



August 29, 2011

Tipton County Master Gardener's

Volume 2, Issue 9

Garden Gazette

From Our President

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Hello everyone. I'd like to say that I know I have some big shoes to fill as I step up to the presidency of the Tipton County Master Gardeners. Vernon has been wonderful and patient with us this last year. I know I learned a lot from him about taking on this new roll.

I'm not much on political correctness, though I try. I'm not good at following Robert's Rules of Order, so I will have

to be reminded, probably more often than not, so stay on me about this. I sometimes have to express my opinions in the area of wildlife conservation on the subject of spiders and snakes, so don't hold that against me. My interests in elephant ears, sedums, roses, herbs, and of course any unusual plant sometimes get me into trouble with location and space in the yard.

I joined this organization to learn and correct what I had been doing wrong in the garden. What I did learn was there are a lot of like-minded people out there who share a common interest in gardening

and wildlife. I learned there are so many great people here that have varied interests in just about all aspects of growing things. Whether it is vegetables or ornamentals, insects, birds, and animals, I have found I can rely on someone who knows something about any one of these subjects for information and direction. But I will tell you I greatly enjoy applying the knowledge I have acquired in the Master Gardeners Program. I'm looking forward to this year as your president.

Paula Sweatt
President

Extension Highlights

If you are going to plant some fescue seeds this fall now is the time to start getting your soil ready for planting. Soil preparation is very important in getting your grass established. Remove any debris from the lawn and have your soil tested to see what your soil pH and what fertilizer you will need to add to

your soil. Fescues are popular cool season grasses (which means it grows during the cooler part of the year) that come in several varieties. It is shade tolerant and does well in most conditions as long as there is no standing water. Fescue is a fast growing grass that is relatively low maintenance.

The best time to plant fescue seeds is early fall or early spring, when the day time temperatures are between 60 and 75 degrees. After seeding, mulch with straw or other loose organic material for moist and erosion control. Keep the surface moist at all times until seeds have germinated and the grass is

Flowers are sunshine,
food, and medicine to
the soul.

Luther Burbank



It's difficult to think anything but pleasant thoughts while eating a home grown tomato.
Lewis Grizzard

Extension Highlights (continued)

is growing.

Keeping a good-looking perennial flower bed should not be a difficult task as long as the plants are carefully chosen and currently spaced. Most perennials (a plant that grows year after year without replanting) require deadheading for continued bloom. Pinching helps control plant height, which result in a bushier plant with more blooms. Fertilize perennials according to soilis poor. Do not fertilizer perennials in the fall,

especially with a nitrogen fertilizer. Perennials eventually become overcrowded and require division. As perennials grow, they expand in size by producing new growth. Poor flowering can be a sign of overcrowding. Dig out the entire clump with a shovel or garden fork. Cut or break off the outer portions for replanting and discard the center and any week or diseased portions. The time to divide perennials varies somewhat, but the best time is usually

early fall or early spring.

September Garden Tasks

The days are getting noticeably shorter and the temperatures moderate, September is a great month to prepare for the fall planting season.

Early in the month:

Order your spring bulbs for fall planting

Many annual flowers and perennials are still looking good due to the cooler weather. Cut them back early this month, and many will put on another flush of blooms with the cooler night temps.

Continue to harvest warm season veggies.

Plant seeds of cabbage, kale, Cole crops, lettuce, and turnip greens in the beginning of this month.

Middle of the month:

Fescue and other shade tolerant cool season grasses can be

started, and established cool season grasses can be renewed with over-seeding.

Harvest and dry Caladium bulbs for replanting next year.

Direct sow seeds of Poppies and Larkspur for spring cut flowers

Late in the month:

Plant transplants of cauliflower, broccoli, cabbage and kale.

Check your June planted sweet potatoes. They should be ready to harvest late this month or early next month.

Fertilize your cool weather grasses with a complete fertilizer.

Take cuttings to root indoors of tender plants like coleus, salvias, and pelargonium for next year's plantings. They root easily.

Any time this month:

Continue to deadhead spent flower blossoms, and generally groom.

Fertilize your roses with a good complete balanced fertilizer, and thin them; our goal is a fall flush of flowers which should occur with the cooler nights. October is often a good month for roses.

Hybrid tea growers should continue their ritual fungicide spray regime to control black spot.

Lay out and prepare the soil on any new beds or bed expansions to prepare for planting next month. Look at existing beds and see if they could be expanded.



Tips to Save What is Left of the Garden Harvest

Think like your grandparents. Be resourceful. Don't give up.

Released September 14, 2009

ORONO, Maine -- The growing season of 2009 has not been a typical one. Weeks of cool temperatures, too much rain, disease and other problems have put a damper on many Mainers' hopes for a "bumper crop" of produce. Richard Brzozowski of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension offers the following list of actions people can take to eke out what's left of the gardening season: Think like your grandparents. Be resourceful. Don't give up.

Some of the plants in your garden can still produce delicious fresh foods. Continue to carefully tend your garden by weeding, thinning, watering and managing pests. Harvest what you can. Finish the season well. Be aware of possible frosts and protect the tender plants that remain.

Consider planting a fall garden of greens. You may need to construct a cold frame or temporary hoop house to "buy" some extra weeks of growing to allow your newly seeded crops a chance to produce. There are several crops that can produce edibles within 30-45 days. Consider radishes, beets,

spinach, mesclun, lettuce, etc. For information on extending the growing season, visit [http://](http://www.umext.maine.edu/)

www.umext.maine.edu/ and download UMaine Extension's fact sheet "Extending the Gardening Season" or watch the video "Extending the Growing Season."

Build the soil for next year's garden. Use the coming weeks to till new areas; amend areas with compost or farm manures; and have a soil test done to determine soil pH and the need for lime. Consider expanding your garden for next year. This is a great time to build some new raised beds; build or gather containers for next year's use; clear brush; level land; create paths; remove rocks; stockpile manure and compost. For information on raised bed and container gardening, download "Garden Equipment and Items to Make for the Maine Garden," part of UMaine Extension's container and raised bed garden fact sheet series or watch the video "Raised Bed Gardens" at <http://www.umext.maine.edu/>.

If your garden was a complete failure, consider purchasing easy-to-store vegetables and fruits from local Maine farmers such as potatoes, rutabagas, turnips, beets, carrots, winter squash, apples, etc. To find farmers near you, visit the Get Real Get Maine Web site. You can search the site by county or product.

Consider buying local produce to preserve by canning or freezing. If you need information about food preservation, contact your local UMaine Extension office or take one of our hands-on food preservation workshops or visit our Preserving the Summer Harvest Web site. A newly published and handy, 375-page book on food preservation from the University of Georgia titled "So Easy to Preserve" is available from UMaine Extension publication catalog, or check out the free "Let's Preserve" fact sheet series, all at <http://www.umext.maine.edu/>.

Learn from the situation. Make a list of things you could have done to minimize the impact of a hot and dry summer. Start making written plans for the next growing season. <http://extensionnews.blogspot.com/2009/09/umaine-cooperative-extension-expert.html>
Editor: Jennifer O'Leary, (207) 353-5550, joleary@umext.maine.edu



Gardening is an art which is learned by practice, experience, and sensible advice.

Jules Oravetz Sr.



Use Garden Art to Express Self



There is something about un and soil that heals broken bodies and jangled nerves.

Nature Magazine



A garden itself is a form of personal expression, so what better way to say something about yourself than with garden art?

Released September 23, 2010

MISSISSIPPI STATE — When we think of a garden, we often think of flowering annuals and perennials, foundation shrubs like hollies and Indian hawthorns, and small ornamental trees. But add a sculpture or homemade piece of art, and you start to bridge the gap between the gardener and the garden.

Have a little fun with garden ornaments. Think about some you've seen while just driving around. Most people have seen a bed frame planted with flowering annuals. If you have seen one, I'm sure this "flower bed" brought a smile to your face.

Garden gnomes go way back as garden art, having been first used in German gardens of the mid-1800s. Made out of earthy terra cotta, they were painted and clothed like miners of the day, including the cute, little, pointed hats. From Germany, their use spread to France and England. In parts of

Europe, a garden gnome is a status symbol. Nowadays, garden gnomes are mass produced from plastic and found all around the globe.

Garden ornaments are an interesting contrast to their continually changing surroundings. While you're unlikely to swap out sculptures with the season, the look of the garden around the sculpture will change. When I lived in Illinois, I had a ceramic mushroom patch. In the spring, beautiful Apricot Beauty tulips would emerge and bloom amongst the mushrooms, followed by flowering annuals, primarily marigolds. The flower colors changed with the season, but the mushrooms brought continuity to the landscape bed.

My parents in Tennessee have a sculpture of a golfer made out of round stock. In the summertime, it looks like someone playing through the hosta bed. Last winter, they sent me a picture taken right after a snowfall with the golfer silhouetted against the blanket of white.

Try tucking garden art into the landscape. I have an adorable, green, ceramic frog that looks like it is hiding in a mass of Silver Fog euphorbia. A friend in Hattiesburg has a small pond with massed ele-

phant ear around the edges. Peeking out from underneath the canopy of foliage is a fisherman statue. I imagine fishing on a tropical island when I see this.

So what kind of ornament should you put in your garden? The most important consideration is that you like it. If you like pink flamingos, there's nothing wrong with having a flock in the garden.

A second consideration should be durability. A wooden piece will deteriorate over time, so be sure it is sealed or painted. Concrete is a good choice, but the weight of these pieces can make rearranging difficult.

Once you've placed a piece of art in the garden, the garden suddenly becomes an even bigger part of who you are. And expressing ourselves is, of course, why we garden.

[photos](http://msucare.com/news/print/sgnews/sq10/sq100923.html)
<http://msucare.com/news/print/sgnews/sq10/sq100923.html>

Contact: Gary Bachman,
(228) 546-1009

Funnies

The REAL meaning of plant care terminology:

"A favorite of birds" means to avoid planting near cars, sidewalks, or clotheslines.

"Grows more beautiful each year" means "Looks like roadkill for the foreseeable future."

"Zone 7 with protection" is a variation on the phrase "Russian roulette."

"May require support" means your daughter's engineering degree will finally pay off.

"Moisture-loving" plants are ideal for landscaping all your bogs and swamps.

"Carefree" refers more to the plant's attitude than to your workload.

"Vigorous" is code for "has a Napoleonic compulsion to take over the world."

"Grandma's Favorite" -- until she discovered free-flowering, disease-resistant hybrids

You know you're a gardener when:

...every day's a good weather day to work in the garden.

...your morning coffee doesn't taste as good if you don't get to walk around the garden while you're having it.

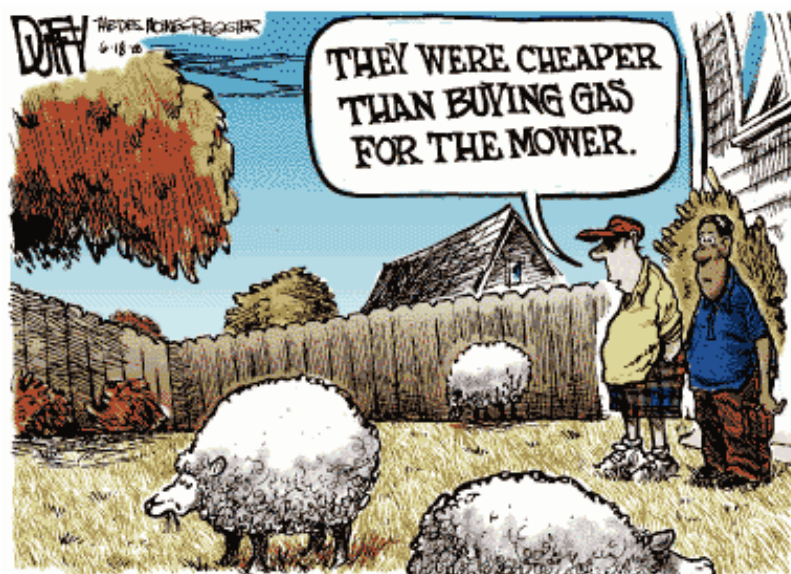
...you count the new blooms every morning and evening.

...you gingerly deadhead those that have passed and feel a sort of tender spiritual reverence as you do so.

...letting the blooms live and die in the garden is more meaningful than cutting an arrangement for your dining room table.

you have more pictures of plants than people in your photo album.

you pull weeds no matter where you are – Friends, Church, Work, School, etc.



Plant of the month

Goldenrod



A great bloomer from September through October, goldenrod brightens the garden with radiant gold flowers. This specimen was photographed in the University of Tennessee Gardens in Knoxville by Susan Hamilton, gardens director.

by Dr. Susan Hamilton

If you think that September can be a dull time in the garden, with not many plants flowering, well *Solidago* can make you think differently. Goldenrod, as this native perennial is commonly called, is one of the best, late-flowering perennials for enlivening any garden. A great bloomer from September through October, goldenrod brightens the garden with radiant gold flowers.

Goldenrod is a member of the aster family, which includes about 100 species of North American wildflowers and more than a dozen species native to South America, Europe and Asia. The native species generally grow 36 inches to 48 inches tall and have a wispy habit. Flowers are borne in dense, plume-like panicles on the ends of stiff stems, which make them attractive as cut flowers.

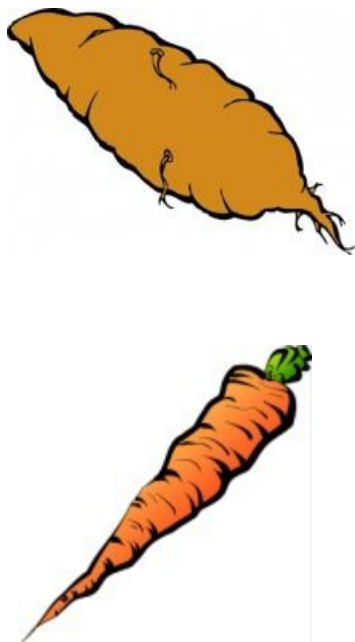
Solidago flowers also attract bees and butterflies. The plants can tolerate dry, poor soils, but they perform best in a moist, well-drained soil. Dividing plants every three to five years will encourage profuse blooming and prevent lodging (plants splitting and falling over when heavy with bloom).

Though goldenrod is a native plant, outstanding hybrids have been bred with superior characteristics. The cultivar "Fireworks" grows three to four feet tall and has strong sturdy stems that prevent lodging. It produces a profusion of flowers. "Baby Gold" and "Crown of Rays" are both compact varieties that grow to 24 inches. Their blooming season is particularly long, lasting from mid-summer through the fall.

Goldenrod is often unfairly accused of causing hay fever; however, the main culprit for the onslaught of sneezing and watery eyes that afflicts millions of us each autumn is an entirely different plant - ragweed.

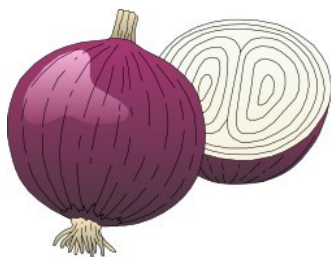
Garden Recipes

Oven-roasted Fall Vegetables



This medley of roasted root vegetables features yellow onions, potatoes, turnips, carrots, parsnips, butternut squash, garlic, and sweet potatoes.

Yield: Makes 10 to 12 servings



Nutritional Information

Amount per serving

Calories: 310
Calories from fat: 46%
Protein: 4.3g
Fat: 16g
Saturated fat: 2.3g
Carbohydrate: 42.5g
Fiber: 7.2g
Sodium: 459mg
Cholesterol: 0.0mg

Ingredients

- 3 medium yellow onions, peeled and cut into quarters (leave root end intact)
- 3 medium russet potatoes, scrubbed and cut lengthwise into 1/2-in.-thick slices
- 3 medium turnips (1 1/2 lbs.), peeled and cut into eighths
- 4 large carrots, peeled and cut into 3-in. lengths (cut thickest pieces in half lengthwise)
- 3 large parsnips, peeled and cut into 3-in. lengths (cut thickest pieces into halves or quarters lengthwise)
- 2 medium butternut squashes, peeled, halved, seeded, and cut into 3- by 1-in. pieces



Garden Recipe continued

10 to 20 garlic cloves, loose papery outer skins removed, inner skins left on
2 medium orange sweet potatoes, peeled and cut into 3- by 1-in. pieces
About 3/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil
1 tablespoon coarse salt, plus more to taste
1/2 tablespoon freshly ground black pepper, plus more to taste
7 sprigs rosemary (3 in. each)



Preparation

1. Preheat oven to 400°. Put all vegetables (including garlic) except sweet potatoes into a very large bowl (or two large ones); put sweet potatoes in a separate bowl. Drizzle bowls generously with olive oil and sprinkle with salt and pepper. Toss gently with your hands to coat; then spread half of mixed vegetables on two large baking sheets. Break up 3 rosemary sprigs and sprinkle over vegetables.

2. Roast vegetables 15 minutes. Stir gently with a metal spatula if they are sticking. Add half of the sweet potatoes to pans. Continue roasting, stirring vegetables every 15 minutes if necessary and changing positions of pans to ensure even browning, until vegetables are browned and tender, 40 minutes to 1 1/4 hours. Remove from oven and set aside. Repeat with remaining half of mixed vegetables, sweet potatoes, and 2 1/2 rosemary sprigs.

3. Pour vegetables onto a serving platter and season to taste with salt and pepper. Garnish with remaining sprig of rosemary and serve warm or at room temperature.

Note: Nutritional analysis is per serving.

Note: Prep and Cook Time: 45 minutes, plus up to 2 1/2 hours cooking time. Notes: Because the vegetables need space around them on the baking sheet in order to brown, roast them in two batches on two baking sheets.

Peggy Knickerbocker, Simple Soirées, *Sunset*
NOVEMBER 2006

**Pray for a
good harvest,
but continue
to hoe.
*Old Saying***

Mark Your Calendar

Memphis Botanic Garden

Arborist Certification Prep Course

Sep 6, 2011 - Dec 13, 2011 (6:00 PM - 8:00 PM)

This course is for students who wish to enhance their knowledge of tree identification, function, evaluation, and maintenance. This course also provides preparatory information and/or review for students who wish to take the "Certified Arborist Examination" designated by the International Society of Arboriculture's certification program. Some of the topics to be covered are tree biology, soil properties, water management, nutrition and fertilization, tree pruning, selection, disease and problem diagnosis. Required Text: "Certified Arborist Study Guide" 2010 edition, available through the I.S.A. bookstore. Website: www.isa-arbor.com.

The Certified Arborist exam must be approved thru the I.S.A. and will be administered after the course is complete. Applications and proper payment for the exam must be received only in the I.S.A. office no later than twelve working days before a scheduled exam. NO LATE PAYMENTS ACCEPTED. Exam fee separate from class fee. Anyone applying for the exam must also show at least three years involvement in the field of arboriculture.

Instructor: Wes Hopper

Fee: \$375

Call 636-4128 to register.

Memphis Botanical Garden

Memphis Horticulture Society:

Sept. 6: at 7 p.m. The speaker Diane Meucci presents "A Career of Blessings ...The People, Gardens and Plants of the Mid-South That Shaped my Career and Provided my Living." Members free; guests \$5.

Memphis Botanical Garden

Conditioning/Drying Plants for Flower Arrangements:

Sept. 9: at 10:30 a.m. Tennessee Federation of Garden Clubs, District I Education Series. Registration/refreshments 10 a.m. Members free; visitors \$5. Call (901) 353-5427.

Rutherford County Fall Extravaganza,

Sept 24 You won't want to miss this years Fall Garden Extravaganza so mark your calendars now!

We have some great speakers lined up:

Tammy Algood - Host of Tennessee Volunteer Gardener and author of "The Complete Southern Cookbook" will be here to talk about using and preserving your homegrown vegetables.

Mike Berkley- Co-owner of Gro-Wild Nurseries and native plant specialist, will speak on "Landscape Designing with Native Plants"

Mitchell Mote - Extension Agent and Agricultural Specialist will help you learn about "Practical Vegetable Gardening"

Kevin Guenther, Award Winning Landscape Architect and Found of the Sustainable Living Guild, will present "Gardens: The Pathway to Resourceful Living"

Mark Your Calendar

Dixon Gallery and Garden

Symphony in the Gardens

Sunday, September 25, 2011 - 5 pm

Enjoy the abundance of the Dixon Gardens while taking in the sounds of the Memphis Symphony Orchestra.

Dixon Gallery and Garden

Munch and Learn: Butterfly Gardens

Wednesday, September 28, 2011 - 12 pm

Kristin Lamberson, the Interpretive Garden Specialist who maintains the native plant garden at the Strawberry Plains Audubon Center, will tell us how to attract butterflies to our gardens.

Non-Member Fee: Regular Admission

UT Jackson Field Days

For more information about field days and special events, including start times and locations, contact your county Extension office or visit UT AgResearch online at [http://agriculture.tennessee.edu/news/Field Days](http://agriculture.tennessee.edu/news/Field%20Days).

September 7 — Cotton Tour

September 15 — Turf grass

September 27 — Forest Resources

September 29 — Pumpkin

October 13 — Northeast Tennessee Beef Expo Special Events

October 8 — Heritage Festival

October 15 — Fall Folklore Jamboree

Celebrate Munford

Saturday, September 17, 2011

Downtown Munford, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Covington Heritage Festival

Saturday, September 25, 2010 · 9:00am - 5:00pm

Location On the Square in Covington, TN

Master Gardener Trip to Mobile, Alabama

September 29 to October 2

Memphis Botanic Garden

Conditioning/Drying Plants for Flower Arrangements:

Sept. 9 at 10:30 a.m. Tennessee Federation of Garden Clubs, District I Education Series. Registration/refreshments 10 a.m. Members free; visitors \$5. Call (901) 353-5427.

Mark Your Calendar

Strawberry Plains Audubon Center

Hummingbird Migration Celebration:

Sept. 9-11 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Strawberry Plains Audubon Center, 255 Plains Road, Holly Springs, Miss. Visitors get to hold hummingbirds and release them back into the wild; participate in demonstrations; tour historic Davis home and view millions of hummingbirds and butterflies from the sunroom; guided walking and wagon tours; nature vendors. Under 4, free; ages 5-12, \$5 each; ages 13-64, \$15; ages 65+, \$10; 12 passenger-more vehicles, \$10/adult. Call (888) 687-4765. visithollysprings.com

Shelby County Extension Office

Does Your Yard Measure Up? Home Landscape Workshop:

Sept. 14 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Shelby County Extension Office (Agricenter), 7777 Walnut Grove. \$35 per person, \$50 per couple. Advance registration required. Space limit 25. Receive \$20 in soil vouchers, workbook, rain gauge, more. (901) 752-1207.

Memphis Botanic Garden

Mid-South Hosta Society:

Sept. 15 7 p.m. meeting at Memphis Botanic Garden. Carol Reese, ornamental horticulture specialist for UT Extension, will speak on "Four Seasons of Interest in the Shade Garden." Also silent auction and annual business meeting. \$5 for nonmembers. Call (901) 230-0230 or (901) 276-2819.

Dixon Gallery and Gardens

Terrarium Workshop:

Sept. 24 10:30 a.m. at Dixon Gallery and Gardens. Join master gardener Donna Olswing and staff for a workshop at which you will create your own terrarium. Learn about appropriate types of containers and plants and discuss ideal growing conditions. A container and all supplies will be provided. Reservations required. \$45 (\$35 members). Call (901) 761-5250. dixon.org

Dixon Gallery and Gardens

Munch and Learn -- Butterfly Gardens:

Sept. 28 Noon at the Dixon Gallery and Gardens. Kristin Lamberson, interpretive garden specialist who maintains the native plant garden at the Strawberry Plains Audubon Center, tells how to attract butterflies to our gardens. Free with Dixon admission. Call (901) 761-5250. dixon.org

UT Gardens-Jackson to Host Fall Plant Sale

October 5-6 3:30-6:30 PM

JACKSON, Tenn. — The annual UT Gardens-Jackson Fall Plant Sale is scheduled for October 6 at the University of Tennessee's West Tennessee AgResearch and Education Center. In addition to a large offering of trees, shrubs, perennials, bulbs and pansies, the Fall Plant Sale will also feature guided garden tours and workshops. Garden tours begin at 2:00 p.m.; the sale will run from 3:30-6:30 p.m.

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We're on the Web:

TiptonCountyMasterGardeners.com

FaceBook

<https://utextension.tennessee.edu/tipton/Pages/default.aspx>



The Tipton County Master Gardener Program trains and maintains horticulture volunteers for the University of Tennessee (UT) Extension Office. The goals of this program shall be to increase the availability of horticultural information for their members and the community at large and to improve the quality of life for the residents of Tipton County through horticulture volunteer activities.

September Birthdays



Vernon Paimore	Sept. 3
Linda Weeks	Sept. 4
Beverly Moranville	Sept. 9
Jackie Walker	Sept. 10
Beauton Matthews	Sept. 14
L. Kaye Houston	Sept. 19
Claudette Petrovsky	Sept. 26
Pat Keller	Sept. 27
Gwendolyn Ehret	Sept. 28

