

Master Gardener Volunteers of Cobb County present:

18th Annual Garden Tour
Saturday, May 9, 2020
10 am to 5 pm

Learn and be Inspired!

The Master Gardener Volunteers of Cobb County want you to learn and be inspired as you visit our five (5) beautiful and unique gardens selected for the Tour. This year's theme, "*Flying Colors Amid the Garden,*" will showcase the value of creating habitats that attract butterflies. All gardens are located in the East Cobb and downtown Marietta area. Our docents will usher you through a boutique urban backyard getaway to a Greek - inspired estate. Each garden will include docents to answer your questions and offer educational information to help you improve your gardening skills. Your support helps provide funding for school and community gardens as well as our horticultural education programs in Cobb County. We hope you enjoy your day and thank you for helping us Grow Gardeners!



Please note: Tickets are non-refundable. Event is held rain or shine. Children 17 and under free! Gardens may be visited in any order. Gardens are not wheelchair accessible. Some have multiple stairs or levels. Please wear appropriate footwear. No pets please! Call (770) 528-4070 with questions.

Tickets \$15 in advance; \$20 day of tour

Urban Oasis

The Lopez Garden

394 Freyer Drive NE, Marietta 30060

The Lopez garden offers a great example of how to make the most of a small lot garden in the shade. Stone pathways, garden beds that provide year-round color and a koi pond all come together to form a relaxing retreat. And it is located not five minutes from downtown Marietta! Slope, accessibility and shade are several of the major challenges that Linda has overcome in developing a well-appointed, low maintenance and functional landscape for all family members to enjoy. There are many lessons to be shared from this garden.

Raising the Bar on Vegetables

Reconnecting Our Roots Community Garden

271 Lemon Street, Marietta 30060

Come and learn the finer points of vegetable gardening AND see how a community garden can reshape a neighborhood! Reconnecting Our Roots Community Garden (RORCG) was adopted as a project of the Cobb Master Gardeners in 2014. It contains 58 raised beds (some handicapped accessible), a large shed, picnic tables, gazebo and "little library." Raised beds are rented to community members who wish to grow their own vegetables, herbs and flowers. An Audubon Certified Wildlife Sanctuary, the garden is surrounded by pollinator plants which attract birds, butterflies and other beneficial wildlife. It is open to passersby who wish to sit and enjoy the view. RORCG stands out as a garden that has developed partnerships with the community. The land is owned by the adjacent Zion Church, who graciously gave it toward the betterment of the community. RORCG has also formed valuable partnerships with the Rotary Club, nearby schools and residents. They are particularly proud of their relationship with local veterans, who help volunteer at the garden. Come on downtown!

Opa, Opa! Celebrate Outdoors

The Demestihias Garden

3530 Knight Road, Marietta 30066

The Greeks use the word opa and expression *opa, opa* to express a range of emotions from oops! to happy nods for dancing brides and grooms. No doubt, visitors will be moved to shout *opa, opa* when they discover this nine-acre wooded haven. Looking for some acreage near owner Evan's office, the Demestihases have worked tirelessly to mold the property into a space where they can enjoy their love of nature, gardening, family, heritage and hobbies. The landscape works with, in and around the hilly terrain and many native trees to create focal points. These include a greenhouse, stable and St. Stylianos Greek Chapel with a rooftop overlook of Sweat Mountain! The property also includes a solar array to provide power. Now retired, Evan is testing his gardening skills by growing olive trees and edibles that are a bit of a challenge for most places in Georgia. Evan aspires to be a Master Gardener soon, but it is clear, he is off to a great start!

Discovery Garden

The Swearingin Garden

1500 Dansford Court North, Marietta 30062

Birds singing, water trickling, flowers blooming, places to gaze, places for neighborhood children to explore and places to rest all come together in this half acre garden. Started in 2005 as a retirement project, Master Gardener Van has created a special place for family and friends to relax, wander and congregate among the flowers. Water features, including two koi ponds, a waterfall and year-round flowering plants are some of the highlights of this colorful landscape. This is underscored with a wildlife habitat certification. Come and smell the roses!

Ordinary to Extraordinary

The Doyle Garden

5631 Conway Drive, Marietta 30068

Perfectly perched with a view above the Chattahoochee, this house and garden took on serious transformations beginning in 2015 when owner Don became a Master Gardener. Armed with new horticultural knowledge, he and his wife, Regenia, set about correcting "all the erroneous plantings and reducing the amount of grass in open areas." The results speak for themselves. Now a certified wildlife habitat, the landscape includes about ¾ of an acre and a steep slope down to the river. The garden's focal points include multiple intimate seating areas, unobstructed views of the river and a lovely collection of garden art.



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