

McCoy Farm & Gardens NEWSLETTER

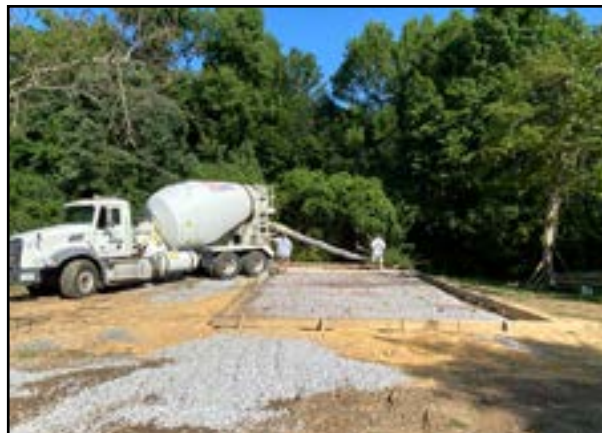
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Above the footprint of the new shed, you can see the barn and corn-crib through the trees on the left. The area behind the barn will be a place to learn about small family farms.



Concrete for the floor of the new shed was poured at the end of August, with completion expected before cold weather. The shed is designed to blend in with the existing buildings.

New Construction Activity

If you have noticed heavy equipment operating in the area near the blacksmith/workshop and the barn, and you are curious about what's happening, here is the answer.

We are building a new equipment shed to house the antique tractor, hay wagon, Bobcat, golf carts, lawnmowers and other equipment that should be sheltered from the weather. The funds for the construction come from a generous grant by the Tucker Foundation, a great friend to MFG.

Educational Component

The site was selected with great care. Initially conceived as a replacement for some of the original farm sheds west of the barn, the newer structure would have changed the character of the original Bachman-McCoy barn lot designated as the "Educational Lawn" in the Master Plan. The current site follows the Master



FARM SHEDS with SMOKEHOUSE; ROOT CELLAR

West of the blacksmith workshop was a row of farm sheds. Some were removed for safety concerns, but remaining are the wooden walls and tin roof of Martha McCoy's smokehouse. A root cellar immediately behind the barn is in good condition but with deteriorated entry door and shelving. In this Educational Lawn area, new reproduction farm sheds should be constructed for equipment storage. The smokehouse should be rehabilitated and the root cellar repaired. These items should become a component of the education platform. *Current Use: None, Historical Interest, Photographic Appeal*

Reproduced above is a section from page 19 of McCoy Farm & Gardens Master Plan. It suggests utilizing the area behind the barn as an "Educational Lawn." This concept directed the selection of the site for the new equipment shed in an area nearby.

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.

Plan concept which is to replicate the old barn lot to demonstrate the operation of a small family farm in the early 1900's. The north face of the new shed will define a meadow to serve as an outdoor classroom near the barn lot.

History Research Continues



John Beaty, historic preservationist, with MFG President Mickey Robbins and John's father, Guy Beaty, MFG volunteer, who has been doing his own research into Bachman-McCoy history. John identified basement beams that had been cut by axe and therefore are probably of Civil War vintage.



VALUED VOLUNTEER Larry Roberts is at McCoy Farm & Gardens almost daily, and aside from the board, is one of our most active volunteers. Here he is busy on the Bobcat with another project: mulch for the Children's Garden.

Bird Walk September 26

Kevin Calhoun, Assistant Curator of Forests at Tennessee Aquarium, will lead a bird walk at McCoy Farm & Gardens, Sunday, September 26 at 8:00 AM. There is no charge. Please meet in the parking lot. All are welcome.

Native Plant Nursery Starts

A new propagation bed for wildflowers is being created in the dappled shade near the root cellar in the barnyard. A project of high school sophomore Mary Evelyn Pearce, with support from volunteer Larry Roberts and board members Joe Davis and Sallie Ford, the specimens grown will one day be transplanted along the trail or to other areas where they can thrive and be appreciated.



Joe Davis, Anne Hayes Pearce, Larry Roberts, and Mary Evelyn Pearce have been hard at work clearing for, and constructing, a propagation bed for wildflowers.

NOTICE

We regret that due to a COVID resurgence **BOOgie & Brews has been canceled**. Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers and sponsors who have contributed so much to developing this creative event!

Hours, Access & Information

The 1.1 mile long walking and running trail is open during daylight hours, seven days per week. Access the trail by the 1604 Taft Highway entrance and park in the trail parking spaces or the gravel lot. Dog waste pickup bags are at the trailhead and by the Anderson entrance.

We encourage our MFG visitors to practice healthy COVID measures at all times.

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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 Mtn., TN 37377
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www.mccoypwalden.org

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