



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

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

Sheboygan County Master Gardener



» UPCOMING EVENTS

The Board Speaks

From Lynn Thornton



It's hard to believe that I've been a Master Gardener Volunteer for more than 10 years. The really amazing part is how much I've learned from trainings, guest speakers, and fellow MGVs.

Every winter I take time to reflect on my current yard and garden. We live on a wooded lot, so in the past flower gardening had been a bit of a mystery to me. Megan Cain,

The Creative Gardener, talks a lot about planting flowers in vegetable gardens. Following some of her advice has helped me add more color, more butterflies, and more hummingbirds to my yard.

I garden in four raised beds and many containers, as our soil is mostly clay. Two years ago, I added ornamental onion, nasturtiums, and a butterfly bush to my raised beds. I loved the color and life that it added to my small garden. Last year I added a horse trough that I planted with Grandpa Ott Morning Glories, lavender, sage, and deep purple petunias. The hummingbirds loved this garden and buzzed me often when I was too close.

I'm in the process of deciding what flowers to add to my garden this year and my list is growing longer. I plan to focus on native plants that will attract monarchs and hummingbirds. I'm looking forward to hearing Megan Cain speak to our MGV group again on April 25th. I know that she will teach me something that I want to try.

March 2020

March 9 - Master Gardener Board Meeting, 6:00 pm, Extension Office

March 31 - Master Gardener Project Sign-up, 5:30 pm, Extension Office

April 2020

April 6 - Master Gardener Board Meeting, 6:00 pm, Extension Office

April 9 - Master Gardener Education Program "Weed ID & s for Better Weed Control", 6:30 pm, Extension Office

April 25 - Master Gardener Education Program "10 Mistakes I Made in My Vegetable Garden so You Don't Have To", 10:00 am, Extension Office

September 2020

MGV Level 1 Training - Tell your friends!!



Lynn Thornton's garden.

A Message From the Board....Re: Money for Projects

In the recent years, Master Gardener Volunteer (MGV) project chairs were given the opportunity to utilize up to \$50.00 per year for supplies to support various MGV projects. These monies were made available from the Sheboygan County Master Gardener Association budget. As you know the Sheboygan County Master Gardener Association Board is responsible for overseeing the budget and in the past few years' revenues have not kept pace with expenses. As a result, the board has found it necessary to discontinue the \$50.00 per year support for projects.

MGVs are best positioned to provide horticultural expertise and time to help organizations in the community with horticultural projects. There has always been caution against MGVs getting into the position of providing materials and other supplies paid for by MGVs.

This is an opportunity to MGVs to engage and work more closely with the entities and organizations that benefit directly from the time and talent of MGVs. MGV project chairs may wish to reach out to the benefiting organizations if financial support (materials and supplies) are needed to complete the desired project.

There are several examples where Sheboygan County MGVs receive financial support from the organization benefiting from the work of MGVs. A few of these include: The Trail Heads, UW-Sheboygan Campus, Waelderhaus and there are probably others as well.

Engaging the benefiting organization and having that group contribute to the success of the horticultural projects will in the long run make for more successful and sustaining MGV projects.

Thank you all for the great work you do.

Sincerely,

The Sheboygan County Master Gardener Association Board

Board Announces Change in Dues for 2021

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Annual Dues

The current amount that MGV pay for yearly dues is \$10 per member. From that \$10, \$5 goes to WIMGA for state dues, and \$1 goes to 4-H Leadership for insurance.

On Monday, January 13, 2020, the MGV Board agreed to change the amount that MGV will pay for 2021 dues. The current rate of \$10 per year has been in effect since 1988 when the organization began. Information from WIMGA shows that \$10 per year is among the lowest in the state, with \$35 per year being the highest. The new rate for yearly dues will be \$20 per member starting in 2021.

SAVE-THE-DATE: UW-Sheboygan Garden Spring Plant Sale

The UW-Sheboygan garden volunteers will hold a plant sale Saturday, May 16, 2020, from 9 AM to Noon at the UW-Sheboygan campus greenhouse. In the event of rain, the sale will be moved into one of the Extension lecture rooms.

Vegetable and annual seedlings will be available. In addition, selected perennials from the UW gardens will be sold either as divided plants or as rooted cuttings. All plants will be raised by UW-Sheboygan garden volunteers.

Proceeds will be used to support the UW-Sheboygan gardens. We hope you will be able to help this cause by purchasing some of your Spring plants from us.

If you would like to help out, please call Sherry at 1-920-889-1297 or Jim Burkard at 920-458-8891.



Caan's Spring Fundraiser

By Lynn Thornton

Our MGVS organization has not held a fundraiser since 2012 when our group hosted the WIMGA State Convention. It's time to start fundraising to support our group. Almost all MGVS groups in the state have a fundraising committee.



We will be participating in Caan's Spring Fundraiser. They offer a voucher program where vouchers and gift cards can be purchased. The purchased vouchers allow buyers to have the freedom to hand-pick the perfect plant at Caan's with the added convenience of selecting it when you want it (unlike having live plants delivered on a certain date). The gift cards never expire, but the vouchers should be used by Monday, May 25th to ensure that items are in stock.

Just to give you an idea of how our group could profit from this sale:

- one \$27.00 hanging basket would earn \$7.00 for our group
- one \$20.00 (40 count) flowering annual flat would earn \$5.00
- one \$25.00 Caan's gift card would earn \$2.50
- one \$50.00 Caan's gift card would earn \$5.00

There will also be herbs, vegetables, perennials, and planters included with the voucher sale.

This Fundraiser will run from March 23rd through April 15th. You will receive a separate email with an order form or an order form can be picked up at the Project Signup Meeting on March 31st. Vouchers and gift cards will be available on Saturday, April 25th (when Megan Cain speaks to our group) or for pickup at the UWEX Office during the week of May 4th, just in time for Mother's Day.

If you typically buy flowers, herbs, or veggies from Caan's, consider buying a voucher or a gift card. If you have questions about this Fundraiser, please contact me at: lynnthornton2001@yahoo.com

MGV Programs in April

Sheboygan County Master Gardeners has two programs coming up in April. The programs will be held in UWEX Room 5020. They are free and open to the public. Registration is not required.

April 9 (Thursday) 6:30



Paul Whitaker, Professor of Biological Sciences at UW-Steven Point in Wausau
Weed ID & Life Histories for Better Weed Control
If a weed is just a plant out of place, then why do some plants get out of place so much more than others? And why are they so hard

to get rid of?

In this presentation some common weeds will be used to demonstrate how a particular weed's life history can let it outwit our best control attempts. A weed's life history include how it disperses, when and how it germinates, how it changes as it develops, its overall life cycle and how it reproduces. By learning more about weeds and their life histories, we can more effectively choose and time

our weed management strategies. In addition, we will look at some of the best resources for identifying weeds and learning more about their life histories and control.

April 25 (Saturday) 10:00



Megan Cain, The Creative Vegetable Gardener
10 Mistakes I Made in My Vegetable Garden So You Don't Have To
Two years ago, Megan Cain presented her program "Your Garden Can Feed You All Year" and she is back again by popular demand.

If you're not getting real results from your garden then gardening isn't as rewarding of a pastime as it could be. Although trial and error is often a part of the gardening experience, you can skip over some of the beginner mistakes and move straight to the more advanced ones! Megan Cain will share the top 10 mistakes she's made in her (and others') gardens so you can avoid them in your own and have lots more fun and success each season.

Mark your calendars for our **Project Sign Up Potluck**

Tuesday, March 31
5:30 pm
University of Wisconsin Extension.

Please bring a dish to pass...Beverages will be provided.

<i>Appetizers or Salad</i>	<i>Last names A-H</i>
<i>Main Dish</i>	<i>Last names J-P</i>
<i>Dessert</i>	<i>Last names R-W</i>



Recognition Meeting

The annual Recognition Meeting was held on Saturday, February 22. President, Marty Steinbruecker, presented Certificates of Achievement to the following Master Gardener Volunteers in honor of their milestone hours of service. (*the honorees pictured on this page)

150 Hours of Service

Jean Genske
John Horzen*
Elaine Wagner*
Christina Wilke-Burbach

250 Hours of Service

Victoria Daly
Val Rae Gillman*
Faith Gruber
Anna Walvoord

500 Hours of Service

Kristin Bemis

750 Hours of Service

Maureen Gatawakas*

Following the presentation of certificates was a talk by Charlie Parks, the new Director of Horticulture at Bookworm Gardens. He was accompanied by Horticulturist, Kristin Plucar, and Jenne Raether. This year Bookworm Gardens celebrates its 10th birthday with three new permanent garden spaces and chickens. Yes, there will be live chickens in one of the display gardens. Visit Bookworm beginning May 1 and see the changes for yourself. You can also get volunteer hours working on the Bookworm Garden Project.



Elaine Wagner and John Horzen



Maureen Gatawakas and Marty Steinbruecker



Val Rae Gillman and Marty Steinbruecker



Charlie Parks, Director of Horticulture, Bookworm Gardens

The Impact of Master Gardener Volunteers...2019

At the end of 2019, 2627 Master Gardener Volunteers in Wisconsin reported nearly 169,000 hours of community service from 71 of Wisconsin's 72 counties, equivalent to \$4,291,000 (Independent Sector).

Since 2001, Wisconsin Master Gardener Volunteers have contributed 1,482,087 hours of community service, equivalent to \$65,442,478 (Independent Sector).

In Sheboygan County, 74 Master Gardener Volunteers reported 3,420 hours of volunteer service for an estimated value of \$82,074 (Independent Sector). They also reported 1,067 hours of continuing education and reached an estimated 6,213 individuals with various outreach projects.

Give yourself a pat on the back, because you do it!

Click here to see [the Sheboygan County Annual Report](#). And here to see [the complete Wisconsin Annual Report](#).



All-Japan Autumn Leaves Tour of Japanese Gardens

By Sherry Speth

This past October, my husband and I were able to take an All-Japan Autumn Leaves tour that included many of the famous Japanese gardens. The formal tour lasted 2 weeks, but we also visited a number of places not included on the tour a couple days before and after the tour.

The tour focused on gardens of Japan, but also included an amazing assortment of meals - including a dinner with a Maiko (Geisha apprentice), visit to Mount Fuji's Fifth Station, posing in Kimono, visit to a number of UNESCO international cultural sites, plus innumerable Shinto shrines and Buddhist temples. The shrines and temples usually included famous gardens going back hundreds of years. The gardens included a wide variety of styles ranging from Samurai stroll gardens to tranquil moss gardens to Zen gravel gardens. One of our favorite stroll gardens was the historic Ritsurin Koen Garden dating back to the 17th century located in Takamastue. I have included a photo this garden and Eikando Garden located in Kyoto, which with its temple dates back to the 9th century.

We visited too many sites to mention them all; but in addition to the gardens, we experienced a tea ceremony, a meditation lesson (Zazen) with a

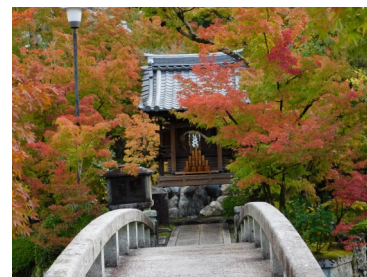
Buddhist monk, visited the Hakone Open-Air Museum (an absolute must) and stayed at a few traditional Japanese Inns or Ryokan, with hot spring healing baths.

We spent 5 days in the old capital of Kyoto where we visited many famous gardens including strolling the Philosophers Walk that included quiet streets, ancient temples and shrines, quaint shops, Buddhist vegetarian Tofu restaurants, and contemplative gardens everywhere.

All-Japan Tours really lived up to its name. They provided us with a wonderful itinerary, informative guide and careful driver. If you would like to see and hear more, I will be giving a travelogue at the Cedar Grove library, March 17th at 1:00 pm.



Ritsurin Koen Garden



Eikando Garden

Tidbits from my Garden Reading

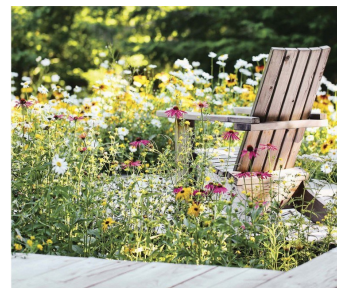
By Sue Mathews

Drink coffee, start a plant
Fine Gardening, April 2020
K-Cup coffee pods make great containers for starting seeds or rooting cuttings. Cut off the foil top and wash it. It already has a drainage hole. Just fill with soil and plant the seed or cutting. When the seedling gets large enough to transplant, move to a larger container or plant it in the garden.



Mini Meadows: Grow a Little Patch of Colorful Flowers Anywhere Around Your Yard by Mike Lizotte

A beautiful meadow is a mixture of grasses and flowers (both native and not) planted in a loose naturalistic style blooming from spring into fall. It's an eco-friendly lawn alternative and can help prevent erosion and feed pollinators.



Start with some grasses...

- Prairie dropseed
- Big bluestem
- Switchgrass
- Blue grama
- Little bluestem

Northern sea oats

Add in some bloomers...

- Eastern red columbine
- Pale purple coneflower
- Prairie blazing star
- Black-eyed Susan
- New England aster
- Butterfly weed
- Oxeye sunflower
- Cornflower or bachelor buttons

Green Mulch **The Suburban Micro-Farm: Modern Solutions for Busy People** by Amy Stross

Green mulch is often called chop-and-drop mulch.

Green grass clippings (no herbicides), weeds or other plants can be cultivated specifically for the benefit of protecting bare soil and providing nutrients. Dandelion tap roots plunge deep into the soil to dredge up nutrients. Mulching with dandelion leaves brings that goodness to your vegetable crops.

Other weed/plant leaves (not flowers or roots) that can be used as green mulch include chickweed, chives, comfrey, lamb's quarters, parsley, purslane, rhubarb and yarrow. Just cut them off at the soil line. Any time you cut back a plant to keep its height down or to retard flowering (e.g. asters or phlox) use the clippings for mulch.



A Country Garden: Where Daunting Challenges Become Exciting Opportunities

Deer-Resistant Design: Fence-Free Gardens that Thrive Despite the Deer

by Karen Chapman

While nothing is ever always true when it comes to deer resistant plants, here are 10 great plants for this country garden:

- Japanese Tree Lilac
- Green Velvet Boxwood
- Little Princess Spirea
- Moonshine Yarrow
- Nikko Slender Deutzia
- Hummelo Betony
- May Night Sage (aka 'Mainacht')
- Pachysandra
- Hartlage Wine Allspice
- Dark Towers Penstemon

Starting Your Seeds **Plant Parenting: Easy Ways to Make More Houseplants, Vegetables and Flowers** by Leslie F. Halleck

Sprinkling coir or vermiculite on top of the soil surface after you place seeds in a pot will help balance soil moisture and prevent damping off during germination.

If multiple seedlings sprout in the same cell or pot, resist the temptation to let them all grow which will only lead to competition for nutrients and excessive shading. Keep the strongest. Snip off the extras and toss them in a salad or feed them to your hamster.

After seedlings develop 4 or 5 true leaves they have used up the seed's nutrients and it's time to fertilize at a dilute (¼ to ½) rate.



MASTER GARDENER

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EXTENSION

General Training Level 1
Fall 2020

UW-Madison Division of Extension
Sheboygan County
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Tuesdays,
September 8 -
November 24, 2020

6:00 pm - 7:30 pm



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