

# Horticulture Happenings

Summer 2023

(0b)

## Kristin's Corner

Welcome to the Summer 2023 Horticulture Happenings Newsletter! Make sure to check out all the timely garden and landscape information for the season!

- Get ready for summer gardening with **June Gardening Tips** as well as the **Summer Vegetable Gardening Checklist!** Having both lists written down on page 2 makes it easier to see the things that need to be accomplished in and around the garden area!
- **Pollinator Photo Contest.** To celebrate National Pollinator Week during June 19-25, the Extension Office and Master Gardeners are partnering with the Warren County Soil Conservation District to host a Pollinator Photo Contest. It is a great way to photograph and celebrate our native pollinators in our certified Monarch Waystation and Pollinator Patch habitats! To see how to participate, turn to page 3.
- With increased interest in pollinator gardens, specific requirements are needed to **plant a native pollinator garden for Kentucky.** To see which native plants are ideal for this type of pollinator habitat, check out pages 4 and 5 of the newsletter.
- The summer 2022 drought coupled with the winter damage received in late December 2022 really did a number on a lot of evergreen trees and shrubs in the landscape! Make sure to read page 6 to see if **replacing or rescuing damaged shrubs** is in your near future.
- If interested in vegetable gardening, consider the **Sow App** which is now available to Kentucky gardeners! Read page 7 to see how to download this handy dandy tool to keep in your pocket for a quick reference.
- Dress up garden salads and summer vegetables with the recipe for **Green Goddess Dressing!** This recipe is featured on the back page and also gives a QR code if you would like to watch how this recipe is made.

To stay up to date with all the latest gardening tips, follow us on Facebook and Instagram at Warren County Agriculture. Happy Gardening!



*Kristin G. Hildabrand*

Kristin G. Hildabrand  
Warren County Extension Agent



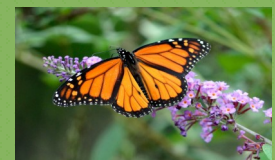
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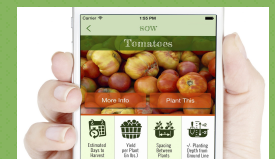
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# June Gardening Tips

## Ornamentals

- Watch for bagworms feeding on many garden plants, but especially juniper and arborvitae.
- Apply a balanced rose fertilizer after the first show of blooms is past.
- Apply organic mulches as the soil warms. These will conserve moisture, discourage weeds, and enrich the soil as they decay.
- Apply a second spray for borer control on hardwood trees.
- Continue spraying roses with a fungicide to prevent black spot disease.
- Pruning of spring flowering trees and shrubs should be completed before the month's end.

## Lawns

- Water turf as needed to prevent drought stress.
- Mow lawns frequently enough to remove no more

than one-third the total height per mowing. There is no need to remove clippings unless excessive.

## Fruits

- Oriental fruit moths emerge. They are most serious on peaches where the first generation attacks growing tips. Wilted shoots should be pruned out.
- Thinning overloaded fruit trees will result in larger and healthier fruits at harvest time. Thinned fruits should be a hands-width apart.
- Renovate strawberries after harvest. Mow the rows; thin out excess plants; remove weeds; fertilize and apply a mulch for weed control.
- Summer fruiting raspberries are ripening now.
- Begin control for apply maggot flies. Red painted balls that have been coated with tanglefoot may be hung in apple trees to trap egg laying females.
- Spray trunks of peach trees and other stone fruits for peach borers.

# Summer Vegetable Gardening Checklist:

- Make sure to provide plants with water after being planted in the ground. Here are critical times to water common vegetable crops in the home garden.
  - **Cucumber**—flowering and fruit development
  - **Eggplant**—uniform supply from flowering through harvest
  - **Melon**—fruit set and early development
  - **Pepper**—uniform supply from flowering through harvest
  - **Summer squash**—bud development, flowering, and fruit development
  - **Sweet corn**—silking, tasseling, and ear development
  - **Tomato**—uniform supply from flowering through harvest
- Apply 2 to 4 inches of fresh mulch to landscape and garden beds. Organic mulches like grass clippings, leaves, and straw will return nutrients to the soil once they have decomposed.
- In order for vegetable to produce lush, continuous growth throughout the season, they will need a uniform supply of nutrients. Here are the recommended times for side-dressing common vegetables in the home garden.
  - **Cucumber**—apply 1 week after blossoming begins and same amount 3 weeks later
  - **Eggplant**—after first fruit set
  - **Peppers**— after first fruit set
  - **Squash**—additional nitrogen might reduce yield or lower quality
  - **Sweet Corn**—when plants are 12 inches tall
  - **Tomatoes**—apply 1 to 2 weeks before first picking and same amount 2 weeks after first picking
- Be on the lookout for insect pests and diseases in the home garden. Scout plants daily and look under leaves to avoid infestations that can take out a crop.
- For more information about Home Vegetable Gardening in Kentucky, pick up publication #ID-128.



College of Agriculture,  
Food and Environment  
Cooperative Extension Service



Kentucky Extension  
Master Gardener



## Pollinator Photo Contest

### Celebrating Pollinators in the Warren Co. Extension Master Gardener Monarch Waystation & Pollinator Patches

As part of the 2023 National Pollinator Week, we are hosting **our first pollinator photo contest!** **Between June 19-25**, submit up to 3 photos of pollinators of any and all kinds- including bees, beetles, butterflies, hummingbirds, moths, wasps, etc!

## Submission guidelines:

- Photos must be taken at the Monarch Waystation and Pollinator Patches located at 5162 Russellville Road, Bowling Green, KY 42101.
- Please do not move caterpillars or butterflies since they are in their natural habitat.
- Participants may enter the contest with **up to 3 photos**. Please note the name and age.
- Photos should be submitted in high quality (300 DPI or greater electronic format (jpg or png files) electronically at warren.ext@uky.edu OR on Facebook using **#WarrenCoExtensionMasterGardeners** during June 19th until June 25th.
- Winning photos may be used in future Extension & Master Gardener promotions with photographer credit being given.
- **Participation in this contest implies full acceptance of all rules.**

*\*Prizes will be awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places.*

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Community and Economic Development

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LEXINGTON, KY 40546



Disabilities  
accommodated  
with prior notification.

# Plant a Native Pollinator Garden for Kentucky



Interested in learning more about how to design and attract butterflies/pollinators to your garden? In this article, we have provided the following checklist to assist you in helping to explore the habitat requirements needed to create the perfect butterfly/pollinator habitat for Kentucky.

## Checklist:

- Research butterfly field guides, to determine which types of butterfly species are needed. Also, take notes on which types of plants they are visiting. This will help in deciding which plants to purchase.
- Evaluate your site and choose a location with at least six hours of sunlight. Select native plants (check light, soil, pH and moisture conditions) and add to an existing garden or remove a section of the lawn.
- Select native plant species of varied heights that bloom at different times throughout the year such as Spring, Summer, and Fall. These will provide nectar for adult butterflies throughout the season. Enhance your garden with at least two different types of milkweed for monarchs and possibly a puddling spot.
- After planting, water regularly, remove weeds and keep mulched until the garden is established. Be pesticide free. Milkweed can be cut back in late June or July to force new leaves for monarch caterpillars. Later in the Fall Season (August-September), leave some dead leaves and stalks to provide overwintering sites for pollinators.

- Keep records of monarchs and pollinators observed. Each week or two, keep track of your observation such as which plants are preferred butterflies and other pollinators as host plants and nectar or pollen sources. Take photos of the garden throughout the season.
- Share seeds or plant divisions to help start another butterfly garden in the area. Invite others to visit your garden or come visit the Waystation to enjoy the beauty of the butterflies in the natural landscape you have created.

## Why Native Plants...

\*Butterflies and pollinators depend predominantly on native plants as their larval host plants. In the case of Monarchs, milkweed species are critical for their survival.

\*Whenever possible, grow local genotype native plants that have co-evolved in their native habitats with other plants and wildlife. Local genotype native plants are vigorous and hardy. These plants have adapted to their region and can survive winter cold and summer heat. The deep roots of native plants, especially those of prairie plants, trees and shrubs, old soil, control erosion and withstand droughts.

\*Once established, native plants require little watering and tolerate native pests.

\*Make sure to purchase native plants from a reputable nursery. For more information on native plant nurseries in the area, make sure to contact your local extension office.

## Host plants for Monarchs...

Monarch larvae feed exclusively on milkweeds. Plant at least ten individual milkweed plants in your butterfly garden. If possible, choose at least two different species.



## Nectar Plants for Monarchs

Nectar plants provide food for adult Monarchs and other pollinators through-out the season. Pick from early, mid-and late-flowering species and have at least three different kinds of plants in bloom at any time. You will have visual interest all year long.

### Early Nectar Plants

#### Shrubs:

Serviceberry (*Amelanchier arborea*, *A. laevis*, *A. interior*)

Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*)

Flowering dogwood (*Cornus florida*)

Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*)

Pussy willow (*Salix discolor*)

Wild blueberry (*Vaccinium corymbosum*, *V. angustifolium*)

#### Perennial Wildflowers:

Wild columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*)

Spring beauty (*Claytonia virginica*)

Wild strawberry (*Fragaria virginiana*)

Wild lupine (*Lupinus perennis*)

Foxglove beardtongue (*Penstemon digitalis*)

Wild phlox (*Phlox divaricata*)

Blue-eyed grass (*Sisyrinchium angustifolium*)

Common blue violet (*Viola sororia*, *Viola spp*)

### Mid-Season Nectar Plants

#### Shrubs and Vines:

Leadplant (*Amorpha canescens*)

New Jersey tea (*Ceanothus americanus*)

Buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*)

Sundrops (*Oenothera fruticosa*)

Sumac (*Rhus typhina*, *Rhus glabra*, *Rhus spp.*)

White meadowsweet (*Spiraea alba*)

#### Perennial Wildflowers:

Nodding wild onion (*Allium cernuum*)

Dogbane (*Apocynum cannabinum*, *A. androsaemifolium*)

Swamp milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*)

Common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*)

Butterfly weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*)

Wild blue indigo (*Baptisia australis*)

Partridge pea (*Cassia fasciculata*)

Tall thistle (*Cirsium altissimum*)

Swamp thistle (*Cirsium altissimum*)

Coreopsis (*Coreopsis lanceolata*, *C. tripteris*, *C. spp.*)

Pale purple coneflower (*Echinacea pallida*)

Rattlesnake master (*Eryngium yuccifolium*)

Boneset (*Eupatorium perfoliatum*)

Joe Pye weed (*Eutrochium maculatum*, *E. purpureum*)

False sunflower (*Heliopsis helianthoides*)

Roundheaded bushclover (*Lespedeza capitata*)

Blazingstar (*Liatris spicata*, *Liatris spp.*)

Bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*)

Dotted horsemint (*Monarda punctata*)

Mountain Mint (*Pycnanthemum virginianum*)

Yellow prairie coneflower (*Ratibida pinnata*)

### Late Season Nectar Plants

Shrub: Witchhazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*)

#### Perennial Wildflowers:

False Aster (*Boltonia asteroides*)

Sneezeweed (*Helenium autumnale*)

Calico aster (*Symphiotrichum laterifolius*)

Stiff goldenrod (*Solidago rigida*)

Showy goldenrod (*Solidago speciose*)

Heath aster (*Symphiotrichum ericoides*)

Smooth aster (*Symphiotrichum laevis*)

New England Aster (*Symphiotrichum novae-angliae*)

Ironweed (*Vernonia gigantea*, *V. missurica*)

### For More Information

Contact the Warren County Extension Master Gardener Page on Facebook or visit the Warren County Extension office website at [warrencountyextension.org](http://warrencountyextension.org) to view our photo journal for the Certified Monarch Waystation area.



Source: Chandra Carter, Warren Co. Extension Master Gardener

# Replacing or Rescuing Damaged Shrubs

Source: Rick Durham, UK extension horticulture specialist

The extreme cold spell at the end of December 2022 caused severe damage to many shrubs and bushes around Kentucky homes. With plants greening up this spring, you may be wondering what to remove and what to attempt to rescue in your landscape.



The cold is just one part of the puzzle when shrub health declines. Other factors include soil pH, soil volume, too much or too little water and light availability.

Some shrubs may just need a good pruning and time to recover from the winter stress. If you want to try to revive the shrub through pruning, you'll need to trim it down with sturdy pruning shears. Don't remove more than one-third of the plant in a season. If the plant is healthy, it will soon produce new green shoots. If your shrub has more brown branches than green at the core, it may be time for you to remove it. When shrubs become too woody in the middle, start over with another plant.

Well-established shrubs may have large, complex root structures. Make sure to completely remove them before planting something new. Use the transition time to do a soil test so you know what amendments it will need before you bring home new plants.

If you must replace landscape shrubs and plants, Kentucky has more than 1,200 nurseries and retailers selling hundreds of types of trees, shrubs, groundcovers and perennials. With 120 counties of resources, you can buy locally without driving very far. The Kentucky Department of Agriculture's

Kentucky Proud program allows individuals locate local retail garden centers that market Kentucky-grown trees and shrubs. Search the garden center database at <https://www.kyagr.com/agbus/products.aspx?group=19&category=112>.

Retailers looking to stock their garden centers with Kentucky-grown trees and shrubs may use the Landscape Plant Availability Guide <https://www.kyagr.com/marketing/plant/common-name-search.aspx>.

Kentucky also has many qualified nursery growers, retailers, landscapers and arborists. The Cooperative Extension Service offers many green-industry classes throughout the year. Kentucky nursery growers and retailers are a very well-trained group of horticulturists. They are familiar with Kentucky soil types, weather and other factors playing a role in plant performance.

When you visit a local nursery to choose new plants, make sure and read the tags and note the light, water and soil requirements. Ensure the new plants fit your landscape.

To learn more about transplanting container plants, check out the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension publication *Planting Container-Grown Trees and Shrubs in Your Landscape*, HO-114. For more information about horticultural topics or classes near you, contact the Warren County Cooperative Extension Service.

HO-114



## Planting Container-Grown Trees and Shrubs in Your Landscape

William M. Fountain, Richard E. Durham, and Dewayne L. Ingram, Horticulture

Many landscape plants are installed as container-grown (containerized) specimens. These, along with balled and burlapped (B&B) and bareroot, are the three major ways we transplant trees and shrubs from nurseries to our landscapes. These plants are most frequently grown in containers made of plastic but sometimes other materials such as wood or metal. The keys to quick establishment and decades of satisfaction are following proven techniques in installation and providing proper care after transplanting.

### Why Containerized Plants?

There is no one best method (containerized, bareroot, or balled and burlapped) of buying and establishing plants in landscapes. Each has advantages and disadvantages. Container plants are relatively light weight and easy to handle. There are no major labor expenses in harvesting them. You just pick them up and move them. This makes them less expensive to ship than balled and burlapped plants but more than bareroot plants. The roots are protected by the container and light weight, soil-less media so are not exposed to the drying effect of sun and wind like bareroot plants.

The biggest disadvantage of containerized plants is that they are sometimes grown for too long in their container. When this happens the roots begin to circle the inside of the container. If this problem is not addressed and corrected, the plant will struggle and die after it has been installed.

Plants growing in containers must grow in a very well-drained, soil-like material. Soil that drains well in your home garden will not drain very well if you put it in a container. The material used in containers rarely contains any real soil. It is usually a mixture of tree bark and/or wood chips and/or peat moss or similar materials. Because there is no soil in this mixture, it is called media, substrate, or soilless mix.

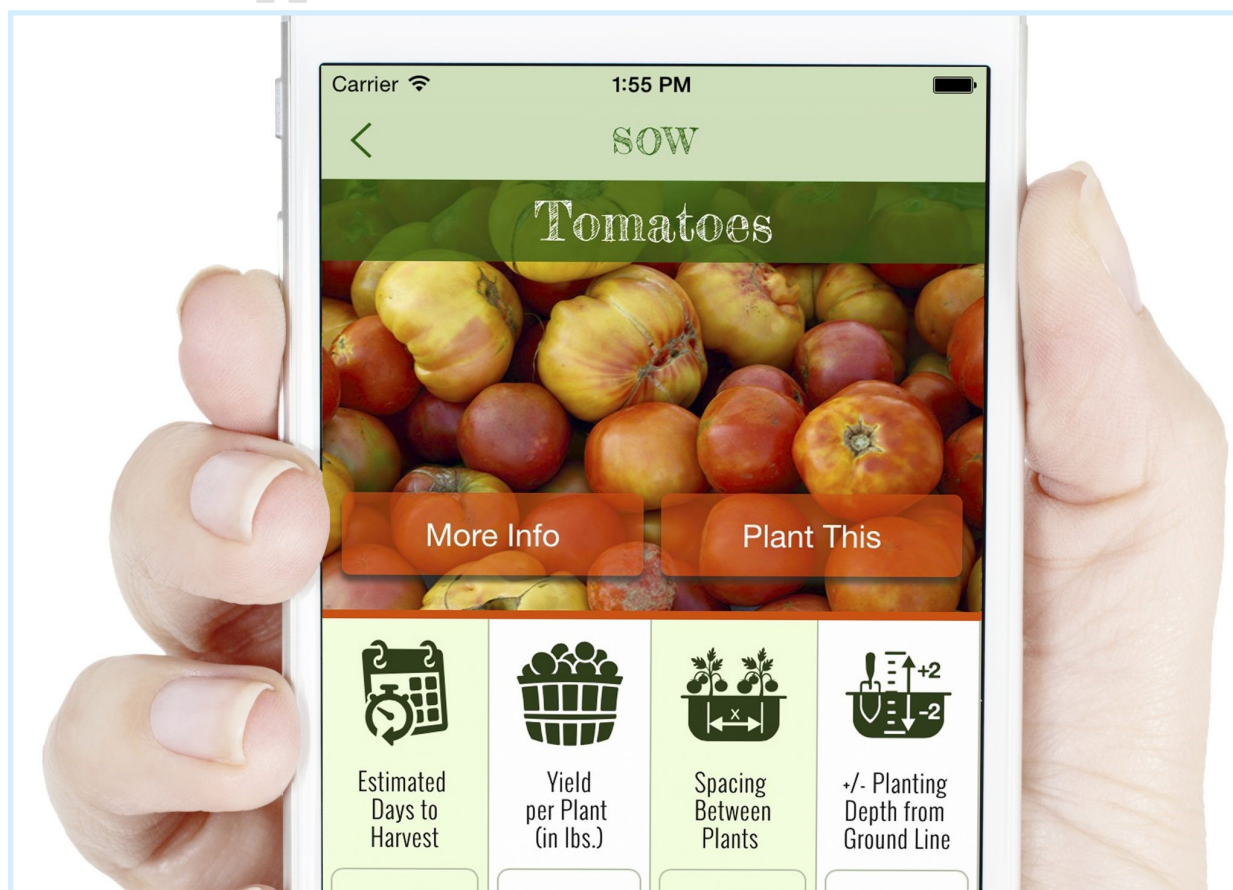
### The Planting Hole

The quality of the planting hole is one of the most important factors in reestablishing plants in your landscape. Don't take shortcuts here. The general rule of thumb is that the planting hole should be at least two to three times the diameter of the root system. The wider you dig the planting hole, the more rapidly your new plant will become established and grow. The harder, more com-



These containers are small for the size of the tree. This is a good indication that the roots are going to be so confined in the container that they will be circling the inside of the container. Circling roots often result in the decline and death of the plant years after it was installed.

# Sow App: Now Available for KY Gardeners



*Source: Rick Durham, UK horticulture extension specialist*

Kentucky gardeners have a new tool available in Apple and Google Play app stores to assist with planting, sowing, and harvesting decisions for their home garden.

SOW—A Planting Companion is a free app based on University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension's [publication ID-18 Home Vegetable Gardening in Kentucky](#). The app also incorporates information for Alabama and North Carolina and other areas in U.S. Department of Agriculture Plant Hardiness Zones 6a-9a. Kentucky is primarily in zone 6b, with a few areas in 6a or 7a. After downloading the app, enter your state and county to get customized plant information based on your hardiness zone. You can always change the information later in the settings menu.

The app has three main sections: My Garden, Journal and Library. The library currently has information and photos of about 36 popular home garden vegetables. You may sort the vegetables alphabetically, by harvest date or by planting date. Clicking on a vegetable in the library will open information about that vegetable, including estimated days to harvest, expected yield, plant spacing, planting depth, soil pH range, and average number of plants per person you need to include for a good harvest.

You can add vegetables to the My Garden section. You can develop more than one garden, for example, a spring garden, a summer garden and a fall garden, and keep them separate. My Garden helps you keep track of planting dates, seed or transplant planting method, the specific cultivar or variety you planted and when you should be able to harvest it. You can even plan ahead and enter a planting date for the future and the app will give you the option to add this date to your phone's calendar as a reminder.

After you harvest a crop, you the Journal section to record yield, harvest date or any other notes you may need to help plan next year's garden.

The app can also link you to your local Cooperative Extension office, where you'll find staff information and ways to contact extension agents with questions. Download the app through Apple, Google, or search for it in your mobile device app store.

# Green Goddess Dressing

## Ingredients:

- 1 teaspoon dried sweet basil
- 1/2 ripe avocado, pitted and peeled
- 1/4 cup plain Greek yogurt
- 2 scallions, roots trimmed off, green and white parts chopped
- 2 tablespoons white wine vinegar or lemon juice
- 1 garlic clove, peeled, or 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/4 cup olive oil 1/4 cup fresh parsley or basil leaves, chopped
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh tarragon leaves or 1teaspoon dried tarragon
- 1/2 teaspoon salt

## Instructions:

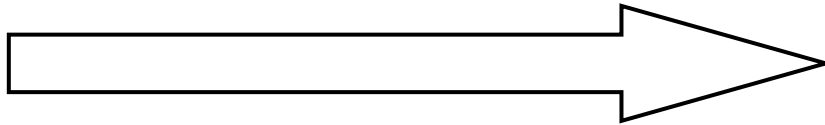
Put the avocado, yogurt, scallions, vinegar or lemon juice, and garlic in the blender or food processor fitted with the steel blade. Put the top on and process until smooth.

Add the olive oil, parsley or basil, tarragon, and salt and process until completely blended.

Taste the dressing on a piece of lettuce. Does it need more vinegar? A pinch of salt? If so, add it, then blend again.



To view how this recipe is made,  
scan this QR code:



  
**Horticulture  
Webinar  
Wednesdays**  
12:30pm EST/11:30am CST  
Registration link:  
<https://tinyurl.com/UKYHortWebWed21>  
Visit [kentuckyhortnews.com](http://kentuckyhortnews.com)  
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Join us for weekly  
gardening webinars  
hosted in June by the  
University of  
Kentucky Extension  
Horticulture Agents  
and Specialists via  
Zoom!

## June Classes held at 11:30 AM CST

Wednesday, June 7th– Blooming Wildflowers

Wednesday, June 14th– Japanese Beetles

Wednesday, June 21st— Talking Phalaenopsis

Wednesday, June 28th— Tropicals for Zone 6


*\*Register for all sessions at*

*<http://tinyurl.com/23JuneHWW>*

## Catch "Get the Scoop" for advice and tips on gardening.

Tune in each weekday morning at 5:00am for "Get the Scoop" on Goober 95.1 FM.



 Find us on Facebook at Get the Scoop Radio Show!



<https://www.facebook.com/warrencountyagriculture/>



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