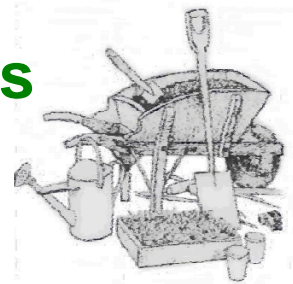




Master Gardener Volunteers Fall Newsletter



September 2008

HEADS UP

Fall Specialized Training

This comes under the heading of a "heads-up" for advance planning, but I can tell you that the 2008 Fall Specialized Training will be held on Thursdays, October 23 & 30 and November 6 & 13 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. The focus this year will be "Flowers." Of course more details will follow at a later date but you can plan accordingly if you wish to attend.

Horticultural Hotline

Scheduling for next summers hotline starts NOW. We will be doing 3 days a week. Right now we are thinking Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The hours will be 10 AM to 12 PM.

What we need right now is feedback from the volunteers who helped this year. Please tell us what you were pleased with, uncomfortable with, suggestions of hours or days that would work better for you anything that would have made your experience easier. Please consider the times that you might be available and e-mail Linda Armstrong at mgvfdl@yahoo.com or call her at 920-602-0693.

Volunteer Hours

Hours are due by **October 1** and should be submitted to Lyle Mercer. Attachments are included in your e-mail. I will mail the form with the newsletter to those getting the newsletter by USPS.

PLANT SALE REMINDERS

Jane Gamble and Gary McCaughtry are the new Co-Chairmen of the MGV Plant Sale. Please give them the same support that you have given me for the last 9 years. It has been my pleasure to work with every one of you!

Dolores will still be doing pictures/signs of the different varieties of plants for the sale.

Fall is a good time to divide perennials. If you have any plants you want rescued, give Jane Gamble and Gary McCaughtry a call @ 753 3505 or e-mail janegary@charter.net. They have holding beds and pots available.

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**Autumn is a second
spring when every leaf is
a flower.**

Albert Camus

MGV LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE

We are soon going to be in need of a local representative. The following is a description of responsibilities. Interested persons should contact Lyle Mercer directly to discuss any details. Contact info for Lyle is: e-mail mercerl@charter.net, phone # is 920-923-2309

Section I-E8

The Wisconsin Master Gardeners Association
WIMGA Local Representatives

Job Responsibilities:

Each member association chooses a Local Representative to represent their association in all official business with regard to WIMGA – they are the one recognized contact person for their association. If a group feels the need to have an alternate, the Local Rep can just forward all the information to the alternate.

Responsibilities – as a Local Representative you will:

- Receive a summary report of each meeting of the WIMGA Board. You should then relay this information to your association. A full copy of the minutes can be obtained from the WIMGA secretary upon request.
- Receive information from the WIMGA secretary about activities that have the potential to be of interest to the MGs you represent, and pass this along to them.
- Respond promptly to requests for input from the WIMGA Secretary or Board.
- Bring to the attention of your District Director(s) any issues you or your association members would like the WIMGA Board or the WI MG Advisory Committee to address.
- Make sure your local treasurer sends in dues and addresses of members to the WIMGA treasurer by the deadline.
- Make sure the annual accomplishment report for your association is sent in to the MG Program Office by the deadline. Who actually writes the report is left up to the group – in many cases it is the Local Rep who writes it, but in other associations the

president/chair, a committee or even the UW-Extension Agent handles this responsibility.

- Provide the WIMGA secretary with a current list of your local association's officers and changes as they occur due to elections or resignation.
- Notify the WIMGA secretary of any changes in YOUR address, phone number and/or e-mail address.
- Be encouraged to participate on any of the WIMGA committees as a member with full rights on that committee.
- Assist in district wide communication in conjunction with the District Directors. This can be done by attending district meetings (either in person or by WisLine) and/or through district newsletters.
- Be encouraged attend the two face-to-face meetings of the WIMGA Board. Note: your driving time to a face-to-face Board meeting or a district meeting does count as volunteer time.
- Be encouraged to attend any other meetings that are open to all Local Representatives (i.e. Long Range Planning). Previous Note also applies.
- Direct any questions you may have concerning WIMGA to the District Director(s) who represent(s) your association on the WIMGA Board

TOP FIVE CONIFER KILLING INSECTS

By Steve Nix

There are aggressive insects that attack coniferous trees which ultimately cause death or devalue a tree in the urban landscape and rural forest to the point where they need to be cut. Five of the nastiest insects have been suggested by foresters and landowners at [About's Forestry Forum](#). I have ranked these insects according to their ability to cause aesthetic and commercial damage. Here they are:

#1 Bark Beetles: Bark beetles are the most devastating insects to attack pines. They exist throughout North America in both eastern and western forms, are commercially destructive and my pick for the worst insect. The *Dendroctonus/lps* sp. will kill healthy trees and trees already weakened by other factors. The bark beetles girdle trees while building egg-laying galleries. The lack of sap flow immediately kills the tree, the insects move to adjacent live trees and the damage spreads.

#2 Pales and White Pine Weevils: Pales weevil is the most destructive insect of newly planted pine seedlings in the Eastern United States. Adult weevils are attracted to cutover pine lands where they breed in stumps and old root systems. Seedlings planted in freshly cut areas are injured or killed by adult weevils that feed on the stem bark. The white pine weevil is the "most serious and economically important native insect pest of spruce and pine regeneration in Canada" says Canadian Forest Service.



#3 Spruce Budworm: Spruce budworm is one of the most destructive native insects in the northern spruce and fir forests of the Eastern United States and Canada. Outbreaks occur every few years and balsam fir is the species most severely damaged by the bud-worm. These outbreaks have resulted in the loss of millions of cords of spruce and fir. The newly hatched larvae feed on needles or expanding buds. Severe damage to these structures causes the tree to defoliate and die.

#4 Tussock Moth: The Douglas-fir tussock moth is an important defoliator of true firs and Douglas-fir in Western North America. The larvae feed on current year's foliage, causing it to shrivel, turn brown and will kill or top-kill the tree. The pest is considered serious and can kill up to one-third of trees in a stand of Douglas-fir and deform significant numbers of trees remaining alive.

#5 Woolly Adelgids: The balsam and hemlock woolly adelgids are threatening entire tree species in parts of the eastern U.S. forest. Although not a commercial timber threat (with the exception of Christmas tree growers) the woolly adelgid attacks balsam fir and the eastern hemlocks killing entire stands on critical sites. The sap-sucking insect feeds where the needle attaches to the twig. Researchers believe the aphid's toxic saliva is the agent that does the damage.

TOP FIVE HARDWOOD KILLING INSECTS

By Steve Nix

There are many insects that attack hardwood trees which ultimately cause death or devalue a tree in the urban landscape and rural forest to the point where they need to be cut. Five of the most costly and aggressive insects have been suggested by foresters and landowners at [About's Forestry Forum](#). I have ranked these insects according to their ability to cause aesthetic and commercial damage. Here they are:

#1 Gypsy Moth: The exotic gypsy moth is one of the "most notorious pests of hardwood trees in the Eastern United States." Since 1980, the gypsy moth larvae have defoliated close to a million or more forested acres each year. The moth was introduced into the United States in 1862.

The insect lays visible buff-colored egg masses as leaves emerge in the spring. These masses hatch into hungry larvae that quickly defoliate hardwoods. Several defoliations can frequently kill trees under stress.

#2 Emerald Ash Borer: The Emerald ash borer (EAB) is an exotic, wood-boring beetle discovered in Michigan in 2002. EAB is blamed for killing millions of ash trees annually and forcing quarantines on firewood and tree nursery stock in several states. The EAB could potentially decimate arboricultural ash plantings and natural ash stands in the eastern United States.

The EAB larvae feed on the cambial bark. These S-shaped feeding galleries will kill limbs and can ultimately girdle the tree.

#3 Longhorn Beetles/ Borers: This group of insects includes the exotic Asian longhorned beetle (ALB). The ALB was first found in Brooklyn, New York in 1996 but has now been reported in 14 states

and threatening more. The adult insects lay eggs in an opening in the bark. The larvae then bore large galleries deep into the wood. These "feeding" galleries disrupt the vascular functioning of the tree and eventually weaken the tree to the point that the tree literally falls apart and dies.

#4 Elm Bark Beetle: The native elm bark beetle and/or the European elm bark beetle are critical for overland spread of Dutch elm disease (DED) and is worthy of being included in this "worst" list. The DED fungus is transmitted to healthy trees in two ways: bark beetles transmit spores from diseased to healthy trees and root grafting can also spread the disease when tightly spaced. No native elms are immune to DED but the American elm is especially susceptible.

#5 Tent Caterpillars: The eastern (ETC) and forest (FTC) tent caterpillars are first seen in the spring in eastern U.S. deciduous forests. The ETC makes its nest in the fork of branches. The FTC actually builds no tent but is by far the most destructive of the two.

The favorite food of tent caterpillars is wild cherry but oaks, maples and many other shade and forest trees are attacked. The FTC can strip extensive stands of trees of all leaves. The attacked tree's growth is affected.



FALL FLOWERS - TOP FALL BLOOMERS FOR THE PERENNIAL GARDEN

Keeping Your Perennial Garden Glorious into Fall

By Marie Iannotti

The trick to designing your garden with perennial flowers is making sure you have something wonderful in bloom all the time. Each season has its stars and fall blooming perennials have some of the best. Fall blooming perennials have all season to grow, so many of them are tall and stately. Fall bloomers also tend to blossom in the jewel tones of the season, deep purples, rusts, scarlet and gold. For fall bloomers to be hardy in your garden, you need to plant and establish them earlier in the season. Here are some top picks for fall blooming perennial stars.

1. **Aster novi-belgii** (Michaelmas Daisy). In shades of pink, purple, blue and white, these delicate daisy-like blossoms start popping open in late August and continue on until frost. Pinching in the early summer turns these Asters into mounds with dozens of flower buds. Asters will tend to creep throughout your garden, but their airiness allows them to blend particularly well with other flowers. Zones 4 – 9
2. **Caryopteris** (Blue Mist Shrub) *Caryopteris* is a sub-shrub that is often grown in the perennial garden. *Caryopteris* slowly blossoms in August with dazzling blue flower clusters. Just try to keep the butterflies and bees away. *Caryopteris* is cut back in early spring, like a Buddleia, and the gray-green foliage is attractive all season. Zones 5 – 9
3. **Chelone** (Turtlehead) Nick-named for their blossoms shaped like turtles heads, *Chelone* is a carefree fall blooming perennial whose only real dislike is excessive dry heat. *Chelone* behaves itself, growing in a dense clump with attractive foliage and red, pink or white blooms. Zones 2 - 9
4. **Chrysanthemum** There are many varieties of mums, not all particularly hardy. The plants sold in the fall as 'Hardy Mums' should have been sold to us in the spring, to be reliably hardy in the north. However we wouldn't have had the patience to plant them and wait. Mums and pumpkins are the flag bearers of fall. Try to get your potted mums in the ground ASAP. Keep them well watered and mulch once the ground freezes and you'll stand your best chance of having truly hardy mums. Zones 3 – 9
5. **Eupatorium** (Joe Pye Weed) Joe Pye is one of those natives we take for granted because we see it by the side of the road, but it makes a wonderful backdrop to a garden border. The newer Eupatorium have been bred shorter and less weedy but the dense mop heads of mauve flowers still blend in beautifully in the fall garden. Zones 2 – 9
6. **Helenium** (Sneezeweed) *Helenium* is making a come back in gardens. They look like small russet-toned coneflowers, in reds, yellows and oranges. Many *Helenium* can grow quite tall and will need to be staked or pinched. Like clematis, they like cool feet and hot heads. *Helenium* is also a good choice for poorly drained areas. Zones 3 – 9
7. **Helianthus** (Perennial Sunflower) *Helianthus* is a good natured, jolly plant, branching and flopping on its neighbors. The brilliant gold fluffy daisy-like flowers make an instant focal point and attract butterflies and birds. *Helianthus* tend to be sterile and can be reproduced by division. Zones 3 – 9
8. **Heliopsis** (False Sunflower) *Heliopsis* is very similar to *Helianthus*. *Heliopsis* tends to begin blooming earlier in the season and stays on for 8 or more weeks. Newer varieties have been bred smaller and sturdier, for less flopping. Zones 3 – 9
9. **Sedum** (Stonecrop) *Sedum* 'Autumn Joy' comes as close to perfection as any plant can. It looks good all year, requires minimal attention and attracts few problems. Its only drawback is that it is not deer resistant. 'Autumn Joy' has been joined in the garden by a growing number of fall wonders like: 'Bertram Anderson', 'Brilliant' and 'Matrona'. No fall garden is complete without sedum. Zones 3 – 9
10. **Solidago** (Goldenrod) Goldenrod is finally getting the respect it deserves, especially with introductions like 'Fireworks' and 'Golden Fleece'. Unlike the native *solidagos* that spread everywhere and never stood up on their own, these newer varieties are sturdy and chock full of fall blooms. Zones 3 - 9

ETCETERA

Pick 'n Save 'We Care Program'

From Diane Soffa

Pick 'n Save saver's cards can be used to earn funds for our association. A percentage of all purchases are tallied on a quarterly basis through the 'We Care' program and are donated to our Association. All you have to do is stop at the Customer Service desk at any Pick 'n Save store and request that our organization's account #491250 be assigned to your card. It's a great way to raise funds for our Association.

Plastic Milk Jugs

Repurpose your plastic milk jugs to do yard duty. By cutting off the bottom three inches on an angle you can create a scoop for potting soil, birdseed, fertilizer and other materials. Once it wears out, it can still be recycled.

Rosemary and Thyme

Mary Giacalone contributed this info. These six episodes of the hit British TV series star Pam Ferris as former cop Laura Thyme, who loves tooling around in her garden. Plant biologist Rosemary Boxer (Felicity Kendal) has just lost her university teaching post and seems rudderless. When a suspicious death brings them together, they discover their sleuthing skills, a penchant for gardening and a blossoming friendship. Solving mysteries and raising petunias, as good as it gets. DVD's are at the library.



**“OLD GARDENERS NEVER DIE,
THEY JUST LOSE THEIR
BLOOMERS.”**



LIGHT SUMMER PASTA

Ingredients:

- 16 ounces linguine
- 6 medium fresh roma tomatoes – chopped
- 1 pound mozzarella cheese – shredded
- 1/3 cup fresh basil – chopped
- 6 cloves garlic – minced
- 1/2 cup olive oil
- 1/4 teaspoon garlic salt
- Freshly ground pepper -- to taste

Directions: Cook pasta according to package directions. Combine all ingredients except pasta and let sit at room temperature. Toss with hot cooked pasta.



HORTICULTURAL HOTLINE ASSESSMENT

Please answer these few questions to allow us to make the Hotline even better for our Volunteers. You can e-mail the form to michael.rankin@ces.uwex.edu . If you wish to remain anonymous you can mail the form to the extension center.

1. What time of day would work best for you?
2. What days of the week would work best for you?
3. What did you like best about answering the Hotline?
4. What did you not like about answering the Hotline?
5. What would make answering the Hotline easier for you?
6. If you did not volunteer for the Hotline please tell us why and what would persuade you to try it out?
7. Will you volunteer again for the Hotline?

**INDIVIDUAL WI MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER
SERVICE HOURS & CONTINUING EDUCATION
YEARLY RECORD SHEET**

Use the other side of this form to record your Master Gardener volunteer activities and C.E. hours. *Keep a copy for your files*, then turn in hours quarterly to the recordkeeper listed.

- Intern MGVs** – record volunteer hours for initial certification. Additional Continuing Education hours are **NOT** required the first year (but you can record them anyway) . A minimum of 24 hours of volunteer service are required.
- MGVs recertifying** – record both volunteer and continuing education hours. A minimum of 24 hours of volunteer service and 10 hours of continuing education are required annually.
- Certified MGVs taking additional training courses** – record both volunteer and continuing education hours. To determine the number of volunteer hours required, check with the Extension Agent sponsoring your class. These same hours can be used to complete the annual recertification requirement of 24 volunteer and 10 CE hours.
- MGVs inactive for 5 or more years** – record volunteer and continuing education hours. A minimum of 24 hours of volunteer service and 20 hours CE are required. Recertification for the next year returns to 10 hours CE.
- Out-of-State MG seeking WI certification** – contact your local Extension agent or the MG Program Office for guidelines.

All volunteer projects and C.E. should be for UW-Extension sponsored programs or projects or community or civic group projects or programs, and should be approved by the local sponsoring UW-Extension Agent. **Travel time** based on the time a MGV leaves home until returning home, minus personal errands, and **preparation and research time** on projects or programs can be included in volunteer service hours. (Travel time to CE programs **cannot be counted**.)

Record volunteer hours by the following categories:

- Youth Education (Youth Ed)** – volunteer hours dedicated to youth education
i.e. 4-H projects & activities, county fair, youth clubs & organizations, school classroom presentations, etc.
- Community Education (Comm. Ed)** – volunteer hours dedicated to adult/community education
i.e. recycling, water quality & environmental displays & presentations, Farmer’s Market, Gardenline, trips or tours for the public, group presentations, writing articles for newspapers, newsletters or websites, etc.
- Support Services** – volunteer hours dedicated to service projects
i.e. community beautification, water quality and environmental projects, community committees, and research projects. Also coordinating MG activities, newsletters, or UW-Ext. office projects, meetings by officers, committees and board members of local MG associations and the WIMGA and local MG meetings, but only for portions of meetings dedicated to planning or working on Extension approved programs or projects.
- Continuing Education (CE)** – education hours from attending programs offered by:
 - UW-Extension.....

Brown Bag MG Monthly programs	Satellite programs	Research Station Field days
Weekly summer Hort Update programs	Materials from UW-Media Collection	International MG Conference
Advanced Hort programs	WIMGA Annual Conference	Other Ext. programs
Public Radio Show hosting Ext. Specialists	Regional MG Conference	Other states’ Ext. programs
 - Groups or businesses that focus on horticulture topics or leadership skill development, such as

Master Gardeners	Tech Schools	Guided Garden Tours
Garden Centers	Universities or Colleges	WI Gardener on Public TV
Botanical Gardens	Trade Shows	WI DNR or other state agencies

NOTE: While gardening books, unapproved television programs, the Internet and self guided garden tours are encouraged, they **DO NOT QUALIFY** for Continuing Education recertification hours. The quality of this information is variable and difficult to evaluate. The WI Gardener and other selected TV programs approved by the local sponsoring UW-Extension Agent **DO** qualify.

Under the Wisconsin Public Records Law, UW-Extension ordinarily must release lists in its custody to the public upon request. Your name, address, telephone number or e-mail address may be included on such a list unless you request confidentiality in writing. The UW-Extension will, to the extent possible under the Wisconsin Public Records Law, withhold client names from lists when requested.
If you want your name, address, phone and e-mail withheld from lists that are released upon request, please sign and date the following statement (this must be submitted annually):

I do not want the University of Wisconsin-Extension to reveal my name, address, or telephone number to the public as part of a record or list.

Signed _____ **Date** _____