



Kewaunee County Garden Club

September — October 2021

Incorporate Marigolds

- Single companion plants
- Between rows of veggies or fruits
- Form a border around the garden
- As a cover crop, as a primary crop within a crop rotation.

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15 Reasons to Plant Marigolds

1. They are extremely easy to grow!
2. They are edible.
3. They produce chemicals effective against harmful nematodes. Marigolds produce compounds in their roots that are nematicides. **Varieties to plants:** tangerine, petite gold, petite harmony, Goldie, and nemagold.
4. Attract bees and other pollinators to your garden.
5. Attract predatory insects ... helps in organic pest control of ladybugs, lacewings, hoverflies, and other predatory insects that will eat aphids and other pests that damage crops.
6. May be an effective 'trap' crop—slugs love marigolds. Collect the slugs off of the plant and get rid of them.
7. They may repel certain pests ... may be partially successful in repelling cabbage moths and Mexican bean beetle. Marigold secretion of limonene can help in repelling whiteflies.
8. They attract butterflies to your garden. Single flower varieties are more beneficial as they will be more easily able to access the nectar.
9. Can be used to make natural yellow food coloring.
 - Used in soups, stews or to make a natural colored icing for cakes and cookies
 - Petals sometimes are fed to chickens to impart rich, golden tone to egg yolks.
10. Can make a natural fabric dye for silk, cotton, hemp, or wool. Does not stick to synthetic fabrics.
11. Marigolds can yield an essential oil used in perfumery. Whole plant is used in distillation.
12. Cut for floral displays or garlands.
13. Dried for long lasting arrangements. Dried petals are good for tea.
14. Useful for soap making and other cleaning and beauty products.
15. You can chop and drop marigolds you don't harvest to feed the soil. Adds organic matter and may help keep negative nematodes numbers down.

Programs and Events

Saturday, Sunday, September 25 and 26—Ag Heritage Days at the Luxemburg Fairgrounds from 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. daily

Tuesday, September 27—KC Garden Club at 6:30 p.m. Mason Bee houses by Joel. If you would like to make a bee house, contact Joel. Participants need to bring a cordless drill with a medium size Phillips bit.

Tuesday, October 26—KC Garden Club ... Dana Farm weed 'n feed

Tuesday, November 23—KC Garden Club at 6:30 p.m. ... Ag heritage Building south of Kewaunee. Crafting Christmas wreaths by Barb Smith.

Tuesday, December 7—KC Garden Club Christmas Party. Location TBD



Tomatoes and Peppers

After this growing season, I am a firm believer in planting my tomato and pepper plants in containers for several reasons.

1. Control and consistent watering
2. Controlling blossom-end rot on tomatoes
3. Usage of Epsom salt and eggshells
4. Can move the containers when needed (*hot temperatures were brutal this year*)

The tomato plants at the community garden were a disaster; however, it could have been because of the plants plus watering inconsistently. Didn't try peppers in the ground because I never have had luck doing so.

This year I decided to plant peppers in a container. Two plants in a container and they are loaded with beautiful green peppers! Consistent watering and applying crushed eggshells and Epsom salts to the soil was the answer. This was critical during the flowering and fruiting process.

My tomato plants in my home garden are just beginning to ripen now that the temperatures are in the 70's instead of high 80's. However, the tomatoes are smaller than normal. Those that are in containers are firm and plump and the tomato flavor is wonderful! None of the tomatoes in my home garden are showing any signs of blossom-end rot. Not the case with the ones at the community garden.

'A world without tomatoes is like a string quartet without violins.'

-Laurie Colwin



World Migratory Bird Day

COVID continues to plague us with another round. Because of this, the Bird City Committee decided to cancel their annual World Migratory Bird Day celebration that was scheduled for Saturday, September 11. Many of the vendors were concerned about the variant and being with so many people in such a small area.

All is not for naught ... Janet Toonen, a very gifted illustrator and author, will unveil her book 'Birds are Everywhere' at Steele Street Gallery. Janet was excited to write and illustrate this book for the World Migratory Bird Day celebration which originally would have been in April 2021. That didn't happen as did quite a few events! Steele Street Gallery gave her the opportunity for a book signing. Janet's children book is based on her own personal experience of feeding her favorite birds.

Bird City Committee members will be on hand to answer any questions. Bird City pens will be available for the book signing and given to those interested. Several photographers from the surrounding areas contributed bird photos which will be displayed as a PowerPoint slideshow during the signing.



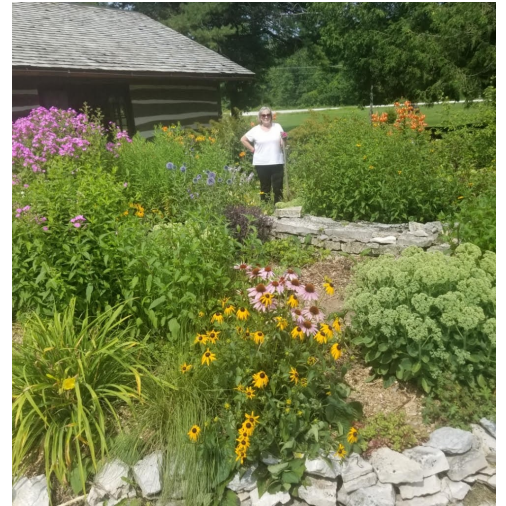
Ag Heritage Days

Their annual event this year is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, September 25 and 26 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. daily. If you or someone you know is available to take a shift at the KC Garden Club booth, please contact Cheryl Eberle.

Items are needed for the fairy gardens (baskets and sedums) as well as small pumpkins that the children can paint.



Dana Farm Work Day - August 25, 2021



*'The glory of gardening:
hands in the dirt,
head in the sun,
and heart with
nature.
To nurture a
garden is to feed
not just the body,
but the soul.'*

-Alfred Austin

Botanical Garden Tour - August 25, 2021



Nature's Perfect Food ...



1. Fertilizer

Eggshells are a great way to add calcium to your compost pile or garden. The shells decompose quickly.

During the winter months, distribute shells over the garden where you will plant in the spring. Once the ground warms up, you can work the shells into the soil. If you prefer, you can clean, dry and then store the shells until planting time.

2. Pest Deterrent

If slugs and snails are a problem in your garden, sprinkle coarsely crumbled eggshells around plants where these slimy little pests like to dine. The sharp edges will deter them because of their sensitive footing.

3. Seed Starting Containers

Because eggshells quickly biodegrade when introduced into soil, they double as the perfect seed-starter pots. When you open the egg to remove the content, try to break just a small hole at the point-er of the shell. Clean the inside of the eggshells with boiling water then puncture a small drainage hole in the bottom of each empty shell. Place the shells in the original egg carton, fill each shell with potting soil, and then add the seeds to the soil.

4. Feed the Birds

Before and after laying eggs, mother birds need more calcium in their diets. Sterilize eggshells in a 250°F oven for about ten minute so the shells are dry, but not brown on the inside. Crumble eggshells well and place them outdoors in a feeder or on the ground during the spring and summer. The shells can also be mixed with birdseed, suet, or mealworms in an existing bird feeder.

5. Repel Deer

If you have deer visiting your garden, as if we are their own personal buffet, scatter some eggshells around the plants they are munching on the most. Deer hate the smell of albumin and tend to stay away from an area that smells like raw eggs. **Warning:** The smell may actually attract smaller rodents who like to eat eggs!

6. Aesthetic Value

Finely ground eggshells can be quite attractive in a garden. If you eat a lot of eggs, boil the shells to sterilize them crumble, then drop them into a large lass jar for storage. Once you have collected enough shells, sprinkle them around and in between plants,. Add crumbled oyster shells for an even more interesting appearance with all of the same garden health benefits.



Hydrangea on
steroids!



One of my
rose bushes





Website: www.kcgardenclub.org
www.facebook.com/kewaunee-county-garden-club

President: Tom Zenner

V. President: Cheryl Eberle

Treasurer: Ann Brunner

Secretary: Sue Hepp

Marketing Committee: Barb Smith,
Tom Zenner, Cheryl Eberle, Mary Novak,
Nancy Lamack, and Joel Weichelt



Jan, Barb P. and Joel

Fall Gardening

You are ready to pack up the garden tools and settle in the old rocking chair, right? Well, maybe not! Fall is a good time to consider making more productive use of your garden space. Why?

1. Soil is more moist which means less watering
2. Temperatures are cooler
3. There are less pests and diseases
4. You can make more productive use of a garden space

Six to eight weeks before the first frost, consider planting beets, radishes, carrots, turnips, or parsnips. Mulch before the ground freezes.

Eight to ten weeks before the first frost, you can plant arugula, collards, kale, lettuce, mustard greens, spinach, or Swiss chard.

Ten to twelve weeks before the first frost the following could be planted: broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, or cauliflower.

Give it a try if you haven't already!