
Events Calendar

*Registration is required for
Wednesday Lunch Cafés.*

Wednesday Lunch Café

August 12, 2009

12:00 – 1:00 pm

Wednesday Lunch Café

September 9, 2009

12:00 – 1:00 pm

Stems, a Summer Solstice Celebration

Thank you to everyone who attended, volunteered or donated to Stems on Saturday, June 20. The evening was beautiful weather-wise and the Gardens looked incredible.

Special thanks go to our co-presenting sponsors, **Bassett Mechanical** and **Van Vreede's Appliances**, our supporting sponsor, **Fox Communities Credit Union** and our signature sponsor, **Milestones**.

In-kind donations were received from Arla Foods, Arthur Bay Cheese, Old Fashioned Foods and Simon's Cheese; Stone Cellar Brewpub; A Piece of Cake, Wilmar Chocolates; and 104.3 The Breeze.

Mark your calendar for next year's Stems event:
Saturday, June 19, 2010.

Message From the Executive Director

Valerie B. Wylie

Mid-summer at the Gardens, what a great time to come for a visit and spot some of your favorite plants! It's also an opportunity to see plants you've never thought of using in your own garden.



The more time I spend at the Gardens the more I marvel at the dedication of our volunteers. Beastly hot days, there comes De and Mike to work in the hot sun; mowing, weeding or planting. Barbara, Shirley, Tonie, Ann, Diane and Rosemary are so faithful to help us inside the building when the phones are going crazy and a gardener turns up with his maple leaf that "just doesn't look right"! Dave, Bill, Nancy & Geri can be seen in the rose gardens, butterfly garden, or even up by the Witzke sign! Teri McCann spent two full days helping us by driving her truck & trailer to pick up containers and wildflowers and Vickie Jurena is using her creative talents to keep our display case looking so beautiful. Thank you so very much for your work; without your help the Gardens would not be the special place that it is.

This spring Danette McMurran was promoted to Botanical Garden Manager. In May she was joined by our intern Krista Lofdahl, a student at NWTC in the Horticulture Program. In June, Chris Besch arrived as our AmeriCorps volunteer. These three, along with their faithful volunteers have the gardens in tip top condition and we all hope that you and your families will put the Gardens on your list of places to visit this summer, so in the dark of winter you can remember the beautiful days we had in the summer.

I cannot talk about volunteers without recognizing those who are faithful in helping with the Children's programs. Jeanne Backes helps with weeding & maintaining Marvin's Gardens, and Judy and Tara assist with the programs within Marvin's Gardens.

A special thank you also goes to Miron Construction, Trevor Frank and to Schleis Carpeting for helping move all of our furniture and lay carpeting.

For those of you who have not volunteered, there are lots of opportunities for you to lend a hand. Stop by to learn about the opportunity that waits for YOU!

Volunteers Needed

As Val indicated in her article, volunteers are an integral part of the Gardens success. Volunteer needs range from help in the gardens to joining committees to office help.

Volunteers will be needed for the Fall Harvest Festival on October 10, 2009. Please contact Lynn Lorge at 920-968-8700 to volunteer!

Educational Classes

Registration required for most classes.

ADULT CLASSES

Willow Bench Workshop

August 19, 2009

6:00 – 9:00 pm

Put the Garden to Bed

September 9, 2009

6:00 – 9:00 pm

Digital Garden

Photography I

September 12, 2009

8:30 – 11:30 am

From Earth to Your Table

September 15, 2009

6:30 – 8:00 pm

Willow Bench Workshop

September 16, 2009

6:00 – 9:00 pm

Digital Garden

Photography II

September 19, 2009

8:30 – 11:30 am

Willow Bench Workshop

October 1, 2009

6:00 – 9:00 pm

Stems



Down & Dirty in the Gardens – It's Time for a Little Tree LC!

Krista Lofdahl, Gardens Intern

Recently, Gardens of the Fox Cities was awarded an urban forestry grant from the DNR. With the grant we are able to re-develop 12 acres on the south side of the gardens. The funds from the grant allow us to incorporate 44 different varieties of wetland and upland trees. New trees are being planted in a total of nine groves. The new groves will incorporate new gardens ranging from a wet meadow garden to a prairie garden. Currently, we are in the process of planting the remaining 145 trees of the 215 that were awarded. In keeping with the spirit of our new urban forest, here are some important things that you should know about tree care.

Don't Top Trees!

Never cut main branches back to stubs, also known as topping. This process is often self-defeating. Ugly, bushy, weakly attached limbs usually grow back higher than the original branches. Topping weakens the tree making it more susceptible to disease and insect damage.

Prune Your Trees

For large limbs: Make a partial cut from beneath. Make your second cut above and several inches out from first cut and allow the limb to fall. Finish the job with a final cut just outside the branch collar. For small branches: Make a sharp clean cut, just beyond a lateral bud or other branch at a 45 degree angle. Do not prune newly planted trees, except for the removal of broken or dead limbs, until the second or third growing season.

Where Roots Really Grow

Tree roots are located within the top 18 inches of soil and extend out from the tree at least 2-3 times the width of the tree's crown. Trenching or edging just a few inches deep will destroy tree roots and damage your tree.

The Value of Mulch

Mulch is a tree's best friend; it insulates soil, retains moisture, keeps out weeds, prevents soil compaction, reduces lawnmower damage, and adds an aesthetic touch to your yard - what a miracle worker! Depending on your tree's size, mulch an area from three to ten feet in diameter. Pour wood chips or bark pieces two to four inches deep within the circle, but not touching the trunk.

Girdling Kills!!!!

Girdling is any activity that injures the bark of a tree. Girdling destroys the layers that conduct water and minerals from the roots to the leaves and returns the food produced by the leaves to the rest of the tree. These injuries are often caused by lawnmowers, rabbits, deer, or by planting the tree too deep. If the injury encompasses the whole trunk, death is eminent for the tree.

Water! Water! Water!

Water is the most important requirement of a new tree. All trees need at least 1" of water per week in the absence of rain but, newly planted trees should be provided this amount throughout the first three growing seasons. Do not fertilize newly planted trees; wait at least one full growing season.

Knowing these important points will allow your trees to flourish for years to come!

*This document was funded in part by an urban forestry grant from the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Forestry Program as authorized under s.23.097, Wis.Stat

Wish List

The items listed below are some of the many items that will help the Gardens maintain and grow our 35-acre property, enhance our programs for all members of the community, and expand our plant collections.

If you are interested in purchasing an item or contributing toward an item, please contact Sandy Paulus at (920) 993-1900 or spaulus@gardensfoxcities.org.

- ◆ Projector Screen
- ◆ Ergonomic gardening tools
 - Weeders
 - Trowels
- ◆ Garden Kneelers
- ◆ Heavy Duty Paper Shredder
- ◆ Garden Utility Carts
- ◆ 5 Gallon Buckets
- ◆ Garden Benches
- ◆ Bird Bath
- ◆ Wheelbarrows
- ◆ Repair Work on Walkway
- ◆ Watering Wands
- ◆ Perennials
- ◆ Outdoor Signage

Thank you for supporting the Gardens of the Fox Cities.



Photo by Debbie Daanen Photography

Feel like Giving the Gift of Green?

Here are some great donation ideas that will help beautify the Gardens!



Plant Signs (\$15)

With thousands of plants in our outdoor gardens, the need for quality garden plaques is expanding. For just \$15 you can help visitors identify their favorite blooms.

Interpretive Signs (\$500)

Horticultural education is one of the primary goals of Gardens of the Fox Cities. Quality interpretive signage is key to helping us tell each plant's unique story.

Recycled Plastic Bike Rack (\$500)

This 100% recycled – plastic bike rack is environmentally friendly and maintenance free. It holds 8-10 bikes, with room for bikes on each side.

Gardens of the Fox Cities Gift Memberships (\$50)

Do you need a gift for a friend or loved one? If so, please consider giving them a gift membership to Gardens of the Fox Cities!

Gift Certificates for Classes and Workshops (\$10 to \$50+)

Youth and adult educational programs in gardening, horticulture, and ecology provide year-round learning opportunities for all ages.

Encourage others to share your love of the Gardens with your "green" gift this year! Call (920)993-1900 to become a member or give a gift!

MAKE YOUR APPOINTMENT EARLY Family Portraits at the Gardens

Friday, September 18, 4:00 - 6:30 PM
Saturday, September 19, 3:30 - 5:30 PM
Friday, September 25, 4:00 - 6:30 PM
Saturday, September 26, 3:30 - 5:30 PM



Have you ever thought about having your family portrait taken in a beautiful garden setting? If so, you won't want to miss out on an exciting photo opportunity being offered at Gardens of the Fox Cities this fall!

Debbie Daanen Photography will be at the Gardens shooting family portraits in September—just in time for creating that special Christmas card or other holiday greeting. A wide variety of greeting cards will be available (including one designed specifically for this event) and specialty gift items to choose from as well.

For *Friends of the Gardens*, the location session fee is \$25; for non-members \$35. Add \$15 for break-outs from the large group (groups of children, children alone, couples, etc.) All session fees will be donated to the Gardens—thank you, Debbie!

Please contact the studio at (920)739-3249 to schedule your appointment and to discuss clothing. Please reserve your appointment soon!

Gardens Meets \$25,000 Challenge Match

Gardens of the Fox Cities is pleased to announce it has successfully met the \$25,000 Challenge Match that was recently established to raise operating support for the organization. The initiative, which matched gifts dollar-for-dollar, was made possible through the generosity of long-time friends of the Gardens, Les and Dar Stumpf, Kathi Seifert, and Roger and Lynn Van Vreede.

“Our goal with 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,” says Sandy Paulus, Development Director. “We are most grateful to the nearly 60 individuals who helped us achieve the \$25,000 Challenge Match. Their generosity will help maintain and grow our 35-acre property, enhance our educational programs for all members of the community, and expand our plant collections.”

Stems



Gardens of the Pacific Northwest Tour, June 2009

Lynn Van Vreede

The Pacific Northwest Tour, held June 13 – 20, 2009, was an awesome experience and I would like to share some highlights with you.

While in Portland, the “City of Roses”, we toured the International Rose Test Gardens and it was stunning! Nine thousand roses are grown and every plant was in full bloom. Another favorite was the Classical Chinese Garden, a serene and beautiful garden that sits in the center of a major city.

We visited the Tacoma Art Museum and viewed a large selection of Dale Chihuly glasswork. Chihuly has donated a glass exhibit that is the ceiling of a bridge. While you walk over the bridge you look up and see hundreds of glass pieces all backlit so that they stand out.

The tour of Butchart Gardens on Victoria Island, Vancouver was inspiring. It is always fun to get ideas for your own gardens from the experts. Last but not least we toured two wineries. Everyone enjoyed the tours and especially the taste testing.

I learned new gardening tips and techniques during this trip. My focus now is to gather my thoughts and challenge myself to try new things in my own backyard. My husband Roger accompanied me, and we both enjoyed seeing old friends and meeting new friends. We are already looking forward to the trip next year.

2010 Tour – Tulip Time, A European River Cruise

Enjoy springtime splendor in the world’s largest flower garden as Gardens of the Fox Cities and Green Bay Botanical Garden cruise the enchanting waterways of Holland and Belgium, **April 6 – 16, 2010.**

Make plans now to join us – the first 10 cabins under deposit receive a complimentary upgrade. \$3,795 per person (double occupancy) includes airfare from Green Bay, 10-day cruise, sightseeing excursion in every port, all meals, taxes and escort.

Tour highlights include Keukenhof Gardens, Het Loo Palace & Gardens and Amsterdam floating flower market among sightseeing in every port.

For more information or for a reservation form, contact Val Wylie at the Gardens at 920-933-1900 or Odyssey Tours LLC, Pat Fasanella at 920-217-5181.

2010 Events – SAVE THE DATE!

Cut this out and keep it on your refrigerator to ensure you don’t miss these great events!

Earth Day Celebration
April 22, 2010

Heirloom Plant Sale
May 15, 2010

Fox Cities Blooms
April 26 – May 15, 2010

**Stems, a Summer Solstice
Celebration**
June 19, 2010

Tea & Tulips
May 5, 2010



CHILDREN'S CLASSES

Bug Day

August 12, 2009
10:00 – 11:30 am

Butterfly Day

August 19, 2009
10:00 – 11:30 am

Feather Friends Day

August 26, 2009
10:00 – 11:30 am

Monarch Butterfly Tagging

August 29, 2009
11:30 am – 1:30 pm

Monarch Butterfly Tagging

August 30, 2009
1:00 – 3:00 pm

Toddler Story & Stroll

Every Tuesday
September 8 – November 17, 2009
10:15 – 11:00 am

Herb Harvesting

September 30, 2009
6:00 – 7:30 pm

Seed Saving Party

October 21, 2009
6:00 – 7:30 pm



Monarch Butterfly Tagging

Get Something Growing! In Children's Education

Ann Hiltunen, Children's Education Coordinator

This fall, Gardens of the Fox Cities will be introducing a new field trip to welcome preschool and kindergarten students to the Gardens. The field trip, *Tops & Bottoms*, is based on Janet Steven's book by the same name. Children will identify and compare the physical structure of plants. They will hunt for the tops, bottoms and middles of the vegetable grown in Marvin's Garden and learn about the variety of plant parts we eat.

Summer Sleuths

Children ages 5 to 12 are invited to join us to be nature detectives as they study what else is living within the garden! Join us for all three or sign up for individual classes. Bug, Butterfly, and Feather Friends class details are to the left. Cost is \$5 for Friends of the Gardens; \$6 for General Public. Registration deadlines can be found on our Web Site www.gardensfoxcities.org

Monarch Butterfly Tagging

Back by popular demand, the Gardens of the Fox Cities will host Monarch Butterfly Tagging (class details are to the left). Individually, or with your family, meet at the Scheig Learning Center for an introduction to the monarch and its migration to Mexico. We will tour the Rosemary Trettin Butterfly Garden, then head out to the fields to catch, tag and release monarchs. Free to Friends of the Gardens. General Public: \$3.00 for children 17 and under, \$5.00 adults, \$15.00 family max. Event will be cancelled if it rains.



Toddler Story & Stroll

New this fall is Toddler Story & Stroll, held every Tuesday from September 8 through November 17, 2009 from 10:15 – 11:00 am. Meet at the gardens each week for stories about the natural world. Then load up your strollers for a tour through the gardens. The tour is designed to stimulate the senses of toddlers ages 1-4. Free to Friends of the Gardens; \$3.00 per child for the General Public. Dress appropriately as the stories and tours take place outdoors.

Check out our website for other classes being offered this fall.



Marvin's Gardens

Fall Harvest Festival Fun for Everyone!

Watch for more information regarding the Fall Harvest Festival on Saturday, October 10, 2009.

Check the website for details.

www.gardensfoxcities.org

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Sandy Paulus, Development Director

Ann Hiltunen, Children's Educational Coordinator

Danette McMurrin, Botanical Garden Manager

Pat Angell, Administrative Assistant

Spotlight – The Plant Station Greenhouse, Inc.

Sandy Paulus, Development Director

If you attended *Gardens Around the World & Heirloom Plant Sale*, have a child enrolled in our summer-long *Marvin's Gardens* program or enjoyed a class or workshop at the Gardens—chances are you already know that The Plant Station Greenhouse is a sponsor of these special events and educational programs for 2009.



Steve and Debbie Roznowski, owners of The Plant Station Greenhouse, say that a personal commitment to horticultural education and the environment—plus a desire to give back to the community, prompted their decision to partner with the Gardens. Over the past five years, The Plant Station's support has ranged from providing event and program sponsorship to donating the soil-less growing medium and green house space for growing heirloom vegetables and annuals. They have also donated plants, bulbs, pumpkins and squash.

Located at 1746 W. Northland Avenue, The Plant Station Greenhouse opened its doors in 1996 as a full service retail garden center. It offers a wide selection of trees, shrubs, plants and plant products—plus gifts galore for gardeners and non-gardeners alike. Debbie also teaches “hands-on” classes with topics ranging from growing herbs and vegetables to the proper care of houseplants and container gardening.

“The Plant Station's niche is our great variety and we pride ourselves on offering great customer service,” Steve says. “Partnering with Gardens of the Fox Cities sends a meaningful message to our customers. We want to be good neighbors and give back to the community.”

Gardens of the Fox Cities is grateful to the many individuals, organizations, and companies—like the Plant Station Greenhouse—who partner with us in helping to develop the Gardens as a horticultural and cultural resource in the Fox Cities region.

Gardens of the Fox Cities
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