

# In The Dirt June 2024

Hello Master Gardeners and Community Garden Members!

The Master Gardener Meeting is at the Prairie Community Garden on Monday, June 3rd. The garden is on Destination Drive by the Gillette College Tech Center. Please bring a lawn chair and wear clothes appropriate for making cement rhubarb leaves.

The Gardening for Kids event has been planned for June 27th from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM at Cam-Plex Park Shelter #4 and at the Urban Orchard. We are planning on setting up starting at 2:30 PM that day. This event is free to the public and we are hoping with all of our advertising that we are looking at a good turnout. The committee has met twice and has come up with some really great ideas for this event. We will be reaching out to some of you asking for your assistance for running a booth during this event.

The Master Gardeners have planned a few field trips this summer and fall. On June 29<sup>th</sup> the Master Gardeners plan to go to Buffalo for a tour and also up to Sandra Hunter's cabin for lunch. You will need to pack your own lunch for this trip. They plan to meet at 8:30 AM at the Extension Office and carpool from there to Buffalo. There will be more details coming soon. They also have a trip planned possibly July 27th to tour a geothermal garden in Moorcroft and a garden in Rozet. Hopefully in September there will be an overnight trip planned to meet up with Scott Skogerboe and tour the Arboretum in Cheyenne. The Master Gardener State Conference will be on October 4th-6th in Douglas. More details will be coming soon.

The spring Master Gardener class finished up with their last class being at the tree sale. They volunteered for three hours and completed orders for March and April. This was a great way to introduce them to some volunteering and it was also a great help to the tree sale volunteers! I very much look forward to them volunteering in the future and seeing what they bring to the Master Gardener program.

At the May Master Gardener meeting Sandi Aberle taught us apple tree grafting. This was quite exciting and something fun that we were able to do as a group. I did purchase two hand grafting tools if anyone is interested in checking them out from the Extension Office.

Feel free to reach out to me anytime.

Mandy Reynolds  
Horticulture Program Coordinator

## Dates to Remember

- June 3rd:** MG Steering Meeting, 5:15pm at Prairie Community Garden at the Gillette College, off of Destination Drive.
- June 3rd: MG General Meeting, 6pm at Prairie Community Garden at the Gillette College, off of Destination Drive. We are making cement rhubarb leaves! Dress accordingly and bring a lawn chair!**
- June 11th:** North Community Garden Meeting 7pm at the garden.
- June 12th:** Pollinator Count at the Urban Orchard at 12:15pm.
- June 18th:** Gardening for Kids Meeting 5pm Cottonwood Room.
- June 18th:** Prairie Community Garden Meeting 7pm at the garden.
- June 27th: MG Gardening for Kids at Shelter 4 and the Urban Orchard 4-7pm. Set up at 2:30pm.**
- June 29th:** MG field trip to Buffalo, meet at Extension Office at 8:30am
- July 1st:** MG Meeting location TBD.
- July 4th:** Happy 4th of July!
- July 10th:** Pollinator Count at the Urban Orchard at 12:15pm.
- July 11th:** Possibly MG's pre-tour of the Gardens on the Walk.
- July 13th:** MG Garden Walk

## Websites!

- <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/pollinators>
- <https://noursefarms.com/>

Campbell County Master Gardeners  
Steering Committee Meeting  
March 4, 2024  
Cottonwood Room, GAMB

The March Steering Committee Meeting was called to order by President Rich Kistler at 5:11 PM. A quorum was established.

Attending the meeting were Cathy Crain, Rich Kistler, Mandy Reynolds, Katie Hudson, Kathyne Schwartz, Linette West, Suzy Blakesley, Ned Stroup, and Shannon Hudson.

The agenda was reviewed:

No one saw anything wrong with the February minutes as written. They will need to be approved at the member meeting.

Treasurer Cathy Crain then gave the Treasurer's Report. Income included interest from the checking and savings accounts, the floral arrangement class, and tree sales. Expenses included Facebook ads, GLEE educational material, MG fairy garden supplies, and GPA camera rental.

The Garden Walk is July 13<sup>th</sup>. We have three to four for sure, but need more.

For the February GLEE class on floral arrangements, there were thirty participants as well as more who watched. There are two different classes scheduled for April. The 15<sup>th</sup> will be a Native Plants class, while the 23<sup>rd</sup> in Wright and 24<sup>th</sup> in Gillette will be container gardening.

The Tree sale is May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Rich has a Square Tower (type of cash register) from his greenhouse that he will set up to use at the tree sale.

Linette and Rich went to the Spring Fever in Rapid City on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Linette will talk about it during the member meeting.

Harvest Wyoming is coming up on April 6<sup>th</sup>, from 9 to 3 in Sheridan.

We need to vote on the proposed 2024 budget. If there is too much discussion, we will table it until the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 5:37.

---

Campbell County Master Gardeners  
Member Meeting  
March 4, 2024  
Cottonwood Room, GAMB

The March Member Meeting was called to order by President Rich Kistler at 6:05. A quorum was established.

Introductions were made and a huge thank you to Tracey Archer for our charcuterie board!!!

Attending the meeting were Suzy Blakesley, Bill Brown, Fawn Conrad, Cathy Crain, Danielle Curtis, Marilyn Herr, Katie Hudson, Shannon Hudson, Sandra Hunter, Rich Kistler, Heather Kleiner, Jody Kruse, Patsy Larson, Audrey Mertz, Diane Monahan, Sharon Murphree, Becky Olmstead, Mandy Reynolds, Synneva Richardson, Jaelene Ritterhouse, Marita Rousey, Karla Schwartz, Kathyne Schwartz, Ned Stroup, Londen Tabor, Janet Thompson, Linette West, and Crystal Wirth.

Guest Gerald Gardener spoke to the group. Gerald is a Master of Bonsai. During May there will be an art and bonsai show at AVA that all are invited to join in with and present their art and/or bonsai trees. April 27<sup>th</sup> through the 30<sup>th</sup> of April will be the drop off time. There will be an Artists' Reception on May 9<sup>th</sup>, from 6 to 8. Pick up will be May 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>. Photographs, drawings, and paintings related to flowers, plants and trees are welcome, as are potted plants, Bonsai trees, and bouquets of flowers. If preferred, plants only need to stay for a week. Please contact Gerald with questions, concerns, and for more information at 307-685-2041.

Diane Monahan moved to approve the February secretary minutes as written. Cathy Crain seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Treasurer Cathy Crain gave the Treasurer's Report. Income included interest from the savings and checking accounts, the floral arrangement class, and tree sales. Expenses included Facebook ads, GLEE education material from the floral arrangement class, MG fairy garden supplies, and GPA camera rental. If you would like a copy of the amounts, please speak with Cathy.

The Garden Walk is scheduled for July 13<sup>th</sup>. We have three houses for sure as well as some possibles. We need more houses.

The Floral Arrangement February GLEE class went super well. There were thirty participants, with others watching. We will possibly schedule another in the future.

minutes continued on next page

minutes continued from previous page

The April GLEE classes include a Native Plants class on the 15<sup>th</sup> by the Native Plants of Wyoming Society in Laramie, here in the Cottonwood Room. On the 23<sup>rd</sup> in Wright and then the 24<sup>th</sup> in Gillette will be container gardening, which will be presented by approximately five speakers.

Harvest Wyoming is on April 6<sup>th</sup> from 9 to 3 in Sheridan.

The Tree Sale is May 2<sup>nd</sup>. For those who are new or who have not helped before, please feel free to jump in and help! It will be at the Ice Arena. Rich will be setting up his Square Tower (a cash register system from his greenhouse) for us to use.

Committee sign-ups are on the side tables. Mandy went through the list of committees.

Six people went to the Spring Fever in Rapid City on March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Suzy Blakeley moved to approve the budget as proposed. Fawn Conrad seconded it. During the discussion, Janet asked about the trailer expense and it was reported this was for licensing. Sandra asked about the gazebo expenses, and it was reported this amount is for planting. Diane asked who to politely ask to take care of the gazebo. It was reported that Parks and Rec are looking for two to three people, and they would be taking care of the gazebo as part of their job. Motion was carried.

The next meeting is April 1<sup>st</sup>. Our next social is May 6<sup>th</sup> after the meeting, which will be apple grafting.

Meeting adjourned at 6:42. This was followed by building our fairy gardens.

---

**Campbell County Master Gardeners  
Steering Committee Meeting  
May 6, 2024  
Cottonwood Room, GAMB**

The May Steering Committee Meeting was called to order by President Rich Kistler at 5:14 PM. A quorum was established.

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

The agenda was reviewed:

A May newsletter will not be going out, per se. It will probably be a combined May and June newsletter. As the April minutes have not yet been turned in, approving the minutes for March, April, and May will happen in June.

Treasurer Cathy Crain gave the treasurer's report. Income included interest from both checking and savings account, as well as tree sales. Expenses included sales tax for the first quarter of 2024, Nourse Farms for plants for the Tree Sale, Crazy Daisy for a thank you gift for the speaker of the Native Plants class, Teacher's Corner for laminating the signs, Dominoes Pizza for lunch during the Tree Sale, Makala Riley for Christmas ornaments from Joanns for the upcoming wreath class, and Wyoming Department of Agriculture for our Ag License.

The Native Plants GLEE class was on April 15<sup>th</sup>. Cathy shared about the class. The speaker had multiple pictures of different native plants. We are in two different zones – both Great Plains and the Grasslands, giving us multiple native plants. The Showy Milkweed as well as the Swamp Milkweed are native here. The Showy Milkweed is very aggressive and invasive, while the Swamp Milkweed does not spread as easily.

The Container Gardening classes were on April 23<sup>rd</sup> in Wright and the 24<sup>th</sup> in Gillette. During the member meeting we will have one of the speakers share about the class.

Mandy will speak regarding the tree sale. A lot of work went on to get us to that point, as we started in October!

The Garden Walk is on July 13<sup>th</sup>, not the 19<sup>th</sup> as the agenda states. Rich will speak on this.

HUGE thank you to Mandy, Tracey, and Treasure for all the help and planning!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

We will ask Janet to report on the Tour of MGs during the member meeting.

Rich will be selling the leftover trees at his greenhouse this weekend. He would love volunteers to come help! Friday the 10<sup>th</sup>, it will be open from 4 to 8 PM, Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup> from 10 to 5, and Sunday the 12<sup>th</sup> from 10 to 5. Our next social event will be in June, and we will be making Leaf Stepping Stones. We decided to do this right after our June member meeting at the Prairie Community Garden.

We are planting the leftover raspberries from the tree sale at the Urban Orchard. Mandy will speak with Suzy regarding the best location for them.

The Wyoming Master Gardener Association meets in Douglas on Friday at 10. If anyone wants to go with Mandy, they are welcome!

Meeting adjourned at 5:38.

Campbell County Master Gardeners  
Member Meeting  
May 6, 2024  
Cottonwood Room, GAMB

The May Member Meeting was called to order by President Rich Kistler at 6 PM. A quorum was established.

Attending the meeting were Mandy Reynolds, Sandi Abele, Heather Ayers, Bill Brown, Fawn Conrad, Cathy Crain, Cathrine Gallilee, Katie Hudson, Shannon Hudson, Rich Kistler, Heather Kleiner, Jody Kruse, Patsy Larson, Audrey Mertz, Becky Olmstead, Synneva Richardson, Jaelene Ritterhouse, Marita Roussey, and Kathryn Schwartz.

Introductions were made, as well as answering if we were growing vegetables, flowers, and/or herbs, as well as if we plant via raised beds, pots, hydroponics, or in the ground. We had few new Master Gardener trainees at the meeting and are so glad to have them joining us!

The March, April, and May minutes will be in the May/June newsletter and voted on in June at our next member meeting.

Treasurer Cathy Crain gave the Treasurer's Report. Income included interest from both checking and savings account, as well as tree sales. Expenses included sales tax for the first quarter of 2024, Nourse Farms, Crazy Daisy, Teacher's Corner, Dominoes Pizza, Makala Riley for Christmas ornaments from Joanns for the upcoming wreath class, and Wyoming Department of Agriculture.

Cathy reported on the Native Plants GLEE Class that was on April 15th. It was a very interesting class with close to 40 people attending. We are between the Great Plains and Prairie, so our native plants are from both. She also shared the Showy Milkweed as well as the Swamp Milkweed are native here. The Showy Milkweed is very aggressive and invasive, while the Swamp Milkweed does not spread as easily.

Heather, and others that went, reported on the Container Gardening class on April 24<sup>th</sup> in Gillette. It went amazingly well! Kathryn reported that the class in Wright had about ten people attending and it went great as well.

Thank you Mandy for overseeing the tree sale! The work for it started back in October! The volunteering was great! Mandy had her MG course class work on the tree sale as one of their classes and it was a great way to get them involved and show them a little of the work that goes behind it. The leftover trees will be sold at Rich's greenhouse this upcoming weekend.

Now that the Tree Sale is done, we really need to jump in and figure out the Garden Walk. It is scheduled for the 13<sup>th</sup> of July (not the 19<sup>th</sup> as stated on the agenda). Rich will be letting everyone know when the next meeting is. If you want to be added to the committee, please email Mandy.

June 27<sup>th</sup> will be Gardening for Kids. This will be set up similar to the Herb Festival, with different booths. We will be having a meeting on Wednesday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, from 1 to 3. All are welcome!

Whenever we have a GLEE or social event, Mandy, Treasure, and Tracey are welcome to join in for free! We so appreciate all their help and planning!!!!

The Tour of MGs Committee met and put together a list of tours. Patsy shared that we are looking at doing three; one the end of June, one in July, and one in September. One of the June or July ones will be a tour around the Buffalo area, including to a hydroponics farm. The other of those two will be to the Moorcroft and Rozet area, including a geothermal greenhouse in Moorcroft. The September one will be an overnight trip to Cheyenne, where we will meet Scott Skogerboe for a tour of the experimental tree farm. The cost for Scott is \$350, which includes \$300 for his time and \$50 for his travel expenses. We had budgeted \$1000 for MG field trips.

Jody moved to do the trip to Cheyenne in September, to pay Scott's fee of \$350, as well as paying \$50 per person for room allowance, covering any excess of the \$1000 budgeted with extra funds from our accounts. Sandi Aberle seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Dates for the three Tours of MGs will be shared ASAP.

Rich will be selling the leftover trees at his greenhouse this weekend. He would love volunteers to come help! Friday the 10<sup>th</sup>, it will be open from 4 to 8 PM, Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup> from 10 to 5, and Sunday the 12<sup>th</sup> from 10 to 5. The address is 85 Patrick Henry RD.

Our June meeting is on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. It will be held at the Prairie Community Garden. After the member meeting we will be making leaf stepping stones, which Sandi Aberle will be teaching. Any extras that are made will be used as gifts for the owners of the homes that will be on the Garden walk.

We are planting the leftover raspberries from the tree sale at the Urban Orchard. Mandy will speak with Suzy regarding the best location for them. Mandy also explained what the Urban Orchard is. Due to the rain and cold temperatures forecasted for Wednesday, the pollinator count for May has been canceled. We will start up in June.

Mandy will be on a much deserved and needed vacation to Mexico from May 20<sup>th</sup> through the 29<sup>th</sup>. Enjoy your vacation Mandy!!!

minutes continued on next page

minutes continued from previous page

The Wyoming Master Gardener Association meets in Douglas on Friday at 10. If anyone wants to go with Mandy, they are welcome! She plans to leave the office around 8:15 AM.

Patsy brought up that Sandi had worked on grant paperwork, for a \$750 grant. The grant would be used to build additional raised beds at the Prairie Community Garden. These raised beds would be used to do classes for the Master Gardeners, Prairie Garden, JMG, 4H and anyone else. Patsy moved to approve turning in this grant. Kathyne seconded it. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:58.

Suzu brought in Night Blooming Orchid Cactus cuttings for anyone who wants some. Sandi Aberle then taught an AMAZING class on tree grafting.

The State Master Gardener Conference will be October 4th-6th in Douglas. We will need to bring 3 centerpieces and 3 silent auction items. In addition to the centerpieces, they would like us to bring small favors for each person at the table. The items can be something that represents our county or group. Keep your eyes open for any "Journey Into The Garden" items for the silent auction. Watch for more information to come.

## "JOURNEY INTO THE GARDEN"

SAVE THE DATE

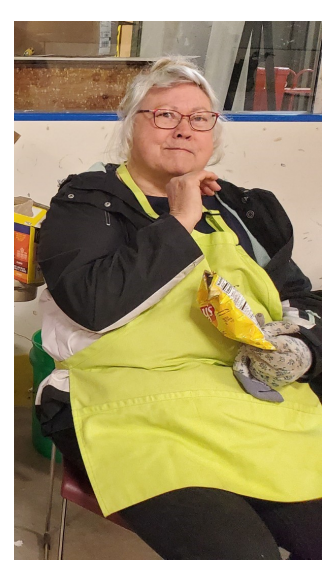
October 4, 5, & 6.  
Eastern Wyoming College facility  
in Douglas, Wyoming.

SAVE THE DATE



Donna Hoffman  
Agriculture and Natural Resources Educator  
Horticulture Program Coordinator  
State Master Gardener Program Coordinator

The University of Wyoming, United States Department of Agriculture and Natrona County cooperate.  
The University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institute.



# Volunteers!!

We rarely get pictures of the tree sale in action! Thank you so much to everyone that was able to help with the sale!



June 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 MG Steering Mtg 5:15pm, MG General Mtg, 6pm @ Prairie Community Garden	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 North Community Garden Meeting, 7pm @ the garden	12 Pollinator Count 12:15pm at Urban Orchard	13	14	15
16 Happy Father's Day!	17	18 MG Gardening for Kids Meeting 5pm, Cottonwood Room  Prairie Community Garden Meeting, 7pm @ the garden	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 GLEE Gardening for Kids **FREE** 4pm-7pm Shelter 4 CampPlex Park	28	29 MG field trip meet at 8:30am at the Extension Office
30						

# 2024 Committees

## Advertising/ FaceBook

Bill Brown  
Rich Kistler  
Synneva Richardson  
Nikole Schroeder  
Kathryne Schwartz  
Crystal Wirth

## Awards/Banquet

*Linette West, Chair*  
Charity Beck  
Suzy Blakesley  
Katie Hudson  
Shannon Hudson  
Rich Kistler  
Heather Kleiner  
Audrey Mertz  
Sharon Murphree  
Jaelene Ritterhouse  
Kathryne Schwartz

## Education/GLEE

*Sandi Aberle, Chair*  
*Kathryne Schwartz, Chair*  
Suzy Blakesley  
Bill Brown  
Cathy Crain  
Shannon Hudson  
Sandra Hunter  
Rich Kistler  
Jody Kruse  
Sharon Murphree  
Carol Palmer  
Nikole Schroeder

## Gardening for Kids

*Shannon Hudson, Chair*  
Suzy Blakesley  
Fawn Conrad  
Marilyn Heer  
Sandra Hunter  
Heather Kleiner  
Becky Olmstead  
Synneva Richardson  
Marita Roussey  
Nikole Schroeder  
Londen Tabor  
Crystal Wirth

## Garden Walk

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

## Nominating

Sandi Aberle  
Cathy Crain  
Rich Kistler  
Shannon Hudson  
Diane Monahan  
Kathryne Schwartz

## Tree Sale

Sandi Aberle  
Charity Beck  
Suzy Blakesley  
Bill Brown  
Fawn Conrad  
Cathy Crain  
Holly Galloway  
Shannon Hudson  
Jody Kruse  
Patsy Larson  
Sharon Materi  
Becky Olmstead  
Synneva Richardson  
Jaelene Ritterhouse  
Marita Roussey  
Kathryne Schwartz  
Ned Stroup  
Londen Tabor  
Janet Thompson  
Monika Yount

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

*Shannon Hudson, Chair all four*  
Sandi Aberle, all  
Charity Beck, all  
Suzy Blakesley, all  
Fawn Conrad, Pollinator, Herb Fest.  
Cathy Crain, all  
Sandra Hunter- H & P Bed, Herb Fest.  
Sandy Johnson- H & P Bed  
Heather Kleiner-H & P Bed, Herb Fest.  
Jody Kruse- H & P Bed, Herb Fest., Seed Library  
Patsy Larson- Herb Fest., Seed Library  
Sharon Materi- all  
Carol Palmer- Seed Library  
Synneva Richardson- all  
Jaelene Ritterhouse- all  
Marita Roussey- all  
Nikole Schroeder- all  
Kathryn Schwartz- Herb Fest.  
Londen Tabor- all  
Janet Thompson- Pollinator, H&P Bed, Seed Library  
Linette West- Pollinator Count, Herb Fest.  
Monika Yount- all

If you want to be on any of the committees, please let Mandy know. We want to make sure you are included in any correspondence.

You can also volunteer for an event and not be on the committee. Let Mandy or the Chair of the committee know if are available for events.



Extension  
Campbell County

412 S. Gillette Ave.  
Gillette, WY 82716  
307.682.7281



## In The Dirt June 2024

---



<https://wyoextension.org/campbellcounty>

*Issued in furtherance of extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Kelly Crane, Director, University of Wyoming Extension, University of Wyoming, Laramie, Wyoming 82071. • The University's policy has been, and will continue to be, one of nondiscrimination, offering equal opportunity to all employees and applicants for employment on the basis of their demonstrated ability and competence without regard to such matters as race, sex, gender, color, religion, national origin, disability, age, veteran status, sexual orientation, genetic information, political belief, or other status protected by state and federal statutes or University Regulations.*

*Trade or brand names used in this publication are used only for the purpose of educational information. The information given herein is supplied with the understanding that no discrimination is intended, and no endorsement information of products by the University of Wyoming Extension is implied. Nor does it imply approval of products to the exclusion of others, which may also be suitable.*