

# UW-Extension Wood County Master Gardener Association

Wood County UW Extension

April 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

### ColdSnap Aquaponics with Pam Walker

**April 24, 7:00 p.m. 6251 State Hwy 54 West, WR**

<http://coldsnapaquaponics.com/about-us/>

In 2017, Pamela and her family constructed the ColdSnap Aquaponics facility 10 miles west of Wisconsin Rapids, located in Central Wisconsin. The greenhouse provides a state-of-the-art, clean and controlled environment supporting the standard operating procedures and good agricultural practices measured against aquaponics industry standards for bio-security and food safety.

On seed tables grow varieties of Romaine, Bibb and Buttercrisp lettuce, spinach, plus microgreens and fancy leaf lettuce. Four media beds provide the space to grow tomatoes, cucumbers, kohlrabi, beets, and other vegetables suitable for shallow root development.

With the capacity to grow 90,000 heads of lettuce annually, ColdSnap Aquaponics provides fresh produce to local schools, hospitals, restaurants, and grocery stores. Produce also will be available on a small scale to retail customers who visit the ColdSnap greenhouse. Lettuce will be cut for those interested in purchasing it at the meeting for \$3.00 a head. Business meeting will be held after the tour. Directions are on page 3.



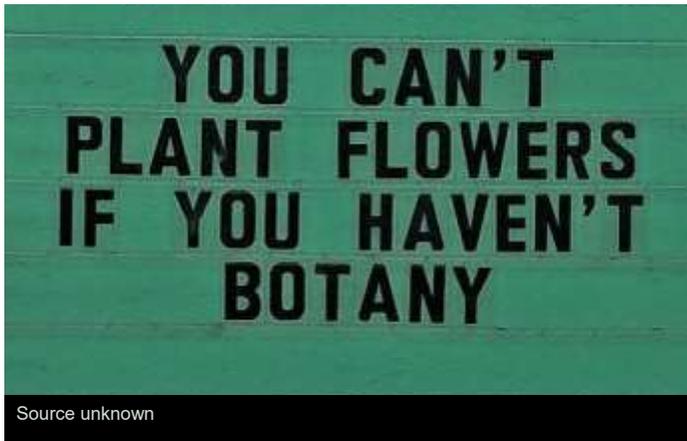
**“Ask A Master  
Gardener” Scenario  
with Sue Wilford  
May 22, 7:00 p.m.  
Wood Town Hall,  
Pittsville**

May’s meeting will be “Ask a Master Gardener” Scenarios with Sue Wilford.

We will also have the annual plant exchange at this meeting since it will be after the W.R. spring plant sale. On the off chance that there are plants left over, they will be available that day.

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## President's Message

The last two months I've focused on our primary goal of educating the public about horticulture. This month we need to focus on what it means to be a volunteer as a master gardener.

We all know that being a Master Gardener in Wisconsin saves the state a ton of money and provides beauty in otherwise drab places. So, what's in it for us?

According to Forbes, being a volunteer has five benefits: It gives us a sense that we have more time, it helps us develop more skills, it gives us a healthier body, it builds experience and gives us a sense of overall satisfaction by knowing we've done something for others.

As a gardener, not only are we making an impact on the community, but gardening also reduces stress, gives us exercise, teaches us patience (having to wait a whole summer for blooms, food, etc.), and releases our creativity when we design our outdoor areas and place plants in just the right spot.

Looking at the beginning of April with all the snowing and blowing and freezing weather, I can only hope it gets better. Can't wait to get out and make this true!

Famia

## WCMGVs Car-Pooling to Meetings

Several requests for car-pooling to WCMGVs Monthly Meetings have been received!

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.

Questions: Please contact [Famia Marx](#)



dreamstime.com

## 2018 Master Gardener Volunteer Programs

Last month's program schedule was printed incorrectly (due to newsletter editor error). Below is a corrected schedule.

Date/Time	Location	Topic/Guest Speaker	Contact
April 24 7 pm	6251 State Highway 54 West, W.R.	ColdSnap Aquaponics Pam Walker	Jeremy Erickson
May 22 7 pm	Wood Town Hall- Pittsville	Ask a Master Gardener Scenarios Sue Wilford Member plant exchange	Karleen Remington
June 26 7 pm	7020 Plover Road, W.R.	The School at Altenburg's Farm	Ruth Cline
July 24 7 pm	First Presbyterian Church, Marshfield	Tour Marshfield Community Gardens	Karleen Remington
August 28 5:30 pm!	Lester Public Library-Rome	Tour of Lester Public Library Gardens, Pot Luck Supper	Ruth Cline
September 25 7 pm	Wood Town Hall-- Pittsville	Dr. Jeffrey Amundson-Do Plants Think?	Paula Klevene
October 23 7 pm	MARS	Member seed exchange "Climate Change and Health" Dr. Bruce Krawisz	Ruth Cline
November 27 7 pm	WR Courthouse Room 114	Gift Exchange-Winter Party Barb Herreid "Costa Rica Trip"	Paula Klevene

### Directions to ColdSnap Aquaponics (continued from page 1)

*ColdSnap Aquaponics* is located 10 miles west of Wisconsin Rapids on Highway 54 in the town of Cranmoor. There is a large sign at the end of the driveway and ample parking on the east side of the building.

From Marshfield, take 80 down through Pittsville and left on 54. From Rapids follow 54 west through Port Edwards to find it.

### Winged Wonders

Join us Sunday June 24<sup>th</sup> from 11-2pm at Mead Wildlife Station for Winged Wonders – an event to celebrate Mead Wildlife National Pollinators. WCMGV are needed to set-up/staff a booth. This is a great event to earn hours! This year Kathy McGrath from Port Edwards. will be doing her butterfly presentation. Any volunteers can contact Paula Klevene or Famia Marx.

**Wood County Master Gardener Volunteers**  
**UW Extension WI Rapids; March 27, 2018; 1 Hour Continuing Education**

**Meeting was called to order at 7:50pm.** Attendance and committee/team sign-up sheets available.

**Minutes 11/28/2017:** Barb Kleifgen moved to accept past minutes as written, seconded by Lynn Bushmaker, motion carried.

**Financial report:** Financial report given by Barb Herreid. Motion to accept reports as presented was made by Audrey Brundidge. Seconded by Purvi Trivedi-Ziemba. Motion carried.

**Extension Update:** Jeremy Erickson demonstrated the updated website, <https://wood-county-master-gardeners.org/>

**Old Business/Announcements:**

**Cookbook Project Update** – about 150 left; some cookbooks used at door prizes at the garden and coffee talks at libraries in Wood County. Order blank created to be used at FTD, since no sales are allowed.

**Farm Tech Days** – sign-up for growing plants and help during FTD.

**New Business/Announcements:**

**Program Update:** Corrected times and place will be in next newsletter. August meeting at Rome Library will start at 5:30pm. May and September meetings will be at Wood Town Hall in Pittsville.

**WR plant sale:** May 12, 2018 at WR Zoo. Next meeting April 9<sup>th</sup>. Plants ordered; have vegetable seeds available if MGV willing to start seeds, or to dig up plants. Potting soil will not be sold this year.

**Spring Seminar** – April 7<sup>th</sup> – Flyer in newsletter and posters available. Sign-up sheets circulated for attendance, refreshments and helping with set up and clean up.

**WR Children's Festival** – April 21<sup>st</sup> at Lincoln High School from 10-3pm. Next committee meeting at 3:30pm on March 28<sup>th</sup> in ETN room. Team will be packaging seeds for sunflower kits.

**Worm Castings** – Order form in newsletter due by May 1<sup>st</sup>. Will be available at plant sale or May meeting.

**Garden Walk** – July 21<sup>st</sup>. 6 gardens in greater WI Rapids area, last one to confirm is the South Wood County Historical Museum. Save the Date bookmarks available for distribution. If we are to have a chef in garden, we would need an MGV to coordinate by next meeting on April 7<sup>th</sup>. Looking for help with set up Friday, set up and take down of directional signs, take left over crafts to Marshfield fall plant sale and any interested garden guide/greeter.

**Art in the Garden Boutique Items:** Sign-up for work dates in April and May. In need of metal bowls and large wicker plates.

**Project Leader/Committee/Team Updates/Information** – WR community gardens is having a fruit tree pruning opportunity on April 12<sup>th</sup> at 5pm.

**Community education attendance form:** Year End Tally of Community Education form to be filled out and submitted by October 1<sup>st</sup>. 2017 state report numbers: total 7,401 volunteer hours; education contacts: youth 2,344 and adults 9,351.

**Farmer's Market/Ask a Master Gardener** – Anyone interested in working WI Rapids farmers market is to contact Jeremy Erickson. Eliz Erdmann is interested.

**Additional New Business/Announcements**

Mary Czaja reported a research study of Red Maple trees from North Carolina State University. Google website at: <http://ecoipm.org/a-trees-life/> or email [a-trees-life@ncsu.edu](mailto:a-trees-life@ncsu.edu)

**Motion to Adjourn** at 8:35pm was made by Shelby Weister, seconded by Lynn Bushmaker, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted – Sue Wilford, Secretary

**Members Attending:** Shirley Anderson, Sandra Artz, Annette Bowden, Debby Brown, Audrey Brundidge, Lynn Bushmaker, Julie Carlsen, Bob Cline, Ruth Cline, Mary Czaja, Eliz Erdmann, Micky Erickson, Jennifer Fane, Patricia Farley, Joyce Fischer, Christine Griffith, Chris Grimes, Peg Harvey, Betty Havlik, Barb Herreid, Karen Houdek, Barb Kleifgen, Paula Klevene, Bea Kohl, Denise Larson, Scott MacMillan, Joy Mader, Fania Marx, Gail Meyer, Jeanne Osgood, Tom Ptak, Karleen Remington, Deb Rokke, Ann Rozner, Janet Sabin, Marjorie Schenk, Dick Shepherd, Thomas Stram, Donna Streiff, Karen Tlachac, Carol Tomke, Purvi Trivedi-Ziemba, Shelby Weister, Sue Wilford, Penn Wilkes, Mary Zahn. UW Extension Educator: Jeremy Erickson.

**Meeting Program:** Farm Technology Days by Sue Wilford and Volunteer Hours Awards



Worm Compost, also called Worm Castings is a very rich source of nutrients for your plants.

*Ideal for Containers, Hanging Baskets, Houseplants and Perennials*

**A LITTLE GOES A LONG WAY!**

- Benefits of Worm Castings:**
- Superior organic fertilizer and soil amendment
  - Naturally aerates and improves the soil
  - Helps soil retain moisture
  - Does not contain toxic chemicals
  - Naturally releases nutrients to plants both immediately and slow-release
  - Promotes biological activity in soil
  - Promotes healthy root growth
  - Doesn't burn plants

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## Worm Castings - Special Member Sale

Item	Price	Quantity	Total
1# Bag	\$3.00		
5# Bag	\$8.00		
20# Bag	\$23.00		
30# Bag	\$36.00		
50# Bag	\$50.00		

YOUR NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to WCMGV and mail to Barb Herreid, 946 S. Archers Way, Nekoosa, WI 54457

**ORDER DEADLINE IS MAY 1<sup>ST</sup>**

The bags of Worm Castings will be distributed at the May 22<sup>nd</sup> monthly meeting or at the WR Plant Sale on May 12<sup>th</sup>

# Farm Technology Days: July 10-12, 2018



## Farm Technology Days

**D&B Sternweis Farm; Weber's Farm Store  
Heiman Holsteins,**

**9885 Co. Hwy. H – Marshfield; July 10-12, 2018**

**Website: <http://www.wifarmtechnologydays.com/wood/>**

Open 9am-4pm Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday  
MGV – set up on Monday, July 9<sup>th</sup>  
MGV - take down on Thursday, July 12<sup>th</sup>, at 4pm

***OUR PLAN:** Ask a Wood County Master Gardener booth; Granny Garden vs Square Foot Garden on each side of entrance to tent (with mannequins). Booth to include educational gardens and displays which will show off our various talents and expertise. Our booths will be located in and near the UW Extension Educational tent.*

We have many great educational gardens and displays which will show off our expertise and talents. There will be fairy gardens, succulent gardens, herb gardens, container gardens of vegetables and flowers, rose gardens, fresh flower arrangement and microgreens. There will be educational displays on invasive aquatic species, composting, native vs non-native plants, roses, and mason bees.

There will be two 4X8ft gardens which will depict past gardening practices versus modern gardening technique: 'Granny Garden' vs 'Square Foot Garden.' All the vegetables for these gardens will be planted in pots and then covered with mulch to hide the pots.

### **We are looking for:**

WCMGV to plant vegetables in the round and rectangle pots for the granny garden and square foot garden. Pots and Seeds are to be distributed at the April MGV meeting.

WCMGV to volunteer to work the morning or afternoon shift each day for our booths, set up on Monday and take down on Thursday.

**[CONTACT MICKY ERICKSON AT 715-435-3616 OR garymicky@charter.net](mailto:garymicky@charter.net)  
IF INTERESTED IN HELPING WITH PLANTING VEGETABLES IN ROUND OR  
RECTANGLE POTS.**

Farm Technology Days has various fund raisers that may interest you. There is a t-Shirts, sweatshirts, baseball caps, a personalized commemorative toy truck and cattle trailer, large yard bench, insulated bags and memorial pots. Check out the website for more details.

For more information – contact Ruth Cline, Micky Erickson or Sue Wilford

**2018 WOOD COUNTY WISCONSIN FARM  
TECHNOLOGY DAYS**

[www.wifarmtechnologydays.com/wood](http://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 13<sup>th</sup> 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**

## Classified Column

### Help Wanted

The spring clean up for the Wisconsin Rapids Zoo gardens will be on Monday, May 14 at 8:30am. Come and join the Zoo Crew as we begin the 2018 with the clean up of the gardens. All you need to do is bring your gardening tools and your enthusiasm for gardening. This is a special start to the season and we also have snacks to entice you to attend. How can you pass up those delicious donuts we are offering you? Come and join the fun!! See you on Monday, May 14 at 8:30am!!!! Call Mary Kay York with questions, 715-459-9373

### Plant Donations wanted

Plants for Eagle Scout Project in Marshfield. New Jersey tea, black-eyed Susan, Indian grass, butterfly weed, aster, mint, red clover, yarrow, prickly pear cacti, sedum "frosty morn", optunia "compressa, or Autumn Joy. Contact Jeremy Erickson for more information

### Website/Facebook Co-editor Wanted

We are looking for a volunteer to assist with managing our online presence. We use our website and Facebook pages not only to promote our activities and fundraisers, but also to feature educational articles on timely subjects throughout most of the year. Your responsibilities would include composing articles or editing an article written by someone else and then posting them online. Training is provided. Must have a current account on Facebook. Proficiency in writing and grammar is desired. Time spent researching and writing go toward volunteer hours. Contact Chris Grimes for more information.

### Donations for Garden Boutique Wanted

As you cleanout your garden sheds and spring clean your garage and basement, please save any garden related items you don't need! Julie Carlsen is collecting your **CLEAN** items and storing them for the upcoming 2018 Garden Walk. Bring items to membership meetings for Julie.. Examples of items to donate include: flower pots of all kinds, garden art items, bird houses, bee houses, bird baths, bird cages, trellises, small benches, garden tools, old small windows (even if glass is missing), old garden gates (small), any item that may be re-purposed into garden art, old pails, garden books and magazines, art work, garden creatures/statues, small colored stones, ,old bike helmets, baskets— just about any item you think would be useful to a creative gardener. We really need a great variety to make the Garden Art Boutique a success in 2018.



## Honorees for Hours

At every March meeting we have a presentation of gifts to the volunteers that reach a milestone for the cumulative time put into our organization. This year's honorees are:

Newly certified—Deb Rokke

**150 hours**—Shirley Anderson, Roberta Stolt and Becky Thorpe

**250 hours**—Annette Bowden, Peg Harvey and Peg Klinkhammer

**500 hours**—Tom Ptak, Donna Streiff, and Roxanne Tomkowiak

**750 hours**—Julie Carlsen, Chris Griffith, Chris Grimes, Paula Klevene, Carol Tomke and Sue Wilford

**1000 hours**—Sue Wilford also was honored for this milestone along with Mary Czaja and Bea Kohl

**1500 hours**—Fern Fregien, Jeanne Osgood and Jan Sabin

**2000 hours**—Michaeleen Erickson and Margie Schenk

**2500 hours**—Mary Kay York

**3000 hours**—Barb Herreid

There are other milestones available, but these are the ones we had this year. If you see any of these people, make sure to congratulate them. Thanks to all our volunteers for contributing their time to the mission of education and sharing of information to our membership and to the community. Here's hoping we continue to see more milestones and many more years of service.



## WCMGV Facebook Pages



Did you know we have two Facebook pages? One is our public page which features our activities and educational subjects. The other is our private group page, which is only open to members. This page is used to communicate WCMGV news and information that we do not want to share with the public. You may also post gardening information on this page that you would like to share with your MG colleagues. You must be invited to join this private group. If interested, send your request via email to [chgrimes@wctc.net](mailto:chgrimes@wctc.net) and you will receive an invitation. When you accept the invitation, you will be added to the group.

## 2018 Garden Walk Corner

Six beautiful gardens in central Wisconsin Rapids have been selected for this year's Garden Walk, one of the main fundraisers for the WCMGV's. Once again, there will be artists, musicians, craft sales, Art in the Garden Boutique and a silent auction.

The artists lined up for this year's Walk range from Beekeepers and Maple Syrup producers to sculptors, jewelers, photographers and draftsmen.. This month, we will highlight two of the artists who will be showing their work at gardens along the walk.

**Amber Lobner:** "I'm mostly a self-aught artist, and I've been drawing all my life. I grew up with a sketchbook and pencils always at the ready and still filled agenda planner margins with sketches and doodles. A long –standing fascination with nature and a love of horror films drives my imagination still.

I work mainly with colored pencil and plain graphite, but I'm also partial to pen work. I'm also on a slow path to learning the art of taxidermy, though my current focus is on shells and bones. I clean shells to museum quality, both to paint and display as it.

I find beauty in all aspects of nature, in both life and death and all the layers in between, and aim to express this in my work."



**CJay:** "I started as a child making things, for over 60 years. My work has evolved into several different mediums. My first love is china painting, which I teach. I also work with oil, acrylic and watercolor, as well as painting Ukrainian eggs, hand painted Christmas ornaments.

At the Garden Walk exhibit, I will show my heirloom collection of crystal Christmas ornaments. The beautiful handmade beaded and chained jewelry by artist Nancy Facklam will also be shown."

## Garden Walk Crafts

The second craft night for the Garden Walk sale will be held at Denise Larsen's house at 3917 Pryne Rd, Wisconsin Rapids on Tuesday, May 15th from 4:00 until 8:00 p.m. Wicker plates and painted mushrooms are on the agenda. Please RSVP to Denise at [lorden74@hotmail.com](mailto:lorden74@hotmail.com) so she knows how many crafters to expect. June dates will be announced later.

Anyone having metal bowls or wicker plates to donate, should bring them to the next general meeting or get in touch with Denise.



## Increased Emphasis on Education Encouraged in MGCV Programs

Over the past few years the BOD has been trying to increase the ways we can provide more education and less grunt work in our projects. We began circulating a list last fall for people to indicate what horticultural topics they were familiar with, such as natives, vegetable growing, roses, orchids, bee keeping, etc. The purpose of this list is twofold.

First, if we have a question from the public, such as at an Ask a Master Gardener session, or just a neighbor who has a problem with a particular plant, for example, we would have a list of members who may be able to help solve the problem. Second, if we get a request for a speaker/program on a particular topic, we would know who we might call on for information or to be a possible speaker.

Now, I can hear you saying, "Whoa!! But I'm not an expert on that". True, you may not consider yourself an "expert" but you probably know more about the topic than you realize. You don't have to be an expert to be a speaker or present a program. We are encouraging our members to think about the possibility. You would not be alone in this. There is a group of people that would help you develop your program, such as producing a PowerPoint or handouts, practice your program, and even go with you to co-present or for moral support!! Being a speaker or giving a program is really a grown-up version of show and tell. You are showing and telling what you know about a topic familiar to you. We are also trying to figure out a way to archive or store the materials and information a member develops for a program, so that in the future if we get a request for the same or a similar program, there will be a program or materials already prepared.

We will be talking more about this initiative at the May meeting. In the meantime, if you have questions talk to one of the Community Education and Outreach Committee people.

## WCMGV Meetings and Notices

**April 17, 2018:** Coffee with MGCVs, Marshfield Library, 1-3 p.m.  
Final Planning Meeting for Children's Festival, 4 p.m. ETN Room, WR Courthouse  
Craft night at Denise Larsen's house, 4-8 p.m.

**April 21, 2018:** Wisconsin Rapids Children's Festival: 10-3.

**April 24, 2018:** Membership meeting, Cold Snap Aquaponics, 7:00 p.m.

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

**May 15, 2018:** Second Craft Night, Denise Larsen's house, 4-8 p.m.

**June 2, 2018:** Garden Walk Committee, McMillan Library, 9:00, Conference Room

**June 4, 2018:** Winged Wonders, Mead Wildlife Center, 11-2 p.m.

**July 10-12, 2018:** Farm Technology Days, D&B Sternweis Farm; Weber's Farm Store Heiman Holsteins, 9885 Co. Hwy. H – Marshfield; 9-4 pm.

**July 21, 2018:** WCMGV Garden Walk 2018

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.

# May Garden Guide

from [Portage County Master Gardeners Volunteers](#)

- Set Easter lilies in garden.
- Plant cool-weather crops: lettuce, spinach, chard, parsnip, onion sets, beets, carrots, kohlrabi, mustard, turnips, radishes, peas, parsley, and potatoes in early May. Soil temperatures should be at least 45 degrees.
- Plant snap beans, pole beans, sweet corn, and onion plants in mid-May. Sweet corn planted earlier in the season has fewer pest problems.
- Inspect for Iris borer larva on iris leaves. Crush larva.
- For bigger Peony flowers, de-bud several branches. Stake before buds open.
- Set out pansy plants when ground is workable.
- Dig and divide mid summer and fall blooming perennials before tip growth gets too tall.
- Plant tuberous begonias.
- Watch birch leaves for birch leaf miner infestation. Use sticky traps to monitor emergence of adults to help time spraying with summer oil, Neem extract, or rotenone. Sprays are only effective on adults or larvae before they tunnel into leaves. Some soil applied systemic chemicals may be effective in controlling larvae after they have tunneled into leaves.
- Plant tomato seedlings by pinching off lower leaves and placing on its side in a shallow furrow 2.5 inches below the soil surface. Soil closer to the surface is warmer and will speed tomato growth.
- Plant and transplant new evergreens before new growth appears.
- Plant strawberries, bush fruits, and grapes in mid month. Pinch blossoms from newly planted strawberries to develop strong plants for next year.
- Remove faded flowers from spring-flowering bulbs. Cut off stalks but allow leaves to die down naturally. Fertilize after blooming with 5 10-20.
- Plant stored geraniums in well-drained soil after last frost and keep moist. New growth should begin in one week.
- Prune spring-flowering shrubs after flowers have faded. Apply fertilizer.
- Toward end of the month, harden off seedlings of vegetable transplants and annuals grown indoors. Bring in at night or place in cold frames before planting in garden.



## What is Standard IV?

If you have been on the WCMGV website lately nosing around you may have come across Standard IV. You might be wondering why we have four standards when we used to have only three. Well, here is the answer! In the past year or so, we have been trying to establish a procedure for handling the many requests we get for help with garden projects and/or education. Also, as part of the shift in emphasis from maintaining in-ground gardens to promoting horticultural education, Standard IV was developed to define a process for doing that.

In addition to the Standard IV document, there are two other new forms for use with the standard. The first one is the *Community Education Request* form. Persons/groups who want our assistance will be referred to this form on the website. It has two parts: the first one is for a speaker or program, and the second is for developing an educational project.

Once the form is filled in and sent to the Extension Office, it begins the process outlined in Standard IV. If the request is for something other than a speaker/program, the second new form called *Checklist for Master Gardener Community Education Project Approval* is used to help the MG(s) and the requesting party to, first, assess whether the project is realistic and attainable, and second, whether the project is within our capabilities to assist with as MG(s).

We are hoping that this new standard will clear up many of the questions about who, what, when, where, and how we deal with requests. So, if someone asks you if the MG(s) can help with ABC or XYZ, you will know to tell them to fill in the form on the website. You will also know how we will decide to deal with their request. As this is the pilot year for this standard, your feedback on this new process and standard is appreciated. This standard is also designed to promote more of an educational emphasis, rather than dig-in-the-ground projects.

If you have questions or comments about these documents, please contact Sue Wilford, Karleen Remington, or Donna Streiff.

## MGV's Garden and Coffee Talk Series

Join the Wood County Master Gardener Association for our 'Garden and Coffee Talks' events taking place at the local Libraries. Discussions will focus on Community Gardens, Composting, and any other garden related topics that may arise. This will be a casual open group discussion in a round table setting where guests can actively participate in the group and take part in the sharing of knowledge. Coffee, tea, and light snacks will be provided.

Please feel free to join us in our 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 these events 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.

Contact me at the address below for more information.

Jeremy Erickson  
Horticulture Educator  
UW-Extension Wood County  
[jerickson@co.wood.wi.us](mailto:jerickson@co.wood.wi.us)  
715-421-8440



Photo by: [Nico Kalsner](#) via Flickr Creative Commons 2.0

# 2018 WCMGV Board of Directors

**President—Famia Marx**

[mapallc@tds.net](mailto:mapallc@tds.net)

715-652-2405

**Vice President—Paula Klevene**

[paula.klevene@gmail.com](mailto:paula.klevene@gmail.com)

715-886-5702

**Secretary—Sue Wilford**

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715-652-6129

**Treasurer—Barb Herreid**

[bherreid@wctc.net](mailto:bherreid@wctc.net)

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**Director—Karleen Remington**

[remington@tznet.com](mailto:remington@tznet.com)

715-387-1863

**Director—Bob Cline**

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715-569-4202

**Director—Jen Fane**

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

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

**Wisconsin Master Gardeners**

**Website:** [http://](http://wimastergardener.org)

[wimastergardener.org](http://wimastergardener.org)

**Wood County Extension**

**Website:** [http://](http://wood.uwex.edu)

[wood.uwex.edu](http://wood.uwex.edu)

**WCMGV Website:** [http://](http://www.wood-county-master-gardeners.org)

[www.wood-county-master-gardeners.org](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 funded. We are a diverse group interested in the latest research-based horticultural information.

## Wisconsin Prairie Chicken Festival – April 14, 2018 \*

An opportunity to view Greater Prairie-chickens will be offered to participants attending the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Wisconsin Prairie Chicken Festival on April 14, 2018. The day begins with two offerings at the Paul J. Olson Wildlife Area; viewing Greater Prairie-chickens on their “booming grounds”, or a guided grassland birding tour. Participants will meet early at the Sigel Town Hall. A Dutch oven breakfast made by Boy Scout Troop 187 follows both activities.

The Festival continues at Camp Alexander’s Lester Hall with exhibits and vendors beginning at 11:00 AM. There is a silent auction with several items to bid on. A locally-sourced noon luncheon will feature keynote Bill Volkert, a nationally renowned birding expert. Three afternoon workshops held at 1:00, 2:00 and 3:00 PM. will feature three speakers: “Prairie Chicken History”, “Local Pollinators: Butterfly and Bees”, and “Grazing and the Improvement of Wildlife Habitat”. McMillan Memorial Library will show “Our Birds”, an In-Wisconsin Public Television documentary at 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM. This film tells the story of our migratory birds’ journey from Wisconsin to Central and South America and is free and open to the public.

Space is limited for some activities! Anyone interested in purchasing tickets should go to [www.Showtix4u.com](http://www.Showtix4u.com) and search Wisconsin Prairie Chicken Festival or call 866-967-8167. No registration is required for the movie at library. Questions or comments call 715-540-0236 or email at [wisconsinprairiechickenfest@gmail.com](mailto:wisconsinprairiechickenfest@gmail.com). For more information go to our Facebook site: A Wisconsin Prairie Chicken Festival.

\*This year WCMGVA will be exhibitors at this event. Stop by and see us!



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