



The Sage Gardener



From the Editor... *Bob Prchal*



**WE ARE A
COMMUNITY**

Watering the Garden



The amount of water that your garden will need is going to depend on the weather conditions in your area. The primary rule of summer watering is to water thoroughly and deeply each time and to allow the soil dry out between watering's. Deep watering will allow the plant's roots to grow deeper, where they are less likely to dry out, as well as the

added benefit of anchoring the plant into the ground better. Light, surface watering actually wastes water, because the water never actually reaches the root zone of the plant, and the moisture rapidly evaporates from the top inch of soil.

The best way to tell if your plants are receiving enough water is to take a trowel or shovel and dig down a few inches. The soil should be moist at least 3 or 4 inches deep to insure that the water is reaching the root zone of the plants. Of course, if you planted drought resistant plants in your garden, you won't have to water as often, but the principal of deep watering still applies. As the weather dries out, your container plants may need daily watering, especially if the pots are exposed to the drying sunlight. Push your finger into the soil in your container plantings at least once a day (*more often on hot, dry days*) to feel for moisture and be certain that plants are getting enough water. Apply water until it runs out the drainage holes.

Try to do your watering during the morning hours so that the leaves can dry off a bit before the hot sun hits them. Evening watering is sometimes acceptable if the temperatures are warm enough to insure that foliage dries before the temperature drops at night. (*Wet foliage makes plants more susceptible to fungus and disease.*)

from thegardenhelper.com

Volume 12, Issue 6

June 2016

Meetings & Events

- **June 06**
MG Mtg. in Cody
@ 7:00 pm
- **July 11**
MG Mtg. in Powell
@ 7:00 pm
- **July 26-30**
Park County Fair
@ 7:00 pm
- **August 01**
MG Mtg. in Cody @ Park
County Library, Grizzly
Room @ 7:00 pm



Meeting Minutes... submitted by Teri Boyd



President Sandy Frost convened the June 06, 2016 meeting to order @ 7 pm in the EOC Room of the Park County Courthouse

Attendance... Sandy Frost, Teri Boyd, Char Stewart-McCue, Donna Haman, Ann Hinckley, Karen Anderson, Rita Lewis, Darlene Manning, Kathy Clarkson, Rhonda Faulkner, Bob Prchal, Suzanne Larsen, Ronda McLean, Kim Pierson, Andi Pierson, Valerie Bates, Linda Pettengill and Mickey Waddell. **Interns:** Lisa Beaumont, Della Sheridan, Sharon Pearson, Jackie Van Noy, Brian Beauvais, and Nikki Andrews. **Guests:** Jeremiah Vardiman, Megan Bates, Kaylee Wight and Jeremiah Wight.

Approval of Minutes... accepted as submitted. **Treasurer's Report...** accepted as submitted.

Old Business...

- **Park County Fair:** Andi & Kim Pierson will coordinate. Signup for the sessions is needed.
- **Junior Master Gardener program:** Kathy Clarkson provided an update. This youth program (12 kids) is off to a good start.
- **Spring Plant Sale:** The May "Mother's Day" Plant Sale was a financial success. Thanks to all the contributing members.
- **Cody Garden Tour:** Suzanne provided an update and requested members sign up to cover all the yards. Five Gardens are on the tour. Members voted to approve Suzanne's request to be reimbursed for the new signage.
- **Community Garden:** Linda Pettengill reported the drip Irrigation system is complete.

Committee Reports and/or Announcements...

- Covered under "Old" and New" Business

New Business...

- **Member Recognitions:** : Kathy Clarkson completed her trainee requirements & received her Master Gardener badge
- **Master Gardener Emeritus Status:** Ann Hinckley was recognized and honored for her contributions.
- **September Member meeting:** Teri Boyd volunteered to host. Food contributions will be decided at August meeting.

Reminders...

- **Response to emails/Requests for activity support:** Because of the necessity to use email to get important information out or gain feedback from the membership, please respond accordingly when requests/feedback is requested. **Let's respect and help the President or event organizer (s).**
- **WMGA Education Grants:** *Park County Master Gardeners should assess their educational needs and if there is a worthy project that needs assistance, consider applying to the WMGA.*

Refreshments: Char McCue and Suzanne Larsen

Educational Program: Lisa Beaumont... *Flower Farming as a business.*

Adjournment... 8:45pm. **Next Meeting:** In Powell on July 11, 2016 @ 7:00 pm in the Extension meeting room at the Park County Fairgrounds.

Extension Musings... from Joyce Johnston

Seeing red isn't always a bad thing. If you're a hummingbird, red is a welcome sight, an appetizing come-on to a delicious meal of nectar. While hummingbirds will feed from flowers of all colors, they are inordinately tempted by the red and the tubular. Try a combination of annuals, perennials, and vines to create a well-rounded hummingbird garden.

Beardtongues (*Penstemon* species and hybrids, zone 4/5) come in many colors (pink, red, yellow, blue) and all attract hummingbirds. They grow best in full sun and are drought tolerant once established. Heights range from 1-3 feet tall. Well-drained soil is a must.

Cardinal flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*, zone 3) is another North American native perennial, perfect for a sunny to part sunny spot with moist soil. This stately perennial (to 4 feet tall) has deeply saturated red flowers and new hybrids come in many shades of pink and burgundy.

Cypress vine (*Ipomoea quamoclit*) is a fast-growing annual vine for full sun. One of its other common names, hummingbird vine, attests to its attraction for hummers. Small, trumpet-shaped flowers are a vibrant red, and leaves are small, finely cut and quite delicate. This is a lovely plant for a vertical accent.

Columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*, zone 4) is a native North American perennial that grows best in part to full sun. Delicate red and yellow flowers perch above deeply lobed, gray green foliage. Hybrid columbines in many other colors (yellow, blue, purple) are also attractive to hummingbirds.

Fuchsias (*Fuchsia* hybrids) are frost-tender perennials that prefer cool weather and grow best in part shade with good air circulation. They come in many shades of orange, red, and pink, and grow well in containers, hanging baskets, or in the ground.

Giant hyssop (*Agastache* species and hybrids, hardiness varies from zones 4-6) comes in many colors (orange, pink, purple). All are fragrant perennials with flowers that appeal to hummingbirds. In fact, giant hyssop is sometimes called hummingbird mint. These plants require excellent drainage; flowers will be most abundant in full sun.

Mexican catchfly (*Silene laciniata*, zone 5) is a wildflower for dry, infertile soil; it grows best when kept thirsty and hungry. Native to the southwestern U.S. from California to Texas, it's a full sun plant with deep orange blooms and fringed petals that's as irresistible to humans as it is to hummingbirds, although we tend not to drink from them.

Red beebalm (*Monarda didyma*, zone 4) might as well be called red hummingbird balm. Hummingbirds can't get enough of this plant and will visit each slender red tube in succession. Grow bee balm in full sun to part shade.

Red yucca (*Hesperaloe parviflora*, zone 5) is a classic xeric plant with a stiff, architectural rosette of foliage. This Texas native grows best in full sun and well-drained soil. Its strap-like, evergreen leaves are 2-3 feet tall, with the multi-flowered, red bloom spikes rising up to 4-5 feet above the foliage.

Trumpet vine (*Campsis radicans*, zone 4) is a fast growing, drought tolerant vine for full sun. The orange-red flowered varieties are generally more floriferous than yellow and are more appealing to hummingbirds. This is a vigorous grower that can get as much as 40 feet long at maturity. It needs a very sturdy trellis or arbor to support its growth and it can grow rampantly, so be sure to place this vine where it will not quickly grow out of bounds.

These are just a small sampling to whet your appetite and the appetites of your local hummingbird population. Consider the salvias, red hot poker, Indian paintbrush. Think tubular, think reddish, and you're well on your way to creating a little piece of hummingbird heaven.

From www.acmeplant.com



Canal Park Pics from Rita Lewis**New Website** from Rachel Vardiman

Just an FYI... the Master Gardener newsletters are being uploaded to our new website. Not sure how many of you have had a chance to look at it yet, but here is the address:

<http://wyoextension.org/parkcounty/horticulture/park-county-master-gardeners/>

We have a lot of potential here, so let us know if you have thoughts on the webpage.

~ ~ *Rachel Vardiman*

Meeting Pics... From Darlene Manning



Lisa Beaumont... Program speaker



Kathy Clarkson receiving her New Member Badge

4-H Kids Garden Pics from Rachel Olsen



Importance of Volunteer Service... Park County Master Gardeners

Aiding Park County Horticulture & the University of Wyoming

Redoubles number of contacts... better service to the public

Expands 'pool of resources'... increased manpower

Increases the number of 'work' hours to address questions and/or make yard calls

Permits the Horticulturalist to work one-on-one with more clients

Allows more time for development of educational materials and programs

Extends the Horticulture season... extra, available resources

Powell Community Garden Activities from Sandy Frost & Linda Pettengill



Tips from Joyce Johnston... from Handyman Magazine

Portable potting Idea



Plywood shelf creates a stable surface

Cut a piece of plywood roughly to the shape of your wheelbarrow's back end and screw a few wood cleats along the sides to keep it from slipping off while you wheel. Now you'll have both soil and a potting surface right at hand when you take the wheelbarrow to the garden.

Member Birthdays

May

Rhonda McLean

Mary Vogel



It is scientifically proven that people who have more birthdays live longer



2016 Educational Opportunities

Adult Gardening Workshops @ Thomas the Apostle Center

~ Gardening and Care for Creation ~

Theme: 21st Century Gardening in the North American Steppe Series

Date	Workshop	Cost
Saturday, May 7 9 am to 12 pm	Partnered with PCMG. Workshops: "Birds of the Steppe", with Ellie Wiser & "Building a Bird House", with Sandra Frost.	\$25 Pre-registration required
Saturday, June 11 9 am to 12 pm	"Design With Nature" Susan Tweit, writer and plant biologist	\$25 Pre-registration required
Saturday, July 23 9 am to 12 pm	"A Kitchen Gardener's Grocery List: Varieties for Inspired Cuisine" Carol O'Meara, Entomologist from Boulder	\$25 lunch included
Saturday, August 20 9 am to 12 pm	"Inspired by Nature: Making Western Gardens that Mirror the Beauty of Our Prairies, Chapar- rals, and Deserts" Lauren Springer Ogden, garden designer and horticulturist.	\$25 lunch included
Saturday, Septem- ber 10 9 am to 12 pm -	"Annuals for Weather Resilient Color" Marcia Tatroe, gardener and lecturer	\$25 lunch included
Saturday, October 22 10 am to 12 pm	"Cooking With Lentils" Ronda McLean	
Friday and Saturday, October 28 & 29 Times TBA later	"Lentil Underground" Liz Carlisle and Dave Oien.	

10 bug repelling plants to try by Dana Raidt from Pinterest

- 10 - BUG-REPELLING PLANTS

Your Backyard Needs

HELLONATURAL.CO



ONE



TWO



THREE



FOUR



FIVE



SIX



SEVEN



EIGHT



NINE



TEN

1. Petunias

These bright-colored beauties are often planted to repel squash bugs, beetles and aphids. They need a sunny spot, so try them near your vegetable garden or in a window box.

2. Basil

There's an oil in basil that kills mosquito eggs. Plant basil in pots near gathering areas to ward off flies and mosquitoes, and to use in pesto!

3. Marigolds

These pretty, sun-loving plants are often used by farmers to keep pests at bay. They'll help keep mosquitoes and aphids out of your yard.

4. Lavender

The same scent that aids our insomnia and [makes our linens smell amazing](#) is absolutely disgusting to flies, moths and mosquitoes. Plant it if you have a sunny garden, or keep a few bouquets around to ward off the pests.

5. Rosemary

In addition to repelling mosquitoes, potent rosemary will help protect your vegetable plants from infestation.

6. Mint

This pleasant-smelling plant (along with its cousin lemon balm) helps repel biting insects. It's best to plant mint in pots, because it will spread like crazy.

7. Catnip

Also a member of the mint family, catnip repels bugs thanks to its nepetalactone—the same property that attracts cats. Go figure!

8. Chrysanthemums

Pyrethrins, a compound that's found in chrysanthemums and used in many commercial insect repellents, keeps mosquitoes, roaches, beetles, ticks and silverfish away.

9. Alliums

Chives, leeks, onions, garlic, scallions and shallots fall into this group. They grow tall with pretty purple, white or pink flowers and help protect other veggies (and your yard) against slugs, flies and worms, although they can attract moths. Be warned that, like garlic and onions, allium plants can be extremely toxic to dogs and cats.

10. Lemongrass

Citronella is the oil found in lemongrass (thus its slightly citrus-y scent). Lemongrass needs tons of sun, so most of us will have to enjoy it as an annual in the summer.



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Volume 12, Issue 6

June 2016

'Newsletter of the Park County
Master Gardeners'

~~ Content cannot be altered or
changed ~~

Newsletter Articles should be submitted by
the 15th of each month to Bob Prchal

rjprchal@tritnet.net

2016 Officers

President... *Sandy Frost*
Vice President... *Kendra Morris*
Secretary... *Teri Boyd*
Treasurer... *Rhonda Faulkner*



Committee Chairs



Newsletter... *Bob Prchal*
Scrapbook/Historian... *Cathy Swartz*
Park County Fair... *Andi & Kim Pierson*

Cody Garden Tour... *Suzanne Larsen*
Park County Delegates... *Bob Prchal & Sandy Frost*

Change of Address/Phone/"e" Mail... *Rachel Olsen (Powell)*
or *Rachel Vardiman (Cody)*



REMEMBER... Keep it pithy!

Jeremiah Vardiman

Extension Educator

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