
Educational Classes

Registration required for most classes.

ADULT CLASSES

Vegetable Gardening

April 8, 2009

6:30 – 8:00 pm

Willow Bench Workshop

April 16, 2009

6:00 – 9:00 pm

Landscapes for Lazy People

April 18, 2009

9:00 – 10:30 am

Designing Your Herb Garden

April 29, 2009

6:30 – 8:00 pm

Create a Personal Landscape Design Plan

Section 1: April 30, 2009

Section 2: May 7, 2009

6:00 – 9:00 pm

Willow Bench Workshop

May 4, 2009

6:00 – 9:00 pm

Rain Barrel Making Workshop

May 6, 2009

6:15 – 8:15 pm

Digital Garden Photography

May 9, 2009

8:30 – 11:30 am



Message From the Executive Director

Valerie B. Wylie

In the past few weeks I've gone from awe and wonder at the work that has been done by previous staff and board members to take the Gardens to where they are today to the "oh, my, gosh there's a lot of work to do here"!!

As I research the archives, I am reminded that the initial marketing for the Gardens developed around the theme of "Building a Community Legacy". The theme is as valid today as it was in 1996 when the Henry and Mary Scheig Learning Center was dedicated. We are growing a community legacy for present and future generations to have a place to both learn and enjoy. Public Gardens play a huge role in educating the public on the importance of environmental preservation.

I welcome the opportunity to grow the Gardens and to grow with the Gardens in "Building a Community Legacy".

\$25,000 Challenge Match Is Half-Way To Goal

We are pleased to announce that a \$25,000 Challenge Match has been established to benefit Gardens of the Fox Cities. The new initiative, which will provide a dollar-for-dollar match, is being made possible through the generosity of Roger & Lynn Van Vreede, Les & Dar Stumpf, and Kathi Seifert.

"Our goal with establishing the Challenge Match was to inspire individuals to become new supporters of the Gardens and to encourage current donors to increase their level of giving," said Roger Van Vreede, board president. "Gardens of the Fox Cities is a valuable community resource for education, recreation and entertainment and is enjoyed by thousands of visitors annually. From seasonal festivals to workshops and classes, we strive to give children and adults countless reasons to return again and again."

To date, \$12,000 has been received toward the match. All contributions will be matched until the \$25,000 total is achieved.

"We're most appreciative of the many individuals who have contributed toward the match," Van Vreede added. "We hope those who have not yet made a gift will consider doing so and help us meet the \$25,000 Challenge Match. Together, we can build an exciting future for the Gardens! "

Gardens of the Fox Cities is a non-profit 501(c)(3) public garden located on 35 acres within Appleton Memorial Park. The Gardens opened to the public in 1996 as Memorial Park Arboretum & Gardens. In May 2006, a new Master Plan for "Gardens of the Fox Cities" was unveiled setting the stage for the Gardens' emergence as a horticultural and cultural resource in the Fox Cities.

Educational Classes

Registration required for most classes.

ADULT CLASSES

Wisconsin Native Medicinal Plants

May 13, 2009
6:30 – 8:00 pm

Digital Garden Photography II

June 6, 2009
8:30 – 11:30 am

Willow Plant Stand Workshop

June 10, 2009
6:00 – 9:00 pm

CHILDREN'S CLASSES

Children's Herb Class

April 15, 2009
Fragrant herb craft
6:00 – 7:30 pm
Ages 6 - 12

Salute to Earth Day

April 19, 2009
1:00 – 3:30 pm

Stepping Stone Class

May 20, 2009
6:00 – 7:30 pm

Children's Digital Photography Workshop

June 13, 2009
8:30 -11:30 am

Children's Digital Photography Workshop

June 17, 2009
1:00 – 4:00 pm

Down & Dirty in the Gardens – A Season of Change

Danette McMurrin, Grounds Superintendent

As the season of birth and renewal approaches there are things we can do to ensure a productive, prosperous, and beautiful landscape. Below are some suggestions to help start your growing season off right.

- Clean and prepare garden beds by amending the soil with organic matter such as compost or leaf mold. Organic matter adds air space to soil, essential nutrients for happy, healthy plants and improves drainage.
- Add new organic mulch to garden beds. This helps to retain moisture and keep the soil cool.
- Dead-head spring blooming bulbs as they wither and cut-back spring bulb foliage as it yellows. At this time, photosynthesis has ceased and the foliage can be removed without depriving the bulb of nutrients.
- Divide over crowded perennials and plant them elsewhere in your landscape.
- Turn/replace organic mulch at the base of trees & shrubs and remove dead or damaged wood and branches.
- If your lawn shows signs of weakening, core aerate. This should be done every two to three years.

A pleasant, well planned garden has a way of inspiring and energizing people. I hope these maintenance tips help inspire and energize all of you. Happy gardening!



Volunteers Needed

Lynn Lorge, Board Member/Volunteer Coordinator

Danette is looking for volunteers for spring clean up Tuesdays and Thursdays starting mid April.

Ann is in need of volunteer educators and tour guides for the Plant 101 field trips this spring.

Please contact Lynn Lorge at 920-968-8700 if you are interested in volunteering for the above needs or any other opportunities.

See Your Donation In Action!

These projects are in need of YOUR support.

Brochure Updating and Development

\$1,000

Our brochures need a new look and a few need to be developed.

Display Pots

\$1,500

We need large weather proof outdoor glazed ceramic pots for displays around the Scheig Learning Center and throughout the Gardens.

Plants for the Outdoor Gardens

\$20,000

Each year, Gardens of the Fox Cities spends about \$20,000 on plants, shrubs, and supplies for the outdoor gardens. New perennials, shrubs, trees and annuals are needed to keep the Gardens looking spectacular.

For more information, contact Sandy Paulus, Development Director, at 920-993-1900 or spaulus@gardensfoxcities.org.

Planning Events At The Gardens

Let springtime blooms greet your guests and beautify your Garden experience! Consider the following options for your Corporate, family or wedding event:

The Frank Lloyd Wright inspired Henry and Mary Scheig Learning Center

Charles Montooth, a protégé of Frank Lloyd Wright and senior architect with Taliesin Architects of Spring Green, Wisconsin, designed the \$1.1 million dollar facility. The Scheig Learning Center is a unique building that boasts Soaring timbers and skylights indicative of Wright's influence. The main level features a Great Room complete with a waterfall feature. The upper level of the Center has a modest class/meeting room. Both levels of the building are handicapped accessible.

The Great Lawn

The Great Lawn is located just beyond the gardens north of the Scheig Learning Center. This grassy clearing in view of the gardens is able to accommodate a 60' by 90' tent (not included) suitable for larger ceremonies and events.

The Fragrance and Wildflower Gardens

The brick terrace extending from the south side of Scheig Learning Center to the Fragrance and Wildflower Gardens provides a lovely venue for wedding ceremonies with an expected attendance of no more than 110 people. In case of inclement weather, the Scheig Learning Center is included as an alternative site for Fragrance Garden events. (photo by P & J Photography)



To ensure your event is a success, Gardens of the Fox Cities has partnered exclusively with **Signature Milestones Event Planning Studio** to assist with scheduling and coordinating your event. Call Signature Milestones (920) 955-7526 or email info@signaturemilestones.com for more information.

Events Calendar

Registration may be required.

Earth Day

April 22, 2009

9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Fox Cities Blooms

April 29 – May 16, 2009



Volunteer Appreciation

April 20, 2009

5:00 – 7:00 pm

Tea & Tulips at the Gardens

May 6, 2009

2:00 – 4:00 pm

Mother's Day Brunch

May 10, 2009

9:30 am, 11:00 am and

12:30 pm

Gardens Around the World

Multicultural Festival and Heirloom Plant Sale

May 16, 2009

9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Summer Solstice Celebration

June 20, 2009

6:00 – 9:00 pm

Let's Talk Events!

Lynn Van Vreede, Board Member, Events Committee Chairperson

The Events Committee has been very busy this year. We have several new events planned along with some existing favorites.

Earth Day - April 22

Events are being planned throughout the day between 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

- **Rain barrels** for sale and demonstrations on how to make and use them with Rod Sternhagen 10:00 – 2:00
- **Tree planting** lectures and live demonstrations throughout the day with Dan Traas - Ranger Services, Mike Michlig - City of Appleton, City Forester and Dannette McMurrin – Gardens of the Fox Cities.
- **Compost bins** for sale - Outagamie County Recycling Center.
- **Houseplant care:** Take care of your plants and they will take care of you! Loren Hansen from Plant People in Green Bay will speak at 11:00 am.

No reservations are required.

Tea & Tulips at the Gardens – May 6 from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Enjoy an afternoon tea party for ladies. We will be serving tea along with tea sandwiches and decadent desserts. Our program is Japanese floral arranging. Kazuko Rand is a certified Ikebana floral instructor and she will demonstrate the ancient art. We will end the afternoon with a tour of the gardens. Please call the Gardens for reservations.

Mother's Day Brunch – May 10, Seatings at 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

Celebrate Mother's Day at the Gardens with your family. This year we are offering a private room for families with up to 14 people. Our three settings offer a full buffet, including waffles, salad bar, ham and chicken dinner with dessert including a chocolate fountain. After brunch, stroll the gardens and enjoy our display of spring blooms. Please call the Gardens for reservations.

Gardens Around the World

"Multicultural Festival & Heirloom Plant Sale" - May 16 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

The Gardens of the Fox Cities is proud to announce Gardens Around the World. This year the Gardens of the Fox Cities, along with the Multicultural Center and Community Gardens Program, has planned a day to celebrate plants, food and cultures from around the world. Cultural groups participating will be Hmong, Native American, Indian, Latino and others. The groups will talk about their history with plants and food. Discussions will include cooking, gardening techniques, harvesting, medicinal purposes and more.

- **Vendors** will offer plants, food and related items for sale.
- A **Multicultural Food Tasting** will be offered in the Scheig Learning Center.
- The **Heirloom Plant Sale** has been greatly expanded to include 22 varieties of tomatoes, 16 varieties of peppers, lettuces and squashes along with a wide variety of multicultural vegetable plants.

This will be a great day for families to come and enjoy good food, purchase plants for their own gardens and learn about other people and their relationship with plants and food.

Board Officers

Roger Van Vreede – President

Hans Schultz – Vice President

Randy Dummer – Treasurer

Emily Haupt – Secretary

Board Members

Carol Catlin

Jackie Johnson

Lynn Lorge

Peter Pfundtner

Lynn Roehrborn

David Seitz

Steve Syverson

Lynn Van Vreede

Staff

Val Wylie
Executive Director

Sandy Paulus
Development Director

Ann Hiltunen
Children's Educational
Coordinator

Danette McMurrin
Grounds Supervisor

Pat Angell
Administrative Assistant

Get Something Growing! In Children's Education

Ann Hiltunen, Children's Education Coordinator

From April-June thousands of students from all over the Fox Cities and surrounding areas will be visiting and touring the gardens of the Fox Cities for our spring field trip offering of **Plants 101**. Plants 101 is a fun, outdoor educational program suited for kindergarten through third grade students. On the visit students tour the Gardens, rotate through hands-on learning stations, and make a project in which they take home. For more information on scheduling a field trip, or if you are interested in volunteering, please call the gardens at 993-1900.



Summer Safaris are offered for childcare facilities and youth groups of 15 or more. This is a guided field trip offered throughout the summer. More information can be found on our website www.gardensfoxcities.org



Wish List

The Gardens of the Fox Cities accepts in-kind donations of needed supplies, equipment, and services. Donated items help keep our administration costs down and donors may be eligible for a tax donation.

If you find an item on the list below that you are able to donate, please contact spaulus@gardensfoxcities.org

If you would like to make a monetary contribution toward the purchase of a specific item, simply include a note to indicate which item you are contributing toward.

- ◆ Garden & Barn Carts (2)
 - ◆ Ergonomic gardening tools
 - (6) Weeders
 - (6) Trowels
 - ◆ (10) Garden Kneelers
 - ◆ 12-Cup coffee maker
 - ◆ Adjustable 21" Garden Tiller
 - ◆ Paper toweling and napkins
 - ◆ Large black garbage bags (40" x 46")
-

Matching Gift Programs

Ever wish you could make your dollars go further? You can – through your company's Matching Gift program. Many companies, small and large, have Matching Gift programs which double or even triple employees' gifts to nonprofit organizations. Matching gift programs offer a wonderful partnership between individuals, corporate giving programs, and community-serving nonprofit organizations.

The process is simple: ask your employer if your company participates in a Matching Gift program. If so, obtain a matching gift form from your personnel office or matching gift coordinator. Complete the employee portion of the form and send it along with your contribution to:

Gardens of the Fox Cities
PO Box 2603
Appleton, WI 54912-2603

Some companies will also match the volunteer time their employees and spouses donate to nonprofit organizations by making \$500 grants to the charitable organizations to which they give 30 or more hours of volunteer time per year.

For additional information on matching gifts or other giving opportunities, please contact Sandy Paulus, Development Director, (920) 993-1900 or spaulus@gardensfoxcities.org

Thank you so much for supporting Gardens of the Fox Cities!

Gardens of the Fox Cities
1313 Witzke Blvd.
PO Box 2603
Appleton, WI 54912-2603

Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage PAID Appleton, WI Permit No. 360
--