

June 2020 Newsletter

Grant County Master Gardeners



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The Extension Master Gardener Program educates, empowers, and supports volunteers to use University research-based info to extend the Wisconsin idea, making a positive difference in lives and communities.

2017-2020 Officers

President

Shirley Audetat
saudetat@hotmail.com
608-994-2577

Vice President

Wendy Johnson
wendyj18@lagrant.net
608-732-3893

Secretary

Connie Landon
gpahomer@hotmail.com
608-723-4638

Treasurer

Connie Larson
belarson@tds.net
608-725-5570

Wisconsin Horticulture Update

Wisconsin Horticulture Update kicked off on Friday May 8, 2020 at 9:30AM.

This is the first WHU that is available to as many Master Gardener volunteers as possible, not just those MG who answer questions and do diagnostics. This update will be live on YouTube for all, just click the link a few minutes before 9:30 AM on Friday and you should be good to go.

https://docs.google.com/document/u/0/d/17Z2m-9zGHbKdm56cD5xL-B4W05hdpJP4kDf1QO_LLbC/mobilebasic I found this program very interesting. The geranium "Pink Flame" seems to have been recalled because of a virus, which was highly contagious to other plants. They were pulling them out of greenhouses. If you have one, get rid of it. Let Brian Hudelson know where you got it.

Thankful For Grant Regional Health Center

Grant County Master Gardener Volunteers want to thank the staff of Grant Regional Health Center for providing excellence in health care to our community.

In an effort to show our appreciation, we thought offering seeds to grow a pleasant surprise would be a short term and long-term benefit for you and your family.

If you do not have the luxury of a huge back yard for a garden, we can show you the steps in growing seeds in different types of containers. We want to share this experience of growing something like a sensory garden which gives you a pleasant and relaxing surprise each day or growing herbs which has many paybacks or growing a fresh assortment of greens for a lush tasty salad that you know is safe or a victory garden to be a fun, calming way to enjoy being outdoors.

We want this to be a unique learning experience and want it to be more than just saying thank you for your support during these uncertain times. Compiled by Karin for Corey's Project, May 10-16, 2020

Important Websites for MGVs:
<http://wimastergardener.org>

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

<https://www.wpr.org/programs/garden-talk>

<https://www.wimga.org/>

<http://labs.russell.wisc.edu/insectlab/>

<https://pddc.wisc.edu/>

<http://grantcountymastergardeners.webly.com/online-reporting---forms-reports.html>



Gardening: Renew Your Soul and Connection

The greatest gift we can give ourselves and the people we love right now is the permission and space to process the events unfolding around us. We must first care for ourselves in order to care for others. We have to take the feelings that emerge each day and be mindful to find healthy ways to process.

Gardening can provide the experience to be outside, meditate, exercise and to nurture. The end result is reaping the benefits of using what you planted to supply your own home grown food chain which leads to healthier cooking. There is solace in starting a small seed, planting and watching it grow, to take a package of flower seeds and create a more beautiful space for you or your neighbors. Frank Lloyd Wright once said “If you ignore beauty, you will soon find yourself without it. But if you invest in beauty, it will remain you the rest of your days” Go out and create a space that leaves your soul, your yard or community a better place.



As an enthusiastic gardener, I encourage you to start a small garden. It may be a container, a window box of herbs or flowers, or a small garden plot. Lean on your garden as a source of peace and comfort. If space allows, start a Victory garden, aka WWII era garden, which allows you to supply food for yourself and your community. Provide a source of fresh veggies or flowers for your neighbor to brighten their day.

We are fortunate that as this pandemic hit we were heading into Spring and not Winter. This gives us a chance to plan, start seeds and plant a garden. Google searches to spark your enthusiasm and then the process of working the earth gives us hope to create something with our hands, provide nourishment and to heal the soul.

We're all in this together, some of us will use this time to garden, read books, spend time with family as we Rise Up Together to get our organization back to our mission of serving our community.

May you find little ways to care for yourself and those around you.

Please enjoy the free seeds and information provided to us Healthcare Heroes from the Grant County Master Gardeners. They wanted to thank us for all that we do during these stressful times. Please practice social distancing as you look through the seeds you may want and to check out the two awesome door prizes provided by the Master Gardeners. I am available for questions you may have during the times denoted on our Spirit Week Poster.

Thanks for all that you do GRHC employees.

Corey Weydert



Corey's thank you received on May 19

Special thanks to Grant County Master Gardeners:

Erin Hornung, Pharmacist, won the Gift Basket Seed starter and Mary Vogt won the Herb window box. I would say we gave away 50% of the seeds and a lot of information. We thank you for all your efforts and thinking of us. Your gesture came at a time of great anxiety and your booth which was set up for the whole week was visited by many with a lot of thank you and great comments. Dr. Brad Binsfeld, our orthopedic surgeon, was thrilled to take part in our offering and thought it was a great idea. He is a very outdoorsy and woodsy individual. Well attended by over 50 people.

FROM THE GRANT COUNTY MASTER GARDENER WEBSITE

<http://grantcountymastergardeners.weebly.com/ongoing-and-past-projects.html>

ANOTHER PROJECT WITH THE SEEDS

The *Victory Garden Guide* (Contact Karin for a digital copy via email) is an original document that came about from Amy and Mary, two interns, who had students put together an offering of seeds and a copy of the *Victory Garden Guide* (For now, please let Karin know if you want a copy via email, karin.peacock@gmail.com) that they they shared with me. Department of Agriculture provided facts and figures for this document. Note Page 2 that tells why we need "Vegetables for Victory."

MORE SEED GIVE AWAY

For two weekends in May 2020 volunteers at Katie's Garden offered free seeds at the Platteville Regional Chamber that looks like wartime Victory Gardens are making a comeback due to the sudden surge of interest in the free seeds we are offering. Growing a garden can be applied now in our fight against corona virus which could be our war. Today, the goals are different but the interest in growing a little (or a lot) of your own food is still the same!



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

**Amanda Cauffman, Grant County
Agricultural Educator, MGV mentor**

*Submitted by Shirley Audetat
and Karin Peacock*

Myleen, Editor