



UW-Extension Wood County Master Gardener Association

Wood County UW Extension

May 2022

President's Message May 2022

Congratulations to our newly Honored Status MGVs – Audrey Brundidge, Lynn Bushmaker and Christine Landowski. Their long term commitment and years of service for Wood County Master Gardeners is truly outstanding. Thank you for your dedication to our Association.

Our strategic planning is becoming focused. The board members have narrowed it down to a few activities, to make sure we are not taking on too much or become overwhelmed.

Recruitment

For potential MG who want to be involved before taking the horticulture class, we would implement the following: Include contact info in membership list; put on mailing list for newsletter; connect to a MGV and a project; Invite to social/fun events or meetings; recognize and acknowledge them at meetings.

For recruitment of the public, we could implement: understand why current members joined MG organization which should help us focus our efforts; update WCMGV brochure; create signs for projects that showcase and market our association; recruit members to share their stores (benefits of being a MGV) on Facebook or radio

Orientation to membership and/or board: create a plan to help incorporate new members into our organization and/or board.

Socialization/retention

Bring back the August Potluck Picnic

Increase MG interaction with spontaneous visits to Gardens/Greenhouses followed by a nice lunch at local establishments

Education

Promote opportunities for peer sharing and/or garden help between MGVs

Create new signage for WCMGV funded projects. They could describe type of garden, how to become a MGV and that project is partially funded by WCMGV.

Trifolds for display: Create laminated documents for trifolds and set up distribution for local libraries.

Paula Klevene has volunteered to help with this project.

Provide horticulture education in various media for local libraries



- May Ed. Program p. 3
- ◆ Winter Sowing p. 3
- ◆ Spring Plant Sale p. 4
- ◆ Upcoming Educational Opportunities p. 5
- ◆ Book Review, Surprising Dandelions p. 6
- ◆ Winter Sowing Update p. 7
- ◆ Calendar listings, Road Trip p.8
- ◆ Invasive Plant News p. 9-10
- ◆ New Plant Disease: Japanese Apple Rust p. 11-12
- ◆ Want Ads p. 13
- ◆ May Garden Guide p. 14
- ◆ Final Reminders p. 15

More and more organizations have been entered into the Online Reporting System (ORS). As of 4/22/2022, the following organizations are available:

Wisconsin Rapids

- Bethany Luthern Church
- City of WI Rapids Lowell Center
- First Congregational Church – Community Gardens
- South Wood County Historical Corp.
- Wood County Master Gardener Association

Marshfield

- Central WI State Fair
- Wildwood Zoo
- Everett Roehl Marshfield Public Library

Other areas:

- City of Nekoosa – Nekossa
- Lester Public Library of Rome – Nekossa
- Woodland Lutheran Church - Nekossa
- Village of Rudolph – Rudolph
- Wood County – Edgewater – Port Edwards

The following describes the 4 types of Volunteer activities as delineated by the State. When entering hours under ORS, they ask that you divide your preparation time from the actual service/work time. Both prep time and work time count towards the 24 hour requirement.

<p>Gardening: Hours divided between prep and service hours.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invasive Species Native Gardens Pollinator Gardens Display/Beautification/Research Gardens Community/Food Donation Gardens 	<p>Educating Others: Hours divided between prep time and delivery of the education.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information Booth/Table Answering garden questions Teaching a Program Education Support (All prep) Social Media/Website Content (All prep) Creating Educational Materials (All prep)
<p>Citizen Science</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invasive Species Monitoring – WI First Detector Network (WIFDN) (not aquatics) Pollinator Monitoring thru WiBEE Phenology (plant and insect only) 	<p>Administration – Hours divided between prep and meeting time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boards and Committees Fundraising

Out of Bounds

Travel time

Cannot accept payment for services or perform activity on private property

Attendance at member meetings (business meetings) unless attending in a leadership role

These state changes have been difficult and yet there are more opportunities for us to obtain our volunteer service hours. However, we must remember to take on only things that we can accomplish. The board is very interested in how to help all current MGV and to retain them for years to come. The board has started a phone tree and you will be contacted regularly by the board members either by phone, email or text (your preferred communication method) to find out how you are doing and what suggestions/ideas you might have to improve our association. This is a time to get to know your board members and for board members to get to know our members. We want to stay connected, especially after the last 2 years of isolation due to COVID. Because we all love gardening and all have different expertise, we can learn and grow from each other. Take the time to share with each other. We will be able to make our communities better, by making our association stronger.

Lastly, an update on my move to Missouri. Our home in Arpin has sold and we will be leaving this area in June. I will certainly miss being part of Wood County Master Gardeners. My hope and prayers is that all members will continue to focus on building a strong association for years to come.

Blessings to all!

Sue Wilford

May Educational Program

**Jumping Worms
With
Brad Herrick
UW Arboretum Research Program Manager/Ecologist**
Zoom Program at
McMillan Library
490 East Grand Avenue, Wisconsin Rapids
6 to 8 PM, Tuesday, May 24, 2022
Both the meeting and program will be available via Zoom

Brad Herrick is the “go to guy” at the UW Arboretum for information on **jumping worms**. These critters have changed gardening routines and habits over a good share of the state. They also forced changes in traditional WCMGV plant sales. Join us for the “low down” on their history, how they came to Wisconsin, how to manage our gardens and how to slow or prevent their infestation in our garden spaces.

Meeting Space: Our meeting will be held on the 2nd floor in the McCourt Conference Room. Take the stairs or elevator up and ask for directions at the 2nd floor desk. This space was comfortable for us at the April meeting with the addition of a few extra chairs. It was easy to hear everyone, we could talk to each other face to face and it seemed to work very well for those people who attended via Zoom.

Directions for Marshfield MGVs: Highway 73 takes you directly into Wisconsin Rapids. It becomes West Grand Avenue when you cross the city limits. Drive toward the downtown area. Cross a set of railroad tracks and 4th Avenue North. (traffic lights) Move into the right hand lane. Take Grand Avenue to the right and travel around City Hall. Follow Grand Avenue through the downtown area. Turn right onto Garfield Street. The library and its parking lot will be on your immediate left. The main entrance to the library is off the parking lot.

June 28: Maria Edelstein will share her world of orchids with us. Marshfield site TBD. If the weather and other circumstances sound favorable, it will probably be outdoors.

July 26: Native plantings and an extended vegetable garden will be featured at Donna Streiff’s home in Marshfield

August 16: Potluck picnic at Wildwood Park and Zoo in Marshfield. Area experts will share gardening successes and fizzles. **Note:** The August meeting is 1 week earlier to avoid conflict with the Central Wisconsin State Fair.

Planting Help for Edgewater Sensory Garden:

I am asking for volunteers to help plant annuals the week of Memorial Day. I can't name a definite day yet, since we don't know what the weather will decide to do. If you think you might be available, please let me know and I will be in touch.

There may also be some cleanup and Mulching around the new plants.

Judy Miller 715-572-4798 or mflowers4q@gmail.com

Plant Sale Information

Spring Plant Sale May 21st

Wisconsin Rapids area

A simple plant sale will be organized for May 21st during the Port Edwards Garage Sale Day. MG member Cathy Schutz has graciously offered her driveway to be the location of the sale. We have a small planning group and will meet during February to get organized. But here's what we have in mind so you can plan to participate as you are able.

- We encourage MG and friends of MG to plant seeds to have marketable annual flowers and vegetables for the sale.
- We can accept divided and replanted houseplants in sterilized potting mix.
- We can accept tender bulbs, washed, and then planted in sterilized potting mix. Starting them in late April or early May will give customers a visual of the type of plant grown.
- Donate garden accessories in clean and good condition.
- If you have a stash of viable seed in their original packages, we will sell the packages. If you have harvested milkweed seed, this would be a good item too.

We do not propose to purchase any inventory from the wholesalers we have used in the past. We will not be offering divided perennials from our gardens because of the jumping worm infestation.

And finally, we would like to staff the "Ask a Master Gardener" booth for the day.

Stay tuned for more information as the winter progresses to Spring.

Submitted by Micky Erickson and Bea Kohl

Bea Kohl will send cards to MGV who are sick or have family health issues. If you know of anyone in that situation, pass their name along to Bea Kohl at kohlbea@charter.net.

Recognition Awards Announced at the April Meeting

Congratulations to our newly Honored Status MGVs – **Audrey Brundidge, Lynn Bushmaker and Christine Landowski**. Their long term commitment and years of service for Wood County Master Gardeners is truly outstanding. Thank you for your dedication to our Association.

Educational Opportunities

Looking for educational programs to fulfill your CE hours? Just want to increase your knowledge? Learn something interesting? Here are some webinars you can take!

UW-Extension Programs

Join us for our FREE webinar series! These engaging mini-webinars are 30 minutes followed by Q&A. Mini-webinars are free, but registration is required. Webinars will be recorded for later viewing.

Best Practices for Watering Yards and Gardens May 10

Strategies for Identifying and Managing Insect Pests May 18

Strategies for Identifying and Managing Plant Diseases May 31

For more details on the classes and to register go to: [Webinars for WI Gardeners – Wisconsin Horticulture](#) Also view the three videos from Series 1 Check the Horticulture website for more classes as they are added each month.

Wood County Extension Website— Sign up here [Upcoming Programs – Wood County \(wisc.edu\)](#)

Gardening seminar series via Zoom for gardening beginners 10am and 6pm options

May 4 Small garden, big harvest! Small space gardening

May 18 Intro to Pest Management

June 1 Bugg Off! Insect Management

Marshfield Library Garden Guru Series 3rd Mon. of the month at 6pm No cost

[Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)

May 16 Lawn Care

See Marshfield Library website for June programming for Pollinator Month

Melinda Myers Webinars

May 4, Food Gardening in Containers

May 12, How to Plant a Rain Garden

June 1 Creating a Pollinator Paradise

June 15 Supporting Native Bees

June 22 Maintaining Your Landscape with Pollinators in Mind

To register or to view past recordings go to: [Upcoming appearances :: Melinda Myers](#)

June is National Pollinator Month Many programs will be coming thru libraries and educational organizations to celebrate pollinators. Keep your eyes and ears open for specific programming

Plants Plus series is on the Canvas website

Book Review

Plant Partners by Jessica Walliser Storey Publishing @2020

We have all heard of companion planting but up until recently, nothing has been researched to see if the companions recommended are really beneficial, and how they benefit each other. Jessica Walliser has reviewed the research and summarized it in this recent book. To quote the author, “Modern companion planting isn’t about what plant ‘loves’ growing next to what other plant. It’s about using plant partnerships to improve the overall ecosystem of the garden and create a well-balanced environment in which all organisms thrive, from the tiniest soil microbe to the tallest corn plant. It’s about pairing plants such that one plant provides a benefit to the other in terms of an ecosystem service....It’s all a big web of connections out there in the garden, and it’s time we started paying attention to those connections and how they can make us better gardeners.”

The first chapter looks at how things like fungal associations, resource competition, chemical messaging, plant diversity, and nutrient absorption affect how well one plant grows alongside another. Each succeeding chapter looks at a common gardening problem and how using plant associations can help overcome it.

Soil preparation and conditioning is the foundation to successful growth and using cover crops and “living rototillers” can make that happen in an environmentally friendly way. Weed management through living mulches and allelopathy can combat weeds without herbicides. Providing plant partners that give support and structure to those weaker spined varieties saves much trellising. Pest management can be achieved without pesticides by using plant partners to lure, trap, trick and deter pest insects. Plant disease management can be enhanced through plant partnerships and interplanting. Natural biological control of insects can be achieved by plant partners that support pest-eating beneficial insects. Lastly, providing pollen rich plants in the garden draws pollinators needed for specific pollination needs.

The author lists all the research she based her recommendations on in the bibliography, along with a glossary for the terms she uses in the book, and a list of seed companies that carry the seeds for plants she recommends for partnering.

I found this book to be an enjoyable and relatively easy read considering the complexity of the subject. The text is illustrated with numerous beautiful photographs that add to the reading enjoyment. This book is available at the Marshfield Public Library—Donna Streiff

Here are some interesting facts about the dandelion flower:

The dandelion is the only flower that represents the 3 celestial bodies of the sun, moon and stars. 🌞

🌙 ⭐ . The yellow flower resembles the sun, the puff ball resembles the moon and the dispersing seeds resemble the stars.

The dandelion flower opens to greet the morning and closes in the evening to go to sleep. 🌙
Every part of the dandelion is useful: root, leaves, flower. It can be used for food, medicine and dye for coloring.

Up until the 1800s people would pull grass out of their lawns to make room for dandelions and other useful “weeds” like chickweed, malva, and chamomile.

The name dandelion is taken from the French word “dent de lion” meaning lion’s tooth, referring to the

coarsely-toothed leaves. 🍷

Dandelions have one of the longest flowering seasons of any plant.

Dandelion seeds are often transported away by a gust of wind and they travel like tiny parachutes. Seeds are often carried as many as 5 miles from their origin!

Animals such as birds, insects and butterflies consume nectar or seed of dandelion. 🐦 🍏 🐛 🦋 🦋

Dandelion flowers do not need to be pollinated to form seed.

Dandelion can be used in the production of wine and root beer. Root of dandelion can be used as a substitute for coffee. 🍷 🍷

Dandelions have sunk their roots deep into history. They were well known to ancient Egyptians, Greeks and Romans, and have been used in Chinese traditional medicine for over a thousand years. Dandelion is used in folk medicine to treat infections and liver disorders. Tea made of dandelion act as diuretic.

If you mow dandelions, they'll grow shorter stalks to spite you.

Dandelions are, quite possibly, the most successful plants that exist, masters of survival worldwide.



A not so fun fact: Every year countries spend millions on lawn pesticides to have uniform lawns of non-native grasses, and we use 30% of the country's water supply to keep them green.

—Submitted by Barb Herried

Winter Sowing Update

Winter Sowing Time is Over but These Can be Sown in Spring!!

Below is a list of seeds from native plants that I had collected last summer. If you would like to try to grow some of these, let me know by email and I will send them to you. We had many requests for more shade plants last fall so you might want to try starting more of those. The plants listed are for full sun unless noted. F=Full Sun P=Part Sun S=Shade

If you want more info about the plants, such as plant size, bloom time, preferred soil type or preferred soil moisture level go to the Prairie Nursery or Prairie Moon websites. If you want to start more than a few plants for your own garden, you can order packets of seeds for \$3 each (a really good deal) from Prairie Moon. I included a few of those that I ordered last fall in this list. Contact me at: streiffonclay@tds.net Both sites also sell larger size seed mixes for starting native or prairie plantings for all different types of sites.

Calico Aster (P to S)

Purple Prairie Clover

Purple Coneflower

Pink Monarda (native) (F to P)

Shrubby St. John's Wort (F to P)

Switchgrass

For those who had winter sowed last winter, start checking your jugs for germination of the seeds. A few of mine are starting to show just the start of some seedlings emerging. The time of germination will depend on the species. Once the weather warms up and the rains stop, keep an eye on the jugs to make sure the plants don't dry out.. Water or mist through the top opening. As the weather really warms up later this spring you will need to start venting the jugs more by removing some of the tape and eventually the whole top. Transplant when two sets of true leaves have emerged and seedlings are big enough to handle.

Calendar Listings

Important Upcoming Dates—Add to your calendars

Jan. 4+ Complete 2022 Onboarding Lite on Canvas to remain a member of the of the Master Gardener organization

May 17 Board Meeting at MARS 1-3pm

May 12 Clay Pot Painting at Cathy Schutz home Contact Cathy for details

May 21 Spring Plant Sale Nekoosa at Cathy Schutz home 8am-4pm

May 24 Membership Meeting at McMillan Library in WR 6-8pm and via Zoom “Jumping Worms” by Brad Herrick

May 25 Greenhouse/Lunch Outing See article below

May 30 week Edgewood Planting Contact Judy Miller for details



Greenhouse Visit w/Lunch! Wednesday, May 25

We'll visit **Antiquity Acres** off of County B in Portage County followed by lunch at **13 Chairs** in Amherst.

Antiquity Acres Besides a beautiful variety of annuals, perennials, trees, and shrubs, they have a shop of antiques and collectible dishes, glassware, and gifts. Check out their website at <https://antiquityacres.com>

13 Chairs is a cute little restaurant in an old storefront in the main street of Amherst. It advertises as Vegan/Vegetarian, but they use eggs and cheese and offer an imaginative menu, made from scratch and locally sourced as much as possible. They also offer espresso (and regular) coffee drinks. Check out their menus at “13 Chairs” on Facebook. PLUS, adjoining the restaurant is a bakery which features home made sweets and breads, as well as locally produced fresh/frozen meats, cheeses, breads, organic foods, handicrafts, & etc. A great local resource! Bring a cooler!



Carpool/caravan leaving from Walmart parking lot (near the Garden Center) at 9am. **13 Chairs** only seats....13 people, so it would be helpful if you let Chris Grimes know by May 20 if you think you want to join us for lunch. (Dutch treat..order off the menu)
Bring a friend!

Those Pesky Invasive Plants!

Working Together to Manage Invasive Plants in Wisconsin

by Melinda Myers

Spring is a favorite time in the garden. Everyday something new sprouts through the ground, blooms appear, and leaves begin filling empty branches. As you enjoy spring and summer unfolding, keep a lookout for unwelcome plants in gardens, waterways, and natural areas. The more people watching for and helping to manage invasive plants the better chance we have for controlling these invasive plants.

As active gardeners and influencers in the gardening world, we need your help not only monitoring and controlling invasive species but also informing others about this problem. The [Wisconsin Invasive Species Calendar](#) from the University of Wisconsin-Madison First Detector Network is a helpful tool alerting us to the appearance of various unwanted plants. Just click on the calendar to enlarge. This timely reminder can help us watch for, manage, and report invasive plants earlier in the season. Knowing when these plants emerge also narrows down the list of possible plants, helping with identification. Use this calendar, the links to Invasive Plant factsheets and videos on the right-hand column of the webpage and the invasive plant profiles on the [Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources \(DNR\) website](#) for more information on identification and control of aquatic and terrestrial invasive plants.

As you hike, bike, or visit parks, green spaces, and natural areas this year, report invasive plant infestations to the [Wisconsin DNR](#). If you think you have found a prohibited species, even on your own property, it's especially important to report it to help DNR understand the overall spread of the plants and they can sometimes help with managing it. Visit their [web page](#) for tips on documenting what you have found, reporting invasives, and the links to other resources. Provide photos and specific locations using GPS points, street addresses or road crossings.

Expand your efforts and be a part of the Citizen Science based Wisconsin First Detector program. You'll find helpful information in the Wisconsin First Detector and Dane County Parks Handbook on [Monitoring Invasive Plants in Wisconsin](#).

Here are a few of the top aquatic invasive plants to watch for and remove on your property. Please watch for and report infestations of these and other invasive species in your landscape and other spaces.

Lesser Celandine

This plant's bright yellow flowers in April and May are often mistaken for our native marsh marigold. The plant spreads rapidly, crowding out nearby native plants but the leaves die back mid-season, resulting in soil erosion.



Yellow Iris

A beautiful, but invasive plant that easily spreads by seeds floating in water, rhizomes, and floating mats, infesting areas beyond the garden where they were planted. Watch for yellow flowers in May and June and strappy leaves throughout the growing season.

Those Pesky Invasive Plants!



Yellow Floating Heart

This plant has yellow waterlily-like flowers held above heart-shaped leaves in May through October. This water plant forms dense patches that exclude native species and creates stagnant areas with low oxygen levels.



Water Hyacinth

Water hyacinth forms a dense mat of leaves over the water surface, making boating, fishing, and other water activities difficult. Its presence also degrades water quality. Watch for circular leaves to begin appearing in May and lavender blue flowers from June to September.



Purple Loosestrife

This plant seemed to have a banner year in 2021. It invades wetlands, disrupting the habitat and crowding out native plants that birds, insects, and waterfowl depend upon for food and shelter. Many homeowners spraying for mosquitoes may be inadvertently killing the beetles that are being used to manage this plant. Watch for the spikes of purplish pink flowers that open from the bottom up in July through September.

Japanese Knotweed

Look for the bamboo-like stems and plumes of creamy flowers that appear in September. It quickly spreads, creating an impenetrable thicket in gardens, natural spaces, and shorelines.



Water Lettuce

As its name implies, this plant resembles lettuce. The leaves appear from June through October and can form a dense covering, degrading water quality and reducing habitat diversity.

These plants and other aquatic invasive plants are covered in the [Top Invasive Plants to Avoid video](#). You'll find recommendations on good plants to include and those to avoid in the "Top Plants for Rain Gardens, Water Gardens & Shoreline Plantings and Those to Avoid" webinar available on demand. To watch it, [click here](#) & enter passcode: **&xe9hPU^**

You can also [download the webinar handout](#).

Plant Diagnostics Clinic News Article

MONTHLY COLUMN

March 2022: Checking Out the New Gym (or Flexing Your Muscles on a New Wisconsin Disease) B. Hudelson



I've been around long enough at the PDDC (25 years next summer) that most of the diseases that I see at the clinic are old friends. *Rhizosphaera* needle cast, oak wilt, *Verticillium* wilt and many others are part of the cast of plant disease characters that I see in Wisconsin every year. It's relatively rare that I see brand new diseases. In recent years, boxwood blight, *Neopetalotriopsis* leaf spot and fruit rot of strawberry and zonate leaf spot (a disease that had been on my bucket list for years) are new diseases that have crossed my doorstep. In 2022, I'm watching for yet another new disease: Japanese apple rust.

Japanese apple rust is a type of *Gymnosporangium* rust caused by the fungus *Gymnosporangium yamadae*. This fungus is native to Asia (specifically China, Korea and Japan) and was first detected in the United States in Delaware and Pennsylvania in 2008 (with a first formal published report in 2009). In 2021, Sam Fieweger of the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (WI DATCP) Plant Industry Bureau Lab confirmed the first detection of the disease in Wisconsin. The disease was identified on a crabapple tree in a nursery in southeast Wisconsin.

Like other *Gymnosporangium* rusts, Japanese apple rust is an alternating rust. The causal fungus requires two different host plants to complete its life cycle. It spends half of its life on a wide range of apples/crabapples (*Malus* spp.) and the other half on Chinese juniper (*Juniperus chinensis*, Japanese garden juniper (*Juniperus chinensis* var. *procumbens*) and Sargent juniper (*Juniperus chinensis* var. *sargentii*).



Japanese apple rust on juniper. Photo courtesy of Nancy Gregory, University of Delaware.

Typical symptoms of Japanese apple rust are not radically different than those of other *Gymnosporangium* rusts. On juniper hosts, the disease leads to the formation of relatively small branch galls that ooze orange gelatinous arms/masses in the spring. These galls/masses look (at least to the casual observer) not that different from those produced by cedar-apple rust (CAR) and (particularly) cedar-hawthorn rust (CHR), two common Wisconsin *Gymnosporangium* rusts. On apple/crabapple hosts, symptoms of Japanese apple rust are again similar to those of CAR and CHR: large, brightly-colored leaf spots. In the cases of CAR and CHR, the spots are yellow to orange. In the case of Japanese apple rust, the spots are fuchsia to red. On the undersurface of the leaves where the spots are located, short spiny structures eventually form. These are reproductive structures that produce spores that reinfect the juniper hosts.

Plant Diagnostics Clinic News Article

The presence of Japanese apple rust in Wisconsin puts a wrench in the recommendations that I typically make for managing Gymnosporangium rusts. Chinese junipers are not great hosts for CAR, CHR and cedar-quince rust (the other common Gymnosporangium rust in Wisconsin), so I have historically recommended these junipers for clients who are desperate to grow junipers and apples, crabapples and hawthorns near one another. If (more likely when) Japanese apple rust becomes more prevalent, Chinese junipers will no longer be a good choice to grow alongside apples and crabapples. In the future, management of Gymnosporangium rusts will likely have to rely on not growing junipers and apples, crabapples and hawthorns anywhere near each other.



Japanese apple rust on crabapple. Photo courtesy of Nancy Gregory, University of Delaware

Because *Gymnosporangium yamadae* is not native to the US, Japanese apple rust is of regulatory importance in Wisconsin (and also elsewhere in the US). There is interest in determining how widespread the disease may be in the state. For that reason, I will be providing free diagnostics (as long as I am financially able – the testing is a bit pricey) for suspect Japanese apple rust samples. The easiest hosts to verify the disease on will likely be apples or crabapples. So, please watch for those fuchsia to red spots. If you see anything suspicious, please submit digital photos via my online digital diagnostics form. Let me know in the “Message” field that you suspect Japanese apple rust, and there will be no fee. If your photos look suspicious, I’ll request a follow-up physical sample for additional lab testing.

If you have questions about Japanese apple rust or submitting a Japanese rust sample (or need advice about plant diseases in general), feel free to contact the PDDC by phone at (608) 262-2863 or email at pddc@wisc.edu.

Also check out the PDDC website (<https://pddc.wisc.edu>) for additional details on plant diseases

and sample submission. Feel free to follow the PDDC on Twitter and Facebook (@UWPDDC) or email me to subscribe to the PDDC listserv, *UWPDDCLearn*, to receive updates on clinic services and educational materials. Good luck with your new workout!

Want Ads



Help Wanted

Publicity Director
Program Committee

The **Publicity Director** is responsible for contacting radio, TV, print media, and online media, as appropriate to publicize our educational events and fundraisers. These days, information is mostly shared online, so this is not time consuming. We have a list of media outlets and contacts to guide you.

The job description:

- Compose and submit information related to WCMGVA activities and events to broadcast (TV, radio, CCTV), print, and internet sources for dissemination to the public.
- Coordinate event announcements with WCMGVA newsletter editor and other social media administrators.
- Serve as co-administrator of website and/or social media pages.

Please consider agreeing to fill this position. Our organization needs good communication within and outside to the community to be successful. The possibility exists for sharing the duties for this positions so find a partner and give it a try.

Program Committee for 2022. 2 or 3 members needed. Responsibilities include: Sharing the planning, coordinating and follow-through for monthly programs. No previous experience needed; program suggestions have been submitted by members; “how-to” guidance provided. Planning session(s) can be done via Zoom. Contact Karleen at karleenbobremington@gmail.com or 715.387.1863. This committee is necessary to have informative educational opportunities at our meetings.

All positions descriptions are listed on the WCMGV website in “Members Only” section.

May Garden Guide

Taken from Portage County Master Gardener website.

- 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.



2022 WCMGV Board of Directors

President—Sue Wilford

715-305-6325

Vice President—Karleen Remington

715-387-1863

Membership Secretary—Judy Miller

715-572-4798

Board Secretary—Chris Grimes
715-424-2878

Treasurer—Barb Herreid

715-325-2075

Director—Jill Becker

715-387-8040

Director—Ann Rozner

715-435-3804

Director—Bea Kohl

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Director—Joy Mader

715-387-4310

Communications Rep.—Chris Grimes 715-424-2878 and

Famia Marx 715-652-2405

WIMGA Rep—Michaeleen Erikson

175-435-3616

Wood County Extension Horticultural Agent—Janell Wehr

janell.wehr@wisc.edu

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.

Future Article Submission

Please send items for inclusion in the newsletter by the 25th of the month to: streiffon-clay@tds.net

OPEN POSITIONS

Public Relations Chair

Program Committee member

Wisconsin Master Gardeners

Website: <http://wimastergardener.org> or

wimastergardener@extension.wisc.edu

Wood County Extension Website:

<http://wood.uwex.edu>

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

WIMGA Website: www.wimga.org

Final Reminders

Open Positions Please seriously consider one of the open positions, Public Relations Chair, or as a member of the Program Committee. PR Chair position can be shared between two or more people if you do not want to go it alone. Training for PR is available. Program committee member helps plan and arrange for monthly educational programs.

Plant Sales 2022 Winter Sowing Start looking for emerging seedlings this month. Gather plant and non-plant items for plant sale in May.

Submit your organizations to the new ORS.

Complete On-Boarding Lite and Agree to Terms and Conditions before beginning volunteering.

Check with your Volunteer Organization 1) Will they agree to liability coverage for you? 2) What are their requirements? and 3) Sign up as a volunteer.