JUNEAU COUNTY
MASTER GARDENERS
NEWSLETTER
July - August 2020
UW-Madison | Division of Extension
Juneau County

COVID-19 Update

By Mike Maddox, MGP Outreach Program Manager

A gradual return to gardening activities

As the UW-Madison campus rolls into its "phase 1", the MG program has been given the go-ahead to begin a ***gradual*** return to projects that involve no-contact garden activities.

- Projects will need to meet specified guidance and go through an approval process. I have tried very hard to streamline and simplify everything related to this.
- I want to prioritize requests, primarily projects related to growing food, high profile gardens for teaching and display, and with key partners.
- **Confer with your county educator or coordinator for requests to ensure you do not duplicate submissions and are focused on prioritized projects. Only one garden chair or lead per garden project should work with the county educator to complete and submit the form**.
- Garden activities can resume if and when approval is granted - no sooner. The process is currently taking 5 to 7 days.

General COVID-19 resources

- COVID-19 Information from WI DHS.
- Wash your hands frequently for at least 20 seconds with soap and water.
- Use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol content and have it available for all participants.
- Cough or sneeze into your sleeve/elbow.
- Avoid direct contact such as shaking hands, embracing individuals, or putting yourself or others in close contact with one another.
- Between events be sure to use Clorox wipes or something similar to wipe down furniture, doorknobs, tables, chairs, and any other spaces that may retain the COVID-19 virus.
- Provide significant spacing (at least 6 feet) between participants and presenters – if you have lines of individuals consider putting tape on the floor to delineate individual spaces.

Get Continuing Ed While Social Distancing

- **Option 1:** We have reopened the registration for Level 3: Placemaking Lite to give you another opportunity to make the best use of this unique time. Many MGVs who have taken this course have found it useful and enjoyable. Info, cost and current registration link below: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Vo-iN3YrUIWIlOjNrgAEka2ajHBp_6Fdj-kAMb9WF5A/edit#
- **Option 2:** The Plants Plus series is another great option to get continuing education. It is available online and for free. https://wimastergardener.org/?s=plants+plus

Continuing Education Upcoming Events

Wisconsin Horticulture Update Schedule

Tune in most Fridays, 9:30am to 10:30am, May 8 through September 25, for the Wisconsin Horticulture Update
How do I tune in?

In order to make this available to as many Master Gardener Volunteers as possible (and not just restricting this to only MGVs who answer gardening questions and do diagnostics) **we're going to broadcast the Wisconsin Horticulture Update live on YouTube**. **All you have to do is follow the link found in the document linked below.** Simply click this link a few minutes before 9:30 am on Friday and it should be good to go. When the meeting goes live you may need to click the triangle in the center of your screen. **Note each week will require a new YouTube link, all we be posted via the following link.**

- Wisconsin Horticulture Update dates, agenda, YouTube links, and instructions

Each session you watch will count as 1 hour of continuing education.

More Continuing Education ON LINE:

Note: Many come up on Facebook page only a day or two before a program.
Keep checking for current events.

Extension Milwaukee County shared a link - first three below by Vijai Pandian, Horticulture Educator, UW-Madison Division of Extension, For presentation handouts and additional class recordings, check out: go.wisc.edu/hortonlinetraining

Intro to Veg Gardening - Planting Tips Recorded on YouTube: https://youtu.be/G8cVpzhjplw
Intro to Vegetable Gardening: Plan & Prep https://youtu.be/rugKkBxOxnU
Growing Blueberries in Containers/Trenches https://youtu.be/3qYo8P-8N4w
Common Apple and Raspberry Inquiries https://youtu.be/G_zVNdkltaM

The Conservation Foundation **Conservation@Home Webinar**
(**https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL9Pu1rC1O9WE3lc1Vv6GLLiESUqWepd_o&fbclid=IwAR3H8hniKzghaH91zwlpVucLItF4RMjtst9eFIXv9mMXKYE1pXILK96YS30**
A listing of various YouTube video posted such as:

Common Invasive Species (and What to Plant Instead)
Summer Flowers | Webinars
Landscaping with Natives by Kelsay Shaw | Webinar
Creating a Pollinator Garden | Webinar
Landscaping Design Ideas for Your Native Plant Garden | Webinar1:42
Rain Gardens and Rain Barrels | Webinar
Planting in Shady or Wet Areas | Webinar
Plants for Sunny Areas | Webinar
Common Invasive Species and What to Plant Instead | Webinar
Edible Native Landscaping | Webinar

Another source of webinars recordings at: extension.illinois.edu/nutrition. Scroll down to "Recorded Webinars & News."
Fill your Pantry Series a series for learning how to can, freeze, dry, and ferment safely at home.

Canning at Home An introduction to water bath and pressure canning
Freezing at Home An introduction to freezing foods at home
Drying at Home In introduction to dehydration of a variety of foods
Canning Jams & Jellies at Home Learn the steps of making these sweet spreads
Making Pickles at Home Learn the steps of preserving through anaerobic fermentation in brine or immersion in vinegar.
Preserving Apples at Home Learn how to lengthen the shelf life of apples through canning, drying, freezing, and more
Preserving Tomatoes at Home Learn how to preserve tomatoes through canning, freezing, and drying

Virtual Tour of the Pinwheel Gardens https://www.northcountrymgv.org/blog/virtual-tour-of-the-pinwheel-gardens
Have you visited the Teaching & Display Garden at Spooner Ag Research Station? This is a wonderful visit to make during this socially distant summer. Kevin Schoessow, Area Ag Development Agent, takes you on a tour of the popular pinwheel bed of the gardens. These beds have been "adopted" by Master Gardener Volunteers and reflect their different visions. Our gardens are open for self-guided tours during daylight hours. Please follow the posted social distancing guidelines.

JUNEAU COUNTY MASTER GARDENER PROJECTS:

Anyone interested in helping on any of these, please contact person listed. This is a great way to accumulate volunteer support hours towards certification.

- Adopt-a-Highway – Maureen Fox, 462-4228
  - Cleaning trash along Highway 58 South of Mauston
- Boorman House – Margarete Hummelbeck, 562-3856
  - Garden renovation around the Juneau County Historical Society Boorman House
  - Watering and Shade Garden – Natty Kranz, 547-1884/Marion Koca, 847-4580/ Lutrelle Manna, 547-3213
- Buckhorn State Park Project –
  - Maintain plantings and gardens around the office and cabins
- Carl W. Nelson Animal Shelter – Jan Brendle, 565-7290/Rosemary Aney, 847-5558
  - Planting annuals and maintaining flower bed
- Elroy Fair – Bev Kozlowski; 608-853-0300
  - Manning booth for distributing MG information and plant sales
- Facebook Site – Beth Pusel, 547-6172/ Diane Hamm, 547-9404
  - Administrating and maintaining Facebook website
- Juneau County Fair – Marsha Lubinski, 847-5166
  - Entering an Open Class Booth with MG information
- Lyndon Station Veterans Memorial Park – Natty Kranz, 547-1884
  - Maintaining grounds
- Mauston Food Pantry Flower Beds – Marsha Lubinski, 847-5166
  - Planting annuals and maintaining flower bed
- New Lisbon City Planters – Arris Sullivan, 562-5181
  - Planting annuals and maintaining flower beds/planters
- Necedah Nat'l Wildlife Refuge and Butterfly Program– Audrey Traver, 608-427-3761
  - Planting annuals and maintaining flower beds/planters
- Stewart Chapel – Herb & Diane Dannenberg, 847-4395/Margie Miller, 847-5541
  - Planting annuals and maintaining flower beds/planters

In Sympathy

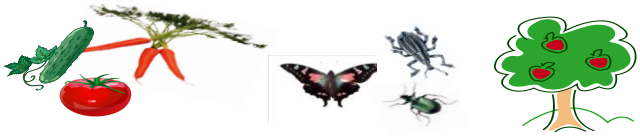
We offer our sympathy and condolences to the family of Phyllis Both who passed away on June 25, 2020 at the age of 81. She was born on November 23, 1938, in Chicago, IL

Phyllis was a mentor and friend. She taught by example. Phyllis taught a class for Juneau County Master Gardener Training a few years ago on propagating. She was a beloved leader and a founding member of the Sauk County Master Gardener Association, a horticultural expert and as such, served as a judge for horticulture department for the Juneau County Fair and others.

Phyllis enjoyed gardening, nature, travel, animals, cooking, reading and volunteer work. She enjoyed her jobs in the nursing field, and especially her time as the Sauk County Horticultural Educator for UW Madison. She wrote articles on gardening in local newspapers and was the Ann Landers but for gardeners.

Funeral service for Phyllis was held on July 2, 2020 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Reedsburg.

Hort - Q&A:



Here's a sample of horticultural questions received and answered by Juneau & Sauk County Agricultural Educator -, Alana Voss or a Juneau County Master Gardener Volunteer. Have a question or comment just call 608-847-9329 or cell 608-477-3945 or email alana.voss@wisc.edu

********Please note our office has moved and our office address has changed as of 4/6/18*********
Juneau County - Extension, 220 E. State Street, Rm 104, Mauston, WI 53948, Website: https://juneau.extension.wisc.edu/

Q. Last year my apples seemed to have becomes distorted, lumpy, and had worm holes on the inside, but you could only tell when you cut into it. What could be causing this and how do we avoid that happening this year?

A. This sounds like an apple maggot flies and they normally emerge in early July. Around this time it will begin laying eggs inside the apples and will cause damage if left untreated. The best time to begin watching for the apple maggots in late June especially in orchards that are surrounded by untreated apple, hawthorn, dogwood, or crabapples trees. We suggest monitoring for the pest by using a red sticky ball trap baited with apple fruit volatile at a rate of three traps per 15-acre orchard. They work best when placed on the edge of the orchard. IF you have caught five or more of these pests being sure to identify them by their wings, it is recommended to use an insecticide to help manage these pests.

Apple maggot flies are similar in size to a house fly and have a distinct "F" on their wings. They are able to overwinter in Wisconsin in the pupae form and emerge as adults around the end of June beginning of July. A female can lay over 300 eggs over the course of her life. You may find these maggot adults may emerge later in the summer beginning of fall.

Once the eggs hatch the maggots or "worms" will feed on the fruit throughout its lifetime. They feed for two to six weeks and will usually make the fruit fall from the tree. This pest is also known for damage to crab apple, cherry, plum, and peach fruits.

You can find more details on the different management/control options check out these fact sheets:
https://fruit.wisc.edu/2017/07/07/apple-maggot/ and/or
https://cdn.shopify.com/s/files/1/0145/8808/4272/files/A4159.pdf.
There they discuss cultural, biological, and chemical control options. You can also find the suggested chemical options if you so choose to pursue that option.

Q. With the heat we have been having what is the best way to handle watering the plants in my gardens?

A. First suggestion would be to have a rain gauge to measure what your plants have received for precipitation. That will help determine how much water is still potentially needed. Plants are not like us where we can get out of the extreme heat. They need a deep watering to reach the roots that are down six to eight inches. Watering the plants slowly and less frequently for this deep watering with around an inch of water is important to keep in mind as we continue through summer. Also, watering once or twice a week with a good soaking will actually be better than watering your plants daily. Another thing to keep in mind as you water your plants is that watering from above can cause more fungal issues and diseases than watering at the base of the plants or utilizing a trickle or soaker hose instead. After watering, test the soil to see how much moisture the soil has gained by using a small stake or metal hanger. Once you feel resistance as you poke/push these into the soil you will see how far down the soaking has gone to reach the lower roots. Mark with your hand where the soil is on it and pull out the stake to see how far you have watered so far. Lastly, having a mulch on the top can help retain moisture in the soil for the plants.

Alana Voss

Agricultural Educator
UW-Madison | Division of Extension

Whatever You Do, Don't Put Coffee Grounds in Your Garden

By Ashley Hamer - August 01, 2019 - https://www.discovery.com/science/Coffee-Grounds-in-Your-Garden?soc=sharefb

This popular soil additive may not be the best thing for your plants. .They're bad news for your garden.

There's nothing like eating veggies you grew in your own garden. But gardening is a big investment: there's the daily watering, the careful pest control, and the delicate process of keeping the soil chemistry just right. No matter what the gardening blogs tell you, leave the spent coffee grounds alone.

Common Grounds

The gardeners who write about it aren't wrong when they say it's full of soil-friendly nutrients like nitrogen, which is essential for plant growth. Generally, adding organic material to the soil is good for your garden, since bacteria will feed on it and break it down into more nutrients the plants can use.

But coffee grounds are highly acidic, so they should be reserved for acid-loving plants like azaleas and blueberries. And if your soil is already high in nitrogen, the extra boost from coffee grounds could stunt the growth of fruits and flowers. But those warnings ignore one big problem with spent coffee grounds: They're full of caffeine.

Not the Buzz You're Looking For

To understand why caffeine is bad for your garden, you need to understand why certain plants produce caffeine in the first place. Those plants evolved the ability to produce caffeine independently, something biologists call "convergent evolution." When two species evolve the same trait completely on their own, it's a sign that the trait probably has a very useful purpose. For caffeine, that purpose is competition: It kills off any plants in the surrounding area.

While you might think you squeezed every last drop of caffeine out of those grounds in your french press, think again: A study in the Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry found that there can be up to 8 milligrams of caffeine per gram of used coffee grounds, depending on how long the grounds steep in the water. That means the grounds still contain about as much caffeine as a cup of tea.

That's why adding coffee grounds to your garden is the last thing you want to do. A 2016 study in the journal Urban Forestry & Urban Greening said it all in the title: "Applying spent coffee grounds directly to urban agriculture soils greatly reduces plant growth." That was true even when they composted the coffee grounds with other organic waste. Another study inadvertently found that compost spiked with coffee grounds kills earthworms. And remember how adding organic material attracts helpful bacteria? Well, coffee grounds also have antibacterial properties. Bye bye, little buggies.

In an article for the Guardian where he did his own informal gardening experiment with coffee grounds, botanist James Wong concludes, "I love a quirky piece of hort advice, and some are repeated so often you assume they are true, but often they call them old wives' tales for a reason." Drink your coffee all you want (eat something first, please), but keep those grounds away from your garden.

The Benefits of Clover
And Why It Went Out of Style

Clover hasn't *always* been the bane of every lawn lover's existence. Ripping it out (or spraying it) as soon as it creeps into your perfectly manicured turf might be a good way to fit into your neighborhood nowadays. But several decades ago, killing clover was not at all in vogue. It was a standard part of grass seed mixes.

With more homeowners today avoiding the use of pesticides, it's likely clovers could come back again as a wonderful part of your lawn. Why would anyone want to reintroduce what's considered a weed back into their lawn? Clover, a victim of bad branding wasn't always considered a weed.

Clovers — specifically *Trifolium repens* — have for centuries been domesticated ground cover plants or livestock forage plants. Clover is a legume, in the same plant family as peas, beans, and peanuts. Its common names include white clover, white Dutch clover, Dutch clover and ladino clover. While it is native to the Mediterranean, it was introduced into the United States early in the colonial days. By 1747, it was common enough that Benjamin Franklin noted red clover's value in improving pastures. Today, it grows readily from Canada to Texas, from Florida to Alaska.

Melissa Sharapova is an expert on permaculture and landscaping with over 25 years in the horticultural industry. Says Sharapova, "In addition to being beautiful with small, round, cool green leaves and white (or pink) flowers, clover provides many ecological services."

Clover's many lawn care benefits

Clovers are a beneficial addition to turfgrass because they fix atmospheric nitrogen into soil fertilizer, with the aid of root nodules [and] colonies of symbiotic bacteria.

"Clover also draws up and accumulates trace minerals. When clover decomposes, it makes the minerals available to the lawn grass and soil life. The grass becomes more disease resistant because of the health benefits of clover."

Making friends, not enemies, with clover means reducing the use of fertilizers, herbicides, and any chemicals one might use to keep disease at bay. It also makes clover way better for the environment than grass-only lawns.

Including clover in a lawn can eliminate the need for synthetic fertilizer, which then reduces nutrient runoff into local streams and aquatic habitat…[it] can reduce erosion.

Turns out clover does some of the "weeding" for you, too. As a dense ground cover plant, clovers, though they are also broad-leaved, are exceptional at crowding out other broadleaf plants such as dandelions, violets, and other plants that commonly populate lawns.

"Clover crowds out broadleaf weeds because it quickly forms clumps that spread by secondary roots, or stolons," says Sharapova. In agriculture too, clovers are common and successful "cover crops" according to studies. When sown in between major crop plantings, they keep weeds down on farm fields for the upcoming year.

https://www.lawnstarter.com/blog/lawn-care-2/were-thinking-over-why-we-kill- clover/?fbclid=IwAR3DajwAfXYVqpSROQBb5tf8lans5fsHdsja8dWWlULCZS0m77TEL6shDgw

Common Tomato Problems

By: Sadie Zobel- --- Reprint from July WIMGA Newsletter

Tomatoes are a popular vegetable grown in home gardens and it is usually the topic I get asked most about when I'm working with the public. The questions usually start with "What's wrong with my tomatoes?" I've also heard more anecdotal advice and practices shared about tomatoes than any other vegetable. While some swear by these practices, it's critical to remember that our job as Master Gardeners is to share scientifically-based research and information with the public.

Below are some common troubles that impact tomatoes.

Preventing Disease The best way to deal with disease is to prevent it! Use resistant cultivars when possible. A vigorous well-cared-for plant is better able to withstand disease and insects better than a neglected one. Space your plants so that air can freely circulate and don't water foliage in the evening. Don't compost diseased plant material – get rid of it by burying, burning, or disposing.

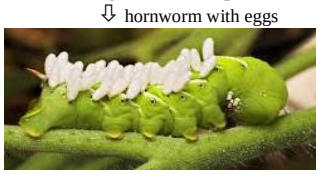
Blossom End Rot Blossom end rot is commonly seen in tomatoes. It results from irregular or insufficient watering and/or calcium deficiency in the soil. It can be reduced by providing an even supply of moisture with controlled irrigation. One inch of water per 5 to 7 days from rain or irrigation is appropriate for most tomatoes grown in Wisconsin. Avoid frequent, light watering. You should also avoid excessive use of nitrogen fertilizer, especially when the plant is fruiting. And, lastly, for next season, avoid planting in compact soil, which can interfere with normal root development and water uptake during dry periods.

Early Blight Early blight spores survive on old plant debris or in the soil. It is best controlled using preventative measures. Destroy infested plants by burning or burying them. Rotate vegetables to different parts of your garden each year to avoid areas of infested debris. Use early blight-resistant vegetable varieties. Increase spacing between plants to increase airflow and decrease humidity and foliage drying time. Finally, where the disease has been a chronic problem, use of preventative applications of a copper or chlorothalonil-containing fungicide labeled for use on vegetables may be warranted. The tops of the fruit become soaked with water, turn light brown, and become sunken as the fruits enlarge and start to ripen. The appearance of circular or irregular dark spots on the lower, more mature leaves is one of the first symptoms of infection.

Late Blight Late blight is caused by a fungus-like water mold. It impacts tomatoes and potatoes and makes fruits inedible. Plants showing late blight cannot be saved and should be disposed of immediately to prevent the spread to other plants. Consider planting tomatoes varieties with late blight resistance. Fungicides can be used to reduce the impact of late blight, but must be made prior to the onset of the disease or they will be ineffective.

What's Eating My Tomatoes? Hornworms can do significant damage in a home garden. They can devour up to four times their weight in leaves and fruit each day. When fully grown, hornworm caterpillars can be up to four inches in length and easily seen. However, smaller hornworms, due to their color, tend to blend in with plant leaves and can be difficult to detect. In this case, frequently monitor tomatoes from early July through August, and hand pick the larvae from plants as needed. Till the soil after harvest to destroy any burrowing larvae. Tillage can kill up to 90% of larvae in the soil.

⇩ hornworm with eggs



Believe it or not, there is a bit of an art to knowing when to pick tomatoes from your tomato plants. And it really does have a big impact on the flavor and nutritional value of your tomatoes, and even the production level of your plants! For many, plucking a deep-red ripe tomato straight from the vine is the ideal harvest.

The answer may surprise you!

But as it turns out, letting that tomato fully ripen on the vine isn't the best idea. Not at least for the flavor and nutrient value of the tomato, or for the continuing production of your tomato plants.

Once a tomato begins to turn from green to slightly pink, it stops taking nutrients from the plant. It is what is known as the breaking stage.

Once a tomato reaches this stage, it will continue to ripen off the vine without any issue. And actually, it is better to pick the tomato at this point for several reasons.

First and foremost, it keeps the tomato from becoming damaged from insects, animals, sun-spots, and even wind or summer storms. A ripening tomato is an open invitation to all of the above.

But plucking that tomato early also helps your tomato plant, it can slow the production and ripening process for additional tomatoes.

It will slow down production of new blossoms if too many tomatoes are present and ripening. It is known as "fruit load" or "fruit overload". But in addition, keeping plants picked also keeps the weight of tomato vines manageable.

How To Best Let Them Ripen!

Here again, the answer may surprise you.

For starters, it is not on a sunny windowsill or the refrigerator!

Too much sun can blister and even injure the fruit. Tomatoes ripen best when stored in a cool, shady location. The ideal temperature for ripening is actually around 65 to 70 degrees, with plenty of circulation.

Tomatoes place on a homemade drying rack made from a few 2 x 4's and hardware cloth in a cool place. A baking rack or bread rack works well too. Allowing the air to get all around the tomato helps it ripen both faster and more evenly.

Why Not The Refrigerator?

There is one place that should never be used for ripening tomatoes – and that is the refrigerator. Unfortunately, when refrigerated, the process of ripening is halted almost entirely.

Storing tomatoes in the refrigerator not only stops the ripening process, but also causes tomatoes to lose flavor and nutrients too.

Storing tomatoes in the refrigerator is a big no-no for flavor and ripening.

If you like and enjoy the taste of a chilled tomato put them in the refrigerator a few hours before eating fresh or putting in a salad!

https://oldworldgardenfarms.com/2020/07/19/when-to-pick-tomatoes/?fbclid=IwAR1dsHzvCubyKA4uVG5CAoGu_Elx53qWfRMOR_Lpbw4_nHvZL_TVRaxge6M

How Dirt Makes You Happy

Antidepressant Microbes In Soil

By Bonnie L. Grant www.gardeningknowhow.com

Prozac may not be the only way to get rid of your serious blues. Soil microbes have been found to have similar effects on the brain and are without side effects and chemical dependency potential. Learn how to harness the natural antidepressant in soil and make yourself happier and healthier.

Natural remedies have been around for untold centuries. These natural remedies included cures for almost any physical ailment as well as mental and emotional afflictions. Ancient healers may not have known why something worked but simply that it did. Modern scientists have unraveled the why of many medicinal plants and practices, but only recently are they finding remedies that were previously unknown and yet, still a part of the natural life cycle. Soil microbes and human health now have a positive link which has been studied and found to be verifiable.

Soil Microbes and Human Health

Did you know that there's a natural antidepressant in soil? It's true. Mycobacterium vaccae is the substance under study and has indeed been found to mirror the effect on neurons that drugs like Prozac provide. The bacterium is found in soil and may stimulate serotonin production, which makes you relaxed and happier. Studies were conducted on cancer patients and they reported a better quality of life and less stress.

Lack of serotonin has been linked to depression, anxiety, obsessive compulsive disorder and bipolar problems. The bacterium appears to be a natural antidepressant in soil and has no adverse health effects. These antidepressant microbes in soil may be as easy to use as just playing in the dirt.

Most avid gardeners will tell you that their landscape is their "happy place" and the actual physical act of gardening is a stress reducer and mood lifter. The fact that there is some science behind it adds additional credibility to these garden addicts' claims. The presence of a soil bacteria antidepressant is not a surprise to many of us who have experienced the phenomenon ourselves. Backing it up with science is fascinating, but not shocking, to the happy gardener.

Mycobacterium antidepressant microbes in soil are also being investigated for improving cognitive function, Crohn's disease and even rheumatoid arthritis.

How Dirt Makes You Happy

Antidepressant microbes in soil cause cytokine levels to rise, which results in the production of higher levels of serotonin. The bacterium was tested both by injection and ingestion on rats and the results were increased cognitive ability, lower stress and better concentration to tasks than a control group.

Gardeners inhale the bacteria, have topical contact with it and get it into their bloodstreams when there is a cut or other pathway for infection. The natural effects of the soil bacteria antidepressant can be felt for up to 3 weeks if the experiments with rats are any indication. So get out and play in the dirt and improve your mood and your life.

Ten Reasons for Gardening

Submitted by Lutrelle Manna

1. There is scientific evidence which proves gardening is beneficial in coping with anxiety and depression. Gardening offers a natural therapeutic and rewarding experience.
2. Gardening offers essential life values. Patience waiting for seeds or plants to grow, hard work digging and weeding, and determination to keep a garden beautiful are all learned in the garden.
3. The physical effort put into gardening burns calories and builds muscle. Digging, planting, and weeding help gardeners stay active and fit.
4. Gardening offers gardeners a way to create their own space, and to have a design they enjoy. Changes may be implemented at any time.
5. Gardening is a connection to nature. Some gardeners build a garden around attracting certain birds or butterflies.
6. Sunlight is a good source of Vitamin D; always be careful to avoid overexposure.
7. Planting wildlife-friendly plants, trees, and shrubs allows gardeners to give back to nature.
8. Growing vegetables and fruits assist gardeners with eating healthy organic food.
9. Gardening builds relationships. Gardening with family and friends or joining a garden club offers a chance to relate to others who share the same passion for growing.
10. Excellent gifts come from the garden. Sharing extra produce or extra plants make great ways to share with others.

Sources: Crane Garden Buildings and *Christian Science Monitor*

Projects in New Lisbon

Submitted by Arris Sullivan

Many of the plants were donated by the Sand Ridge Secure Treatment Center. Many of the flowers were also from the Mauston and Elroy Schools, plus commercial nurseries.

Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–MADISON
JUNEAU COUNTY

UW-Madison | Division of Extension
Juneau County Courthouse
220 E. State Street, Rm 104
Mauston WI 53948

Send articles or other ideas for the Master Gardener Newsletter to: Irene Klingemann, W5805 Brown Rd, Mauston WI 53948 or email iklingemann.mstn@gmail.com

Reminders:

- Due to the COVID-19 virus outbreak and guidelines from Wisconsin Department of Health Services, UW-Madison, and federal agencies, all **Master Gardener Programs** are halted for now.
- All volunteer requirements are suspended for the remainder of the year. The 10-hour minimum of Continuing Education remains in place.
- To report hours go to https://wimastergardener.org/ and once there, click on Toolbox and then Online Reporting System. To sign in, click on Report Your Hours / Annual Enrollment. Before clicking on the last step, might want to watch the video there to guide you to how to enroll and then how to fill in hours.
  - For new volunteers, you will need to complete all aspects of the enrollment process, including the criminal background check and mandated reporter training. Some of this is done when your local coordinator creates your account in the online reporting system.
- Election of the Vice-President and Secretary would normally be at the June meeting. - Marsh Lubinski and Lutrelle Manna will continue till next election.
- At the July meeting, the audit of the Treasurer's Reports is usually done. It will be done by email this year.

Garden Tip -- Natural Weed Killer

This all-natural weed killer is very easy to use and to make. The best part is that it truly works! And only three ingredients:

1-gallon vinegar
1/4 cup dish soap
2 cups Epsom salt or regular salt

First, pour the salt into a gallon container. Then, add the vinegar. Shake together and let it sit for about a around an hour to let the salt completely dissolve. Then, you can add the dish soap. Shake again once all the ingredients are combined. Use in a spray bottle. Spray away! Be care about over spray. May take 24 hours or more on bigger weeds and best to use on a sunny day, it helps.
It is safe to spray around animals and kids - completely non toxin.

More On-Line Resources:

Japanese Beetles 101:

An In-Depth Look at a Top Yard and Garden Pest
UW -Madison, Extension, Horticulture
By PJ Liesch UW-Insect Diagnostic Lag
https://youtu.be/TFFZs2gLAfs

Wild Parsnips - Pastinaca sative

A Listed Invasive Plant Found on Roadsides in Wisconsin
UW Extension - College of Agricultural & Life Sciences
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ozqdU6_T1uU
http://fyi.uwex.edu/weedsci

2020 JUNEAU COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS MEMBERSHIP FORM

NAME			
ADDRESS			
CITY			
STATE		ZIP	
PHONE	( )		
CELL PHONE	( )		
E-MAIL			

If you would like to host a garden meeting, list two months of your choice:

1st choice_____ 2nd choice _____

If you are a current Master Gardener, list the year you took your training:

_____

If not, would you like information on becoming a Master Gardener?

_____

ANNUAL DUES: **$12.00** from January thru December 2020

FILL IN THIS FORM AND MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: **Juneau County Master Gardeners** AND MAIL TO:

Irene Klingemann, W5805 Brown Rd, Mauston WI 53948