

Master Gardeners of Bergen County September 2020 – mid-month update

MG virtual meeting Tuesday, Sept. 22 via Zoom

Announcements at 7:20 pm; program to follow; see Zoom instructions below

Frank “The Beeman” Mortimer will give an online presentation titled Honey – From Flower to Tummy. Frank will explore the relationship between bees and flowers and all the steps honeybees take to turn nectar into one of the world’s superfoods and the only food that will never spoil. In addition to why and how honeybees make honey, Frank will discuss the different forms of honey, its various uses throughout the world, and how honey has been satisfying people’s sweet teeth for more than 5,000 years.



Frank Mortimer

Frank is an adjunct instructor in the Cornell University Master Beekeeping Program, has been president of the [Northeast NJ Beekeepers Association](#) since 2011, is vice president of the NJ State Beekeepers Association, and is a certified master beekeeper. He’s the author of the upcoming *Bee People and the Bugs They Love* (available in March 2021) and has written articles for *Bee Culture Magazine*. Visit his [website](#).

How to use Zoom

You can log into the meeting from your computer, iPad, or smart phone by clicking on the link below a few minutes before 7:15 pm Sept. 22. This link is good for the Sept. 22 meeting only.

<https://zoom.us/j/6554143594?pwd=RXlhTi82TWp1azliMHdFcnhqZGhWZz09>

If you have the Zoom application installed on your device, you can also log in using the meeting ID and passcode: **Meeting ID: 655 414 3594; passcode NG36je**.

After logging in either way, you’ll be placed in the “waiting room” where you’ll wait for the host to allow you to enter the meeting. By logging in a few minutes before 7:15 pm, you’re leaving the host enough time to let all participants into the meeting. Be sure to turn on your device’s camera and keep your audio/microphone muted during the meeting. To ask a question, you can send a “chat” to the host who will acknowledge your request. Icons for audio (a microphone), video, and chat options are at the bottom of the Zoom screen.

If you’re unfamiliar with Zoom, click [here](#) to visit the Zoom site and then click on “Support” in the upper right for tutorials, FAQs, and other instructions. No login is needed to use the tutorials. Once the meeting starts, it will be difficult to get assistance from those attending the meeting. If you still have questions after reviewing the “Support” information, you may send an email to [Arnie Friedman](#) **before Sept 22** and he will try to answer your questions or help you practice logging on privately.

Webinars

Sept. 17, 11 am-1 pm: North Carolina Cooperative Extension sponsors Key Principles of Landscaping Design Do’s and Don’ts. Free. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

More webinars

Sept. 17, 1 pm: Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation sponsors Gardening Beyond Your Yard: Bee City USA. Free. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

Sept. 17, 7 pm: Friends of the Frelinghuysen Arboretum sponsors Flower Power for Minimal Effort. Free. Click [here](#). Then scroll down to Sept. 17 in the left column for more information and to register.



Sept. 22, 6:30-7:30 pm: Ocean County NJ Agricultural Extension Service sponsors How to Grow Dazzling Dahlias. Free. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

Sept. 24, 7 pm: Friends of the Frelinghuysen Arboretum sponsors Gardening with Ornamental Grasses. Free. Click [here](#). Then scroll down to Sept. 24 in the left column for more information and to register.

Sept. 29, 7-8 pm: Jersey-Friendly Yards sponsors How and When to Clean Up the Winter Wildlife Garden. Free. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

Sept. 30, 5-6 pm (join at 4:45 pm): Rutgers Home Gardeners School @Home sponsors Composting and Good Soils. Fee \$35. Click [here](#) for more information and to register. Click [here](#) for a list of upcoming online workshops.

“Re-tire” takes on a whole new meaning.

Oct. 1, 7 pm: Friends of the Frelinghuysen Arboretum sponsors Bulbs in Containers. Free. Click [here](#). Then scroll down to Oct. 1 in the left column for more information and to register.

Horticulture news

Oak wilt disease tests available

Oak wilt is an aggressive disease that affects many species of oaks. The New Jersey Forest Service's Forest Health Program is cooperating with the Rutgers Plant Diagnostic Laboratory to offer 200 free oak wilt screening tests to detect the presence of this pathogen in the state. Oak wilt has not yet been confirmed in New Jersey, but positive detections have been found in Brooklyn and on Long Island.

There's no known cure for oak wilt. Early detection and eradication efforts have proven successful when implemented early. Visit the NJ Forest Service's [website](#) for information about oak wilt and photos of the destruction it causes.

If you suspect your oak tree has oak wilt, please send an email to the Rutgers Diagnostic Lab at buckley@njaes.rutgers.edu or call 732-932-9140 for more information on how and where to submit a tree sample. Click [here](#) for instructions to collect samples.

Reminder about the spotted lanternfly

Spotted lanternfly has been confirmed in 16 of the state's 21 counties — all except Bergen, Cape May, Cumberland, Ocean, and Passaic. You can find information about this pest as well as photos of juvenile and adult SLFs on the Rutgers AES [website](#) and the [NJ Department of Agriculture](#) website. Click [here](#) to report any sightings of spotted lanternfly to Rutgers Agricultural Extension Service.

Event suspensions and site closures for 2020

All in-person events, classes, programs, club meetings, and other group activities organized by or under the auspices of Rutgers Cooperative Extension have been suspended through 2020. This includes all MG meetings and events. MGs are not required to submit volunteer hours for 2020.

View these presentations at any time

- Rutgers University presents Digital Photography for Plant ID and Problem Diagnosis. Click [here](#) for the introduction page. Then click on the link titled “Plant Photography Presentation Slides” near the bottom of the screen to download a .pdf file of the slides.
- Tour the [Delaware Botanic Gardens](#) with Lourdes Osorio, Passaic County MG, and Brian Trader, director of horticulture at the botanic gardens, as he explains the garden design, plants used, and the garden’s environmental approach. The [tour](#) appears on Lourdes’ Native Plant Channel on YouTube.

Horticulture Grapevine

Oct. 1, 7:30 pm online: Garden Club of Harrington Park. Speaker: Arnie Friedman, MG Class of 2004. Topic: History of Garden Design – How to Transform a Collection of Plants into a Landscape Painting. To register, contact [Arnie Friedman](#). Visit the club’s [website](#) for more information and to be added to its distribution list.

Share your finds

If you’ve discovered interesting gardening-type websites, webinars (free is preferable!), or related information that you’d like to share, please send to [Miriam Taub](#). Be sure to include the web address.