

President's Message



WEST MICHIGAN NURSERY & LANDSCAPE ASSOCIATION

WMNLA News

To the Snow Men. To the Michigan snow pushers. To the walk behind blowers of white cold winter. To the bent-backed shovelers of doorways and stoops everywhere. To the snow roof rakers with spin drift forever down the backs of their necks. To the midnight wakers and drivers with cold feet and cold hands. To the folks who can sometimes barely see out the window as it slowly coats with ice. To plowmen and icebreakers everywhere.

Where were you?

October's **Snow and Ice Melt Program** has come and gone and with it a GREAT presentation by **Jim Ten Brink** with **Earth Service and Supply**. Perhaps the eighty degree day had something to do with the modest attendance?

I know it was hard for me to think about snow on a day that pretty in October, but for those hardy farseeing/planning souls in attendance, much could be learned. I'm not in snow myself, but my wife plows for Kent county parks and I've ridden with her for hours when she's called in on Sundays (our only day off together). I've always had respect for Snow Men. The long bleak early hours and equipment issues alone had been reason enough. Now I know that there is also a mental game going on behind the scene as companies strategize about the most efficient snowmelt products to help them gain the upper hand.

Part of what I love about WMNLA programs is that they broaden your perspective and get you thinking about topics in a new way. It was a good reminder to me that we all need to continue to educate ourselves. If we don't, we'll likely get left behind.

So, as November approaches, we'll turn our attention to proper pruning techniques with **Bob Schutzki** from **MSU**. Fall and winter make great times to prune, and hopefully we can all extend our season a bit with a little know-how.

So to all of you would be Tree Men. Shrub pruners and cutters. To the pole-sawing, branch snipping haulers of brush. To the climbers and artful sculptors of green. Don't miss out.

— *Ryan*

Ryan Bose, Bartlett Tree Experts in Grand Rapids is the 2011/12 President of WMNLA. Contact him with comments, ideas, & questions at (616) 245-9449 or rbose@bartlett.com



From MCN. . . To CGIP

The Michigan Certified Nurseryman (MCN) has been updated to more effectively encompass the entire Nursery & Landscape Industry. The new name, Certified Green Industry Professional (CGIP). There are seven specialty certifications:

- Michigan Certified Nurseryman
- Michigan Certified Landscape Manager
- Michigan Certified Landscape Contractor
- Michigan Certified Garden Retailer
- Michigan Certified Landscape Designer
- Michigan Certified Irrigation Specialist
- Michigan Certified Arborist

Relevant education that which will assist you in your profession, counts at continuing education counts toward maintaining your CGIP.

There are many sources of education opportunities: MNLA sponsored programs, our affiliated Chapters such as **WMNLA & AGRLP**, other Related Organizations, your local Extension office, programs sponsored by Individual Companies, local Gardens and Arboretums, etc.

To become a CGIP, register now for the exam and purchase the study manual to prepare.

Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association
2149 Commons Parkway
Okemos, MI 48864

1-800-879-6652

WMNLA BOARD MEETINGS WMNLA Members and guests are welcome to attend the WMNLA Board Meetings. Meetings are from 10 a.m.—11:30 a.m. on the day of the Membership Program. There will be an opportunity for the membership to address the Board with any industry & membership issues.

WMNLA Events

**For all WMNLA programs—
Employee Special—Send 3, 4th employee free.**

Wednesday, November 9, 2011
11:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.

“Prune Like a Pro”

*Presented by Dr. Robert Schutzki,
MSU Horticulture Department*

A discussion of techniques for proper tree and shrub pruning with plant material on hand for demonstrations.

\$12 per person, includes lunch

RSVP by November 6

At the Grand Hall—Harbourfront Place, Grand Haven.



Wednesday, December 14, 2011
11:30 p.m.—2:30 p.m.

WMNLA Holiday Program & Lunch—

“Tree Planting Mission— Building Haiti’s Future”

*Presented by Tom Braak, Faith In
Action International.*

Hear the stories of this organization’s work in tree nurseries and soil conservation, bringing sustainability to the rural communities in Haiti.

\$20 per person for the Holiday Program & lunch.

RSVP by December 1

At the Grand Hall—Harbourfront Place, Grand Haven



Wednesday, January 25, 2012
11:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.

“Civility—One Easy Way to Grow Your Business”

*Presented by Dave Steenstra, PhD, Ferris State University
College of Business.*

This presentation will discuss the easiest way to grow your business with little or no additional cost.

\$12 per person, includes lunch

RSVP by January 21

At the Grand Hall—Harbourfront Place, Grand Haven



Wednesday, February 22, 2012
11:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.

“Confronting Old Wives Tales of Plant Health Care”

****EMPLOYEE MEETING ****

*Presented by Jon Stone, Michigan State University
Horticulture Department, Kevin Hoezee, Landscape Design
Services & Vic Forester, West Michigan Tree Services.*

A panel discussion of insects & diseases.

\$12 per person, includes lunch

RSVP by February 11

At the Grand Hall—Harbourfront Place, Grand Haven



Saturday, March 12, 2012
9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

March Garden Day

-This is the annual garden event to the public

presented by WMNLA featuring

gardening seminars and member expo showcase.

Featuring guest speakers **Janet Macunovich, author** and **Ed McKee, Meijer Gardens.**

\$60 Early Bird Booth Registration;

\$75 after February 1, 2012

At Grand Haven Community Center. Open to the Public.



MSU Extension News— Farm and Business Succession Workshop on November 10 at Kent MSU Extension

Family-owned business operations and farm families are faced with challenges when it comes to succession and estate planning issues. Often they are not sure how or where to turn for answers to complex legal and financial matters.

This workshop has been designed to provide a forum where business and farm owners can meet with experts in the field of succession and estate planning specific to farm and small business operations. Discussions will include estate tax law changes, business structures to facilitate transfer, family communications, management functions and transfer, uses of balance sheets, and who may help with your transfer plan.

MSU Extension Educators and an estate attorney will be on hand to present these topics and answer your questions.

Deadline to register is November 7th.

Contact Thomas A. Dudek at 616-994-4580 or email to dudek@msu.edu for further information.



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Ornamentals**
2117 Blue Star Hwy
Fennville, MI 49408
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Fax: (269) 543-4691

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- ◆ We have been pleasing our customers for **23 years**.



**Remember — Northern
Grown is Northern Hardy!**

*We do our best to provide
you with the best...*

Come see us at the GLTE in January!

City of Holland Wins Bloom In America Award— Hope College Honored

Congratulations to the **City of Holland**, Michigan on winning the 25,000-50,000 population category for the **America in Bloom 2011** program!

The local government collaborates with businesses, community leaders, neighborhoods and residents to plan for the present and the future. Holland retains its old-world feeling with roots in its Dutch heritage by promoting their major historical old world reference with amazing tulip plantings and a Tulip Time Festival celebrating their heritage.

The City of Holland, the business community, **Hope College** and the citizens have a strong commitment to the environment. Several businesses are going for LEED certification, Hope College's horticulture staff philosophy is green, electric car charging stations are operating downtown, and an organic farmer has begun farming in the city.

Hope College, with its professional staff, also helped to



enhance the image of the downtown area. We were fortunate to meet with the grounds staff at Hope College and learn about many of their current environmental methods. Hope College staff was well versed in many global strategies for energy conservation and sustainable landscapes. It would be great for the community for Hope College to spearhead an environmental information exchange about alternative energy sources and conservation. Hope College instituted a sustainability that began with Trayless Tuesdays. This became so successful that they are now totally trayless thus saving wasted energy and money.

Also of note is Hope College which is a leader in sustainable horticulture using biofuels, compost tea and best practices for a contemporary landscape.



2012 WMNLA Membership Directory

Welcome New Members to WMNLA

The **2012 WMNLA Membership Directories** will be handed out at the December Holiday Program for all members and their staff.

Advertising space is available exclusively to members. Deadline for materials is November 30.

Rates are:

1/4 page ad is \$30
1/2 page ad is \$50
Color ads, add \$25

Reserve your space and send artwork to Laurel Nease, WMNLA Association Coordinator at (616) 847-8955 or email at info@wmnla.com.

Berry Family of Nurseries

Jill Thomann, Marketing
16127 Winans St.
Grand Haven MI 49417
(616) 842-1367
jthomann@zelenkanursery.com
www.zelenkanursery.com

Commerce Corporation

Kurt Gernaat
4660 East Paris Ave., SE
Grand Rapids MI 49512
(800) 224-5328 ext. 116
kgernaat@commercecorp.com
www.commercecorp.com

Forever Green Sod LLC

Jon Mellema
104 E. Oak St.
Fremont MI 49412
(231) 924-5307 / Cell 231-250-9755
jon.mellema@sbcglobal.net

Frens Nursery

John Frens
5390 W. 64th St.
Fremont MI 49412
(231) 924-4371
FrensNursery@ncats.net

West Michigan Superior Lawn Care

Keith Cregg
2752 S. Osborn Ave.
Fremont MI 49412
(231) 519-3836
kcregg@wmlawn.com
www.wmlawn.com



Click on
www.wmnla.com
today!



**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 Laurel Nease at

(616) 847-8955

Email: info@wmnla.com

www.wmnla.com

**Mark Your
Calendar!**

December 14 -

**WMNLA Holiday Program—
“Tree Planting Mission—
Building Haiti’s Future”**

*Presented by Tom Braak, Faith in Action
International*

2011-12 WMNLA Board of Directors

Ryan Bose, President, Bartlett Tree Experts
Jon Mellema, Vice President, Shoreline Landscape &
Maintenance

Jeff Rylaarsdam, Treasurer, Earth Service & Supply
Bill Akker, Secretary, Member At Large
Paul Keifer, Member At Large, Specialty Gardens
Tony Hamilton, Member At Large, Berry Family Nursery

**“Prune Like a Pro” by Dr. Robert Schutzki,
Michigan State University Horticulture Department**

Wednesday, November 9

11:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.

**At The Grand Hall
Harbourfront Place,
Grand Haven**

**\$12 per person,
includes lunch**

❖ **Employee Special—**

Send 3, 4th employee free ❖



Pruning couples art and science. Its foundations lie within the basics of plant biology. Knowing how plants grow guides our manipulation of plant growth and development. Art comes to play when we translates the science into practice. Dr. Schutzki will highlight the art, science and practice of pruning.

Dr. Schutzki is a faculty member at **Michigan State University** since 1982 with responsibility in teaching and extension. He has served as the coordinator of the IAT Landscape and Nursery Program between 1982-1998 and as Acting Director of the **Institute of Agricultural Technology** between 1998-2002. Dr. Schutzki has been the Curator of the **Clarence E. Lewis Landscape Arboretum** since 1983.

His teaching emphasis includes courses in Landscape Design, and Environmental Design. Dr. Schutzki presents professional workshops on

Landscape Design, Plant Evaluation, Plant Selection, Landscape Management, and Plant Establishment in the Landscape. His research interests include plant exploration, plant evaluation, and landscape development.

Dr. Schutzki serves on several **MNLA** committees, an active member of the **Landscape Plant Development Center**, and currently a board member of the **Michigan Invasive Plant Council**.

RSVP by November 5

**Let us know you are coming so our
hosts can prepare!**

**WMNLA member businesses &
staff are welcomed!**

**Call Laurel Nease at
(616) 847-8955 or Email your
RSVP to info@wmnla.com**