



## Minnesota Master Gardener State Newsletter

November 2005

Hi Master Gardeners,

Another gardening season comes to an end after a long and beautiful fall. As I look back on the year, I recall seeing many of you working in your communities and teaching people: in community gardens, at the new Yard & Garden Desk at the Arboretum, at the State Fair and Farmers Markets, just to name a few programs. **Thank you** for your hard work in teaching and your dedication to improving lives through horticulture. I am proud to work with you as we continue to learn horticulture and teach others. You should all be very proud of your role with Extension.

From January through May 2006, I will be on a study leave in England to develop a new Global Seminar class for the U. The class, entitled **A History of English Gardens**, will be offered in England for 3 weeks in May 2007. I will miss working with you this winter. Dr. Jeff Gillman will be teaching the credit sections of the MG Core Course/Hort 1003, and several capable local hosts will guide the Core Course throughout the NW section of the state. I promise to return with many wonderful garden photos and share them with you. Thanks again for your volunteer work and best wishes for a RESTFUL and happy "off-season" from gardening.

Mary H. Meyer

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### In this Issue

- 2005 State MG Award Winners
- Online Volunteer Hours Reporting and Event Sign-Up
- Volunteer MG Opportunities Continue at the Arboretum Yard & Garden Desk
- Home and Garden Show ONLINE Signup: Starts soon after January 1, 2006
- 2006 Core Course Locations: Active MGs are always welcome
- State Advisory Board as of June 2006, 4 new members needed
- Landscape Design Class: Special for Master Gardeners: January 7, 2006
- Home Insect Control & Garden/Tree Insect Management Class; Request Forms
- Companion Plants Research Project
- Upcoming Conferences; MG Calendar of Events

**Many thanks to the Crow Wing and Cass County MG** who worked tirelessly to make the 2005 State Conference so successful!! Great tours and great speakers made for a wonderful day learning horticulture. Congratulations to all the award winners listed below:

## 2005 Minnesota Master Gardener Awards

### 20 Years of Service:

John Beckel	Mower
Kim Busse	Blue Earth
Linda Canton	Lyon
Erma Carlson	Clearwater
Daniel Devereaux	Hennepin
Norma Dovre	Yellow Medicine
Mary Faustgen	Hennepin
Pat Friederichs	Olmsted
Dick Grabko	Olmsted
Lois Helgeson	Ramsey
Jerine Jones	Olmsted
Betty Kezar	Pennington
Charlotte Knaak	Watsonwan
Blanchard Krogstad	Polk-East
Doris Krogstad	Polk-East
Judy Lacey	Fillmore
Barb Maher	Blue Earth
George Menshik	Olmsted
Cathy Peck	Beltrami
Allen Pederson	Polk-West
Beverly Singewald	Ramsey
Kathryn Strebbling	Olmsted
Patricia Thiem	Blue Earth
Jane Yunginger	Olmsted

### 15 Years of Service:

Candy Barthel	Cass
Linda Brammer	Hennepin
Duane Brusehaver	Dakota
Bonnie Busson	Washington
Robert Condon	Dakota
Alan Cross	Benton
Barbara Dow	Hennepin
Susan Foss	Kanabec
Lee Gilligan	Hennepin
Tim Hanley	Otter Tail-West
Alice Heglund	Crow Wing
Richard Hensel	Sherburne
Myrna Hunt	Douglas
Mert Jensen	Kanabec
Jean Johnson	Otter Tail-East
Dorothy Kirchmann	Chisago
Bud Kirk	Carlton
Janice Kohout	Hennepin
Lando Kutzke	Isanti
Floyd Lindahl	Anoka
Byron Lindberg	Otter Tail-East
Evelyn Lindstrom	Stevens

### 15 Years of Service (cont'd.)

Marilyn Mathias	Traverse
Maureen Monroe	Hennepin
Dee Morrison	Sherburne
Marvin Myhre	Kanabec
Joan Onffroy	Hennepin
Edith Pederson	St. Louis
Barb Trostad-Peterson	Anoka
Mary Ann Pfahl	Carlton
Jean Prochnow	Otter Tail-West
Elsie Riggs	Anoka
Cathy Rose	Wright
Robert Salzer	Stearns
Lois Strand	Hennepin
Pat Tracy	Traverse
Donna Wohlenhaus	Hubbard

### 10 Years of Service:

Bill Anderson	Kanabec
Bob Anderson	Winona
Kathy Anderson	Kanabec
Kathy Anderson	Dakota
Susan Beisang	Ramsey
Rita Berge	Washington
Linda Bistodeau	Isanti
Barbara Bloom	Hennepin
William Board	Aitkin
Ron Branch	Douglas
Leslie Brogren	Pine
Nanette Dahlin	Hennepin
Cindy Diegnau	Washington
Janet Donaldson	Wright
Carol Downie	Olmsted
Jessica Forcella	Stevens
David Frauenkron	Winona
Beth Fritz	Mille Lacs
Alice Fulton	Pine
Robert Gausman	McLeod
Rabbi Yonasse Gershom	Pine
Naula Gibbons	Olmsted
Delores Gillen	Olmsted
Al Glaeseman	Douglas
Sheryl Goldberg	Ramsey
Cindy Gunderson	Kanabec
Marsh Hamre	Olmsted
Cookie Heikes	Kanabec
Judy Hoberg	Swift
Marilyn Hulbert	Pope
Tom Hutsell	Ramsey

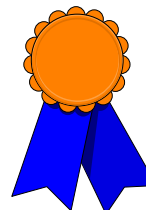
## 2005 Minnesota Master Gardener Awards

### 10 Years of Service (cont'd.)

Suzanne Johnson	Isanti
Harold Jones	Isanti
Linda Kellerman	Douglas
Margaret Kirchner	Mower
Eva Knudsen	Anoka
Karen Kreiser	Otter Tail-West
Deb Kuechle	Anoka
Doris Laska	Winona
Gail Lee	Ramsey
Alyce Lere	Pine
Maureen Lundgren	Ramsey
Lois Maher	Pope
Karen Marinovich	Ramsey
Betty Martin	Todd
Therese Martin	Goodhue
Sharon Mc Carney	Otter Tail-West
Jim McDonald	Kanabec
Karen McMullen	Washington
Deb Meissner	Nicollet
Kim Nelson	Washington
Pete Nelson	Kanabec
Kathryn Overson	Dodge
Barbara Peterson	Crow Wing
Karen Plizga	Olmsted
Arlene Prosen	Winona
Sara Rensink	Douglas
Joyce Richards	Kanabec
Patti Riebold	Goodhue
Nell Ruemmele	Washington
James Salmons	Douglas
Julie Scheerle	Stearns
Lucille Schoeneck	Douglas
Mary Elizabeth Schultz	Traverse
William Simpkins	Hennepin
Lorrie Stromme	Hennepin
Cherisa Templeton	Winona
Carolyn Thomas	Hennepin
Darlene Thronson	Kanabec
Larry Thronson	Kanabec
John Wagner	Otter Tail-West
James Ward	Kanabec
Betty Warn	Mower
Grace Werner	Steele
Cynthia Whitney	Isanti
Doris Wickstrom	Hennepin
Raymond Wille	Douglas

### 10 Years of Service (cont'd.)

Ann Wormley	Ramsey
Robert Wright	Otter Tail-West
Karen Yngve	Hennepin
Mary Zeug	Stearns



### Total Volunteer Hours:

#### 13,000 hours

Leonard Gloeb	Ramsey
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#### 5,000 hours

Esther Filson	Washington
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#### 2,000 hours

Warren Banks	Dakota
Dona Brenner	Kandiyohi

#### 1,000 hours

Sherry Akins	Washington
Laurel Geiselhart	Stearns
Bruce Granos	Dakota
Muriel Grooters	Lincoln
Barbara Harlan	Anoka
Suzanne Hill	Stearns
Mimi Hottinger	Blue Earth
Polly Johnson	Swift
Gert Kluver	Chippewa
Barbara Lamson	Blue Earth
Sherry Lawrence	Olmsted
Barbara Leschisin	Anoka
Howard Markus	Washington
Ron Marotte	Stearns
Gladys Miska	McLeod
Tom Schafer	Pennington
Lorrie Stromme	Hennepin
Donna Wessels	Watowan
Jane Yunginger	Olmsted

## Online Volunteer Hours Reporting; It's Fun, Its Easy

It has been just about 1 year since we opened the new database online for you to be in control of your volunteer hours in the MG program. Hundreds of you are now in the new system and putting in your volunteer hours with ease. What an efficiency this is !! With a few clicks, your county coordinator can see and approve your hours, Linda Wasem and I can see and approve your hours and everything can be summarized within minutes!! THANK YOU for adapting and being flexible in this new reporting system.

We encourage you to use this form for the future. Should you not have access to a computer online, contact your county Extension office or library. Go to [www.mg.umn.edu](http://www.mg.umn.edu) click on submit hours, then put in your name and county (exactly as it reads on your MG nametag) do not put in a password if you have not set one up yet. Click submit. Then go to the address/password link to set a password of your choice, this is also the page to update your address/phone and email. Then click on the link to submit your 2006 hours. The information you input will be there all year, so there will be no question of what you turned last month, etc. Extension staff and MG Coordinators will be verifying hours online after you enter them. Try it! You'll like it and wonder how we ever got by with the paper forms.

## Master Gardener Volunteer Event Sign-Up

**Get a jump on your 2006 volunteer hours** by coming to the Arboretum this winter weekends by volunteering at the **Yard & Garden Desk** in the new Oswald Visitor's Center. Enjoy the amaryllis show this December, it's gorgeous. Browse in the Anderson Library or watch the birds (including wild turkeys) at the feeders while you enjoy a cup of tea. The Arboretum is beautiful in winter and as a MG, you have a special place here to volunteer. Sign up online, where you are in control of your scheduling, [www.mg.umn.edu](http://www.mg.umn.edu).

Coming to Minneapolis on March 3-5, 2006, the **Home and Garden Show**. This is a fun event to answer garden questions. Sign ups will be ONLINE again this year, starting shortly after the first of the year, keep watching the MG homepage at [www.mg.umn.edu](http://www.mg.umn.edu). Shifts will be the same as in the past with special hours for new 2006 interns.

We are working toward event sign-ups for each county online. Yes, imagine this! Hopefully by mid 2006, we will have some county events up for your use. This will enable county program coordinators to be more effective in developing specific local community programs and efficiently meeting community needs.

## 2006 MG Core Course Locations

Date	Time	Location
Jan. 17-Feb 11	6-9 pm T, Th; 9-4 Sat	St. Paul Campus B45 Classroom Office Building
Feb 14, 16, 22, 23, 28, Mar.2,6,9	9am -4pm	Stearns County Heritage Center, St. Cloud
March 3, 4, 10, 11, 17, 18, 24, 25	9am -4pm	Douglas County Extension Office/Library, Alexandria
March 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25, 30, 31,	6-9 pm Th, Fri; 9-4 Sat	NW MN: Bemidji, and additional sites via Breeze Live
April 1, 6, 7, 8 Jan. 17- Mar.24	Online	Online by participant

Active MG are always welcome to attend the Core Course. Calling ahead to see about room space is a good idea. Exact locations and instructor schedules for each class will be posted online at [www.mg.umn.edu](http://www.mg.umn.edu) as they are finalized.

The **State MG Advisory Board** met in October and a Task Force is working on new Diversity guidelines, as was published in this newsletter in July. More information on this topic, including a list of resources will be coming online at the MG homepage. Another Task Force is looking at the price of the MG Core Course and will be making recommendations for price changes in 2007. The Board welcomed David Moen, the new State MG Program Coordinator. David is working to meet many MG through regional meetings around the state. He will be helping to coordinate MG management with the changes since Extension's reorganization.

The Board voted to have a **minimum age requirement** for participating in the MG program: 18 years. A small group is also looking at developing and implementing a more formal advanced MG training, which we have named "No Master Gardener Left Behind". Look for information and feedback from you as we develop this new training.

In **June 2006, the State MG Board will have 4 openings: 2 in the 13 county metro, one north of I94, and one south of I94. Please consider applying** to the Board by sending a letter to Vice Chair, Sharon Smith, 218-829-1130 [smittys@uslink.net](mailto:smittys@uslink.net). Include information about your volunteer work and your vision for the MG program. Ask your county coordinator or MG president to send a letter of recommendation for you. See more info online at MG Resources at [www.mg.umn.edu](http://www.mg.umn.edu). Our program works well because many of you have served on the State Advisory Board. The Board meets 4 times/year usually at the Arboretum in January, April, June and September. The meetings are informative, the lunch is good, and you will be helping your county and the State MG program.

**Special Landscape Design Workshop for Master Gardeners**

**LANDSCAPE DESIGN BASICS:  
*Advanced Landscape Design skills for Master Gardeners***

Saturday, January 7, 2006 Minnesota Landscape Arboretum

8:00 am – 4:00 pm (with a 1-hour lunch break; Lunch is not included)

Instructors: Brad Pedersen, Julie Weisenhorn, and Jim Calkins, Department of Horticultural Science, University of Minnesota. Cost: \$99.00 (includes a comprehensive course packet, lab materials, and a set of basic design tools). **NOTE:** Attendees will be able to purchase copies of the *Plant Elements of Design* plant selection CD developed by the University of Minnesota for a special price of \$49.00 (this is one half the normal price) during the workshop.

The class will focus on the principles and theory of sustainable design, site analysis, concept and draft design development, and plant selection. Attendees will also learn how to develop quality bedlines, mix and match plants based on function and landscape characteristics, how to build flexibility into the design process, and the importance of the relationship between design and implementation. Class includes lecture periods as well as in-class exercises that will allow attendees to put pencil to paper and practice the techniques discussed during the seminar. This workshop will take place at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum.

**LANDSCAPE DESIGN BASICS:  
*Advanced Landscape Design skills for Master Gardener***

Saturday, January 7, 2006 at Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, Chaska

**Registration Form:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Attendees:

\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$99.00 Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: University of Minnesota

Mail your check and this form to: Linda Wasem  
Minnesota Landscape Arboretum  
3675 Arboretum Blvd.  
Chaska, MN 55318

## Home Insect Control Classes offered in 2006

Have a passion for insects? Interested in pests around homes? Looking for a new specialization or challenge? If so, you may enjoy taking the Home Insect Control class.

The Home Insect Control (HIC) program is a comprehensive look at insects found in and around homes and other buildings and their management. The subjects covered include ants, wasps, cockroaches, spiders, stored product insects, flies, bed bugs, and nuisance invaders, like lady beetles and boxelder bugs. This class combines lecture, including identification, life cycle, and management, with hands on labs to take a close look at all of the insects we discuss.

The goal of this program is to establish a group of master gardeners that have specialized training in household insects and their control. This is particularly important once the Yard and Garden Clinic closed. This program is meant to be an ongoing educational opportunity with update classes given on a regular basis. Master gardeners that take this class are asked to volunteer some of their annual hours specifically on household insect issues.

The cost of this program is \$95 per person which includes a copy of the NPCA (now NPMA) Field Guide to Structural Pests, a lavishly illustrated book that normally retails for \$118. If counties are concerned about price, I would encourage you to contact local businesses in an attempt to help defray the costs and reduce the registration fee. In addition to master gardeners, all extension staff are also welcome to take this class for the same price. The general public may also be invited to attend this class (the expectation would be MGs would get first shot at this class). The price for the general public is \$95 (without the NPCA Field Guide) or \$190 (with the NPCA Field Guide).

I am planning to hold this class on the **St. Paul campus next April** where it will be taught as 5 three hour evening classes. I am also planning to teach this course in **Chaska (probably in October) and St. Cloud (either early spring or mid summer)** as a two day all day program (usually taught on a Friday and a Saturday). I will also accept requests from counties to teach this class in your area. I am flexible with the time of the year and will work with counties to travel to you when it works best with your schedule. It is important that the teaching sites have an area for lecture as well as lab space with access to dissecting microscopes. A community college or tech school could be good locations if they have a lab with microscopes.

To help cover my minimum costs, we need approximately 15 master gardeners to attend this class. If you are interested in hosting this program, fill out the attached form and return it to me as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please contact me. Jeff Hahn 612-624-4977 and at [hahnx002@umn.edu](mailto:hahnx002@umn.edu).

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## Home Insect Control Request Form

Name:

County:

Approximate number of attendees you expect (also consider adjacent counties)?

Where (the specific site) do you think this class can be taught?

What time of the year would you prefer this class to be taught?

Can you obtain dissecting (binocular) microscopes and if so how many?

Is there any cost with using a lecture/lab room or dissecting microscopes?

How would you advertise this class to your county and nearby counties?

Any other comments?

**Please return by December 31, 2005**

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More Exciting News from Jeff Hahn: **New Classes For MG:**

## **Garden Insect Management ---- Tree Insect Management**

Curious about caterpillars? Bothered by beetles? Apathetic over aphids? Languishing over leafminers? Serious about sawflies? If so, then you may be interested in a couple of new insect classes I am offering in 2006. **I am preparing two modules on outdoor insects.** One class will discuss common insect pests on vegetables, fruit, and flowers [Garden Insect Management] while the second class will cover common insects on trees and shrubs [Tree Insect Management]. In both classes, we will discuss identification, life cycle, and management of common insects as well as look close up at specimens and their damage in a hands on lab. I will have a core of insects common in Minnesota that I will talk about but I will also have the flexibility to modify the specific insects we discuss according to the region I visit. Each class will be taught as an all day (6 hour) program. The cost will be \$35. I will also offer Master Gardeners an autographed copy of 'Garden Insects of North America' by Whitney Cranshaw. This lavishly illustrated book covers garden and woody ornamental pests as well as beneficial insects. This book will be available for \$22. These classes will be taught independently of each other so you can take one or the other or both depending on your interest. I plan to teach these modules in the **Twin Cities sometime next summer** (I'm still working out the details). **I will also teach these classes in greater Minnesota by request.** I am generally flexible about the time of year you wish to have these classes taught. If you are interested in hosting this program, fill out the attached form and return it to me. If you have any questions, please contact me. **Jeff Hahn 612-624-4977 or hahnx002@umn.edu.**

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### **Garden or Tree Insect Management: Request Form**

Name:

County

Approximate number of attendees you expect (also consider adjacent counties)?

Where (what specific site) do you think we could hold this class?

What time of the year would you prefer this class to be taught?

Can you obtain dissecting (binocular) microscopes and if so how many (it is desirable but not necessary to have dissecting microscopes to have this class taught)?

Is there any cost with using a room or dissecting microscopes?

Any other comments?

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Another new project from Jeff Hahn:

## **Your Garden as a Research Plot for Companion Plants?! Go for It!**

I am looking for volunteers to participate in a research trial this summer involving companion plants and their utility in home gardens. There was some spirited discussion earlier this year on the Master Gardener listserv on this topic which in turn generated interest by some Master Gardeners to experiment scientifically in their own gardens. I think this is a great idea as it will help participants better understand the scientific method and give all of us research-based information that we can pass on to others.

I encourage Master Gardeners in all parts of the state to consider participating. If you would like to be part of this study, I will ask you to plant flowers or vegetables combined with a companion plant or plants that is intended to protect flowers or vegetables from pests. You can request a certain companion planting scheme if you have a particular interest in one. You will be responsible for collecting and recording data. I do not have any money for this project so Master Gardeners will be asked to purchase their own plants.

I will provide a specific set of protocols for volunteers to follow to ensure the project is done scientifically and so you know precisely what steps you need to take (I am still in the process of developing these guidelines). The protocols should not be difficult to follow.

If you are interested, contact me by Dec 31, 2005. **Jeff Hahn 612-624-4977 or hahn002@umn.edu.** I expect this project to be fun and educational!



Congratulations to **Bemidji, Buffalo, and St. Paul:** participants in the American in Bloom contest this past summer. Master Gardeners in these communities helped to plant and teach horticulture while beautifying their communities. More information is online: <http://www.americainbloom.org/index.html>.

## Upcoming Conferences:

The 2006 Minnesota State Master Gardener Conference Theme:

### **Celebrating our Diversity through Gardening**

Plans are underway for a great conference at the Arboretum next September 15-16. Mark your calendar and look for more information at the MG homepage and in future newsletters. Look for special tours, fun workshops, and the great facilities of the Arboretum, including sampling different vegetables and foods the harvest kitchen in the Learning Center. Hosted by the Carver/Scott Master Gardeners.

2006 Tri-Upper Midwest MG Conference

Cedar Rapids, Iowa, June 15-17, 2006

Watch this site for more information:

<http://www.mastergardener.iastate.edu/info/06tristatemgconf.html>

The International Master Gardener Conference

Little Rock, Arkansas in May 2-5, 2007

see: <http://mg2007.uaex.edu/Default.htm>.

**The "Master" in Master Gardener doesn't mean you know everything about gardening, it means you volunteer and teach horticulture for the University of Minnesota Extension Service.**

## Master Gardener Calendar of Events

Jan 1, 2006	Sign Up for Home and Garden show	<a href="http://www.mg.umn.edu">www.mg.umn.edu</a>
Jan. 7, 2006	Landscape Design Class	Arboretum
Jan. 17- Feb 11, 2006	MG Core Course	St. Paul
Jan. 17- Mar. 24, 2006	MG Core Course	Online
Feb 14-Mar.9, 2006	MG Core Course	St. Cloud
Mar. 3-25, 2006	MG Core Course	Alexandria
Mar16-April 8, 2006	MG Core Course	NW MN, Bemidji
June 15-17, 2006	TriState/Upper Midwest MG Conference	Cedar Falls, Iowa
June 28-July 1, 2006	National MG Coordinators Meeting	Naperville, IL
September 15-16, 2006	Minnesota State MG Conference	Arboretum
May 2-5, 2007	International MG Conference	Little Rock, AK



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