



Digging in Dodge

Dodge County Master Gardeners' Association

Issue 8

Upcoming Meetings

We have some interesting presentations to look forward to at our upcoming meetings. Meetings start at 6:30 p.m. We meet at the Administration Building located at 127 E. Oak Street in Juneau. Anyone with an interest in gardening is welcome to attend.

July 27

Pressed Flowers

Kathy Barbasiewicz

Kathy will tell us which flowers are the best to use for pressing. She will explain the equipment necessary for pressing flowers. Kathy will bring some of her projects and show us the creative possibilities for pressed flowers.

August

no meeting

September 28

Rock Gardens and Hypertufa Troughs

Ed Glover

Ed Glover, from the North American Rock Garden Society, will explain how to make unique containers for rock gardens. Hypertufa troughs are cement containers that can be made in various shapes and sizes. Ed will give examples of the types of plants that work well for these display gardens.

October 26

Nancy Nedveck

Nancy is co-owner of The Flower Factory located near Stoughton. The Flower Factory has over 4000 perennials grown in multiple greenhouses. Nancy will be speaking on a topic related to perennials with the specific topic yet to be determined.

November

no meeting (Thanksgiving)

December

no meeting (Happy Holidays!)

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Pesticide Information

A pesticide guide for ornamental plants by the Ohio State University Extension is available at <http://franklin.osu.edu/hort/hort.htm>. This guide was developed to assist Master Gardeners in answering questions for the general public. It provides the recommended insecticide active ingredient(s) for the most common insects and mites. It gives some brand name products that contain them. There are four sections in this guide; general landscape pests, specific pests of trees and shrubs, annuals and perennials, and insecticide tables.

Ohio State also has some nice fact sheets on a large number of horticultural topics. You can access these at www.ohioline.osu.edu. Click on "Fact Sheets" then "Horticultural Series."

Emerald Ash Borer

The emerald ash borer has been in the news recently as it makes its way to the Wisconsin border. If you would like help in identifying this pest, the Michigan State University Extension has a fact sheet with excellent pictures. You can access this information at www.emeraldashborer.info/files/E2944.pdf

All ash trees within a half-

mile radius of an infestation will be cut down, ground into tiny chips and burned. A recent article in the Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel stated that nearly one-third of all street trees in Wisconsin communities are ash varieties according to state officials.

Financial Grants Available

Applications are available for the Youth Garden Grant Program. The National Gardening Association and Home Depot have teamed up to offer the 24th annual program. Over the past 24 years, the program has helped more than 1.3 million children reap rewards and vital life lessons from working in gardens.

Schools, youth groups, community centers, treatment facilities and intergenerational groups throughout the United States are eligible to apply. Applicants must plan to garden in 2007 with at least fifteen children between the ages of three and eighteen years. Applicants should demonstrate a child-centered plan that emphasizes youth learning and working in an outdoor garden.

Areas considered for support include educational, environmental or social programming; leadership; community

support; sustainability; innovation, and need. Each winning program will receive educational materials.

Visit www.kidsgardening.com/grants.asp for more information about this program. The deadline for applications is November 1.

Deadhead to Promote More Blooms

Promote new flowers and make your garden look better by deadheading — the process of removing spent flower blossoms. You can snip, prune, pinch, cut or use any means you want to remove the old, dead blooms. It is best to remove spent blooms shortly after the flower has died.

Plants have flowers to make seeds. Once seeds have been produced, the plant has satisfied its need to reproduce and flower production stops. By deadheading, you trick the plant into trying to make seed by making more flowers.

Not all plants will produce more flowers after deadheading. Many perennial plants and flowering shrubs are pre-programmed to bloom only once. However, deadheading will improve the appearance, and often the vigor, of these plants.

Check Out Our Website

Our website can be viewed at www.hort.wisc.edu/mastergardener/. Click on "Local Associations" then "Dodge County" to view pictures of projects and to read our newsletter.

Volunteer Hours

Chris Zuleger will be looking forward to receiving your volunteer hour sheets by October 1. Chris is our local record keeper. She will tabulate the hours and send a report to the state association (WIMGA).

Completed forms can be sent to Chris at 509 E. Maple Street, Horicon, WI 53032. Twenty-four volunteer service hours must be completed to be certified or recertified.

Presentations at our monthly meetings you have attended count toward the 10 education hours required if you are being recertified. You can also include viewing time for the Wisconsin Gardener and Great Lakes Gardener television shows.



Upcoming Trip

Prairie Nursery, located near Westfield, Wisconsin, has nearly 200 acres of prairie to explore. Neil Diboll is owner of this nursery and he is dedicated to producing high quality native plants and seeds. State of the art technical information on natural ecological landscaping is his specialty.

There will be tours of the nursery on September 9, 2006. The retail store will be open and select plants, seeds and books will be available.

We will be car pooling for a trip to the nursery. The drive takes approximately 1 1/2 hours. Plan on meeting in the parking lot of the Administration Building in Juneau, 127 E. Oak Street, at 8:00 a.m., if you would like to join us. We plan to arrive at the nursery in time for their 10:00 a.m. tour.

Bring a bag lunch and your own beverage. There are picnic tables at the nursery. The only expense is for gas money for the drivers, which will be worked out individually, depending on the number of people in your vehicle.

Prairie nursery has a nice website with pictures and plant information on a wide variety of native plants. Check it out at www.prairienursery.com.

We hope to see you on September 9!

Home and Garden Tour

The Mayville Women's Service League will be having a home and garden tour on July 20, 2006, from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. There will be 5 homes and 4 gardens to enjoy on the tour.

Tickets are \$8 each and available at Mountin's Piggly Wiggly in Mayville or at any of the homes on the tour. Proceeds will be used for a new educational grant that will benefit a Mayville school. A list of the homes and gardens on the tour can be found at www.mainstreetmayville.com. There is no rain date.

Just the Facts

Mini-info fact sheets with information about beets, purple coneflowers, cabbageworms and easy composting are available at the MG website located at www.hort.wisc.edu/mastergardener/. Click on "Horticultural Info" then "Resources" then "Fact Sheets and Newsletters" to access these sheets plus a variety of useful information.

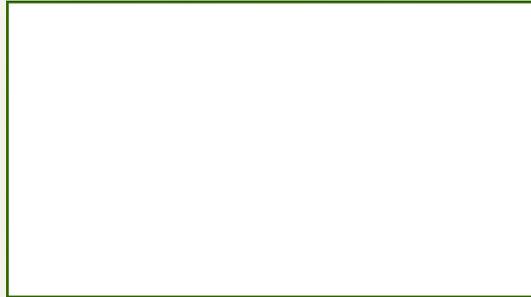
"Autumn is a season followed immediately by looking forward to spring."
Anonymous

Dodge County Master Gardeners' Association

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www.uwex.edu/ces/cty/dodge



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*"Gardening is a matter of your
enthusiasm holding up
until your back gets used to it."
Author Unknown*