

Kewaunee County Garden Club Newsletter

The Love of Roses



“No one plants roses for the thorns”

-Marty Rubin

The Rose is known as the "queen of flowers." Its beauty, elegance, and fragrance no doubt make it the most romantic flower of them all. All roses are beautiful, but not all of them have a strong fragrance. Many of the roses that are at the nursery don't have any fragrance at all. Two of my favorite roses, Memorial Day and New Dawn are both pink and with an aromatic fragrance.

In my garden you will find a rose with each of the colors listed below. Breeders have come up with other colors: blue, green, multi-colored; however, I am partial to the traditional colors!

- **Red:** romantic love
- **Pink:** gratitude and appreciation
- **Orange:** desire and passion
- **Yellow:** friendship
- **Lavender:** enchantment or love at first sight
- **White:** innocence or purity of love



Rose **petals** are strewn on lawns or carpets for special celebrations, used as confetti, in perfume and cosmetics, and for medicinal purposes.

Growing roses is normally pretty straight forward ... feeding and watering them regularly and they produce fragrant, beautiful blooms for your enjoyment. Not this year! **Rose slugs** ... these little creepies skeletonized the majority of my rose leaves on every rose in my garden **overnight**. They are tiny, green worms that are the larvae of the rose sawfly. They are not caterpillars even though they look like one.

One day you have beautiful green, glossy leaves and the next day the plant looks like it was hit by a bomb. It is not pretty! The only thing to do is strip the leaves and hope that new ones will grow back. The roses were already stressed given the high heat and humidity and then this creepy crawler! Mine, however, were so emaciated that I cut them back which is not the recommendation.

Hoping that next year will be a better year for roses!

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KCGC Programs



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|--------------------|-----------|---|
| Tuesday, July 28 | 6:30 p.m. | Footbridge Apiaries w/Dan Fager
N3877 County C, Kewaunee |
| Tuesday, August 25 | 6:30 p.m. | Garden Tour w/Barb Thompson
721 Dodge Street, Kewaunee |

July is time to ...

- Harvest fruits and vegetables to prolong growth and production; avoid pests
- Lightly fertilize tomatoes and peppers.
- Fertilize container plants with a water-soluble solution every 2 weeks
- Remove dead flowers from annuals and perennials to encourage new growth
- Start sowing vegetable seeds for fall garden: carrots, beets, turnips, snap beans, radish, kohlrabi, and endive.
- Pinch herbs such as mint, oregano, and savory.
- Stake tall plants to help give support and to prevent damage from wind or rain.
- Prevent weeds from seeding; this will mean fewer weeds next year. Pull weeds as they grow and use mulch in flower beds to prevent them from sprouting.

*“A Garden is made
of Hope.”
-W.S. Merwin*



Heat Tolerant Flowers

I don't know about you, but I cannot tolerate the high temperatures and humidity. These amazing flowers love the summer as it heats up ...

Black-eyed Susan (*beneficial to butterflies and is a goldfinch favorite*)

Russian Sage (*deer resistant*)

Thread-leaf Tickseed (*flowers steadily until frost*)

Yarrow (*white, red, peach, or yellow*)

Even the most reliable summer bloomers stage a stronger show when faded or spent flowers are removed faithfully.

PLANT GIVE-AWAY



Cheryl



Nancy, Joel, Mary Novak



Barb S.



Glenn Tom



Barb T.

Sandi

Kewaunee County Parks and Recreation

We all are ready to get back to a somewhat new normal existence. About the only excitement these days is going to the grocery store and working in the garden. But, there are other things that can be done while practicing social distancing. We are truly blessed to have so many beautiful county parks. They can be utilized for hiking, biking, horseback riding, picnicking, or fishing.

The only 'pedaling' that I personally have been doing the last few month is 'petaling' in the garden! We had work horses on the farm so getting into the saddle would be a 'mane' event and that is no 'tale'. Fishing is a tad out of my league so I think my safest bet is to take a hike!

Here are some fantastic places to check out if you don't already frequent them:

Blahnik Heritage Park, Algoma: Located near the Ahnapee River, Ahnapee State Trail & Ice Age Trail. Biking, hiking, horseback riding, fishing. Picnic Tables, restrooms, Pets allowed in the park.

Bruemmer County Park and Zoo, Kewaunee: Located near the Kewaunee River and Ahnapee State Trail. Picnic tables, shelter rental, NO pets allowed

Bruemmerville Park, Algoma: Located on Silver Creek. Hiking, fishing, restrooms, picnic tables, shelter rental, NO pets allowed.

Dana Farm, Kewaunee: Located at Winter Park and near the C.D. Buzz Besadny Fish Hatchery and Kewaunee River. Historic site. NO pets allowed.

Reckelberg Park, Luxemburg: Located on the Ahnapee State Trail. Hiking, picnic area, portable toilet. Pets allowed.

Red River Park, Luxemburg: Located on the Bay of Green Bay. Restrooms, grill, picnic tables, shelter rental, NO pets allowed.

Riverview ATV Park, Kewaunee: If you are so inclined to take your ATV or UTV on a spin! 20+ trails, restrooms, picnic tables, NO pets allowed.

Ryan Park, Kewaunee: Hiking, restrooms, picnic tables, shelter rental, NO pets allowed.

Winter Park, Kewaunee: Disc golf, hiking, NO pets allowed.

Dana Farm June Meeting



Cheryl, Kathy, and Sue Kryshak



Sharon, Dale, and Sue Hingst



Rabbits and other Pesky Animals

Animals of all sorts are unwelcome in a garden especially rabbits and squirrels. This year there seems to be an over abundance of both! What to do?

Safe repellent methods that may work.

1. **Movement:** place pinwheels, tassels, and other items that catch the wind and create confusing movement to scare the animals.
2. **Noise:** Inconsistent noises can scare animals away. Aluminum pie plates that bang against each other by wind movement creates noise.
3. **Barriers** (*fencing*): either chicken wire or a large fenced enclosure around the entire garden can block animals from damaging plants.
4. **Material Repellents:** Mint smells keep rodents away. Urine of predatory animals warn off prey animals like rabbits. (**Repels-All** from **Bonide**)

Ants and more ANTS!

You would think with the heat that the insects and other creatures would want to hibernate. Not so! Ants are very prevalent this year for some reason. Controlling ants in the lawn becomes important where their hill building causes root damage to grass and unsightly mounds. These colony insects settle in large numbers and build intricate labyrinths in grass root systems. Ant hills in grass may pose a hazard to foot travelers and mower blades.

Many species have an interest in ranching and will farm aphids and mealybugs, protecting them and assisting their daily needs in order to keep a local source of honeydew. Honeydew is the substance secreted by aphids and mealybugs and is something of a delicacy for ants.

Ants prefer a dry, well-drained soil in an undisturbed low traffic area. Killing ants in the lawn is a tricky business because children, pets, and birds utilize the area. Some possible solutions ...

1. 3% solution of dish soap with water sprayed on an infested area
2. Borax and sugar water spray, or a paste,; place it near the nest. The sugar attracts the ants and they take it back to the nest for the colony to feed on. Then the Boric Acid kills the ants.
3. Pour white vinegar onto a nest
4. Ant bait stations

Ants can be a blessing and a curse. Their activity is also a natural pest control and can increase the tilth of soil, acting as wild aerators to loosen the dirt around roots and enhance growth.



*“When I die, bury me
with a few garden
tools; I shall make a
garden in heaven!”
-Preeth Nambiar*





Clematis (*it is just as bushy on the other side*)

Weeding App?

With the extreme heat that we have been experiencing, one would think that weeds would give up! Not the case; they seem to grow just looking at them. They grow through mulch, cement cracks, out shining vegetables in the garden as if to shout, "I am taller than you!" One needs to tend the garden chores early in the morning or later in the evening because of the heat and humidity.

My question is ... they have apps for everything else, wouldn't you think they could come up with one to eliminate weeds? Or, all we had to do was point and the weeds would drop out of sight! They have apps to identify birds, flowers, and even weeds, so why not come up with something? This would be welcomed by many avid gardeners.

Of course, I am not serious about this ... the heat has gotten to me!!!

Weeding opportunity:

Dana Farm gardens by now may be overrun with weeds with the rain from recent storms. With that said, if you can spare an hour or two to weed, it would be appreciated.