



Wisconsin Horticulture

UW-MADISON DIVISION OF EXTENSION



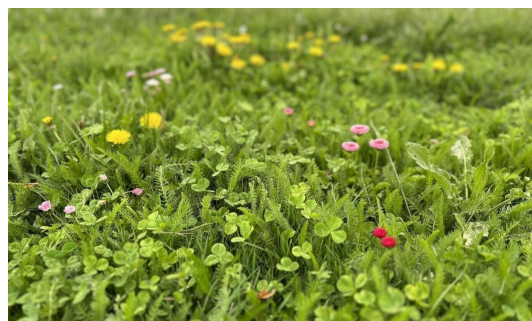
What's happening in Horticulture? May 2026

Greetings gardeners,

May is here, and it's finally time to dig in—literally! Shoots are sprouting, buds are breaking, and lawns are greening up across Wisconsin. As warmer days come our way, **now is a great time to fix dead spots in your lawn.** While “dog spots” and vole damage are frequently noticed this time of year, lesser-known problems like snow molds are just as common. Aside from cleaning up winter debris and prepping garden beds, there is a lot happening in horticulture this month! Read on for timely articles, upcoming webinars, and other news from Extension.

Upcoming Online Programs

- **Big 3 Apple Insect Webinar Series: Part 1 - Plum Curculio**
Friday, May 1 | Noon-1 p.m.
- **Maple Hour: Companion Crops for the Sugarbush**
Tuesday, May 5 | 6-7 p.m.
- **Stopping Stiltgrass in the Upper Midwest: How You Can Protect Our Forests**
Thursday, May 7 | Noon-1 p.m.
- **Rhubarb: Not Just Your Grandmas Favorite Plant**
Thursday, May 14 | 6-7 p.m.
- **Big 3 Apple Insect Webinar Series: Part 2 - Codling Moth**
Friday, May 15, 1-2 p.m.



- **[Ask Your Gardening Question: LIVE](#)**
Wednesday, May 20, 1:30-2:30 p.m.
- **[2026 PDDC Plant Disease Talks - The Science \(and Art\) of Plant Disease Diagnosis](#)**
Wednesday, May 27, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

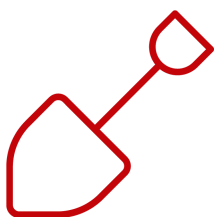


View more upcoming events

When we say **"No Mow May,"** this is what we mean! It's not about the length of the lawn, it's about providing vital pollen and nectar sources in early spring.

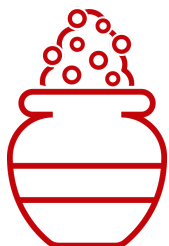
Photos by Doug Soldat.

Timely Articles



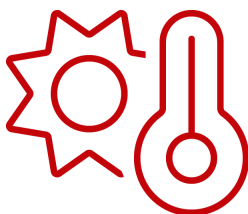
[Beginning Vegetable Garden Basics: Site Selection and Soil Preparation](#)

Starting a vegetable garden may seem overwhelming to a first-time gardener. And although things probably won't go perfectly for the first couple years, a few simple best-practices will set you up for long-term success. **[Read more...](#)**



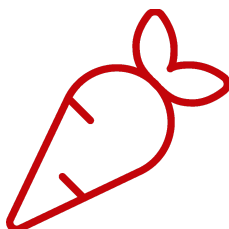
[Growing Vegetables in Containers](#)

Container gardening—that is, growing plants in pots or raised beds—is an increasingly popular way to grow vegetables, particularly when gardening space is limited. You can grow just about any vegetable in containers, but these tips and tricks will set you up for success. **[Read more...](#)**



[When Is the Right Time to Plant Vegetable Seeds? Check Soil Temperature](#)

In our rapidly changing climate, a calendar date is not a reliable method to choose when to plant your vegetable garden. A better method to determine when to put seeds in the ground is to test soil temperatures. **[Read more...](#)**



[Heirloom Vegetables](#)

Heirloom vegetables are old, open-pollinated varieties that have been passed down from generation to generation. They are living artifacts and living history exhibits. They also are a reservoir of genetic diversity. **[Read more...](#)**

Wisconsin Yard & Garden



A weekly column of horticulture education and activities for Wisconsin gardeners. Read the latest articles from this past month.

- [Angler Friendly Yard Care](#)
- [Consider Planting Native Trees in Landscape](#)
- [Crabgrass Management Plan Components](#)
- [April Gardening Calendar Getting Active](#)

In the News

Wisconsin could be in for 'a big year' for Lyme disease as tick bites soar

Wisconsin Public Radio | Featuring PJ Liesch

Trusted Research. New Ways to Connect.

Morning Ag Clips | Featuring Bruce Spangenberg

Public invited to UW Family Gardening Day on May 2

UW-Madison CALS News | Featuring Johanna Oosterwyk

► **Listen: The vertical farm revolution fizzled, but some farms have sprouted in Wisconsin**

Wisconsin Radio Network | Featuring Johanna Oosterwyk

More Extension Horticulture in the news →



Picturesque? Or major pest? This **polarizing perennial plant** provokes plenty of debate!

Have a gardening Question?



Lawn and garden questions



Plant diagnosis



Soil testing information



Landscape and gardening information



Plant identification



Plant disease testing information



Insect identification

hort.extension.wisc.edu/ask-a-gardening-question

UW-Madison Division of Extension Horticulture Program

Find articles, resources, educational events and more at hort.extension.wisc.edu

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