



WAUPACA COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS

— SINCE 1994 —

Executive Board

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Carrie Esch

Vice President

OPEN

Secretary

Nancy Sonnenberg

Treasurer

Rebecca Weber-Schmoll

Past President

Debbie Krogwold

State Board Representative

Pat Ritchie

Member at Large

Patty Tomczak-Virnig
OPEN

UWEX Advisor

TBD

UWEX Program Assistant

Amy Ebert

Meeting Schedule

Thursday, January 13th

Board Meeting

Thursday, February 10th

Membership Meeting
Waupaca Courthouse

Wisconsin Garden & Landscape Expo

Exhibition Hall at the Alliant Energy Centers, Madison, WI

<https://wigardenexpo.com/>

February 11-13, 2022

Friday, Noon - 7 PM
Saturday, 9 AM - 6 PM
Sunday, 10 AM - 4 PM

[Click to view the 2022](#)

[Education Schedule](#)

Purchase Tickets

Garden & Landscape Expo will be a masked event. All attendees will be required to wear a mask that covers their nose & mouth.

1 Day \$8 - 2 Day \$13 - 3 Day \$

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Master Gardener Meetings 2nd Thursday of Month.

In the event that a meeting or event is canceled due to weather, members will be notified via e-mail & phone.

Refreshments Schedule

February Meeting

Nancy Sonnenberg
Jean Skewes

March Meeting

Rebecca Weber-Schmoll
Jennie Elliott



January Birthdays



Bridget Kurth - January 9th

2022 Meeting Schedule

Board Meeting

January 13, 2022

Membership Meetings

February 10, 2022

March 10, 2022

April 14, 2022

May 12, 2022

June 9, 2022

July 14, 2022

August 11, 2022

September, 8, 2022

October 13, 2022

November 10, 2022

December 12, 2022

Exclusive Educational Opportunity for Master Gardeners for 2022!!

Online Course: **Plant**

Diagnostics: The Step By Step Approach to Identifying Plant Problems

Learn the process for identifying plant problems in your own garden and be ready for the growing season!

Course snapshot:

Feb 1, 2022- March 31, 2022

Course fee: \$49

Counts for 10 hours of Continuing Education. Takes place in Canvas Course is at your own pace plus one live webinar (will be recorded).

Registration is open until January 31, 2022. [Register](#)

Online Reporting System (ORS) Updates

The ORS will be completely offline from January 1 to 9.

On **January 10th**, Master Gardeners will get limited access to the ORS to accept the 2022 terms and conditions of the Wisconsin Extension Master Gardener Program. Due to significant updates to the program, you are required to accept Terms and Conditions before you start volunteering.

- Terms and conditions will be available to read in both Onboarding-lite and on the website in the new year.
- Please take the time to read. They will be similar to the volunteer agreements we used in the past.

January 10th to February 1st - The ORS will be unavailable to enter hours. The Program needs time to transition the ORS to a new format. It will be available to enter hours around Feb. 1st. You will be notified when it is available.

In the meantime, please **keep track of your hours for January to be entered at a later date.**

2022 Onboarding-Lite

It will be available the first week of January 2022 in Canvas. You will be notified when it is available.

Due to significant updates to the program, you are required to complete 2022 Onboarding-lite before you start volunteering. It will be a requirement of the terms and conditions in 2022. You can claim **5 hours of continuing education**. We estimate that it may take you less time than this.

Onboarding-lite is similar to the Onboarding Course except the fee, the exam and ORS account creation are removed from the course.

More information on the changes to Master Gardener program follows on Page 3.

Updates to Master Gardener Program

Updates to Status Levels

In the [video update](#) we introduced changes to our status (participation) levels within the Extension Master Gardener Program. Here, you will find explanations to the new participation levels and hours requirements

Master Gardener Participation Levels for 2022

At a statewide level the policy defines:

- Different levels of participation in the Extension Master Gardener Program
- When you are removed from the program
- How you can return to the program

Participation Level: Certified

Criteria: You report BOTH a minimum of 24 hours of volunteer service and a minimum of 10 hours of continuing education into the ORS by the December 31 deadline.

You agree to terms and conditions.**

Notes:

- You are active in the program and contribute the minimum # of hours in both volunteer service and continuing education.
- You are Certified the following year.
- You are connected to program resources (i.e. Canvas, ORS, emails, etc.)
- You are eligible for awards and recognition (TBD)*

Participation Level: Active

Criteria: You report less than the minimum hours of volunteer service (24) or continuing education (10), and report at least 1 hour of volunteer service and 1 hour of continuing education into the ORS by the December 31 deadline. You agree to terms and conditions.**

Notes:

- You are Active in the program, contributing less than the minimum # of hours in both volunteer service (24) and continuing education (10), but reporting a minimum of 1 hour in each.
- You are uncertified for the following year.
- You are connected to program resources (i.e. Canvas, ORS, emails, etc.)
- You may not be eligible for some awards (TBD)*.

Participation Level: Inactive

Criteria: You report less than 1 hour in either volunteer service or continuing education into the ORS by the December 31 deadline. You agree to terms and conditions.**

Notes:

- You are Inactive for the following year.
- You are connected to program resources (i.e. Canvas, ORS, emails, etc.)
- You are ineligible for awards and recognition.

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Continued - Master Gardener Participation Levels for 2022

Participation Level: Deactivated

Criteria: You report two consecutive years of less than 1 hour in either volunteer service or continuing education into the ORS by the December 31 deadline.

Notes:

- Beginning of year 3, you are removed from the Extension Master Gardener Program.
 - ✦ You are removed from the email list and your ORS & Canvas account is deactivated.
 - ✦ You are no longer affiliated with the Wisconsin Extension Master Gardener Program and may not use the term "Wisconsin Extension Master Gardener."
 - ✦ You may re-apply for admission according to the policy.

Participation Level: Honored

Criteria: You complete 10 years* OR 1000 hours of service to the Extension Master Gardener Program in Wisconsin as recorded into the ORS AND list significant accomplishments to the local or statewide program. This should include leadership, contributions to projects, or support to other volunteers and Extension staff. You agree to terms and conditions.**

Notes:

- You complete the application. (Applications will be accepted only from November 1 through December 31, with decisions awarded before March 31.)
 - Criteria is subject to change in the future.
 - You are connected to program resources (i.e. Canvas, ORS, emails, etc.)
- * Contingent on new awards and recognition system.
- ** Terms and conditions include the Code of Ethics. The Master Gardener Program reserves the right to update these as necessary.

To return to the Master Gardener Program:

Once Deactivated, you have up to 5 years since last being Active/Certified to return to the program (with the requirement of completing Onboarding-lite (no exam, no fee).

After 5 years of absence, you must re-enroll and complete Onboarding (take exam and pay fee).

You will return with a participation level of Inactive. The hours you report into the ORS by December 31 will determine your participation level for the following year.

Do I need to take Onboarding-lite again if I took it in 2021?

- **Yes.** Due to significant updates to the program and Onboarding, it will be a requirement of existing members to complete the 2022 Onboarding-lite course. A no-cost version will be available in the Canvas Classroom and will count towards continuing education for Master Gardeners who are currently in the program. You can claim **5 hours of continuing education**. We estimate that it may take you less time than this.
- You are required to complete 2022 Onboarding-lite before you start volunteering. It will be a requirement of the terms and conditions in 2022.

[Link to full article about 2022 Updates](#)

Change in Master Gardener Program Leadership

Dear Master Gardeners,

After nearly 10 years leading the Master Gardener Program, on January 1, 2022, I will step away from leadership of the Program. I thank you all for this opportunity and the professional and personal growth that occurred because of it. I am moving into a new role as a State-level Extension Horticulture Outreach Specialist and I look forward to engaging with you through future educational programs in my new role. Over the past ten years, I've missed teaching and instructing and this role allows for more of this.



Kimberly Miller continues as the program coordinator. **Jay Dampier**, the Extension Horticulture Program Manager, assumes the administrative and leadership responsibilities of the program. Please use wimastergardener@extension.wisc.edu to contact them.

Cheers!

Mike

Master Gardener Events Calendar

Date	Time	Event	Location
Jan 10	6 PM	Vegetable Gardening Series : Seed Starting	Online
Jan 24	6 PM	Vegetable Gardening Series: Vegetable Gardening and Special Techniques	Online
Jan 31	6 PM	Vegetable Gardening Series: Planning the Organic Vegetable Garden and Organic Techniques	Online
Feb 7	6 PM	Vegetable Gardening Series: Vegetable Diseases	Online
Feb 11-13		Wisconsin Garden Expo	Madison, WI
Feb 21	6 PM	Vegetable Gardening Series: Composting Techniques in the Vegetable Garden	Online
Feb 28	6 PM	Vegetable Gardening Series: Cover Crops for the Vegetable Garden	Online
Mar 1	7:30 AM	2022 Landscape Professional Conference	Liberty Hall, Kimberly WI
Mar 7	6 PM	Vegetable Gardening Series: Weed Management in the Vegetable Garden	Online
Mar 14	6 PM	Vegetable Gardening Series: Insect Pests in the Vegetable Garden	Online
Mar 21	6 PM	Vegetable Gardening Series: Seed Saving and Harvest/storage of Vegetables	Online

Meeting Minutes

December 7th, 2021, 6:30 p.m.
Royalton Christian Church – Christmas Party

Attendees: (17): Deb K., Carrie E. (Bryant), Nancy M., Patty T-V., Connie Z., Pat R., Rebecca W-S, Bridget K. (Chris), Joan L, (Bob), Jennie E., Nancy S., Harold M. (Sue) and Greg Blonde and his wife.

- ♦ President Deb Krogwold called to order the December Membership Meeting at 6:34 p.m. with 11 members present.
- ♦ The minutes of the November meeting were approved with a motion from Pat Ritchie, second by Patty Tomczak-Virnig.
- ♦ Treasurer Rebecca provided the treasurer's report, which will be filed for audit.

Budget requests forms for 2022 projects need to be submitted for review prior to December 31, 2021. These will be reviewed by the Executive Board at January for approval. If you are the Chair for a committee, please be sure to get these submitted to allow funds to be allocated.

- ♦ State Representative Pat Ritchie, reported that the WIMGA meeting held on December 2nd had more than 400 attendees.
 - ♦ During the meeting Mike Maddock announces his retirement from the Master Gardener program, passing the responsibilities to Jay Dampier, UW State Horticultural Director (Green Lake Co.).
 - ♦ Larry Mueller Host of "Garden Talk" on NPR was a guest speaker. He talked about how he became involved in radio (50+ years) and the history of the show.
 - ♦ Members are encouraged to visit the WIMGA website for Members only section (using the same login password for logging hours). Additional information and answers to member questions will be posted here.
- ♦ Deb passed around the Committee Projects 2022 sign-up sheet to members and advised that any projects that don't have members signed up will be considered to drop or placed on hold.
- ♦ No regular meeting will be held in January 2022.
- ♦ The Executive Board will meet on the second Thursday (01/13/22) to review business and project needs. Any member may attend the Board Meeting.

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Old Business:

ThedaCare Garden

Monday December 6th, Debbie and Carrie attended a meeting with Christie Gabrilka with the UW Extension office to talk about a garden and grant being written for funds. The UW Ext. is looking to have a Master Gardener volunteer to work on the project.

We discussed having the Master Gardener being involved to support the project with hours related to educating participants and/or community (not focused on physical management and weeding of the garden). The Extension will be looking to hire a coordinator to help manage the garden.

This garden is located near the old Riverside elementary school. The intention is to manage this garden differently than others in the community, such as the garden at the Chain School.

New Logo & Website

Jennie shared the new logo design option with members present at the meeting. Basic website setup at: <https://waupacacountymastergardeners.com/>. Site and Logo to be reviewed at January Board Meeting. Social Media Marketing will follow after that.

Under New Business:

Garden Walk and Art Stroll

Help is needed to prepare boxes and prepare for the event June 25th from 9am to 4pm (Last Saturday in June). Please sign up if you are interested! Banners funds will be used to purchase at least 3 banners. Jennie offered to provide additional small banners.

Name Tag Orders – Pat R. will help members who need a badge.

Ajourment:

The meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m., with a motion by Pat R. and second by Connie Z. Christmas Party followed meeting and a fun time was had by all.

National Seed Swap Day

National Seed Swap Day is observed next on Saturday, January 29th, 2022.

History of National Seed Swap Day

The National Seed Swap Day was first held in 2006 and on the last Saturday of January every year. The first official Gardener's Magazine seed exchange was held in Washington DC on January 26, 2006. Kathy Jentz, the magazine's editor and publisher, founded This Day. Growing in popularity, the Day has become a national day of celebration. Seeds are considered one of the first commodities to be valued and traded. National Seed Swap Day has been observed the last Saturday in January.

2022 Committee's

Fund-raising Project Committees

Spring Plant Sale

Chair: OPEN

Co-Chair: Debbie Krogwold

Members:

Carrie Esch
Jennie Elliott
Sue Morack
Nancy Melum
Patty Tomczak-Virnig
Connie Jess Zolkoske
Doug Pickar

Waupaca County Garden Walk/Art Stroll

Chair: Sue Morack

Co-Chair: Patty Tomczak-Virnig

Members:

Carrie Esch
Jennie Elliott
Nancy Melum

Standing & Functional Committees

Audit

Debbie Krogwold *
Sue Morack *

By-Laws /SOP

Pat Ritchie *
Debbie Krogwold *

Christmas Party

Rebecca Weber-Schmoll *

Historian

OPEN

Library

Nancy Sonneberg *

Membership/ Nominations

Connie Jess Zolkoske *
Pat Ritchie

Newsletter & Publicity

Jennie Elliott *

Program

Carrie Esch * (if needed)
Sue Morack

Refreshment

Joan Schmitt *

Scholarship

Carrie Esch *
Pat Ritchie

Waupaca County Fair

Pat Ritchie *
Sue Morack

** Indicates Chair and Co-Chair*

Garden Projects 2022

Budwit/Burkarma Gardens (Sturgeon Trail)

Chair:

Fairgrounds Gardens (Education Bldg. & Fair Office Bldg.)

Chair: Connie Zolkoske

Head Start Children's Garden

Chair:

Mission of Hope - New London

Chair: Jean Skewes

New London Children's Garden

Chair: Jean Skewes

Petals of Honor – at Veterans Home in King

Chair: Jennie Elliott

Co-Chair: Patty Tomczak-Virnig

Waupaca Children's Garden

Chair: Doug Pickar

Nancy Melum

UNDER REVIEW:

Most Precious Blood Church - New London (Hours Only)

Chair:

Theda Clark/Riverside School/Community Garden - Waupaca (Hours Only)

Chair:

News & Reminders

Submitted by: Rebecca Weber-Schmoll - Treasurer

A reminder to mail **budget request forms** to either Deb Krogwold or Rebecca Webber-Schmoll. Needs to be submitted prior to January Board meeting.

- *Attached updated forms with this month's newsletter - Jennie*

The Board Meeting is being held in January instead of a regular member meeting. Anyone can attend the board meeting, if so desired.

2022 Garden Walk and Art Stroll News & Updates

Submitted by: Sue Morack

We are recruiting Master Gardener Volunteers to help us at the 2022 Garden Walk and Art Stroll. Each of the five gardens will need 2 sets of volunteers to cover 2 shifts during the day: Saturday, June 25. We will be contacting Master Gardeners in early January to determine if they have can help on June 25, the day of the event.



We will need at least 2 artists for each of the gardens; we have a list of artists to contact and a list of former Master Gardeners and community members that we can contact for additional help. At the February meeting, Patty will ask the Master Gardener members to sign up for a time of day and other help that will be needed to hold this event. Even if you did not sign up to be on the Garden Walk and Art Stroll committee, your help will be appreciated.

Starting in April, gardener meetings will be held. In May, a joint meeting with the gardeners and the artists will be held. In early June a meeting of the volunteers will be held. The garden locations are near Almond, near Scandinavia, near Fremont, and in rural Waupaca.

Library Corner:

Here is information from the Waupaca County libraries who have received a \$25 donation from the Master Gardeners in 2021.

- **Fremont - Director Melissa Krause:** Ordering seedlings from DNR for children's Earth Day activity
- **Iola - Robyn Grove:** Purchased **Container and Raised Garden Bed Gardening for Beginners and Beyond** by Wendy Silveria
- **Marion - Director Le Ann Hopp:** Purchasing weed controller for their library gardens
- **New London - Director Ann Hunt:** Purchasing the book **Complete Gardener's Guide: the One Stop Guide to Plan, Sow, Plant, and Grow Your Garden**
- **Scandinavia - Sue Vater Olson:** funds set aside for a thoughtful purchase
- **Weyauwega - Director Kelly Kneisler:** **The Healthy Garden** by Kathleen Norris and **New Naturalism** by Kelly Norris

Newsletter and Websites

If you have gotten down this far, then you have noticed the significant change in the Newsletter. I scrounge around the web looking for cool or useful things to include and relish your ideas and input.

As I previously emailed everyone introducing myself, I love to create engaging dialog and graphic designs. For instance, did you know that there was a **National Seed Swap Day**? I did not and started doing some digging around on that subject. It may be a good event for us to include for 2023. Unless you have lots of houseplants to take care of, Winter is for dreaming up new ideas and finding new things to plant. I myself go through all my seeds during this time and re-catalog what I have and what I want. I think it would be a wonderful opportunity to engage the community and have Master Gardners on hand to answer questions and give advice. Just a thought...

Anyway, I want to make this Newsletter a little more informational and fun. Which then falls into items that can be added to the website as well. So I encourage you to drop me a line when you find something that others may be interested in, whether it is an event in the State or a great article you found on the internet. Everything will be considered. The new website includes a blog as well, so if you are feeling adventurous, write a blog article.

It is a new year, a new newsletter, a new website (pending review) so let's make it the best we can. I am excited for what we can accomplish this year! Please email me items as soon as you can or by the end of each month. I plan on sending out newsletters the first week of new month.

If you have any pictures of our current projects please send to me so that I can include them on the website. It's a great place to showcase our work!

Jennie Elliott

jennie@macchick.net

715-340-8283

P.S. Any text that has an underline in the newsletter is a website link so that you can click to get more info.

What should we include for the February Garden tasks?

(last page of newsletter)

Email me your ideas?





JANUARY

GARDEN TASKS

1. **Avoid heavy traffic** on your dormant lawn; dry grass is easily broken and damaged.
2. Remember to **prune your houseplants** regularly. Pinch back new growth to encourage bushier plants.
3. **Group houseplants** to increase humidity. Keep away from frosty windowsills.
4. **Brush off heavy snow** from your plants and trees. Remove any branches that have been damaged by ice or snow.
5. **Don't forget winter birds!** Put out water, seeds, and suet
6. **Check your fruit trees** for any evidence of rodents; use traps where necessary.
7. **If you use salt on your walkways or driveways**, spread it carefully to avoid damaging any of your plants. Sand or sawdust is also a good alternative to salt.
8. **Check your garden equipment.** Repair and sharpen tools. Service equipment.
9. **Order seed catalogs early in the month.** Research plants. Consider edible varieties that are drought-tolerant or disease-resistant.
10. **Start ordering seeds.** Do not wait until late in the winter, as varieties may sell out early.
11. **Review or Start your Garden Journal.** Plan for the 2022 Gardening Season.

<https://waupacacountymastergardeners.com>