

In The Dirt

October 2023

Hello Master Gardeners and Community Garden Members!

The next MG meeting will be in the Cottonwood Room and we are having a potluck. I am providing shredded pork sandwiches, please bring a side or a dessert. I did take RSVP's for this meeting because of the Amaryllis planting, but we would love to have you share a meal with us if you are available.

Tree Sale Committee is meeting on October 11th. This first meeting, we really dig in and decide what trees we want to order for next year. This is a great meeting to learn more about what trees do well in our area!

We have been asked to see if we had any interest in hosting the Wyoming State Master Gardener Conference in September of 2024. If we decide to go forward with hosting this conference, we would have an additional committee for this event. Would you be interested in hosting the event and would you be willing to help out during the conference? This is something to think about for sure. Please give it some consideration and let me know by October 12th at 5pm what you think.

Master Gardener board elections will be at the November 14th meeting. We have the following positions available: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Steering Committee Member, and 2 Delegates for the Wyoming Master Gardener Association (WMGA). Rich (President), Shannon (Secretary), Suzy (Steering) would step down if anyone would like these positions. Cathy Crain is the Treasurer for 2 more years, it is a 4 year term. Linette West will continue as a Steering Committee Member. WMGA meet via Zoom on the 2nd Friday in February, May, and October at 10am. The delegates get to hear about happening's around the state and they have a hand in voting for the direction things may go for the Master Gardeners. I would like to have all nominations to me by November 1st. We will have the "official vote" for new board members at the November meeting. The November meeting date has been changed to Tuesday, November 14th at 6pm in the Ponderosa Room.

Feel free to reach out to me anytime.

Mandy Reynolds
Horticulture Program Coordinator

Dates to Remember

- October 2nd:** MG Steering Meeting, 5:15pm in the Cottonwood Room.
- October 2nd:** MG General Meeting, 6pm in the Cottonwood Room.
- October 4th:** Prairie Community Garden Fall Work Day 5pm-7pm.
- October 7th:** North Community Garden Busy Bee Day 10am-12pm.
- October 9th:** Extension Office closed for Columbus Day.
- October 11th:** Tree Sale Committee Meeting 1pm-3pm in the Cottonwood Room.
- October 12th:** North Community Garden Busy Bee Day 4pm-6pm.
- October 14th:** MG GLEE Pumpkin Succulent Class 10am-12pm and 2pm-4pm in the Cottonwood Room, cost is \$30 per person, rsvp to Mandy or the Extension Office.
- October 17th:** Wyoming Walks at Cam-Plex Park and Urban Orchard, 5:30pm.
- October 24th:** Dixondale order forms and payment due to Mandy.
- November date to be determined:** MG GLEE Making Holiday Wreaths.
- November 14th:** MG Meeting 6pm in the Ponderosa Room.

Websites!

- <https://danr.sd.gov/Conservation/Forestry/Education/TodaysForest/>
- <https://plantselect.org/learn/video-series/>

Campbell County Master Gardeners Steering Committee Meeting

September 11, 2023
Sandi Aberle's home – Gillette WY

The September Steering Committee Meeting was called to order by President Rich Kistler at 5:17pm. A quorum was established. Thank you, Sandi, for hosting us in your beautiful and fruitful backyard. We really appreciate the three ladies – Linette, Cathy, and Sandi – who hosted us in their homes/yards this year!

Attending the meeting were Rich Kistler, Cathy Crain, Sandi Aberle, Linette West, Mandy Reynolds, and Shannon Hudson.

The agenda was reviewed:
The August minutes will need to be reviewed and approved.

Cathy Crain gave the Treasurer's report. Deposits this past month were \$164.20 for the sale of the books at the Herb Festival, interest for checking account was \$2.03 and the interest for the savings account was \$0.09. Expenses included the gift cards for the ladies in the extension office at \$316.32, boosting ads on Facebook for \$150.00, Fair awards cashed thus far at \$75, and the purchase of an apple tree for the Urban Orchard from the Plant Shack for \$44.09. We need to discuss possibly using some funds for fencing the Urban Orchard.

The University of Wyoming decided to split the job that was previously held by Chris Hilgert. There will now be a State Master Gardener Coordinator and a State Extension Specialist. Donna Hoffman has taken the position of the State Master Gardener Coordinator. She will also continue being the Natrona County Coordinator as well. The State Extension Specialist still needs to be hired.

The 2024 State Conference is only a year away! Would we be interested in hosting? There has been a discussion that the county coordinators would be in charge of the classes. Sandi will look into this at the state meeting.

Theresa, who has done a fabulous job in the past, will no longer be able to be the Tree Sale Chair. We need to see if anyone is interested.

We need to schedule a Tree Sale meeting here soon, however Lincoln Oakes does not have their order form ready yet. It is from there that we order many of our trees.

The Education/GLEE committee also needs to meet in the near future. After elections in November would be the most beneficial. We may be able to do this as a zoom call.

The September GLEE class is Hydroponics and Growing Inside. Sandi is working on putting a presentation together. The class in Gillette is on the 14th. Due to it being in the Pioneer Rooms, chairs will be set up, but no tables. The October GLEE class will be the Pumpkin Succulent Class. We need to decide on dates, number of people, and number of classes. Sandi, as well as others, have succulents. Home Depot, last time Sandi was there, had low growing sedums as buy one get two free! After discussion, we are thinking we could hold two classes of 20 to 25 people each. The first class could be 10 to 12 and the second class from 2 to 4. Our first choice for a date is October 14th and our second choice is October 7th. It will be \$30 per person.

For our meeting in October, we want to do something fun and have a get together with new members. We have decided on a potluck and an amaryllis class after a quick meeting. To do the amaryllis class, we will need a head count. It will be \$8 to \$12 per amaryllis. For budget purposes, we use the Master Gardener activity budget line.

The Nominating Committee needs to find individuals for offices soon. Nominations and interests need to be to Mandy by November 1st.

In December there needs to be a budget meeting. Chairs need to start thinking about what they will need, funds-wise, as prices keep going up.

In January we will have our awards banquet. Next year the budget needs to be upped to at least \$750!

We are going to try to use the Remind App for Master Gardener reminders. Please get with Mandy if you need to be put on the list.

Shannon stated we need to add pollinator count and the Herb Festival to the agenda.

Meeting adjourned at 5:52pm.

Campbell County Master Gardeners
Regular Meeting
September 11, 2023
Sandi Aberle's home – Gillette WY

The September Membership Meeting was called to order by President Rich Kistler at 6:10pm. A quorum was established. Thank you, Sandi, for hosting us in your gorgeous and fruitful backyard! Thank you to the three ladies that hosted us at their homes this year – Sandi, Linette, and Cathy.

Attending the meeting were Sandi Aberle, Cathy Crain, Shannon Hudson, Sandra Hunter, Rich Kistler, Heather Kleiner, Patsy Larson, Audrey Mertz, Janet Thompson, Linette West, and Mandy Reynolds.

Sandi moved to approve the August minutes as written. Audrey seconded it. Motion carried.

Cathy Crain gave the Treasurer's report. Deposits this past month were \$164.20 for the sale of the books at the Herb Festival, interest for checking account was \$2.03 and the interest for the savings account was \$0.09. Expenses included the gift cards for the ladies in the extension office at \$316.32, boosting ads on Facebook for \$150.00, Fair awards cashed thus far at \$75, and the purchase of an apple tree for the Urban Orchard from the Plant Shack for \$44.09. Cathy will call the Fair Office to see how many fair awards from the Master Gardeners were awarded.

All of the Master Gardener publications have been removed from the website currently. No one is quite certain why or how. The University of Wyoming decided to split the job that was previously Chris Hilgert's position. There will now be a State Master Gardener Coordinator and a State Extension Specialist. Donna Hoffman has taken the position of the State Master Gardener Coordinator. She will also continue being the Natrona County Coordinator as well. The State Extension Specialist still needs to be hired. We may need to reach out to our legislation to discuss the University's need to increase Master Gardener support.

The 2024 State Conference is only a year away! Would we be interested in hosting? We need to reach out to all the members and find out if there is an interest. A vote for this needs to be added to the October agenda. There is no Herb Festival next year, so we could possibly host it. The speakers would talk for 45 minutes to an hour. We may want to make it a requirement that we get to decide the topics covered if we are going to host oppose to the county coordinators.

The 2023 Herb Festival was a huge success! We had over eighty people go through it that were counted, and we know there were more. Thank you so much to everyone for their hard work! It was only a success due to each of the participants!

The Pollinator Count is on Wednesday, September 14th, at 1215. We will need people to come help with this. Mandy will not be able to be there. Shannon will pick up the supplies from the Extension office. Theresa, who has done a fabulous job in the past, will no longer be able to be the Tree Sale Chair. We will ask Fawn or Jody to see if they are interested or see if they might be interested in splitting the position. We also need to schedule a tree sale meeting. Lincoln Oakes does not have their order form ready yet, though.

The Education/GLEE committee also needs to meet in the near future. After elections in November would be the most beneficial. We may be able to do this as a zoom call.

The September GLEE class is on hydroponics and growing inside. Sandi is working on putting a presentation together. The class in Gillette is on the 14th. Due to it being in the Pioneer Rooms, chairs will be set up, but no tables. She asked if would be interested in talking about growing plants in the house, but no one volunteered.

The October GLEE class will be the pumpkin succulent class. It will be \$30 prepaid. We will do two classes, one from 10 to 12 and another from 2 to 4. Our first choice for dates is October 14th and second choice is October 7th. Sandi has succulents, Patsy has two flats, and Jody possibly has some as well.

For our meeting in October the extension office will be calling everyone. At the meeting, we will explain about Master Gardeners and what is coming up. After the meeting, we will learn about planting amaryllises and have a potluck. Sandi cross pollinates using black q-tips!

The Nominating Committee needs to find individuals for offices soon. Nominations and interests need to be to Mandy by November 1st.

The November meeting has been moved to November 13th. In December there needs to be a budget meeting. Chairs need to start thinking about what they will need, funds-wise, as prices keep going up. In January we will have our Awards Banquet.

We are going to try to use the Remind App for Master Gardener reminders. Please get with Mandy if you need to be put on the list.

It has been brought up a few times to fence in the Urban Orchard. Mandy will talk with Suzy about this and get back to us on the Cam-Plex's desires for a timeline.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.

Pumpkin Succulent

MG GLEE Pumpkin and Succulent Class 10am-12pm and 2pm-4pm in the Cottonwood Room, cost is \$30 per person, RSVP to Mandy or the Extension Office.

SPACE IS LIMITED!!!

Start thinking about your role as a leader!

Officer Elections happen at the November MG Meeting. Please consider running for a position! This is a great way to learn more about the business side of the group and help to make decisions for 2024. Reach out to the current Nominating committee and Mandy to ask questions!

2023 Committees

Advertising/ FaceBook

Bill Brown
Rich Kistler
Mary Schoen
Kathryne Schwartz
Nikole Schroeder

Awards/Banquet

Linette West, Chair
Katie Hudson
Shannon Hudson
Heather Kleiner
Teresa Norton
Katie Schwartz
Suzy Blakesley
Rich Kistler
Audrey Mertz

Education

Sandi Aberle, Chair
Mary Schoen, Chair
Bill Brown
Cathy Crain
Shannon Hudson
Rich Kistler
Sharon Murphree
Nikole Schroeder
Carol Palmer

Garden Walk

Rich Kistler, Chair
Sandi Aberle
Bill Brown
Shannon Hudson
Sandra Hunter
Heather Kleiner
Linette West
Sharon Murphree
Cathy Crain
Suzy Blakesley
Kathryne Schwartz
Fawn Conrad
Jody Kruse
Marita Roussey
Carol Palmer

Nominating

Sandi Aberle
Cathy Crain
Rich Kistler
Shannon Hudson
Diane Monahan
Mary Schoen

Tree Sale

Teresa Norton, Chair
Bill Brown
Cathy Crain
Shannon Hudson
Faye Jorgenson
Jody Kruse
Monika Yount
Janet Thompson
Mary Schoen
Patsy Larson
Suzy Blakesley
Holly Galloway
Fawn Conrad
Synneva Richardson
Ned Stroup
Marita Roussey

Urban Orchard - Pollinator Count/ Herb & Perennial Bed/ Herb Festival/ Seed Library

Shannon Hudson, Chair all four
Sandi Aberle
Suzy Blakesley, Pollinator Count, H&P Bed, Herb Fest.
Cathy Crain- all
Sandra Hunter- H & P Bed, Herb Fest.
Heather Kleiner-H & P Bed, Herb Fest.
Jody Kruse-H & P Bed, Herb Fest., Seed Library
Patsy Larson
Kathryne Schwartz
Linette West- Pollinator Count, Herb Fest.
Monika Yount - all
Janet Thompson - H & P Bed, Seed Library
Sandy Johnson - H & P Bed
Marita Roussey- all
Nikole Schroeder- all



If you need assistance logging your hours, let me know!
I am here to help you!

Many of you have volunteer hours for 2023!

Report Period: 01/01/2023 to 12/31/2023

Total Volunteers with Approved Hours: 20

Total Contacts: 416

Total Male Contacts: 106

Total Female Contacts: 310

Total Volunteer Hours: 349

Total CE Hours: 335

Total Produce Donated: 19lbs.

You can find the link here:

<https://wyoextension.org/campbellcounty/agriculture-horticulture/master-gardener/>

Or go straight to the page here:

<https://www.uwyoextension.org/mastergardener/login.php>

If you have forgotten how to do it here is a quick reminder:

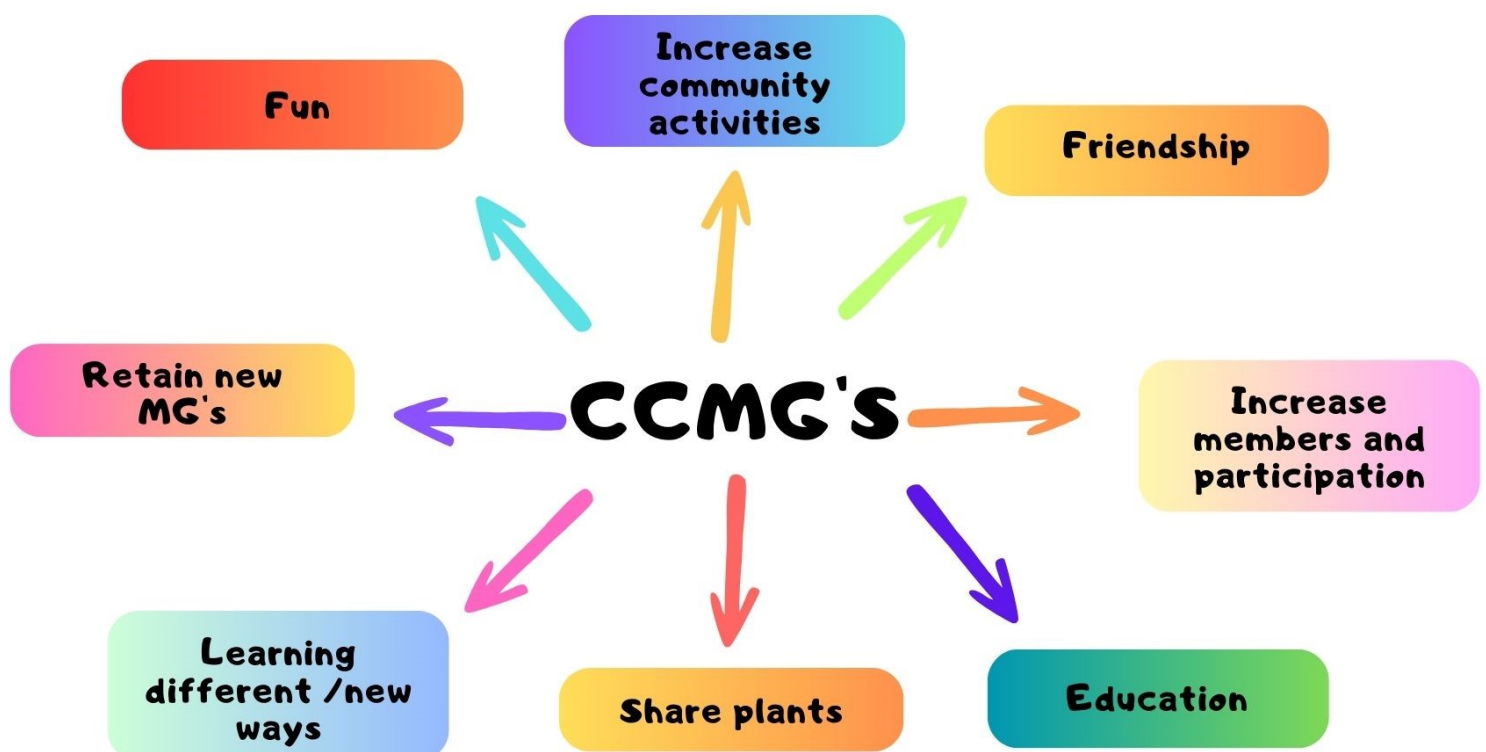
Username: first letter of your first name and your entire last name.

Example: Mandy Reynolds

Username: **mreynolds** Password: If you have not already logged in and changed your password, then your password is just: **password**

Thank you to all of you that have logged your hours so far!

Campbell County Master Gardeners agree these are some of the many reasons to be a Master Gardener!





Join Mandy for classes the 4th Tuesday of each Month this fall!

October 24th.

November 28th

Class is limited to 20. RSVP by October 13th

Call the office for more information and to RSVP 307-682-7281

Thank you Juniper Westervelt for submitting your 2023 Pollinator Counts! Juniper attended the MG GLEE Bees, Bugs and Butterflies in June and documented pollinators. She has also signed up for Junior Master Gardeners this fall!

MED



Juniper

DUE SEPT. 15th

2023 Pollinator Counts

Conduct observations in the afternoon between noon and 4pm when temperatures are over 60°F and when skies are clear, partly cloudy, or bright overcast. You can count as long as you can see your shadow and the wind speed is low (gentle breeze). Conduct observations in the same area for every count. Observe plants evenly over the area for 15 minutes.



Date	Start Time	End Time	Native Bees	Honey Bees	Wasps/Hornets	Flies	Butterflies/Moths	Notes
Aug 21	11:17 am	11:26	11	11100	119111	11111	11111111	✓ easy/hard
Aug 23	10:16 am	10:25	0812	81218	93	11111111	11111111	✓ easy/hard
Aug 24	6:27 am	6:31 pm		1111		1	1111	easy/hard
Aug 25	12:28 am	12:34	31	11111	5	11	111111	✓ (easy) hard
Aug 28	11:48 am	12:00	1	1111	1111	11111	111111	✓ easy/hard
Aug 28	12:11 pm	12:14	11	11111111			11111111	easy/hard
Sep 4 th	5:20 pm	5:33 pm	11	11111111	11	111	111111	easy/hard
Sep 8 th	4:48 pm	4:55 pm	11111	11111111	111	11111	111111	
Sep 10 th	3:36 am	3:41 am	1111	1111111	1111	111111	1111	
Sep 11	11:32 am	11:42 am	111111	1111111	111	111111	111	I also watched in dark
Sep 13	12:05	12	1111	11111	1111	1111	111111	
Sep 15	11:14 am	11:23 am	111111	1111111	111111	1111	111	

Reports from International Master Gardener Conference 2023



Science based Companion Planting

The general session on Thursday by Jessica Walliser was on companion planting with scientific data to back it up. This was one of the most informative talks I went to. The talk provided answers and reasons why companion planting works. She discussed how interplanting certain plants helped others acquire food, control insects, invite beneficial insects to the garden and improve soil health. It will improve yield productivity and plant health.

Using polycultures [many different plants] in the garden instead of monoculture insures a more healthy and robust garden. Interplanting will help with weeds, pests and diseases and bring in more pollinators. I always remember my grandmother's garden. She planted in rows with certain distance between each plant/row. She kept each group of plants together and did not plant many flowers. She tilled the soil every year. I find this is a hard habit for me to break because of the nostalgia involved but I am working on it even though it makes me uncomfortable.

I highly recommend the book "Plant Partners Science Based Companion Planting Strategies for the Vegetable Garden" by Jessica Walliser.

Sandra Hunter

October 2023						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 MG Steering Mtg 5:15pm, POTLUCK MG General Mtg 6pm @ Cottonwood Room	3	4 Prairie Community Garden Work Day 5pm-7pm	5	6	7 North Community Garden Busy Bee Day 10am-12pm
8	9 Extension Office closed for Columbus Day	10	11 Tree Sale Committee Meeting 1pm-3pm @ Cottonwood Room	12 North Community Garden Busy Bee Day 4pm-6pm	13	14 MG GLEE Pumpkin Succulent Class 10am-12pm and 2pm-4pm @ Cottonwood Room, RSVP and \$30 fee paid by the 11th
15	16	17 Wyoming Walks at Cam-Plex Park and Urban Orchard 5:30pm	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 Dixondale Onion Orders due to Mandy	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				



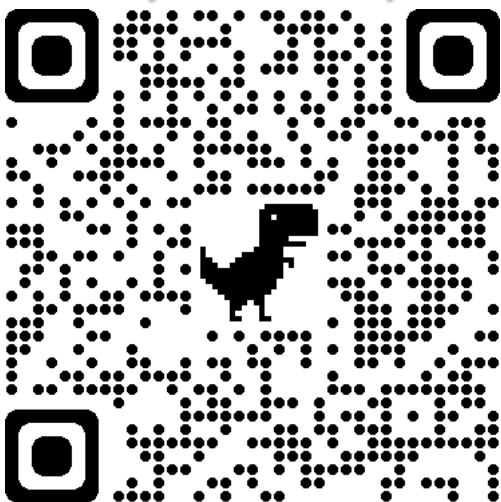
Extension
Campbell County

412 S. Gillette Ave.
Gillette, WY 82716
307.682.7281



In The Dirt October 2023

Here is a quick way to report your volunteer hours! Using your smartphone, follow the directions below.



1. Open the camera app on your smartphone.
2. Focus the camera on the QR code, you might have to gently tap the code. You also might have move your phone around until it "picks up" the QR code.
3. Follow the instructions on the screen to complete the action. It might ask if you want to open "uwoextension.org" in Safari.
4. Tap on that link and you are to the reporting link.

<https://uwoextension.org/campbellcounty>

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