



Kewaunee County Garden Club Newsletter

November - December 2024

Bulbs: An Underground Storage Unit

Now is the time to plant bulbs for a springtime of added beauty in the garden. But, are all bulbs considered the same? Let's take a look!

A **'True Bulb'** has five major parts. It contains the basal plate (*i.e. bottom from which roots grow*), fleshy scales (*primary storage tissue*), tunic (skin-like covering that protects the fleshy scales), the shoot (consisting of developing lower and leaf buds), and lateral buds (*develop into bulblets or offsets*).



True bulbs are divided into tunicate and imbricate bulbs. Examples of tunicate bulbs include **tulips, daffodils, hyacinths, grape hyacinths, and alliums**. Daffodils form new bulbs around the original bulb called offsets. When they become overcrowded it is time to divide the bulbs. An example of the imbricate bulb is the lily. The imbricate bulb does not have the tunic (*i.e. papery covering*) to protect the fleshy scales. This type of bulb must be kept constantly moist before planting, so it is not injured by the scales drying out.

Crocuses and gladiolus grow from **Corms** which store nutrients in the solid core. They do not have the visible layers like a true bulb. Nutrients are stored just like true bulbs but have a different structure.

Rhizomes are swollen stems which grow horizontally below or just at the soil's surface. The underground stems send out roots and shoots allowing the plants to spread and multiply. **Peonies** and **daylilies** are examples.

Tuberous Roots: Dahlias, caladiums, begonias, and cyclamen grow from tuberous, thickened roots that store nutrients. They grow from 'eyes,' similar to how potatoes sprout.

All bulb types need a dormant or rest period following their time of active growth and bloom. Some bulbs need a summer dormancy (*tulip*); others rest in winter (*canna*). All gardeners need to do is provide the right dormant period.



Programs and Events

Tuesday, November 26—' Making Kissing Balls' with Barb Smith and Barb Thompson—KC Highway Department, Kewaunee at 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, December 10—Annual Christmas Party at Uptown Tavern Waterfront Banquet Hall, Kewaunee at 6:30 p.m.

2025

Tuesday, January 28—'Late Blooming Perennials' with Warren Hingst, ESI Hub at 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 8—PBS Garden Expo, Madison

Tuesday, February 25—'Invasive Plants' with Sue Hingst and Barbara Piechocki—ESI Hub at 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 25—Open

Tuesday, April 22—'Climate Change and Gardening' - Joint meeting with HCE

Tuesday, May 20—KCGC Meeting TBD

Saturday, May 24—KCGC Plant Sale at Lakehaven Hall, Kewaunee

Tuesday, June 24—'History of Photosynthesis' - Joel Weichelt, 1326 Miller Street, Kewaunee at 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, July 22—Garden Tour with Mary Ouradnik, Casco

"If you have a garden and a library, you have everything you need."

—Marcus Tullius Cicero

September—October Programs

'Steam Canning' with Mary Novak

'Maple Syrup Making' with Kathy Daul

To Learn More, visit:

<https://www.kcgardenclub.org/gardener-presentations.html>



Ag Heritage Days 2024

(Pumpkin Painting and Fairy Gardens)



Grateful

THANKFUL

Blessed



November/December Gardening Tasks

1. **Pull Annuals from the garden:** Once the plant is out of the ground, knock as much of the soil back into the garden.
2. **Preserve Bulbs:** If you have dahlias or cannas in your garden or containers, this is the time to pull them out and overwinter them for next year. Start by cutting back any foliage so there only is a few inches remaining above the ground. Carefully dig the bulbs or tubers out of the ground. Shake off the dirt and gently rinse the bulbs and air dry completely. Keep the bulbs dry to prevent any mold or rotting. Storing the bulbs in a milk crate in the basement is a good option.
3. **Compost or Fertilizer:** This is a good time to give plants a final fertilization. Knowing which plants need fertilizer is critical. Adding fertilizer is a great way to strengthen the root system before winter sets in.
4. **Transplant:** Before the leaves shrivel from the frost, this is the time to divide or to transplant from one spot to another. Replant in its new location and water regularly until the ground freezes.
5. **Plant Spring Bulbs:** Before the ground freezes plant daffodils, crocus, tulips, hyacinths, etc. Refer to the package instructions for bulb planting depth and spacing.
6. **Cut Back Perennials:** Once the leaves begin to brown, cut the stems back to the ground. Herbaceous perennials - cut them to about one inch from the ground. Woody perennials cut stalks about one foot tall while removing some of the deadwood stalks.
7. **Wrap Shrubs:** Cold winter winds as well as frost and snow can cause damage to shrubs. The damage could be from frost bitten buds to actually breakage from the weight of snow.
8. **Planters/Containers:** Remove plants and potting soil. Save some of the potting soil in covered containers to be mixed with fresh potting soil in the spring. Wash all planters/containers.
9. **Leave Dead Leaves until Spring:** Protects insects, food source for wildlife, cover for pollinators, great compost material, and keeps the soil healthy.
10. **Garden Tools:** This is a great time to clean and sharpen garden cutting tools. Sand wooden tool handles and rub them with linseed oil. Store trowels and other small tools in a bucket of sand.

KCC Christmas Party

December 10, 2024

Cocktails: 6:30 p.m.

Dinner: 7:00 p.m.

Uptown Tavern

Waterfront Banquet Hall
Restaurant & Bar
Kewaunee, WI

Dinner Menu Options:

1. Grilled Tenderloin Skewers
2. Chicken Alfredo
3. Baked Cod

ALL Entrees served w/Dinner Salad, Vegetable, and Potato

Tip and Tax, not included
Cash or Check Only!

RSVP: Cheryl Eberle at angus@oldorchardcattle.com

or

call or text: (920) 737-4712 by Friday, November 29

Master Gardener 2025

The Wisconsin Master Gardeners 'Distinguished' and 'Lifetime' Service Recognition explained for gardeners who have recorded 1000 hours of volunteer service.

Effective beginning in 2025:

- 'Distinguished' MG level will automatically be granted to an in-good-standing participant after recording 1000 hours of volunteer service showing their longevity within the Wisconsin Extension Master Gardener Program. No application necessary.
- This participation level will function like Certified, Active, and Inactive.
- MG's will be required to login to the Online Reporting System every year and record hours yearly. Once the level is attained, a yearly entry of at least 1.0 hour of Continuing Education and 1.0 hour of Volunteer Service must be recorded to maintain it.
- 'Lifetime' Service Recognition—participants who have recorded a minimum of 1000 hours of volunteer service may apply to leave ongoing service from the program with high regards and without further technological commitments.
- Application is required
- Once applications are reviewed and processed, a digital certificate will be emailed and all program accounts closed.

This includes ORS and Canvas Classroom access

You will no longer receive regular communications from the WEMGP, including The Vibe.

Reminder:
Master Gardener
volunteer hours
must be recorded
online by
December 31,
2024

Link: [https://
ors.wimastergarden
er.org/sec_login/](https://ors.wimastergarden.org/sec_login/)



The Alliant Energy Center, Madison, WI

Friday, February 7—Noon to 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 8- 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 9- 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Cultivate A Love of Gardening

PBS Wisconsin's Garden & Landscape Expo is a three-day event celebrating the latest trends in gardening, landscaping, local foods, and ecological sustainability. **Now in its 32nd year**, this event offers more than 150 free educational presentations, an exhibitor mall, UW-Madison Extension Horticulture experts, a floral design competition, PBS KIDS Backyard, and more.

ALL proceeds support PBS Wisconsin.

The KCGC will once again provide transportation to and from Madison for the Expo on Saturday, February 8. Snacks and refreshments are provided during the trip. If interested in attending the Expo, please text or email Barb Smith (920) 304-0682 or basmith0682@gmail.com

Officers:

President: Tom Zenner

Vice President: Cheryl Eberle

Secretary: Sue Hepp

Treasurer: Ann Brunner

Marketing Committee:

Tom Zenner

Barb Smith

Cheryl Eberle

Nancy Lamack

Joel Weichelt



Garden Trivia:

1. What fruit is the only one with seeds on the outside?
2. What can be added to a garden soil to reduce pH level, prevent diseases, and improve nitrogen?
3. What fruit is the only edible fruit from the bromeliad family?
4. Which three nutrients are non-fertilizer nutrients?



1. Strawberry 2. Coffee Grounds 3. Pineapple 4. Hydrogen, oxygen, carbon