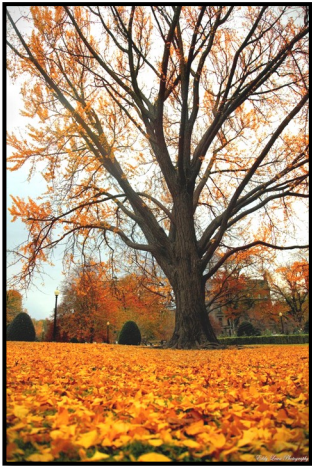


"Autumn carries more gold in its pocket than all other seasons"
-Jim Bishop

Kewaunee County Garden Club Newsletter

November 2018



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What Happened to Autumn?

I don't know if you missed it but I certainly did! As I am typing this, it is snowing. At least the deer hunters are happy that there is tracking snow. Not so much for the gardener who didn't finish clean-up yet!

All my plans to plant bulbs this fall went right out the window. Dealing with a busy schedule, then rain that didn't seem to stop, unusually cold temperatures, and then that white stuff. Wow! Is someone trying to say 'It can wait!'

There is always the possibility that we could get a 'thaw' or a break in the weather. Then perhaps all those beautiful bulbs will find a way into the garden soil. There always is hope!



After all we had a very hot summer and we actually survived those scorching temperatures. It would be nice if some of that heat could have been stored and then brought out for days like today.

Even though the days are getting shorter and seemingly darker, there is so much to look forward to in the coming months. Our thoughts will center on the upcoming holidays: Thanksgiving and Christmas. There is a lot of planning, baking, shopping, and parties to attend. And, we do need to find time to rest and celebrate with family and friends.

Website:

<http://www.kcgardenclub.org>

Like us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/Kewaunee-County-Garden-Club-185622514808744/?fref=ts

Program and Events

Tuesday, November 27 7:00 p.m.	'Pear Trees' Tom Zenner	Kewaunee City Hall
Tuesday, December 4 6:30 p.m. Cocktails; 7:00 p.m. Dinner	KCGC Christmas Party	Hotel Stebbins, Algoma
Tuesday, January 22, 2019 7:00 p.m.	'Wood Wide Web' Joel Weichelt	Kewaunee City Hall
Saturday, February 9, 2019	Garden Expo in Madison	
Tuesday, February 26 7:00 p.m.	QPR (Suicide Prevention)	Algoma Youth Club
Tuesday, March 26	'Vegetative Propagation' Warren Hingst	Algoma Youth Club

Preparation to Avoid Frost Protection

1. Avoid Frost Pockets

Frost tends to settle in low lying areas; opt for a higher spot to avoid low lying frost.

2. Use Raised Beds

If you don't have a high spot to plant your garden, consider a raised bed. Raised beds heat up faster and stay warmer. Raised beds tend to dry out quicker, plan accordingly with watering and mulch.

3. Add Heat with Hot Composting

Place partially finished compost or composting manure in the center of a raised planting bed. Do not plant seeds or transplants directly in hot compost as the heat and excess nitrogen can kill your plants.

4. Preheat Your Soil

Cover the ground with plastic or other dark material. This raises the soil temperature so you can transplant earlier. Preheating the soil promotes better germination rates and easier transplanting.

5. Frost Covers for Plants

Cut the bottom off of a gallon plastic jug, such as a vinegar jug. Slip the jug over the seedling and wiggle it gently into the ground. If it gets warmer during the day, open the lid for ventilation.

6. Wall-of-Water

Fill empty plastic jugs with water and then use them to create a wall around a trans plant. Vinegar jugs work very well for this protection. When the temperature drops, the water in the plastic freezes instead of the plants.

Root Cellar Alternatives

Root cellar requirements:

- Ventilation
- Earth-Shelter
- Darkness
- Humidity
- Shelving/Storage bins

Those of us who grew up on a farm eons ago, remember the dark and dreary 'root cellar'. It doesn't need to be scary or a dreaded area to go into. Consider the following to store your produce over the winter months.

If you have an **outbuilding** with a dirt floor, you can dig into the dirt to make a more accessible in-ground storage. Better yet, dig in a used metal storage locker. This would protect not only your produce, but keep out the rodents.

Porches or Decks:

If you have an unheated porch or attached deck with high clearance underneath, you may be able to put it to work for food storage. Use two layers of protection, a plastic bucket inside a metal garbage can would keep produce accessible and less accessible to rodents.

Inside the House:

Attics, pantries, bedrooms, stairwells all are game for storage. If this area is not heated, storage of dried produce and herbs, pumpkins, squash, onions and garlic will do well in a cool, dry environment.

Root Cellar Ventilation

Because some foods give off ethylene gas, do not make your root cellar airtight. A root cellar that is too airtight may also build up excess humidity leading to mold and mildew. There should be two vents with a screen, one on the top of the storage and one at the bottom. The top vent exhausts ethylene gas; the bottom lets in fresh air.

Ethylene Gas can cause sprouting, decay, mold, yellowing, shrinking, toughness, softness, bitterness and other damage. To combat spoilage

from the gas, segregate fruits and veggies that produce excess ethylene gas from those that are easily damaged from ethylene gas. This is a good idea for refrigerator produce bins as well.

Fruits and Veggies that may create excess ethylene gas:

apples, apricots, avocados, bananas, blueberries, cantaloupe, citrus fruit (not grapefruit), cranberries, figs, guavas, grapes, green onions, honeydew, ripe kiwi fruit, mangoes, melons, mushrooms, nectarines, okra, papayas,

passion fruit, peaches, pears, peppers, persimmons, pineapple, plantains, plums, prunes, quinces, tomatoes, and watermelon.

Fruits and Veggies that may be damaged by excess ethylene gas:

asparagus, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, chard, cucumbers, cut flowers, eggplant, endive, escarole, florist greens, green beans, kale, kiwi fruit, leafy greens, lettuce, parsley, peas, peppers, potatoes, potted plants, romaine lettuce, spinach,

Five Easiest Vegetables to Store:

1. Onions
2. Garlic
3. Shell Beans
4. Winter Squash
5. Parsnips



November-December Thoughts and Tips ...

- Do not throw away fruit pits cooked or uncooked. Dry them slowly in the oven, place them in a jar. In the long, cold nights of winter, throw a handful on the fire in your fireplace. They will crackle, send up a bright flame, and fill the room with a sweet, pleasant fragrance.
- Cut a few stems of holly with berries for making a Christmas garland before the birds eat all the berries.
- Winter winds can whip about and severely damage unprotected plants. Use cut tights or an old nylon stocking over plants. It will stretch as the plants grow rather than cut into the stem like string or wire does.
- During the winter months heating your home dries the air. Mist or place pots on a pebble-filled tray of water to ensure adequate humidity and moisture.
- If you are considering planting a new tree, bare-root trees can be planted from now until February. They are cheaper to buy and because roots are immediately in contact with soil, they establish so fast.
- Raked leaves can be collected and stored in black plastic bags with pierced holes to slowly break down into leaf mold. Use as a soil amendment in the spring.
- Why not make a beautiful seasonal wreath with garlic, red and white onions, peppers and herbs. This could adorn your home or it could be given as a gift.

"What good is the warmth of summer without the cold of winter to give it sweetness." —Jarod Kintz



Cucumber Mint Dip

Cheryl Eberle

4 oz. Cucumber Mint Jelly

8 oz. Cream Cheese

8 oz. Sour Cream

To taste:

salt and pepper

dill weed

garlic powder



KC Garden Club Christmas Party

Hotel Stebbins

Cocktails: 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, December 4, 2018

Dinner: 7:00 p.m.

Parmesan Encrusted Baked Cod	\$16.00
Chicken Cordon Bleu	\$15.00
Stuffed Pork Chop	\$14.00
Butternut Squash Ravioli	\$16.00

Included: salad, rosemary roasted baby reds, vegetable, coffee, and dessert

***Tax and tip are not included**

Cash Bar

RSVP: by Tuesday, November 27 to Cheryl Eberle
angus@oldorchardcattle.com
(920) 487-3848



Ag Heritage Days
September 23, 2018



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:

Ann Brunner
N2420 Lakeshore Road
Kewaunee, WI 54216



Make It/Take It—Kokedama
September 25, 2018