Annual Plant Sale

MAY 7, 2011
8:00 am - 1:00 pm

WXY Sporting Goods
1104 W. Harmony—Neosho
Need more info? Contact Bill at 389-0674 or Rhonda at 451-4622
Come early for the best selection!

Let your friends know. We need lots of donations:
shrubs, trees, bulbs, perennials, annuals, grasses, ground covers,
houseplants, vegetables, and, of course, yard art!

**Please mark the name of the plant, sun preference; any pertinent information, and price. Most of all, we need all hands on deck. This is our main fundraiser for the year and 2010 exceeded $2300! Click here for flier.**

2010 Rookie of the Year-
Jutta McCormick

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**2011 OFFICERS**

PRESIDENT: Linda Arment 417-317-2588
VICE-PRESIDENT: Jutta McCormick 417-845-6774
TREASURER: Donna Carr 417-529-0857
SECRETARY: Beth Persons 417-455-9092

JOHN HOBBS
EXTENSION AGENT

UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION OFFICES:
NEWTON COUNTY
417-455-9500
McDONALD COUNTY
417-223-4775

Check out April’s newsletter for many more opportunities!

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Important Dates

Apr 30 Stella’s Spring Fling
May 3 Monthly Meeting
May 7 Annual Plant Sale
May 21 Pollinating Workshop
Jun 18 Lendonwood Gardens
THIS MONTH’S TOPIC

Jerry and Gwen Schroder, two of our very own, will be our guest speakers on May 3 at 6:30 pm. They will be sharing information about Grow Native!, a joint program of the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) and the Missouri Department of Agriculture (MDA), which helps protect and restore our state’s biodiversity by increasing conservation awareness of native plants and their effective use...Grow Native! aims to significantly increase the demand for and use of native plants on all landscapes. To learn more.

LOOKING AHEAD

2011 International Master Gardener Conference

October 11 - 14
Charleston, WV

The West Virginia University Extension Service and the West Virginia Master Gardener Association invite you to join them! Register Now

Native Pollinators Workshop
Saturday, May 21 9 am-5 pm
MU Southwest Research Center
Mt. Vernon, MO
14548 Hwy H

For more information, you may contact Sarah Becker, Horticulture Specialist, at (417)597-4412 or e-mail her. Register by May 18. To learn more or for registration forms. Cost is only $15 per person, including lunch and more!

State Master Gardeners Convention
Hannibal, MO
September 23-25, 2011
Theme: Gardening in America’s Hometown

Don’t miss your opportunity to see Mark Twain’s hometown and learning more about gardening! The tentative schedule for the weekend is packed full of exciting speakers, sightseeing, classes, tours, and more. Hosted by the Salt River Master Gardeners. To learn more.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

RECORDKEEPING

Be sure to record your service hours throughout the year. Need a form? Contact the Extension Office, print HERE, OR report electronically

John has scheduled our tour at Lendonwood Gardens in Grove, OK for June 18 at 11 am. More information will be available in June’s newsletter but if you want a sneak preview, visit their site. It’s gorgeous!
Crop rotation critical for successful vegetable production

BLUE SPRINGS, Mo.—Vegetable crop rotation is important for a healthy, productive garden, says a University of Missouri Extension horticulture specialist.

Growing a different types of vegetables in the same plot from year to year has many benefits, said Lala Kumar. It avoids the buildup of diseases and pests that can take place when the same or similar crops are planted in the same soil year after year.

“It also promotes good soil health by alternating crops with different nutrient needs, therefore avoiding depletion of any one necessary element present in the soil,” Kumar said.

Crop rotation can also benefit overall soil structure by alternating deep- and shallow-rooting plants, breaking up subsoil and reducing the effects of soil compaction.

A common approach is to rotate crops by botanical families so that individual vegetables from the same family do not follow each other in the rotation. The reason for this is that each family of vegetables has unique effects on growing conditions. “For instance, most vegetables within a given family usually fall prey to the same diseases and insects,” he said.

That makes it important to know the major vegetable families.