and , Ryan Weesies, Weesies Brothers Garden Center and Landscaping**

Our goal is to have balanced representation from the green industry. Contact one of the current board members if you have interest in serving on the WMNLA Board of Directors or if you have any suggestions for nominees that you think would serve. WMNLA well.

March Garden Day Expo Registration for March 10, 2018

There is still time to register for a vendor booth at March Garden Day! Because of space restrictions vendor booths are available to WMNLA members only

A Standard Booth space of 10'x 10' is available, **the cost is \$60 before February 1st. \$75 after February 1st.**

Exhibitor move in will be on Friday, March 9 from 1-5:00 PM and Saturday March 11, from 7-8:00 AM.

Tear down will be at 3:30 PM on Saturday.

Contact **Pam Cater**, wmnla2013@gmail.com. Or call **616-402-4885** to reserve your space.



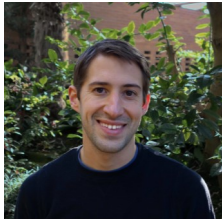
Rick Lohman, WooHooing.com presented “Techniques to make 2018 your Most Successful Year Ever”. at Hope College, January 10, 2018

March Garden Day Saturday March 10, 2018

A Celebration of Gardening!
Sponsored by the West Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association
Grand Haven Community Center
421 Columbus St., Grand Haven MI 49417
Saturday, March 10, 2018

8:00 Registration and Check In

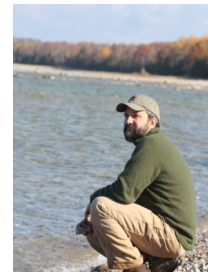
View exhibits, indoor gardens and Silent Auction.



9:00 Session 1 “*Gardening for Pollinators*” with *Joseph Tychoneivich*. Joseph is a lifelong gardener and lover of plants. Joseph earned his degree in horticulture from Ohio State University and worked at specialty/rare plant nurseries in Michigan and Japan. Joseph was named by Organic Gardening Magazine as one of six young horticulturists who are helping to shape how America gardens. He is the author of ‘Plant Breeding for the Home Gardener’ and ‘Rock Gardening: Reimagining a Classic Style’. Joseph will share practical ideas about attracting pollinators and ways to approach creating gardens that are both beautiful and full of rich insect diversity.

10:30 Session 2

“*The Theory and Practice of Organic Gardening*” with *Greg Dunn*. Gregory and his wife Michelle started Blackbird Farms in 2013 where they grow certified naturally grown produce for local farmers markets and their Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program. Starting from the ground up, Greg will teach us how to grow food that is healthy for you and the environment. Greg will include tips on preparing the site, amending soil, how to select the best varieties and rotating crops. Greg will also show techniques to prevent problems and how to respond to them.



11:45-1:15 Lunch Break/Break Out Sessions

“*Fungal Wonders: Adventures with a Mycophile*” with *Nicole Mathiasz*, Advanced Master Gardener, Master Naturalist, State of Michigan certified Wild Mushroom Expert.

“*Pruning like a Pro*”, with *Stacey Hirvela*, Proven Winners Color Choice Shrubs

“*Invasive Plants: Think Environmentally, Plant Responsibly*” with *Chris Howe*, Hortech, Inc.

“*Start Your Garden from Seed*” with *Julie Francke*, Frederick Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park

“*Yoga for Gardeners*”, with *Kathi Skorupski*, Yoga fit instructor for 19 years. Learn how to garden smarter and healthier with simple yoga moves.

1:45 Session 3 :

“*Rock Gardening: Reimagining a Classic Style*” with *Joseph Tychoneivich*, This approach to gardening is water-wise, perfect for small gardens, and for gardeners interested in exploring a whole new group of plants. Joseph will share beautiful images of rock gardens to inspire, the principles of creating rock gardens and an introduction to some of the most beautiful and easy to grow plants.

Got to www.wmnl.com for registration information.

March Garden Day is going Green! All food waste and lunch products will be biodegradable and composted. All paper and plastic will be recycled. Water and coffee will be available with biodegradable cups. Registrants are welcome to bring their own water bottles.





**WEST MICHIGAN NURSERY &
LANDSCAPE ASSOCIATION**

P.O. Box 96
West Olive, MI 49460

For advertising, business news, submission
of articles and WMNLA member news:

Contact Pam Cater at

(616) 402-4885

Email:wmnla2013@gmail.com

**Mark Your
Calendar!**

March 10, 2018
**“March Garden Day: A
Celebration of Gardening”**

at

Grand Haven Community Center
Www.wmnla.com for more information

2017-18 WMNLA Board of Directors

Ryan Weesies, President, Weesies Brothers Garden Center &
Landscaping

Allison Jesky, Vice President, Hope College

Russ Hillman, Secretary, Bosch’s Landscape & Lawn
Specialties

Chris Howe, Treasurer, Hortech, Inc.

Christina Hipshier, Member at Large, Grand Valley State
University

Keith Hogan, Member at Large, Bartlett Tree Experts

“Green Industry Update”

presented by Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

Wednesday, February 14, 2018

11:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.

At Michigan Wood Fibers

9426 Henry St.
Zeeland, Mi 49464

Lunch provided by Michigan Wood Fibers

RSVP by Monday, February 12th

wmnla2013@gmail.com

Text or call 616-402-4885

WMNLA Board Meetings

You are welcome to attend the WMNLA Board Meetings at 10
a.m. on the day of the Program. It is an excellent opportunity
to address the Board with any industry & membership issues.

