



Kewaunee County Garden Club Newsletter

Plant Sale Preparation

You may think it is too soon to be thinking about the annual plant sale; however, behind the scene, a lot of preparation needs to take place to make the annual event successful. The Marketing committee does a great job advertising, building, setting up, and working through the different aspects of the sale.

One of the popular aspects of the sale is the gardening kits for adults and children. A variety of containers are needed to bring the gardening kits into actuality. With that said, please look in your garage, basement, attic, shed, or around the house to see if you have small to medium vessels that would be suitable as containers for the kits. Now is the time to start thinking about 'spring cleaning' ... getting rid of some of the things you haven't used in years! Those 'things' can be recycled into a treasure for others to enjoy.

Some 'things' for kits ...

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Old spade heads | Watering cans (<i>small</i>) | Pruners |
| Old gardening boots | Gardening signs | Funnel |
| Tennis shoes | Dustpan | Pots/Pans |
| Weathervane | Toy trucks | Oven mitt |
| Ballet slippers | Sand pails | Milk pail |
| Pillow (<i>small</i>) | Stuffed animal (<i>small</i>) | Jugs (<i>small</i>) |
| Baseball mitt | Train car (<i>open</i>) | Puppets |

If you have items, please get them to Sue Hepp before April 15 so the kits can be assembled in time for the sale. The list above is not all inclusive ... anything can be used as a container as long as it isn't too large. Thank you in advance for your help; it is greatly appreciated!

"Nature does not hurry, yet everything is accomplished"
-Lao Tzu

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Program and Events

Tuesday, March 28—KCGC meeting at 7:00 p.m.—overview of Garden Expo

Tuesday, April 18—'Pollinators' presented by HCE at 6:30 p.m.—Algoma Youth Club

Saturday, April 29—Bird City Algoma World Migratory Bird Day event at the Algoma Youth Club, 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, May 23—KCGC meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 27—26th Annual Plant Sale at Lakehaven, Kewaunee

Tuesday, June 13—Cleanup at Dana Farm at 2:00 p.m.



"We can rejoice that rose bushes have thorns, or rejoice that thorn bushes have roses"

-Abraham Lincoln

Master Gardener Corner

The **Online Reporting System** is now up and running. You will be requested to check sharing your information with WIMGA and Local Associations when you complete the Terms and Conditions. Once completed, you can print out your Master Gardener Participant card and give a copy to KCGC.

Continuing Education ...

Series 2: The Good, The Bad, and The Earthy

Wednesday, April 26 at Noon—'Spotted Lanternfly': an Invasive Insect Knocking on Wisconsin's Door (30 minutes + questions and answers)

Presenter: PJ Liesch, Assistant Faculty Associate & Extension Entomologist, U-Madison Department of Entomology.

The **Spotted Lanternfly** (*Lycorma delicatula*) is an invasive insect that was first reported in Pennsylvania, 2014. Since that time, this pest has spread through neighboring states, reaching parts of Ohio, Michigan, and Indiana. With spotted lanternfly poised to appear in Wisconsin, this webinar will cover how to identify this invasive pest, its biology, and management approaches used in areas with established infestations.

Registration required: https://uwmadison.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ifZoHLDBReGNspj5yuMd2g

Garden Expo 2023

The weather could not have been any nicer. Our Babler Bus driver did an excellent job getting us to and from the Alliant Center, Madison. Large attendance for the seminars, demonstrations, and in Exhibition Hall. It was hard to maneuver at times because of so many attendees.

The seminars were not per usual this year. In some of the seminars, the presenters were not well prepared. There were a variety of seminars to select from; however, you could not be in two places at once. It was good to be in a seminar where you actually learned something.



Plant Sale Database/Labels

I would like to get started on the database of flowers, veggies, herbs, and succulents that gardeners will be supplying for the plant sale in May. With that said, please get your information to me by mid-April.

This is what is needed for the database so that labels can be printed for marking your sale items.

1. Common and Latin name of flower, veggie, herb, or succulent (Sample Plant Labels)

2. Light and Soil requirements

3. Height

4. Bloom time

5. Spacing requirements

6. Annual/Perennial

7. Harvest time (*veggies*)

8. Tomato (*determinate or indeterminate*)

9. Companion plants

10. Supply a photo if you can

Black Eyed Susan (*rudbeckia*)

Height: 2' – 3'

Soil: Well drained

Sun: full/part sun

Blooms: Summer-fall

Spreads by underground rhizomes



Chocolate Cherry Tomato

Height: 6' Spacing: 3'

Soil Requirements: well draining, rich soil

Sun: full sun

Indeterminate: vining (*stake*)

Companion Plants: basil, sage, parsley



8 Plants That Can Irritate the Skin

1. **Poison Hemlock** (*Conium maculatum*) comes from the carrot family and looks almost identical to wild carrot or Queen Anne's lace. The easiest way to tell wild carrot and poison hemlock apart is to look at the stem. Wild carrot has stiff stems covered in coarse hairs; poison hemlock stems are hollow and hairless, with distinctive purple or reddish splotches and streaks. Poison hemlock leaves, stems, roots, and seeds are extremely poisonous to people and animals, even in small amounts. Although touching the foliage of poison hemlock won't trigger skin rashes and blisters for most people, the toxic alkaloids can enter the bloodstream through eyes and nose, as well as in any cuts or openings in the skin. The danger of poison hemlock is long-lived since dead canes can stay toxic for up to 3 years. The level of toxins in poison hemlock sap varies but is typically highest when plants are growing in a sunny location.
2. **Giant Hogweed** (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*) is also a member of the carrot family and possesses the same characteristic traits as its cousin in the Apiaceae genus—deeply lobed, feathery foliage and white umbel flowers that appear from June to July. Plants can reach 20' in height, with a leaf span of 5' across, and flower heads that measure 4' in diameter. The sap causes painful burning blisters and scarring where it gets on the skin and then is exposed to sunlight. If the toxic ooze gets in the eyes, it can be temporarily or permanently blinding.
Younger specimens can be recognized by their purplish splotches—similar to poison hemlock—but with the addition of white hairs along the stems.
3. **Parsnip** (*Pastinaca sativa*) is another carrot relative. Foliage is yellowish green in color, with a central stem that bears 3 to 5 toothy, pinnate leaflets. The stems are mostly hollow with vertical grooves running up and down the length. Parsnip blooms from June to mid-July with clusters of tiny yellow flowers in loose umbels. The cream-colored taproot is edible, the leaves and shoots of the plant contain phototoxic sap that, when combined with UV light, leaves weeping blisters and burns in its wake. The affected areas of the skin can remain sensitive and discolored for up to two years after initial contact. Take a cautious approach when handling the plant. To minimize the risk of burned hands and skin, avoid touching parsnip foliage on sunny days and pulling up plants after they have gone to seed. After harvesting the taproot, always wash thoroughly to remove any plant sap that might have gotten on the skin.
4. **Stinging Nettle** (*Urtica dioica*) is a perennial herb that grows on erect stems that can reach up to 9' high. It is considered a noxious and invasive weed in many places, spreading via underground rhizomes that can quickly become dense colonies. The leaves and stems are covered in tiny hairs that act like hypodermic needles. Wherever the plant touches skin, it pierces and injects several inflammatory chemicals, including histamine and formic acid. The stinging sensation will be felt immediately upon contact, later developing into hives. If in contact with it, don't touch the rash for the first ten minutes.

8 Plants That Can Irritate the Skin (continued)

5. **Rue** (*Ruta graveolens*) is a deeply lobed, delicate blue-green leaved and shrubby herb. In spring, it blooms with clusters of small yellow flowers. Its acrid leaves are poisonous, and the whole plant emits a musty odor most find unpleasant. However, the strong smell makes it so effective for repelling pest insects and grazing critters. The sap contains an array of toxic compounds that can burn the skin when exposed to sunlight. Handling or brushing up on the plant on a sunny day may leave you with burned and blistered flesh. Handle the plant foliage only in the evening and on cloudy days to lessen the phototoxic risk.
6. **Tomatoes** — The earthy, spicy musk that tomato plants give off is due to volatile oils stored at the ends of their hairy stems and leaves. When the foliage is disturbed, the oils are released. The scent helps keep pests away but can also affect people who are sensitive to these chemical compounds. You might be able to eat a tomato without trouble, but handling the foliage can deliver itchiness for days. The coarse hairs that cover the plant can be irritating too, and the skin can sometimes react by breaking out in red, swollen, itchy patches. Fortunately, getting a rash from tomato leaves isn't too common. If sensitive to the leaves, wear gloves and don't work with tomatoes on sunny days; if you do work around tomatoes, wash with soap and water as soon as you are done.
7. **Cucurbits** — Squash, melons, cucumbers, zucchini, pumpkin, and other members of the cucurbit family have been known to cause an adverse reaction for more than a few gardeners. It might not be an allergy if you can still enjoy the fruits without feeling a burning or tingling sensation in the mouth. What these vining plants have in common is foliage covered with prickly hairs which can lead to an itchy red rash that appears immediately after working with the plants. Thankfully, the rash goes away after a few hours. Cucurbit rashes can affect the arms and hands but can also appear on the face, neck, and chest. When plants are disturbed, the small prickles on the leaves can break away from the plant. The tiny fibers may then become airborne and irritate any part of the skin that isn't covered.
8. **Spring Bulbs** — 'Lily rash', 'Tulip fingers', and 'hyacinth itch' all terms describe what can happen after working with spring bulbs. These and other flower bulbs, including *Narcissus* species like daffodil and paperwhites, have the potential to inflame the hands, forearms, and the face with an itchy, burning sensation. Hyacinth bulbs tend to be the worst of the bunch. Hyacinth itch affects the most people since the bulbs exude highly irritating oxalate crystals—the same toxin that makes rhubarb leaves poisonous. Though rashes from spring bulbs usually amount to a minor annoyance and symptoms resolve themselves quickly, repeated handling can worsen reactions over time. People most affected by it are those who work with bulbs regularly. Even if you have never had a bad reaction before, sensitivity to spring bulbs can occur at any time. It is a good idea to wear gloves when planting or working with spring bulbs.

World Migratory Bird Day Celebration

Saturday, April 29, 2023

Algoma Youth Club, 620 Lake Street

Doors Open at 9:00 a.m.

Vendors: 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.



'Water': Sustaining Bird Lives

Hosted by:

Bird City Algoma Committee

Celebrating 10 Years

Presentations:

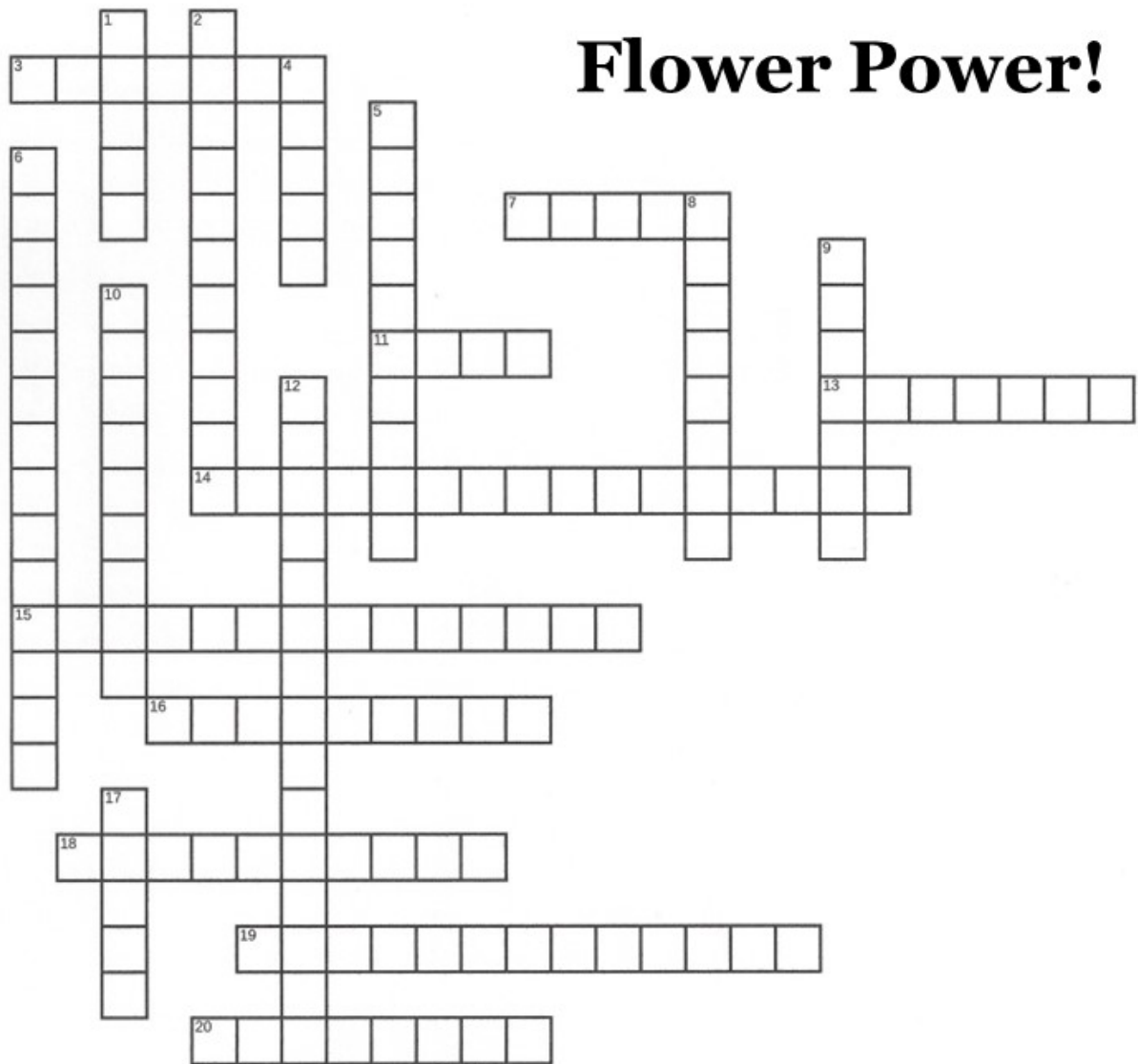
10:00 a.m. – Birds' Aquatic Habitat by John C. Walch

11:00 a.m. – 'Winged Wonders' - Raptor Education Group, Inc. (*live raptors*)

12:30 p.m. – Nature Friendly Gardening/Landscaping

- . Vendors
- . Presentations
- . Book Author
- . Monarch Info
- . Food

Flower Power!



Across

- 3 Biblical seed
- 7 King of herbs
- 11 Symbolizes 'love'
- 13 Butterfly magnet
- 14 Succulent vine
- 15 *Dicentra spectabilis*
- 16 Austrian
- 18 Echinacea
- 19 Male name
- 20 *Calendula* family

Down

- 1 Means 'star'
- 2 Pest 'trap'
- 4 Soothing Song
- 5 Flavoring/scent
- 6 Buddleja
- 8 In the mint family
- 9 Blossom lasts one day
- 10 Tracks the sun
- 12 Favorite bird
- 17 Christmas plant

President: Tom Zenner
Vice President: Cheryl Eberle
Treasurer: Ann Brunner
Secretary: Sue Hepp
Marketing Committee: Barb Smith, Tom Zenner, Cheryl Eberle, Mary Novak, Nancy Lamack, and Joel Weichelt

Website: www.kcgardenclub.org



Friday, April 28 is **Arbor Day**

Celebrate by planting a tree!

According to the old Farmer's Almanac these seeds can be planted outdoor in April ...

1. Brussels Sprouts
2. Cauliflower
3. Lettuce
4. Onions

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 example.

Across
 3. Mustard
 7. Basil
 11. Rose
 13. Liatris
 14. String-of-Pearls
 15. Bleeding-Heart
 16. Edelweiss
 18. Coneflower
 19. Sweet-William
Down
 1. Aster
 2. Nasturtiums
 4. Daisy
 5. Peppermint
 6. Butterfly-Bush
 8. Lavender
 9. Daylily
 10. Sunflower
 12. Cardinal-Flower

Flower Power Crossword Puzzle Answer Key