

UW-Extension Wood County Master Gardener Association

Wood County UW Extension

June 2020

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 2020 Program Information

COVID-19 Updates for the Master Gardener Program

I know everyone is getting antsy to be outside on volunteer projects. DATCP has recently released criteria for green industry businesses to be open for their essential functioning, DO NOT interpret this as a green light for volunteering at your out of home projects.

The executive order states:

2. Non-essential business and operations must cease. All for-profit and non-profit businesses with a facility in Wisconsin, except Essential Businesses and Operations as defined below, are required to cease all activities at facilities located within Wisconsin...

We must remember we are an outreach service of the UW-Madison campus. All research, education, and outreach is cancelled, postponed, or moved online. Furthermore, a county health department message was recently shared with me regarding MG activities:

I do not recommend this [outside volunteer activities]. The Safer at Home order recommends staying at home especially among the population over age 60. Travel only for essential purposes. The Garden beds are not essential. We are expected to peak in the month of May with the disease. It is not a good time to be doing these activities and does not send the message of staying at home. I know they are excited to work on the gardens but it is very important in order to protect our community. Mike Maddox

Most pages from May newsletter are still up to date but members should review as WCMGVA members are still under HALT requirement until further notice !!! New Information from Madison will be sent to members when received.

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President's Notebook

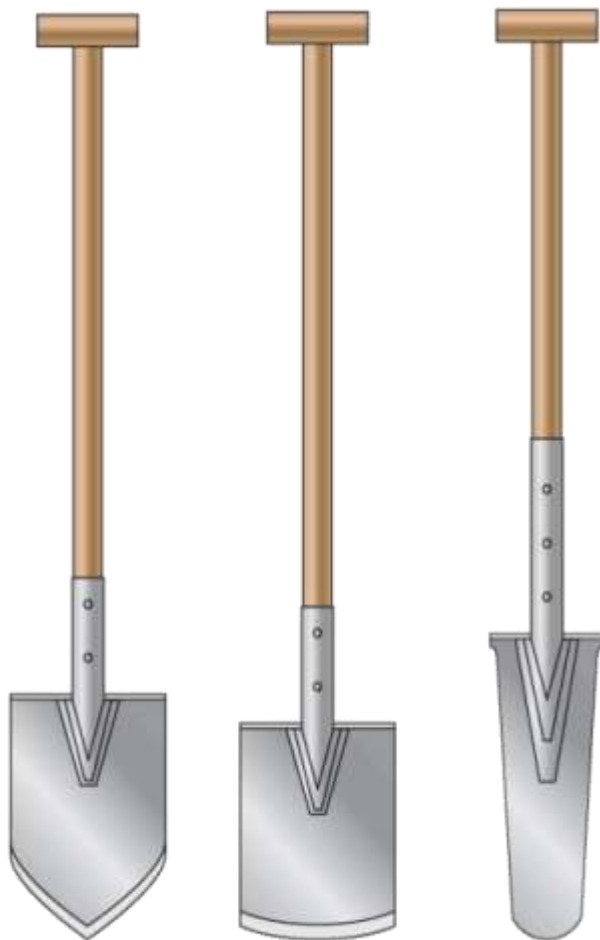
Yes...a repeat! Almost!

Hello members. First and foremost I hope you are staying home, staying safe and taking care of yourself and family. The most important subjects right now are yourself, your family, friends and neighbors. Our WCMGVA garden projects will be waiting for us to return when the COVID-19 situation is under control and it is safe to return to our daily activities. We will receive information from UW Extension Madison - Mike Maddox when we can resume our Wood County Master Gardener Organization activities, which includes all in-ground garden projects, face to face educational programs, meetings, coffee gatherings, committees, etc. The reason for the Halt is to protect ourselves, and the communities which we serve and for liability.

Soon the sun will shine, temperatures will go up, and weeds will grow tall. Spring will finally be here...and guess what? WCMGVs will want to grab their garden tools and head to their public gardens, with hope to get those weeds under control, plant that really neat new shrub, or a special new plant that you found that no one else has in their garden. Plus you have several new garden tools that you received as a Christmas gift and now you want to show them to your fellow gardeners. The list goes on! You think, I will just go for an hour, when no one else is working in the gardens! We as WCMGVA volunteers know better. We are certified volunteer staff working under UW Extension Madison. We follow all requirements and do our best to share Horticulture Education safely via Zoom, email or educational materials. Thanks, once again for your support!

Ruth Cline

Special Notice!!!
Members, please take care, be safe, enjoy your own gardens, follow Madison Requirements, together we will survive and our public gardens will be there waiting for us!!!



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Community Gardens Update

Questions about Community Gardens? Both Marshfield and Wisconsin Rapids Community Gardens are up and running. The public pays for their garden site to the Community Garden Person in charge of garden fees, etc. Mulch, soils, etc. is supplied by each Community Garden Organization in charge of gardens. During the current Halt, WCMGV who normally provide advice, assistance at these Community gardens fall under the Halt requirement and may not work at either Garden until further notice from UW Madison. Thank You!

Updated Information for WCMGVA Membership

Hello members, I hope you are staying home, keeping safe and finding enough projects to keep you busy. I have enjoyed having extra time to catch up on projects around our farm, woodlands, prairie gardens, veggie garden containers, and hobbies. Our new puppy keeps me busy and walking daily. There are so many updates to share with you. I am trying a list method this newsletter.

May 6, a special BOD meeting was held to review 2020 current situation and make plans for 2021. We had many hard decisions to make in regards to the future of our WCMGVA organization. 2020 MGVA year is over half gone, so we decided it was best to start planning for 2021. Direct any questions to Ruth Cline.



- May 26 membership meeting has been cancelled. We are looking into having a “Zoom Educational Program” in place of our regular monthly meeting. This option may allow membership to communicate together or view a monthly program. If anyone has input on that idea, feel free to contact me. Therefore, the remaining 2020 monthly program/meetings are postponed pending future notification.
- Volunteer hours are not required in 2020 but the 10 Continuing Education hours are still required. Watch the newsletter for Educational Resources for members to complete the education requirement.
- The 2020 Garden Walk has been postponed until July, 2021 due to the current COVID-19 situation.
- Due to our spring conference, spring plant sale and Garden Walk not being held, our income is drastically reduced. After much discussion, funding of all Garden Projects, Community Education, Youth and Adult Education projects, and Program Expenses has been put on hold. All future expenses must have prior approval by Barb Herreid, treasurer. Thank You!
- We will be contacting radio stations to share information about Garden Walk being postponed and to make plans to have Garden talks via phone.
- Project Leaders will receive a separate email in regards to putting funding on hold for their Garden Projects, and Youth/Adult Education Projects. As of this date WCMGVs are still operating under the Halt requirement, which means we may not do any work at any of our public garden projects.
- Thank you for respecting the Halt requirement! Together we will create new ideas/ways to educate the public and answer their Horticulture questions.
- Read [April MG Volunteer Vibe](#)...Compiled by Mike Maddox...Please follow!

Zooming at Marshfield Library

The Marshfield Library has been hosting Zoom educational programs. If any MGs would like to make a presentation, especially in the Garden Guru slot on the third Monday of the month at 6pm, please contact me and I will get you in touch with Bethany Pierson. If you have the presentation on your computer and/or you have camera on your computer and Internet access, you can give it. I did a PowerPoint and have attended other programs where the presenter just talked to the audience. If you have a website or document up on your computer, you can "Share" it with the audience (pictures, articles, etc.). It is very user friendly. You stay at home and safe, and so does your audience. I would be willing to talk to you and practice with you beforehand. She will also post handouts for the audience on their Google Docs page if you email them to her ahead of time. Staying at home does not mean we cannot educate others! Your local libraries might be able to do a similar thing. Check it out if you are looking for things to do while at home and unable to physically garden or host educational events at our sites.



Donna Streiff

Here's an idea...

Have you come across something interesting related to horticulture and you were prompted to share it with your mom or your sister or your best gardening friend? How about sharing that with your WCMG colleagues by submitting the information for our monthly newsletter?

We're looking for anything of interest...

- a great garden book you just read/bought
- a pertinent seminar
- a fabulous greenhouse you found
- an interesting gardening story
- a garden tip that really worked well
- a great recipe

We'd love to hear your experience. Feel free to send a picture featuring your find. All you have to do is send it to Peg Klinkhammer, our newsletter editor (wcmgvs@gmail.com). The deadline is the 10th of every month.

Now another place to share your messages

The WIMGA newsletter is also looking for submission of articles that feature some educational subject, MG tips, fun garden ideas, and especially, news about what is going on in our MG association. So keep that in mind as you plan and implement your project. What aspect of your project can you and your team highlight with an article and pictures? Let's show Wisconsin what Wood County is up to!

Send your submission to the editors of WIMGA newsletter Hali Dressecker at halirenee@yahoo.com or Nancy at westcoasternancy@gmail.com

Follow this link to the latest WIMGA newsletter to see what they are doing.
<https://www.wimga.org/>

July Garden Guide

from [Portage County Master Gardeners Volunteers](#)

- Water gladiolus and dahlias weekly to a depth of 6-8 inches.
- Water flower beds at least once a week during dry spells. Remove old lily blooms.
- Peony bushes should be mulched and seedpods removed.
- Take cuttings from roses and spring flowering shrubs for new plant propagation when stems are no longer succulent but not yet hardened.
- Cut old canes of climbing roses so those new shoots can grow.
- Control rust on hollyhock by removing infected leaves.
- Divide iris and day lily when done blooming. Cut leaves back to about 8 inches.
- Thin and transplant perennials sown in June.
- Complete outdoor sowing of perennial seed.
- Inspect vegetables and herbs for pests daily and treat if necessary.
- Control garden weeds to prevent them from going to seed.
- Harvest onions and early potatoes when tops begin to shrivel.
- In early July, plant lettuce and spinach for fall crop. Pre-germinate on moist towel or plant deeper than in spring. Plant kale, bunching onions, cucumbers, beets, rutabagas and turnips, cabbage family seedlings and peas for fall harvest.
- Keep tomatoes mulched and watered to prevent blossom end rot.
- Keep ripe vegetables picked to maintain productivity.
- Watch for spider mites during hot, dry weather. Juniper and spruce needles turn rusty colored if infested.
- Water newly planted trees weekly if needed throughout the summer and apply a mulch (3 inches or less) to maintain even soil moisture.
- During dry spells, water all trees deeply every 2-3 weeks.
- Remove suckers from grafted plants. Water fruit trees during dry spells or they may abort fruit. Trees need 1 inch of water weekly during fruit growth.
- Prune yews, junipers and arborvitae by mid-July.
- Remove old canes of summer bearing red raspberries after harvest. Thin new canes to 3-4 canes per foot of row or 9-10 canes per hill. For black raspberries, thin new canes to 10 per hill. Cut tips of new canes back around July 1. Cut back raspberry tips back to two feet above the soil level and blackberry tips back to four feet above soil level. Cut purple and yellow raspberry tips to 30-36 inches above the soil.
- Keep orchard grass mowed and raked to discourage fungal pathogens harbored in tall grass and plant debris. Hang baited red sticky ball traps in apple trees for apple maggot control.



Blossom end rot, [Fructibus](#) : [Creative Commons CC0 1.0 Universal Public Domain Dedication](#).

Japanese Barberry—Invasive and a threat to our health?

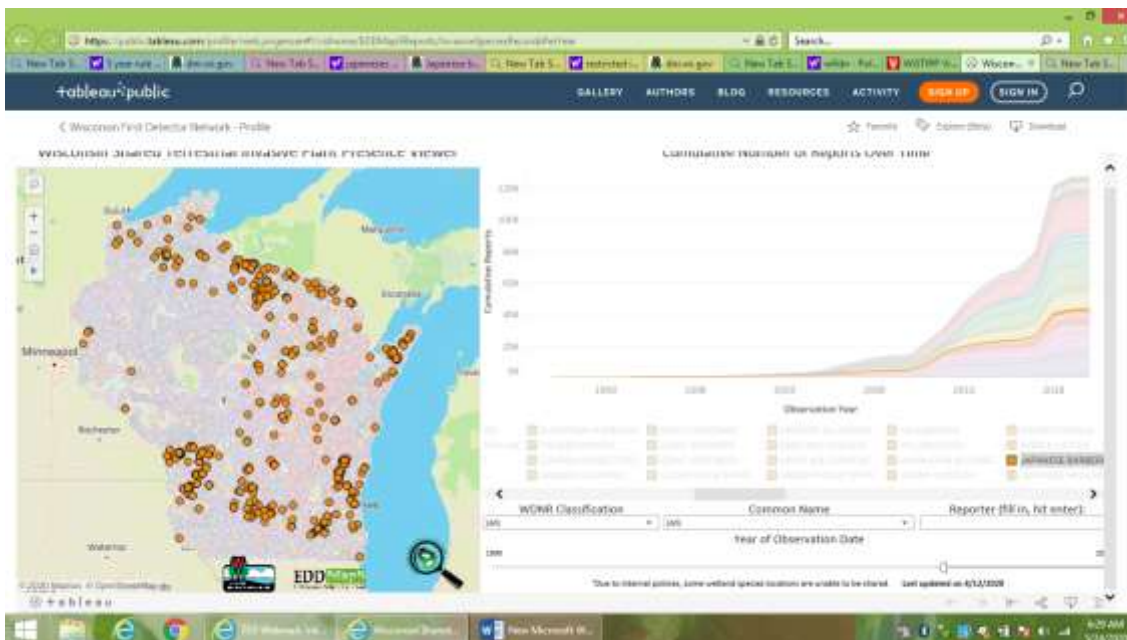
Submitted by Sue Wilford, MGV

Mark Renz has a weekly 'Virtual Office Hours' meeting on current issues related to weed science in Wisconsin. Mark Renz is a Professor/Extension Weed Specialist in the Agronomy Department at the University. In May, I listened to his talk on Japanese Barberry (*Berberis thunbergii* var. *atropurpurea*) and how it has become invasive in our state and a threat to our health.

Japanese Barberry is shade tolerant, drought tolerant and adaptable to a variety of open and wooded habitat, wetlands, old fields and disturbed areas. It basically can live anywhere. It spreads through horizontal branches that root freely when they touch the ground. It forms dense stands in natural habitats, dominating the forest understory by shading out native plants and changing foraging habits of wildlife. Deer avoid browsing barberry due to the spines, preferring to feed on native plants, giving Japanese barberry a competitive advantage.

Japanese Barberry creates a mass of impenetrable dense thickets and thus harbors mice and rodents that carry ticks. This dense thicket protects the mice and rodents from natural predators. This invasive plant supports an increase in our tick populations and therefore, more Lyme disease.

This map from Wisconsin First Detector Network (WIFDN) shows the current spread of Japanese Barberry. According to Mark Renz, there has been a marked rapid increase in the spread between 2015 and 2020. Therefore a big ecological threat to our native forests and a huge concern for our health.



According to the Invasive Species Rule - NR 40, Japanese Barberry is a 'restricted invasive species' which means that it is widely established in the state, has an environmental and/or economic impact in our state and complete eradication is unlikely.

Classification in Wisconsin: Restricted (this restriction only applies to the parent type, the variety *atropurpurea*, the hybrid of *B. thunbergii* x *B. Koreana*, and the following cultivars. *Berberis thunbergii* cultivars: Sparkle, 'Anderson' Lustre Green™, Erecta, 'Bailgreen' Jade Carousel®, Angel Wings, Painter's Palette, Inermis ('Thornless'), Pow Wow, Golden Ring, Kelleriis, Kobold, 'JN Variegated' Stardust™ and Antares. Variety *atropurpurea* cultivars: Marshall Upright ('Erecta'), Crimson Velvet, 'Bailtwo' Burgundy Carousel®, Red Rocket, 'Monomb' Cherry Bomb™, 'Bailone' Ruby Carousel®, JN Redleaf, Rose Glow and Silver Mile. Hybrid of *B. thunbergii* x *B. koreana* cultivars: Tara and 'Baisel' Golden Carousel®). All other cultivars, varieties and hybrids are exempt.

In May 2015, the state implemented a phase out period with allowed Wisconsin nurseries to sell existing stock. Restricted plants could be sold up to 5 years for trees and shrubs and 3 years for other plants. For the restricted Japanese Barberry cultivars, that 5 year time limit ended May 2020 and these restricted cultivars can no longer be sold. The newer cultivars have very little data on their seed production and if they too will be invasive.

Since Japanese Barberry has been rapidly spreading in the last 5 years, there is great concern on how to stop the spread. Management of Japanese Barberry can be done in 4 ways:

- Hand removal (must remove old stems as well)
- Mowing
- Burning or flaming
- Herbicide application.

The Learning Store document on Japanese Barberry can be located at: <https://cdn.shopify.com/s/files/1/0145/8808/4272/files/A3924-34.pdf>

For more information on Japanese Barberry, check out the DNR website and the Wisconsin First Detector Network.

<https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/invasives/documents/NR40GuideGeneral.pdf>

<https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/invasives/fact/japanesebarberry.html>

<https://public.tableau.com/profile/niels.jorgensen#!/vizhome/EDDMapSReports/InvasiveSpeciesRecordsPerYear>



Companion Planting

What is Companion Planting?

Submitted by Donna Streiff

Companion plants are neighboring plants that will provide each other with additional beneficial nutrients and can provide an easy pest management strategy to help your garden flourish. Be careful, however, as some neighboring plants can have the opposite effect on each other. Before you start planting your garden, it is important to learn what plants should and should not be neighbors in your [vegetable garden](#).

Companion Planting Favorites



Two plants all vegetable gardens can benefit from are [Nasturtium](#) and [Marigold](#). Marigold flowers are known to not only help vegetables flourish, but their strong scented flowers [repel insects](#) and their roots [prevent weeds](#) from growing. In southern climates, they help kill harmful parasitic worms that are known to destroy vegetable plants and ornamentals.

Nasturtium blooms, like marigolds, attract pollinators to the garden but the flowers are also edible. Their best function, however, is as a [trap crop](#). Aphids can't resist them! Nasturtiums planted on the perimeter of the garden will attract [aphids](#) and [whiteflies](#) away from your vegetable plants.

[Peas](#) and [beans](#) are good companions for almost any vegetable garden as they provide the soil with nitrogen for neighboring plants to use.

Book Review: Nature's Best Hope by Doug Tallamy

Many of you may be familiar with Doug's first book, *Bringing Nature Home*, where he awakened our knowledge of the importance of native plants to nature and wildlife. This latest book offers more explanation of how we are all interconnected and interdependent. Rather than relying on government to set aside vast expanses of land exclusively for conservation, Doug Tallamy advocates solutions that all of us can incorporate into our own gardens to improve the ecosystem.

Our collective efforts can greatly impact the environment. As an example, one suggestion that struck with me: "think of lawn as an area rug, not wall-to-wall carpeting." His books are very readable and opened my eyes to ways that I can continue to help to improve our environment.

Submitted by Barb Herreid

Companion Planting Chart

Plants	Plant Companions	Plant Enemies
<u>Asparagus</u>	Basil, Cilantro, Parsley, Tomato	Alliums (Onion Family)
<u>Bean, Bush</u>	Beet, Cabbage, Carrot, Celery, Chard, Cucumber, Pea, Potato, Radish	Garlic, Leek, Onion
<u>Bean, Pole</u>	Corn, Potato, Radish	Beet, Garlic, Kohlrabi, Onion, Sunflowers
<u>Beet</u>	Bush Bean, Cabbage, Lettuce, Onion	Field Mustard, Pole Bean
<u>Broccoli</u>	Beet, Celery, Chard, Cucumber, Lettuce, Onions, Potato, Spinach	Dill, Pole Bean, Strawberry, Tomato
<u>Cabbage</u>	Beet, Celery, Chard, Cucumber, Lettuce, Onions, Potato, Spinach	Strawberry
<u>Carrot</u>	Bean, Leek, Lettuce, Onion, Pea, Pepper, Tomato	Dill
<u>Cauliflower</u>	Alfalfa, Beets, Celery, Chard, Herbs, Onions, Spinach	Dill, Pole Bean, Strawberry, Tomato
<u>Corn</u>	Bean, Cucumber, Parsley, Pea, Potato, Squash	Tomato
<u>Cucumber</u>	Bean, Cabbage, Corn, Lettuce, Pea, Radish, Tomato	Herbs, Potato
<u>Eggplant</u>	Bean, Herbs, Pepper	
<u>Fennel</u>	None	Everything
<u>Garlic</u>	Cabbage, Fruit Trees, Roses, Tomato	Bean, Pea
<u>Kale</u>	Beet, Celery, Chard, Cucumber, Lettuce, Onion, Potato, Spinach	Pole Bean, Strawberry, Tomato
<u>Lettuce</u>	Beet, Carrot, Onion, Radish	Cabbage family (<u>Brassicas</u>)
<u>Onion</u>	Beet, Cabbage, Carrot, Lettuce, Pepper, Tomato	Bean, Pea
<u>Pea</u>	Bean, Carrot, Corn, Cucumber, Radish, Turnip	Garlic, Onion
<u>Pepper</u>	Carrot, Eggplant, Onion, Tomato	Fennel, Kohlrabi
<u>Potato</u>	Bean, Cabbage, Corn, Eggplant, Pea	Apple, Cherry, Cucumber, Pumpkin, Raspberry, Tomato
<u>Radish</u>	Bean, Carrot, Cucumber, Lettuce, Pea	Hyssop, Potato
<u>Spinach</u>	Cabbage, Celery, Strawberry	Hyssop
<u>Squash</u>	Corn, Melon, Pumpkin	
<u>Swiss Chard</u>	Bean, Cabbage family, Chives, Onion, Tomato	Corn, Cucumber, Herbs, Melon, Potato
<u>Tomato</u>	Asparagus, Carrot, Celery, Cucumber, Onion, Pepper	Corn, Dill, Kohlrabi, Potato
<u>Turnip</u>	Pea	

Continuing Education Ideas for Master Gardeners 2020

During social distancing, you are required to complete 10 hours of continuing education to maintain certification. This is a list of general resources and will be updated as we learn of more. As we learn of specific online seminars or classes, we will send that information to you by email.

*Listen to Larry Meiller's *Garden Talk*. This program is presented every Friday at 11 a.m. and rebroadcast on Saturday at 6 a.m. on WPR's [Ideas Network](#) stations.

*Listen to Wis Public Radio [Ideas Network](#) environmental program with UW- Extension

*Complete *Plants Plus* Seminar on WMG website

<https://wimastergardener.org/plants-plus>

Go here to find Extension videos on youtube:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/WImastergardener/featured>

Go here to find a calendar of learning opportunities around the state. Not sure if they all will be cancelled or offered on Zoom. You will have to check to see.

Some are already on Zoom. <https://wimastergardener.org/events/>

*Read magazines specific to northern Midwest gardening, such as *Wisconsin Gardening*, *Northern Gardener* (but not general gardening, such as *Better Homes & Gardens*) Qualifies for 30 minutes education time.

*Read horticulture articles on the Wisconsin Master Gardener website

<https://wimastergardener.org/articles/>

You can earn .25 CE credits for many articles on a lot of different subjects, but there are also ones for which you can earn 1-3 hours of credit by reviewing the article/ videos and taking the quiz. Articles that **cannot** be used for CE include articles about botanic gardens and All-America Selections winners.

*Read horticulturally related articles on the *WisContext* website

<https://www.wiscontext.org/>

*Read horticulturally related articles on WPT *University Place* website

<https://pbswisconsin.org/watch/university-place/>

*Be sure to check *The Volunteer Vibe*, the newsletter written by our director, Mike Maddox and delivered to your inbox every month. It often has continuing education ideas and information.

When social distancing become more relaxed, check on the availability of these types of programs:

*Workshop at a nursery/garden center that doesn't promote a commercial product

*A *guided* (not self guided) tour of a something like a botanical garden (Monk Gardens, Olbrich, etc).

*Gardening DVDs/videos checked out from Wood County Extension Office

Molly, the MGV

Dear Molly,
I've been getting a lot of work done in my yard during this pandemic, but the trouble is that I am finding weird plants I never knew existed. Last time I checked, the extension office was closed, and with the libraries closed, where can I find the correct information on these plants? PS I don't have internet or a smart phone and I'm too old to find out how to use them! *Looking for Plants in all the Wrong Places*

Dear Johnny Lee,

Take me back to the Eighties! A time when I didn't even know the extension office existed, there was no such thing as the internet and the only information I could find was in the junk mail flyers advertising books, magazines and seeds!

*Fortunately, I hear the extension office is opening part time at least, and you can still reach them by phone at 715-421-8440 where helpful people will still help you figure out what that weird plant is. Pictures can be mailed PO Box 8095, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495. I'd like to hear from some readers how you as master gardeners were able to identify and solve questions that came up during this pandemic. Please remit to our publisher at wcmgvs@gmail.com with ideas, suggestions and anecdotes as this might not be the only time we are shut down. **Thanks! Molly***

Suggested Topics for Library Talks in Marshfield

If you would like to give a talk/demo for an hour or so on any of these topics on the third Monday of the month at 6pm in Marshfield, please contact Donna Streiff at 715-207-6218 or at streiffonclay@tds.net. This is a good opportunity to practice educating a small group of people in a friendly atmosphere. The library staff is very helpful and I can work with you also.

Lasagna gardening	Maintaining perennial gardens	Shade gardening
Straw bale gardening	Tree health	Growing flowers for drying
Butterfly gardening	Soil quality	Rain gardens
Growing fruit trees	Native plants	

Keeping Busy COVID Style

I have been working on three major projects. The first two are “needed to do but never had time”. I finally got several boxes of files and old garden magazines sorted after they were very hastily packed up five years ago when we moved and not touched since. The second is to update and organize our household inventory. That was a gigantic project. I still should take some pictures to supplement the list but it is mostly done. The third and favorite project involves some garden bed renovation. I finally took out a rag tag 18 x 8 foot patch of “ditch lilies” that I have wanted to do since moving here. When the Japanese beetles killed the linden tree next to it two summers ago and the city removed the tree and stump this spring, I figured that was a sign that the lilies had to go too. What a job!! Those lilies had grown so tight together it took an ax to break some of them up. It is now tilled and ready to plant. I started some native perennials by winter sowing and also have many volunteers that have self-seeded in other areas of my yard. I am currently in the replanting stage. This will be an experiment because the soil is very heavy but surprisingly weed free so far. This bed is between the street and sidewalk so it will be interesting to see how the plants fare after the snowbanks melt next spring. There is another bed on the other side of the driveway that has done well with some natives. I want to see if others are just as adaptable. I hope to inspire the people who walk by with the beauty and versatility of native plants.

Submitted by Donna Streiff

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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://wimastergardener.org>

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

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

Committees, teams, project leaders, members, BODs, are encouraged to send meeting notices for the column below.

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.

2020 WCMGV Meetings and Notices

Previously Scheduled Meetings and Programs have been postponed or cancelled! You will be notified when a meeting and /or program is rescheduled. Thank You for your patience!