



WINNEBAGO COUNTY MASTER GARDENER NEWSLETTER

MISSION STATEMENT:

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

www.winnebagomastergardeners.org

1-920-232-1986

JUNE 2007

COMMITTEES

Education	
Roy Anne Moulton	886-1283
Education – Meetings	
Audrey Ruedinger	231-5745
Historian	
John Procknow	429-4797
Membership	
Chris Bellin	233-4968
Newsletter	
Linda Baeten	232-1224
Contributing Reporter	
Lawanda Jungwirth	836-2878
State Rep	
Bob Kosanke	231-1873
SOP & Bylaw Committee	
Stan Meyer	725-6486
Sunshine	
Judy Harms	688-5523
Liz Ginke	
Time Keeper	
Shelley Aaholm	731-8570
Trip Coordination by Education Committee & Roy Anne Moulton	886-1283

OFFICERS

President	
Linda Tobey	734-2264
Vice President	
Susan Bohn	685-0427
Secretary	
Linda Werner	725-8168
Treasurer	
Marge Bolding	233-8668

SANCTIONED CORE PROJECTS

Community Gardens	
Ruth Freye	734-5978
Education and Control of Invasive Species	
Lawanda Jungwirth	836-2878
Audrey Ruedinger	231-5745
Farmers Market	
Dorothy Gayhart Kunz	233-8468
Janet Priebe	233-1898
Paine Gardens	
Pat Behm	410-3290
Bob Potter	233-3349
Park View Cutting Garden	
Rob Robinson	231-1162
Park View Vegetable Garden	
Sue Steinhilber	235-1031
Al & Judy Harms	688-5523
Park View Flower Arranging	
Marlene Miller	231-4339
Plant Health Advisors @ UWEX	
Curt Reese	426-4992

OPEN / CLOSED SANCTIONED PROJECTS

Community Education	
Dorothy Kunz	233-8468
Linda Tobey	734-2264
Compost	
Stanley Meyer	725-6486
Lincoln School	
Janet Priebe	233-1898
Karen Wedde	235-7159
Park View Prairie	
Ken Hawk	426-1691
Refreshments	
Linda Loker	426-1435

**Monthly Business Meeting
Annual Potluck Dinner
Tuesday, June 12, 6:00 pm
At the Park View Gazebo
Members and their families welcome**



Dear Fellow Gardeners,

All I can say is Wow! Spring is really here in full force. My gardens are all up and I have the weeds to prove it. If you are like me, every day after work when you have had time to go out and work in the garden, it starts to rain. Heck, Tuesday I finished cutting the lawn in the rain. Oh well, as I can, I will do battle with the weeds. The battle wages every year and this one will be no exception. As long as you don't get too close, my gardens look good and from the glider on the patio they look just grand.

In this month's newsletter there will be a copy of our Hours Form. This form needs to be filled out and sent in to the Time Keeper, Shelley Aaholm, by Sept. 1. September 2 is too late. When turning in your hours you must follow the rules. Unless it has been approved by the Board earlier there are no exceptions to the rules. Hours **MUST** be in by September 1. Although no later than Sept. 1 is the rule, let's not get carried away and send them in too early. I would say to be safe send the anytime between the 5th and the 26th of August. That time frame gives you plenty of time to get them in and not to dump them on Shelley to take care of for an extended time. She can get them, tally them, record them and send them on. Any questions feel free to call me.

I hope everyone taking class this year has really liked it and learned a lot. If you have problems with anything or have questions please bring it up to any board member, Jason or myself. We want this to be a rewarding educational experience. If you have any ideas for improving what we do don't be afraid to bring them up. Ideas and change move us forward.

I would like to express my thanks to Kathy Daniels and Mary Wiedenmeier for volunteering to be our sales persons at the fall MG Conference. Stepping forward like these two ladies have is what makes our group strong. My hat is off to all of you who have taken on leadership for a project or have given of your time and energy as an officer and or a Board member.

I guess enough is enough for now. You probably want to go out into the garden to plant or just smell the flowers. I shall don my trusty garden gloves to do battle with the mighty foe. Yup! Weeds and I will once again meet on the field of battle. In other words I'm going to pull weeds for awhile.

I'll see you in the Garden
Linda

Meeting Attendance

Bob Potter	Ruth Freye	Marge Bolding	Andy Krueger
Kathy Daniels	Linda Tobey	Sue Bohn	Sue Tappy
Janet Priebe	Betty Kuen	David Leonard	Bob Kosanke
Stan Meyer	Linda Loker	Andy Krueger	Arlene Kosanke
Ken Hawk	Mary Weidenmier	Marge Menacher	Pat Behm
Debbie Quant	Pat Rocow	Dorothy Kunz	Ellen Pipkorn
Gail Roush	Steve Schueller	Marty Sacksteder	Sarah Hanson
Sandy Gollither	Linda Baeten	Alice Graf	

REMEMBER TO SIGN IN AT ALL MEETINGS

We thank all of these members for coming and lending their voices to the meeting. Remember this is your organization and you do have a vote in what happens. Please come and add your voice to ours next month.

1. **COOKBOOK STORAGE:** We need storage for the cases of books left unsold. If you have a dry area where books can be kept please contact Linda Tobey (920)734-2264.
2. **SCHROTH'S:** We did not have a buying trip to Schroths this season. It was not worth the trip for a bag of potting soil and a container of Round Up.
3. **INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS:** Anyone who wants to do a project on their own for hours **MUST** have that project approved by the Board. Make sure you fill out the Individual Project request and get it to Sue Bohn. You may not count those hours worked before the project is approved. Projects must be approved yearly. If you have not gotten yours re-approved do it now. Also note that if you do not have 12 hours on our core projects, the Time Keeper will not count your individual hours.
4. **SUMMER MEETINGS:** We will not have any formal member's business meetings in July and August. We will be having Garden Visits to members' gardens as we do every summer. If there is something that needs to be addressed it will be addressed in a short informal meeting in the garden. There will be the usual Board Meeting on the first Tuesday of the month this summer except for July.
5. **HOURS FORM:** The hours form for 2007 is included in this Newsletter. Do Not use last year's form, it is different. If you would like to tally and send your hours electronically just email Linda Tobey and she will email you an electronic copy or you can take it off of our web site. The address for our web site is always in the newsletter.

MEETING MINUTES

Master Gardener Board Meeting

April 3, 2007, Coughlin Center 6:00 p.m.

Members present: Susan Bohn, Linda Tobey, Stan Meyer, Marlene Miller, Ken Hawk, Marge Bolding, Chris Bellin, Jason Kruse.

The meeting was called to order by President Linda Tobey.

NEW BUSINESS

A new banner has been requested for use at the farm market. Linda Tobey had pricing from Image Pros and Badger Printing. Badger Printing had a lower cost but didn't specify materials. Linda Werner will call to see if the weight of the vinyl they use is comparable to what Image Pros offers. The new banner will be 8ft by 3 ft. A decision on the banner will be made at the May board meeting when the additional information is available.

The old tent was in very bad shape and now can't be found. Jason Kruse provided some catalogues and Ken Hawk will check out what is available and report back to the board in May.

Summer MG meetings have traditionally been garden walks at member's homes. It was decided to request volunteers to host the meetings in July,

August and maybe September. The June meeting will be the final class and potluck.

A nominating committee is needed for the two 2008 open officer positions: treasurer and president. The committee will be made up of two members at large and one board member. Audrey Ruedinger and Bob Potter will be asked to form the committee.

The 2007 membership book is just about ready to be printed. Jason said he would check to see if UW-Extension now has the capability to store the database and put addresses directly on mailings.

Three core projects and three individual project applications were acted on. Linda Werner made a motion to approve expenses for the Park View vegetable garden (\$250), the Park View cutting gardens (\$130) and the farmers market project (\$265). Marlene Miller seconded the motion and it was approved.

Sue Bohn made a motion that the maximum funding, on average, for any sanctioned project will not exceed \$250 to keep within the \$2,000 budgeted for projects in 2007. Linda Tobey seconded the motion and it was approved. Items purchased wholesale through Linda Tobey will be deducted from each project's budget so the total remains under \$250. Project leads will need to notify Sue if they anticipate going over budget. Wholesale shopping should help them stay within budget. Anything under \$25 that is reimbursed by

the treasurer will also be counted toward the maximum.

Ken Hawk made a motion to approve Carole Dorsch's request to continue working at the Pickett Community Center. Marge Bolding seconded the motion and it was approved.

Marge Bolding made a motion to approve Linda Loker's ongoing project at St. Raphael Church in Oshkosh. Linda Werner seconded the motion and it was approved.

Linda Tobey made a motion to approve Lawanda Jungwirth's new individual project at St. Mary's Church in Appleton. Marge Bolding seconded the motion and it was approved.

The board agreed that project leads should annually submit an application whether or not they request funding.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.
Submitted by Linda Werner, Secretary

Master Gardener Business Meeting **April 3, 2007, Coughlin Center, 5:30 p.m.**

Treasurer Marge Bolding reported a March beginning balance of \$11,620 and ending balance of \$11,852. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report. Approved.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as printed in the April newsletter. Approved.

OLD BUSINESS

No report was available on "March Into Spring." Over 40 cookbooks sold in just one hour at this event. The cookbooks were also sold at the Home and Garden Show and will be available at the Paine spring sale.

NEW BUSINESS

A committee is needed (2-3 people) to mail out unclaimed awards each year. Marlene Miller volunteered to take care of this task.

Janet Priebe asked for volunteers to help with an April 21 Earth Day celebration for Oakwood Elementary School in Oshkosh. Master Gardeners will have a booth. Janet is the contact for participation.

Linda Tobey asked the group to start thinking of nominations for the Golden Trowel Award and officers. Award nominees must have been with Master Gardeners for at least five years to be eligible. The offices of president and treasurer will be open for 2008.

A new tent is needed for the Paine plant sale. Cookbooks and worm castings will be sold. Ken Hawk said enough people have volunteered to staff the booth.

On April 21, the Paine will have an open house/orientation for new volunteers from 9 a.m. until noon.

Sue Steinhilber gave a brief presentation on the Park View vegetable garden project. The gardens are in raised beds for easier access for residents. MGs partner with staff to offer this enriching program for residents every Wednesday from 10 to 11:30. Planting day is May 30. MGs may also work in the vegetable garden on a flexible basis to keep up with watering. Sue is the contact for anyone interested in volunteering for this project.

Marlene Miller talked about the flower arranging project at Park View. The volunteers bring some flowers from home and use some from the gardens at Park View. They meet on Monday afternoons between 1:30 and 3:30 p.m. and go to the various buildings to help residents arrange the flowers in vases. Marlene is the contact for this project.

Rob Robinson has the lead on the Park View cutting gardens. On Tuesdays, between 2:30 and 4:00 p.m., the residents visit the gardens to talk to MGs and cut flowers to take back to their rooms. Volunteers can also arrange other times to weed, cultivate and water the gardens. Spring clean-up for the cutting gardens is Saturday, April 28, starting at 8 a.m. Rob is the contact.

Bob Kosanke reminded the group that the international MG convention is in Little Rock, Arkansas, May 2-5, 2007. The Wisconsin state MG convention will be in Eau Claire, October 5-6, 2007.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.
Submitted by Linda Werner, Secretary

Master Gardener Board Meeting **May 1, 2007, Coughlin Center 6:00 p.m.**

Members present: Susan Bohn, Linda Tobey, Stan Meyer, Marlene Miller, Ken Hawk, Marge Bolding,

Dorothy Gayhart-Kunz, Barbara Khun, Robert Potter, Audrey Ruedinger, Linda Werner.

The meeting was called to order by President Linda Tobey.

NEW BUSINESS

Robert and Joan Waldusky, representing the Joan M. Waldusky Foundation, were present to make a request for landscaping assistance from Winnebago County Master Gardeners. Joan has Huntington's Disease and Robert is her full-time caretaker. They have purchased an older home outside of Neenah and have remodeled it to meet Joan's needs. They are forming the non-profit foundation so when they no longer need the home, other families with similar special needs can live there rent-free for the time they need it. While the inside is mostly done, Robert would like to do extensive landscaping to make it attractive and wheelchair accessible with raised beds. He asked for assistance in funding, planning, building and obtaining plant materials for this project. Robert is also talking with other groups, including Outagamie County Master Gardeners.

In follow-up discussion, Board members felt Robert's initial plan was too extensive to accomplish in one year or perhaps even in several. Members expressed interest in the project and recommended setting a fixed amount for a financial contribution and then working with Outagamie County to develop a more realistic plan. Barbara Kuhn volunteered to present the project at the May 8 business meeting and ask for a vote to participate and for volunteers.

Bob and Arlene Kosanke submitted an individual project application for working with Grace Church and school in Oshkosh. They will teach parishioners how to care for the gardens. No funds were requested. Audrey Ruedinger made a motion to approve the request and Ken Hawk seconded it. Approved.

Susan Richards submitted a request for WCMGA to plant hostas on the other side of a sidewalk previously planted by MGs at UW Fox Valley. A request for volunteers and excess hostas will be made at the May business meeting.

Also proposed at the May business meeting, will be development of test vegetable gardens at the Sherman Road community garden as a class project. The current plan calls for dividing the MG class into groups that will compete to produce the

most vegetable weight. The produce will be donated to area food pantries.

The board decided to cancel the July board meeting but meet as usual in the other summer months.

WCMGA will have a booth at the state convention to sell cookbooks. It will be in October in Eau Claire.

Barbara Kuhn inquired if there is a reason WCMGA has not planted trees near highway interchanges. Stringent DOT requirements about obstructing views were cited as a barrier. Barbara will write a letter to the DOT to find out what the exact guidelines are.

In previous years, WCMGA has donated a tree to the City of Oshkosh. Stan Meyer has checked into how to go about it in the City of Neenah. Audrey Ruedinger and Stan Meyer will take care of buying a tree for Neenah. WCMGA has already approved purchasing a tree every year.

OLD BUSINESS

A new tent has been purchased. A new banner will be ordered from Badger State Industries to use at the Paine sale. The banner will have the logo and "Winnebago County Master Gardener Volunteers" in dark green on white.

Linda Tobey asked for volunteers to store and sell cookbooks. Jerry Robak had already picked-up three boxes. Marlene agreed to take three boxes and Audrey Ruedinger a box to take to a LIR meeting.

Audrey Ruedinger will work with the nomination committee to find candidates before the election in November. If Sue Bohn agrees to be nominated for the office of president, another candidate for vice-president will be needed. Barbara Kuhn volunteered to be nominated for the office of treasurer.

23 people were signed up for the Madison buying trip as of May 1. This number is enough for the trip to break even.

Master Gardener Business Meeting

May 8, 2007, Couglin Center, 5: 30 PM

The meeting was called to order by president, Linda Tobey. Marge Bolding, treasurer, presented

her written report. She reported a balance of \$11,184.00. A MOTION was made and passed to accept her report. No secretary's report in the last newsletter. There was some slip up and no secretary's report was in the last newsletter. Hopefully it will be found.

Speaker

Dorie Wilner, Community Programs Director for the Oshkosh Police Dept. (and three courtrooms) asked for MG's to help design around the two signs they have by the building. June 1 she has access to volunteers from the University who would be able to plant. MG's were asked to call her if interested. 236-5714. We would have no maintenance on this project.

OLD BUSINESS

Cookbooks

Linda needs storage for about 10 cases of cookbooks. There are 30 in a case.

Paine Plant Sale

Ken Hawk reported volunteers and staffers were all set up for the event. A new canopy has been purchased for \$140.00 which is 10' by 10' and is green. A new MG banner which is 6' long by 2' wide may be ready for the sale. We will be selling worm castings and cook books. The sale is the Saturday after Mother's Day.

MG Picnic

Our annual picnic will be held the last day of the training class, June 12. Kathy Daniels is one of the MGs in charge.

Community Gardens - Sherman Road.

Jason, our advisor, passed around a sign up sheet for veggie and flower trials. He suggested vegetables could be donated to a food pantry. He has reserved four 800 square feet plots. He will split volunteers into three groups. An evaluation will be made which will compare established varieties to a new variety.

Waldusky Project

Linda reported that this proposed project has not yet been formed into a foundation. Until that time we will not participate. The proposed project would be to create several raised gardens for a handicapped terminally ill person. A wheelchair ready home has been created. This project is in Neenah. The home would be available to a couple who has a terminally ill partner.

NEW BUSINESS

State Conference

Mary Wiedenmeier and Kathy Daniels will attend the state convention and have a booth to sell our MG cookbooks. The convention is October 5th and 6th.

MG Training Food Providers

A big "thank you" for all who have provided food for the Training break. It has really been a nice assortment of fruit, vegetables and desserts. Thanks everyone.

Respectfully submitted by

Dorothy Gayhart-Kunz, Secretary pro-tem

REPORTS

Plant Health Advisors (PHA) @ UWEX

The PHA's have been busy this spring and it's getting busier. Last week there were 15 calls on voice mail and 2 live calls at the office. We have completed reports on 52 calls so far this calendar year. In addition we have answered 44 questions that we kept track of at the "Ask the Gardener" booth at the Paine Spring Festival. There were numerous other questions answered at the Paine that were not written down as the questions were coming too fast at times. Thanks to the MG's that manned our own booth, sold worm castings and cook books, and helped answer questions.

Thanks also to the PHA's that have worked or are scheduled to work in the office. They include Ken Friedman, Arlene and Bob Kosanke, Dave Leonard, Jerry Robak, Sarah Hansen, Pat Rockow, Pat Behm, Sue Tappy, and Linda Loker.

We continue to encourage any other MG members to volunteer for PHA. If you can't make it to the office on Tuesdays, another day between the hours of 8:00 am to 4:30 pm would be ok or calls can be taken at home. New PHA's will get help to start out. If you are interested contact Curt Reese @ cbreese@new.rr.com or 426-4992.

2007 Paine Festival of Spring

The Winnebago County Master Gardener Volunteers again participated in the Paine Festival of Spring on May 19, 2007 by setting up and staffing a booth where we answered questions, distributed horticultural literature, sold cookbooks and worm castings, and enjoyed a day filled with live entertainment, plants and gardening enthusiasts. The weather was for the most part beautiful except for a brief shower as the festival came to a close. The shower did provide a cool

respite from the warmer part of the afternoon and I'm sure the plants liked it. Although we would have liked to have done better, we did sell 16 cookbooks and 62 pounds of worm castings. This resulted in \$286.00 in revenue for the WCMGV group.

Many visitors stopped to ask questions about their gardening problems, or seeking advice on horticultural methods and products. We tried to answer their questions but when not sure we referred them to our Plant Health Advisor group.

All of this was made possible by the Paine who donated the space, thanks to Audrey Ruedinger's effort, and the people who volunteered their time to staff the booth. The volunteer hours put in by; Mary Wiedenmeir, Linda Loker, Andy Krueger, Pat Rockow, Vicki Schultz, Marge Menacher, Abigail Kroll, Steve Schueler, Dorothy Gayhart-Kunz, Betty Kuen, Kim Hoeper, and Cindy Meszaros are greatly appreciated. A special thanks to Bob and Arlene Kosanke for their efforts as co-chairs for the event.

Ken Hawk, co-chair Paine Festival of Spring WCMGV booth

SEED TRIALS

The seeds arrived at the UW Extension office on May 29th. Ellen Pipkorn and Julie Keitel picked them up, and have planted out trials at the Community Garden on Sherman Road in the Town of Oshkosh. They plan to bring the rest of the seeds to the June 5th class. If you want your seeds before then, please contact either Ellen (spipkorn@sbcglobal.com) or Julie (420-5802 or jkeitel@new.rr.com) and arrange to get them

MG Training

The class on Natives/Invasive has been rescheduled for Tuesday, June 5th from 6-8:30pm and will be held at Clayton Park.

Clayton Park is located on Larsen Road, six miles north of Oshkosh on Hwy 76, then 1.5 miles west of Hwy 76.

The program is being presented by Tom Vanden Elzen from the Wisconsin DNR Forestry Dept. and will cover major invasives in woodland areas and options for control. Please come dressed to walk on trails in the woods. All are welcome, there is no fee to attend this program as it is being offered by the DNR.

Jason

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Newsletter Articles Wanted

Get some volunteer hours by contributing to the newsletter! The time you spend researching as well as writing counts. Articles should be submitted by the 20th of the month preceding publication.

We would love to hear your personal stories – why did you become a Master Gardener – what has gardening meant to you over the years – how has gardening enhanced or changed your life – how has your garden style changed over time – what is your newest area of gardening interest?

Please contact Linda Baeten or Lawanda Jungwirth.

EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Tuesday, June 5. Clayton Park, Larsen Road. Take Hwy. 76 (Jackson St. exit) for 6 miles north of Hwy. 41. Turn left on Larsen Road and go 1 ½ miles to park. 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. Tom Vanden Elzen, Wisconsin DNR Forestry Dept., along with the University of Wisconsin Extension Office, will be holding an educational session on forestland invasive plants. The session will be a hands-on identification of some of the major invasive plants of woodlands in our area and some of the ways to control them. Also covered will be how to prioritize areas of a property to control those invasive plants. No fee or pre-registration is required. Dress to walk on trails in the woods.

Thursday, June 7. Bonnie Krause-Gams, Master Herbalist and former WCMGA member, presents *"These Exotic Plants, Are They All Evil?"* Maybe we should be eating some of them, and *"Don't Spray Me to Death, Pick Me For Lunch!"* at Winchester Town Hall, Hwy. 11 (old Hwy. 150) in Winchester at 7:30 p.m. No reservations are required. Donations are appreciated. Sponsored by Winchester Area Historical Society.

Friday, June 29. Brown Bag Program @ UWEX Mycorrhizas in the Urban Landscape.

Why are Mycorrhizas so important? Dr. Kevin Kosola, Assistant Professor, UW Department of Horticulture, discusses the associations between the fine feeder roots of plants and certain soilborne fungi (mycorrhiza). The association may result in a nutritional benefit to both the host plant and fungus. With the recognition of the benefits of mycorrhiza, including nutrition assistance and aid in battling harmful pathogens, artificial inoculations have been

suggested. But often the soils may be impoverished and cannot support mycorrhiza due to soil compaction, poor organic content, and a lack of soil nutrients. Join us for a discussion about mycorrhiza and what you can do to enhance the success of their survival

June 7 or 24.

Wisconsin Gardener TV Programs

Check you local listings for the Wisconsin Gardener program on Wisconsin Public Television. This month's program is "Healthy Weeds". Learn how to physically remove dandelions from the backyard without the use of chemicals. Also on the program, learn why you might not want to get rid of dandelions. From soup to salad to fritters, dandelions are delicious and good for you. Gardeners are excited about a new hot plant for shady gardens, hardy ornamental bamboo. We'll learn more about this exciting import from China with Glenn Spevacek of Green Bay. The program also features step-by-step instructions for installing a rain barrel. It's good for the environment and good for the garden

UPCOMING EVENTS

DON'T MISS THEM!

MASTER GARDENER POT LUCK

PARK VIEW GAZEBO

JUNE 12, @ 6:00 pm

ALL MG'S NEW AND OLD AND THEIR FAMILIES ARE WELCOME

The MG Annual Picnic/Pot Luck will take place at the Gazebo on the Park View Health Center grounds after a brief business meeting.

Please bring a dish to pass. Grilled chicken breasts and soda will be provided. You are welcome to bring along significant others and family members. A sign-up sheet has been passed around during training. **Those who have not signed up, please contact Committee members Kathy Daniels (233-0410) or Ann Murphy (303-9697) by June 5th if you plan to come.**

MREA Midwest Renewable Energy Association Annual Fair – June 15, 16, 17.

One of these years, promise yourself to go to the Renewable Energy Fair in Custer, Wisconsin. You will see the latest innovations on everything from building green, to wind and solar energy, to gardening and landscaping to transportation fuels and so much more. This is the 18th Annual Fair.

For more information, see www.the-mrea.org.

GARDEN WALK, JUNE 21st, 6:00-7:30 pm

Bob and Arlene Kosanke welcome all Master Gardeners to a Garden Walk on Thursday, June 21st. Their home is located at 123 W 11th Avenue, Oshkosh. The small city lot is beautifully designed with many unusual trees, shrubs and flowers. Their unique style of gardening in a small area will greatly impress all who attend. Please do not miss this! Cookies and punch will be served.

WHAT AM I?



I am a native, perennial Wisconsin plant of the Family **Fagaceae**; Genus **Fagus**. My habitat ranges is strictly forest environments: beech, boreal, Northern lowland and upland, and Southern lowland and upland. I prefer shaded areas with rich moist, well-drained, and typically acidic soil. I grow up to 50' – 80' tall with a 50' – 70' spread. My leaves are alternate, bright green, sawtoothed, ovate, and about 3" – 5" long. In winter, my leaves turn copper -colored and remain on me until spring making me quite recognizable in the woods. My bark is very smooth, pale, and gray. I have a small reddish flower that blooms in May and June which are followed by typically two to four nuts per prickly bur. These nuts are favored by many birds and mammals (including humans) while an important food for squirrels and chipmunks. My wood is prized for cabinets, flooring, furniture, and woodenware.

What Am I?



Take Care of Your Hands

By Lawanda Jungwirth

If you are like many gardeners, your hands take a beating from May through September. Dirty, ragged nails, dry skin, little cuts here and there . . . sound familiar?

The best way to take care of your hands is to take the preventive measure of wearing gloves while doing garden chores. But many people don't like gloves. They don't allow the precision needed to pull small weeds, they are too hot, or they aren't handy when you need them.

If you are a non-glove-wearer, remember to always, always wash your hands immediately when you come in from gardening. We strive for healthy soil teeming with millions of micro-organisms per square inch, but we don't want those same micro-organisms crawling around under our finger nails.

Some people advocate scratching your nails over a bar of soap and coating your hands with a protective layer of petroleum jelly before going out to work. Those may be good ideas (or not) but much gardening is done spur of the moment. Who wants to take the time to go inside to get soaped and greased?

So you've got the oft-washed, dry, nicked-up hands. A simple way to soften them is to coat them with molasses, mayonnaise or honey (or any combination of the three). Leave on for 10-15 minutes and rinse off.

Can't get those nails clean no matter how often you wash? Soak your nails for a few minutes in lemon juice or dab 3% hydrogen peroxide on a cotton ball and rub onto your nails.

To strengthen nails softened by too much hand washing, combine one teaspoon each olive oil, aloe vera gel and wheat germ oil. Massage into nails daily. Or soak your nails for 15 minutes in a mixture of ¼ cup warm water and two tablespoons molasses.

Here are a few more easy recipes for lotions or creams to heal and soothe garden-battered hands.

BASIC HAND CREAM FORMULA

4 oz. oil (2½ oz. grapeseed, jojoba or almond oil plus 1½ oz. solid oil such as coconut oil or cocoa butter)

½ oz. beeswax

4 oz. distilled water

4-5 drops essential oil of your choice for fragrance (optional)

Combine oils and beeswax in a double boiler over medium heat. Once the wax is melted, remove from heat and add water. Mix with an electric

handheld mixer until thick and creamy. Add the fragrance and stir to blend. Makes 1 cup. Store in a glass jar with a screw top.

ROSEMARY - LEMON HAND MASK

1 T. rolled oats

2 T. whole milk yogurt

1 t. fresh lemon juice

3 drops rosemary essential oil

Grind oats into a coarse powder in a clean coffee grinder. Mix all ingredients together and apply mask to hands. Relax for 15 minutes and rinse off with warm water. Apply a moisturizing cream.

CUTICLE TREATMENT

4 T. castor oil

4 T. cocoa butter

On low heat, warm cocoa butter until it is liquid. Add the castor oil and stir. Remove from heat and put mixture in a deep bowl. When it is cool enough, soak your fingertips and nails for 10 – 15 minutes. Rinse fingers in warm water. Save excess for a future treatment.

COCOA CREAM

½ c. coconut oil

2 t. grated cocoa butter

Combine ingredients in an ovenproof container and heat gently until melted. Stir until you have a smooth cream and pour into a clean container. Let cool completely before using. Massage into hands.

Is it time for your tetanus booster shot?

Remember, everyone, regardless of age, needs a tetanus booster shot every ten years. It doesn't take a deep puncture wound to contract the tetanus germ. It can enter the body through any little cut or break in the skin.

Answer to What Am I?

I am a perennial tree - common name: American beech, beechnut

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

JUNE TASKS

Houseplants, Perennials and Annuals

- Water flower beds weekly during dry periods.
- Watch for insects and diseases.
- Remove spent flowers and weeds from gardens and add mulch.
- **Week 1.** Control diseases on roses and peonies by destroying diseased foliage and flowers immediately.
- When night temperatures stay above 50 F, move houseplants out to shaded areas and water often. Progressively move plants to increased light areas.
- Dig and divide non-blooming daffodils.
- Make second application of fertilizer on perennial beds.
- **Week 2.** For large dahlia blooms, prune all but one shoot per clump.
- Cut back delphiniums after blooming.
- **Week 3.** Pinch off early flowering chrysanthemums for the last time to encourage branching.
- Pinch off one-half of chrysanthemums when 6 inches tall and continue pinching until July.

Vegetables and Herbs

- **Week 1.** Before setting out tomato cages, disinfect them with a 10% bleach solution. Control anthracnose and other disease problems by staking plants, maintaining optimal plant spacing, and using mulches.
- Tie tall crops, such as tomatoes, to supports as they grow.
- Start seedlings of Brussels sprouts to transplant in mid-July.
- Plant peppers, eggplant, sweet potatoes and late potatoes.
- **Week 2.** Plant successive crops of beans, beets, carrots, kohlrabi, corn, turnips, broccoli, cabbage, and cauliflower.
- As soil warms up, apply mulch after deep watering or heavy rain.
- Control leaf blight on tomatoes by disposing of diseased foliage or plants immediately or planting disease-resistant varieties.
- Spray cabbage, cauliflower, and broccoli to control cabbage worm and cabbage looper.
- **Week 4.** Thin vegetables to proper spacing.
- Plant rutabagas, late cabbage, cauliflower and broccoli.
- Mulch tomatoes, and water them if necessary.
- Stop harvesting asparagus. Weed asparagus bed carefully after harvesting to avoid damage to roots.

Lawns, Trees and Shrubs.

- Treat lawns infested with cut worms and army worms with parasitic nematodes.
- **Week 1.** Propagate forsythia, weigela, and spirea shrubs by tip-layering. Roots should be developed by late summer when new plants can be separated from branch.
- Prune evergreens.
- If fertilizing lawn two times per year, apply in June and October; if fertilizing three times per year, apply in early June, early September, and mid to late October.
- **Week 2.** Heavy thunderstorms can cause damage to young plants. Securely anchor trellises, cages and stakes.
- **Week 3.** Prune spring-flowering shrubs that finished blooming by removing leggy and old branches at ground level.

Fruits and Berries

- Apply sticky bands to fruit trees to catch insect pests that climb the trunks.
- Control fruit flies and picnic beetles which feed on the yeast generated by damaged or overripe fruit, with good garden sanitation. Remove and destroy damaged and overripe fruit.
- **Week 1.** Prune suckers from fruit trees.
- Continue applying fungicide on trees and small fruits.
- **Week 2.** Wait until after natural June fruit drop to thin fruit. Thinning promotes larger, better-flavored fruit and prevents damage to overburdened trees. Thin apples 4 to 6 inches apart, plums 3 inches apart and pears 6 inches apart.
- Leave sour cherries on trees as long as possible to fully develop fruit sugars.
- **Week 4.** Fertilize strawberries in late June or post-harvest. Thin plants to two to three per square feet of row. Pin down runners. Water deeply.
- Trellis red raspberries
- Pinch back black and purple raspberry shoots

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

☞ GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Hours spent at the General Membership meetings count!
Come and see how you can be involved.

☞ PAINE GARDENS

Contact Pat Behm or Bob Potter

☞ PARK VIEW CUTTING GARDEN

Contact Rob Robinson.

☞ PARK VIEW VEGETABLE GARDEN

The Vegetable Garden contact Susan Steinhilber 235-1031 or email steinsb@northnet.net

☞ COMMUNITY GARDENS

Contact Ruth Freye

☞ PLANT HEALTH ADVISORS

Contact Curt Reese at 426-4992.

☞ BE A GUEST SPEAKER

Contact Linda Toby.

☞ TRIPS

Contact Roy Anne Moulton of the Education Committee

☞ INVASIVE SPECIES ED & CONTROL

Contact Lawanda Jungwirth.

☞ 2007 MASTER GARDENER TRAINING

Contact Jason Kruse

☞ MENASHA NATURE'S WAY PROJECT

Contact Gale Davey

☞ LOOK FOR MORE PROJECTS TO COME!



JUNE 2007

(THIS CALENDAR CAN BE A HANDY WAY TO KEEP TRACK OF YOUR HOURS)

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THR	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5 BOARD MTG 6:00 MGV Training @ Clayton Park	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 MASTER GARDENER POT LUCK @ THE PARK VIEW GAZEBO, 6:00 PM	13	14	15 BROWN BAG 12:00 NOON @ COUGHLIN CTR NW MOON ●	16 MIDWEST RENEWABLE ENERGY ASSOC FAIR – Custer, WI
17	18	19	20	21 GARDEN WALK @ KOSANKE'S 7:30 PM	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 FULL MOON ○

HAPPY WEEDING!

STRAWBERRY AND ASPARAGUS SALAD

Here's an unusual recipe that combines and complements the delicate flavors of asparagus and strawberries. Strawberry season overlaps the end of asparagus season.

(Source: Cooking with Asparagus, by Lena Raab)

14 oz. Fresh Asparagus
6 oz. Jersey Fresh Strawberries
6 Tablespoons strawberry vinegar
6 Tablespoons sunflower oil
salt
sugar
freshly ground white pepper

1. Wash the asparagus, remove the woody ends and cook briefly in boiling water, seasoned with salt, sugar and 5 tablespoons of vinegar. Simmer for 5 minutes over a low heat. Remove the asparagus and rinse in ice cold water to cool them down quickly. Arrange in a flat gratin dish.
2. Make a marinade with 6 tablespoons of the asparagus water, 1 tablespoon vinegar, oil, salt, pepper and a pinch of sugar. Pour over the asparagus, covering it all with the marinade. Let stand.
3. Clean and wash the strawberries. Puree 1 ½ oz. strawberries. Cut the remaining ones into quarters and sprinkle with sugar so that the fruit produces a little juice. Mix the strawberry puree and strawberry pieces and add to the asparagus. Stir again.

Serves 4.