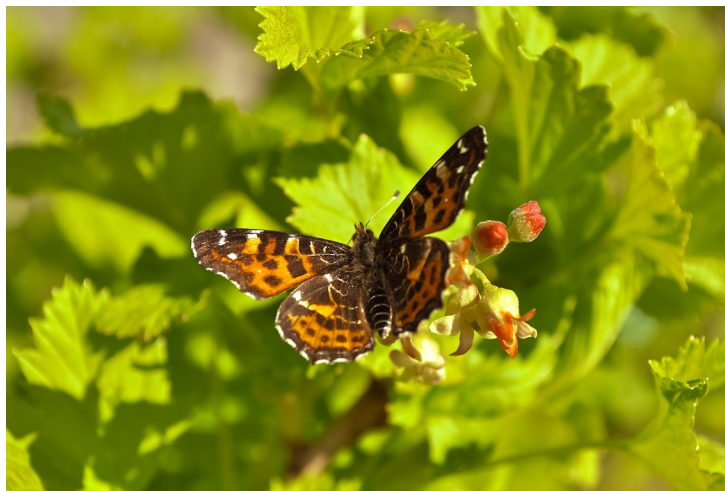


President's Message June 2023

Awesome!

That's the word. It's the word to describe every part of our Spring Plant Sale..the plants, the garden treasures, the bakery, the arts, the crafts, the teamwork, the weather, the crowd, the results. You can take credit for all of it...well, maybe not the weather. Thank you for the donations of the wonderful bedding plants, houseplants, succulents, natives, bulbs, and seeds. Our tables were stocked with a great variety and outstanding quality. Thanks to those who collected seeds way back in the fall looking ahead to this day. Thanks so much to those of you who started seeds and nurtured them these many weeks.

Thanks for sharing your baking and creative talents to make our sale so interesting. And thanks for your donations of varied and useful gardening accessories and books. Most of all of those things now have a new home with a happy shopper.



A huge thank you to the Plant Sale team, who has worked all these weeks to coordinate a well organized and highly profitable sale: Jill, Lil, Cathy, Bea, Jen, Jim, Diane, Judy, & Ann with assistance on setup/sale days from Barb, Micky, Jan, and Karen, Karleen and Donna. It all come together so well. Special thanks to Doug & Cathy Schutz for the use of their beautiful garden for our sale once again!

I believe our plant sales have acquired a reputation for excellence. People come, not just for what we sell, but for all the information, encouragement, and gardening help we give to people, be they novice or experienced gardeners. We all have something we can learn (including us) and that is really the fun part. I saw and heard the conversations over and over again throughout the day. This active exchange of information is not only our mission, but our passion and we all did a great job. Thanks for your part in making WCMGVA awesome!

Chris

June Meeting Information p. 2
May Meeting Minutes p.3
Educ Offerings for C.E. P 4
Plant/Bake Sale Report p. 5
Plant Sale Buzz p. 6 **NEW!**

Summer Ed Events p. 7
Pollinator Week Info p.8-11
PDDC Articles p.12
Calendar Listings p. 13
June Garden Guide p. 14

June Meeting Program

A Visit to Lonely Oak Farm With Joel Kuehnhold at 11946 County S, Milladore .6-8 PM, June 27, 2023 In person only

Joel Kuehnhold operates a CSA Farm (Community Supported Agriculture) near Milladore. He raises beef cattle, sheep, chickens, hogs and a full menu of vegetables and fruits using organic methods of farming. He sells his meat and produce to some local restaurants, at the Stevens Point Farmers' Market and a few area retail stores. Brunch on the Farm features a menu prepared on site from his seasonal farm products and occurs every Sunday from 10-2 during the growing season.

Joel will share his story with us, explain how a CSA system works, identify where his products can be found and invite you to sample his Sunday brunch menu when you are out and about on a Sunday morning.

Bring your own lawn chair for seating during the business meeting which will follow our visit with Joel. Details on parking, etc. will be forthcoming in an e-mail closer to our meeting date.

Directions from Wisconsin Rapids: Take Hwy 34 north through Rudolph to US 10 west. Exit at the Marshfield/Milladore ramp. Drive about 3 miles. Turn Right onto County Road S. Drive a little over 4 miles to Lonely Oak Farm

Directions from Marshfield: Take Hwy 10 east. Drive about 16 miles. Turn left onto County S. Drive a little over 4 miles to Lonely Oak Farm.

Future Confirmed Programs:

July 25: Garden Tour w/Joyce Fischer

August 15: MG Summer Picnic w/Local Horticulture Experts



Join our Communication Team!

Facebook Co-administrator Wanted

For those of you on Facebook...we're looking for another person to help administer the WCMGV Facebook page. It's a digital age and our page is an important resource for accomplishing our mission to educate and to engage with the public. We use it to promote our activities and fundraisers and feature educational topics of interest to Central Wisconsin gardeners. Administrators respond to inquiries from the public sent to our page, post promotional notices about our meetings and fundraisers, and post topical educational features. It's easy and does not require much of a time commitment, so it's a great way to volunteer to get our message out there. Training provided! Call Chris Grimes with questions.

May Meeting Minutes

Wood County Master Gardener Volunteer Association General Membership Meeting May 23, 2023 5:30 pm Marshfield Library, Adler Room & Zoom

Program: "Renewal Pruning" – WCMGV Donna Streiff

Karleen Remington

Total Present: 16 (13 + 3 on Zoom)

Business Meeting - Called to order 6:31

Chris Grimes

Secretary's Report:

Judy Miller

Review of Minutes from April 25, 2023

Motion to accept. M/S/P Schulein/Weister

Treasure's Report:

Famia Marx

\$400 Check written for plants for Plant Sale. Plant Sale total profit: \$2,939. Some left-over plants will be for sale at a reduced price after tonight's meeting.

Motion to accept as presented. M/S/P Remington/Kohl

Extension Report: No contact.

Chris Grimes

WIMGA Report:

Mickey Erickson

Seminar series in Newsletter

Old Business:

Karleen Remington & Judy Miller

Programs : No changes or additions

Spring Plant Sale:

Jill Becker

We need to clarify exact dates for Plant Sale on signs, to minimize confusion. It was suggested to list dates on sign and then cover with a plastic bag until day before.

"Grab and Go" Bake sale was a huge success. Free coffee and lemonade went well. Jan Fane donated/made the coffee and Bea donated/made the lemonade. We made \$262 on Bake Sale.

Reminder to have members save 4" pots.

Evaluation meeting will be held tomorrow to assess the results. We need to think about budget for next year's Spring sale.

Social Committee Report:

Chris Grimes

April 29 Spring event "Tea and Tulips" was a success. Members of other Garden Clubs attended.

May 12 Garden Road Trip was held with 8 members in attendance. 4 vehicles made the trip to Russells' Greenhouse near Plainfield and in Wild Rose, and Plainfield Perennials.

ORS: (Online Reporting System)

Chris Grimes

Chris plans to get a summary of hours of our members. Members can still report hours, but don't get name badge.

Garden Walk 2024 Feasibility Study Team: Lil Schotten has done some research to determine how other places are running their Garden Walks. Let her know if you are interested in serving on the team to resolve current questions. Some questions discussed were: How many gardens? Some members from other Garden Clubs have said they would help. Advertising in WIMGA. How many other features can we include?

Education Committee:

Karleen Remington

Native Plants Brochure was shared. Karleen, Deb Rokke and Donna Streiff worked to get it to its current form. Copies for distribution have been printed.

New Business:

Chris Grimes

Visit to Lil's garden on June 9th has been cancelled.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:25. M/S/P Marx/Rozner

Next meeting: Tuesday, June 27, Lone Oak Farm CSA Tour, Milladore
Directions will be sent prior to meeting. Bring a chair for our meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Judy Miller

Education Opportunities for C. E. Hours

UW Extension Horticulture

Jun 6	12pm	<u>Gardening to Protect Pollinators</u>	Online Webinar
Jun 19	12pm	<u>What Would We Eat Without Bees?</u>	Online Webinar
Jun 21	12pm	<u>Making Space for Pollinators</u>	Online Webinar
Jun 21	6:30pm	<u>Vegetable Diseases</u>	Online
Jun 22	12pm	<u>A Mutual Attraction: Trees and Shrubs for Pollinators</u>	Online Webinar
Jun 23	12pm	<u>Butterfly Garden Design</u>	Online Webinar

To register for any of the above webinars, go to: [Calendar of Events – Wisconsin Horticulture](#)

Recordings from last year's webinars, if you missed them, are at the bottom of the page at: [Webinars for WI Gardeners – Wisconsin Horticulture](#)

There are also recordings of webinars on various topics from the past at: [Videos – Wisconsin Horticulture](#)

The Extension Horticulture website is a treasure trove of educational articles, videos, webinars and courses. You can get on the Horticulture email list to be notified of educational opportunities at: [Stay informed about Extension gardening learning opportunities!](#)

From the Plant Disease Diagnostic Clinic

Dr. Brian Hudelson will be giving monthly webinars on diseases. To find descriptions of each webinar and to register for any or all of them go to:

[2023 PDDC Plant Disease Talks | Plant Disease Diagnostics Clinic \(wisc.edu\)](#)

Vegetable Diseases June 21, 2023 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Description

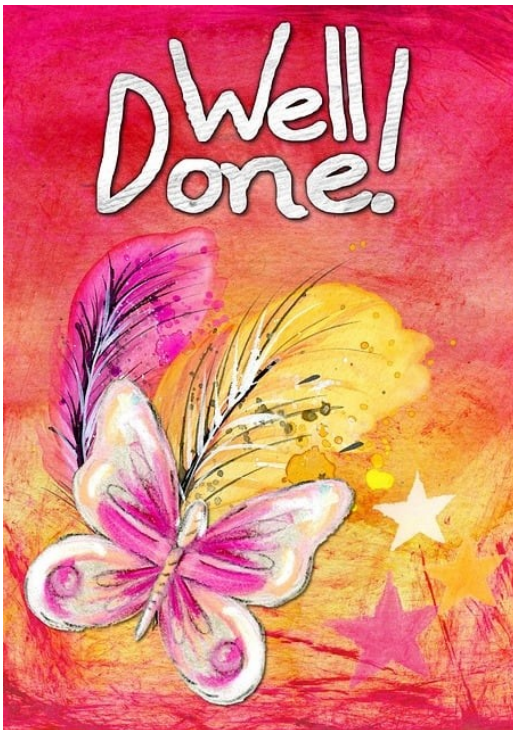
Learn about common diseases that can adversely affect the plants in your home vegetable garden. This presentation will include information on how to identify these diseases, as well as information on how to manage them. [2023 PDDC Monthly Disease Talk Registration Form | Plant Disease Diagnostics Clinic \(wisc.edu\)](#)

Spring Plant Sale Report

A Successful Spring Plant Sale

The sale ran smoothly: profits were almost doubled, educational resources and information were provided, and enough donations were provided to support the sale. Donations from former/current members and their acquaintances are very much appreciated. Members who were on the committee or help set-up/worked the sale were Ann Rozner, Barb Herreid, Bea Kohl, Cathy Schutz, Chris Grimes, Diane Nickels, Donna Streiff, Jan Myers, Jennifer Fane, Jill Becker, Jim Nickels, Judy Miller, Karen Shirek, Karleen Remington, Lil Schotten and Micky Erickson. Plus, Doug Schutz.

Throughout the planning and execution of the sale members stepped up completing advertisement and logistical tasks, making/gathering donations including 40+ flats of starter/propagated plants, plus donations of additional medium/large size houseplants. New this year was the sale of mostly one-dollar valued baked goods items totaling up to \$262 dollars. Complimentary free coffee or a cold beverage was also provided.

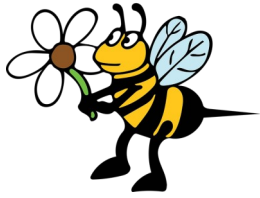


We learned sometimes it takes more than four members to raise a challenging canopy, lol. Members moved from task to task ensuring products were priced and labeled, shoppers' questions were answered, products tidied up, and giving other members breaks.

As of 25 May, the spring plant sale cleared \$3,074.02 - which is only \$71.98 short of doubling what they earned in the simple 2022 sale. Much of the success came from the contributions of numerous members. Cathy and Doug Schutz let us use their Port Edwards home for the second straight year. Jennifer Fane brought 24 flats of vegetables and perennial plants. Numerous members brought first year plants grown from seeds or propagation while others brought older houseplants. There was also a wide selection of harvested seeds. As you can see there was quite an effort and months of time given to ensure we had quality products to sell. We rounded this out with an adequate amount of gardening accessories, reference materials, arts and crafts.

This year we had a small budget to purchase some plants, cover advertisements, supplies and other expenses. If you did not have a chance to come to the May 20th sale, there are some plants who are still looking for new owners. A short list is Succulents: Sedum, Senecio, and Silver Squill; Houseplants - Philodendrons, Spider plants; Annuals -Raspberry Petunia; Perennials – Orange Butterfly Weed, Rose Milkweed, Canna plants; various Bulbs; and Vegetables- Sweet Peppers, Kale, Cabbage ... We just need \$71.98 to double our profits.

Contact Jill if you are looking for a deal on plants.



Plant Sale Buzz

Look for this new column for monthly updates to keep you informed of what you can be doing for the next plant sale.

Get ready. Get set.

Go!

Start collecting seeds for the fall sale starting in June. These are just a few early bloomers to get you started.

- Chives and other alliums
- Lupines
- Bleeding hearts
- Violas
- Violets

Start to collect dried flowers for the dried arrangements

- Hydrangeas are especially needed because the ice storm destroyed many of Joyce's plants
- Keep a list of plants and their location that can be harvested for seeds and dry arrangements. ([See page 12 in April 2023 Newsletter](#)).

Winter sowing update: Especially for newbie growers!

- Make sure the soil in the jugs remains moist.
- Check for the start of new growth.
- As the weather warms, begin to vent the jugs more by removing some of the tape, if you have plants growing in the jug.
- Don't be discouraged if you don't see growth right away. Some natives are slow to start growing.
- If you are growing mostly shade plants, move them to a shady location if weather suddenly turns hot. Shade loving plants should be grown in a shaded area.
- When plants have two sets of true leaves, transplant to individual pots.
- If plants are growing thickly, take a chunk of them and transplant, then CUT off extras after they are established, rather than trying to separate them.

It would be appreciated if members who did not winter sow would volunteer to foster the seedlings of others who did. Let Jill or Donna know if you could do this.

Set up a donation box at home for plant sale durable goods.

Continue or start growing perennials, house plants and succulents.

Put on your calendar reminders to harvest bulbs, seeds and plants.

Prepare handouts or other educational information to share at the sale.

Our Summer Educational Events

Summer Events 2023 — Ways to fulfill our educational mission

Ask a Master Gardener

Ask a Master Gardener inquiry questions come in all year by email or at our booths. Most questions are answered by 1 or 2 members. We could use help with this. You can do it at home if you have a computer and Internet. Donna briefly showed how to research questions at the May meeting. If you don't think you know enough to do this, you can work with someone or have your answers checked by a more experienced member. Some are very simple, like "what can I do about Japanese beetles?" Others you can refer to other MGV members or Janell if you are not sure. You need a background check if you are going to answer the questions that Janell refers to us. Check with Donna or Jill if you want to learn how to do this. In addition to the questions that come in from Janell and our website, woodcountym-ga@gmail.com, Ask a Master Gardener will be at:

- WI Rapids, Marshfield, and Rome farmers' markets
- Marshfield Area Respite Care Center 24th Annual Garden Tour – July 16th.
- Central WI State Fair – Marshfield, WI August 22nd – 27th

Simple ways you can support these activities:

- Help set-up/Take-down Booth.
- Pick a day to hang out in the booth.
- Prepare/copy handouts and resources for visitors.
- Set-up or create a trifold display.



Farmer Markets

The Ask a Master Gardener Booth is usually staffed one to two times a month. We answer general and specific questions and hand out information.

WI Rapids Down Town Farmer Markets, Thursday 8am to 2pm or Saturday 8am to 2pm 100-198 1st Avenue South Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495

Marshfield has two sites Pick n Save, Main Street Marshfield Farmers Market, Tues. 9am to 1pm 641 S. Central Ave or Festival Foods Farmers Market, Sat. 9am to 1pm 1613 N Central Ave Mfld, WI 54449

Marshfield Area Respite Care Center 24th Annual Garden Tour – July 16th We hope to have a booth at Joyce Fischer's home. Plus, Save the Date flyers are put into the gift bags.

Central WI State Fair

Marshfield, WI August 22nd – 27th. We have a booth for five days with two members staffing the booth at different shifts. Members receive a free day pass so part of the day they can check out the fair and the master gardener flower beds project. Help with finding parking can be provided.



THE WISCONSIN POLLINATOR PROTECTION PLAN

Gardens & Lawns

Best Management Practices to protect pollinators

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Besides honey bees, Wisconsin has hundreds of species of wild bees, including bumble bees, that pollinate our crops and gardens. Flower flies, butterflies, beetles and hummingbirds also pollinate plants. If you help these pollinators, they'll help you – with bigger yields in your home garden and less work in your yard. Bees are docile and rarely sting unless threatened, and wild bees live alone or in very small groups. You can find more details in the Wisconsin Pollinator Protection plan, available online.

Plantings

Choose plants that suit your yard's soil type, drainage, slope and sunlight and aim to have at least 3 species blooming from early spring to late fall, selecting a variety of flowers, herbs, fruits, vegetables, trees and shrubs.

- Include flowering plants native to your area. Native plants tend to attract and support more pollinators, and are usually low-maintenance. Wisconsin natives include beebalm, phlox, black-eyed Susan, and many more. See plant list providers in Resources below.
- Let your herb garden flower. Pollinators love flowering herbs, including mint, lavender, basil, oregano, garlic, chives and parsley.
- Avoid flower varieties that are double-flowered or otherwise highly modified by breeding. These flowers often have little pollen or nectar. Pollinators don't often visit common plants like tulips, daffodils, petunias and some roses.
- Remove invasive plants and noxious weeds that crowd out desirable plants and restrict the plant diversity that pollinators need.

Nesting

Unlike domesticated honey bee colonies that live in hive boxes, other Wisconsin bees nest in the wild, and most are solitary. Smaller bees don't travel far, so they need nesting habitat near flowers.

- Leave some areas of your yard uncultivated, so you don't disturb ground nests.
- Plant native bunch grasses like little bluestem. Bumble bees and solitary species will nest at the bases of the grass clumps.
- Leave things a little messy. Wild bees like to nest in old rodent burrows, cavities, abandoned bird nests, hollow plant stems, downed logs and leaf litter.
- Avoid disturbing existing bee nests. They may look like ant hills, so watch who occupies the nest before you destroy it.
- Use caution with homemade bee nests. They can harbor disease-causing pathogens if not properly maintained and may be colonized by wasps and other insects.
- Let dandelions, clover and other flowering plants bloom in your lawn. They provide pollen and nectar early in the season when most other plants aren't yet flowering.

Pesticides

If you're using pesticides in your yard or garden, remember that the label is the law.

- Avoid applying insecticides to plants when they're flowering or to areas where pollinators may be nesting.
- Before applying insecticides to your lawn, mow to remove clover or dandelion blooms that might attract pollinators. By the time the flowers regrow, there will be less insecticide in their nectar and pollen.
- Identify pests and assess the damage. The University of Wisconsin Plant Disease Diagnostics Clinic has resources to help you identify pests and decide if action is warranted.
- If you must treat because of extensive damage, explore your options to find methods that minimize harm to pollinators and beneficial insects that prey on pests.
- If you treat flowering plants with systemic insecticides, treat them after the plant has finished blooming. Systemic pesticides migrate through the whole plant and persist in the plant/soil for weeks or months.

Spread the word

The more neighbors using BMPs to protect pollinators, the bigger the impact.

- Participate in the Million Pollinator Garden Challenge: millionpollinatorgardens.org
- Advertise your pollinator-friendly lawn: xerces.org/nrcs-pollinator-habitat-sign
- Join prairie restoration projects
- Learn to identify honey bees, wild bees, flies and wasps: xerces.org/streamlined-bee-monitoring-protocol
- Take up citizen science: bumblebeewatch.org, greatsunflower.org, monarchwatch.org/tagmig

Resources

- Wisconsin Pollinator Protection Plan: datcp.wi.gov/Documents/PPPComplete.pdf
- Plant lists and planting guides
 - Xerces Society: xerces.org/providing-wildflowers-for-pollinators
 - Pollinator Partnership: pollinator.org/guides, pollinator.org/beesmartapp
- Nurseries and seed sources
 - Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources: dnr.wi.gov/files/pdf/pubs/er/er0698.pdf
 - Plant Native: <http://plantnative.org/>
 - For milkweed seed: xerces.org/milkweed-seed-finder
- DNR invasive species lists: dnr.wi.gov, search "invasive plants"
- UW Plant Disease Diagnostics Clinic: pddc.wisc.edu
- Pesticides toxicity rankings: <http://www2.ipm.ucanr.edu/beeprecaution/>



The article above and the following pages are from the website [Homepage | Pollinator.org](http://Homepage|Pollinator.org). There are tons of other articles and scads of information on the site about pollinators.

Pollinator Week Resources

Planting Guide for your native pollinator garden

Use the arrangement below to have a continuous garden - spring, summer, & fall

MIDWEST REGION
IA, IL, IN, KY, MI, MO, MN, OH, WI



BLOOM SEASON

Spring
Summer
Fall

For best results, use multiple plants of each species.



Pollinator Week Resources

Follow these steps to create your beautiful native pollinator garden

MIDWEST REGION

IA, IL, IN, KY, MI, MO, MN, OH, WI

1 Identify your garden spot:

- ✓ Find a 3' x 6' plot that gets 6+ hours of sun.
- ✓ Have a larger area? Include more choices and clump the same species together.
- ✓ Remove or smother existing lawn or vegetation.
- ✓ Enhance hard-packed soil with organic compost.

2 Buy plants at a local native plant nursery, if possible.

3 Plant!

- ✓ Arrange plants with different seasonal blooms in your plot.
- ✓ Dig holes twice as large as each plant's pot.
- ✓ Remove the plant from the pot, loosen the roots, place it in the hole, backfill, tamp soil, and water.
- ✓ Mulch plot to depth < 1 inch, keeping mulch away from stems and avoid using hardwood chips and shreds.

4 Maintain your garden:

- ✓ Water to keep moist throughout the first two weeks, then as needed or when plants droop.
- ✓ Weed as needed.
- ✓ Avoid using insecticides, herbicides, or fungicides.
- ✓ Be patient - your garden may take a few years to fully establish and fill in!

Add your garden: www.millionpollinatorgardens.org

BLOOM SEASON

NATIVE PLANT OPTIONS

*Your state's native plant society can recommend locally appropriate native species in the genus below. See **North American Pollinator Protection Campaign Ecoregional Planting Guides** for additional information: www.pollinator.org/guides.

SEASON	FIRST OPTION	SECOND OPTION
Spring	Eastern columbine <i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	wild geranium <i>Geranium maculatum</i>
WILD INDIGO	wild indigo <i>Baptisia</i> spp.*	spiderwort <i>Tradescantia</i> spp.*
Summer	beardtongue <i>Penstemon</i> spp.*	golden Alexanders <i>Zizia aurea</i>
YELLOW CONEFLOWER	button blazing star <i>Liatris aspera</i>	blazing star <i>Liatris</i> spp.*
Fall	common milkweed <i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	butterfly milkweed <i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>
NEW ENGLAND ASTER	yellow coneflower <i>Ratibida pinnata</i>	black-eyed Susan <i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>
	cardinal flower <i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>	common boneset <i>Eupatorium perfoliatum</i>
	stiff goldenrod <i>Oligoneuron rigidum</i>	showy goldenrod <i>Solidago speciosa</i>
	New England aster <i>Symphotrichum novae-angliae</i>	smooth blue aster <i>Symphotrichum laeve</i>

• color dots above indicate bloom color
Photo credits on reverse side of card.

May 2023: Jewels in the Crown

MAY 22, 2023 HUDELSON



There was a fair amount of pomp and circumstance earlier this month surrounding the coronation of King Charles III of England. As I was reading the news articles, I began to imagine how plant diseases might fit into a coronation ceremony. I doubt that British royals would find any of the diseases that I deal with particularly appealing. However, in typical Dr. Death fashion, I found three diseases that, in my eccentric world view, could fit into a ceremony to crown a plant pathologist king or queen. I hope you enjoy my selections.

Crown Rots: The most destructive of the “crown” diseases are crown rots. The fungi and fungi-like water molds involved in these diseases often infect through a plant’s roots and eventually destroy a plant’s crown (i.e., the part of the plant where the roots and above-ground plant parts converge). Plant death is a common result. Crown rot pathogens prefer wet conditions; thus, crown rots tend to be more prevalent in heavier (e.g., clay) soils, in low areas, and in wet growing seasons. Management of crown rots involves improving soil drainage by adding organic matter (e.g., compost, leaf litter) to heavier soils and/or creating raised beds. Proper mulching (not more than two inches on heavier soils) can help prevent these diseases as well. Finally, for plants of high economic or sentimental value, fungicide treatments are a possibility. For treatments to be effective however, proper identification of crown rot pathogen(s) is critical, as some crown rot fungicides target fungi, others water molds.

Crown Gall: I got excited recently when I was removing leaf litter from my parents’ wintercreeper and caught sight of greenish-white, tumor-like blobs (galls) on the main trunk of the shrub. These blobs are typical of crown gall, a disease caused by the soil-borne bacterium *Agrobacterium tumefaciens*. This bacterium has a very wide host range; I commonly see crown gall on wintercreeper, rose shrubs, and apple trees. Often tumors form in the crowns of affected plants, but root galls are also common. Management of crown gall involves removing and destroying infected plants and avoiding planting susceptible plant species in areas where the disease has been observed. Interestingly, when *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* infects a plant, it injects a small piece of its DNA (i.e., genetic material) into plant cells, where this DNA inserts into plant chromosomes. This bacterial DNA codes for enzymes that produce a variety of interesting chemical compounds. These compounds hijack plant cell growth and cause cells to grow fast and divide like crazy, leading to characteristic crown gall tumors. Other enzymes make opines, a class of chemicals that are a favorite food of the bacterium. Scientists eventually discovered that they could manipulate *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* DNA and incorporate plant genes into it. With these plant genes in place, the bacterium then could be used to infect a different type of plant, thus moving plant genes from one plant to another. Via this process, genetically engineered/modified plants were first produced.

Crown Rust: This is perhaps the most fitting plant disease for this month’s article, as the name of the causal fungus is *Puccinia coronata*. The species designation (*coronata*) refers to projections on the fungus’ club-shaped reproductive structures that give the clubs a crown-like appearance. Home gardeners most commonly see crown rust on turf; if you have ever walked through your lawn and

ended up with orange shoes, you've encountered this disease. The orange powder is sporulation that allows the fungus to reinfect turfgrass. Interestingly, *Puccinia coronata* needs two host plants to complete its life cycle. The second host plant for *Puccinia coronata* is buckthorn, the invasive tree that takes over understories of wooded areas. *Puccinia coronata* produces a second type of spore in the spring that drifts from turfgrass to buckthorn, infecting leaves and green branch tissue of the tree. These infections lead to yellow leaf spots and yellow, distorted branch growth. These yellow areas produce yet another spore that drifts back to turfgrass, completing the fungus' life cycle. Management of crown rust involves eradicating buckthorn, as well as regular mowing and optimal nitrogen fertilization of lawns to help remove the fungus and help turfgrass outgrow the disease.

Can you think of any other plant diseases that are fit for a plant disease king or queen? If so, let me know. Also, if you have questions about the diseases discussed above and/or how to submit samples to the clinic, feel free to give me a shout. As always, you can reach me at pddc@wisc.edu or (608) 262-2863. Long live plant diseases!!

Calendar of Events

June 2 Janell will be on Larry Meiller Garden Talk Program 11am

June 27 Membership meeting Lone Oak CSA 6pm

July 16 Marshfield Respite Care Garden Walk

July 25 Membership meeting Garden Tour w/ Joyce Fischer

August 15 Membership picnic- Port Edwards

August 22-27 Central WI State Fair

Sept. 15-17 Tentative dates of fall plant sale

Reminder: If you know of a WCMGV member who should be remembered in case of illness, hospitalization, death of a family member, etc. be sure to contact Bea Kohl so she can send a card and/or note on behalf of our organization. It takes all of us to keep track of how well our members are doing and whether anyone needs a little bit of our thoughtfulness. Bea's phone number is 715-423-8908

Note from the Editor

I need the articles for the newsletter at least two days before the First of the month. I have been getting articles very late which makes it hard to get the newsletter out on time. When an article is submitted at the last minute, it means the pages have to be reworked and often articles need to be juggled around to make it all fit and still look nice and be readable. Please make every attempt to get articles turned in within a day or two of Chris' reminder on the 25th of every month. Your editor thanks you for your consideration!

May Garden Guide

Taken from Portage County WI Master Gardener website and Melinda Myers website

June Garden Guide

- Pinch off one-half inch of chrysanthemums when they are six inches tall and continue pinching through June.
- Pinch annuals when 4-6 inches tall to promote growth.
- Give peonies 2-3 applications of complete fertilizer two weeks before flowering. Disbud several branches for bigger flowers on remaining buds. Stake before buds open.
- Prune spring flowering shrubs (lilacs, forsythia, honeysuckle, hydrangea, mock orange, privet, snowball, spirea, viburnum and weigela) after flowering. Apply annual application of fertilizer.
- Prune junipers, arborvitae, yews and hemlock any time during late spring or early summer.
- Water flower beds weekly during dry periods.
- Remove spent flowers and weeds from gardens and add mulch.
- Dig and divide non-blooming daffodils.
- For large dahlia blooms, prune all but one shoot per clump.
- Cut back delphiniums after blooming.
- Control leaf blight on tomatoes by disposing of diseased foliage or plants immediately and planting disease-resistant varieties.
- Before setting out tomato cages, disinfect with a 10% bleach solution. Control fruit anthracnose and other disease problems by staking plants, maintaining optimal plant spacing and using mulches.
- Plant peppers, eggplant, sweet potatoes and late potatoes.
- Plant successive crops of beans, beets, carrots, kohlrabi, corn, turnips, broccoli, cabbage and cauliflower.
- Spray cabbage, cauliflower and broccoli to control cabbage worm and cabbage looper.
- Stop harvesting asparagus by month-end. Weed asparagus bed carefully after harvesting to avoid damage to roots.
- Prune evergreens.
- Prune out lilac seed heads.
- Treat lawns that are infected with cutworms and armyworms with parasitic nematodes.
- If fertilizing lawn two times per year, apply in June and October; if three times per year, apply in early June, early Sept and mid- to late Oct.
- Continue applying fungicide on trees and small fruits.
- Prune suckers from fruit trees.
- Apply sticky bands to fruit trees to catch insect pests that climb the trunks.
- Pinch black and purple raspberry shoots.



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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.

Future Article Submissions

Please send items for inclusion in the newsletter by the 25th of the previous month to: streiffonclay@tds.net

Wisconsin Master Gardener Website:

<https://mastergardener.extension.wisc.edu/>

Wood County Extension Website:

<https://wood.extension.wisc.edu/>

Wood County Master Gardener Association Website:

<https://wood-county-master-gardeners.org/>

WIMGA Website:

<https://www.wimga.org>

Let's get planting for the plant sales:

- ⇒ Houseplant propagation for both sales
- ⇒ Starter plants for flowers and vegetables spring sale
- ⇒ Plants for dried arrangements for fall sale
- ⇒ Winter sowing for natives and perennials for fall sale
- ⇒ Collect seeds, dried arrangement materials, bulbs for fall sale