



Winnebago County Master Gardeners Newsletter

November 2022

Mission Statement

Our purpose is to provide horticultural education, community service and environmental stewardship for our community in affiliation with the University of Wisconsin Extension Program.

**November's sky is
chill and drear.
November's leaf is
red and sear.**

-Walter Scott



*Tiger Eye Sumac putting on
a show of color!*

Submitted by Kim Willman

What am I?

By Jane Kuhn

I am an herbaceous, perennial, low mounding wildflower that grows in zones 4-9 and has narrow, fine-textured foliage. My leaf blades are linear and about 3 inches long and 1/8 inch across with pointed tips. They are produced in abundance giving my plant a soft appearance and fine texture. I bloom in August and September with small clusters of royal purple disc florets. My color remains into October and flowers provide a late season nectar source for butterflies and bees. My plants are 2-3 feet tall with an equal spread and are anchored by a sturdy taproot. I prefer full sun and evenly moist, well-drained soil but will tolerate drought and temporary inundation by water.

Propagation is by plant division and transplanting in late fall or spring. My plants also self-sow. My pest and deer resistant plants can be used for naturalizing, wildflower gardens, cottage gardens, perennial borders and rain gardens. Beside bees and butterflies, I attract skippers, moths and hummingbirds. Cutting back my plant by 1/2 in midsummer will control my height.

WCMGA Contacts

Check your membership guide for contact information.

Advisory Team: Linda Loker, Kathy Schultz, Ruth Retzlaff

Secretary: Jean Reed/Anne Murphy

Treasurer: Deb Voyles

Communications Team

Website: Jean Reed

Newsletter: Anne Murphy, Kim Willman, Jane Kuhn, Lawanda Jungwirth

Partner Liaison: Deb Butch

WIMGA Rep: Kathy Procknow

Education Team: Valerie Stabenow, Linda Werner

Meeting Teams

DECEMBER: Susan Forbes, Sandra Dennis, Mary Wiedenmeier

MARCH: Anne Murphy, Kim Willman, Kathy Daniels

JUNE Picnic: Donna Kudlas, Jane Kuhn, Sue Egner, Vicki Daniels, Ruth Retzlaff, Renee Donner, Bob Potter

SEPTEMBER: Mary Bossert, Jenny Breinin,, Lil Hansche

Advisor: Madisen Potratz



We would love your help! If you are interested in contributing to a future newsletter by writing an article, submitting a photo, or sharing a story, please let me know by the 15th of each month by emailing

pakster0605@yahoo.com. Each article submitted will count toward your volunteer hours. Thank you!

Follow us on Facebook  at [WCMGVA](https://www.facebook.com/WCMGVA). <https://www.facebook.com/WCMGVA>

Reorganization Plan Proposal for October 1, 2022- December 31, 2023

<p style="text-align: center;"><i>All committees uphold and support the WCMGA mission: "Our purpose is to provide horticulture education, community service and environmental stewardship within our community."</i></p>	
<p>Number of member meetings per year: 4</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September & March: Business Meeting • December: Holiday Social & June: Spring Social
<p>Member meeting format:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • December and June meetings social only • September and March are business meetings with social and/or CE components (TBD by Meeting Committee)
<p>Advisory Team</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum of 4 members including treasurer and secretary plus at least 2 directors from membership (Initial Advisory Team to include some previous leader(s) for continuity) • Meets at least twice per year prior to the September and March business meetings • 1-year terms starting October 1, but stay on through Dec. 31 to advise/support next team members. Renewable terms. • Decisions can be made via email in-between meetings 	<p>Responsibilities</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approve expenditures over \$500 2. Secure adequate liability insurance 3. Keep meeting minutes (Secretary) 4. Review new procedures, policies, SOPs, by-laws and make recommendations to the membership as needed/proposed 5. Maintain non-stock status 6. Set membership business meeting agenda 7. Coordinate with other teams 8. At-large members coordinate membership emails from committees 6. Encourage member initiative in proposing ideas 7. Zoom or live pop-ups for special topics as suggested/available
<p>Communications Team</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No meetings • Individual tasks 	<p>Responsibilities</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maintain Facebook page 2. Maintain Website 3. Maintain newsletter 4. Email communications to members/teams 5. Extension liaison 6. WIMGA representative 7. Contact/coordinator for partner organizations (needs further discussion)
<p>Strategic Planning Team</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form in spring of 2023? • 3-4 members • Meets as needed 	<p>Responsibilities</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review implementation of reorganization plan 2. Make recommendations for changes 3. Member recruitment plan 4. Develop 2-year plan of goals and objectives 5. Develops budget for the plan
<p>Meeting Team</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 general meeting per year of everyone interested (minimum 12) • 4 (minimum) persons assigned to each of the 4 meetings (can meet or work on tasks individually) • Creativity is encouraged to make meetings more lively/interesting • Drawing on member expertise for programs, presentations, etc. is encouraged 	<p>Responsibilities</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Build on format ideas from the roundtable group 2. Work with the Education Team on CE ideas 3. Work with Advisory Team on any business needed 4. Set time, place, cost 5. Reserve venue/arrange set-up and take-down 6. Plan and carryout social component 7. Alert treasurer of any expenses and incoming payments 8. All expenses pay as you go

Education Team <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3-4 members • Meet as needed 	Responsibilities <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CE for membership meetings or stand-alone CE for members 2. Monitor CE opportunities for posting on Facebook and in newsletter 3. Coordinate with Meeting and Advisory Teams 4. Develop ideas for community education 5. All expenses pay as you go
Officers	
Secretary <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Takes minutes at all meetings of the Advisory Committee and general membership business meetings 2. Posts Advisory Team minutes on the website and business meeting minutes in the newsletter 	Treasurer <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maintains financial records in Excel 2. Pays expenses via check 3. Reports to the Advisory Team and membership at business meetings 4. Manages cash flow with approval of the Advisory Team (can be done via email) 5. Prepares simple budget of known expenses
Goals of Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emphasize social functions • Spread the work • Simplify • Fewer meetings • Encourage/individual initiative • Make MG fun again 	Notes: Roundtable Meeting/CE/Social Suggestions Presentation from WIMGA on its purpose/plans/offerings Apply for WIMGA grants for programs as needed Hands-on learning (park or garden tours, weed ID walk, partner organizations present or offer tours of facilities gardens, members offer programs/presentations)

Answer to What am I?

By Jane Kuhn



I am narrowleaf ironweed. Order: Asterales. Family: Asteraceae / Compositae – Aster family. Genus: Vernonia Schreb. – ironweed. Species: Vernonia lettermannii Engelm. ex A. Gray – narrowleaf ironweed. Other name: iron butterfly. Although its parentage is native to southern states, iron butterfly has proven itself winter hardy in Wisconsin. Unlike most other members of the Aster Family, iron butterfly flowers are composed only of disc florets with no rays. This plant is attractive in all seasons, reliably hardy, long-lived and well-behaved.

References: USDA Plants Database and associated links.

Park View Gardens



Tom Weber is harvesting potatoes from a straw bale at the Park View gardens.

Submitted by Jane Kuhn



Apple picking at Park View gardens by Tom Weber. Residents will help make apple slices with the staff.

Submitted by Jane Kuhn

THANK YOU to our wonderful members who stepped up to fill positions during this transition and for those who kept us afloat until we arrived at this position! **We can do this!!**

Caring for fruit plants after a frost

Annie Klodd, UofMN Extension fruit educator



A grapevine after most of the leaves froze and fell off of the plant

As we look toward frost events this fall, there are some things you can do for your fruit plants before and after a frost or freeze.

There are two different types of frosts: advection and radiation. Freezes are different from frosts. We have a "freeze" when temperatures dip below 23 degrees F. A "frost" happens when moisture in the air during low temperatures causes ice crystals to form on surfaces, like leaves. Within a single garden, some areas may be affected by frost while others are not. For instance, the ground may have frost while the leaves on plants do not. Plants closer to a building may be safe while those a few feet away are affected.

Some of our Minnesota-grown fruit plants are fairly tolerant of soft freezes (28-32 degrees F), but the fruit itself is easily damaged by frost. Let's look at a few of the most popular Minnesota fruits.

Apples

Frost crystals can degrade the skin of the fruit, even if the inside of the fruit is healthy. A general estimate suggests that the fruit of an apple tree will be damaged if temperatures reach below about 28 degrees F for at least 4 hours (a "hard freeze"). But frosts can occur at higher temperatures than that, so apples can be damaged at 32 degrees F if there is a frost.

If your apples are ripe, harvest them before a frost. If they are far from being ripe, then you can either harvest them to use for processing or leave them on the tree and see how they do during the frost. If apples are damaged by frost, harvest them gently and then use them quickly.

Grapes

Grape clusters can tolerate temperatures above 30 degrees F. But like apples, frost on the berry skin damages the grapes. After a frost, the berry skin begins to soften because the cells in the skin have ruptured during the frost.

Grapes are susceptible to rotting after a frost. But if they don't rot, they become sweeter as the berries dry and the sugars become more concentrated.

Strawberries

The leaves can handle a frost, but the fruit cannot. If you have day-neutral strawberries, harvest all ripe berries before a forecasted frost. Then, cover the plants with a sheet to protect them. Remove the sheet in the morning once the frost is over.

If you have June-bearing strawberries, don't do anything! In fact, they have to be exposed to repeated cold temperatures in order to go dormant for winter. Wait to apply straw until the plants are totally dormant, which is usually in November. Covering them with straw now could be detrimental to the plants because they are still actively growing.

Raspberries

Similarly to strawberries, the leaves can tolerate some amount of frost (and even some snow) but the fruit cannot.

If you have fall-bearing raspberries, harvest the fruit before a frost. The plant may keep ripening fruit after a marginal frost, but a hard frost marks the end of the season. If you have summer-bearing raspberries, do nothing. Be aware that a hard freeze will kill the leaves.

Blueberries and other summer-harvested shrubs

These plants were done producing fruit for several weeks or months now. A light frost is normal for late September or early October, and the plants are able to withstand it.

We would be more concerned about a hard freeze this time of year, as the plants are still green and have not put their energy reserves below ground for winter yet. As the leaves wither and fall off, the plants go into dormancy. Cold temperatures in late September and October help the plants transition to dormancy.

Continuing Education Opportunities

By Linda Werner

New webinars from Melinda Myers:

"Boosting the Beauty of and Propagating Houseplants," Wednesday, November 2, 6:30 p.m. Free, but registration required at:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_SeuDpw14TfW4GmLwnOCDSw

Ohio State Webinar Series--All starting at 9 a.m. CDT--Free--Register at:

https://osu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_y1hvBGcRC28dybWXThGgQ

- **Deciding to Create A Pollinator Garden Is The Easy Step--What To Do Next?** by Matthew Shepherd, The Xerces Society, Friday, Nov. 4.
- **Getting Started with Wildflower Patches, Flower Strips and Meadows** by Shana Byrd, The Dawes Arboretum, Friday, Nov. 11

SouthEast Wisconsin Invasive Species Consortium Annual Education Symposium, Wednesday, November 9, 1- 4 p.m. at Havens State Forest Environmental Awareness Center, 641 N. Hopkins St., Milwaukee. Presentation on **Native Plant Competitors for Exotic**

Invasives: Get Creative--Go Native, by John L. Mariani, Landscape Architect. Go to:

https://sewisc.org/images/managers/annual-educational-symposium-2022.pdf?utm_source=newsletter_30&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=sewisc-quarterly-newsletter-fa for more information as it becomes available.

University of Illinois Extension

Deep Bark Secrets of Tree Selection, (choosing trees for your yard), Tuesday, Nov. 1, 1:30 p.m. Presented by Sara Vogel, Illinois Extension Horticulture Educator. Free, but registration required at: <https://web.extension.illinois.edu/registration/?RegistrationID=26179>

Don't clean up everything

If frost or the early snow left you with plants standing in your garden, leave them be. These plants will provide seeds for overwintering birds and stems for stem-nesting bees. And they'll **add interest to your winter view** with their unique forms, textures and colors.

Master Gardener Volunteer Opportunities

Organization	WCMGA Liaison(s)
Carter Memorial Library 405 East Huron Street, Omro, WI 54963-1045 Volunteer Information: https://omrolibrary.org/aboutus/friends 920-685-7016 omplstaff@omrolibrary.org Volunteer application: https://omrolibrary.org/sites/default/files/inline-files/Volunteer%20Application.pdf Liability protection: Waiver of liability in application process	OPEN
Miravida Living 225 N. Eagle St., Oshkosh, WI 54902 Volunteer Information: https://www.miravidaliving.com/volunteer/ Volunteer application: https://hipaa.jotform.com/220336497425155 Volunteer training sessions Liability protection: Organization's insurance coverage	Jane Kuhn
Neenah Historical Society—Octagon House 343 Smith Street, Neenah, WI 54956 Volunteer Information: http://www.neenahhistoricalsociety.com/ (920) 729-0244 Neenahhistoricalsociety@gmail.com Liability protection: Organization's insurance coverage Background check performed by Neenah Historical Society	Jerry Robak

<p>Neenah Public Library 240 E. Wisconsin Avenue, Neenah, WI 54956 Volunteer Information: https://neenahlibrary.org/volunteer 920-886-6315 library@neenahlibrary.org Volunteer policy: https://neenahlibrary.org/sites/default/files/inline-files/Neenah%20Public%20Library%20Volunteer%20Program%20Policy.pdf Volunteer application: https://neenahlibrary.org/sites/default/files/inline-files/NPL%20Volunteer%20Application%20Website.pdf Background check performed by Neenah Public Library Volunteer orientation—30 minutes Liability protection: Waiver of liability in application process</p>	<p>Sue Forbes</p> <p>Bette Hoytink</p>
<p>Oshkosh Area Humane Society 1925 Shelter Court, Oshkosh, WI 54901 Volunteer Information: https://www.oahs.org/volunteer.html Volunteer coordinator: Sarah, sarah@oahs.org Liability protection: Contact OAHS</p>	<p>Contact Sarah, Volunteer Coordinator OAHS</p>
<p>Paine Art Center and Gardens 1410 Algoma Blvd, Oshkosh, WI 54901 Volunteer Information: Volunteer contact: Annika Holland, aholland@thepaine.org, 920-235-6903 https://www.thepaine.org/support/volunteer/ Volunteer application: https://www.thepaine.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Volunteer-Application-2020.pdf Volunteer handbook available Background check performed by The Paine Liability protection: Organization's insurance coverage</p>	<p>Ginny Slattery</p> <p>Kathy Gore</p>
<p>Winnebago County Historical & Archeological Society—Morgan House 234 Church Avenue, Oshkosh, WI 54901 Volunteer Information: WinnebagoHistoricalSociety@gmail.com 920-267-8007 Liability protection: Liability protection is not provided</p>	<p>Kathy Schultz</p>

Winnebago County—Department of Facilities and Property Management (Coughlin Rain Garden) 625 E. County Rd Y, Suite 600, Oshkosh, WI 54901 Volunteer Information: No volunteer process Liability protection: Organization's insurance coverage	Jill Dombrowski Ed Dombrowski
Winnebago County Master Gardener Association 625 E. County Rd Y, Suite 600, Oshkosh, WI 54901 Volunteer Information: Liability protection: Organization's insurance coverage	Deb Butch Kathy Procknow
Winnebago County—Park View Health Center (Health Center gardens and Park View Prairie Garden) 725 Butler Rd, Oshkosh, WI 54956 Volunteer Information: Volunteer contact: Tim Laurin, tlaurin@co.winnebago.wi.us, 920-237-6931 liability protection: Organization's insurance coverage	Health Center Gardens: Donna Kudlas Jane Kuhn Park View Prairie Garden: Carol Swannell
YMCA of the Fox Cities—Neenah-Menasha YMCA 110 W. North Water Street, Neenah, WI 54956 Volunteer Information: https://www.ymcafoxcities.org/volunteer-opportunities Volunteer application: https://www.ymcafoxcities.org/sites/ymcafoxcities/files/2021-02/VolunteerApplicationForm2013.pdf Liability protection: Organization's insurance coverage	For more information: Contact Kathy Procknow
Houses of Worship	
First Presbytertian Church 110 Church Avenue, Oshkosh, WI 54901 Volunteer Information Contact Sue Egner	Sue Egner
St. Raphael the Archangel Catholic Church 830 S Westhaven Drive, Oshkosh, WI 54904 Volunteer Information: Contact Cindy Meszaros Liability protection: Organization's insurance coverage	Cindy Meszaros

November 2022						
Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 	9	10	11 	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 	25	26
27	28	29	30			

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