



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

 Extension Sheboygan County
 5 University Drive, Sheboygan, WI 53081 · (920) 459-5904

Sheboygan County Master Gardener


**Mark
Your
Calendar**

» UPCOMING EVENTS

Message From the President

Hello Gardeners,

Summer has gone by quickly. I hope everyone enjoyed getting outside and working on your master gardener site projects and your own home garden projects.

Once September arrives, our board begins meeting on a regular basis to plan upcoming events and meetings. We will again have a project leader meeting, and in 2020 our annual recognition meeting and project sign up meeting. The board tried some new ideas last year, and we are interested in your opinion on what you liked and what could be improved. Please let any of our board members know of ideas you have for our organization. We value your input.

Just a reminder to submit your volunteer hours and continuing education [hours on line](#) by October 1st.

Fall is a beautiful season. Make the most of it getting outside to enjoy the colors and the great fall produce.



Marty Steinbruecker
President, Master Gardener Volunteers
Sheboygan County

P.S. If you haven't already signed up for the annual banquet on September 26, there is a registration form toward the end of this newsletter. Please join us at Town and County. The bar will be open, the food will be fine, and the speaker will be Rob Zimmer.

September 2019

**September 26– Annual Meeting & Banquet,
Town & County Golf Club - Registration
and membership form on last page**

October 2019

**October 1 - Recorded volunteer/education
hours deadline**

**October 7 - Master Gardener Board
Meeting, 6:00 pm, Extension Office**

November 2019

November 1 - Membership dues deadline

**November 4 - Project Leaders Meeting,
6:00 pm, Extension Office**

Sheboygan County Master Gardener Board Members

President: Marty Steinbruecker
Vice-President: Christina Wilke-Burbach
Secretary: Val Gillman
Treasurer: Lynn Thornton

Board Members:

Deb Erickson
Kimm Merrill
Mark Smith

The Master Gardener Board is looking for members to run for the board, if you are interested in running please contact Marty Steinbruecker at 920.946.0206 by September 20th. The election takes place at the Annual Meeting and Banquet on September 26th.

Sheboygan County Fair

By Sue Mathews

It was another successful year at the Sheboygan County Fair. Traffic was heavy on the three shifts that I worked and others noted high interest on their shifts. Because of our severe winter this year the theme was preparing your garden for the winter. Many people stopped to chat about this and to tell us about the plants that they lost to last winter's subzero weather. Hopefully, our display and our Master Gardeners gave them some tips for coping in the upcoming winter.

But, in my experience, the most questions concerned invasives, including plants (such as Japanese knotweed and buckthorn), and insects (especially emerald ash borer and Japanese beetles). Visitors also wanted to know whether fall was a good time to transplant perennials (absolutely the best), how to grow garlic (buy it now and plant it soon), how to get rid of slugs (dish of beer, trap with a tube of wet newspaper or a damp board, diatomaceous earth).

Thanks to the many Master Gardeners who volunteered for the many shifts of this 5-day event. It really does need all hands on deck.

The mystery plant can be seen on the left side of the photo of four of our great fair volunteers. It was: *Veronica lettermanii* 'Iron Butterfly'. No one guessed correctly.



Project Report : 2019's Mini Maker Faire

June 15th dawned cold and blustery for this year's Mini Maker Faire. After that the weather went downhill.

However, as you can see from all the huge smiles in the photos, our Sheboygan County Master Gardeners had a great day with the kids and families who braved the elements to visit us on the city green. The kids created make-and-take teacup gardens from repurposed yogurt containers and assorted petunias.



Future Master Gardener planting her own, personal, make-and-take teacup garden. We brought enough supplies for 24 containers; we could easily have served another 24 customers. Live and learn...

These were such a huge hit that, sadly, we ran out of materials quite early. Next year we'll know better and will be better prepared.

Thanks to Master Gardeners Mark Smith, Kimm Merrill, Remy (the super friendly mascot) and Carrie Delray.

Speaking of next year, informal polling of the young gardeners who joined us was overwhelmingly in favor of next year's proposed theme: carnivorous plants!!



Sheboygan County Master Gardeners braved the wind and cold and a better-than-half-decent Ozzy Osborne tribute band at "January in June," a.k.a. the 2019 Mini Maker Faire. Pictured L-to-R are Mark Smith, Kimm Merrill, Remy (our super-friendly mascot), and Carrie Delray.

Tidbits from my Garden Reading

By Sue Mathews

5 Steps to a Climate-friendly Garden Horticulture Jan/Feb 2019

Is your yard a polluter or a carbon-sequestering sponge? Its design and maintenance can make all the difference.

Here some gardening techniques that are most helpful in the fight against climate change:

- Avoid tillage. The more you disturb your soil the more carbon it releases into the atmosphere.
- Focus on perennials. Low tillage tends to rule out using annuals and vegetables that thrive in fluffy soil beds.
- Plant densely. The more biomass you produce the more carbon you sequester. A jungle-like mix of shrubs, vines and perennial plants is more effective than a big tree with nothing below it.
- Boost organic matter. Don't rake the yard bare. Use leaves for mulch & compost on top of your soil.
- If you mow, go gas-free. Wild grasslands sequester large amounts of carbons. Lawns...not quite so much. Our cold season grasses fix much less carbon than warm season grasses. But, still, we have lawns. So, use more ecofriendly power to mow them.

Master the art of transplanting. Fine Gardening, June 2019

Roots generally grow more actively in spring and fall when the soil temperature is above 35 degrees.

In Fall: Move plants at least 5 weeks before the first frost (approx. Oct 21 near the lake and Oct 7 further inland).

In Spring: In zone with harsh winters and long, rainy springs transplanting in spring makes sense.

HOW TO...

- Dig the Plant: Water the day before you plan to dig up a plant. Save as much of the root ball as you can. Trim damaged roots only.
- Move with Care: Protect plant from the elements and keep roots cool. Replant ASAP. If you are moving to an area with different soil type, gently remove soil from roots.

- Settle the Plant In: Dig a hole that is wider but **not** deeper than the root ball. Crown of the plant should be level with the soil. Water regularly for at least three months. Avoid pruning leaves or stems until plant has recovered from its move.

Reusable plant tags. Garden Gate, October 2019

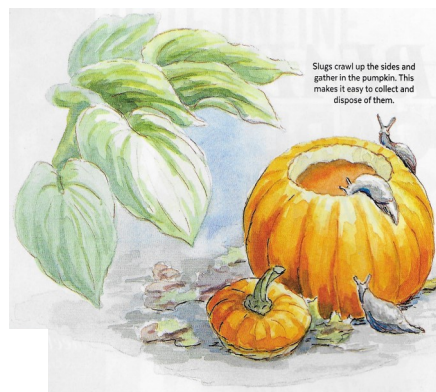
Are you digging up dahlias, cannas or whatever to save for next season. Here's a simple, sturdy, durable way to label them. Take an old poker chip, label with the plant name and attach to the tuber or plant with a twist tie or a cable tie.

Weatherproof plant markers. Fine Gardening, October 2019

Do you have a problem with plant labels that fade in the rain, snow or sun? Try a Sharpie Laundry Marker Rub-a-Dub on a wooden craft stick. Apparently, if it doesn't fade in the wash it won't fade in the garden.

A pumpkin for pests. Garden Gate, October 2019

Here's a seasonal approach to slug elimination. Cut the top off a pumpkin and remove the seeds and pulp. Set it under your hostas or other plants and let the slugs crawl in. Drown them in soapy water and discard. Reuse the pumpkin. Master Gardener suggestion: add some beer which will invite the slugs in.



Project Pics

There was a lot of hard work and fun activities at our projects this summer. Here are just a few.

- Making mudpie faces and raised bed veggie gardens at Camp Y-Koda.
- Answering questions at the Horticulture Hotline
- Planting trees at Kohler Andrae State Park
- Weeding a steep bank at the Bird Cove on the UW campus
- Creating a dish garden at the Recognition Meeting
- Accepting a check from Alliant Energy that will help with ash removal on campus



MGV's weeding Bird Cove on UW-GB Sheboygan Campus



Raised bed vegetable gardens at Camp Y-Koda



Making mudpie faces at Camp Y-Koda

Project Pics

(continued)



Planting trees at Kohler Andrae State Park



Answering questions at the Horticulture Hotline



Accepting a check from Alliant Energy that will help with Ash tree removal on the UW-GB Sheboygan Campus



Shoveling mulch at the Erie Avenue Trailhead



Creating a dish garden at the Recognition Meeting



Mulching at the Sheboygan Falls Trailhead

2019 Master Gardener Banquet and Annual Business Meeting

Thursday, September 26, 2019

Town & Country Golf Club
W1945 County Rd J
Sheboygan



PROGRAM

5:00 P.M. Social/Cocktails

6:00 P.M. Welcome and Dinner

Family Style...Chicken Piccata and Beef Tenderloin Tips

Garlic Mashed Potatoes and Vegetable Medley

Dessert...fudge brownie or cherry cheese cake

Vegetarian Entrée upon request

7:00 P.M. Business Meeting and Election of 2 Members for Board of Directors

Speaker: Rob Zimmer, a nature and garden author/photographer will share some of his favorite photographs from his outdoor excursions

Please make _____ reservation(s) for the Annual Meeting and Banquet on **September 26th**.

Reservations are due by Friday, September 20, 2019. No reservations will be accepted at the door.

Guests Welcome!

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

_____ Number of attending Dinner x \$15.00 = _____ (tax & tip included)

_____ Number of Vegetarian Dinners

_____ 2020 Membership Dues x \$10.00 = _____ **Dues MUST be paid by November 1**

TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

Make checks payable to: **Sheboygan County Master Gardeners**

Return Form and Payments to:

Tammy Zorn
Extension Sheboygan County
5 University Drive
Sheboygan, WI 53081

Bring an unwrapped gift (<\$10) to participate in the garden gift exchange.