

Not Too Early To Think SPRING!

Woody-stem flowers, like branches of flowering trees and shrubs, should be split vertically, about an inch or two up the stem, so more water can be drawn. If the stem is very thick, smash the bottom few inches with a hammer until it is frayed.

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Gardening by the Moon

Planting

Earth is most fertile and receptive to the planting of seeds when the Moon is in a water or earth sign.

Water Signs: Cancer, Scorpio, and Pisces

Earth Signs: Taurus, Virgo, and Capricorn.

Check the phase of the Moon when you are considering the type of crop to sow or plant. Root and underground vegetables are favored in the dark of the Moon, when it is waning, and aboveground crops grow better if they are sown or planted in the light of the Moon, or its waxing phase.

Waning Phase: between the full Moon and the new Moon.

Waxing Phase: between the new Moon and the full Moon.

Harvesting

The earth signs are best,

but water signs are also good. Consider the Moon's phase before you begin gathering from your garden. Plants that produce leafy, fruity parts above the ground are best picked during the Moon's waxing phase, while plants such as potatoes and carrots, which produce bulbous, dense, underground parts, are at their peak of perfection during the Moon's waning phase.

Pruning

Pruning bushes and trees 'flows' best when the Moon is in a fire sign.

Fire Signs: Aries, Leo, and Sagittarius.

When your goal is to encourage growth in hedges and ornamentals, prune when the Moon is waxing. When you want these plants to retain their shape for as long as possible, prune when the moon is waning.

Destroying Pests

The fire signs are excellent times to get rid of pests and weeds. Fire transmutes, so this energy takes unwanted insects and plants and reduces them to their innate and reusable form (in the compost pile).

Drying Herbs

The fire signs are also arid. Herbs picked especially for drying will dehydrate well when harvested at these times.

Preserving

Vegetables and fruit that you want to preserve by canning, pickling, or fermenting (as in sauerkraut) will do best when you undertake these activities during the Moon's waning phase. The water signs are also ideal for preserving.

Protect Your Garden



Slugs

- Place shallow dishes of beer around the garden to lure the slugs to a drunken death.
- Pick off the slugs by hand.

- Spread wood ashes, pieces of copper sheeting, or crushed eggshells around your plants.
- Lay boards or pieces of cardboard on the soil around your plants. Each morning, turn the

boards over and scrape the hiding slugs into a plastic container. Cover and place in the freezer. When the slugs are frozen, dump them on your compost pile.



Good For the Soul

A garden is a tranquil retreat. Pulling weeds can be a great stress reliever. A blooming rosebush will lift your spirits. Gardening also builds confidence and self-esteem. A successful harvest provides a sense of achievement, and donating surplus food from your garden to food pantries is a great way to help others.

Garden Club Events 2017

January 24—Don Britzl
Bluebird Association
Kewaunee City Hall

February 11—WPT Garden Expo—Madison (*see flyer below for more information*)

February 28—Warren Hingst
'Vining Plants'
Algoma Youth Club

March 28—Sue Kryshak
'Peas'
Algoma Youth Club

April 8—Bird City Algoma Celebration
Algoma Youth Club
9:00 a.m.—2:30 p.m.

April 25—Joel Weichelt
The Making of a Greenhouse
Kewaunee City Hall

May 23—Sue Hepp
'Garden Melodies'
Algoma Youth Club

May 27— Annual Plant Sale
Kewaunee

June 27—Joel Weichelt
Garden Tour
1326 Miller Street, Kewaunee

July 11-13
Farm Technology Days
Ebert Farm

July 25—Mary Ouradnik

Garden Tour
N6309 Crevice Road, Casco

August 22
Claire Thompson—CSA Tour



**Kewaunee County Garden Club
presents**

**WPT Garden Expo Bus Trip
Saturday February 11th**

Pick up points:
Algoma – Nicolet Bank parking lot 5:35 am
Kewaunee – Middle School, south parking lot 6:00 Am
DePere Park & Ride, Hwy G, Main Ave, 6:40 am

\$50.00 each
Includes transportation to and from the show, one admission ticket and snacks on the bus.

<http://www.wigardenexpo.com/sites/default/files/images/GE-Sched.pdf>

Please remit payment to:
Donna Hella
N4480 Co Road B
Kewaunee, WI 54216
Payment must be received by February 3rd.

Greenscapers Committee Update

The Greenscapers committee is well on its way in planning the landscaping for Farm Technology Days at the Renee and Randy Ebert farm in July.

The co-chairs Barb Smith, Jan Tess, and Sue Hepp meet monthly to organize a timeline as to what and when things need to get done and who will

do them.

The sub-committees have come up with some great ideas for their designated areas, namely the Progress Pavilion tent, Youth tent, Heritage, Family Living, Equine, Food, the entrances (4), and Family Mercantile tent.

These individuals have already put at lot of time and effort into the planning stages. Many more hours will be spent planting, staging, maintaining, and then taking it all down.

Anne Sinkula is busy making a memory quilt for the Ebert family. It will be displayed in the Family Living Tent.

Benefits of a Raised Garden

- *Ideal for smaller spaces*
- *Great for rocky, poor, or abused soil*
- *Produces a high yield for the area, thanks to better drainage and deep rooting*
- *Allows for a longer growing season since you can work the soil earlier in the spring in frost-hardened regions*



WPT Expo Seminars

Saturday, February 11 9:15 a.m.

- Learn to grow a Straw Bale Garden
- What to Consider when Hiring a Landscape Contractor
- Attracting Eastern Bluebirds
- Easily Add Edible Mushrooms to Your Garden or Landscape

9:30 a.m.

- Native Plants for any Garden
- Garden Talk with Larry Meller
- Syrup from One Maple Tree—You Can Do It!
- From the Garden: Herbal Medicine Making

10:30 a.m.

- Starting and Maintaining a Thriving Organic Vegetable Garden
- Healing Gardens
- Seed to Kitchen: Developing Vegetable Varieties with Flavor
- Invasive Plant Identification and Control for Gardeners

10:45 a.m.

- Ornamental Edible Design
- The Smelly Garden: Maximizing scent in the Garden

- Creating a Garden for All Seasons
- Herbal Tees-A Simple Step Toward Wellness

11:45 a.m.

- Creating a Stunning Front Yard and Entryway for All to Enjoy
- Growing Peonies from Seed! Something New
- Gardening for Hummingbirds
- Organic Landscape Maintenance

12:00 p.m.

- Mexican Vegetables: Fiesta in the Olbrich Herb Garden!
- Perennials with Presence
- Breed Overview/Right Chicken for the Right Family
- Crevice Garden-A Unique Method for Growing Alpine Plants

1:00 p.m.

- Secrets Behind Creating the Perfect TV Garden
- Diseases of Herbaceous Ornamentals
- Marvelous Monarch Butterflies
- Water Features for Your Yard: Types, Ideas, and How-Tos

1:15 p.m.

- The Joy of Gardening: A

Recipe for Easy-Care Perennial Gardens

- Victory Garden BLITZ: The Story of Growing the Movement
- Everything You Wanted to Know About Beets
- Good Bugs in the Backyard

2:15 p.m.

- A Farm Journal
- Permaculture Basics
- Gardening for Pollinators and Beneficial Insects
- Wildlife Damage Management: Tips, Tools, and Techniques

2:30 p.m.

- Gardens of England/ Gardens of Portland, Oregon
- Perennials for the Autumn Garden
- Easy Food Preserving: Canning-Free
- Dealing with Slopes

3:30 p.m.

- Color Theory in Garden Design
- Your Local Three-Herb Kit
- Growing Raspberries in Wisconsin
- Intensive Food Production with Open Raised Beds

Container Plants

With three main elements, one can make any container look like it was designed by a pro. First, choose a star performer such as purple fountain grass, King Tut, tall snapdragon, tall grasses, etc.

Next comes the supporting cast. These are the plants that provide contrast, fill in with texture and color and cover up bare stems. Plants are usually smaller than its star performer. But there may be times when a particularly airy player may stretch a bit taller than its star performer. You always want it to comple-

ment rather than try to steal the show.

Good choices would be wax begonias, lantana, coleus, gazania, impatiens, geraniums, pentas or star flowers.

Trailers are the low plants in the container that soften the mood. They wind among the other plants and meld the planting together. Just keep in mind that a spindly little plant in May might turn into a container-engulfing monster by August. Cut a plant back or pull it out if it is not doing what you want it to. Think

dainty, not hulking, when it comes to trailers.

Sweet potato vine is a good choice and it doesn't matter whether it is chartreuse or burgundy. One of my favorite trailers is blue lobelia. There are many other trailers that you can select from for your container.

Above all, start with healthy plants. Plants need food as well so be sure to fertilize and water appropriately. A couple inches of mulch helps keep the soil moist and minimizes watering.



Pair the fine-textured coreopsis with plants that have bigger leaves, such as coral bells. The contrast will make both perennials look better.

Welcome Toads to Your Garden

Toads are a gift to a gardener. A resident toad can make pest control significantly easier. Toads start looking for insects as soon as the Sun goes down. They eat all night, and over a single summer, one toad can eat up to 10,000 bugs and insects, including mosquitoes, slugs, cutworms, caterpillars, earwigs, and snails. With a toad on site, a gardener saves the time, la-

bor, and money involved in using chemicals or pesticides.

Welcome With Water

Toads do not rely on water as much as frogs do, but they do need some for soaking.

Toads are territorial, so if you hope to have more than one toad take up residence in your garden, you need to have more than one source of water. A perfect toad pool is a

shallow dish or pan buried in the ground up to its rim and filled with water and a few rocks for your new friend to climb. Refill the dish with fresh water often.

Build a toad house which provides a shady, moist, and protected area that encourages a toad to feel at home. A solar light close to the toad house attracts bugs at night.

Put Ornaments to Work in Your Garden

Garden decorations add color and texture without adding additional work for the gardener.

These are three design challenges that garden ornaments easily solve.

Add Height

A garden doesn't need a lot of height to be lush or

pretty, but having texture and color on different planes makes a planting more interesting.

Add Contrast

Structures can introduce new colors and textures to contrast with an established garden design. Try adding a jet-black container to a patch of red dian-

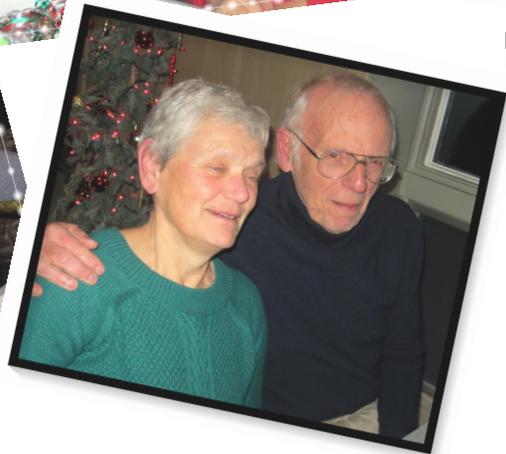
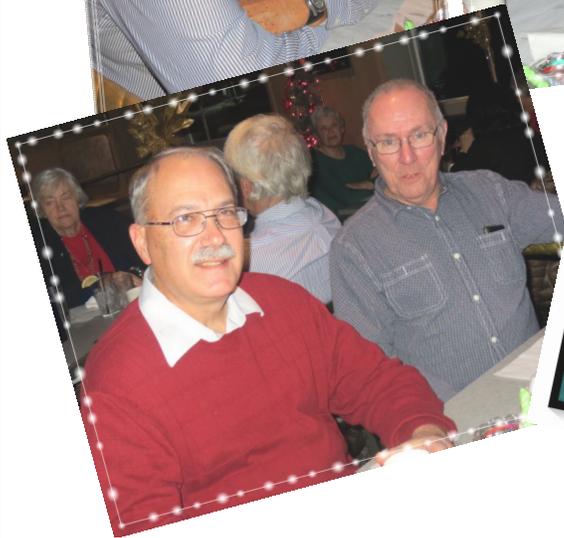
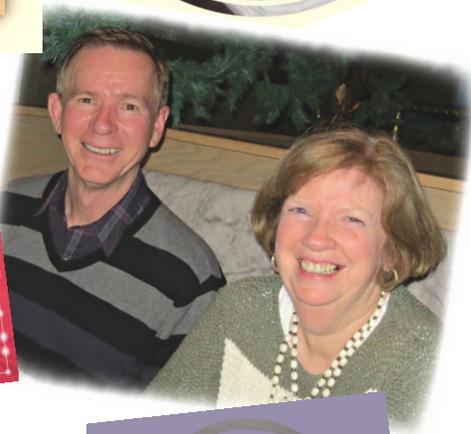
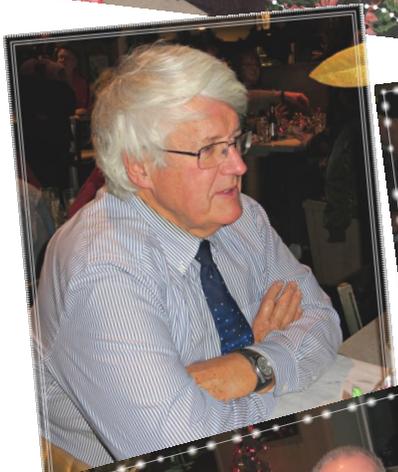
thus, or surround a square-cornered trellis with flowing, arching grasses.

Add a Focal Point

Focal points give viewers an easy entry point to the design and a place to rest their eyes. Anything can be a focal point, big or small, so long as it stands out.



Christmas Party 2016



Algoma Bird Celebration

Illustrations
children's
book
author and
publisher
Janet Tlachac
-Toond
(Samples)



Bird Bistro
Information



www.birdcityalgoma.com/

International Migratory Bird Day

Algoma Youth Club

620 Lake Street, Algoma, WI

Saturday, April 8, 2017

Doors open at 9:00 a.m.



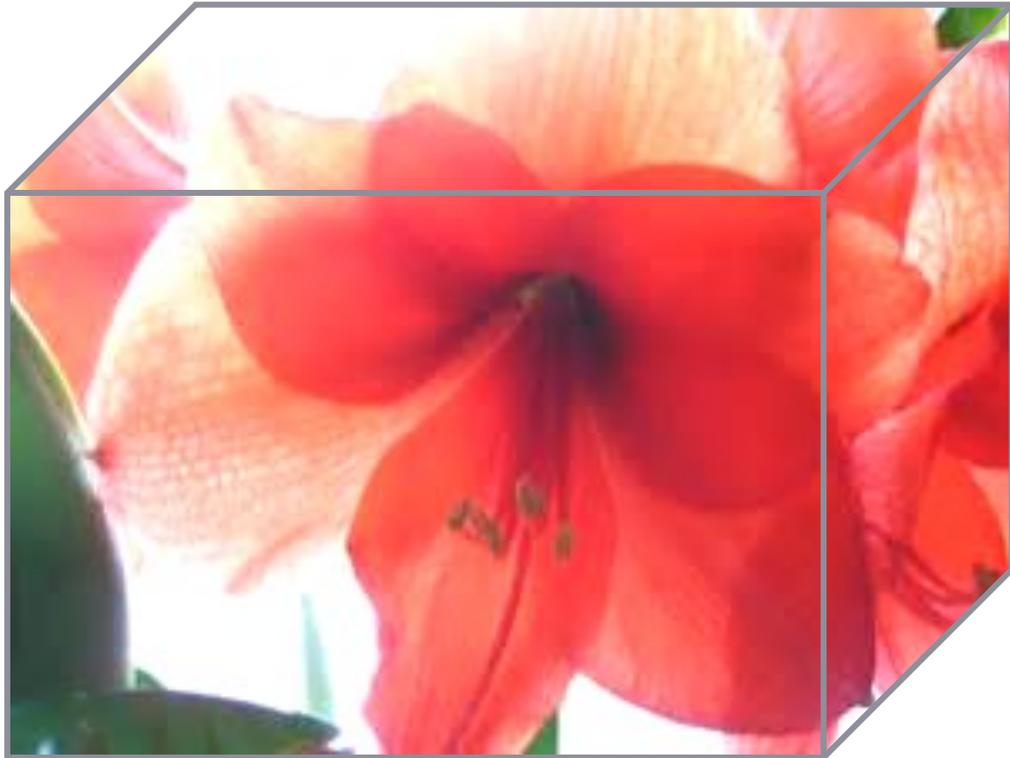
9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. – Vendors and Educational Booths

10:00 a.m. - **Getting the Picture:** Song Birds; Shore Birds; Waterfowl by local photographer Robert Kuhn

11:00 a.m. – Kim Diedrich, **Green Bay Wildlife Sanctuary**
(Meet a **LIVE** red-tailed hawk) **Kid Friendly!**

12:00 p.m. – **Lunch Break** – Support our local food vendor

12:30 p.m. - Karen Mytas Newbern – 'Birdscaping'- Native Plants



Mission Statement

It is the mission of the Kewaunee County Garden Club to support the horticulture efforts of the people and communities of the county with volunteer work, education, and by example.

Membership Information

Single Membership	\$10.00
Couple Membership	\$15.00

Send Membership Dues to;
Donna Hella
N4480 County B
Kewaunee, WI 54216

Please make Donna's job easier by paying your 2017 dues in January each year so you don't forget. She will certainly appreciate it if you do.
Thank you!