



# WOOD COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION

Wood County WI

May 2023

## President's Message May 2023

Ready...Set...Go!

May is the time for one of the most famous horse races in the world, the Kentucky Derby, and it is how I feel about now in regard to the Wisconsin growing season. There is so much planning, preparation, and anticipation before both events...and then finally, you're at the gate waiting for the starting gun to go off. Seeds are germinating; plants ordered; raking progressing; event flyers circulating; road trips, learning sessions, and social events are planned; project teams are gearing up. Let's just ignore the snow forecast for the last week of April!

Thanks to all the people preparing for the race to start: Plant sale team, Project leaders & team members, plant sale crafters, Socialization team, Rome MGs & their education session team, Program committee, newsletter/communication team, Board of Directors, and all of you who are preparing to contribute your time and special skills.

This month, we'll do the same as the horses, run for the Roses.....and the tomatoes, and the dahlias, the zucchini and the peonies.... Enjoy the Ride!

Happy May Day to all.  
Chris



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# May Meeting Program

## Renewal Pruning with Donna Streiff Garden Guru Presenter & WCMGV

Site: Adler Family Meeting Room, 1<sup>st</sup> floor Marshfield Public Library  
105 South Maple

**New site; MARS is no longer open. Directions below.**

**5:30-7:30 PM**, May 23, 2023

In Person and via Zoom

**Note the time change above.**

**Library closing is 8 PM sharp. Everyone needs to be cleared from the building by that time.**

The gardening season presents us with the challenge of when to prune all the shrubs of varying shapes and sizes, conifers or deciduous, flowering or not, around our homes. Should it be spring? summer? autumn? maybe even winter? Renewal pruning was a member suggested education topic this year. So Donna will share her expertise on this subject.....the same as she does at her monthly program, Garden Guru, at the Everett Roehl Marshfield Public Library.

**Directions from Wisconsin Rapids via Hwy 186 through Vesper and Arpin:** From Hwy 186 turn left onto Hwy 10. Take exit #183 into Marshfield and onto Veterans Parkway. Follow the parkway (next to the railroad tracks) almost to the center of town. Turn left onto Maple Avenue. Make an immediate left into the parking lot of the Marshfield Library.

**Directions from Pittsville via 73 & 80:** Go through the 3 roundabouts into Marshfield onto Central Avenue. Follow Central Avenue through the business area to Veterans Parkway. Turn Right onto the parkway and then right again onto Maple Avenue. Make an immediate left into the parking lot of the Marshfield Library.

### **Future Confirmed Programs:**

June 27: Lonely Oak Farm CSA

July 25: Garden Tour w/Joyce Fischer

August 15: MG Summer Picnic w/Local Horticulture Experts

## Kudos to Janell

Janell will be the guest horticulture educator with Larry Meiller on his Garden Talk program, Wisconsin Public Radio, [Friday, June 2](#) at 11 AM. They will be broadcasting from Bayfield as a part of the Bayfield in Bloom Festival. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> year she has had that role.

# 2023 Reminders

**The ORS has a new website ink, [ors.wimastergardeners.org](https://ors.wimastergardeners.org).** Please bookmark this new link. **(NOTE: the link will work after the ORS is back online)** The old address is redirecting to the new address; however, some Internet browsers are hanging onto the cache and are not allowing this to happen. For the redirect to work, you will need to clear your cache in the browser.

Remember, you must complete the Terms of Acceptance **before** you can enter any hours. **This has to be done every year.** **Be sure to hit the Submit button at the top or bottom of the page to record all your answers.** **If your contact info changed, please update that there too.** **Please do not check the first box at the bottom of the page which will then give WCMGV organization access to your hours for awards purposes.** It is your choice whether or not to check the second box. There is an excellent video on the ORS site right now explaining how to do this. Still have questions? Contact: [wimastergardener@extension.wisc.edu](mailto:wimastergardener@extension.wisc.edu).

ORS is now open. If you are finding adding hours confusing, you will be able to watch about 20 minutes of videos instructing you on the way to submit your Terms of Acceptance for 2023, and how to use ORS. Click on the red "Tutorial Videos" button on the ORS sign-in page. These are detailed videos on how to use the ORS to enter your hours for volunteering and education. If you were confused on how all this works, these videos are great for clearing up any questions you might have. If you watch all the videos, you can claim **.6** hours of C.E.

Sign in and complete Terms of Acceptance by **May 15** and **get a new name tag!!** Old name tags will not be used after the new ones are received.

If you did not complete Onboarding Lite last year you must do it now to enter hours for 2023. Link to Canvas website where you will find OBL: [University of Wisconsin-Madison Login](#)

## 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!

# March Meeting Minutes

**Wood County Master Gardener Volunteer Association  
General Membership Meeting  
April 25, 2023 5:30 pm  
Marshfield Library, Adler Room & Zoom**

**Program: Brian Hudelson of UW Plant Disease Diagnostic Clinic  
“Dr Death's Plant Disease Predictions for 2023”**

Karleen Remington

Total Present: 20 (12 + 8 on Zoom)

**Business Meeting**

**Call to Order 6:35**

Chris Grimes

**Secretary's Report :**

Judy Miller

Review of minutes from March 28, 2023 Motion to accept. M/S/P Schulein/Becker

**Treasurer's Report:**

Famia Marx

Motion to accept as presented

M/S/P Remington/Weister

**Extension Report:**

Karleen Remington

Janell Wehr will again be the guest on the Larry Meiller Radio Show, Garden Talk on June 2 at 11:00, It is WPR at 930 AM; 100.9 FM; 89.1 FM. (Stations best heard in the WCMGV area)

**WIMGA Report:**

Mickey Erickson

Continuing Ed will be off for the summer, with no new programming  
Consult the WIMGA Newsletter for Educational presentations

**Old Business:**

Karleen Remington & Judy Miller

Programs - No changes or additions:

Tuesday, May 23 – 6:00 “Renewal Pruning” Presenter: Donna Streiff – Marshfield

Tuesday, June 27 – 6:00 Visit the “Lonely Oak Farm” Find out how this CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) works – Milladore – Presenter: Joel Kuehnhold

Tuesday, July 25 – 6:00 Garden Tour” Presenter: Joyce Fischer - Marshfield

Tuesday, August 15 – 6:00 “Fizzles and Sizzles” Presenter: Judy Miller – Alexander Park, Port Edwards

Works in Progress:

Tuesday, Sept 26 - TBA

Tuesday, October 24 – TBA

Tuesday, November 14 - TBA

**Spring Plant Sale:**

Jill Becker

Progress updates were discussed.

Posters and flyers were passed around for members to put out in the community.

Sign-up clipboards for helping on Friday, May 19 and Saturday, May 20 went around.

Bakesale was discussed. If you are unable to bring plants, you could contribute baked goods, following the guidelines.

Karen Shirek and Judy Miller will put up signs around the village a few days prior to the sale.

**ORS (Online Recording System):**

Chris Grimes

Reminder to sign in to Terms and Conditions on ORS by May 15.

**Social Committees Plans:**

Chris, Lil, Cathy

April 29 Spring Event “Tea and Tulips” 9:30 – 11:30 at South Wood County Historical Museum. This event has been advertised to the other Garden Clubs. A food sign-up went around.

May 12 Road Trip to Russels near Plainfield and in Wild Rose. Lunch will be on the way. Details in newsletter.

# March Meeting Minutes

## Garden Walk 2024 Committee:

Chris

Planning Committee is being formed. Lil Schotten will chair. Information gathering is in the works.

## No New Business:

Meeting was adjourned at 7:10. M/S/P B Kohl/Diane Nichols

**Next meeting:** Tuesday, May 23 – Marshfield location 5:30pm  
“Renewal Pruning” Presenter: Donna Streiff

Respectfully submitted,  
Judy Miller,  
Secretary



## Time for a Road Trip!...

Caravan/carpool to  
Teri Gear's greenhouses

Russell's near Plainfield & Garden Villa in Wild Rose  
Coffee/early lunch (dutch treat) at  
Starks & Luce Coffee Parlor & Bakehouse in Plainfield after Russell's

Friday, May 12

meet in Walmart Parking lot (end of garden center) at 9:30am  
or meet us at Russell's at 10am.

Make sure your trunk is Empty!

# Education Opportunities for C. E. Hours

## Melinda Myers Free Webinars

### **Gardening in a Challenging Climate May 3, 2023 06:30 PM**

Extreme heat, drought, floods, fluctuating temperatures and wind add challenges to the way we garden. Let's talk about plants better suited to our changing climate and strategies for helping our gardens thrive in these changing times.

[Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)

Melinda Myers has many recorded program on her website. Go to website [Home :: Melinda Myers](#) and scroll down the right side of the page to the "On Demand" button. Choose the program you want to watch and enter the passcode.

## UW Extension Horticulture

### **Understanding Your Garden Soil MAY 3, 2023, 12 – 1PM**

Soil is the foundation for a healthy and productive garden. Join us to learn what soil characteristics are important for gardening. We will also discuss how you can determine organic matter and fertilization needs and how you can improve your garden soil.

[Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)

### **Bee Lawns: Using Your Lawn to Provide Food for Pollinators May 9, 2023 12:00 PM**

You may have heard of "No-mow May" with the goal of not mowing lawns in May to allow early-season flowers to bloom for pollinators. Because turfgrass alone doesn't provide food for pollinators, an even more proactive way to provide food resources for pollinators is to intentionally incorporate flowers in your lawn that have the right type of nectar and pollen for bees – a "Bee Lawn." In this presentation, you will hear from University of Minnesota researcher Kristine Moncada on the research behind bee lawns, about the best bee lawn plant species, how to establish and maintain bee lawns, and much more. **Presented by:** Kristine Moncada, University of MN, Department of Horticultural Science

[Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)

### **Hydrangeas: Know Them and Grow Them May 24, 12:00 p.m**

Learn about the different species of hydrangeas that you can grow in various parts of Wisconsin and everything these beautiful plants need to bloom and thrive.

[Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)

### **Beyond Birdfeeders – How to be a Bird Friendly Gardener May 31, 12:00 p.m.**

Creating a bird-friendly yard goes beyond filling the bird feeders. There are many benefits to both wildlife and people when you prioritize the needs of birds where you garden. We will talk about gardening practices you can do to provide the food, shelter and nesting sites that birds need.

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!](#)



# Education Opportunities for C. E. Hours

## **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 \(wisc.edu\)](#)

**New and Emerging Plant Diseases** May 24, 2023 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Learn about plant diseases that have recently arrived in Wisconsin and have potential economic and/or regulatory impact, as well as more established diseases that have the potential to significantly impact the state in the near future.

[2023 PDDC Monthly Disease Talk Registration Form | Plant Disease Diagnostics Clinic \(wisc.edu\)](#)

## **May Garden Guru**

May Garden Guru topic is “Bugs That Wear White Hats” May 15 6pm

Everett Roehl Memorial Library’s You Tube site or live at the library

Beneficial bugs are the key to a healthy organic garden. Learn who they are and how to get them to make their home in your garden to control the pest insects without chemicals.

[ERMPL Library - YouTube](#) and click on Garden Guru

## • **Winter sowing update: Especially for newby growers!**

- Once the snow melts, 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
- 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.
- When plants have two sets of true leaves, transplant to individual pots-probably won’t be necessary until May or June.
- 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



# Plant Sales Update

## It's almost time for the May 20<sup>th</sup> Spring Plant Sale

Between now and then nurture the plants you are growing and gather up the gardening treasures you will be donating. Spread the word with a Facebook post, hang up the poster, and set out some save the date announcements at your favorite place. (If you need copies, see the email that Chris sent out April 26<sup>th</sup>.) So that we can earn more money to go towards projects and the events planned this year, we have decided to add a bake sale. Since the bake sale items will be homemade, we have some regulations that we need to follow regarding safe bakery items and allergies. **(Read the separate article on bake sales on page 10).**

**What can I donate?** Accessories, Art, Bird/Butterfly related, Books/Magazines, Bulbs/Rhizomes, Colored Bottles, Décor, Houseplants, Perennials, Seeds, Seed Starting Supplies, Succulents, Tools, Vegetable Starter plants and Yard items. **Attach plant labels** – see April 26<sup>th</sup> email.

**Please tell us what you are donating for planning purposes.** Email Lil, Judy or Jill. The first request email was sent out April 17<sup>th</sup> from Chris.

**How do I get my donations to [the sale](#)?** Between now and the 18<sup>th</sup> there are five locations where you can drop off your non-plant donations Ann – Rudolph, Bea – WI Rapids, Diane – Nekoosa, Jill – Marshfield and Judy – Port Edwards. Their contact information is in the members only tab. Hang onto those nurturing plants until close to the 18<sup>th</sup>. Cathy Schutz's will also be accepting all donations on the 18<sup>th</sup> at her home, 930 Westport Dr, Port Edwards.

### We need help with:

Friday May 19<sup>th</sup> Set-up – 9am to 3pm or when finished.

Someone with at least a six-foot trailer to transporting tentage and tables from storage in Rudolph and someone for returning them. Contact Ann or Jill.

Setting up 4 tents, (13) tables and Check-out.

Unload donations and put them in their sale location.

Arrange and Price plant and non-plant décor.

Putting up sale signs, plant identification signage, educational displays, and supplies.

Cover products for the evening



Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup> Day of Sale. Help all day, in the morning or afternoon.

Report 7:30am Sale 8am to 5pm.

Ready Area-assist customers with their purchases, consolidate products, etc.

Two-three people at the check-out bagging, tallying and handling the cash box.

Staff - Ask a Master Gardener Booth.

Box/sort the leftover plants and products into Keep for Fall sale, Donate to, etc.

Return signage and supplies to their totes.

Pick up the street Plant Sale signs.

Clean and stack tables and take down and pack tentage.



# Plant Sales Update

## **Spring Plant Sale new addition - Bake sale safety and other procedures**

The addition of a bake sale to our Spring Plant Sale is a quick and simple way to contribute to the plant sale. Especially if you or a family member likes to bake! I have checked with the local, county, state and Department of Agriculture Trade and Consumer Protection. They all stress the importance of the sponsoring organization being responsible for the safety of the food products they offer for sale. This comes down to two major factors. Food allergens and those potentially hazardous foods which are not allowed at bake sales. Nuts are the most well-known food allergy. These eleven are the most common food allergens: Milk, Citrus, Eggs, Soy, Peanuts (peanut butter), Wheat, Tree nuts, Melon, Strawberries, Shellfish, and Fish. Some of these are expected to be in certain bakery goods and people with allergies avoid these products. However, sometimes ingredients can be hidden so please identify on a label those allergy foods that are in your home-made bake goods.

People that go to community rummage sales visit a lot of sales before heading home. Safe baked goods are those that can safely remain unrefrigerated and will not support the rapid growth of bacteria that would make people sick when held outside of refrigerated temperature. So, any product that requires refrigeration such as cream-filled pastries, custard or cream pies, or items made with cream, i.e., a traditional buttercream frosting, should not be sold.

Please follow these guidelines:

Label items that contain allergens, i.e., “contains nuts” or one of the eleven common types.

To serve food; i.e., the customer requests a piece of cake cut out for them, this requires us to have a license. Which we do not have. Therefore, all items must be ready for sale.

“All food units, sets or individually must be wrapped in plastic, foil, or waxed paper” I suggest also using a paper plate or small paper container for support.

Acceptable bake sale items that are shelf-stable, non-potentially hazardous foods.

- Non-acceptable are those items that are frosted with buttercream frosting made with cream, or items with cream/custard filling, cheesecake, meringue, pumpkin pies or fruit-based pies that require refrigeration. Note: very moist banana and zucchini breads are discouraged as well.

## **Do Now If You Have the Information or as Soon as Possible**

**Let Jill Becker 715 387 8040 or Bea Kohl 715-423-8908 know how you can help, whether with plants, donations, or a gift of your time on sale day. Find their emails on the Member's Only page of our website.**

# March 2023: UW Plant Disease Facts Medallions — Collect Them All!!

MARCH 24, 2023 DDLANG



I absolutely loathe exercising. That said, I try to force myself to do at least some sort of cardiovascular workout every day in an attempt to fend off the weight gain that seems to come with age (and my inability to stop eating everything bad for me in sight). One thing that (sort of) makes my workouts tolerable is a fitness app that I have downloaded onto my cell phone that allows me to track my steps, minutes of exercise, calories burned, and other sundry exercise-related statistics. As I achieve goals that I have set for myself, the app plies me with cool-looking electronic medallions (and other bright and shiny visuals) to reward me for my efforts.

How on earth does this have anything to do with plant diseases? Well, about a year ago, I was contemplating how to entice people to learn more about plant diseases, and how to make it more fun in the process. I already had plenty of plant disease-related materials to learn from in the form of the UW Plant Disease Facts fact sheets. There are 130 titles in that series waiting to be consumed and digested. But, what might encourage people to partake and learn? My fitness app, with its rewards system, came to mind.

Thus was born the UW Plant Disease Facts Medallion Project. For each of the 130 facts sheets in the UW Plant Disease Facts series, I have created a unique electronic medallion. In addition, for each of the 130 fact sheets, I have written a brief quiz. Earning the medallions is really simple. Read a fact sheet. Then, pick the corresponding quiz, and answer the questions. If you get all of the answers right, you are rewarded the corresponding medallion. The medallions are automatically emailed to you, and you can save them to your computer or other electronic device. I am hoping that earning the medallions will make learning about diseases not only educational but fun as well.

The medallions will be rolled out in stages, just to make sure the launch runs smoothly and to efficiently manage any bumps that come up along the way. The first set of medallions will be those (roughly 30) that have to do with fruit crop diseases. These will launch this month. Additional sets will be made available throughout 2023. Hopefully all 130 medallions will be available by the end of the year. And then, who will be the first person to earn them all?

Go to the [UW Plant Disease Facts Medallion Project overview page](#) to get started earning your medallions.

I want to give a HUGE shout out to Dixie Lang, who does IT and web support for my clinic, for all of her efforts in making this project possible. She's the person who figured out how to set up the quizzes online and automate the delivery of the medallions. Also, many thanks to subscribers to my clinic listserv (UWPDDCLearn). Late last year, I sent out a request through the listserv for help in proofing the quizzes, and many subscribers helped with this. In particular, my colleagues Diana Alfuth (Extension Pierce and St. Croix Counties) and Lisa Johnson (Extension Dane County) spent a lot of time reviewing quizzes.

If you have any questions about the Medallion Project, don't hesitate to contact me. You can reach me at [pddc@wisc.edu](mailto:pddc@wisc.edu) or (608) 262-2863. Happy learning!!

# April 2023: The Best Things in Life Are Free!

APRIL 26, 2023 HUDELSON



The Plant Disease Diagnostics Clinic (PDDC) typically charges a small fee for providing diagnoses of plant diseases and disorders. However, there are certain instances where the PDDC waives fees. In particular, if there are plant diseases that are new to the state and/or potentially have severe negative economic impacts to Wisconsin agriculture, the PDDC does not charge to provide a diagnosis. Early detection of new diseases can help in limiting and slowing spread, and may even provide opportunities to eradicate a disease. Early detection of established, but economically important, diseases can help provide growers critical information for disease management.

The following are diseases that the PDDC will be providing free diagnoses for in 2023.

**Late Blight:** This disease can have a huge impact on the commercial potato industry in Wisconsin (the third largest potato-producing state in the US). Identifying this disease as early as possible and determining which variant(s) of the pathogen (and there are many) has(have) arrived in the state are critical for providing timely and appropriate control recommendations to commercial potato producers. Because the disease can affect tomatoes as well as potatoes, I encourage home gardeners to watch for this disease in their vegetable gardens. If you see any suspicious leaf spotting on tomato or potato leaves or on tomato fruits, submit a sample for free testing. Just indicate when you submit that you are concerned about late blight.

**Boxwood Blight:** This disease was first detected in Wisconsin in 2018 but has been devastating boxwood plantings in the eastern US since 2011. The PDDC is continuing to map the movement of boxwood blight in the state and added Door County to the official boxwood blight county map in 2022. If you see dark leaf spots, followed by leaf collapse and branch dieback on boxwood shrubs, get a sample to the clinic for a free diagnosis. The problem may just be winter burn, but if it is boxwood blight, I'd like to know.

**Japanese Apple Rust:** I more commonly call this disease lipstick rust, and there is a move afoot to change the official name to red star rust (a literal translation of the original Japanese name of the disease). This disease is a new Gymnosporangium rust for Wisconsin, having first been reported in the state by WI DATCP in 2021. To date, lipstick rust has been confirmed in Dane, Kenosha, Milwaukee, Outagamie, Ozaukee, Portage, Racine, Sheboygan, and Waukesha Counties. Watch for the red or fuchsia-colored spots on apple and crabapple leaves characteristic of lipstick rust. If you see spots of this type, I suggest first submitting digital photos to the PDDC. If the symptoms look consistent with lipstick rust, and there has been an official confirmation of the disease in your county, I'll make a diagnosis from the photos. If the symptoms look consistent, and there has not been an official confirmation of lipstick rust in your county, I'll request that you submit a physical sample for DNA sequencing (the method of choice for confirming new cases of the disease). Either way, the diagnosis is free.

If you have questions about these diseases and/or how to submit your samples, feel free to give me a shout. You can reach me at [pddc@wisc.edu](mailto:pddc@wisc.edu) or (608) 262-2863.

# Calendar of Events

**May 12 Caravan to Terri Gears' Greenhouses at Plainfield and Wild Rose**

**May 15 Garden Guru 6pm You Tube or Mfld Public Library**

**May 19-20 Spring Plant Sale dates in Port Edwards**

**May 23 Membership meeting 5:30pm Mfld Public Library**

**June 27 Membership meeting Lone Oak CSA**

**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



# May Garden Guide

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

## May Garden Guide

- Set Easter lilies in garden.
- Plant cool-weather crops: lettuce, spinach, chard, parsnip, onion sets, beets, carrots, kohlrabi, mustard, turnips, radishes, peas, parsley, and potatoes in early May. Soil temperatures should be at least 45 degrees.
- Plant snap beans, pole beans, sweet corn, and onion plants in mid-May. Sweet corn planted earlier in the season has fewer pest problems.
- Inspect for Iris borer larva on iris leaves. Crush larva.
- For bigger Peony flowers, de-bud several branches. Stake before buds open.
- Set out pansy plants when ground is workable.
- Dig and divide mid summer and fall blooming perennials before tip growth gets too tall.
- Plant tuberous begonias.
- Watch birch leaves for birch leaf miner infestation. Use sticky traps to monitor emergence of adults to help time spraying with summer oil, Neem extract, or rotenone. Sprays are only effective on adults or larvae before they tunnel into leaves. Some soil applied systemic chemicals may be effective in controlling larvae after they have tunneled into leaves.
- Plant tomato seedlings by pinching off lower leaves and placing on its side in a shallow furrow 2.5 inches below the soil surface. Soil closer to the surface is warmer and will speed tomato growth.
- Plant and transplant new evergreens before new growth appears.
- Plant strawberries, bush fruits, and grapes in mid month. Pinch blossoms from newly planted strawberries to develop strong plants for next year.
- Remove faded flowers from spring-flowering bulbs. Cut off stalks but allow leaves to die down naturally. Fertilize after blooming with 5 10-20.
- Plant stored geraniums in well-drained soil after last frost and keep moist. New growth should begin in one week.
- Prune spring-flowering shrubs after flowers have faded. Apply fertilizer.
- Toward end of the month, harden off seedlings of vegetable transplants and annuals grown indoors. Bring in at night or place in cold frames before planting in garden.





## 2023 WCMGV BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President—Chris Grimes**

715-424-2878

**Director—Bea Kohl**

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**Vice President—Karleen Remington**

715-387-1863

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**Janell Wehr** [janell.wehr@wisc.edu](mailto:janell.wehr@wisc.edu)

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](mailto: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