



News

COMMUNITY GARDENERS
OF MANITOWISH WATERS

July, 2019 Vol. 8

!

New LOOK to our Newsletter

What an exciting time! All 58 beds were claimed before our first day of planting on June 21st. While all of us are new to this spectacular facility, many of us are also first-time gardeners. And while we're tending our beds, Phase 1 construction continues. Questions abound and there is so much information to share. So, the newsletter is no longer going to be limited to two pages.

To help you quickly discover what is covered in each monthly edition, an **"IN THIS ISSUE"** column will appear on the front page at the top-right column. As always, feedback is welcome!



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Photo taken July 3, 2019

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AMAZING

NEW COMMUNITY GARDEN READY FOR PLANTING IN 25 DAYS!



The GARDEN VOLUNTEERS



Brought to you by



and outstanding community support through monetary donations, Business sponsors, and over 1,600 volunteer hours invested since May 25th!

Starring . . .

JIM & CHRIS POWELL · BRUCE & BARB GABRIELSE · ROB & JAN RUDE · GUY KAPAL · SCOTT & JANE SMITH · JEFF BONECK · PAUL BLANCHARD · RICK & PEGGY EBLE · SARAH KREMBS · TOM FREEMAN · MYKOS RESS · PAT & SAM SOLAR · JUDY BARRY · ROBIN McCORMICK · JIM SCHROEDER · MIKE & MARY DAILEY · MARK MURPHY · TOM & LESLIE CERVENKA · LISA LAHAM · NANCY BURNS · LUCAS DERRY · PAT EGAN · RICK & SUSIE GERING · JOAN HILL · JANE PARIS · MICHELE BAER · JEANINE RAYALA
The Steering Committee: **KAREN & JERRY WILKE · LAUREL & DARRELL TSCHURWALD · MARY BONECK · AMY KOBUSSEN · MIKE KRAMER**

FANTASTIC

LOCAL SPONSORS

thank you!



Ironwood



Winkler's Greenhouse



PURSLANE: Weed It or Eat It?

These plants are EVERYWHERE and in *all* of our garden beds! And much like a zombie, even after you think you've killed it or removed it, it comes back to life again and again.



Purslane is a succulent plant that grows close to the ground, most often found in clear or recently cultivated soil. Purslane can re-root itself from any part of its stems and leaves. Even a small piece of the plant left on the soil can result in new growth. The best method for eliminating purslane is by hand pulling and disposing carefully in a plastic bag to avoid spreading its seeds. Purslane seeds need light to germinate, so a heavy layer of mulch or paper over a previously infected area can also help rid your garden of these pesky plants.

However, several gardeners have told us these plants are edible! So, is purslane a weed or a wonderful taste treat? According to "The Old Farmers Almanac", purslane is more nutritious than many of the crops we plant. It contains:

- **Seven times the beta-carotene** of carrots
- **Six times more vitamin E** than spinach
- **Fourteen times more Omega 3 fatty acids**
- Many of the same health benefits as other leafy greens



The Farmers Almanac gives advice on how to try this unique plant for yourself. To harvest it, remove the plant completely and cut off the stems from the piece attached to the root. Wash the individual stems thoroughly to remove all dirt from crevices. Purslane is quite tasty with a lemony flavor reminiscent of sorrel. Try purslane:

- Tossed into salad or added to soups
- Added to an omelette
- Lightly steamed for 4 to 5 minutes, then served with salt and a little butter
- Mixed with cucumber and topped with some oil-and-vinegar dressing and serve with crackers, like Sarah Krembs does!

See the www.mwgrow.org, FOR GARDENERS, RESOURCES tab, for more recipes on how to use purslane.



3 Important Things to Know in our Early Season Garden Beds

1. Cut yellow leaves off tomato plants immediately and frequently. Recalling Cheryl Pytlarz' (Master Gardener) advice, Septoria Leaf Spot is a fungal disease that travels up the plant. Check for yellow leaves with black spots, which will start at the bottom of the plant. (Fig. 1)

2. Place irrigation drip lines right next to young plants. Until the roots become longer and more established, sufficient water is critical. Extra hand-watering may be needed in some areas of your bed during the first few days after planting.

3. Check squash plants for signs of Powdery Mildew on/under the leaves frequently. It appears on older leaves first and rapidly spreads to create white mildew covered leaves and stems, making the leaves appear to have been dipped in talc. The leaves lose their normal dark green hue, turn pale and finally shrivel, leaving the squash exposed to sunburn. (Fig. 2)

Powdery mildew can also appear on cucumbers, peas, eggplant, lettuce, melons, tomatoes, radishes and turnips.



Fig. 1



Fig. 2

Please remove, place in sealable container, take home, and destroy diseased plant material.

The **NATURAL** way to treat 2 common plant diseases

Septoria Leaf Spot:

Spray with a solution made of:

- 1 tablespoon baking soda
- 2 1/2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1 teaspoon liquid soap - not detergent
- 1 gallon of water

-Spray the mixture liberally over the affected plants. You may need to spray for several days in a row before improvement is seen.

Powdery Mildew:

Spray with a solution made of:

- 1 tablespoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon liquid soap - not detergent
- 1 gallon of water

Spray the mixture liberally over the affected plants. You may need to spray for several days in a row before improvement is seen.

OUR IRRIGATION SYSTEM

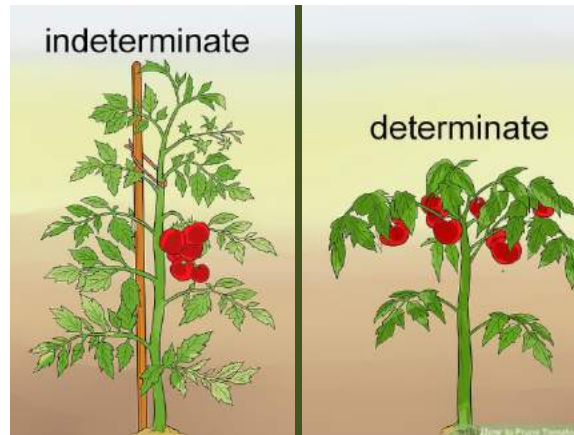
- RUNS EVERY DAY in the EVENING (and completes before daylight)
 - 6 ZONES in the garden
 - Each zone runs for 90 minutes, starting with Zone 1
- RAINBIRD automatic irrigation controller
- Rain sensor installed – irrigation will NOT run if the sensing mechanism has detected a total of ¼” of rain during a rain event. NOTE: Scattered, light showers throughout the day may NOT turn off the irrigation system even though the total daily accumulation of rain meets or exceeds ¼”.
- Irrigation drip lines will work properly with the holes facing UP or DOWN.
 - Holes are spaced 12” apart on each drip line
 - Drip lines are installed 12” apart in each bed (6” from each side wall)
- All SINGLE (non-joined) raised garden beds have individual ON/OFF valves located in one of the corners of the bed. Water “flow” cannot be regulated by these valves. The valve is OFF when the handle is perpendicular to the drip line. All other incremental positions to the handle being positioned parallel to the drip line (ON) will allow water through the drip lines. NOTE: Joined beds have a single water flow valve. Generally, valves should remain ON.
- Drip lines can be moved and repositioned.
- All drip lines have been heat-sealed onto their connectors and should not be disassembled.
- Please contact a member of the Steering Committee if you feel a change should be made to the irrigation schedule.

HOW TO PROPERLY PRUNE TOMATOES



STEP 1: Which type of tomato plant do you have?

- Big Boy
- Beef Master
- most Cherry varieties
- most heirloom types



- ACE 55
- Amelia
- Better Bush
- Heatmaster
- Mountain Pride
- Patio

GROW LIKE VINES GROW INTO BUSH

STEP 2: Check for yellow leaves and stems below the first set of flowers. When you notice this color change, its time to start pruning.

STEP 3: Check for “suckers.” Regardless of plant type, look for tiny new branches sprouting in the spot where a lateral branch meets the stem. Suckers take energy from the rest of the plant and cause it to bear fewer tomatoes. To remove a sucker, grab a growing tip by the base between the thumb and forefinger and bend it back and forth until it snaps cleanly. Ideally, this should be done when the shoot is young and supple. The small wound will heal quickly.

For **INDETERMINATE** varieties. Choose four or five sturdy “trusses” to keep, then pinch out any additional side shoots. These are the branches that grow from the main stem above the first flower cluster. Leave the plant's top shoot intact, known as the “terminal shoot.” Make sure the vine-like plants are tied to supports after flowering occurs.



STEP 4: On very young plants, check for flowers. It’s a good idea to start pruning your tomato plants early, as soon as there are flowers on the plants. At this point, the plants should be between 12 and 18 inches tall.



GARDEN RULES

To ensure everyone has a common understanding of how our garden will operate and what is expected of each gardener and visitor, following is a brief summary of our Garden Rules. Please refer to the GROW! Website for the complete version: www.mwgrow.org under the FOR GARDENERS tab.

1. **Annual garden plot fees.** Fees must be paid in full before May 1. You have first-right to your plot from the previous year. Weather permitting, cultivating and planting must start by June 15.
2. **No unaccompanied children or visitors.** Guests and visitors, including children, may enter the Garden when accompanied by a Plot holder.
3. **Gardens must be well maintained at all times.** Gardeners are responsible for removing weeds and grasses between weed barrier and base of their garden beds. No disposal of weeds or diseased plant material at or around garden site.
4. **No chemicals.** Materials that may be harmful to humans or the environment are not allowed within the garden. The application of chemical herbicides (weed killers) or fertilizers to any garden plot is prohibited.
5. **No grass clippings.** To prevent accidental introduction of Bermuda grass and other weeds, the use of grass clippings as mulch is not allowed within the garden.
6. **Respect garden boundaries.** Plots should not be allowed to expand into pathways or other plots. All plants, plant runners, vegetables, and stakes should be kept within the walled boundaries of each plot.
7. **No Smoking.** All areas within and surrounding the fenced Garden premises are established as a “smoke free” zone. Please do not dispose of cigarette butts in parking areas.
8. **No contraband substances.** Plants considered illegal under State or Federal law are strictly prohibited.
8. **No dogs or pets allowed.** Pets or other animals are not allowed within the Garden premises.
9. **Pack out trash.** All non-organic refuse brought in must be removed by the gardener, including: plastic bottles, cans, bags, etc.
10. **No parking along Airport Road.**

Meet Your Neighbors!



NEW RED NOS.

