



MFGC UPDATE

For members of the Michigan Floriculture Growers Council

June 2016

Dear Member,

Monday, June 27 - MFGC Member Meeting

REMINDER: Monday, June 27 at 10 am is the next member meeting. This meeting is being hosted by Andy and Micki Buist in Hudsonville. There is no charge to attend this meeting.

[Member Meeting Registration](#)

Tour of Micandy Gardens (Andy & Micki Buist) -

Visit with legislators and hear legislative updates

(Invited) Senator Stabenow, US Senate, Agriculture Committee

Congressman Huizenga, US Representative

Senator Meekhof, Michigan State Senate, Senate Majority Leader

Representative Garcia, State House of Representatives -

Industry Presentations (confirmed)

Marty Saffell USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Floriculture Greenhouse

Survey Robin R. Rosenbaum, Plant Industry Section Manager, MDARD Pesticide and

Plant Pest Management Division

Mike Bryan, Nursery and Export Program Specialist, MDARD Pesticide and Plant Pest

Management Division -

Lunch (RSVP) - Member Discussion Greenhouse Opportunities

MFGC WEBSITE ALMOST COMPLETE

We need your assistance!

We need your photos and/or logo! Each member directory listing on the new MFGC website will have the opportunity to show photos of your business. Please send your jpeg files to loren@julianvail.com.

If you have not sent in your directory listing sheet. Please do so now. [Directory form](#)

The new website is complete with the exception of the membership directory. Please send your information as soon as possible.

MFGC Board of Director Meeting

The MFGC board meeting will immediately follow the member meeting on Monday, June 27 at Micandy Greenhouse in Hudsonville.

Maryland's Neonicotinoid Law Goes Into Effect

June 6, 2016 Posted By: Carol Miller | [Email](#)

Beginning January 1, 2018, Maryland will ban sales of products containing the neonicotinoid class of pesticides throughout the state of Maryland, save to licensed operators. [The Pollinator Protection Act](#) was allowed to pass into law when Governor Larry Hogan neither vetoes nor signed the bill at the end of May.

The law that passed had a significant change from the bill that first passed both the state House and Senate. Those versions banned the sale of plants that had been treated with neonicotinoids. The language related to that ban, however, [was struck out during the final reconciliation](#) before a final vote.

The ban focuses primarily on retail sales of neonicotinoids. The Act does allow certified applicators, farmers, and veterinarians to use neonicotinoids. However, language in the bill refers to a six-month neonicotinoid study being conducted by the EPA, instructing the Maryland Department of Agriculture to revisit its rules of allowable use of neonicotinoids once that study has been released.

There were several opponents to the bill. The [Baltimore Sun](#) identified the Maryland Farm Bureau, the National Federation of Independent Businesses, while [The Dispatch](#) says Maryland's Department of Agriculture opposed the bill on the grounds that there is little scientific evidence showing that neonicotinoids are to blame for Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD).

MFGC

235 N Pine St * Lansing, MI 48933

mifgc.org * mail@mifgc.org

(517) 367-2033

Michigan Floriculture Growers Council, 235 N. Pine St, Lansing, MI 48933