

UW-Extension Wood County Master Gardener Association

Wood County UW Extension

February 2020

The Wood County Master Gardener Association is a non-profit organization with a mission to educate and share information with its members and the community alike. In addition, it is our charge to promote the UW Extension from which we are founded. We are a diverse group interested in the latest research-based horticultural information.

WCMGV 2020 Program Information

The Future of WCMGV

With Karleen Remington

March 24, 6:30 p.m. McMillan Public Library

Wood County Master Gardener Volunteers will open our 2020 season on March 24 with annual awards presented to volunteers who have reached certain levels of donated time. Our treasurer, Barb Herreid, is working on tallying hours and making sure that each recipient receives the appropriate award. Perhaps you will be receiving recognition?

November membership forms contained some questions concerning recent changes in the Master Gardener program. Vice-president Karleen Remington will try to untangle some of the confusion and answer some questions that have been raised in a presentation titled *The Future of WCMGV*.

The March 24th meeting will take place in the Fine Arts Room at McMillan Public Library, 490 East Grand Avenue, Wisconsin Rapids beginning at 6:30. Doors will be open at 6 PM.



This image was taken from Flickr's [The Commons](#).

The Bulbs of Holland With Barb Herreid

April 28, 6:30 p.m. MARS

Barb Herreid will present a program that illustrates her recent trip to Holland and the bulb growing areas of that country. We will learn the history and culture of all the beautiful bulbs we put into the ground in autumn to overwinter and herald spring the next year. We will develop an appreciation for everything those bulbs have gone through before they landed in our gardens. The meeting will be at MARS on April 28 at 6:30 PM.

In this Issue

- President's Message (2)
- Garden Walk 2020 (3)
- February Garden Guide (4)
- Extension Update (4)
- March Garden Guide (5)
- Refreshments for Spring Seminar (5)
- Here's an Idea (6)
- Digging and Educating (6)
- November WCMGV meeting minutes (7)
- Spring Plant Sale (8)
- Garden Dreams Seminar (9)
- Coffee and Garden Talks (10)
- WCMGV Spring Garden Seminar (11)
- WCMGV BOD and Meetings (12)

President's Message

Welcome to Horticulture - 2020. Sounds like a College Class, right? Here is a handy definition:

1. The cultivation of a garden, orchard, or nursery; the cultivation of flowers, fruits, vegetables or ornamental plants.
2. The science and art of cultivating such plants.

This year, we will zone in on some of the more technical aspects of being a Master Gardener Volunteer.

Watch for new document in your email in February!
This sounds exciting and do-able!!

UW Wisconsin - Madison Division of Extension
"Master Gardener Volunteer Position Description"

Please take the time to review this document. We will as a group share input and thoughts about this new document throughout the year. My initial review of the MGVA "Position Description" is positive! If you do not receive this document via email in February; let me know.

January was a busy month as WCMGVA BOD, teams, and committees met to plan for 2020. February continues to be busy as our fund raising committees (two Plant Sales and the Garden Walk) plan for spring, summer and fall events. Our Spring Seminar committee is ready for the March 14, Seminar. Check out complete information in this newsletter. This event is a great way to earn required CE hours, meet new gardeners and think spring.

WCMGVA has 63 certified MGVA for 2020. Due to fewer MGVs, you may notice changes within our organization. If we all work together, our 2020 Gardening Year will be very successful. I will keep everyone up to date on information or happenings that pertain to WCMGVA as I know about them. Starting in 2020 we will no longer maintain the Veterans Urns at the VA Memorial near the Courthouse as a MGVA project or set-up a booth at the Wisconsin Rapids Children's Festival.

WCMGVA members are always welcome at meetings held by MGVs and may volunteer to work/earn hours at any project, event, or program. For planning purposes please let event chair/project leader know that you would enjoy attending a meeting and/or working at a project site/event.



By U.S. Department of Agriculture Lance Cheung/
Multimedia PhotoJournalist/USDA/Lance Cheung

This is a great way to not only help another volunteer, but earn CE hours and volunteer hours all at one time.

Watch for March newsletter which will list our monthly meeting dates and programs. Please look for more Information about the events planned for the year. To earn required hours, MGVs may sign up to help with any of the listed events. Thanks to all MGVs for all you have done in the past years to make WCMGVA very successful throughout Wood County. Approved projects and events in which WCMGVA participate, no matter the size of the audience we serve, are very important! Please feel free to contact me with any questions, concerns, or program ideas that you may have. I will add your input/ information to my notebook for further consideration.

Please email to [Ruth Cline](#) any items
needing to be placed on the agenda for the meeting 5 days before the meeting.

Garden Walk 2020

Planning has begun for our 21st Annual Garden Walk to be held Saturday, July 11, 2020. We are looking ahead to a bright, warm, summer day in which five gardens in the Rapids and Port Edwards will be featured. Garden Boutique and Refreshment Table will return. Four artists featuring original paintings and textiles will cap off a promise of a lovely day!

Our general membership, as well as our committee membership has dropped, so we are hoping everyone can contribute in some way. How can you help??

- Remember the Garden Boutique for garden related books, magazines, tools, equipment, pots, baskets, art, etc. while spring cleaning this year. Please make sure your items are CLEAN and in good repair.
- Watch for more information about Craft Nights and help make some really nice garden art to be sold at the boutique.
- As you travel about town, notice places that accept promotional flyers so you can return and put up one of our posters when they are available. Your bank, exercise venue, library, beauty shop, church, favorite greenhouse, golf course, and others often have a wall or bulletin board for these types of things.

Think about whom you know in your family, social circle, or work that might purchase or appreciate a gift of a ticket for Mother's Day, Father's Day, May Day, Hostess gift, Thank you gift, or any day.

Lastly, Our Garden Owners/Artists Meet and Greet will be held Monday March 9. Can anyone in the Rapids/Port area provide a snack for the reception we hold in their honor? It can be anything, sweet or savory, that doesn't require a fork to eat. Contact Chris Grimes, if you are able.

Thanks for your support!

Garden Walk 2019 photos



Saturday,
July 11, 2020
21st Annual
Garden Walk



by [Marco Verch](#) under [Creative Commons 2.0](#)

February Garden Guide

from Portage County Master Gardeners Volunteers

- Plant tuberous rooted begonias indoors early in the month.
- Begin regular fertilization of houseplants.
- March is a good month to make cuttings of many houseplants.
- Order perennial plants and specify that they be delivered when the ground is workable.
- Start seeds of slow-growing annuals. Transfer them as appropriate in April to cold frame.
- Start bulbs of calla. They will bloom from June to August.
- Start seedlings of cabbage, celery, cauliflower, head lettuce, and parsley.
- Keep amaryllis foliage growing by watering and feeding.
- Continue to inspect stored vegetables. Anything showing signs of spoilage should be removed immediately and either used or discarded.
- Don't worry if spring-flowering bulbs are sending up green leaves. The foliage can withstand winter weather.
- March is the leanest month for wildlife, so protect shrubs and plants with wire cages or sprinkle ground with cat hair or blood meal.
- Do not remove mulch from perennials too early. Keep light covering of mulch over spring bulbs.
- Rake off last season's mulches on garden soil so it can dry and be warmed by the sun. Remove any plant residue left from last year.
- If the compost pile froze during winter, turn it now, and add fresh manure to help restart the composting process.
- Finish pruning dormant trees.
- Sharpen lawn mower blades and have mower serviced before spring rush.
- If you fertilize, apply to shade trees, fruit trees and shrubs when buds swell, as well as to evergreens and raspberries.
- Prune summer flowering (after end of June) shrubs.
- Finish pruning grapes. Non-dormant pruning will cause excessive bleeding.
- Finish dormant pruning of fruit trees and berry bushes. Remove diseased or infected branches.



PENFOLD, Jane Wallas (fl. 1820-1850, artist) and William Lewes Pugh GARNONS (1791-1863)

Extension Update

The Horticultural Coordinator position in Wood County (.5 FTE) has been posted today. Please help to spread the word. Thanks!

<https://jobs.hr.wisc.edu/en-us/job/504238/extension-coordinator>

Jason Hausler

Area Extension Director
UW-Madison Division of Extension
Serving Clark, Marathon, Portage and Wood Counties
email: jason.hausler@wisc.edu
call/text: (715) 533-8006
711 for Wisconsin Relay

March Garden Guide

from [Portage County Master Gardeners Volunteers](#)

- Inspect gladiolus corms, dahlia tubers, begonia tubers and other fleshy rooted plants for rot and desiccation.
- Before ordering vegetable seeds, check last year's seed for viability by placing seeds between moist paper towels for several days.
- To keep your houseplants growing evenly, give the containers a half turn every two days.
- Start seed for impatiens, vinca, pansies, geranium and begonias in mid month.
- Continue to inspect stored vegetables.
- Check for over wintering fire blight cankers on susceptible varieties of apples and pears; remove by pruning.
- Spray dormant oil to control scale and other over wintering pests. Spray on any day above 40 degrees F and when forecast temperatures are to remain above freezing for 24 hours. This may be done until buds swell.
- Prune dormant trees and summer flowering shrubs. Don't prune spring flowering shrubs until after they have flowered.
- When forced bulbs have bloomed and tops have dried, store and then plant in garden in fall.
- Prune roses, fruit trees, and bramble fruits.
- Order catalogues from seed companies you've been meaning to try.
- Check your garden tools and make a list of new tools you will need or want.
- Sharpen garden tools.
- Give houseplants a monthly shower with tepid water.
- Check young trees and shrubs for rodent injury on lower trunks. Prevent rodent injury with hardware cloth or protective collars.
- Try growing some perennials from seed.
- Start seeds for leeks and onions.
- Don't use seeds with poor germination rates; seedlings may be more prone to insect and disease problems.
- Use a sterile soil-less medium for starting seeds to avoid damping off.



davef3138, Flickr/Creative Commons

Refreshments needed for Spring Garden Seminar

Since the Spring Garden Seminar on March 14 is before our first monthly meeting, we don't have time for people to sign up for bringing refreshments. If you plan to attend, please bring a breakfast/snack food to the seminar that morning by 8 AM. This could be anything that is grab and go: Muffins, donuts, cookies, granola bars, coffee cake, fruit, cheese, nuts...your idea. Your donation is greatly appreciated!

Remember to sign up for the seminar. Register online at uwsp.edu/gardenseminar or call 715-346-3838. See attached flyer for more details.

Thanks, Sue Wilford

Here's an idea...

Have you come across something interesting related to horticulture and you were prompted to share it with your mom or your sister or your best gardening friend? How about sharing that with your WCMG colleagues by submitting the information for our monthly newsletter?

We're looking for anything of interest...

- a great garden book you just read/bought
- a pertinent seminar
- a fabulous greenhouse you found
- an interesting gardening story
- a garden tip that really worked well
- a great recipe

We'd love to hear your experience. Feel free to send a picture featuring your find. All you have to do is send it to Peg Klinkhammer, our newsletter editor (wcmgvs@gmail.com). The deadline is the 10th of every month.

Have fun!

Digging and Educating can be productive!

As I spread mulch over my MGV garden site a person on a bike stops by. She gets off bike and walks over and stands there a moment before asking me what I was doing. I say "I am spreading mulch over the area I just weeded". The person asks "What is mulch?" Bingo....I think, here is my chance to earn both educational and volunteer hours all at once! I proceed to share what I know about mulch: the reasons for using mulch; the cost of a bag; the appropriate thickness to spread; how mulch protects tender plants over winter.

The person asks if she can help me so she can learn the proper procedure. As we work, I continue to share tips about mulching. The person takes a break and goes to her bike and to get a pencil and paper. She stands by the garden and writes down notes as we continue to talk. I just happened to have a WCMGVA calling card in my pocket, which I give her. I tell her my name and ask her to stop by the gardens anytime. She gets on her bike, waves and pedals away.

Ruth Cline - Vesper Park Garden



Wood County Master Gardener Volunteers

McMillan Library, Wisconsin Rapids, WI; November 19, 2019;
1 hr. continuing education

Meeting called to order at 7:45pm by Bob Cline, Vice President, pro tem. Bob Cline thanked Barb Herreid, Christine Griffith, and Micky Erickson for their presentation on England and Wales Gardens.

Minutes from October 22, 2019: Lynn Bushmaker moved to accept minutes as written, seconded by Judy Miller, motion carried.

Financial Report: by Barb Herreid. Karleen Remington moved to accept report; seconded by Chris Grimes, motion carried. Dues form and vouchers due to Barb Herreid by December 1st.

Extension Report:

Janell Wehr provided Level 1 Training posters for distribution. Deadline for signing up for training in December. No one has committed to attending at this time.

Online Reporting System (ORS) will prompt MGv to do an annual enrollment which includes volunteer agreement, assumption of risk, medical treatment permission, and photo release (optional). ORS will prompt this annual enrollment, once logged into program. Once up and running, will be due by February 1, 2020.

Old Business/Announcements: December newsletter deadline is December 6, 2019

New Business/Announcements: Barb Herreid awarded a gift to Bob Cline who is leaving the Board of Directors. Thank you Bob.

Nominations Committee: Micky Erickson announced nominations:

President - Ruth Cline;

Vice President - Karleen Remington;

North Director - Jill Becker

South Director - Ann Rozner

Micky Erickson asked three times for more nominations from floor. Nominations closed after no further names submitted. Shelby Weister made motion to accept nominations as proposed. Seconded by Jeanne Osgood. Motion carried.

Continuing Ed/Other Committee/Team Updates/Information

Project Chair Meeting update - Meetings went well and notes will be posted in the December newsletter

Community Education Committee - Spring seminar will be on March 14, 2020 at UWSP Marshfield. Main speaker on soils and 4 sessions on native plants, pruning, composting and incorporating food into gardens. Pruning demo optional at noon.

Motion to adjourn at 8pm made by Karleen Remington; seconded by Jeanne Osgood. Motion carried.

Next Meeting - March 2020 date, time and place to be determined

Respectfully Submitted, Sue Wilford, Secretary

Members Attending: Shirley Anderson, Jill Becker, Annette Bowden, Debby Brown, Audrey Brundidge, Lynn Bushmaker, Julie Carlsen, Bob Cline, Ruth Cline, Mary Czaja, Eliz Erdmann, Micky Erickson, Laurie Francis, Fern Fregien, Christine Griffith, Chris Grimes, Barb Herreid, Barb Kleifgen, Paula Klevene, Bea Kohl, Denise Larson, Judy Miller, Jeanne Osgood, Karleen Remington, Deb Rokke, Ann Rozner, Jan Sabin, Roberta Stolt, Shelby Weister, Sue Wilford, Penn Wilkes, and Marlene Winters.

Meeting Program: Garden Tour of England & Wales by Barb Herreid, Micky Erickson, and Christine Griffith. End of Year Gift Exchange.

WCMGV Spring Plant Sale 2020

This year's Spring Plant Sale will be Friday, May 15th, and Saturday, May 16th, at Helen's Zoo House at the Wisconsin Rapids Zoo, 2030 Gaynor Avenue. See the poster in this newsletter.

We are making some changes to this year's sale due to 2 major issues:

WIMGA and the State MG office are recommending we update our plant donation practices due to the jumping worm issue. Therefore, we will not accept plant donations from any garden sites this spring.

We have fewer MG volunteers to plan, set up, and conduct the sale.

So what will we offer this Spring?

Perennials and some annuals from Mayfield Nursery wholesale division.

Native plants from Agricol wholesale nursery.

Houseplants grown in containers

Vegetables and flower plants started by seed from you and grown in sterilized seed/potting mixes.

We will educate the public with educational displays about jumping worms and native plants.

And, of course, we will have the "Ask a Master Gardener" booth staffed.

Watch for more information in upcoming newsletters.

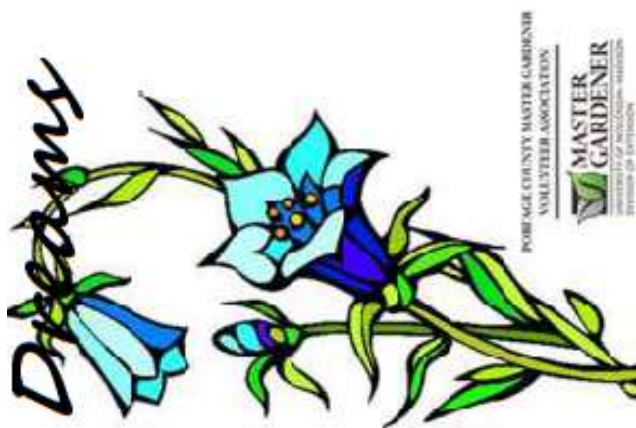
The plant sale planning team is Shirley Anderson, Liz Erdmann, Jennifer Fane, Bea Kohl, and Margie Schenk. Please give them your support by starting flower and vegetables seeds for the sale.

Submitted by Micky Erickson.



Garden

Portage County Extension
1462 Strongs Avenue
Stevens Point, WI 54481
715-346-1316



**A Saturday with the
Portage County Extension
Master Gardener Volunteers**
March 28, 2020
**Lettie W. Jensen Community Center
Amherst, WI**

Garden Dreams

**A Saturday with the Portage County UW-Extension
Master Gardener Volunteers**

March 28, 2020

OUR SPEAKERS...
MARK DWYER --BERNIE WILLIAMS --

Public Welcome! Space is limited. Register soon!

Registration Deadline, Monday, March 23rd

Conference Fee ~ \$30 *Includes hot lunch. Please contact us if you have special dietary needs.*

Make checks payable to PCMGV:

[Download and print the registration form here.](#)

Directions



487 North Main Street
Amherst, WI 54406
715-824-5202

From Hwy 10 take Exit B/Amherst Go
East to KK (1 mile)
Continue straight to Main St (1/2 mile)
Turn Left/North on Main St
The Center will be on your Left (1/2 mile)



**A hearing loop is
available at the
Lettie W. Jensen
Community Center**



University of Wisconsin, United States Department of
Agriculture and Wisconsin Counties Cooperating
UW-Madison Extension provides equal opportunities in
employment and programming, including Title IX, XI and ADA
requirements.

Coffee & Garden Talks

at the Library

sponsored by

Pittsville, Arpin, & Vesper Libraries
&
Wood County Master Gardeners



Lester Public Library of Arpin

Seed Starting

A hands-on session to learn how to start your plants indoor. Children welcome to participate!

- Monday, March 16th 6-8pm

Landscape Design

Where do you begin? Learn the basic principles of designing a beautiful landscape.

- Monday May 11th 6-8pm

Composting

Learn all the basics: Benefits and how to start and maintain your compost pile.

- Monday, September 14th 6-8pm

Pittsville Community Library

Planting Natives vs Non-Natives

Explore the advantages of Non Natives to attract birds, butterflies, and pollinators to your garden.

- Monday, March 9th 6-7pm
- Wednesday, March 11th 1-2pm

Seed Starting

A hands-on session to learn how to start your plants indoor. Children welcome to participate!

- Monday April 27th 6pm

Lester Public Library of Vesper

Landscape Design

Where do you begin? Learn the basic principles of designing a beautiful landscape.

- Tuesday, May 5th 6pm

Invasive Plants and Pests

Learn about invasives that have come to our area and how to deal with them: jumping worms, lily leaf beetle, Japanese beetle, emerald ash borer, buckthorn, wild parsnip, purple loosestrife

- Tuesday, June 9th 6pm

Deadheading

Learn how to revitalize plant growth by deadheading in hands-on practice in the library gardens.

- Tuesday, July 14th 6pm

We'll put the coffee pot on, so stop by, share a cup, and enjoy these informal presentations.

All sessions **FREE!**

Advanced registration is encouraged, but not required.

Arpin 8091 Cty Rd E 715-652-2273

Vesper 6550 Virginia Street 715-569-4669

Pittsville 5291 3rd Ave 715-884-6500



An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming including Title VI, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act requirements.



Wood County Master Gardeners Present



www.shutterstock.com • 548674615

Jamie Patton, Senior Outreach Specialist,
Northeast Wisconsin Nutrient and Pest Management Program

"SOIL HEALTH –IT'S MORE THAN JUST DIRT"

Learn importance of soil organisms

Ways to improve soil habitats

Promote plant, human and eco health

Four Mini Sessions: "Pruning Basics"

"Planting Natives" "Composting"

"Incorporate Food into your Landscape"

Optional Pruning demo - dress for weather!



SPRING GARDEN SEMINAR

Saturday, March 14, 2020 8 AM — 12 Noon

UWSP Marshfield Campus, 2000 W 5th Street, Marshfield Room 131

8:00 Check in, Networking, with Complimentary Refreshments

8:30 Jamie Patton **"SOIL HEALTH –IT'S MORE THAN JUST DIRT"**

10:00 Refreshment Break

10:15 Mini Lectures by MGVs Donna Streiff, Sue Wilford, Jeanne Osgood,
and Garden Guru Jason Wendt

Four Mini Lectures offered - Choose two, each lasting 45 minutes, Pruning Demo @ Noon

Register at uwsp.edu/gardenseminar or call 715-346-3838 by March 7 Fee \$18

An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment
and programming, including Title IX and Americans with Disabilities (ADFA) requirements



2020 WCMGV Board of Directors

President—Ruth Cline
stonegate@tds.net
715-569-4202

**Vice President—
Karleen Remington**
karleenbobremimgton@gmail.com
715-387-1863

Secretary—Sue Wilford
swilford@tds.net
715-652-6129

Treasurer—Barb Herreid
bherreid@wctc.net
715-325-2075

Director—Jill Becker
jb5mfl15@gmail.com
715-387-8040

Director—Ann Rozar
annmarisarozner@yahoo.com
715-435-3804

Director—Jen Fane
jeni@wctc.net
715-325-1770

Director—Donna Streiff
streiffonclay@tds.net
715-207-6218

**Communications Representative
Chris Grimes**
chgrimes@wctc.net
715-424-2878

**Immediate Past President—
Famia Marx**
mapallc@tds.net
715-652-2405

WIMGA Rep—Micky Erickson
garymicky@charter.net
715-435-3616

**Newsletter Editor
Peg Klinkhammer**
WCMGVs@gmail.com
734-787-4630

Please send items for inclusion in the newsletter by the 10th of the month.

**Public Relations Chair
Karen Thlachac**
ktlachac@yahoo.com
715-697-3911

Lead time for television and newspaper is four weeks. Call Karen for clarification of dates and deadlines.

**Wisconsin Master Gardeners
Website:** <http://wimastergardener.org>

**Wood County Extension Web-
site:** <http://wood.uwex.edu>

WCMGV Website: <http://www.wood-county-master-gardeners.org>

Committees, teams, project leaders, members, BODs, are encouraged to send meeting notices for the column below.

The Wood County Master Gardener Association is a non-profit organization with a mission to educate and share information with its members and the community alike. In addition, it is our charge to promote the UW Extension from which we are founded. We are a diverse group interested in the latest research-based horticultural information.

2020 WCMGV Meetings and Notices

March 9, 2020: 6-7pm, and March 11, 2020: 1-2pm, Garden Talk Pittsville Library

March 14, 2020: WCMGV, Spring Seminar - See newsletter for more information

March 16, 2020: 6-8pm, Garden Talk Arpin Library

March 24, 2020: WCMGVA, Monthly Meeting/Awards 6:30 to 8:30 pm, McMillian Library, Wis. Rapids

March 28, 2020: Portage County MGV Seminar "Garden Dreams" See their website to register.

April 14, 2020: Community Education Committee Meeting, 1:30 pm, Rm. 114 UW Ext. Courthouse - WR

April 18, 2020: WIMGA Rep. Meeting, 10:00 am, Hancock ARS

April 18, 2020: Marshfield Children's Festival, Marshfield High School

April 20, 2020: BOD Meeting, 3:00 to 5:00 pm, McCourt Rm. McMillian Library, Wis. Rapids

Monday, April 27, 2020: 6pm, Garden Talk Pittsville Library

April 28, 2020: WCMGVA Monthly Meeting/Program 6:30 to 8:30 pm. MARS, Marshfield

May 5, 2020: 6pm, Garden Talk Vesper Library

May 11, 2020: 6-8pm, Garden Talk Arpin Library

May 15 & 16, 2020: WCMGVA Spring Plant Sale, at Helen's Zoo House - Wis. Rapids Zoo

June 9, 2020: 6pm, Garden Talk Vesper Library

July 14, 2020: 6pm, Garden Talk Vesper Library

July 11, 2020: WCMGVA Garden Walk - Watch for more information

September, 2020: Marshfield Plant Sale at Maple Fall Fest, Marshfield - Watch for more information

September 14, 2020: 6-8pm, Garden Talk Arpin Library