



The Green Scene

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Lady Bugs... Get Ready for Your Close-up!

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Check out
<http://www.lostladybug.org>

They want you to take a picture of every ladybug that crosses your path along with information about where and when the ladybugs were spotted for the Lost Ladybug Project - <http://www.lostladybug.org>

The good folks at the Lost Ladybug Project have offered some photo hints....

Photographing a ladybug for the Lost Ladybug Project can be tricky, as the insects are prone to moving around. The best pictures are shot from straight overhead, allowing researchers to clearly see the top of the ladybug, and on white paper, to provide sufficient contrast for the subject to stand out.

In the case of especially active ladybugs, a few minutes in the fridge can help calm the subject long enough for it to be photographed and then released.

You might be a Master Gardener if...

- You spend more time chopping your kitchen greens for the compost pile than for cooking.
- When considering your budget, plants are more important than groceries.
- You grab other people's banana peels, coffee grinds, apple cores, etc. for your compost pile.

If you spot a ladybug, don't just start reciting "Ladybug, ladybug, fly away home."

Aim, click and shoot. With a camera, that is.

Agricultural Research Service scientists and entomologists at Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., and South Dakota State University, Brookings, are surveying the country's ladybug species in the face of an Asian invasion. But they can't do it alone....they are asking for the public's help.

Researches are looking for rare species, such as the nine-spotted, two-spotted and transverse lady beetles. These beetles were common 20 years ago, but have become harder to find in the past few decades.

There are more than 400 ladybug species native to North America, but some have become extremely rare, displaced by development, pesticides, non-native species and other factors.

(Continued from page 1)

On their website -- <http://www.lostladybug.org> -- the Cornell researchers provide more tips for photographing ladybugs, an easy-to-use ladybug field guide, and an online submission form.

If you don't have a digital camera (or a computer), you can send a print to:

Lost Ladybug Project,
Department of Entomology,
Comstock Hall,
Cornell University,
Ithaca, NY 14853.

Grab a camera, take a walk, and get involved in this fun project.

Happy Hunting,

Barbara Long,
MG President

Be a LocalVore!

Visit any one of our 3 local farmers markets to buy local and support local agriculture.

Wednesday Ruby Memorial Hospital Parking Lot, noon– 6 p.m.

Thursday Community United Methodist Church (Grafton Rd), 4-7 p.m.

Saturday Spruce St Downtown, 8:30 a.m.– noon

August Meeting & Directions

For the August meeting we will be taking a tour of the West Virginia Botanic Garden hosted by George Longenecker. We will meet at 6:30 p.m.– the lower gate will be open, so that you can park and meet in the lower level. Bring a lawn chair if you wish to sit during the business portion of the meeting. If there is rain, we will move to the Imperial East Office building.

Hope to see you there!

Directions to WVBG:

The Botanic Garden is located at 1061 Tyrone Road.

From I-79 go north/south to I-68. Take Exit 7. At the top of the ramp, turn right onto Route 857 (Cheat Road) north toward Pierpont Road and Cheat Lake. Turn right onto Tyrone Road and travel 2.4 miles. The Garden is located on the left.

Alternatively, if you are in or near Sabraton you may also consider taking Route 7 (Do not confuse with Exit 7). Go east on Rt 7 (Towards Kingwood) for about 2 miles when you will come to Tyrone road. Turn left onto Tyrone and travel 1.8 miles where you will see the entrance on your Right. If you come to Snake Hill road you have passed the entrance and should turn around and retrace your steps about .9 miles.

August 2009

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1 WV Botanic Garden Butterfly Walk 2 p.m.

2 **3** **4** **5** MG Mtg WV Botanic Garden 6:30 p.m. **6** **7** **8**

9 **10** **11** **12** **13** **14** **15** Learn to Grow "Roses" 10 a.m.– noon, Ext. Office

16 **17** **18** **19** **20** **21** **22**

23 Marion Co. MGs Tomato Tasting Festival noon-4 p.m. **24** **25** **26** **27** **28** **29** WV Botanic Garden Wildflower Walk 9 a.m.

30 **31**

August Monthly MG Meeting

The August monthly meeting will be a tour of the West Virginia Botanic Garden hosted by George Longenecker. More information and directions are on page 2.

See you there!

Marion Co. MGs Tomato Tasting Festival

Marion County Master Gardeners will host their second annual Tomato Tasting Festival on Sunday, Aug. 23, at the High Gate Carriage House in Fairmont from Noon to 4 pm.

A great way to meet MGs from other organizations and eat some tasty garden fresh tomatoes.



