

# MOORE FARMS

# botanical garden



**2014 MFBG Education and Events Visitation Report** 

**Submitted by: Rebecca Turk** 

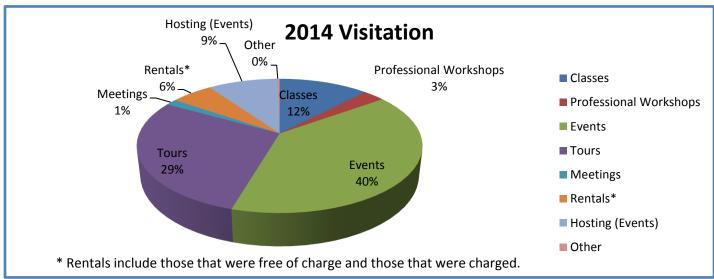
Friday, January 9, 2015

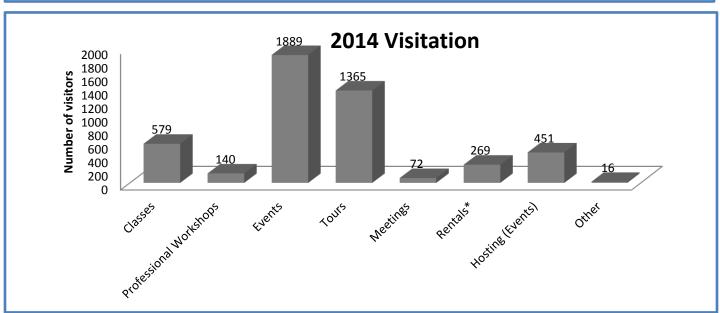
## **2014 MFBG Visitation Report**

## **Programs**

In 2014, Moore Farms Botanical Garden accumulated a total of 4,781 visitors between classes, workshops, tours, events, internships, rentals and research. Of the 365 days, MFBG was open for 183 days. Of the 365 days in 2013, MFBG was open for 115 days with 2,937 visitors during that time. Below are charts and tables to express this data.

2014 vs. 2013 MFBG Visitation			
	2013	2014	
Classes	254	579	
Workshops	96	140	
Events	866	1889	
Tours (attendance)	1173	1365	
Tours (days)	73	95	
Meetings	8	72	
Rentals*(attendance)	517	269	
Other	23	16	
Days of visitation	115	183	
Number of weekends with visitation	15	23	
Total Visitation	2937	4781	





# **Education**

Classes

Workshops

Tours

Internship







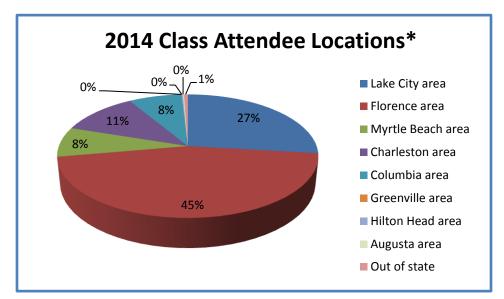




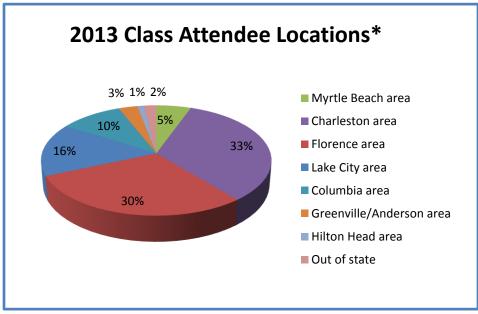
### 2014 Classes

- Number of classes: 32 classes (versus 15 classes in 2013)
  - Living Art (Katie Dickson)
  - Orchid Care (Ed Scott, Clearvue Orchid Nursery)
  - o Terrariums (Rebecca Turk)
  - Growing Healthy (Rebecca Turk)
  - Trellis's, Lattices and other Garden Supports (Evan Clements)
  - Household Horticulture (Katie Dickson)
  - Calling All Plantaholics (2 classes; Erik Healy and Rebecca Turk)
  - Grafting Demystified (Stan McKenzie, McKenzie Farms and Nursery)
  - o Painting Landscapes with Perennials (David Poston)
  - Must Have Summer Annuals (Rebecca Turk)
  - From Garden to Vase (Greg Alexander, LilyPad Botanicals and Events)
  - Natives (Ethan Kauffman)
  - Basics of Design (Donna Goodman, MFBG volunteer photographer)
  - Let's Can It! (Sallie Porth, Sallies Greatest)
  - Summer Floral Centerpieces (Greg Alexander, LilyPad Botanicals and Events)
  - Going to Press (Ashley Fooy, MFBG Education and Events Intern)
  - Pinecone Topiaries (Ashley Fooy, MFBG Education and Events Intern)
  - Hypertufa (Rebecca Turk)
  - o Landscaping in Small Spaces (Bryce Lane, Interim Director of the JC Raulston Arboretum)
  - o Garden Fresh (Tony Melton, Clemson Extension)
  - Bog Gardening (Ethan Kauffman)
  - Rustic Wreaths of Fall (2 classes; Katie Dickson)
  - o Bulbs! Bulbs! (Erik Healy)
  - Poston's Perennial Picks (David Poston)
  - Spooky Species (Katie Dickson)
  - Home Propagation (2 classes; Leanne Keneally)
  - Whimsical Winter Arrangements (Amanda McNulty, Clemson Extension/Making it Grow!)
  - Winter Garlands (2 classes; Rebecca Turk)
- Number of class response: 579 attendees (versus 254 attendees in 2013)
- Class attendee location breakdown:
  - o Lake City area: Scranton, Kingstree, Sumter, Manning, Johnsonville, Alcolu, New Zion and Lane.
  - o Florence area: Effingham, Darlington, Hartsville, Marion, Bishopville, Timmonsville, Pamplico and Lamar.
  - Myrtle Beach area: Conway, Murrels Inlet, Pawleys Island, Garden City, Georgetown, Carolina Forest,
     Daniels Island, Aiken and Little River.
  - <u>Charleston area:</u> Summerville, Mount Pleasant, Johns Island, Goose Creek, Moncks Corner, Round O,
     Sullivan's Island, St. Stephens, Walterboro and Leesville.
  - <u>Columbia area:</u> Lexington, Horrel Hill, Forest Acres, Cayce, St. Andrews, Orangeburg, Edisto, St. Matthews, Camden, Blythwood, Irmo, Elgin, Rembert and Chapin.
  - o Greenville area: Anderson, Powedersville and Spartanburg.
  - o <u>Hilton Head area:</u> Estill and Okaite
  - o Augusta area: North Agusta
  - Out of state: North Carolina





\*All data used for pie charts is based on averages and general area locations.





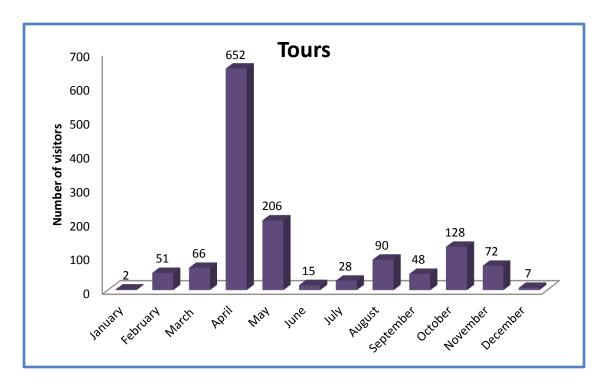
### Workshops

- 4 professional workshop occurred in 2014
- o Total workshop attendees: 104 attendees
  - SC Garden Alliance: Thursday, July 31, 2014 to Friday, August 1, 2014
    - Number of attendees: 13 garden directors and representatives
    - Gardens represented: Moore Farms Botanical Garden, Brookgreen Gardens, Riverbanks
      Zoo and Gardens, South Carolina Botanical Garden, Magnolia Plantation and Gardens,
      Cypress Gardens, Pear Fryar's Topiary Garden, Spartanburg Community College
      Arboretum, Hatcher Gardens and Kalmia Gardens.
  - Taking the Classroom Outside: Elementary Science Teachers workshop for Florence County
     District #3: Friday, August 8, 2014
    - Free workshop partnering with the Florence County District #3
    - Number of attendees: 49 FD#3 Elementary Science Teachers
    - Training provided to teachers: Growing up WILD training from Nancy Thompson,
       Coordinator for WILD in SC.
    - Professional Presentations:
      - Dr. Beasley, Environmental Science Teacher and School Environment Director at Heathwood Hall in Columbia, focused his talk on outdoor learning spaces by changing wasted spaces into treasured places.
      - Rebecca Turk, MFBG Education and Events Coordinator: "Taking the Classroom Outside".
  - Stormwater Management Workshop: Friday, November 7, 2014
    - Attendees: 18 attendees including city managers, horticulturists, engineers and landscape architects.
    - Speakers:
      - Dr. Bill Hunt, Professor/Extension Specialist, Bio and Ag Engineering NCSU:
         "Bioretention Performance Designing Rain Gardens to Work Great"
      - Dr. Helen Kraus, Horticulture Undergraduate Coordinator and Professor at NCSU: "Selection Criteria for Rain Garden Plants"
      - Greg Hoffman, P.E., Program Manager, Center for Watershed Protection: "Sustainable Stormwater on the Coast! An Introduction to Coastal South Carolina's LID Planning and Design Guide"
    - Tour: Focused on our stormwater principles such as the 6000ft2 green roof, living wall, cistern catchment system, natural wetlands and bog gardens.
  - Curatorial workshop: Thursday, November 13, 2014 to Friday, November 14, 2014
    - Attendees: 24 attendees
    - Speakers:
      - Andrew Bunting, Curator at the Scott Arboretum of Swarthmore College: "The Basics of Plant Collections Management"
      - Dr. Andrew Bell, Curator of Woody Plants at Chicago Botanic Garden: "Building and Protecting Living Collections in an Ever-Growing Display Garden"
      - Mark Weathington, Director of the JC Raulston Arboretum: "Taming the Wild Beast: Curating Collections in the Field"



### **Tours**

- Number of attendees: 1,437 attendees
- Number of tours provided: 95 (Includes Art of Gardening Tours, but not tours provided in classes or meetings)
- 2015: 17 tours are currently lined up



### Internship program

- 4 interns for 2014
  - Horticulture (3 months): Ashley Brinegar (Texas A&M University) and Rachel Durkan (Virginia Tech)
  - o Education and Events (6 months): Ashley Fooy (University of Michigan)
  - GIS (6 months): Eva Adler (University of Colorado-Boulder)
- Professional development trips:
  - Intern trip to New York City, NY
    - Highline and Central Park
    - Queens Botanical Garden- Susan Lacerte, Executive Director
    - Brooklyn Botanic Garden- Mark Fisher, Director of Conservatories and Horticultural Programs
    - Wave Hill- Louis Baurer, Director of Horticulture
    - New York Botanical Garden- Brian Sullivan, Vice President for Landscapes, Outdoor Collections and Gardens
    - Other areas visited: NYC boat tour, Broadway, Chinatown and Coney Island
  - Other gardens and nurseries visited: JC Raulston Arboretum, Plant Delights Nursery, The Figlar's residence, South Carolina Botanical Garden, Hatcher Gardens, Spartanburg Community College Arboretum, Pearl Fryar's, Riverbanks Zoo and Garden, Lynches River, Niche Nursery, Hawksridge Nursery and McKenzie Farms and Nursery.



# **Events**



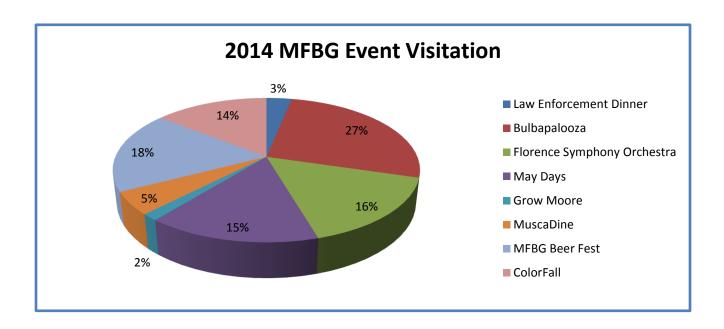
Music in the Garden Florence Symphony Orchestra

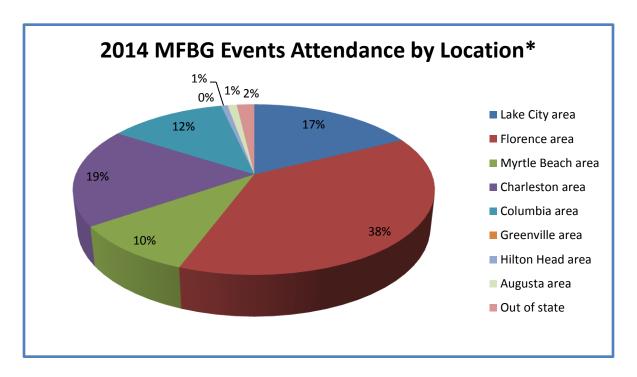
**Grow MOORE** 



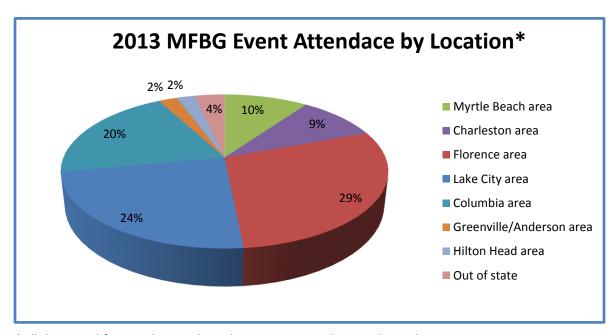
### **MFBG Events**

- Law Enforcement Dinner: Thursday, February 6<sup>th</sup>: 60 attendees
- Garden Opens
  - Bulbapalooza
    - Friday, March 21<sup>st</sup>: 215 attendees
    - Saturday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>: 285 attendees (includes Master Gardener Symposium group)
  - May Days
    - Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup>:186 attendees
    - Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup>: 105 attendees
  - ColorFall
    - Friday, October 17<sup>th</sup>: 164 attendees
    - Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup>: 107 attendees
- Florence Symphony: Friday, May 9<sup>th</sup>: ~300 attendees (Florence Symphony does not have an exact number)
- Grow Moore: Tuesday, June 17<sup>th</sup>: 28 attendees
  - Nurseries, gardens and cities represented: Countryside Gardens, Architectural trees, City of Charleston, City Nursery Farm, Inc., Woodlanders, Inc., Dutton's Nursery Farm, Humble Farm, LLC, Cypress Gardens, University of SC, Brookgreen Gardens, City of Columbia, Budget Control, Griff's Greenhouse & Nursery, Kalmia Gardens, Riverbanks Zoo and Gardens, Tropical Nursery in North Myrtle Beach, Millcreek Greenhouses
- MuscaDine: Friday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>: 95 attendees
  - 5 whole tables sold (\$500 each): Nan Ya Plastics, The Citizens Bank, Henry Swink, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Services,
     Inc., Hicks Guerry Group
  - Single tickets sold (\$75 each): 61 attendees
- MFBG Beer Fest: Saturday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>:
  - 323 attendees; 347 including vendors, band and brewery representatives (not including working staff or volunteers)





<sup>\*</sup>All data used for pie charts is based on averages and general area locations.



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### **Rentals**

Rentals (Whether free or charged)				
Date	Group	# in group	Contact person	Fee
1/10/2014	Chef Carlos filming C3 boot camp clip	15	Chef Carlos Brown	Free of charge
2/17/2014	Youth Arbitration Training	18	Brian Kennedy	Free of charge
2/18/2014	Youth Arbitration Training	12	Brian Kennedy	Free of charge
2/19/2014	Youth Arbitration Training	12	Brian Kennedy	Free of charge
2/20/2014	Youth Arbitration Training	12	Brian Kennedy	Free of charge
2/21/2014	Youth Arbitration Training	12	Brian Kennedy	Free of charge
3/14/2014	Pee Dee Landowners Association Meeting	20	Corey Craig	\$100.00
3/30/2014	Mosaics Fashion Shoot	18	Leah Norwood	Free of charge
4/10/2014	James Hilliard Photography group in garden	11	James Hilliard	\$50.00
4/11/2014	James Hilliard Photography group in garden	11	James Hilliard	\$50.00
4/12/2014	James Hilliard Photography group in garden	11	James Hilliard	\$50.00
4/13/2014	James Hilliard Photography group in garden	11	James Hilliard	\$50.00
6/5/2014	Darla's business meeting	54	Darla Moore	Free of charge
8/7/2014	SCACPA Board Retreat	22	Revira Brennan	\$135.00
11/2/2014	Mosaics fashion shoot	10	Leah Norwood	Free of charge
11/15/2014	Carla's leadership training	20	Carla Angus	Free of charge
		269		\$435.00

### Hosting

- Daffodil Festival
  - o Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup>: ~350 attendees (they did not provide an exact number)
- Pleine Aire workshop with ArtFields
  - o Wednesday, April 30<sup>th</sup>: 7 attendees
- Lake City Concert Series
  - o Thursday, October 30<sup>th</sup>: 94 attendees



# **Outreach**









## **Presentations**

Date	Off-site presentations Location		Presenter	
2/5/2014	SCHI presentation on Green Roofs	Myrtle Beach, SC	Matt	
2/14/2014	Kiwanis Garden Club	Hartsville, SC	Ethan	
2/25/2014	Sumter Library for Master Gardeners Presentation	Sumter, SC	Rebecca	
4/1/2014	Welcome Club at Incarnate Lutheran Church	Florence, SC	Ethan	
4/8/2014	Junior Sorosis Club	Lake City, SC	Rebecca	
4/9/2014	Olanta Library Presentation Series	Olanta, SC	Rebecca	
4/16/2014	Sumter County Master Gardeners- Swan Lake Gardens	Sumter, SC	Rebecca	
4/26/2014	Making it Grow! show: Live at the Bean Market	Lake City, SC	Rebecca	
5/8/2014	SC Judges Club	Columbia, SC	Ethan	
5/29/2014	Palmetto Health	Columbia, SC	Ethan	
7/10/2014	Earth Science Presentation for Summer Library Series	Lake City, SC	Rebecca	
7/29/2014	Making it Grow! Show-Terrariums	Sumter, SC	Rebecca	
8/11/2014	Garden Club of Manning	Manning, SC	Ashley Fooy	
8/14/2014	Stephen F Austin State University Green Roofs	Nacogdoches, TX	Ethan	
9/17/2014	Methodist Church	Columbia, SC	Ethan	
9/17/2014	Manning Garden Club	Manning, SC	Ashley Fooy	
9/23/2014	Myrtle Beach Garden Club	Myrtle Beach, SC	Rebecca	
9/25/2014	SCNLA Fall Field Day	Columbia, SC	Madison and Leanne	
10/8/2014	Crape Myrtle Garden Club	Columbia, SC	Katie	
10/11/2014	Pearl Fryar Garden Extravaganza	Bishopville, SC	Katie	
10/15/2014	Manning Council of Garden Clubs	Manning, SC	Rebecca	
10/21/2014	Bay Blossom Garden Club	Florence, SC	Rebecca	
11/5/2014	Florence Rotary Club	Florence, SC	Rebecca	
11/8/2014	SC Ag Day presentation	Lake City, SC	Rebecca	
11/11/2014	Manning Garden Club	Manning, SC	Ethan	
12/5/2014	Arbor Day Ceremony presentation	Lake City, SC	Rebecca	



## Tradeshows, festivals and markets

Date	Festivals, tradeshows and markets	Location	Attendees
2/4/2/14 to 2/7/2014	SCHI Tradeshow	Myrtle Beach, SC	Horticulture staff
4/10/2014 to 4/12/2014	Plantasia	Charleston, SC	Rebecca
4/24/2014 to 4/27/2014	Pee Dee Spring Plant and Flower Festival	Florence, SC	Rebecca, Katie and Leanne
4/25/2014 to 4/26/2014	Artisans' and Farmers' Market	Lake City, SC	Rebecca, Alex and Matt
5/5/2014 to 5/3/2014	Artisans' and Farmers' Market	Lake City, SC	Rebecca, Alex and Matt
6/19/2014	Lake City Farmers Market	Lake City, SC	Interns
6/26/2014	Lake City Farmers Market	Lake City, SC	Interns
7/10/2014	Lake City Farmers Market	Lake City, SC	Interns
9/11/2014	Lake City Farmers Market	Lake City, SC	Interns
9/25/2014	SCNLA Fall Field Day	Columbia, SC	Madison and Leanne
10/3/2014 to 10/5/2014	Pee Dee Fall Plant and Flower Festival	Florence, SC	Ashley and Eva
10/11/2014	Pearl Fryar's Extravaganza for the American Red Cross	Bishopville, SC	Katie
10/31/2014	Lake City Elementary Trunk or Treat	Lake City, SC	Ashley and Eva
12/4/2014 to 12/5/2014	Arbor Day Celebration and Tree Planting	Lake City, SC	Katie and Rebecca



## **Professional Development**

Date	Professional	Location	Attendees
	Development		
2/4-2/7/2014	SCNLA SCHI Trade Show	Myrtle Beach, SC	Horticulture staff
2/17-2/18/2014	ISA Conference	Myrtle Beach, SC	Erik Healy
3/6 - 3/9/2014	Philadelphia Flower Show	Philadelphia, PA	Katie Dickson
3/21-3/24/2014	Magnolia Society Conference	Athens, GA	Ethan Kauffman, Erik Healy and Matt Lobdell
4/15-4/17/2014	GIS training by Brian Morgan	Lake City, SC	Evan Clements and Matt Lobdell
6/4/2014	Pollinators Conference	Columbia, SC	Katie Dickson
6/11-6/12/2014	Green Infrastructure Conference	Columbia, SC	Katie Dickson
6/11-6/15/2014	Intern trip to New York City	New York City, NY	Rebecca Turk, David Poston, Kodey Bramlett and interns
6/22-6/27/2014	EZ-Go Master Service Technician training	Augusta, GA	Calvin Porter
6/23-6/29/2014	APGA (American Public Garden Association) Conference	Denver, CO	Ethan Kauffman
7/15/2014	SCGGA Annual Meeting	Florence, SC	Madison Turnblad and Leanne Kenealy
7/17-7/20/2014	Woody Plant Conference	Philadelphia, PA	Erik Healy
7/21-7/23/2014	SNA Conference (Southern Nursery Association)	Atlanta, GA	Katie Dickson, Leanne Kenealy, David Poston, Alex Cooley and Kirk Laminack
8/4-8/17/2014	Stephen F. Austin State University presentation/collection trip	Nacogdoches, TX	Ethan Kauffman
8/18-8/19/2014	Magnolia collection trip	Raleigh, NC	Erik Healy and Leanne Kenealy
8/27/-8/29/2014	Figlars: Magnolia collection trip	Seneca, SC	Erik Healy
9/25/2014	SCNLA/SCLTA Field Day	Columbia, SC	Madison Turnblad and Leanne Kenealy
10/5-10/31/2014	Asia collection trip	Taiwan, Japan and China	Ethan Kauffman
10/7-10/12/2014	NAAEE Conference (North American Association of Environmental Education)	Ottawa, Canada	Rebecca Turk
10/15-10/19/2014	Perennial Plant Conference	Philadelphia, PA	David Poston and Alex Cooley
10/28/2014	LID workshop	Conway, SC	Kirk Laminack
10/30-10/31/2014	Coastal Fire Ecology Conference	Georgetown, SC	Erik Healy
11/19-11/23/2014	NAI Conference (National Association of Interpreters)	Denver, CO	Rebecca Turk
12/4/2014	Winter Ag Day at Pee Dee Rec	Florence, SC	Madison Turnblad and Alex Cooley



### Website

Email Statistics						
2013 2014 Total						
Benchmark						
Total active emails	2,256	893	3,149			
Word press subscribers	747	535	1,282			

	2014	2013	Change
ges			
Pageviews	86,698	80,754	7.36%
Unique pageviews	66,637	62,466	6.68%
Average time on page	0:01:10	0:01:06	5.94%
Entrances	24,785	20,229	22.52%
Bounce rate	46.35%	42.51%	9.04%
%Exit	28.59%	25.05%	14.12%
idience Overview			
Sessions	24,785	20,230	22.52%
Users	16,362	12,407	31.88%
Pageviews	86,698	80,754	7.36%
Pages per session	3.50	3.99	-12.37%
Average session duration	0:02:55	0:03:19	-11.55%
Bounce rate	46.35%	42.51%	9.04%
% New sessions	64.04%	61.16%	4.71%
New visitor	64.10%	61.20%	
Returning visitor	35.90%	38.80%	

### Understanding the above analytics: Information provided by the Google Analytics Help Engine

### **Clicks vs. Sessions**

There is an important distinction between *clicks* (such as in your *AdWords* reports) and *sessions* (such as in your *Audience* reports). The *Clicks* column in your reports indicates how many times your advertisements were clicked by users, while *Sessions* indicates the number of unique sessions initiated by your users.



#### Sessions vs. Users

Analytics measures both *sessions* and *users* in your account. *Sessions* represent the number of individual sessions initiated by all the users to your site. If a user is inactive on your site for 30 minutes or more, any future activity is attributed to a new session. Users that leave your site and return within 30 minutes are counted as part of the original session.

The initial session by a user during any given date range is considered to be an additional *session* and an additional *user*. Any future sessions from the same user during the selected time period are counted as additional *sessions*, but not as additional *users*.

#### **Sessions vs. Entrances**

Sessions are incremented with the first hit of a session, whereas entrances are incremented with the first pageview hit of a session.

### Pageviews vs. Unique Pageviews

A pageview is defined as a view of a page on your site that is being tracked by the Analytics tracking code. If a user clicks reload after reaching the page, this is counted as an additional pageview. If a user navigates to a different page and then returns to the original page, a second pageview is recorded as well.

A *unique pageview*, as seen in the *Content Overview* report, aggregates pageviews that are generated by the same user during the same session. A *unique pageview* represents the number of sessions during which that page was viewed one or more times.

### **Direct traffic**

Direct traffic represents those visitors that arrive directly and immediate on your site by: (1) typing your URL into the browser's address bar; (2) clicking on a bookmark; or (3) clicking on a link in an email, SMS, or chat message. Direct traffic is a strong indicator of your brand strength and your success in email or text message marketing. Direct traffic can also be an indicator of offline marketing success.

#### Referring traffic

Referring site traffic, which is sometimes called referrer traffic or referral traffic, counts those visitors that click a link on another site and land on your site. Referral traffic can be indicative of social media marketing success.

### Search engine traffic

Search engine traffic is that traffic that comes from visitors clicking on links on a search results page for any search engine — whether Google, Bing, Yahoo!, etc. This traffic source is divided into *organic* or *non-paid* search engine traffic — meaning that the visitor clicked on a so-called natural search result — and *CPC* or *paid* search engine traffic, which is the traffic you purchase (via pay-per-click ads\_ from search engines. Search engine traffic usually indicates that you have good or at least reasonably good content. It also can mean that you have chosen a good software platform. Be sure to learn which keywords are driving this traffic. Multi-channel merchants, as an example, may find that their brand name is a key search term. When this is the case, offline marketing is usually the real traffic driver.



### **Social Media**

Social Media Statistics				
	2013	2014	Total	
Facebook				
Likes	679	408	1087	
Fans women		72%		
Fans men		27%		
Reach women		64%		
Reach men		35%		
Twitter				
Tweets	51	60	111	
Following		2	153	
Followers		1	74	
Pinterest				
Boards		5	5	
Pins		64	64	
Likes		0	0	
Followers		58	58	
Following		73	73	
Flickr				
Photos	62	103	165	

**2015 goal:** To utilize all aspects of social media more efficiently, especially Twitter, Flickr and Instagram.

### **Advertising**

• For 2014 we advertised in the following: SHE Magazine, Sassee Magazine, Skirt! Magazine, Florence newspaper, Carolina Gardener Magazine, LC Post, LC Shopper, radio, Making It Grow!, LC website, Free Times (paper and online), Post and Courier, AgCited brochures, The Low Country Parent, Facebook, Billboards, local social media pages, The Florence Minute on WFXB, Twitter, Pinterest, email blasts and website.



# **Volunteers**



- 85 people have stated interested in volunteering at MFBG
- 35 volunteers were utilized in 2014
  - o Bulbapalooza- Carrington Wingard, Velma Floyd, Christopher Turk and Tina Burkizer
  - May Days- Stephanie Hall, Chris Jackson, Catherine Gamble, Happy Gregg, Cindy Gregg, Larry Spivey,
     Tina Burkizer, Jane Schwantes, Gwen Sonier, Christopher Turk and Miriam Humphries.
  - MFBG Beer Fest- Mark and Maria Balmer, Tom and Tina Burkizer, Sally Haynes, Jacelyn Donevant, Nick Vause, Larry Spivey, Gwen Sonier, Carrington Wingard, Rose Williams
  - ColorFall- Ginny Honea, Stephanie Hall, Marie Land, Larry Spivey, Sally Haynes, Miriam Humphries,
     Christopher Turk, Mark Balmer and Maria Balmer.
- 2015 projection: To establish a formal volunteer program and to begin garden, greenhouse and youth volunteers. This will be a responsibility of the Youth and Outreach Coordinator.