



June 2016

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President's Message

Wow, what a month May has been. Master Gardener's have been busy. We kicked off the month with the Y Garden team's participation in Healthy Kid's Day and ended it with another successful Plant Sale. In between the start and finish of May most project members have been planning and beginning to implement their project visions. Checkout our Facebook page (link below) to see what some teams have been doing. **Please "Like" and "Share" our Facebook page!**

http://www.facebook.com/Northeastern-Wisconsin-Master-Gardener-Association-999712030061716/?ref=aymt_homepage_panel

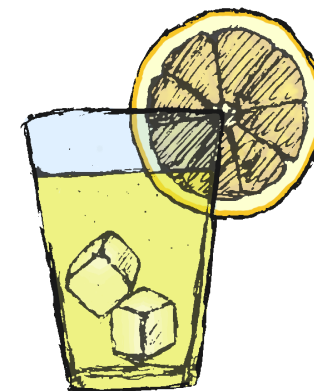
I've walked the UWEX grounds and have been very surprised and pleased with all the MG work that is going on. The garden looks great, the area that the greenhouse is going to be in has been cleared and staked out, some trees from the Urban Forestry Grant have been delivered and are being planted and the grounds committee has pruned the orchard trees and cleaned up the grounds. I urge you all to take some time and checkout these projects. I have plans to visit off site projects in the very near future.

On top of all the MG work going on I have been very busy in my own gardens. I took some time to relax in the garden on Memorial Day. Turns out I was sitting under a birdhouse where a chickadee took up residence. Needless to say she wasn't real happy with me and told me all about myself. I was unmoved by her and enjoyed my coffee. She'll get used to me.

I know you are all working hard on your projects and in your own yards. Keep it light and enjoy! Happy Gardening!

Becky

Becky Brundidge, NEWMG President



2016 NEWMG Board of Directors

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Debbie Rodriguez, Vice President
Shirley Triest-Robertson, Treasurer
Doug Hartman, Secretary

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Carri Benzow	Jo Ann Holloway	Mary Sprangers
Julie Cole	Becka Mertens	Bill Stevens
Barbara Brown	Al Nass	Doris Magyar, WIMGA Rep
Robert Dreher	Karla Parmentier	Vijai Pandian, Advisor
Tim Freeman	Lee Richardson	
Kyle Gigot	Sue Roulette	
Kathi Hegranes	Roberta Schantz	

NEWMG Board Meeting Minutes: May 9, 2016

Due to the length of the May minutes, they are not included in the newsletter. Please take a few minutes to review the minutes at the following link: <http://www.newmastergardeners.org/>

The next board meeting will be held Wednesday, July 13, at 6 PM at the Ag & Extension Service Center.

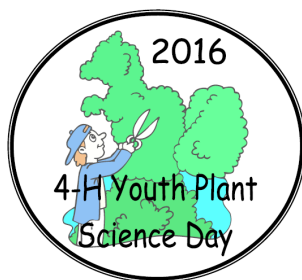
Mark Your Calendars!

Mark your calendars for the Wednesday, July 27, (tentative date) garden tour and social get together! Also, add Wednesday, October 12, to your calendar for the annual banquet.

State 4-H Plant Science Day

Submitted by Eileen Rueden

A fun way to learn about Horticulture Science! Plan now to participate in the State 4-H Plant Science Day event to be held Thursday, July 7, at the Waushara County Fairgrounds in Wautoma. Youth in grades 3-13 can test their knowledge about plants while learning how to judge and identify a wide variety of plant specimens. Youth can also compete in photography, speaking, poster and floral arranging contests. The contest for participants will be held in the morning, with an educational workshop in the afternoon and concluding with contest results. For study guide information and to prepare for the contest see the National Junior Horticultural Association website at <http://www.njha.org/>.



The event begins with registration at 9:30 a.m. and ends at 2:00 p.m. Registration is \$10.00, which includes all materials, handouts, and lunch. Walk-ins are welcome but pre-registration is preferred for lunch and material count. Send no money now, but fill out the registration form found at <http://fyi.uwex.edu/wi4haganimalscience/plant-soil-science/> and mail to: State 4-H Plant Science Day, Polk County UW-Extension Office, 100 Polk Plaza, Suite 190, Balsam Lake, WI 54810. Registration deadline is June 24.

For additional information, contact Eileen Rueden at 920-470-5562 or by email at erueden@tds.net.

Calendar of Events & Opportunities

For more information, visit www.NEWMasterGardeners.org or the "Urban Horticulture & Natural Resources" page at www.BrownCountyExtension.org

Date	Event / Opportunity
June 29	Garden Weed Management—5-6 PM, Ag & Extension Service Center
July 13	Tree I.D. Class—6-7:30 PM, Ag & Extension Service Center
July 20	Garden Disease Management—5-6 PM, Ag & Extension Service Center
July 27 (tentative)	NEWMG Garden Tour & Social
October 5	Composting 101—6-7:30 PM, Ag & Extension Service Center
October 12	NEWMG Annual Meeting & Banquet

Wanted!

Submitted by Becky Brundidge

Judy Sikora takes care of the 1700-1800 Cemetery Garden in Howard. She is looking for red leaf coral bells, large leaf hostas, and zebra grass. If you can help her with some plants, she'd be most grateful. Let me know and I will get you in touch with her. I can be reached at bbrundidge@new.rr.com or 920-606-0787.



Contact Kathy at 391-4653 or kathy.dechamps@ces.uwex.edu for more information on the above events.



Brown County UW-Extension

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www.BrownCountyExtension.org



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Committee Reports (continued)

Urban Forestry Grant Update—Submitted by Doug Hartman, Urban Forestry Grant Coordinator

One of the main goals of our WDNR Urban Forestry Grant, titled “Tree Species Diversity Awareness Program” is to educate northeastern Wisconsin citizens on tree/shrub species alternatives to ash and maple in the urban landscape. To accomplish that goal, we intend to plant 18 different tree and 8 shrub varieties on the Extension demonstration grounds so that the public can get a “hands-on” feel for what those species will look like in their home landscape.

On Wednesday, May 25, we had 6 Master Gardener Volunteer’s help to plant 7 trees on the Extension Grounds. These trees, along with four others planted by myself and the Summer Grounds Intern bring the total to 11 trees planted, staked and mulched. I will continue to search for the other six species that I haven’t been able to find locally. I also will soon be purchasing 6 shrubs that are available at area vendors and planting those with the help of the Grounds Intern.

In addition, Vijai Pandian conducted a tree planting workshop on April 27 for interested Master Gardeners and the general public. Thirty people attended and were able to see the proper technique for planting a balled and burlapped tree (serviceberry). Education on proper tree planting is another main goal of the grant to make sure that trees planted today will last long into the future!



Newly-planted tree on the Extension grounds

WIMGA Report—Submitted by Doris A. Magyar, NEWMGA WIMGA Rep

The WIMGA Board Meeting was held April 23 at the Hancock Ag. Research Station. The meeting opened with a teleconference call with U.W. Extension. Chancellor Dr. Cathy Sandeen to discuss the reorganization of UW Extension because of budget cuts. A summary of the discussion will be provided in a separate document by the organizing committee. The Board Meeting followed:

1. The introduction of the newly elected at large-director Chris Jacobs of Dodge County.
2. The M.G. Program Office update mentioned the release of the new state M.G. Program website.
3. Additional updates on the 2016 Regional Conference were presented. Conference website: <https://midwestmgconference.wordpress.com/>. All MGA will be asked to contribute to the silent auction. Information coming soon.
4. Newsletter committee having success with article contributions.
5. The new WIMGA website is on line, but still under development. Website: <http://wimastergardener.org>
6. The strategic planning committee will be looking into Board meetings that are face-to-face several times during the year.
7. Educational grants have been increased. Application due by October 1.
8. The new vision statement approved in February for WIMGA will cover an action plan covering a three year time frame.
9. Next meeting will be May 12 by Wisline.

Committee Reports

Plant Sale—Submitted by Becky Brundidge

The Annual Plant Sale was held May 27th and 28th. Our tomato and pepper plants were acquired from Schroeder’s Flowers this year. Brian Schroeder was kind enough to donate 1000 plants.

As usual our MG’s donated a lot of plants from their gardens. Thanks to all who donated. We would not have a successful sale without your help.

Unlike last year this year our customer’s came mainly for the plants from our gardens. Many of the people were return customers and remembered what we had to offer.

Thanks to Claudia Schultz for organizing the volunteer work schedule, to Dan Mitchell for receiving plant information from members and creating labels and to all the volunteers who worked the sale. I believe it was very successful.



Labeling plants for the Plant Sale

ADRC Garden Project—Submitted by Lee Richardson

The Brown County Aging and Disability Resource Center nutrition program serves hot nutritional meals at several sites in the County including the 300 S. Adams site in downtown Green Bay. The potential to include fresh vegetables from an onsite garden to those dining at the S. Adams location, initiated the building of three raised beds at the east side of the building. In addition to aiding nutrition, education on the value of including fresh produce to the diet, was a primary goal of the staff.

The ADRC contacted Master Gardens for assistance in developing a vegetable garden to meet their needs. After approval was given to assist, meetings with MGVs were held to organize a ADRC volunteer group to begin organizing and planning for a raised bed fresh produce garden that would best fulfill the objectives.

Five individuals were recruited from ADRC volunteers, most with gardening experience, to participate in planning and maintenance. The topics discussed included the desire for quantity over variety, soil conditions, appropriate plants for growth, sunlight patterns, lack of pollinator plantings in the immediate area, and planting restrictions due to bed configuration.



ADRC planting crew

The soil was tested and indicated the need for nitrogen only adequate organic material was found to be present. The beds were prepared by the volunteers with fertilizer and topped off with garden soil. The first planting of cold tolerant seeds and plants was done on May 11.

The project has the enthusiastic participation and labor of the volunteers. They have organized a schedule of maintenance and weeding for the summer. We are anticipating the planting of the remainder of the vegetables and eagerly awaiting the first harvest.

Continued on next page...

Committee Reports (continued)

Rose Garden Update—Submitted by Gwen Baumel



UWEX rose garden

The rose garden is pruned and ready to grow! We've spread mulch on the rose garden. Epsom salt has been applied to the base of the roses. The Epsom salts help strengthen the plant and support growth of lush green foliage. The added magnesium helps increase the production of chlorophyll in the plant for strength and deep, rich color.

All of the roses have been pruned and are looking very healthy. We will be applying fertilizer this week - we use milorganite.

We also tested the drip system and all is working well after winter.

Now we'll just wait for the blooms.

UWEX Square Foot Garden—Submitted by Becky Brundidge

On May 24th, I had the pleasure to visit with Kay VanLaanen and Carri Benzow in the UWEX garden. I've found another project that I'm really excited about! These MG's want to show the public how much fun gardening can be.

They have 5 beds planned and planted. 3 are based on what you might find on an Asian, Italian and French cook's kitchen counter. They have a 3 sisters bed that they hope to seed save from and one bed full of color and whimsy. They also will be growing potatoes in a straw tower and have a great looking multi level strawberry bed. They received 2 additional raised beds that are going to be traditional herb gardens. They also have a couple of large PVC pipes that are going to be used somehow.



UWEX square foot garden

This garden draws you in. It has a variety of growing structures in different heights, 3 women gardeners (scare crows) and lots of bright colors. When you stop by the UWEX take an extra minute or 2 and check this garden out. I think you'll enjoy it as much as I did.

YMCA Children's Garden—Submitted by Jo Ann Holloway

Another Healthy Kids Day is now behind us. The group set up on Friday, May 6th, after several planning meetings and a work evening. The event was on Saturday. This year we had four things going on at once and a booth almost twice the size of previous years, which really reduced the congestion in the booth. We put together an alfalfa sprout growing kit, a bean growing kit (beanie baby), a micro green taste testing station and last but not least, a potato stamp art project. We did run out of everything prior to closing down for the day except for the micro greens and potato stamps but people were still stopping in. Because this event draws a very diverse community with a lot of quite young children, it is always a challenge to come up with new ideas that keep their attention, but I feel we had

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Committee Reports (continued)

tax exempt number from me and save the receipt for remittance. Even though we have a lot of seeds started we want to keep diversity in the garden. If we need 790 plants to fill our 790 sq. ft. of area, we could use half our home grown seedlings and purchase half which would cost about \$1400. If we get a good number of home donated plants the purchase of plants would be smaller. Our extra home grown seedlings could be offered for sale at our MG Plant Sale if they are in good enough condition. They could also be offered to other projects.

We have been asked by the FRNSA to expand this project to the area north of the Locktender's house. This area measures 1100 sq. ft. (100'X10'). Al Nass and I spoke to Scott Vanevenhoven and proposed that we till and sow cover crops on that area this year. Next year, 2017, till in the crop, plant half the area, then finish planting in 2018. Vijai did approve extending the project if the team is interested in it. He wants expanded use of educational signage in accordance with our MG mission statement. What are your ideas for signage? Kyle mentioned that we could keep track of how many questions we are asked by people strolling along the pier to count as time spent on education. Perhaps a sign could be placed out when we are working or watering to encourage people to ask us questions.

Should we plant a few more Agrecol mats this year? Are they worth the price? We would like to buy more mats but it depends on how many plant purchases we make. The mats cost \$140 for one 40'x11' length. That's pretty darn expensive. We should have some signage out showing info about the mat, how it's made, how many forbs/grasses are in it, where it was purchased, etc.

Work days and maintenance schedules are to be determined. Last year we were spraying Roundup in early May, sprayed again late May, early June we chopped off dead plants and rototilled. By late June we sprayed emerging weed seedlings one more time and planted soon thereafter.

Greenhouse Project—Submitted by Bill Stevens

Preparations for the greenhouse are underway. On May 18th a team of volunteers cleared the area where the Greenhouse will be built. The volunteers dug up old pipes that had been used to cover beds. The beds were demolished and the lumber moved behind the shed. The cold frames were removed from their foundations and moved along side of the shed then the foundations were removed. The area was measured and staked the following day. Excavation and plumbing will follow soon.



Greenhouse Project—preparing the space



Greenhouse Project—moving a cold frame

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Committee Reports (continued)

Locktender's House (Wildlife Pier)—Submitted by Claudia Schultz

Wildlife Viewing Pier at the Historic Lock and Dam site in De Pere (Voyageur Park)

The project was started in summer of 2015 and is approximately 1980 sq. ft. (11'X180') in size. We worked with the City of De Pere Parks Department and the Fox River Navigational System Authority (FRNSA).

Because the lock and dam is a National Historic Site, we had to speak before the De Pere Historic Preservation Commission to explain what we were up to:

Killed off weedy strip with Gyphosate, cut down dead weeds, and rototilled. Had to spray several more times as weed seeds sprouted.

Planted over 1200 native plants in half the area.

Planted cover crops (wheat and rye) in other half.

Budget for 2015---\$480 from Master Gardener Org and \$200 from FRNSA

We bought \$400 worth of plants from Stone Silo (114 plants). They also donated some plugs.

Four MG's grew over 800 plants for the project and one MG dug out over 175 plants from her personal backyard prairie.

Bought two pre planted vegetated mats from Agrecol, a company in Evansville, WI. The plants are grown on a coir base in engineered soil. Each mat is 40" wide by 11' long. Each mat contains 48 wildflowers and 10 grasses/sedges. Cost of both rolls was \$280.

Plans for 2016: The City of De Pere has agreed to mulch-mow last season's dried plants for us. When it is dry enough we will contact them to get this job done. We are working with Don Melichar who is the De Pere City Forester and Parks Superintendent.

Till in the areas of cover crop. There are two areas with a combined total of 790 sq. ft. Kyle Gigot did some research and we should leave 2-3 weeks of decomposition after tilling. If weed seeds germinate a second tilling may be necessary. His source said to "mow or kill" the cover crop before tilling. I think killing would be dangerous because of the likely drift of herbicide.

Do we kill cover crop first or can we till it green? How long to wait before planting?

We are presently growing 11 flats of natives (in my basement) in 72 cell flats for a total of 792 plants. Each flat contains one species. For better diversity we would like to include as many of the 41 species that we included last year. Donated plants from home gardens would be helpful but they must be native, not shrubs or trees, suitable for DRY MESIC and not tall. (4 ft. or less). Refer to our list to see what we are looking for.

Transplant all these seedlings (probably mid or end of April) into 3.5" pots. That's a lot of transplanting but many hands would make it light work. Volunteers needed.

Budget for this year: \$1000 from MG Organization; \$300 City of De Pere Beautification Grant; \$400 FRNSA gift (not in stone but probable).

Purchase plants from Stone Silo Native Nursery for \$3.50 each. Usual retail price is \$5.00 but owner gives us the nonprofit price. Volunteers needed to pick out plants and transport to site on planting day (TBD) Be sure to get the

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Locktender workday

Committee Reports (continued)

something for everyone this year. I don't have the numbers on the attendees at this time, but I just know we were all very, very busy.

Now it is time to get busy on the actual YMCA Children's Garden. Soil samples have been submitted and I look forward to seeing what it is we need to perk up the garden beds. In the next two weeks the group will need to do some serious weeding and then the garden bed amendments that may be needed.

Last year we tried an experiment with planting perennials above ground in planter boxes on the outside perimeter of the garden. Upon examination many of the plants made it, however those planter boxes are FILLED with rabbit droppings. We will need to address this. I have a rabbit cage, however, once everyone is outside at the Kids Camp and we are active in the garden it may go away. As mentioned previously this year, we will be focusing on seed saving at the Y Garden. This will be something new for the kids and us!

Grounds Committee—Submitted by Dave Bonham

Grounds committee had a work event on Thursday, April 21, and we opened up a couple of areas from over winter. We started in the perennial garden by removing the marsh hay and general prep of the garden for spring. We also cleaned up the cottonwood stool beds with Mark Sprague. We ended up with a fairly large pile of brush, leaves and marsh hay at the curb. Dan Mitchell led a team to do some general pruning. The overall group then moved to the orchard to continue pruning the fruit trees. Vijai and Dan had already hosted a class on pruning so we had something to go by for those of us not so comfortable with pruning apples and pear. At the end of the day most of the trees received a nice "hair cut" in prep for the growing season. I'd like to thank all that came out.

I would like to emphasize that our dear friend and fellow Master Gardener Bob Mongin was unable to attend as he was hospitalized with pneumonia. Bob is doing better now and is a resident at McCormick Home. Bob celebrated his 94th birthday on April 24. We did have the team that worked sign a birthday card and I delivered it. Bob was very happy to see the garden opened up, and I will be bringing Bob over to the garden as he is able.

We will have the next event soon helping Doug Hartman plant trees.

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YMCA Healthy Kids Day



YMCA Healthy Kids Day



Grounds Committee clean up day

Committee Reports (continued)

St. Marks—Submitted by Mary Sprangers

Not much to report on the St Mark's garden project. We have met a few times and discussed what we would be planting and what seedlings we have started. One of the tabletop beds partially collapsed over the winter so the plan is to fix it in the next week. We are planning on meeting later this month to hopefully plant, weather allowing!

GBBG Garden—Submitted by Shirley Maenner

We have been busy growing plants from seed, fixing and painting the gate and fence posts and spray painting the PVC tubes and columns. Our structures were brought down to the garden, so they are ready for our first workday on May 14. The blueberries were removed and brought to the Extension Office. We were having too many problems with the birds and chipmunks eating the berries. We will be partnering again this year with the botanical gardens to grow tomatoes, lettuce and onions for the summer Wednesday cookouts at GBBG.

Some new things for this year:

- 3 different sized pots stacked on top of each other with herbs growing in them.
- Fingerling potatoes (La Ratte) grown in a potato bag.
- 4'x4' bed will be a square foot garden - already started planting
- Building an Aldo Leopold bench
- Grow Silvery Fir Tree tomato in a potting mix bag - standing on end.
- Try sweet potatoes in a pot
- Cucumber bed with Painted Serpant and Poona Kheera varieties
- Plant eggplant and kale
- Passion Flower and Thunbergia for vining plants. We got some Passion Flower seeds to germinate quickly!

Unity Hospice Meditation Garden—Submitted by Claudia Schultz

We will attempt to create an elliptical garden based on a photo we found on the internet. The walking paths will be grass but Unity will eventually replace the grass with hardscape. They request the paths be 42" in width so they are ADA compliant.

The area is 25'X75' and is open to sun and wind. Sue Mansfield and I are going out to Unity on Monday April 11 at 5:00pm to measure the area accurately.

Plants and shrubs must be deer resistant and low maintenance. Here is a link to a website from Rutgers that rates deer resistant landscape plants: <https://njaes.rutgers.edu/deerresistance/>

Categories are Rarely Damaged, Seldom Severely Damaged, Occasionally Severely Damaged, and Frequently Severely Damaged.



Unity Hospice sod cutting

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Committee Reports (continued)

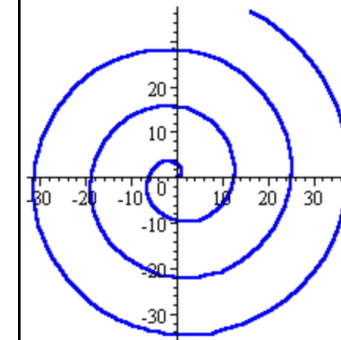
Spiral of Archimedes

The equiangular spiral is not the same as the "Spiral of Archimedes" which has the form:

$$r = a\theta$$

Example of Spiral of Archimedes

$$r = 2\theta$$



Unity Hospice beds prepared

delivered and tilled into the new bed, soon to be followed by planting deer resistant varieties of flowers and shrubs. Mulch will be provided by Unity. Unity will also meet our MG budget of \$500 by donating the same. Thanks to Sue Mansfield, new MG and Senior CAD Technician at KI for designing the layout for us.

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Team members are encouraged to design this garden using suggestions from this list. Make sure the plants are good for our zone (5 or lower) and available from local greenhouses. Keep in mind that they will be in a sunny, exposed area and must be somewhat drought tolerant. The design can be sparse and simplistic to keep with the low maintenance desire.

Ken Bahr has laid out an ellipse on graph paper for a planning aid. The scale is one square =1 foot. The paths are not 42" wide in his plan and will need to be adjusted when laying out

Speaking of laying out---someone with a better brain than mine will have to figure out how to mark the lawn with layout lines. Please volunteer if you are this person. The maintenance person at Unity, Greg Hafeman, is willing to rent a sod cutter and dig out the sod if we lay out cutting lines. I'm sure Greg would appreciate help on sod-cutting day as well. We could cut sod sometime in early to mid May.

This is what team member Val Campbell found out about laying out a spiral:

"Here is how to lay out a spiral. You would decide where the center would be and then lay out the center lines in a cross. Then measure out the tic marks shown in the diagram and lay out the spiral arms to intersect with the marks. It would not be perfect, but would be good enough, No special formulas or equipment would be needed."

He said you could make it elliptical by stretching one axis a little.

Val also suggested that placing a tall obelisk in the center might give structure to the site before you even come up to it. Perhaps a fall clematis could be trained to grow on it or a birdhouse be placed on top. I suggested maybe an artsy metal obelisk would be interesting.

May 9th will be our first workday out at Unity Hospice. We will lay out the labyrinth design for the meditation garden. If all goes well we can start cutting out sod as early as next week. Soil will need to be