

WINNEBAGO COUNTY MASTER GARDENER NEWSLETTER
 Our purpose is to provide horticultural education, community service & environmental stewardship for our community in affiliation with the University of Wisconsin Extension Program.

1-920-232-1986

JULY 2005

OPEN SANCTIONED PROJECTS

Community Gardens	
Ellie Frielund	739-7965
Linda Tobey	734-2264
Farmers Market	
Dorothy Gayhart Kunz	233-8468
Paine Gardens	
Audrey Reudinger	231-5745
John Procknow	429-4797
Park View Cutting Garden	
Rob Robinson	231-1162
Curt Reese	426-4992
Park View Vegetable Garden	
Rick Hansen	233-3922
Plant Sale	
Vickie Ludeke	582-4348
Mary Fischer	685-6022

CLOSED SANCTIONED PROJECTS

Emmeline Cook School	
Robin Thayer	235-8489
Community Education	
Dorothy Kunz	233-8468
Linda Tobey	734-2264
Compost	
Stanley Meyer	725-6496
Expo Rain Garden	
Meg Hunsader	757-1410
Ellie Frielund	739-7965
Lincoln School	
Janet Priebe	233-1898
Karen Wedde	235-7159
Menasha Library	
Jean Reed	729-9012
Park View Prairie	
Joel Eisch	231-0656
Refreshments	
Bob & Arlene Kosanke	231-1873
Senior Center	
Rob Robinson	231-1162
Kevin Lamarche	582-7073

COMMITTEES

Education	
Roy Anne Moulton	886-1283
Historian	
John Procknow	429-4797
Membership	
Linda Tobey	734-2264
Newsletter	
Linda Baeten	232-1224
Contributing Reporter	
Lawanda Jungwirth	836-2878
Socials	
Lynne Goudreau	722-8233
State Rep	
Bob Kosanke	231-1873
Sunshine	
Judy Harms	688-5523
Marlene Konsek	
Time Keeper	
Shelley Aaholm	731-8570
Trip Coordinator	
Meg Hunsader	757-1410

OFFICERS

President	
Linda Tobey	734-2264
Vice President	
Lynne Goudreau	722-8233
Secretary	
Dorothy Gayhard-Kunz	233-8468
Treasurer	
Mike Wiedenhaft	231-3793

MEETING NOTICE

Garden Walk

Tuesday, July 12, 2005

Walk begins at 6:00

Brief meeting begins after walk

(No regular membership meetings during June, July and August)

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Fellow Master Gardeners,

Isn't it funny how time seems to run away? Here we are in the throws of summer and it seems that only a few days ago we were welcoming Spring. Wasn't it a glorious Spring this year? It wasn't too wet and we came out of our dry period just fine. Now it is exciting to see what summer holds for us.

I hope all of you are having the wonderful harvest of your strawberries that I am. They are bountiful this year. Speaking of bountiful, I am seeing on my tours of projects this year that MG talent is bountiful as well. The very bleak Community Gardens in Menasha are now coming to life and beginning to look like someone cares. The flowers planted on the side of the shelter have given it a welcoming warmth. The trees are trimmed and we are almost ready to begin the Perennial garden. In my stop at Park View I saw that Rick and the MG's working on the veggie garden are outdoing themselves. The pumpkin garden is looking very healthy and the beds are overflowing. The cutting gardens under the new stewardship of Curt and Rob are looking awesome. You and your MG's are doing a great job. I really liked seeing the little pansy faces mixed in with the roses. Saturday I also stopped in at the Farmers Market to visit Dorothy and her capable assistants Janet and Carol to find them answering questions and planting marigolds with the children of the Market Shoppers. Ladies you are letting people see MG's as the caring, helpful, knowledgeable people we are. I thank you all for your ongoing service this year. It is marvelous to see that you have the Spirit of true Master Gardeners.

I also want to thank all of you for the well wishes and prayers for my daughter and my family. She is now beginning to recover from her first surgery in preparation for the second. She is finally on her feet again. Maybe a little unsteady right now but she is under her own steam. I won't be needed in Green Bay everyday. For awhile I'll only be need a few days a week, so don't be surprised if you see me around a little more.

See you in the garden,
Linda Tobey

MAKERS & SHAKERS

Those that make it happen are the ones who shake things up in this world. These are the people who are making things happen and we thank them. Remember this meeting also counts for your support service hours. I know this is not a complete list of members who attended. Please sign in at the meetings so we can honor your commitment.

MAY MEETING ATTENDEES:

Janet Priebe	Marge Bolding	Ralph Giessen	John Procknow
Marlene Miller	Jim King	Chris Bellin	Chris Weston
Stanley Meyer	Al Harms	Bob Kosanke	Ben Dedecker
Ken Hawk	Sue Bohn	Meg Hunsader	Marty Sacksteder
Ruth Freys	Vicki Luedtke	Karen wedde	Linda Baeten
Judy Harms	Sandy Giessen	Marge Menacher	Barbara Ann Elmer
Debbie Quandt	Lynn Druecke	Becky Oftedahl	Pat Rockow
Marlene Konsek	Kathy Daniels	Kay Bartell	Bob Robinson
Curt Reese	Bill Polley	Amy Asenbrener	Carlene Luebke
Diane Iott	Linda Loker	Dennis McClellan	Tom Fojtik
Nancy Meyer	Gail Roush		

Thank You all for coming to the meeting. Please come again, Your voice means so much to what we do or don't do. I will make sure we have more agendas next time.

SUMMER MEETING: The May meeting was our last real meeting until September 13. We will resume our regular schedule of meetings on that date. It will probably be a rather long meeting as we will deal with all of the issues that will come up throughout the summer. We should also get a good report from all of the project leads about how each project is going. Until September you may call or email Linda Tobey or Dorothy Kunz with questions or items you'd like put on the agenda for our September meeting. One of the items on the list will probably be planning our Fall Spanfarkel and getting ready for 2006 Conference and our classes.

GOLDEN TROWEL AWARD: We will this year be awarding our Golden Trowel award to up to 3 of our members again. They should have been MG's for at least 5 years and be what you think exemplifies what a Master Gardener should be. Please contact Linda Tobey by email or phone 734-2264 with your nominations. Votes will be tallied the end of October so the award orders will be made in time for our Dinner Holiday Award Dinner Dec. 5. Past winners have been Don Reinhardt, John Procknow, Audrey Reudinger, Marlene Miller, Mary Ginhke and Burt and Agnes Carpenter

SOCIAL COMMITTEE: We still need members to sign up to be a part of the Social Committee. The Committee is being headed by Lynne Goudreau, our Vice President and Project Co-coordinator. Your task would be brainstorming with Lynne about our Social functions and making your ideas come to pass. Right now plans are being made for our 2005 Christmas Party which will be Dec. 5. Our newest event will be a Spanfarkel in the fall and whatever else you might cook up. This is a very creative and fun committee. To become part of the committee call Lynne Gourdeau at 722-8233 or email lynneg@core.com

FALL PLANT SALE: Mary and Vicki are making plans for our early September Plant sale. This will allow all of us time to select and pot up the plants from our gardens that need new homes. Plants from your garden should be put in pots now. Make sure the pot is large enough to allow for plant growth, and the plants are watered and tended so they are strong and healthy for the sale. No one likes to buy droopy freshly potted plants.

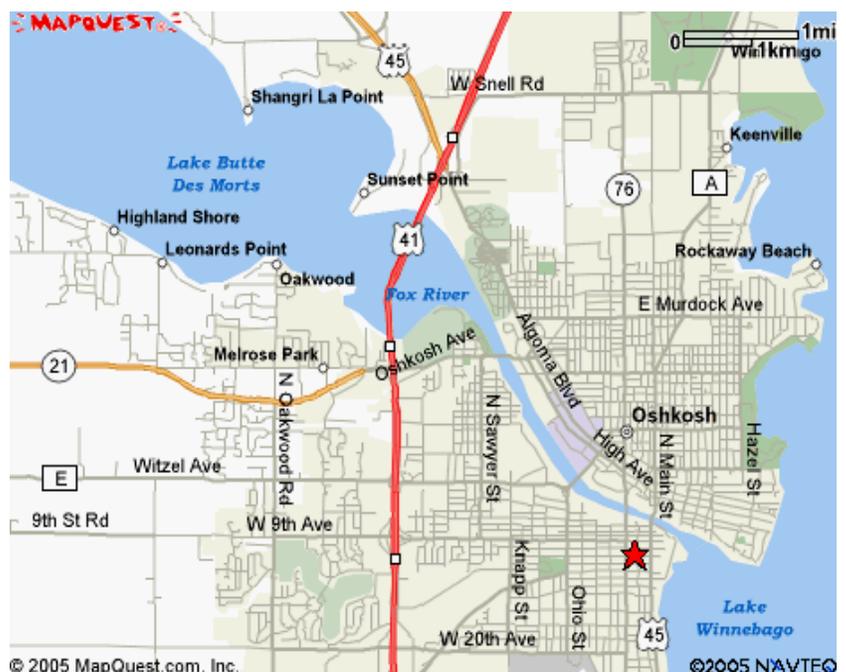
To better serve both ends of the County, I would like to see us have sales in Oshkosh and in Menasha by the Community Garden on the same day. We are getting more and more members from the Menasha area and I think it would be nice to not just concentrate on Oshkosh for our venues. Let's talk about the sale at our Park View Picnic and our July garden visit at Arlene and Bob Kosanke's. It would be a shame to harm our Plant Sale just because we aren't having a formal meeting in the summer. Soooo, let's talk!

NEXT MEETING:

Be sure to come and see Bob and Arlene Kosanke's garden July 12, 6:00 pm. Bring a friend or a spouse too, along with lawn chairs if you need them. *You won't be disappointed!*

**The Kosanke's live at:
123 W. 11th Ave.
Oshkosh**

**From Hwy 41:
Exit on 9th Ave.
Go East to Oregon St
Right on Oregon, left on 11th Ave.**



MINUTES

NO MINUTES FROM JUNE

NO BOARD MINUTES FROM JUNE

BUT HERE'S SOME NEWS NEVERTHELESS

OSHKOSH SATURDAY FARMER'S MARKET HOURS 7 AM TO 12:30 PM

We have set up our MG booth at the Farmer's Market. We have had a lot of interest in our Master Gardener Program. We have given out information or our cards for people to call for additional information. We have helped to solve some problems. We also share information with other expert gardeners.

We are having about 24 little ones planting a flower plant each week. The children and parents are thrilled with the plants. We have given out lots of hand outs each week. So far the weather has cooperated and it's been fun meeting people and advertising our great organization.

We are also selling some worm castings each week. People are interested and have read articles in the paper about using the worm castings. My thanks to all the hard workers who have braved the sun and wind to help out.

Dorothy Gayhart-Kunz

PARK VIEW FLOWER ARRANGING

The flower arranging sessions got off with a flourish. Mary Ginke, Kathy Daniels, Pat Behm and myself picked flowers from our cutting garden. Thanks to Rob Robinson and Kurt Reese and their team, we have lots to select from. The rest of our team are, Mary Fisher, Vickie Ludeke, Ellie Frielund, Karen Weede, Marti Norton, Carol Neubauer with Dorothy Kunz and myself as subs. The residents are already waiting for us and eager to select their flowers and get them in the vases. I hope that everyone in our club has taken the time or will in the near future to come out and view the cutting gardens that Audrey Ruedinger and John Procknow organized and planted many years back. It is growing with vigor and the variety of plant material is outstanding. Rob and Kurt can always use weeders and especially waterers, so if you are still looking for hours, call them. See you in the garden..... Marlene Miller



Ralph & Sandy Giessen are making a memorial donation to the Community Gardens in the name of Sandy's uncle Dan. He was a life long rose gardener. His wife suggested that family choose a favorite charity to give memorial donations to. Because of his love for gardening they chose the Community Gardens as their donation. We will put 2 rose bushes at the entrance to our perennial garden in his honor. They will be the sentinels on watch.



July Garden Walks

Fond du Lac

Tuesday, July 12, Noon to 8. Cost \$10
920-926-4997

Fox Valley – Appleton, Kaukauna, Neenah

Saturday, July 9. 10:00 to 5:00. Cost \$12 in advance,
\$15 day of. 920-734-9192

Green Bay

Saturday, Sunday, July 16 & 17. Cost \$12 in advance,
\$15 day of. 920-490-9457

Oshkosh

Sunday, July 17. 11:00 to 5:00. Cost \$10 in advance,
\$12 the day of. 920-235-6903

Sheboygan

Saturday, July 23, 9:00 to 4:00. Cost \$10
920-452-3064 or 920-457-243?

Fond du Lac Prairie Fest @ UWFDL Arboretum

Saturday, July 30, 10:00 to 3:00. Cost is free

FROM THE STATE OF WISCONSIN

Wisconsin has the opportunity to partner with Minnesota and Michigan on new efforts to educate water gardeners about preventing the introduction of their aquatic plants and animals to lakes, rivers, streams, and wetlands.

Minnesota Sea Grant has been working for the last couple of years to develop educational materials for distribution by nurseries and pond installers along with the aquatic plants they sell. The materials include tags to stick in the pots or tie

around bags (for the floating plants and fish). They have also produced small and large posters for display or distribution, as well as tip cards to place near the cash register. These products were developed after conducting surveys and working with gardeners and industry folks to develop the best message and language. They are not regulatory in any way, but simply focus on keeping these plants and animals out of our waters.

Minnesota has generously offered to provide us with a limited number of these materials to pilot in Wisconsin. We are going to give them to a very small number of nurseries to hand out this summer - just to see how it goes. I would also like to collect some information from additional nurseries in the state that are selling water plants to find out what they think of the materials, ask if they would they be willing to use them, how many might they need, etc. Minnesota will be conducting the same survey, and we will be using the answers we get to determine what products to order and distribute more widely next summer.

So, here's where I could use some help. If any of you Master Gardeners know of any nurseries in your area that sell water plants and you would be willing to stop in, show them the products we have, and ask them a few questions, it would really help get this effort off the ground. I don't expect anyone to go out and canvas their city, but, if you know of a nursery that sells aquatic plants and would be willing to make contact with them and share these new products, please let me know. If you are interested, that would be great! Get in touch with me and I can send out a packet of the materials and a survey to you.

Thanks so much!

Mandy Beall, Aquatic Invasives Specialist

Wisconsin DNR
Bureau of Watershed Management, WT/2
101 S. Webster St, P.O. Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921
608-267-3531. (fax) 608-267-2800
Mandy.Beall@dnr.state.wi.us

or

Environmental Resources Center
204 Hiram Smith Hall
1545 Observatory Dr.
Madison, WI 53706-1289
608-261-1092, (fax) 608-262-2031
Amanda.Beall@ces.uwex.edu

Article courtesy of

Bob Kosanke, MG State Rep

Publicity Committee Forming

The Winnebago County Master Gardener Association has grown to the point where we need to get organized about how we get information out to the community and interact with the media. As a result, we would like to form a publicity committee to keep contact mailing lists up-to-date and develop procedures for times when we want to get the word out about classes, bus trips, conferences, etc. If you are interested in serving on a Master Gardener publicity committee, please contact me, Linda Werner, at 725-8168 or lwerner7@aol.com

Tri County Committee

The Tri-County Committee for the development of the 2006 State Master Gardener Convention has been meeting in Appleton. Roy Anne Moulton, Linda Tobey and Mike Weidenholz are attending from the Winnebago MG's. Members are invited to participate and be active on this committee. Speakers have been lined up with verbal commitments so far. Biographies need to be developed and publicity items created. Help is also needed with set up, tear down, registration, raffle tickets, hand outs, vendors, etc. The convention will be held March 23 and 24, 2006 at the Paper Valley Hotel in Appleton.

Education Classes At Menasha Community Gardens And Sherman Road:

In June, Stanely Meyer presented composting.
In August the topic is Integrated Pest Management
At Community Gardens on August 25, 6-7pm
At Sherman Road on August 18, 6-7pm

Bill Hartling's Rose Garden

By Linda Baeten

Those of us who went to see Bill's garden on June 21st were impressed by the vigor, variety and amount of roses to see. I'm not a rose gardener, and as I passed by rose bush after rose bush, my first thought was "oh, it's all roses." But after I had a chance to wander back over the gardens, I slowly began to appreciate each and every one! There were bush roses, florabundas, tea roses, miniature roses, and more. Many were of show quality. He has a whole section of "Moonstone" tea roses that are a beautiful white with a pink blush on the edges. Words cannot describe them. A lot of work goes into growing roses, especially of the quality Bill has. Thanks to Bill for showing us his garden, and sharing his expertise!

WHAT AM I? By BRUCE ABRAHAM

I am a native Wisconsin plant, perennial wildflower, of the Family **Asteraceae**; Genus **Heliopsis**. I prefer my habitat to be mesic prairies but am found in and on open edges of open cut-over woods, in thickets, on floodplains, lakeshores, low or abandoned fields and along roadsides and railroad tracks – am very shade tolerant. I mature at a height of 2' to 5'. I have green, opposite, toothed, simple, pointed leaves about 4 – 5" in length. I bloom with yellow, central disk flowers from 1- 1/2" – 3" in diameter from July through September growing singly atop long bare branches. What Am I?



★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

MASTER GARDENERS OF THE MONTH

Let's Hear it for

CURT REESE AND ROB ROBINSON

One of our most important projects, the Park View Cutting Gardens, was in need of leadership this year. Curt and Rob stepped up and took on the task. They are coordinating their efforts and the efforts of many volunteers enabling this most important project to continue and flourish. It is also worth mentioning the silent task of setting up and taking down all those tables and chairs for the recent Master Gardener Training sessions. Roy Anne never had to worry, the job was always taken care of. Thank you Curt and Rob!

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

Editor's Corner

Looks like it's going to be a hot summer! Why is it when the garden really starts looking good, the bugs come out to play! I'm trying all kinds of things to foil their plans. It's a never ending battle. Speaking of never ending, I can always use suggestions and corrections for the newsletter. Don't be shy. Linda Baeten 232-1224 or baeten@ntd.net. Thanks!

NEWS FROM THE PAINE

FIRST TUESDAYS

The Paine will open for FREE from 4:00 - 7:00 pm every 1st Tuesday of the month June through September. Please join us for these special twilight hours in the gardens.

After five years of extensive changes, the Paine's newly renovated gardens now feature twenty themed garden designs and thousands of varieties of plants. With over half a million dollars of improvements, the Paine's gardens are now positioned as a premier Midwestern destination. This summer the gardens will reach a flourishing level of maturity that will impress and inspire visitors, and the Paine is very proud to invite all to come and experience the wonder.

The cool evening hours are an especially nice time to enjoy the gardens. The Paine welcomes neighbors and the community to visit for free on the first Tuesday evening of each summer month. The Paine's Curator of Horticulture as well as Master Gardeners will be on hand to answer questions and provide guided tours.

For more information, please contact (920) 235-6903 or visit www.thepaine.org.

Photo opportunities and/or interviews can be made by calling 920.235.6903 Ext. 25.

For more information, please contact the Paine Art Center and Gardens

NATURE SATURDAYS

Also, the Paine is launching a new series of Family Programs called **Nature Saturdays** beginning on June 18 through August 13, 2005.

Children will meet and work with experts who enjoy the outdoors and guide them in exploring, observing and understanding our natural environment. Hands-on experiences, fascinating displays and fun projects will keep both young and old excited about summer in Wisconsin!

After each program, participants will receive special pages to add to their very own nature journal that will serve as a diary of their experiences at the Paine and provide them with new activities to do at home. By the end of the summer, they will have a journal filled with great memories and fun, outdoor projects that they can share with their friends and family.

Nature Saturdays will be repeated for two sessions each Saturday, beginning at 11:30 am and 1:30 pm.

The programs are geared for children ages 5-12. Children must be accompanied by an adult. No pre-registration is required. Programs are free with paid admission to the Paine (free for Members). For more information, please call Jeanne Wagner at (920) 235-6903 x34.

JULY SESSIONS:

July 2, 2005

Trees: Ordinary and exotic! with Larry Miller

In Wisconsin we might take them for granted, because they are everywhere—trees! They line our streets, offer shade, bear fruit or make building materials for our homes. They provide habitat for insects, birds and other creatures. While you may be familiar with some common varieties like oak and maple trees, in our gardens you can find some trees that are not often found in backyards. Wander with wonder as you discover the Paine's largest living plant collection!

July 9, 2005

Water and light: Absolute essentials! with Mary Seaman

No doubt about it—we all depend on these elements. Not only do humans need water and light, but of course, other creatures and plants require them for survival too. Today you will learn how important evaporation, condensation and precipitation are in the water cycle and consider how humans affect this important natural resource. You will get a chance to view what is contained in a single drop of water. Then use the most powerful light source - the sun - to create a solar print.

July 16, 2005

Flowers: more than simply beautiful! with Misha Hesse

Wander around the Paine Art Center and Gardens and you will see thousands of flowers blooming. Learn about annuals and perennials and visit our herb garden. There you will see some of the same kinds of plants that have been used for hundreds of years to cure everything from snakebites to toothaches to hiccups! Using dried petals and leaves, you will make a special fragrant pillow that you can enjoy every night.

July 23, 2005

Decomposition: bacteria, fungus, worms! with Marge Menacher

The worms crawl in the worms crawl out—but why do they do that? Come and learn about these fascinating creatures and the role they play in decomposition. Their busy lives mean a lot to how our gardens grow and what food ends up on your dinner plate. Make your own mini compost container with materials that may not interest you, but are guaranteed to excite some worms!

July 30, 2005

Prairies: it's grass and much more! with Tim O'Loughlin

Native Americans understand the importance of prairies in their lives and they know the ways to make sure they remain a healthy habitat for animals and humans. They often use fire, burning old grass to keep unwanted plants from growing. Walk through our Prairie Woodland garden and discover how even a small section of what looks like ordinary grass contains a nature treasure trove. Plant your own container of grasses and tend with care, sure to thrive and grow under your watchful eye.

CONTACT:

Jeanne Wagner, *Museum Educator*
Paine Art Center and Gardens
1410 Algoma Boulevard
Oshkosh, WI 54901
920.235.6903 ext. 34
www.thepaine.org

Answer to July 2005 Newsletter "What Am I".

I am a perennial forb - ***Heliopsis helianthoides***;
common name: False Sunflower, Ox-Eye
Sunflower, Sunflower - Everlasting

References: <http://www.botany.wisc.edu/wisflora/> and associated links



Gardening With Children Has Lessons For All

By Lawanda Jungwirth

When you've been a Master Gardener, or just an avid gardener, for a long time, you accumulate years of knowledge and experience. The gardening activities you do become second nature and sometimes you forget how it was for you at the beginning. You might think, "Doesn't everybody know that?" about a certain activity or practice. It's hard to remember what you've always known and what you had to learn when you started gardening.

This year, my sister, Cammy, moved to a new home. For her housewarming gift, I told her I would buy flowers and plant her new flowerbeds. Cammy has a high-stress job and has never had time for gardening; minimal yard care was just another item to be rushed through and crossed off her list.

I was surprised and happy when my 9-year-old niece, Claire, wanted to help. I estimated that it we'd need about 130 flowers to fill the flower bed and had a tentative idea of which kinds of flowers I would buy. Claire and I went off to Fernau's where my careful plans fell apart immediately. Claire wanted to buy one flat of every kind of pretty flower regardless of color or growth habit. Not wanting to dampen her enthusiasm, I complied as much as was practical. I explained to her that the flower bed really would turn out better if the flowers weren't already huge when we planted them. A few flowers she wanted wouldn't have done well in the hot sunny conditions of the flower bed. Other than that, I relaxed and let her choose. We ended up with a mixture of flowers and colors I never would have chosen (and about twice as many as I had planned for). In the end, the new flower bed turned out beautifully.

The following day, my 12-year-old nephew, Alex, expressed interest in planting a vegetable garden. The new yard already had a garden in place but it was quite overgrown with weeds. Alex and I went to the store to buy seeds. We bought sunflowers, peas, beans and pumpkin seeds. He was reading the seed packets on the way home in the car and asked "What's an annual?" I explained that an annual was a plant that grows, sets seed (or fruit or vegetable) and dies in one year. I remember how long it took me to remember the difference between annual and perennial, but I explained to him an easy way to remember. Annual starts with "a" and if you remember "A-1" you'll remember annuals grow only one year. Perennials start with "per" like "permanent," something that lasts. I explained that the rhubarb that was already growing in his garden was a

perennial. Then he asked about the raspberries that are also growing in his garden so I explained biennials. He already knew that "bi" means two and caught onto the concept immediately.

Alex and I each got a hoe and quickly dispatched the weeds in the garden and then I showed him how to make rows and plant the seeds. I hammered in a stake at the ends of the rows and told him to read the seed packet to find out how deep the seeds should be planted and how far apart the seeds should be. I showed him how to press each seed firmly into the furrow so that it had good contact with the soil. I explained that the sunflowers would grow the tallest so they should be in the back. We planted them in two rows and staggered the seeds so all the flowers will be seen. After planting the sunflowers, beans and peas in rows, it was hard for him to grasp the idea of planting the pumpkin seeds in a hill.

I showed Alex how to water deeply and told him that he would probably be the one who had to weed the garden because his mother wouldn't have time. He said he didn't mind.

The new garden is growing wonderfully as are the weeds. As it turns out, Alex, Claire and Cammy are competing as to who gets to take care of the garden. Cammy has found that taking the time to work in the garden, whether watering, weeding, or deadheading, is so relaxing that she is able to accomplish the many other duties of being a single parent with much less stress and more efficiency.

Gardening Tips Courtesy of Sterling Gardens Newsletter

Use groundcovers for problem areas and to unify divergent components of the landscape. They can be used as traffic barriers, visual guides and to define space.

Use low groundcovers for a transition between the lawn area and taller plants in the garden bed.

Try groundcovers where lawn grass either won't grow or is too difficult to maintain such as in very small, confined landscapes.

Select groundcovers based upon their ability to add year-round beauty to the landscape. Herbaceous groundcovers die back to the ground in the winter, exposing bare soil. If this is not the look you want, choose evergreen groundcovers.

Select groundcovers, according to your site's conditions: Sun or shade? Clay soil or sand? Moist

or dry? Select groundcovers that will survive and thrive under your conditions; not require heroic measures to keep them alive!

Moss as a groundcover? Sure! While heavy, dense shade is often considered a curse, it is a blessing when it comes to moss. The color and texture of moss can add great interest. And, it's virtually maintenance free.

Consider the height of the groundcover. Will you choose a six-inch ajuga or a four-foot fern?

Before planting, always prepare the soil as you would for any other permanent type of planting. Remember, groundcovers are capable of giving long lasting beauty and function, but their performance is only as good as the effort one puts into soil preparation.

Beware of groundcovers that state, "Easy, rapid coverage in either sun, shade, wet or dry." They may be horticultural nightmares due to their aggressive nature. If you need fast coverage, closer planting of better behaved groundcovers may be the better answer.

Groundcovers are not the "bottom feeders" of the landscape. They add interest, and bring unity to the garden making them the unsung heroes among the more horticulturally prominent members of the garden.

Sun Groundcovers

Achillea, Aegopodium, Ajuga, Armeria, Aubrieta, Campanula, Clematis, Dianthus, Geranium, Heuchera, Ipomea, Parthenocissus, Phlox, Sedum, Thymus, Verbena

Shade Groundcovers

Ajuga, Ferns, Hedera, Hosta, Lamiastrum, Lamium, Lysimachia, Pachysandra, Pulmonaria, Sagina

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES PROJECT QUESTIONS

If you have any questions regarding projects please contact Lynne Goudreau. Phone: 722-8233 or email: lynneg@core.com

☞ STATE MG CONVENTION 2006

Anyone interested in helping out at the State MG Convention to be held in Appleton in 2006, sponsored by the Tri-County MG's, should contact Roy Anne. People are needed for several committees, especially Publicity and Registration. There will be much to do. Roy Anne Moulton 886-1283.

☞ PARK VIEW

People are still needed to weed and water the Park View Cutting gardens.

Rob Robinson, 231-1162 or Curt Reese, 426-4992

☞ SOCIAL COMMITTEE

People interested in planning/working on social events should contact Lynne Goudreau at 722-8233 or email lynneg@core.com

☞ FALL PLANT SALE

Don't forget to pot up plants for the Fall MG Plant Sale. We want them looking good for Fall. Potting up plants counts for MG hours. Call Vicki Ludeke if you have questions. 582-4348.

☞ AQUATIC PLANT SURVEY

If you are interested in helping Mandy Beall do education on aquatic invasive plants to local nurseries, call her at 608-267-3531 or Mandy.Beall@dnr.state.wi.us

☞ SLUG SEARCH

Anyone out there with a digital camera could get involved in slug research. Contact Julie Ray, Ecological Sciences PhD student, Department of Biological Sciences E-mail: slugsearch@yahoo.com



Big Boy Strawberry Pie

¾ C. Sugar, 2T Corn Starch, 1C water



Cook the above ingredients until thick and clear. Add to it 3T's of Strawberry jello (one small box) and stir until dissolved. Set aside and let cool. When mixture cools pour over a baked Pie Crust filled with sliced strawberries. Refrigerate at least 1 hour. Serve topped with whipped cream or cool whip.

But I Just Mowed the Yard!!

Jason Kruse, Ph.D.
July 2005

Finally! Summer has arrived and along with it came warmer temperatures and higher humidity. By now, you are probably losing your ambition to get outside and mow your yard. Don't be tempted to let your grass grow unchecked! If you have been following a turfgrass fertilization program, your grass is probably growing vigorously. As a result, it may be necessary to mow more frequently to maintain the visual quality and ensure optimum disease and insect resistance. The rule of thumb when it comes to mowing your lawn is to avoid removing more than 1/3 of the leaf tissue with each mowing. For instance, if you prefer to mow your yard at a 3" height (which is ideal for home lawns), you would need to mow once the grass is approximately 4.5" tall. Removing more than 1/3 of the tissue stresses the plant and results in reduced root growth due to the loss of photosynthetic capacity. As root growth declines, the plants are unable to use the moisture and nutrient reserves in the soil efficiently. This is particularly important this summer with the limited rainfall conditions that we have been experiencing here in Northeast Wisconsin.

If you find yourself in a situation where you have to remove an excessive amount of clippings, be sure to spread the clippings out evenly to avoid piles accumulating in localized areas. This can be achieved by raking or by mowing again to cut the clippings into smaller pieces and spread them out some more. Otherwise, the piles will limit access of the underlying plants to sunlight, which will result in yellowing of the turfgrass tissue that is trying to grow under the pile.

As always, take a few extra minutes to clean off the street, sidewalks, and driveway to limit or prevent the movement of clippings into the storm water drainage system. Turfgrass clippings are an excellent source of nutrients that, when mulched during mowing provide up to 1/3 of the nitrogen requirements of your lawn. However, if the clippings are allowed to reach the storm water system they can contribute significantly to the contamination of water bodies.

Several publications are available from the UW-Extension Program covering various lawn care topics and issues. They can be found by accessing: (<http://winnebago.uwex.edu>) and clicking on UWEX-Publications, Horticulture, Lawns and Groundcovers or by contacting your local UW-Extension office: Winnebago County, UW-Extension, 625 E. County Rd. Y, Oshkosh. (920) 232-1971.



Special Request for Lawn Fertilizer Demonstration Project

I need your help. I am planning a small demonstration project which will compare various lawn fertilizers in small replicated plots. I have two fertilizers which were donated by the Greenville Co-op, one of which is phosphorus free, and the other which is more of a traditional custom blended lawn fertilizer. Ideally, I would like to include approximately 4-5 additional fertilizers for comparative purposes. This is where you come in

- I would like to include ammonium sulfate (21-0-0), urea (46-0-0), and maybe a couple commercial products (Scott's, Lesco, etc.). I will only need approximately 5 pounds of each fertilizer to continue the study over the next 2 years. While it would be possible for me to purchase 50 lb bags of each product, my budget does not have the flexibility to spend a large amount of money on fertilizers. If you have some extra lying around or would be interested in donating a bag for use in this and similar studies, please send me an email (<mailto:JKruse@co.winnebago.wi.us>) detailing how you might be able to help. I will need to know the information that is provided on the fertilizer label for any commercial products to allow for proper calculation of application rates. If there is sufficient interest I would be willing to start a demonstration study to compare various organic fertilizers (corn gluten, Milorganite, Sustain, etc.) if there is a source for the products.

Thank you in advance for your help and support!
Jason Kruse, Ph.D., Crops, Soils, and Horticulture Agent,
Winnebago County Extension.

DID YOU KNOW?

Linda Baeten

Fifty years ago, lilies were not very popular plants in the American garden. Exotic lilies were shipped here from Europe, and mostly, the Orient. They were not like other bulbs which can be in transit for long periods of time and withstand fluctuating temperatures without harm. Consequently, many gardeners were disappointed with the results of their imported lilies. Today, large numbers are commercially grown in North America and hundreds of varieties can be found. With proper selection, there can be lilies in bloom from early June until frost. They should be planted in well drained soil. They prefer a slightly acid soil with plenty of humus or peat moss in a bed dug to one foot. Plants prefer soil that remains moist and cool. Choose low growing companion plants or use mulch. Some lilies need staking. It may be a good idea to dust the bulbs with fungicide to prevent rot. Set bulbs in the ground 3 times as deep as the bulb is high. Some hybrids and cultivars are an exception to this rule, and require less depth. Lilies are susceptible to viruses that are spread by aphids. There is no cure for infected plants, so it is important to control aphid populations, and destroy any infected plants. Streaked, spotted, stunted foliage; dwarfed plants; or distorted misshaped flowers are all indications of viral disease. Dig and discard all infected plant material. Do not add infected material to the compost heap. Healthy lilies form clumps of whorl-leaved stalks ending in bursts of color. Use them as a vertical accent or a background that will punch up through lower foliage masses, requiring a surprisingly small amount of space. Part-shade is best to preserve the color of the blooms. As a cut flower, remove no more than 1/3 of the stalk in order to perpetuate the bulb. Separate bulb clumps in fall.

Excerpts from:

Wyman's Gardening Encyclopedia, Time-Life Complete Guide to Gardening & Landscaping, and the Flower Factory Catalog..

CALENDAR JULY 2005

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THR	FRI	SAT
					1	2 7:00-12:30 FARMER'S MARKET OSHKOSH
3	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY	5 NO BOARD MEETING 4:00-7:00 PM PAINE GARDENS FREE OPEN GARDEN	6 NEW MOON	7	8	9 7:00-12:30 FARMER'S MARKET OSHKOSH FOX CITIES GARDEN WALK
10 OSHKOSH ART FAIR OSHKOSH MUSEUM AND PAINE GARDENS	11	12 6:00 GARDEN TOUR BOB & ARLENE KOSANKE	13	14	15	16 7:00-12:30 FARMER'S MARKET OSHKOSH
17 OSHKOSH TOUR OF GARDENS	18	19	20	21 FULL MOON	22	23 7:00-12:30 FARMER'S MARKET OSHKOSH
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

POISONOUS GARDEN PLANTS

PLANT	TOXIC PART	SYMPTOMS
Larkspur	Young plant, seeds	Digestive upset, nervous excitement, depression. May be fatal
Monkshood	Fleshy roots	Digestive upset and nervous excitement.
Autumn Crocus, Star of Bethlehem	Bulbs	Vomiting and nervous excitement.
Lily-of-the-Valley	Leaves, flowers	Irregular heart beat and pulse, usually accompanied by digestive upset and mental confusion.
Iris	Underground stems	Severe but not usually serious digestive upset.
Fox glove	Leaves	Large amounts cause dangerously irregular heartbeat and pulse, usually digestive upset and mental confusion. May be fatal.
Oleander	Leaves, branches	Extremely poisonous. Affects the heart, produces severe digestive upset and has caused death.
Bleeding Heart	Foliage, roots	May be poisonous in large amounts. Has proved fatal to cattle.