

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.mccoywalden.org

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Congestion at Taft Entrance

At the main entrance on Taft Highway you will soon see stone masons, road builders, and others working to improve the appearance and functionality of this area.

We regret that the activity may cause you some inconvenience in accessing the trail over the next several weeks. There will be periods when the Taft entrance will be temporarily closed for your safety. At those times you may need to use the Anderson Pike entrance.

The Anderson Pike drive was not designed for modern cars, and we ask you to use it gently and with caution. Follow the gravel drive to the right at the house and continue to the horse ring parking lot. Please respect the hard work that has gone into restoring the lawns and do not drive or park on the grass.

An expanded new trailhead parking area has been designed as part of the Taft entrance upgrade and will be available soon after the work is completed. The drive will be widened and improved with a generous apron at the highway to make the area attractive and safe.

The stone pillars are being restored and new wing walls similar to those on Anderson



Taft Highway entrance as it looks today before upgrades to present a grander first impression of McCoy Farm & Gardens

Pike will be added. More white fencing will enhance the drive and lead to an interior gate and a second set of stone pillars visible from the highway. These features will greatly improve appearance, functionality and design of a revitalized and inviting main entrance.

Plans are to have the entrance open on weekends during construction. Weather and the availability of contractors will dictate times when it must be closed.

New Garden Video Series

Enjoy our new monthly series of videos on YouTube Channel exploring the Horseshoe Gardens. Get a closer look at spotlighted plants blooming in the gardens.

Featured this month: butterfly plants.
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCeje4FL4o6-q_E-7IbHLRg/

Tree Work to Close Anderson Pike on July 6

Road will be CLOSED to traffic all day on Monday, July 6 Detour via Miles Road

For one day, Anderson Pike will be closed to traffic, and motorists should avoid the area or allow time to detour along Miles Road.

The closure is necessary because trees will be felled across the road near the north-west corner of McCoy Farm & Gardens. This portion of the property is known as the Emma Bell Miles homesite. Trees have been encroaching on the cut-stone wall that delineates the area. Roots have pushed the wall out and damaged it. Destructive trees will be removed, and repair of the wall will begin on following days.

Reconstruction of the wall **will not necessitate closure** of Anderson Pike. However motorists are cautioned to be especially

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.

vigilant as they pass the area where the stone masons are working in an exposed spot on a dangerous curve.

In the past, cars have hit the wall causing some of the damage that is now to be repaired. The masons will obviously be vulnerable themselves. Please obey posted signs and drive carefully.



The damaged cut-stone wall at the Emma Bell Miles homesite will be repaired with a grant from the Tucker Foundation.

Extraordinary Garden Art

When volunteer Larry Mick began to reestablish the linear garden along what is called the "Serpentine Wall," he made an exciting discovery. Decorative bricks lined the outer edge. As he dug them out to realign them, he found the bricks had been set on a bed of concrete to prevent their sinking and moving. Evidently Martha McCoy had been a meticulous gardener who wanted a stable border.

This pleased Larry, since he is a meticulous gardener who had imagined a border like that he found. Carefully, he lifted the bricks one by one. Next he excavated the soil so that the bricks would be level with the ground when they were replaced. He then cleaned each one and

set it precisely into the original pattern along the 40-foot-long border. When you admire his cleome, zinnias, bee-balm, gladiolas, and legacy larkspur, admire the border as well.



The carefully recreated brick border that Larry Mick restored along the edge of the Serpentine Wall Garden.

Due to COVID-19, Signal Mt. Lions are having to modify their fund raisers this year

4th of July BBQ

Instead of the traditional "dine-in" BBQ there will be "curb side pick-up"

Go to smtnlions.org to place your order



1 lb. Bulk Pork BBQ - \$12

1 Pint Beans or Slaw - \$4



DRIVE-UP PURCHASES WELCOME
Althaus Park behind Country Club
11 a.m – 2 p.m

Please follow published guidelines for physical distancing, masks, cleanliness and group size. Use open air facilities at your own risk. McCoy Farm & Gardens assumes no responsibility for violations.

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. Dog waste pick-up bags are at the trailhead.

The MFG buildings are temporarily closed. Please observe guidelines for physical distancing, marks, cleanliness and group size. McCoy Farm & Gardens assumes no responsibility for violations.

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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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