



Digging in Dodge

Dodge County Master Gardeners Association

Issue 22

A Note from our President

Summer time is here and with it comes all the gardening activities we all have come to love, and maybe a few we are not so fond of as well. I trust you are all enjoying your gardens and reaping the rewards of your work.

As you tend your vegetables this summer, keep in mind the less fortunate. There are a number of food pantries in the area that accept fresh produce for their clients. A list is posted at:

www.uwex.edu/ces/cty/dodge

Go to the "Food for Thought" section and click on the "Plant a Row for the Hungry" link. Not every organization has the ability to take donations every day. Specific times and days are listed for each location.

Although not specifically a food pantry location, PAVE also accepts fresh produce for their clients. Call first at 887-3758 to see what their needs are.

It is not too late to plant some extra to share. You can still plant green beans, zucchini and yellow summer squash, beets, cucumbers, kohlrabi, and carrots. In another few weeks you can put in lettuce, spinach, and radishes as well.

And, you flower gardeners can participate by bringing beauty to the locations. I cannot imagine that any of them would turn down a bouquet of fresh flowers to brighten their area.

On another topic, in June I attended the "Answering Horticulture Inquiries" seminar in Madison. I came away with a great deal of excellent information, but one thing that impressed me was the need for Master Gardeners to be informed and educated so they can answer questions posed by the public. After all, our primary goal is educating our communities about horticulture issues. With that in mind, I am in the process of developing a diagnostic sheet to use when we encounter questions. I also have some handouts from Bob Tomesh with lists of resources, both human and printed that we can avail ourselves to as we research topics. Watch your inbox for a packet coming soon!

Carol

2010 Projects

Master Gardeners will be working on various projects in Dodge County this year. Projects are underway in Beaver Dam, Horicon, Juneau, Mayville, Neosho, Watertown, and Waupun. Each project has a Master Gardener who coordinates the work. A complete and updated list of projects with contact person information is available from our website or from Carol Shirk (387-5105).

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Upcoming meetings

Anyone with an interest in gardening is welcome to attend the following free programs. Master Gardener meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of the month. Unless otherwise noted, the meetings are at 6:30 p.m. in the Administration Building, 127 E. Oak Street, Juneau.

July 22

Daybreak Gardens

Frank Will

Tour the gardens of this group home at 631 S. Main Street, Waupun including over forty-two raised beds. Most of the beds utilize the "Square-foot Gardening" method of Mel Bartholomew. Come see everything from asters to zucchini in these gardens. Car pools are available.

Coordinators are:

Beaver Dam: Chris Jacobs 887-2250

Watertown: Carla Oestreich 261-7019 or cell 920-988-5188

Juneau: Marianne Zastrow 386-4465

Mayville/Horicon: Carol Shirk 387-5105

August 26

Invasive Plants

Bernie Williams

Bernie, an invasive species specialist for the DNR will give an overview of Invasive Species Rule NR 40 as well as information about plants not only along the roadsides, but in your backyard. She will give cool and interesting facts about the things lurking in your neighborhood....including aliens!

September 23

Wildlife Management in the Yard and Garden

David Drake

David will share information on how to create, enhance, and manage habitat in your yard to benefit wildlife and increase your viewing enjoyment. He will also cover how to manage too much of a good thing— when wildlife begins to damage your gardens.

October 28

Growing and Harvesting Herbs for the Kitchen

Bonnie Kuhlke

The presentation will include tips on herb culture and growing conditions, care and maintenance, harvest, storage and cooking with herbs. Participants will have an opportunity to ask questions and share their herb gardening experiences. Herbal treats will be shared as well as hints for using herbs in cooking.

November 2010

Board Meeting Only

December 2010

No Meeting

Upcoming Events

The Dodge County Master Gardeners will host a booth at the 12th annual Old Time Gathering held at the Dodge County Fairgrounds on Saturday, September 25, 2010. This event is held rain or shine from 8-4 and admission is free.

Upcoming Events

The Beaver Dam Area Arts Association is sponsoring the 2010 Secret Garden Tour. This event is Saturday, July 17 from 10-4. The tour involves nine of Beaver Dam's most beautiful and dynamic gardens, including the newly renovated Mary Ann's Garden at the Seippel Center. Tickets are available for \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door. Get more information at:

bdaaa@charterinternet.com

The 2010 Wisconsin Master Gardener Conference will be held July 23 and 24, 2010 on the UW-Sheboygan Campus. Tours, speakers, and a brat fry make this a "don't miss" event. Conference information and registration materials are available at the website. For complete information, see:

<http://2010wimastergardener.conference.com/conference.html>

Dane County Lakes and Watershed Commission is sponsoring the 9th annual Better Lawns and Gutters Tour. The self-guided tour and talk with rain gardeners takes place on Saturday, August 14 from 9-1 in McFarland. More information is available at:

www.danewaters.com

The 2010 Upper Midwest Master Gardener Conference is September 16-18 at the Clock Tower Resort in Rockford, IL. Thirty-six different breakout sessions will feature topics sure to please every gardener. Complete information is available at:

<http://my.ilstu.edu/~cmseffr/MG/>

Photo Contest

If you missed the first annual Dodge County Master Gardener Association Photo Contest and the accompanying photo seminar, you missed a wonderful opportunity. Gail Nampel headed up this project and she along with her many able assistants did a wonderful job. One participant commented "Even though I didn't win any ribbons, I still came out a winner with all the things I learned from the workshop."

There were 126 photos submitted in five separate categories. Ribbons and certificates were given for first, second, and third place as well as two honorable mentions in each category. Jamie DeVries of Beaver Dam won the Best Of Show with her first place entry in the Flower and Foliage category.

If you were unable to attend, but would still like to see the all of the winning photos, you still have time. They will be on display at the Seippel Center for the Arts, 1605 N. Spring St. in Beaver Dam until August 15.

Reporting Volunteer Hours

Summer is flying by and it will soon be time to turn in your volunteer hours. Berwyn Westra is our local record keeper and he will need your hour sheets by October 1st. He will tabulate the hours and send a report to the state association (WIMGA). Completed forms can be sent to Berwyn at N8693 County FW, Beaver Dam, WI 53916. Twenty-four volunteer service hours must be completed to be certified or recertified.

Ten hours of continuing education are also required. Presentations at the monthly meetings count toward these education hours if you are being recertified. You can also include viewing time for the Wisconsin Gardener and Great Lakes Gardener television shows.

The back of the time sheet has a good list of what projects or programs qualify for completing your requirements. Check it out on the <http://wimastergardener.org> site.

Waupun Farmer's Market

The Waupun Farmer's Market meets Thursdays from May 13 through October 14 at 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm. They are located at 510 East Spring Street - across from the Waupun Community Center. The Master Gardeners have been invited to give a demonstration or activity at any of the meetings. The Chamber has requested a week or two notice so they can properly advertize the activity. Chris Jacobs is coordinating this worthwhile project so give her a call at 887-2250 to get on the docket with your offering.

Invasive Wild Chervil in Dodge County

This spring a patch of wild chervil was identified on Highway 33 east of Beaver Dam. Wild Chervil is highly invasive, difficult to control, and is on the DNR Prohibited Weed List. As an invasive species, it has the potential to cause "economic harm or harm to human health" according to the DNR. Therefore it is important to identify and control this plant. It is related to the parsley family and looks very similar to wild carrot or Queen Anne's lace. Distinguishing characteristics include branches wrapping around the stem of the plant, a more robust (less lacy) leaf than the wild carrot, a reddish color to the base of the plant, and a carrot smell to the root. It is also one of the few plants with white flowers in late May. See the DNR fact sheet at http://dnr.wi.gov/invasives/fact/wild_chervil.htm for more complete information. Wild chervil is difficult to control because it has an extremely deep tap root and is resistant to many herbicides. Continuous mowing will deplete root reserves if done before the plant goes to seed. If you think you may have identified some wild chervil, contact Matt Hanson at 386-3790



Plant Health Advisor Online Advanced Training for MGVs and UWEX Staff

The following information is provided by Barb Larson, Horticulture Educator, Kenosha County. As Master Gardener Volunteers, we need to educate ourselves so we can more effectively educate others. This program begins in September and runs through January...the perfect time for some inside activities. Please give serious thought to your participation.

Learn the basics of diagnosing plant problems so you can answer homeowner gardening questions. The Plant Health Advisor Advanced Training program is completely online via UW-Extension Desire2Learn website. The course is interactive as well as informative.

After completing Plant Health Advisor Online Training, 2009 participants wrote “online learning is great!”, “easy to use”, “enhanced my knowledge”, “great resources”, “liked options to learn by reading or listening”, “all information useful”, “emphasis on learn how to FIND the answer instead of having to know everything”.

Plant Health Advisor Advanced Online Training

- Covers fundamental steps of diagnosing plant problems
- Gives essential information on plant identification, plant pathology and entomology needed by Master Gardener Plant Health Advisors
- Accessible online any day of the week and any time of day during the enrollment period of September 2010 through January 15, 2011
- Counts as 8 hours of continuing education for Master Gardener Volunteer re-certification
- Provides a number of resources, references and websites for use in plant diagnostics
- Online discussion groups and subject matter support from UW-Extension horticulture educators

Course Requirements

- Must be a 2011 active certified Master Gardener Volunteer, (completed 24 volunteer hours and 10 continuing education hours by October 1, 2010) current Master Gardener Intern, or UW-Extension staff
- Intermediate level of experience using Internet (i.e. ability to open new tabs and windows)
- Access to DSL, cable, satellite or similar Internet connection (not dial up service)
- Desire2Learn website requires Internet Explorer 7 or Mozilla Firefox as web browser. (Explorer 8 or higher does not work.) Mozilla Firefox a free download.

Participants must take an online exam at the completion of the course. Master Gardener Volunteers scoring a minimum of 70% on the exam will become a Plant Health Advisor and receive a certificate.

After completing training Master Gardener Volunteers and Interns are encouraged to work with your county program coordinator to find ways to answer homeowner gardening questions as part of your volunteer time.

2010 Fall Course

The training fee is \$25. Fees are used to cover the cost of administrative support. **Fall 2010 Plant Health Advisor Course must be completed before January 15, 2011.**

- Before registering, please check your computer to see if it can run Desire2Learn by going to <http://www.uwex.edu/D2L/> . In the gold box click on “click here to do a system check”.

To register, complete the registration form (available from Carol Shirk) and mail with \$25 check, payable to Kenosha County UW-Extension, to PHA Course, Kenosha UW-Extension, 19600 75th Street, P.O. Box 550, Bristol, WI 53104. Sorry, we cannot take online registration or credit card payment. Registration materials also available at <http://kenosha.uwex.edu/hort/mg.html>. For questions or concerns contact Barb Larson, Horticulture Educator, at (262) 857-1933 or barbara.larson@ces.uwex.edu.

*Reiman Publishing Complex/Greendale, Hawks Greenhouse
and Growing Power of Milwaukee
Saturday, August 28, 2010*

The Dodge County Master Gardener Association will be taking a tour of the Reiman Publishing Complex and Village of Greendale, Hawks Greenhouse, Wauwatosa, and Growing Power of Milwaukee.

- 8:45 am Bus arrives to pick up passengers at Administration Building in Juneau.
- 9:00 am Bus departs for Greendale (Games and prizes provided during the drive.).
- 10:30 am Bus arrives at the Reiman Complex. Drive through viewing of the Reiman Publishing gardens. Ten minute video at the Visitor Center, self-guided tour of Greendale, lunch on your own, and shopping at the Taste of Home Outlet.
- 12:45 am Bus leaves for Hawks Greenhouse, Wauwatosa (approximately 20 minute drive).
- 2:05 pm Bus leaves for Growing Power of Milwaukee (Growing Power is a farm & community food center in Milwaukee, founded by Will Allen. Mr. Allen was recently honored by Time Magazine as one of the 100 people who most effect our world . See more information at www.growingpower.org).
- 2:30 pm Tour of Growing Power. (Tour length is 1 1/2 –2 hours).
- 4:30 pm Bus departs for Juneau (Water and soda provided).
- 6:00 pm Bus arrives in Juneau.

Reiman Publishing, Hawks Greenhouse, and Growing Power Trip-Saturday, August 28, 2010

Cost is \$25 and includes a tour of Growing Power. Lunch is **NOT** included.

Registration is limited to 56 people.

I'd love to go! Please sign me up...

Name: _____ Phone Number _____

Address _____ City _____

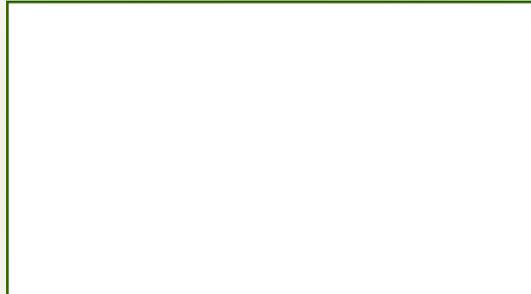
(Sign up slip and checks made out to Dodge County Master Gardener Association can be sent to Marianne Zastrow, 773 E. Center Street, Juneau, WI 53039) (Registration deadline is Aug. 21. 2010. Questions? Call Marianne at 386-4465)

Dodge County Master Gardeners Association

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<http://wiscmg.webhop.net>



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*It's difficult to think anything
but pleasant thoughts while
eating a homegrown tomato."
- Lewis Grizzard*