



Bloomstruck Hydrangea

Kewaunee County Garden Club Newsletter

Hydrangeas Demystified

A recent webinar cleared up a few questions I had relative to growing hydrangeas. Or, more succinctly ... why they do not bloom!

There are **six types** of hydrangeas that are commonly grown in North America. **Big leaf Hydrangea** (*macrophylla*) is a top selling species. All set flower buds on old wood; some are rebloomers. Their flowers can be mophead or flat lacecap. 'Bloomstruck' is a better choice for colder regions.

Mountain Hydrangea (*serrata*) is the hardiest in colder climates. All set flowers on old wood; some are rebloomers. Blooms are composed of sterile and fertile flowers. The actual flower is sterile with fertile flowers underneath the mophead or lacecap. 'Blue Billow' is most commonly purchased.

Smooth Hydrangea (*arborescens*) is also known as Annabelle. All set flower buds on new wood; some are rebloomers. Flowers can be lacecap or mophead. Blooms are composed of sterile and fertile flowers. 'Incrediball', won't flop over like Annabelle does.

Panicle Hydrangea (*paniculata*) set flower buds on new wood; flowers can be ball or cone-shaped. Most open white and then age to shades of pink. Blooms are composed of sterile and fertile flowers. 'Bobo' is the rage for gardeners to purchase right now.

Oakleaf Hydrangea (*quercifolia*) set flower buds on old wood. Flowers can age to a pretty pink ... or just a dull brown depending on cultivar. Blooms are composed of sterile and fertile flowers. Foliage turns a gorgeous burgundy-red in fall. 'Munchkin' ages to a blush pink.

Climbing Hydrangea (*petiolaris*) set flower buds on old wood. Has aerial roots that adhere to a structure. Blooms are composed of sterile and fertile flowers. Foliage turns a gorgeous golden-yellow in fall. It takes about four years to establish. A good rule of thumb is to purchase this one when they are flowering. Instead of a 'climber' it can be used as a scrambler over walls or as a ground cover. (continued)

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Blue Billow

*If I had a flower
for every time
you
made me smile
I'd have a
garden
to walk in
Forever!*



Oakleaf Hydrangea

Hydrangeas (continued)

Prune or Not to Prune

Hydrangeas can bloom on old wood (branches that grew the year before and have gone through a winter), similar to forsythia, lilac, rhododendron, and azalea. Or they can grow on new wood (current year's growth) that starts growing in the spring, similar to most roses and Rose of Sharon.

If a flowering shrub starts blooming between February and mid-June, it forms its flower buds the year before on old wood. **Prune just after flowering finishes.**

However, if a shrub blooms in the summer (mid-June) or fall, it forms its flower buds on new wood, the current year's wood. **Prune in late winter or early spring.**

If they are planted in the correct growing conditions (light/soil/zone) pruning is generally done for the following reasons.

- *Remove broken, diseased or crossing branches
- *Remove inward growing branches to allow more airflow and light, and to direct more energy to flowering branches. Also, remove older canes to the ground to encourage younger, better flowering stems.
- *Selected branches so the plant has a uniform and pleasing shape.

Factors for Adjusting Flower Color

You can influence flower color in only two groups of hydrangeas:

Big Leaf and Mountain

There are some hydrangeas within these groups that will NOT change their color regardless of soil pH or aluminum levels. A few that will not change color: Paris, Tuff Stuff 'Red', Lady in Red, and most white flowering varieties

For blue hydrangeas, soil pH should be between 5.0 and 5.5. PLUS aluminum must be present in the soil.

For pink hydrangeas, soil pH should be 6.5 or higher.

Blooms may be a mix of pink, blue, and 'blurple' in soils with a pH between 6.0 and 6.5.

Municipal drinking water is generally alkaline ... pH between 6.5 to 8.5. There are kits to test soil. Rapitest is sold at most garden centers.

If your soil tends to be alkaline or acidic and you want a color other than what would naturally occur, plant hydrangeas in a container where it is easier to maintain pH and then use rain water.

Program and Events 2019

Tuesday, March 26 7:00 p.m.	'Vegetative Propagation' Warren Hingst	Algoma Youth Club
Saturday, April 6 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.	Bird City Celebration	Algoma Youth Club
Tuesday, April 23 6:30 p.m..	"Birthday Blooms and Blessings" Marilyn Herman 'Garden Insect Invaders' Barb Piechocki	Algoma Youth Club
Tuesday, May 21 7:00 p.m.	'Gardening Alphabetically' Sue Hepp	Algoma Youth Club
Saturday, May 25 9:00 a.m.—Noon	Annual Plant Sale	Kewaunee Harbor Park
June 12-15	Hosta National Convention Raddison Hotel and Conference	Green Bay
Tuesday, June 25 6:30 p.m..	The Plantscapers -Eric Marcelle 'Native Plants'	E2051 Luxemburg Rd. Luxemburg
Tuesday, July 23	KC Garden Club Meeting	
Tuesday, August 27	KC Garden Club Meeting	
Saturday, September 21 Sunday, September 22	Agricultural Heritage Days	Luxemburg Fair Grounds
Tuesday, September 24	KC Garden Club Meeting	
Tuesday, October 22	KC Garden Club Meeting	
Tuesday, November 26	KC Garden Club Meeting	
Tuesday, December 3	KC Garden Club Christmas Party	

Kewaunee County Garden Club

By-laws

Adopted June 25, 2002

Amended November 25, 2008

Amended _____

Vision Statement

Providing the environment with beauty, sustainability, and stewardship through horticulture.

Mission Statement

It is the mission of the KCGC to support the horticultural efforts of the people and communities of the county with volunteer work, education, and example.

Article I - Identity

The name of the organization shall be: Kewaunee County Garden Club, hereafter referred to as KCGC. **It is an unincorporated association operating as** a tax-exempt non-profit organization. Its activities are of public benefit with annual revenues that do not exceed \$5,000.00.

Article II – Affiliation

The University of Wisconsin – Extension (Extension Kewaunee County) agriculture or horticulture educator serves as an advisor to the KCGC and provides university resources as needed. Alternately, the KCGC offers technical expertise to UW-Extension (Extension Kewaunee County).

Article III – Membership

Membership is open to all persons interested in horticulture without discrimination regardless of race, color, national origin, ancestry, gender, age, religion, marital status, medical condition or disability.

Article IV – Dues

A one-time donation of \$20.00/single or \$25.00/couple will be collected at the onset of membership.

Article V – Meetings

Regular meetings shall be held the 4th Tuesday of the month in various locations in the county. A Christmas party will be held in lieu of the December meeting at a venue within Kewaunee County. Meetings may be changed at the discretion of the KCGC President.

Article VI – Officers

President: Presides at monthly meetings of the KCGC and takes care of official business.

Vice President: Presides at meetings in the absence of the president. In the event he/she is unable to continue in office, the vice president will assume the office of president.

Secretary: Records minutes of KCGC meetings and provides copies of the same to all members. Distributes a copy of the by-laws to new members.

Treasurer: Collects monies due the KCGC. Pays out monies when authorized by vote of club members. Files a yearly 990N tax form. Presents financial report at all meetings. Opens books for audit by Audit Committee each October.

Article VII – Elections

To be nominated for office, a candidate must have been a member of good standing and active in the KCGC.

The officers shall be elected for a two-year term, but individuals may serve a second two-year term. The KCGC members may vote to extend the term at any given election. It is strongly encouraged that members in good standing take an office to encourage new ideas.

Article VIII – Committees

Audit Committee shall consist of three members, volunteers, or be appointed by the president. They shall audit the financial records of the KCGC in October and present its report to the club at the following regular meeting.

Ad Hoc Committee shall be formed when required by the president for projects, events, trips, and activities.

Article IX – Finances

A scholarship shall be granted to an individual or individuals based on their supplied application and qualifications. To qualify, an individual is encouraged to study the Environmental Sciences, horticulture or other related fields.

Donations and Other Expenditures shall be determined by the KCGC membership.

Dissolution of the KCGC: Before any remaining monies can be dispersed, the KCGC members shall have a final vote indicating where monies should be distributed.

Article X

The By-laws may be altered, amended, or repealed at any time. All KCGC members must be given at least 30 day's notice in writing of any changes or amendments before a final vote is taken. Approval is by two-thirds majority at any regular meeting.

KCGC meetings shall be conducted according to Roberts Rules of Order.

By-laws Approved _____
Date

President

Vice President

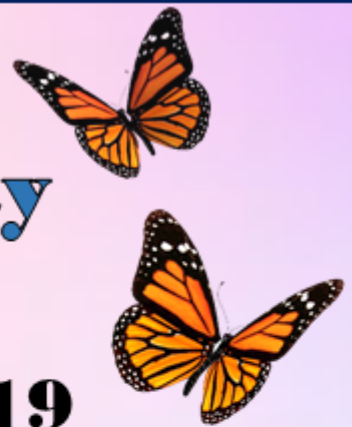
Attest:

Secretary

The above by-laws will need to be discussed at the March 26, 2019 Kewaunee County Garden Club meeting. Once discussions are closed, any changes will be recorded and a vote will be brought before the attendees to approve the by-laws either as is or with changes.

Algoma Bird City Celebration

Saturday, April 6, 2019



Algoma Youth Club
620 Lake Street, Algoma, WI

for more information visit our website:
www.birdcityalgoma.com

Hosted by:
Bird City Committee

- Seminars
- Items for Sale
- Informational Displays
- Book Authors
- Children's Area
- Photo Contest
- Lin the Panda (*photo ops*)
- Door Prizes
- Food
- Something for all Ages!

Doors Open at 9:00 a.m.
Vendors: 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Seminars:

10:00 a.m. – Getting the Picture: Songbirds, Shorebirds, Waterfowl by Robert Kuhn

11:00 a.m. – Open Door Bird Sanctuary: Amy and Rob Hults
This seminar features **LIVE** owls, hawks, and falcons; their highly specialized hunting techniques and physical adaptations. Family Friendly!

12:00 p.m. – Lunch Break: Food prepared by the United Methodist Men

12:30 p.m. – Door Landscape and Nursery: 'Butterfly Gardens' - Karen Newbern will focus on native plants that attract butterflies to your garden.

Hostas and Companion Plants

There are 7000 known cultivars. You either love them or hate them. Hostas have interesting features: thick and waxy leaves; quilted or ruffled leaves, or the leaves have a white, waxy film. Their leaves can be green, blue, lime green, variegated, and even crème in color. New varieties that horticulturists are working on: First Blush (red veins in leaf) and Fire Island (petioles).

Why not dress them up a notch? Either plant annuals alongside Hostas or in a container garden. Some ideas: begonias, caladiums, coleus, or New Guinea impatiens or the Bounce series.

Make it low maintenance by planting Hostas with perennials such as: dwarf goatsbeard, wild ginger (ground cover), astilbe, brunnera (Jack Frost), corydalis, dicentra, ferns, coralbells, Virginia Bells, pulmonaria, toad lily, hydrangeas, or rhododendrons.

Slugs can be a problem with Hostas. 'Slug-O' will help. (It does contain iron phosphate.)

New Seed Varieties for 2019

'Benefine' Endive: a variety with improved performance and less tip burn.

'Cool Customer' pickling cucumber: early, uniform, vigorous and tasty and makes great pickles.

'Galaxy' tomato: these cherry tomatoes were bred for flavor; they resist cracking and store well at room temperature.

'PLS 595' shell pea: It has great flavor and productivity with an average of 11 peas per pod. It doesn't need staking since the tendrils cling to each other providing support.

'Pinwheel' marigold: An attractive combination of maroon and yellow. It attracts pollinators and works well as a cut flower.

'Waldoboro Green Neck' rutabaga: a great variety with decorative purple leaves and an especially sweet flavor.

Garlic Mustard: A Destructive Invasive Plant

Garlic mustard invades our lawns, woodlands, and other areas with the appropriate shady conditions. A native plant of Europe, garlic mustard is self-fertile and is very difficult to eradicate once it is established in an area. It spreads rapidly and displaces native or other desired plants in a relatively short period of time. Each plant can produce thousands of seeds which can be spread by wildlife, humans, water, or other means.

The ultimate goal in removing garlic mustard is to prevent seed development and spreading until the existing seed bank is depleted. This may take 2- to 5 years in a confined area.

Growing Food

Add a container to your front or back entry ... plant herbs or vegetables

Hanging planter in front of a kitchen window with herbs or vegetables

Giving Back With Gardens

Make your garden a benefit to wildlife

Donate overabundance of fresh produce to a local food pantry

Use natural ways to get rid of weeds and controlling garden pests

Include plants that attract pollinators

Plant an oak tree for moths, butterflies, and caterpillars

Add a bird bath

Build a 'natural' arbor

Grow vines

Making a Notable First Impression

Have seasonal containers by the front or back entrance of your home

Scented plants along a pathway entrance

Install lighting to front entrance

Plant flowers in a container that compliment the front door

Create a 'Staycation'

Keep your landscape 'low maintenance'

Install a fire feature or comfy lounge chair

Install an outdoor kitchen

Include lighting

Keeping It Low Maintenance

Plant perennials in the garden or containers

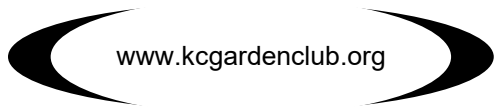
Remove messy shrubs

Use an irrigation system for watering garden

Use hardscaping materials (quality stones or pavers)

Contain gravel pathways with robust edging





Ag Heritage Days
September 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

**The above rate is still in effect until the
KCGC By-laws are approved.**