

To: Purdue Extension Master Gardener (EMG) County Coordinators and EMG Volunteers

From: John Orick, Purdue EMG State Coordinator  
Pam Fisher, Purdue EMG Program Assistant  
Karen Mitchell, Purdue Consumer Horticulture Extension Specialist

Cc: Randy Banks, Hamilton County Advanced EMG  
Jacquie Banks, Hamilton County Advanced EMG  
Steve Cline, Marion County Advanced Master Gardener  
Carey Grable, Purdue Hort Educator, Marion County  
Emma Mendez, Purdue Extension Educator, Hamilton County  
Paul Ransberger, Marion County Advanced EMG

Date: July 21, 2021

Re: Purdue “Plant Info to Go” Booth at the 2021 Indiana State Fair

Thank you to all the Purdue Extension Master Gardeners who have volunteered to work in the Purdue “Plant Info to Go” booth at the 2021 Indiana State Fair! Included with this letter are Indiana State Fair passes for Extension Master Gardener volunteers, two parking passes for Lot #9, schedule of county shift assignments, a map of the Indiana State Fairgrounds with the location of Ag/Hort Building, a map showing the location of Lot #9, and a diagram of the Purdue Extension Ag/Hort Building showing the location of the booth. Please distribute this information to Extension Master Gardeners who have volunteered to work the booth for your county’s designated shift.

The enclosed passes will need to be presented by the volunteer for free entry to the fairgrounds. When possible, at least one experienced Extension Master Gardener should be on duty during each shift. Volunteers are asked to wear their Purdue Extension Master Gardener name badges while working in the booth. Our allotted space is for a non-vendor information booth; thus, no items can be offered for sale in our booth.

All Purdue Extension Master Gardener volunteers must adhere to the Indiana State Fair Covid-19 safety policies while on the Indiana State Fairgrounds. You can read the policies at:

<https://www.indianastatefair.com/p/state-fair/covid-19-safety>

In this packet, you will find 2 parking passes for Lot #9 located on the Indiana State Fairgrounds. These passes can be used to park for free in this lot (refer to map for location). All other fairgrounds parking including the infield costs \$10.00 per vehicle and traffic can be slow to get parked. So, volunteers should allow adequate travel time to arrive for their shift. Additional information about other parking options is available at <http://www.indianastatefair.com/state-fair/general-information/parking/>.

The Purdue “Plant Info to Go” Booth, where Extension Master Gardeners will be volunteering, is located in the Purdue Extension Ag/Hort Building. The location of the Purdue Extension Ag/Hort Building can be referenced on the enclosed map of the Indiana State Fairgrounds and diagram of the Purdue Extension Ag/Hort Building

exhibits. Gate #10 is the closest gate for entry to Lot #9, free parking (with pass), located off 42nd St. (see map).

Marion County Advanced Extension Master Gardeners, Steve Cline and Paul Ransberger, and Hamilton County Advanced Extension Master Gardeners, Jacquie and Randy Banks will be opening the booth for us each morning. Computer and booth supplies will be ready to go when your group arrives. Instructions for closing the booth at the end of the day will be posted in the booth and on the webpage below.

To help prepare, Master Gardener volunteers are encouraged to visit the volunteering at the Purdue Plant Info To Go webpage at:

<https://www.purdue.edu/hla/sites/master-gardener/volunteering-at-the-purdue-plant-info-to-go-booth/>

On this webpage you will find:

- A schedule of counties staffing the booth
- Instructions for emailing publications to booth visitors
- An orientation for all Purdue EMG volunteers staffing the booth
- Information about parking at the Indiana State Fair
- Covid-19 safety guidelines for visitors to the Indiana State Fair and volunteers staffing the booth

The booth will be furnished with a Purdue Extension Master Gardener Manual, Ortho Problem Solver, Plant and Pest Diagnostic Lab information, Purdue Master Gardener program fliers, and other reference books. A computer and live Internet connection will be available in the booth for access to information on the web so that Purdue publications can be referenced as needed.

Purdue Extension Master Gardener volunteers will be asked to track contacts (number of people you help) as you work at the booth; these statistics are essential for showing impact of the Purdue Extension Master Gardener Program. There will be forms available at the booth for this purpose.

We expect that individual volunteers who cannot work their shift will either find a replacement or work that out with their County EMG Coordinator. If your entire group will NOT be able to work their shift, PLEASE CALL or EMAIL us as soon as possible. We will try to find another group to cover for you, if we have enough advance notice. Please realize that on short notice it may mean that the booth will remain closed, if your group does not show up.

For URGENT issues either prior or during your assigned shift, contact John Orick at 765-496-7956 (calls will be forwarded to a cell phone after normal work hours). You may also email questions to Pam Fisher, [fisherpj@purdue.edu](mailto:fisherpj@purdue.edu) or John Orick, [orick@purdue.edu](mailto:orick@purdue.edu).

Enclosures: Passes for EMG volunteers  
Two Parking passes for Lot #9  
Schedule of county shift assignments  
Map of Indiana State Fairgrounds  
Map showing location of Lot #9  
Diagram of Purdue Extension Ag/Hort Building