



^{UW} **Extension** Waupaca County

Master Gardener Newsletter

April 2007

**Master Gardener Meetings are held
the 2nd Thursday of the month.**

6:00- 6:30 p.m. Social

6:30-7:30 p.m. Meeting - 7:30-8:30 p.m. Program

In the event that a meeting or event is cancelled due to weather, please listen to WJMQ 92.3 and WDUZ 92.7 for cancellation information. We will also attempt to notify members via email.



Unless otherwise stated, meetings and programs will be held in the lower level of the Waupaca County Courthouse.



April 12 - 6:30 Meeting, 7:30 Program - Dr. Robert Freckmann will speak on Rare Native Plants of NE Wisconsin.



May 10 - Program - Curt Patten from the Waupaca County Beekeepers Association will speak on Bees and Beekeeping.



InfoSource: <http://infosource.uwex.edu>

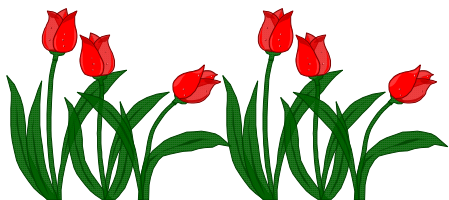
UW Publications Web Site: <http://www1.uwex.edu/ces/pubs/>

MG Web Site: <http://www.hort.wisc.edu/mastergardener>

UW Garden Facts: www.wihort.uwex.edu/



Spring is Here!



April in the Garden

It's official. It's spring! Even people who don't garden notice it. Plants are popping up all over. On the trees, buds are swelling and about to burst. To think that within the next month, everything will be a fresh, bright green.

Home

- Keep spent leaves and flowers of houseplants removed to improve appearance and encourage more blooms.
- Prune, repot and clean houseplants as needed.
- Begin fertilizing houseplants.
- Purchase a sterile soilless mix for starting seeds. Always use fresh potting soil when repotting.

Yard

- Prune trees and shrubs while plants are still dormant, except those that bloom early in spring.
- Remove winter coverings from roses as soon as new growth begins. Prune and fertilize as needed.
- Fertilize woody plants before new growth begins but after soil temperatures have reached 40 degrees F.
- Remove trunk wraps that were applied earlier to prevent bark from splitting.
- Apply superior oil spray to landscape plants and fruit trees for control of scale insects and mites when tips of leaves start to protrude from buds.
- Plant new trees and shrubs as soon as soil dries enough to be worked. Plant bare-root plants before they leaf out.
- Seed bare spots in lawn.
- Apply crabgrass preventer when grass starts active growth.

Geraniums

- Remove old stems and leaves, trim back new, spindly growth, and water well. Move to a sunny, cool window.

Stored Vegetables

- Inspect stored vegetables and either use immediately or throw out any that show signs of spoilage.
- Do a quick check on canned produce assuring the lids are still sealed.



**Note From Our President,
Pam Nitke**

Master Gardeners,

The last pile of snow has finally melted - my work as a gardener has begun. Every day I go outside to see what else is poking through the ground and there sits that rabbit in my backyard, also waiting. The first signs of SPRING are always so exciting.



I had a great day with my mother at the "From the Ground Up " conference in Appleton on March 10, the presenters were wonderful.

Kevin Jarek from the Outagamie County UW Extension reminded everyone to have their soil tested.

Jim Beard, a Landscape Architect from the FVTC, explained the do's and don'ts of landscaping.

Bob Klebba from Morningwood Farm Nursery introduced unique shrubs that can be used to bring contrast to your gardens.

Steve Lesch of Landscape Designs, Inc. talked about hundreds of beautiful bulbs that can be used within your landscapes.

It was a wonderful conference to start the season off.

REMINDER: As you walk around your gardens make a note of which plants you no longer want or which ones need to be divided. Our Spring plant sale is just around the corner and once we start working in our gardens the time seems to go so fast, so much work and so little time.

I hope you all have a wonderful Easter. See you on April 12.



**Master Gardener Trips
2007/2008**

Submitted by Pat Ritchie

The WIMGA Program is offering two trips for MGs this year and early next year. The first trip is to

New Zealand from November 27 to December 10, 2007 during New Zealand's spring.

The second trip is to Costa Rica on February 6 -15, 2008. Brochures for both trips can be found on the MG Website under Calendar of Events or from the MG Program Office's trips page.



Thank s From Louisiana Master Gardeners

Submitted by Pat Ritchie

A letter of thanks was received from the Louisiana Master Gardeners thanking Wisconsin MGs for their donation of money, gardening publications to replenish libraries, volunteer time, and gloves to help victims of Hurricane Katrina and Rita. Money and help was received from 23 states. The list of projects is too long to put in the newsletter. I will have the letter at the April meeting.



Use of the Title Master Gardener Volunteer

Source, Laura Franta, WIMGA Secretary

There have been some questions raised regarding the use of the Master Gardener Volunteer title. The rules regulating the use of the title originated with the Extension. To help clarify some of the questions, please read the following. If there are any questions, please feel free to ask.

A person can only use the title of Master Gardener Volunteer when:

1. They are a member in good standing. This means that they have completed the training course, volunteered a minimum number of hours, and passed the final exam. Each year following the initial training, a person must attend a minimum of 10 hours of approved horticulture education sessions and volunteer 24 hours of Extension approved service to their community or county Extension office.

2. They are performing volunteer tasks for Extension. The Master Gardener Volunteer title can only officially be used when working on UW Cooperative Extension approved volunteer projects. You cannot receive remuneration for these projects. It is permissible at any time or place to say that you have completed the Wisconsin Master Gardener Training Program. However, you can only answer questions and perform tasks representing yourself as a Master Gardener Volunteer when you are actually volunteering for Extension. Master Gardener training and experience may be given as qualifications when seeking employment. However, once employed, Master Gardener credentials should not be displayed. Master Gardener Volunteers are advised not to advertise as Master Gardener Volunteers in their names or places of business, nor be listed as such in business advertising. The name or MG logo cannot be used for personal gain, including to influence anyone to do business with you.



*Happy Birthday to
the April Birthday
People!*



4/4 Lyle Mork
4/12 Faye Wilson



Turn an old wooden ladder into a mini herb garden. Lay flat on the ground. Fill with topsoil and manure and plant a different herb in between each rung.



March Meeting Notes

Submitted by Rebecca Weber Schmoll, Secretary



Attendance: Akey, Kathy; Braatz, Leigh; Durrant, Kay; Finkel, Susan; Hipschman, Dorrie; Holly, Cynthia; Johnson, Bill; Johnson, Carol; King, Suzanne; Kramer, Terry; Krogwold, Debbie; Leiskau, Patti; MacIntyre, Hope; McCoy, Colleen; Nitke, Pam; Nollenberg, Barb; Rhodes, Glenda; Ritchie, Pat; Saunders, Katherine; Spiegelberg, Carol; Weasner, Jeff; Weasner, Nancy; Weber Schmoll, Rebecca; Wozniak, Suzanne.

President Pam Nitke called the March meeting to order. Members were welcomed, and a door prize of a shamrock plant was awarded to one lucky member.

There was no executive committee meeting, due to the illness of President Pam.

February meeting minutes were approved by Pat Ritchie and seconded by Kate Saunders.

Treasurer Terry Kramer reported a checking account balance of \$14,980.86 with \$9.00 in unpaid bills, plus paying for the purchase of computer equipment.

Pat Ritchie gave her state representative report. A thank you note was read. The report of the club's accomplishments is now on the web site. The nametags for the new members had arrived and were handed out. Pat did not win the election for the WIMGA at-large board member. However, she is still on the state representative board and will be able to share state news. Pat has information on an invasive species cookbook. Contact her if you are interested in purchasing this book.

Historian Carol Johnson asks members to share any newsworthy clippings and photographs for her to incorporate in the club's scrapbook.

The book share was on the book, *Tending Your Garden* by Gordon

and Mary Hayward. This book is recommended as a good year round guide to garden maintenance. It would be an excellent guide for new gardeners.

Spring Plant Sale chairman is Debbie Krogwold. The spring plant sale is June 3 with setup on June 2. Mini blinds are needed for plant labels.

Other announcements included free tomato plants started by Colleen McCoy and available for pick-up at Jay-Mar. A meeting at the Waupaca High School on the community garden was held March 20. Volunteers are needed to mentor the Master Garden class in Clintonville on April 3, 10, and 17. Contact Kathy Akey if you can help out. The March 22 executive committee meeting will be at Sugar Bush at 6:30 P.M.

Adjournment of the meeting was moved by Suzanne Wozniak and seconded by Susan Finkel.



Seeds For Beautiful Gardens

Submitted by Gloria Gruer

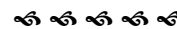
We have returned home after lovely visits with kids & grandkids, and are joyously greeting the first promise of spring. April will be getting the garden ready and May will be time for planting flower seeds. So-o-o, at the April meeting I shall show up with the following flower seeds, all of which will do best if planted directly in the soil where they will bloom beautifully, according to the amount of sun they receive each day (6 hours is adequate if you can manage it).

1. Love-in-a-Mist (Nigella) - My precious favorite. 2-3 feet tall.
2. Orange and Yellow cosmos (mostly orange) 5 to 6 ft. tall.
3. Zinnias (5 ft. tall). These will be the dried blossoms so that YOU can fluff out the seeds yourselves - not difficult.
4. White, pink and purple cosmos, also 5 to 6 ft. tall.

5. Balsam, a beautiful old-fashioned flower, 4 ft. tall, not as good for indoor arranging as they bloom along their stems.

A special seed is the Spanish tomato which will be for gardeners who start seeds indoors, usually after the first week in April. In Spain they are known as the Marmande Tomato and are sold out quickly at about \$6.00 a pound. Here's a challenge, Master Gardeners!!!

If you have any questions about the above, call me at 715-258-8266, or E-mail at albie102624@charter.net.

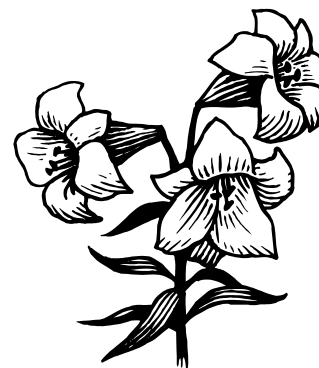


String fishing line around small garden plots at about 2 feet and 4 feet high. Deer can't see the line and once they bump into it, they avoid the area.



UW-Extension and all affiliated organizations are asked to include the following federal civil rights/ADA disclaimer on all letter head and related newsletters.

"University of Wisconsin, U.S. Department of Agriculture and Wisconsin Counties cooperating. UW-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming including Title IX and ADA."



Have a Happy & Blessed Easter!

Gardeners Calendar

April 10- 24, 2007

Container Gardening by the Experts, Green Bay Botanical Garden

Container gardening is now the crown prince of gardening trends, not only because pots green up a front stoop or dry patio, but gardeners are using containers to incorporate height, colors, textures, and accentuate feelings throughout their gardens. See the entire spectrum of container gardening theory and practice in this class that travels from the Garden to growers and greenhouses with Mark Konlock, Jan Wos and Connie Schroeder. Three class meetings on Tuesday nights from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. \$34 (\$27 members), pre-registration required. For more information, contact the Green Bay Botanical Garden at (920) 490-9457.

April 12, 2007

Xeriscaping — Creating a Drought Tolerant Garden, Gardens of the Fox Cities, Appleton

Learn the basics of creating a low maintenance, water-wise garden. Our Director of Horticulture will discuss site characteristics and preparation, drought-tolerant plants, and maintenance techniques in this class from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. She'll also share new, tried, and true plants that thrive in these growing conditions. \$12 (\$8 members). Advance registration required. For more information or to register, contact the Gardens of the Fox Cities, 1313 E. Witzke Blvd., Appleton, at (920) 993-1900

April 14, 2007

Soils and Compost, Green Bay Botanical Garden

Compost and soils go together like blue and sky. Understanding and preparing your soils can be the difference between gardening success and frustration. And successful composting ensures a supply of needed nutrients and organic matter. Landscape professional Lisa Stubbe explains why plants care about soil, what you find in fertilizers and composts, and how gardeners can compost successfully. Class from 10:00 to

11:30 a.m. will begin indoors and go outdoors for demonstrations and examples. \$14 (\$8 members), pre-registration required. For more information, contact the Green Bay Botanical Garden, 2600 Larsen Road, P.O. Box 12644, Green Bay, WI 54307-2644 at (920) 490-9457 or by fax at (920) 490-9461.

April 16-May 19, 2007

Fox Cities Blooms at the Gardens of the Fox Cities, Appleton

Celebrate spring at Gardens of the Fox Cities with over 10,000 spring-blooming bulbs plus thousands of other spring-blooming annuals, trees and shrubs. Admission is free.

April 17, 2007

Repotting Houseplants, Green Bay

Spring is the ideal time of year to repot all your houseplants to provide them with all the nutrients and space they will need for this year's growth. Whether it be an ivy, fern, cacti, baby tears, etc. this class from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. will help you do just that. Mary Stewart of Goin' To Pot Orchids and Repotting Service will assist each of you in repotting your favorite plants. Class fee includes repotting of one plant up a 6" pot size. \$15 (\$12 MGVs). At the Ag & Extension Service Center; 1150 Bellevue St., Green Bay. Call Debi at (920) 465-8512 to register.

April 27, 2007 (12:00 noon)

Container Gardening

Brown Bag Program (contact your local UW County Extension Office for access). Container gardens have many advantages for a show of color and texture around the outdoor living space of a home, allow apartment dwellers a chance to garden, and can be included on the deck or patio. Containers can include many plant combinations, including flowering plants, textured vegetation, herbs, vegetables, woody landscape plants, and even fruit crops. Join us in a discussion on the care and cultural management of container gardens.

April 29, 2:30 PM/central

Secret Gardens & Living Fences

Host Shelley Ryan visits an exquisite secret garden in Madison and travels to Willow Glen Nursery in Iowa to learn how to grow a living willow

fence. Also on the program some unusual early blooming clematis, and we learn a new, better way to plant trees. Get more information about clematis, planting trees and growing living willow fences

May 5, 2007

Bus Trip to Madison/Oregon Area, Bus Pickup - Oshkosh

Join the Winnebago Co. MGs on a bus trip to the Madison area to visit several plant nurseries to purchase plants. From 6:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. \$38 with box lunch, \$30 without lunch. Make check payable to WCMGA and mail to Marge Bolding, treasurer, 1138 Evans St., Oshkosh, WI 54901. Confirmation sent via postcard. No refunds after April 27, 2007. For more info contact Marge at marmen4105@sbcglobal.net.



If you wish to access the WISline System, please notify the UW Extension office the day before the program is scheduled. The programs take place in the room next to the main UW Extension office.

On the day of the program, go to the Extension office and Nancy will connect the system for you. If she is not available, one of the other staff members should be able to help you.



Tuna Burgers

1- 6 oz. can tuna packed in water, drained

3 hard boiled eggs, peeled and diced
6 oz. mild cheddar cheese, shredded
2 Tbsp. sweet pickle relish
½ c. mayonnaise

Combine all ingredients. Divide evenly to fill 6 buns. Wrap each filled bun securely in baking foil. Place in oven and bake for 30 minutes at 300 degrees.



The proper office of a friend is to side with you when you are wrong. Nearly anybody will side with you when you are right.

Mark Twain



Master Gardener Spring Plant Sale, June 3

Submitted by Debbie Krogwold, Spring Plant Sale Chairperson

Mark the date! Sunday, June 3rd, 8 am to 2 pm. Our Spring and Fall plant sales are our main fundraisers. All members are encouraged to participate! From donating plants to set up to assisting customers the day of the sale to clean up afterwards, there is a place for everyone! So block out the date!



Two months and counting! What can you do now to prepare, you ask? Tons!

- Make a list of plants you need to divide this Spring. Estimate the number you can donate.
- Get your labels ready. If you make more than you need, save them for next year!
- Inventory your pots. Organize them by size. Do you need all of them? If not, bring them to the April 12th meeting.
- Line the pots you will be using with squares of newspaper. Newspaper keeps the soil in the pot and lets the excess water drain.
- Look for sales on potting soil. You may need some to amend your garden soil when potting your plants.

See you April 12th! Don't forget your extra pots, old venetian blinds (if you have some), and your smile! Spring is here!

PS. For plant sale committee members, there will be a short meeting April 12th, at 6 p.m., before our regular meeting.

If you have questions, please contact me. 715-677-4974, dkrogw@co.waupaca.wi.us

Plant Sale Labels

Label forms will be available at the April 12th meeting. The following information must be included on each label:

- Botanical name
- Common name
- Cultivar name
- Annual/Perennial/Bi-Annual
- Height
- Bloom Time
- Color of Bloom
- Sun/Part Sun/Shade
- Your MG# -- refer to the MOST RECENT roster (numbers change as we add new members)
- Special note if any, such as "INVASIVE".



If you have any question on some of your plants, please seek out a fellow MG'er to assist you. We all LOVE plants and would be more than willing to help!

Company Coming?

When your company arrives this summer and you want to show them some beautiful gardens (besides your own!), here are a few in the area that they will surely enjoy.

Gardens of the Fox Cities, 1313 E. Witzke Dr., Appleton, WI 54911, (920) 993-1900

Admission: Free, Hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday May – October, and Monday through Friday November - April. 35 acres of garden displays and natural areas combine to showcase the seasonal beauty of plants and gardens in Wisconsin. The development of a new Master Plan in 2006 sets the stage for the Gardens' emergence as a premier horticultural and cultural resource in the Fox Cities - a place of enrichment, inspiration and celebration.

The Paine Art Center and Arboretum, 1410 Algoma Boulevard, Oshkosh, WI 54901-7708, (920) 235-6903

Admission: Arboretum none, Art center fee, Hours: Tuesday - Sunday 11 a.m.- 4 p.m., Friday 11 a.m.- 7 p.m., closed Mondays & holidays. Five acres, which include six formal display areas, informal woodland paths, and a prairie, surround a 1920's mansion.



National Arbor Day

Source, Country Gardens Magazine

Arbor Day is an unassuming holiday. Lacking the festivity or fireworks of other red-letter dates on the calendar, it sometimes can pass unnoticed. This year, make it a point to honor the day for its contribution to our lives. The truth is, we'd be lacking millions of acres of shade and color and lots of air quality, if not for this special day.

The first Arbor Day was celebrated in 1872 in Nebraska by J. Sterling Morton, a newspaper editor who advocated that readers plant trees to create windbreaks, beauty, shade, fuel, and building materials. Nebraskans responded by planting more than a million trees on that first Arbor Day. Within a few years other states adopted the idea. Today, Arbor Day is celebrated in every state on the date to be determined to be the best tree-planting time in each area. National Arbor Day is observed the last Friday in April.

Planting a tree isn't difficult, but it is momentous. How often do you make a contribution that will still be enjoyed 50 or 100 years in the future?



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