

McCoy Farm & Gardens NEWSLETTER

Main entrance: 1604 Taft Highway • Front gate: 1715 Anderson Pike • Mailing address: P.O. Box 443, Signal Mountain, TN 37377 • Website: www.mccoypark.org

Volume Five: Issue Two

February 2020

Needed – Memorial Day Picnic Director

Will you volunteer to direct the Memorial Day picnic at McCoy Farm & Gardens? Please consider filling this vital role.

Through the past five years, directors of the Memorial Day picnic have developed procedures and created forms to aid in organization. They have compiled a book full of information needed to assure a smooth running event.

For the upcoming picnic on May 25th, many people have agreed to serve as chairmen for individual aspects of the picnic. For example, we have volunteers to organize the cake walk and Pavilion activities, to cook and serve food, to coordinate parking, to create programs and posters, and to complete other tasks.

What we do NOT have is a **head communicator and organizer**. Without such a leader, there may be no picnic, because the picnic will not organize itself!

To learn more about this opportunity and to volunteer, please contact Mickey Robbins frank.m.robbins.iii@gmail.com Susan Snow SusanSnow@laurel-point.net Karen Stone karen-stone@waldenhouse.com or any board member.

McCallie Students Serve

On Martin Luther King Day, twenty-four young men from the McCallie School came to help at McCoy Farm & Gardens. The group of students included members of the Lions' Leo Club at McCallie. This is the third year boys have come to work on the service project supported by the school in honor of Dr. King.



Loading, hauling and unloading debris is a difficult but necessary job. The tasks were carried out with enthusiasm.

Despite the subfreezing weather and a light snow flurry, they cleared brush and dead wood and moved the debris to a large fire at our burn pile. The work focused on two important locations: the area around the gravel parking lot in preparation for our planned parking expansion, and the area near Ander-

son Pike where one of the new white board fences will soon be installed.

Special thanks to Andy Jones for his extensive preparation of the sites. In addition, those helping with the work included Charles Adams, Larry Mick, and Lions Club members Bill Leonard, Earl Hereford, Lee Prins, and Paul Jensen.



A location on the property for burning brush that is not suitable for chipping has been considered carefully. The burn pile is cleared for safety and is kept away from the trees. Notice in both pictures that trees seen in the background are still engulfed in various kinds of invasive vines that need to be removed. Photos furnished by Paul Jensen.

The Mission of McCoy Farm & Gardens is to restore, enhance and preserve the historic McCoy homeplace so that it may serve the community as an arboretum, natural area, and venue for public and private events.

New Improvements Coming

With the talk of planned new white fencing, we thought you would like to take a look at some of the traditional fencing Martha McCoy had along the interior back drive. The concept is to replicate the look as it was years ago.



Fence along the back drive as it looked in the 1970's or 80's.



Deteriorated state of the back drive fence on July 1, 2019.

Winter Grounds Projects

Perhaps you feel that winter is no time to work outside and are waiting for warmer weather. However if you would like to be outdoors while the air is crisp and there are no gnats buzzing around your head, then now is the time for you to join a like-minded group and make some friends while you are helping at McCoy Farm & Gardens.

Grounds Team Leader Elizabeth Hamilton will give guidance to helpers, experienced or inexperienced, on how to remove and control invasive English ivy. Sessions are scheduled for Saturday Feb. 8, 1-4 pm; Thursday Feb 13, 1-3 pm, and Sunday Feb 23, 1-4 pm.

For the February 8 ivy-pulling party, Boy Scout Troop 116 will participate as a Scout Service project. Darien Brevard, Assistant Scoutmaster, will lead the boys. The public is also welcome that day and all others. Contact Elizabeth Hamilton ehamiltonn@outlook.com, or meet ivy-pullers in the gravel parking lot, or look for them in the woods by the Pavilion.

Weed Wrangle® March 7

Weed Wrangle® is a one-day, area-wide, volunteer effort to help rescue our public parks and green spaces from nonnative invasive species through hands-on removal of especially harmful trees, vines, and flowering plants. Supervised by an expert in invasive weed management, Weed Wrangle® volunteers learn, practice and begin a habit of maintaining an area free of nonnative invasive plants, and learn how to replant with natives.

Plan on being at McCoy Farm & Gardens, Saturday, March 7 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. to help attack kudzu, privet, invasive vines, etc. No experience is necessary. To learn more, go to <https://www.weedwrangle.org/>

Upcoming Events

- English ivy removal Feb. 8, 1-4 pm; Feb. 13, 1-3 pm; Feb. 23, 1-4 pm
- Weed Wrangle® March 7, 9 am-12 pm

To schedule an event www.mccoypwalden.org

Hours, Access & Information

The 1.1 mile long walking and running trail is open during daylight hours, seven days per week. Access the trail at the 1604 Taft Highway entrance and park in the first gravel lot located outside the gate.

The McCoy grounds are open to the public Saturdays and Sundays, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm. Please enter through the Taft Highway entrance and park in the main gravel lot. A handicapped accessible portable toilet is located in the gravel lot. Dog waste pickup bags are at trail head.

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[Editor McCoy Farm & Gardens](mailto:Editor@McCoyFarm&Gardens.org)

Support McCoy Farm & Gardens

McCoy Farm & Gardens is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. All contributions are charitable and tax deductible to the maximum extent allowed by law.

The 38 acre parcel contains the Bachman-McCoy home, pavilion, carriage house, barn, blacksmith workshop, apple house, various other structures, and gardens. Volunteers are very important to the organization in all areas. Your donations are welcome and will be used to improve the structures and gardens.

Please send your check to:

McCoy Farm & Gardens

P.O. Box 443, Signal Mt., TN 37377

www.mccoypwalden.org

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