

UW-Extension Wood County Master Gardener Association

Wood County UW Extension

February 2018

The Wood County Master Gardener Association is a non-profit organization with a mission to educate and share information with its members and the community alike. In addition, it is our charge to promote the UW Extension from which we are founded. We are a diverse group interested in the latest research-based horticultural information.

WCMGV Program Information

April 24, 7:00 p.m.
**Pam Walker with ColdSnap
Aquaponics**

Volunteer Awards and Farm Tech Days

March 27, 7:00 pm: WR Courthouse, 114

Bring along your enthusiasm to cheer your fellow volunteers along as we present our Volunteer Awards. We will also have sub-committee meetings for the Continuing Education Committee, Farm Tech Days, recruit volunteers for the Garden Walk and other Community Service Projects, order plants for the WR plant sale and present the budget to the membership.



[Lima Pix](#) (CC BY 2.0)

Cold Snap Aquaponics provides locally grown produce and fish to Central Wisconsin year round. All products are free of herbicides, fertilizers, and chemicals.

Aquaponics is an integrated scientific model of agriculture in which fish and plants are raised in a system that benefits both.

This relatively new agriscience is sustainable and biologically sound. It's also good for the environment. Aquaponics uses less than 10% of the water needed for conventional agriculture.

Meeting will be held at the facility at:

6251 State Highway 54 West
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495-9342

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President's Message

Welcome! Welcome to another new year with Master Gardeners.

As your new president, I get a column in the newsletter (yay!?). It is here that I will try to give words of encouragement, engagement and expectation. The remainder of the content of the newsletter will be the nuts and bolts of what has gone on and what will be going on: the who, what, when, where, why and how of the Wood County

Master Gardener Volunteers of Wisconsin Association.

This newsletter comes out in Mid-Late February. This is a time when winter is already pushed most of it's way past the harshest times. The 17° below zero morning is hopefully long past. As you read this, the cold, dark stillness of winter is already breaking up with earlier sunrises, later sunsets and warmer temperatures. More than just the occasional rabbit or crow has started moving around. We, with our interest in gardening, have hopefully dug our way through the seed/plant catalogs and decided what we are doing with our own gardens this year. Well done! If not, we keep plodding.

There are seven types of learning methods: Visual, Aural, Verbal, Physical, Logical, Social and Solitary. Each one of us has it in us to teach using one or more of these methods of learning. As people, we have all done it one way or another all our lives. As Master Gardeners, it's our duty to do so. Let's go out and show the county how it's done.

Being a Master Gardener helps us and helps the people around us.

Famia

WCMGVs Car-Pooling to Meetings

Several requests for car-pooling to WCMGVs Monthly Meetings have been received! We will plan to set-up car-pooling to start with March 2018 membership meeting. To simplify the car-pooling request, I ask any member who would be a driver from an area to let me know the site (i.e. WR Court House) and the time they will leave the site. We most likely need a North and a South Wood County site for car-pooling.

We will gather information about the sites and times and post in the newsletter prior to the March meeting.

Questions: Please contact Famia Marx



2018 Master Gardener Volunteer Programs

We have an amazing line-up of great programs coming in 2018 for our monthly meetings. First off is our March program with Volunteer Awards presentations, so make sure you bring your enthusiasm to cheer your fellow volunteers along.

Also, this year we are not just switching between MARS and the Courthouse, but for more than half the meetings, we are going to visit new locations. This is going to be fun! See you in March!

Date/Time	Location	Topic/Guest Speaker
March 27 7 pm	W.R. Courthouse Room 114	Volunteer awards Farm Tech Days
April 24 7 pm	6251 State Highway 54 West	Pam Walker with ColdSnap Aquaponics
May 22 7 pm	5470 Spruce Road Vesper	Member plant exchange, Vespertine Gardens, greenhouses**
June 26 7 pm	MARS	Ask a Master Gardener scenarios
July 24 7 pm	The First Presbyterian Church**	Tour of Marshfield Community Gardens
August 28 6 pm**	Rome Library	Garden Tour and Pot Luck Supper Please note Earlier meeting time—to be confirmed.
September 25 7 pm	Wood Townhall Building, Pittsville 5-10pm	“The Garden Guru” Jason Wendt, presentation. Either “Native Edible Perennials” or “Basic preparations to settle in for the winter”. **
October 23 7 pm	MARS	Member seed exchange, Dr. Bruce Krawisz, Climate Change
November 27 7 pm	W.R. Courthouse Room 114	Gift Exchange, Winter Party Barb Herreid "Costa Rica Trip"

**Tentative

Farm Technology Days: July 10-12, 2018

Plans are being finalized by the Farm Technology Day (FTD) committee.

Our current plan is:

- *Celebrate 20th anniversary of WCMGV with trifold displays.*
- *Ask a Wood County Gardener will be available for participants.*
- *Granny Garden vs Square Foot Garden on each side of entrance to tent (with mannequins) depicting old gardening vs new gardening techniques.*
- *Booth to include educational displays of various types of gardens in pots/containers that are educational and easy to transport. Our booth will be located near the UW Extension Educational tent.*



Prior to July, we will need MGV's to plant/grow pots which will be used in the Granny Garden, the Square Foot Garden and the educational display pots. Seeds and pots for the Granny Garden and Square Foot Garden will be handed out at the April MGV meeting. According to last year's sign up, the following MGV have volunteered to contribute the following educational potted plants for display around our booth:

- Tom Stram – invasive aquatic species
- Barb Herreid – native vs non-native plants
- Maria Edelstein – container planting of flowers
- Pat Binder & Carol Tomke – growing vegetable in containers
- Julie Carlsen and Shelby Weister – fairy gardens
- Micky Erickson – herb garden in a strawberry planter
- Audrey Brundidge and Marlene Winters – succulent gardens
- Tom Stram/Tom Ptak – roses

Roxanne Tomkowiak still needs a **pair of bib overalls and shirt** for the male mannequin.

During the event, we will need help with set up on Monday, July 9th and all three days of the event. Take down will occur at the end of the day on July 12th. A sign-up sheet for helping during the event will be circulated at a later date during the MGV meetings.

If any questions, contact Ruth Cline, Micky Erickson or Sue Wilford. Thank you to all the MGV who are willing to help with this very exciting event in Wood County.

**2018 WOOD COUNTY WISCONSIN FARM
TECHNOLOGY DAYS**

www.wifarmtechnologydays.com/wood



**HOSTED BY: D&B STERNWEIS FARMS
WEBER'S FARM STORE & HEIMAN HOLSTEINS**

JULY 10-12, 2018 9AM TO 4PM

Wood County Landscaping committee flower pot donation application

You will receive a 15x23 pot arrangement with donor recognition sign for \$25 Donation. Pots will be used to beautify the show and can be picked up by donor at Weber's Farm Store on Friday July 13th from noon to 7PM or will be donated locally for events.

Donor name _____

Mailing address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone number _____ Cell phone _____

Email _____

What would you like on the sign (spell as you want it to appear) space is limited to 8.5"x11" horizontal sheet which includes Wood CTY Farm Tech Days Logo and room for 3 lines of print (20 characters or spaces per line)

More characters will make print smaller: could be in Honor or memory of someone or just have donor name

Make checks out to Wood CTY Farm Technology Days and

Mail request by June 1st, 2018 to:

Wood County Farm Technology Days

Attention: Carol Tomke PO BOX 99 Marshfield, WI 54449

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT
WOOD COUNTY FARM TECHNOLOGY
DAYS
LANDSCAPING COMMITTEE**



*In memory of
Jane R. Doe-Roberta
1963-2008*

Sign will be a laminated sheet: Example above

WCMGV Meetings and Notices

March 27, 2018: Membership meeting, WR Courthouse, 7:00 p.m.
Continuing Ed. Committee Meeting, present volunteer hour awards, present budget to membership, Garden Walk volunteer recruitment, additional Community Service Projects Recruitment, order plants for WR plant sale

March 19, 2018: Garden Owners Meeting/Reception, Alexander House

April 7, 2018: Spring Gardening Seminar—MSTC auditorium

April 14, 2018: Marshfield Children's Festival (more news later). Please announce your planning meeting dates.

April 21, 2018: Wisconsin Rapids Children's Festival (more news later). Please announce your planning meeting dates.

May 12, 2018: Wisconsin Rapids Plant Sale held at Helen's House located at WR Zoo

July 21, 2018: WCMGV Garden Walk 2018

This is a new column in newsletter to better serve our WCMGV membership. Committees, teams, project leaders, BODs, are encouraged to send meeting notices for this column. Many members wish to attend and help with various WCMGV events. Please let Chris Grimes or newsletter editor know dates and times as soon as they are scheduled. Members are always looking for ways to earn hours.

Responding to Horticultural Inquiries Training

Portage County is proud to be hosting one of the Annual Responding to Horticulture Inquires trainings this year. The session will be held on May 23rd. You can register online at <https://goo.gl/3nKJez> or print the form on the following page and mail it in.

This annual professional development training is provided by the UW-Extension Horticulture Team to acquaint UW-Extension agents, educators, office staff, MGVs and others with information on UW-Extension diagnostic services, written and web-based horticulture resources, and UW-Extension personnel who can assist in answering horticulture-related questions.

Denise Rocha
Support Staff
Portage County UW-Extension
(715) 346-1316

If you are unable to attend the meeting in Portage County this year but would still like to get training, here are two other places you can go this year.

<https://wimastergardener.org/responding-to-horticulture-inquiries/>

April 20, Dunn Co. (Menominee) – registration deadline April 13
Agenda and registration flyer for Menominee location (coming soon)

May 22, Dane Co. (Madison) – registration deadline May 15
Agenda and registration flyer for Madison location (coming soon)



2018 Responding to Horticulture Inquiries

May 23, 2018 – Portage County
Portage County UW-Extension Office, Stevens Point, WI

Program schedule

8:30-8:40 am	<i>Welcome</i> , by Ken Schroeder, Portage County UW-Extension Agriculture Educator
8:40-9:40 am	<i>Strategies for Effectively Answering Horticulture Questions in a County UW-Extension Office</i> , by host group
9:40-10:45 am	<i>2018 Weed Update</i> , Mark Renz, UW-Extension Weed Scientist
10:45-11:00 am	Break
11:00 am-12:15 pm	<i>Communicating Pesticide Risk and Sustainable Pest Management to the General Public</i> , Paul Koch, UW-Extension Turfgrass Specialist
12:15-1:00 pm	Lunch
1:00-2:15 pm	<i>2018 Plant Insect Update</i> , PJ Liesch, UW-Extension Insect Diagnostics Lab
2:15-2:30 pm	Break
2:30-4:00 pm	<i>2018 Plant Disease Update</i> , Brian Hudelson, UW-Extension Plant Disease Diagnostics Clinic
4:00-4:30 pm	<i>UW-Madison/Extension Diagnostic Services</i> , Brian Hudelson, UW-Plant Disease Diagnostics Clinic

Register for the RHI program in Portage County by May 16 ~ Questions? Call 715-346-1316

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Day telephone _____

Email _____

Affiliation:

UWEX staff MGV other _____

\$20 per person, includes lunch

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

Register online at <https://goo.gl/3nKJez>

or scan this QR code



or return this form
with check, payable to

Portage County Treasurer

Mail to: Portage County UW-Extension
1462 Strongs Avenue
Stevens Point, WI 54481-2947

Master Gardener 101: Earning Recertification Hours Refresher

Here are ways of earning your **24 volunteer hours** for annual re-certification:

- Participating in a MG committee/team meeting
- Driving to/from a committee/team meeting
- Writing up an article/report for the WCMGV newsletter
- Doing “homework” for a committee/team you serve on
- Baking cookies/treats for a WCMGV fall seminar
- Working on an ANY officially recognized WCMGV project
- Tending the plantings around your church, your local cultural center, your town hall
- Working at any job connected to the WCMGV garden walk
- Showing your neighbor how to plan and execute a square foot garden or other style garden
- Helping a neighbor or friend investigate and solve a disease problem in their garden
- Helping the children at your neighborhood child care center tend the plantings in a garden
- Fielding gardening questions at a farmer market, the extension office, the garden walk

Here are ways of earning your **10 hours of continuing education** credit for annual MG re-certification:

- Attending the WCMGV fall and spring continuing education seminars
- Attending WMG state and regional conferences such as Garden Visions, etc.
- Attending a garden related presentation/tour that is a part of a monthly WCMGV meeting
- Attending a workshop at a nursery/garden center that doesn't promote a commercial product
- Listening to the Friday Garden Talk program on Wisconsin Public Radio, Ideas Network
- Participating in a workshop at the UW-Ex Hancock station
- Listening to a Wisconsin Public Radio, Ideas Network environmental program with UW-Ex
- Completing a Plants Plus seminar program on the Wisconsin Master Gardener website
- Reading this month's edition of *Wisconsin Gardening*, *Northern Gardener*, etc. magazines
- Checking out & watching gardening DVD's, videos, etc. from Wood County Extension office
- Attending a guided garden tour such as Monk Gardens
- Reading horticulture articles on the WMG website <https://wimastergardener.org/articles/>
- Reading horticulturally related articles on *WisContext* website <https://www.wiscontext.org/>
- Watching horticulturally related programs on Wisconsin Public TV's *University Place* website

NOT Volunteer time

- Attending a WCMGV monthly business meeting
- Attending a garden related presentation/tour that is a part of a monthly WCMGV meeting
- Driving to/from a monthly WCMGV business meeting
- Taking care of your neighbor's garden while he is ill

NOT Educational

- Attending a workshop sponsored by a commercial horticultural product (i.e. Scotts, etc.)
- Reading your monthly issue of *Better Homes and Gardens*
- Participating in the spring Clark County *Bloomin' Greenhouse* self-guided road tour
- Attending a self-guided garden walk/tour
- Driving to/from a horticulture/extension education program/workshop, etc.

“Coffee with MGV’s” Garden Talk Series

A new Garden Talk Series has begun. On Tuesday, February 13, the 1st of 7 *Coffee with MGV’s* talks took place at the Arpin Library. This initial event focused on selecting seeds, seed starting, and getting the vegetable garden ready for the spring season. It was a casual open group discussion in a round table setting where guests could actively participate in the group and take part in the sharing of knowledge.

Please feel free to join us in any of the future discussions and share your knowledge with the group. This program is designed to be both educational for you, but also as a way for you to share your knowledge with others. Therefore, by attending this event you are eligible to receive up to 2 hours of Continuing Education **AND** 2 hours of Volunteer Service for a **TOTAL OF 4 HOURS** for participating.

Hope to see you at future talks to take place at all the Wood County Libraries this year. We will inform you of the schedules as soon as they are finalized.

Jeremy Erickson
Horticulture Educator
UW-Extension Wood County
jerickson@co.wood.wi.us
715-421-8440

Garden Walk Crafts

Denise Larsen and her crew have great plans for making the clever crafts to be sold at the 2018 Garden Walk. To the left are examples of the crafts they are considering making this year. The following list includes used items which the crew needs; hopefully most can be donated by members.

- For the owls: bottle caps for the eyes.
- For the mushrooms: old metal bowls, or glass globes from light fixtures with a hole in the top.
- For the wicker decorations: wicker plates—the larger the better.

Some of these things can be found at Good Will or rummage sales but the crew is hoping that members might have these things lying around and would like to be rid of them. Dates for the classes will be determined at a later date. Bring donations to the March meeting for Denise. Thank you so much for all that you do!!



March Garden Guide

from [Portage County Master Gardeners Volunteers](#)

- Plant tuberous rooted begonias indoors early in the month.
- Begin regular fertilization of houseplants.
- March is a good month to make cuttings of many houseplants.
- Order perennial plants and specify that they be delivered when the ground is workable.
- Start seeds of slow-growing annuals. Transfer them as appropriate in April to cold frame.
- Start bulbs of calla. They will bloom from June to August.
- Start seedlings of cabbage, celery, cauliflower, head lettuce, and parsley.
- Keep amaryllis foliage growing by watering and feeding.
- Continue to inspect stored vegetables. Anything showing signs of spoilage should be removed immediately and either used or discarded.
- Don't worry if spring-flowering bulbs are sending up green leaves. The foliage can withstand winter weather.
- March is the leanest month for wildlife, so protect shrubs and plants with wire cages or sprinkle ground with cat hair or blood meal.
- Do not remove mulch from perennials too early. Keep light covering of mulch over spring bulbs.
- Rake off last season's mulches on garden soil so it can dry and be warmed by the sun. Remove any plant residue left from last year.
- If the compost pile froze during winter, turn it now, and add fresh manure to help restart the composting process.
- Finish pruning dormant trees.
- Sharpen lawn mower blades and have mower serviced before spring rush.
- If you fertilize, apply to shade trees, fruit trees and shrubs when buds swell, as well as to evergreens and raspberries.
- Prune summer flowering (after end of June) shrubs.
- Finish pruning grapes. Non-dormant pruning will cause excessive bleeding.
- Finish dormant pruning of fruit trees and berry bushes. Remove diseased or infected branches.



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Master Gardner Book Report by Tom Ptak

Author: Peter Wohlleben

Non Fiction 2016

Hard Cover: 288 Pages

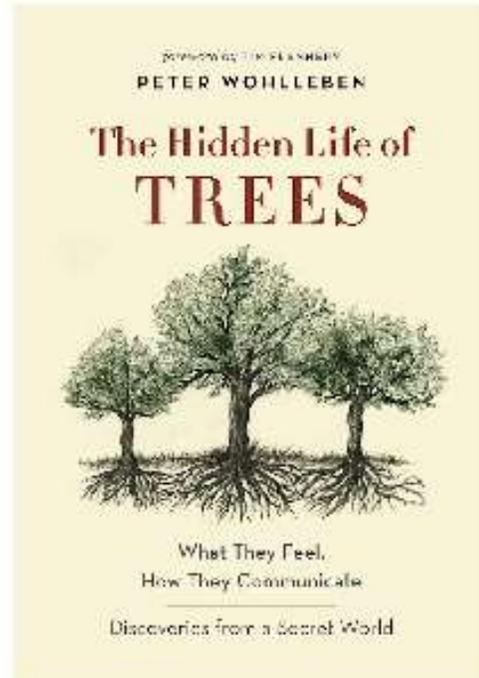
Publisher: Greystone Books

ISBN-10: 1771642483

ISBN-13: 978-1771642484

My Star Rating 5 out of 5 Stars

Average Web review 76% 5 Stars



How are trees related to the human family? How are tree behaviors related to other trees in the forests? What role does the tree root fungi play with the relationships with our soil organisms?

The compassionate author presents an ecological approach with light scientific explanations of the ecology movement. He has managed many large forests in Europe being a well known arborist and horticulturist.

What can we do to promote the growth of trees and woods lasting hundreds of years? How does fungi provide minerals for sugar changes? Wohlleben explains the process of life, death, and regeneration, as he studied forty years being a graduate of forestry school.

I enjoyed reading this popular New York Times best seller and appreciated his expertise from a nurturing horticulture standpoint. The chapters are 3-6 pages in length, allowing the busy reader to place the book down and pick up the text later.



Spring Garden Seminar



Date : Saturday, April 7, 2018

Time 8:00 - 12:00

**Mid State Technical College
500 32nd St. N, Wisconsin Rapids**

**8-8:30 Registration Presented by:
Wood County Master Gardener Volunteers**

Early Registration Recommended. Deadline April 2. UW-Extension 715-421-8440.

Public Invited-Limited Seating Refreshments available before and at break Fee \$10 Payable at Door

8: 30 - 10:00

Laish Heersma, Instructor at MSTC, and Manager of ArborVantage Nursery, Arpin, WI.

Topic: *"Fruit Tree Grafting and Pruning."* Includes: a demonstration on grafting.

10:30-12:00

Joel Kuehnhold, grew up working on grandparents and uncle's farms. At 12, he started raising chickens and showing cattle at county fair. Joel left his 13-year career as an agriculture education instructor to focus on the farm, freelance as a grazing specialist, and forester for an environmental non-profit organization.

Topic: *"Organic Vegetable Farming and the CSA World."* Includes: seed starting, hoop house/high tunnel usage, disease and pest treatment, composting, membership, restaurant, and soil nutrients/soil practices.

An EEOI/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX and Americans with Disabilities (ADFA) requirements



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Please send items for inclusion in the newsletter by the 10th of the month.

Public Relations Chair
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715-697-3911

Lead time for television and newspaper is four weeks. Call Karen for clarification of dates and deadlines.

Wisconsin Master Gardeners
Website: <http://wimastergardener.org>

Wood County Extension
Website: <http://wood.uwex.edu>

WCMGV Website: <http://www.wood-county-master-gardeners.org>

The Wood County Master Gardener Association is a non-profit organization with a mission to educate and share information with its members and the community alike. In addition, it is our charge to promote the UW Extension from which we are founded. We are a diverse group interested in the latest research-based horticultural information.

Marvelous Magnolias

Known for their showy blooms, Magnolias are some of the most beloved trees the plant kingdom. Michael Jesiolowski, senior horticulturist at Chicago Botanic Garden, will discuss the “ins and outs” of a wide variety of species and new selections, such as ‘Rose Marie.’ He will also include a few plants that are closely related to Magnolias and discuss cultural requirements and proper pruning techniques for each species.

Registration deadline: March 8

Program #10-18

Event Location

Olbrich Botanical Gardens

3330 Atwood Avenue

Madison, WI 53704

Date: March 17th, 2018

Cost: \$15/\$12 Olbrich member

Contact: Education Programs Registrar

Phone: 608-246-4550

Email: kskadahl@cityofmadison.com