

JANUARY 2021

**Muscatine
County**



**WORTHWHILE
DIRT**

What's in this January newsletter...

- ⇒ **News from Education Coordinator**
- ⇒ **What is a New Year's Resolution?**
- ⇒ **Just a little Master Gardener
business!**
- ⇒ **Gardening Wordsearch**

News from Education Coordinator

Iowa State University Master Gardener News

See the full list of upcoming events here: [https://
www.extension.iastate.edu/mastergardener/events](https://www.extension.iastate.edu/mastergardener/events)

Growing Great Vegetables - University of Illinois Extension Sessions will be from 6 to 7 p.m. on Tuesdays from January 26 to March 9

Whether growers have several acres or a patio with room for a few containers, now is the time to start planning for a successful garden. This seven-week webinar series, for new or experienced gardeners, will cover the basics of starting a vegetable garden from start to finish led by University of Illinois Extension horticulture experts.

International Master Gardener Conference 2021 September 12-17, 2021

This event will be virtual! [Read more here.](#)

THANK YOU
Carolyn Lemaster

What is a New Year's Resolution?

by Mary Wildermuth, Master Gardener Chair

Taking apart the word “resolution” I thought of making peace...resolving a conflict or yes, a commitment to completing a goal.

What's your definition?

According to dictionary.com..... Resolution is a noun.

The act or an instance of resolving. the condition or quality of being resolute; firmness or determination. something **resolved** or determined; decision. a formal expression of opinion by a meeting, esp one agreed by a vote. With

So with 2020 behind us and 2021 here what are you resolving. Perhaps you are thinking about or have already decided to exercise more, eat less, be nicer or just wear your mask, social distance and wash your hands until you are lucky enough to get that miracle vaccination!!

Let's think about your **love of gardening** what are you resolving to do this season?

The Old Farmer's Almanac (January 2, 2020) suggests the following:

- Taking more pictures to record your garden's progress. Taking a picture at the first of each month from the same location makes a great photo essay at the end of the year for viewing your garden all year long.
- Build a trellis, arbor or pergola? This gives you an excuse to by that climbing rose or clematis!
- Build a compost bin. This is a gardener's way of recycling old plant material into rich soil-nourishing compost!!
- Keep a garden journal.
- Get the shed or garage organized. Make those garden tools readily accessible.
- Grow and cook a new vegetable?
- Try more organics?
- Try a new growing method!

So as you think about 2021 and your gardening!! What are you resolving? Deciding, determining or planning?

Just a little Master Gardener business! by Mary Wildermuth, Master Gardener Chair

Here we are at the beginning of a new Master Gardener year. With the pandemic still in our mirror and a vaccine on our waiting list we hope that 2021 will provide “normal” Master Gardener activities again. However, until that happens we will operate in the mode of 2020.

It is usual to elect new board members at our annual meeting, a time when we say thank you to those who have served and those who will serve. However, this year we have asked the 2020 board members who would be retiring to remain through the 2021 year. By consensus most have been able to say yes!

Terms ending in 2020 but agreeing to serve through 2021

Kathy Haltmeyer
Rachel Horner Brackett
Ed Moreno

Thank you for your willingness to serve again this year!

Terms ending in 2020 and not able to serve through 2021

Heather Harroun (vacant)
Mary rose Peterschmidt (vacant)

And in lieu of that annual in person meeting we say thank you to Heather and Maryrose for their dedicated hours of service to our Muscatine County Master Gardeners!!

Terms ending in 2021 and continuing through 2022

Ron Jensen
Carolyn Lemaster
Mary Wildermuth

This is your 2021 slate of Master Gardener Board Members. At this time we do have two vacancies. If you are interested in serving on the board please contact

me or another board member with your interest and willingness to serve. We will be seeking member approval of the slate for 2021 in a future newsletter or email.

Please contact one of the board members by the **end of January, 2021** if you would like to become a board member. We don't anticipate meeting in person until early summer.

We wish to thank Gretchen Nollman for service to us as, newsletter, editor. Gretchen has completed her year and is moving on personally and professionally. She has resigned from the editor position and from Master Gardeners!

We are sorry to see Gretchen go but wish her the best in 2021!

With Gretchen's resignation as newsletter editor we will be accepting applicants for the editor position! Please contact me or any board member if you are interested in crafting our monthly newsletter with your thoughts, pictures and creative ideas!

So we are looking for a Newsletter Editor too!

Here's to a normal Master Gardener Year, 2021!!

Gardening

Word Search Puzzle



- | | | |
|-------------|--------|--------------|
| CLIPPERS | RAKE | SUNSHINE |
| COMPOST | SEEDS | TILLER |
| FLOWERS | SHEARS | TROWEL |
| GARDEN HOSE | SHOVEL | VEGETABLES |
| GLOVES | SNAILS | WATER |
| HERBS | SNIPS | WATERING CAN |
| HOE | SOIL | WEEDS |
| PLANTING | SPADE | WHEELBARROW |

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Muscatine County Extension Office

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Iowa State University Extension programs are available to all without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, or disability. Iowa State University and U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating.

2020-2021 Muscatine County Master Gardener Board

Board Members

Mary Wildermuth, Chair (2021)*

Rachel Horner Brackett, Vice Chair(2020)*

Heather Harroun, Sec/Treas (2020)

Kathy Haltmeyer(2020)

Ron Jensen (2021)

Carolyn Lemaster(2021)*

Ed Moreno (2020)

Maryrose Peterschmidt(2020)

Mary Danner (Past Chair)

Angela Weber (Intern)

() *Year term expires as of Dec. 31*

* *Going off Board Dec 31, 2020 or 2021 but eligible for re-election*



* **Current Emails and Addresses** *
* As a reminder – keep both the Extension *
* Office current on any changes of e-mail *
* addresses, phone numbers, or mailing ad- *
* dresses. These need to be current to keep *
* you — our members — informed. *
* *

