

# North Country Gardeners

Burnett, Sawyer, & Washburn Co.

UW-Extension Cooperative Extension

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## Annual Garden Twilight Tour Tuesday August 23

Mark Tuesday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> on your calendars for the Spooner Agriculture Research Station annual twilight garden tour. This is the 10<sup>th</sup> year of the tour. As in the past, University Specialists, UW-Extension staff, and area Master Gardeners will be on hand to lead discussions and help answer questions. Introductions and announcements begin at 5:00 p.m. Immediately following, garden visitors may tour the garden, listen to guest speakers, and ask questions.

Speakers at this year's event include UW-Extension Horticulture Specialist Bob Tomesh and Wisconsin State Master Gardener Program Coordinator Susan Rice Mahr. Bob and Sue will provide information on flowers, vegetables, small fruits and the Master Gardener Program. Back by popular demand is Jim Neinhuis, UW-Madison Vegetable Breeder. Jim "The Vegetable Guy" is a regular guest on WGN in Chicago and Wisconsin Public Radio. Jim will discuss his vegetable breeding efforts and provide demonstrations on fresh salsa making and pepper roasting.

In addition, UW-Extension staff will be available to answer questions on cooking, canning and preserving fruits and vegetables. Local Master Gardeners will also be on hand to answer questions on composting and perennial landscaping.

There are over 350 named plant selections in the garden this year, both annual and perennial. Highlighted for the first time will be the station's Allium vegetable collection of onions, leeks and shallots. The garden is an official All American Selections Display featuring award winning annual flowers and vegetables from 2001-2006. There is also a landscaped perennial display featuring roses, flowering shrubs, ornamental grasses and other flowering perennials.

In addition to the speakers, there will be a tasting table of all available ripe vegetable varieties.

Garden visitors are also welcome to bring plant and insect samples along for identification. Bring samples in clearly labeled plastic baggies so that if we need to get back to you with an answer, we have your name and contact information.

The demonstration garden is a joint effort between the Spooner Agriculture Research Station, UW-Extension, and North Country Master Gardeners Association. The garden is free and open to the public August through September for self guided tours. Guided tours are available upon request.

The garden is located 1/2 mile north of Highway 70 on Orchard Lane, across from the Sheep Research Facilities at the Spooner Ag Research Station. The research station is located one mile east of Spooner on Highway 70. Watch for garden meeting signs.

**University of Wisconsin-Extension  
Area Agricultural Agents Office  
Spooner Ag Research Station  
W6646 Highway 70  
Spooner, Wisconsin 54801  
(715) 635-3506 or  
Toll Free 800-528-1914**

## New book available on Wisconsin's famous and historic trees

MADISON – Was a bubbling spring beside a great old oak in Waukesha truly what cured an aging diabetic? Was a hollow basswood near Ladysmith really a crude coffin for a man escaping Indian pursuit, back in the late 1600s? Was an immense elm in Neenah the site of a tense standoff between a U.S. General and a Winnebago (Ho-Chunk) chief, long ago in 1819?

Trees have always been the source of legends and fond memories, and now comes a new book full of both. In *Every Root an Anchor: Wisconsin's Famous and Historic Trees* (Wisconsin Historical Society, 2005), noted Madison arborist R. Bruce Allison has compiled over one hundred stories of trees from all corners of the state, some still living, others mere memories kept alive only in the pages of Allison's book. The 128-page book, which includes 80 historical and contemporary photographs, sets forth an environmental message as well, reminding people of their connections to trees and the need to manage forestry tree resources wisely.

Paul DeLong, Chief State Forester with the state Department of Natural Resources, noted in the foreword that Wisconsin is blessed with a richness of forests and trees. "Whether in the extensive forests that cover nearly half our state, or in Wisconsin communities both large and small, trees are profoundly influential in creating our sense of place," DeLong wrote. "Wisconsin's trees provide our citizens with livelihoods, recreation, spiritual renewal, a vast array of forest products and essential ecological functions that clean our air and water, as well as provide a diversity of plants and animals. It is no wonder then that, as the chapters in this book relate, trees are woven into the fabric of our state's history and into its people's personal lives."

*Every Root an Anchor: Wisconsin's Famous and Historic Trees* is published by the Wisconsin Historical Society Press and printed copies can be purchased from the Wisconsin Historical Society. The entire book is also available in portable document format (.pdf) on the forestry pages of the DNR Web site.

The book was produced as a partnership project among Allison, the DNR Division of

Forestry, and the Wisconsin Historical Society. Allison has been a professional arborist in Madison since 1974. He served as president of the Wisconsin Arborist Association and as chairman of the Dane County Tree Board and the Wisconsin Urban Forestry Council.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:  
Genny Fannucchi - (608) 267-3120

## Continue to Water Trees and Shrubs

After the extremely dry summer we've had, don't forget to keep watering trees and shrubs that were planted in the last two to three years. Continue watering until the ground freezes. It is important to keep up with regular watering (every 7 to 10 days) even if we start to get some rain this fall after the temperatures cool down. The roots on recently planted trees and shrubs need to be well hydrated and the soil should be kept moist as we head into winter. Otherwise, the plants may winterkill due to a dry root system.

In addition to newly planted trees and shrubs, you should consider watering established trees, such as birches, evergreens or maples, that are not drought tolerant. Other good candidates for continued watering are trees and shrubs with restricted root zones due to driveways or buildings.

## Fall webworm

The tents of this native North American moth are noticeable on July or August. It differs from the Eastern tent caterpillar by creating silk webs on the branch tips instead of crotches. The hairy caterpillars grow to about one inch long and vary in coloration. They feed on leaves within the web. Shade trees and ornamentals can be heavily defoliated, and the large webs are unsightly, but tree health is rarely affected. Elm, maple, fruit, and nut trees are preferred, but they will feed on over 100 species of hardwoods.

### Control

- ✓ Wipe out tents with a long stick
- ✓ Make applications of BT or chemicals when larvae are less than 1/2 inch long. Only treat the web and associated foliage, not the entire plant

## Deadheading to prolong bloom

Promote new flowers and make your garden look better by deadheading--the process of removing spent flower blossoms. You may use any process to remove the old, dead blooms. It is best to remove spent blooms shortly after the flower has died.

Plants have flowers to make seeds. Once seeds have been produced, the plant has met its need to reproduce and flower production stops. Deadheading tricks the plant into trying to make seed by making more flowers.

Not all plants will produce more flowers after deadheading. Many perennial plants and flowering shrubs are pre-programmed to bloom only once. However, deadheading will improve the appearance, and often the vigor, of these plants.

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## Notes from the Hort Desk

*Lee Daniels*

*Horticulture Assistant*

*Burnett, Sawyer & Washburn Counties*



### *Yellow-Bellied Sapsuckers*

Over the years, calls on yellow-bellied sapsucker damage to trees has increased. I'm not sure if it is because there are more of them around, or because we have more of their favorite food sources growing in our yards. The trees they like to hit are Mountain Ash, Crabapple, Apple, Birch, Maple, and Hemlock.

The sapsucker bores rows of 1/4 inch diameter holes through the bark along and around portions of limbs or the trunk. If the holes are in neat rows across and/or up and down, then it is sapsucker damage. The sapsucker often picks a favorite tree and visits it repeatedly to feed on sap. This can cause unsightly wounds to the tree and can lead to disease and insect problems—or in a worst case scenario—can girdle the tree and kill the top.

As far as hort assistant calls go, this is a relatively easy problem to solve. You can wrap the damaged area with burlap or hardware cloth. The other option is to smear a sticky substance such as tanglefoot, tangletrap, or pinetar on the trunk just below the damage. The birds don't like getting this sticky stuff on their feet and feathers, so in most cases they will move out of your yard. The experts recommend putting duct tape underneath the sticky material. Then, when the damage has subsided, you can just peel the tape off.

The question that often comes along with the sapsucker damage call is: How can I save the top of the tree since it is nearly girdled? We recommend keeping the tree well watered and happy while it is healing up. Over the years I've found that if the top of the tree has started to show wilt or yellowing before the damage has stopped, it will usually not survive. If the top is still green when the girdling has been stopped, a well-watered tree will usually heal up and survive.

The key is to try and catch the problem as early as possible. When you are out in your yard, look for rows of holes drilled in the trunks of preferred trees and take action as soon as you see a problem. Be especially watchful in the spring, since this is when the sapsuckers are usually picking out their favorite trees.

### *Larder Beetles*

We always get a few calls on Larder Beetle problems, but this year, the number has increased significantly. Adult larder beetles are 1/3 inch long black beetles with a broad, pale tan, black spotted band across the front portion of the wing covers. Larder beetle larvae are reddish-brown, densely covered with short and long hairs, and have two curved spines on the top of the tail end.

Both adults and larvae feed on high protein food sources, including cured and spoiled meats, dried fish, high protein dog food, dead insects such as cluster flies, boxelder bugs, and multi-colored Asian ladybeetles (I think this is part of the reason we are seeing more larder beetles). They also feed on furs, feathers, leather, cheeses, dead rodents, or dead birds that may be found in chimneys or walls. Larder beetles may even feed on rat or mouse poison baits.

The first step in larder beetle control is to locate and dispose of the food source. Without a food source, larder beetles will not survive. If it is infested or spoiled dog food, or other type of concentrated food source, the problem is easy to solve. Clean up the offending material and put new material in a sealed, thick-walled container. Larvae can easily chew through thin plastic or tin.

If larder beetles are found in high numbers or have been a recurring problem, and you can't find a readily available food source, then a renewable food source such as dead insects or animals may be the problem. In this case, caulking, screening, and sealing openings into the house is recommended.

For more information on this subject, see UW Garden Facts XHT1051 on Larder Beetles, XHT1100 on Box Elder Bugs, and XHT1050 on Multicolored Asian Ladybeetles at website <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/wihort/gardenfacts.html>. If you don't have Internet access, just give us a call and we will send a copy of these fact sheets to you.

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# Flower Show Symposium to be held in Eau Claire

*Carolyn A. Craig*

*Local Symposium Chairman*

*Wisconsin Garden Club Federation*

The Master Gardeners of Wisconsin are cordially invited to attend all, or part, of a two day Flower Show Symposium, sponsored by the Wisconsin Garden Club Federation. It will be held September 12 & 13 at St. Bedes Center in Eau Claire. This a part of a continuing education program for National Garden Clubs, Inc., Accredited Flower Show Judges in Wisconsin; however, it is open to the public.

September 12 - Design Day: Lynn Fronk, Worthington, Ohio, will lecture on "The Rainbow Connection", using color harmonies in floral design. In the evening, she will do a special one hour program on "Marvelous Miniatures."

September 13 - Horticulture Day: Marilyn Arnotte, South Haven, Michigan, will lecture on "The Rainbow Florals - Glads & Dahlias".

Both days will include practice on judging floral designs/arrangements or horticultural specimens in a flower show. The package plan, which includes registration for both days and meals, is \$109.50. A single day package, registration only, is \$46.00. Meals are optional.

A special 5 PM "Dinner Package" will be available for \$20.00 on September 12, and it will include dinner and the program on miniatures.

A brochure is available from myself or Sharon Warner, Registrar, Her address is: 1730 125th Street, New Richmond, WI 54017-6510, phone: 715-246-6219, [gswarner@warnersdock.com](mailto:gswarner@warnersdock.com), email. My address is: 900 NorthShore Drive, New Richmond, WI 54017-6219, phone: 715-246-6242 home, 612-209-4746 cellular, [cacraig@frontiernet.net](mailto:cacraig@frontiernet.net), email.

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. All registrations must be made by mail and sent to Sharon Warner ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 29TH. Reservations received after that date can not be honored.

## What's happening in the demonstration garden?

*Meghan Schwartz*

*Summer Intern*

*Spooner Ag Research Station*

Where has another summer gone? Is it already time to think about the Twilight Garden Tour? Here's a little update about the demonstration garden. The perennial display is in its second year and is even more beautiful than last year. This display has over 92 varieties planted in 8 landscaped beds, complete with walking paths, benches, boulders, and arbors. It is difficult not to notice the new arbors flowing with clematis and climbing roses. There is a stunning display of annual flower varieties this year. In total, 68 varieties completely fill the plot closest to Orchard Lane and continue into the next plot. In addition, a Master Gardener Flower Trial is evaluating three gaura, one monarda and one sweet pea variety. The monarda is a very stunning flower. Another change from last year is that only 10 of the 48 chrysanthemums survived last year's harsh winter.

The garden also contains 127 vegetable varieties, including several variety trials and demonstrations. Research is being conducted on five varieties of each acorn, butter-nut, and buttercup winter squash; five winter radish, two softneck and seven hardneck garlic, five Brussels sprouts, and three colored cauliflower varieties. A demonstration about the diversity found in the Allium family involves nineteen onions, three leeks, four chives, and one Egyptian Walking Onion.

Each year we attempt to display unique and unusual plants. This year's new favorites have been: Papalo, a Mexican herb with a citrus and cilantro flavor; White Borage, an herb with a mild cucumber flavor and

## Food Shelf Reminder

If you have extra garden produce, or perhaps a surplus of cut flowers, why not share them with the needy? Local Food Shelves and Senior Centers welcome fresh produce to distribute to their clients. Just call ahead to let them know what you have to donate.

beautiful foliage with edible white flowers; and Ruby Silk Lovegrass which has burgundy seed heads.

I seem to be spending my time fighting the grasses and weeds that are attempting to overtake the garden. Our Christmas herbicide (hoe, hoe, hoe) method has not favored well in the battle. Next year we need to do a much better job of mulching. The mulch that is currently on the tomatoes was placed too late in the season and is not thick enough. Even with an extremely dry July, the demonstration garden did receive plenty of water from the endgun on the pivot irrigation and the irrigation pipes placed in the garden. Plants missed by the irrigation were watered with a 55 gallon barrel and a hose hauled in the back of the Gator.

Pests and diseases have not been too serious this year despite the warm days and moisture from the irrigation. One exception is the imported cabbageworms, cabbage loopers and diamond back moths that have done quite well eating on the Brussels sprouts and cauliflower. Various diseases and disorders, such as aster yellows and purple blotch, can also be found in the garden, but they are not of serious concern. Don't forget to pick-up your copy of the 2005 Garden and Perennial Books, which can now be found in the mailbox near the garden gate. This year a Garden Visitor Guest Book can also be found in the garden mailbox, which we ask you to sign when visiting the garden. See you in the garden. The garden is free and open to the public June through September. Stop on by - the garden is looking beautiful.

# Master Gardener update

*Kevin Schoessow  
Area Ag Development Agent  
Burnett, Sawyer, & Washburn Counties*

One of the many hats I wear in my Extension activities is to serve as a local coordinator/advisor to the UW-Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Program. Over the years, I have met and encouraged dozens and dozens of enthusiastic volunteers as they work to become certified or stay certified as official UW-Extension Master Gardener Volunteers. Each year these volunteers are having a positive impact in their local communities. Each volunteer contributes in their own special way doing what they have time and or energy for. For those that volunteer, I would like to thank you for your efforts. I know how difficult it is to find time to become involved. For those that struggle to volunteer or simply can't find the time--hang in there.

While I don't like to single out one volunteer project over another I would like to mention one project that I think exemplifies the spirit and intent of the MG Volunteer

Program. That project began to take shape in the minds of a couple Master Gardeners who just completed their formal class training in the fall of 2004. It was a project that would have no boundaries and could potentially impact an entire community. Their vision included partnering with other community groups, organizations, and businesses. The project required tangibles such as plants, soil, seeds, composted manure, planter boxes, raised beds, fencing, hoses, benches, and even some old tires and intangibles like coordination, community support, publicity, enthusiasm, dedication, camaraderie, and faith.

In the months that have passed since the start of their project, many hours have been logged. Initially only a few MGs and others were involved and as of this writing I would say there are now over eight MGs who actively volunteer and many other non MGs. Local businesses are behind the project and have donated time and materials, the city and school are key partners and supporters, and so far even the local wildlife had been cooperative. I have seen and tasted some of the results of this project. I had a chance to

visit with some of the kids and adults who are discovering together the joys of gardening.

While there are many ways to volunteer and share your knowledge of horticulture with others, I feel that the hard working, dedicated Master Gardener Volunteers and everyone else who help with the **Winter Community Garden Project** deserve a big pat on the back. Next time you are in Winter, drive down main street and go two houses past the school. What used to be an abandoned city lot is now a fully functional community garden. Complete with raised vegetable beds, an herb garden, a pizza garden, flower beds, and even wheel chair accessible garden boxes. The garden is has already been used by the Winter School for summer school classes, and there is interest by some teachers to use the garden as a teaching tool once school starts in the fall. Several families have garden beds, and a wheel chair bound person has her own garden box. Plans are in place to use some of the produce for a kids harvest dinner and to help teach canning and preservation. Extra produce will be donated to the Winter food pantry. For more information contact Peggy Flaws at 715-266-6031.

## Ongoing Volunteer Opportunities

Location:	Project	Contact	Phone
Spooner Fish Hatchery	Shoreland Restoration	Sheri Snowbank .....	635-2101
Burnett Med. Center/Continuing Care	Patient Gardens	Linnea Seume .....	463-5452
Spooner Ag Research Station	Demo Garden	Kevin Schoessow .....	635-3506
Webster	Fort Folle Avoine Garden	Helen Steffen .....	866-4430
Sawyer County Fairgrounds	Fairgrounds Landscaping	Liz Metcalf .....	462-4662
Siren	Capeside Cove Beautification	Diane Medaglia .....	866-4665
Winter Cemetery	Beautification	Zita Simono .....	266-4705
Winter	Community Garden	Peggy Flaws .....	266-6031
Hayward	Farmers Market	Jim Spinner .....	945-3028
Siren	Farmers Market	Chuck Awe .....	349-5226
Draper/Loretta	Park Beautification	Brenda Adler .....	266-5779

Don't forget about helping young and old with gardening projects. Consider working with 4-H, boys & girls clubs, church groups, or senior citizens. Share the bounty by planting an extra row of vegetables and donating it to a local food shelf or senior center. Once you've been certified, you need 24 hours of volunteer time per year plus 10 hours of continued education. You need not be a Master Gardener to volunteer!

## Master Gardener Training to be held this fall

Kevin Schoessow

Area Ag Development Agent

Burnett, Sawyer, & Washburn Counties

Garden enthusiasts interested in learning more about horticulture and who have an interest in volunteering in their local communities can now sign up for the University of Wisconsin Extension Master Gardener Training program. Classes are scheduled to begin September 17 and will continue through December 6. The Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> training will take place at the Spooner Agriculture Research Station from 8:00 am until noon. The remainder of the sessions will take place at the Lac Courte Oreilles (LCO) Community College on Tuesday nights from 5:45 p.m. until 9:00 pm.

The class format will include a combination of on-site live instruction and instruction via fiber optics (live two-way television). Instructors include both University of Wisconsin Specialists, and guest instructors. Each week a different topic will be covered and included topics on houseplants, lawn care, herbaceous annuals and perennials, vegetables, fruits, plant pathology, entomology, weeds and pest management, soils and fertility, plant pathology, native plants and backyard wildlife.

The purpose of this program is to train volunteers to assist with community projects related to horticulture, gardening and nutrition. To become certified UW-Extension Master Gardeners, participants must commit to 24 hours of volunteer service per year.

The registration fee for the twelve sessions will be \$125, which covers the cost of the Handbook for Wisconsin Gardeners and the Wisconsin Master Gardener Program Manual, a one-year membership to the North County Master Gardeners Association for each participant, and speaker costs. If two people share the manual and handbook, cost for the second person to attend

the training is \$60. Upon successful completion of volunteer requirements, \$25 will be refunded.

The Spooner Area UW-Extension Office and the LCO Extension Program are sponsoring the Master Gardening Training. Class size is limited. For a complete list of scheduled times and dates and to register, call the Spooner Area UW-Extension Office at 1-800-528-1914 or 635-3506.

### Reminder:

## MG VOLUNTEER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION HOURS FOR THE YEAR 2005

**MG-in-Training** must turn in required volunteer hours within one year of completing training.

**Recertifying MGs** must turn in volunteer and C.E. hours by **October 1, 2005** to their local county recordkeeper. That would be me. Record forms can be found on the MG web site at <http://www.hort.wisc.edu/mastergardener/>.

### Important Website Resources

Wisconsin Master Gardener Program  
<http://www.hort.wisc.edu/mastergardener/>

Wisconsin Urban Horticulture  
<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/wihort/>

American Community Gardening Association  
[www.communitygarden.org](http://www.communitygarden.org)

Memorial Park Arboretum & Gardens  
[www.memorialparkarb.org](http://www.memorialparkarb.org)

## Calendar of Events

**August 23, 2005** Twilight Garden Tour, 5 p.m. - dusk, Spooner Ag Research Station Demonstration Garden. See article for details.

**August 26, 2005** Brown Bag Program (wisline) - Collecting, Storing, & Propagating Nut Crops, contact your local Extension Office for information on this and other Brown Bag programs.

**September 24, 2005** Fall Gardening Conference, Gogebic Community College, Ironwood, MI. See article for details.

**September 26, 2005** Invasive Plant Identification and Control, Ashland, WI. For more information, contact Cindy Casey at 715-839-1606.

### Wisconsin Gardener Public TV

**August 21** - 2 p.m., More Landscaping for Birds

**August 28** - 2 p.m., Personal Spaces, Public Places

**September 4** - 2 p.m., Garden Style

**September 11** - 2 p.m., Fall Color in the Garden

**Spooner Garden Club** meets 4th Thursday of every month. Merle Klug (715) 635-6239.

**Hayward Garden Club** meets 3rd Tuesday of each month. Carol Alcoe (715) 462-3213.

**Burnett Garden Club** meets 2nd Thursday of each month. Tamra White (715) 463-2794.

**North Country Master Gardeners** meets 4th Thursday of each month. Spooner DNR Fish Hatchery. Tony Webber (715) 469-3411.

## Dame's Rocket can become invasive

Susan Mahr  
University of Wisconsin  
Master Gardener Program

Dame's Rocket, Sweet Rocket, or Dame's Violet (*Hesperis matronalis*) is an attractive, but invasive plant. A common garden flower introduced to America from Europe in colonial times, it is invading Wisconsin woodlands and has the potential to become ecologically devastating to native plant species. Dame's rocket is listed as a noxious weed by the United States Department of Agriculture. This weed in the mustard family has many similarities with garlic mustard, a related plant that has inundated woodlands in southern and eastern Wisconsin in recent years. Dame's rocket has been around Wisconsin for many years, but is now appearing more often. It is now at a relatively early stage of encroachment.

This old-fashioned, cottage garden perennial hardy to zone 3 produces rounded flower clusters similar to stock that are very fragrant at night. The plant reaches 3-4 feet tall and has showy flowers that last for several weeks. Dame's rocket does best in moist, well-drained soil in full sun or partial shade. It is a short-lived perennial, but a prolific self-seeder that has escaped cultivation and adapted throughout most of the United States. In most areas it is more often seen along roadsides than in gardens. Outside of gardens, it is found along roadsides, woodland edges, and is increasingly moving into good quality forests where it can shade out native wildflowers.

Dame's rocket is very noticeable as it is flowering from mid-May to mid-June. The sweet-scented flowers range from white to several shades of pink and purple and grow in terminal racemes (each flower has its own little stalk branching off the main



stem). Long, narrow seed pods with many seeds each are produced from each flower spike, with seeds on the lowest pods maturing before flowering is done. Ground-foraging birds do eat the seeds, but not enough of them to reduce the plants' population. The plant and flowers are edible, but fairly bitter.

This plant It is often confused with taller varieties of phlox, but it can be easily distinguished by counting the petals on the flowers. Dame's rocket has four petals on each flower, while phlox has five petals. Leaf arrangement is also different on the two plants; Dame's rocket has lanceolate, toothed leaves that grow alternately along the stems, while phlox has smooth-edged, opposite leaves.

### Control

Dame's rocket is still recommended and sold occasionally by seed companies and nurseries — often listed as deer resistant — and may be found in "wildflower" seed mixes. Because it can spread rapidly, you should think twice about planting it in your garden. Some alternatives to try instead include blue columbine, native bee balm, woodland phlox or native harebells.

As with garlic mustard, the Wisconsin DNR is looking for help from gardeners, hikers and other people who frequent parks and other wild areas to help control the spread of this exotic species. People can help prevent the spread of this invasive plant by pulling Dame's rocket plants from the ground, being sure to get the roots to prevent resprouting. As seeds remain in the soil for many years, the control work should be repeated each year.

For those gardeners who are reluctant to remove the plants from their yards, spread can be reduced by removing the flower stalk when the flowers begin fading. Remove and destroy all seed pods each year to prevent spread into adjacent areas. Note that composting the plants or flower stalks may not kill the seeds.

## 2005 Fall Gardening Conference offers advice from experts

Northland gardeners are invited to attend a fall gardening conference on Saturday September 24, 2005 at the Gogebic Community College in Ironwood Michigan. This all-day conference offers both morning and afternoon sessions, displays, exhibits and vendors. You must pre-register due to limited space. Fees are \$25 up to Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> and \$35 up until Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>. Morning coffee and a luncheon are included in the registration.

Topics include: Birds of the Northland by Jerry Edde, Biologists with the Ottawa National Forest; Attracting Birds & Wildlife to Your Backyard by Tom Syverud, Extension and Outreach Educator Douglas County; Blooming the Bulbs Whenever, by Pete Nissila, Co-owner Nissila Greenhouses in Hancock MI; Diseases of Ornamental Plants by Brian Hudelson, UW-Extension (UWEX) Pathologist; Home Composting by Joseph Van Rossum, UWEX Recycling Specialist; Improving Your Soil Fertility by Tom Syverud; Selecting "All America" Annuals and Vegetables for Your Garden by Kevin Schoessow, Area Ag Development Agent UWEX Burnett, Sawyer and Washburn County; Vegetable Diseases by Brian Hudelson; Food Preservation 1 — Canning by Lucia Patriitto, Family Development Agent and the Wisconsin Nutrition Program Coordinator for UWEX Iron County; Growing Herbs by Vijai Pandian, Agriculture and Horticulture Agent UWEX Ashland and Bayfield Counties; and Stretching your Gareden Season by Pete Nissilla.

This conference is sponsored by MSU Extension of Gogebic County, MI, UWEX of Iron County, WI and the Range Master Gardeners. Copies of the registration form and more detailed information about the conference can be found by visiting our web site at [www.uwex.edu/ces/sars/programs/](http://www.uwex.edu/ces/sars/programs/). For specific information contact Lynn Adams from the Iron County UWEX Office at (715) 561-2695.

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# North Country Gardeners Newsletter

A publication for gardening enthusiasts from the  
Tri-County area of Burnett, Sawyer, & Washburn



**Spooner Area Ag Agents Office**  
Spooner Agricultural Research Station  
W6646 Highway 70  
Spooner, WI 54801

*EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER*

Visit us on the web! You may find this newsletter and other useful information by visiting the website of the Spooner Ag Research Station.  
<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/sars/index.htm>

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