



January 2024

Greetings from Our President

Thank you for a great 2023! As we look ahead to 2024, we have an opportunity to continue to support our community in many ways. We will continue and enhance all of our existing civic activities including the Historical Society, Post Office, American Legion, Clearbrook House and Viatorian Giving Gardens.

The **Garden Walk** planning will kick off soon, so please let Jean Kengott or me know if you'd like to help out. Our annual **plant sale** may feel a long way off, but please keep it in mind as you look through your seed and plant catalogs for potential plant donations. I plan to use the milk carton plantings showcased in November in the Conservation Corner to plant more natives to donate to the plant sale.

With our new status as a 501c3 charitable organization, we have already received one grant and a very generous personal donation from a non-member who was inspired by one of our club members and the work we do in the community. This is such an amazing testament to the work that happens and the impact it makes on others. Please thoughtfully consider how you'd like to be involved this year and reach out to me or any of the committee chairs to support the community and environment where we live.

Happy New Year to everyone!

Beth

Winter Meetings

- January 22
- February 26
- March 25

See page 2 for meeting details

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January Program

January 22nd @ 7-8:30 PM Zoom Event & Watch Party
Literary Gardens presented by Cindy Crosby

Our January program, "Literary Gardens" presented by Cindy Crosby, will be hosted by the Arlington Heights Memorial Library, who is our partner for this event. You can join the "watch party" at the Library or view the presentation from home via Zoom. Cindy Crosby will be presenting on Zoom. Registration is required. You can register using the links below, or on the Library's website.

- Registration [link](#) to the in-person watch party
- Registration [link](#) to the virtual zoom option

Cindy Crosby is the author, compiler, or contributor to more than 20 books, none self-published. Recently published is "Chasing Dragonflies: A Natural, Cultural, and Personal History" (Northwestern University Press) with 16 full-color images by Peggy Macnamara, artist-in-residence at the Field Museum of Chicago. Cindy gives natural history programs for The Morton Arboretum, Wild Ones Native Landscape groups, Sierra Club, The Illinois Extension, Illinois Garden Clubs, and other organizations. She also regularly speaks to conservation groups, natural areas conferences, book groups, and gardening clubs. Cindy graduated from University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point in 2014 with her master's degree in natural resources, with a focus on environmental interpretation. She is a Master Gardener and teaches in the Master Naturalist program.

Join master gardener and natural history writer Cindy Crosby for a fun look at gardens in literature and poetry. From Agatha Christie's mystery series, to Brother Cadfael's "Medieval Herb Garden", to Michael Pollan's garden in "Second Nature," to the "Secret Garden" beloved in children's literature, there are so many gardens that helped shape the books we love to read. Discover how gardens and garden imagery figure in the works of Mary Oliver, Henry Mitchell, Barbara Kingsolver, Lewis Carroll, and many more. See your garden with new eyes – and come away with a list of books you can't wait to explore. To find out more about her work, visit her [website](#).



Membership Report

Lew and Sheila Coffin | Membership

A very warm welcome to our newest members. The club has grown to 144 members which is a 25% increase from the summer 2023. We hope that each member is enjoying the many offerings that the AHGC has to offer for fellowship, education, and community involvement.

Chicago Botanic Garden Membership Discount: As this new year begins you may be contemplating a membership at the Chicago Botanic Garden. One of the perks of AHGC membership is a \$10 discount on an initial or a renewal of a Chicago Botanic Garden membership. To receive this CBG membership discount, you must apply in person and provide a letter confirming your AHGC membership. Sheila Coffin or Lew Coffin can issue the necessary letter to any member who intends to take advantage of this discount. We can be reached at ahgcmembers@gmail.com. Please allow a couple of days for processing before your trip to the Botanic Garden!

The Arlington Heights Garden Club functions through the activities of many committees and volunteers. We have a very vibrant and well-organized club due to the leadership, diverse talents, and contributions of our club members.

Can You Name This Native Plant?

(Answer can be found on page 18)



Holiday Tree Decorating at the Village Hall, Library & Senior Center





Holiday Container Workshop



Holiday Decorating at the Museum



Mountain Blue Bird

The powder-blue male Mountain Bluebird is one of the most beautiful birds of the West. As the climate warms, the species' summer habitat could shrink by nearly half, and this charming bird could disappear forever from many areas.

Source: *The Audubon Society Calendar*

Club Status as a 501c3 Organization

Sharon Rudy | Treasurer

What does this mean?

Now that the Arlington Heights Garden Club has been registered with the IRS as a 501c3 charity, interested donors can make a tax deductible donation to our Club's efforts. We recently received our first donation notification from a non-member for \$1,000! That's so awesome! Thank You.

If this is an option you would like to take advantage of, there are several ways to make a donation. You can send a personal check, donate stock with appreciated value (saves you from capital gains), or utilize a donor advised fund. Please consult your tax advisor on the best way for you to contribute as you prepare your 2023 taxes. To make a donation from a family foundation or charitable fund (Donor Advised Fund), please direct any inquiries and check processing to our Treasurer, Sharon Rudy. The official name of our club is Arlington Heights Garden Club NFP and the FEIN is 92-3285225. Donations by check can be mailed to [Sharon Rudy](#) at 508 S. Patton Ave. Arlington Heights, IL 60005. The Arlington Heights Garden Club NFP can also be specified in your will, if so desired.

Thank you for your consideration and Happy New Year!

Biodiversity in Focus

Juli Cicarelli | Horticulture

A new report on the status of U.S. wildlife conservation reveals that 40% of the animals, 34% of the plants and 40% of our ecosystems nationwide are at risk. This analysis — *Biodiversity in Focus: United States Edition*, was released this February and compiled by [NatureServe](#), a nonprofit organization that assembles conservation network of scientists and organizations.

“This grim assessment adds to the mountain of science showing that we’re creating an extinction crisis”, said Tierra Curry, a senior scientist at the [Center for Biological Diversity](#). The study is the most comprehensive to date on the status of U.S. ecosystems. It found that 51% of grasslands and 40% of forest and wetlands are at risk of range-wide collapse.

The question is what we as individuals can do about this. The famous quote is “Nobody can do everything, but everybody can do something.” National organizations like the Homegrown National Park, and local organizations like the Sustainable Yard Project in Arlington Heights are excellent examples of what can be done.



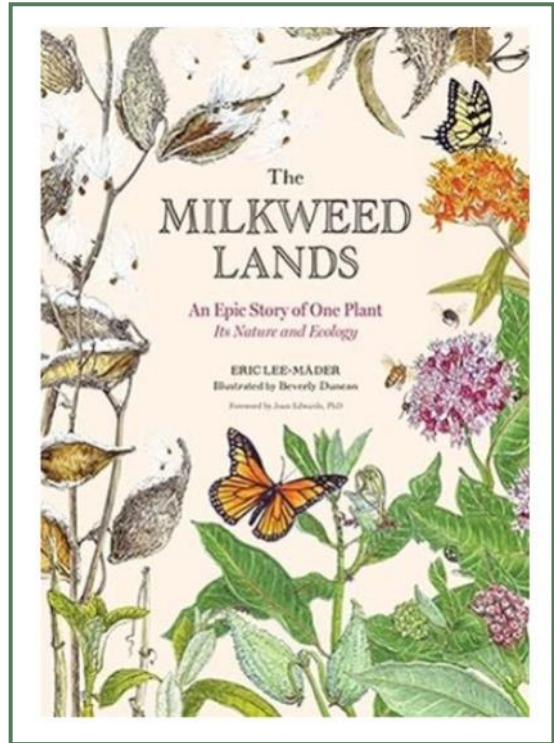
Book Review

The Milkweed Lands: An Epic Story of One Plant: Its Nature and Ecology

Bev Krams

WOW! Did you think that you knew everything about milkweed? I don't think so — at least not until you read Eric Lee-Mader's, **The Milkweed Lands: An Epic Story of One Plant, Its Nature and Ecology**. The 110 page book is a page turner. It is full of every last detail of the milkweed plant (*Asclepius*), but wait until you see the illustrations by Beverly Duncan. They are absolutely, beautifully, illustrated to totally appreciate this 'common' plant. Her watercolor paintings have been awarded 'Best of Show'.

Milkweed plants are often overlooked as a roadside ditch weed. The author and illustrator trace the plants survival throughout the seasons, including germination, growth, flowering, and seed development. Along side this data they discuss the lives of the many creatures whose lives are intertwined with the milkweed: monarch butterflies; soldier and queen butterflies; milkweed tussock moths; large and small milkweed bugs; milkweed weevils; bumble bees; goldfinches; and more. It is a delightful, illuminating text to give the reader the feeling of browsing a talented naturalist's sketchbook, while also learning about different milkweed species, propagating milkweed, the industrial uses of milkweed, interesting milkweed relatives, and more.



Eric Lee-Mader is the Pollinator Program Co-Director at the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation in Portland, Oregon. The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation is an international nonprofit organization that protects the natural world through the conservation of invertebrates and their habitats.

Eric is also the lead author of other publications including: **100 Plants to Feed the Bees**, **Attracting Native Pollinators** and **Farming with Native Beneficial Insects**, published by the Xerces Society. All four books can be found at the Arlington Heights Memorial Library.

[100 Plants to Feed the Bees](#)

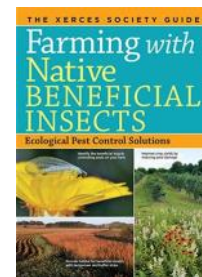
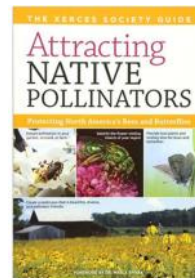
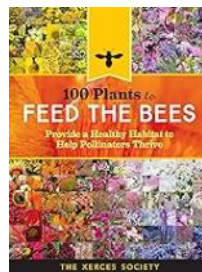
(Published in 2016)

[Attracting Native Pollinators](#)

(Published in 2011)

[Farming with Native Beneficial Insects](#)

(Published 2014)



Conservation Corner

June Miller | Conservation

Recycling Your Holiday String Lights

Holiday string lights cannot go into recycling bins. Why send them to the landfill when they can be recycled. These lights are useful because they contain copper, glass, plastic, and other materials that can be crushed and extracted for new ones. Below are a few recycling programs that collect holiday lights. Make sure to remove them from boxes or plastic bags.



Holiday Lights Recycling Program



Arlington Heights Public Works
222 N Ridge Avenue
Monday - Friday: 7:30 am to 3:00 pm
November 13, 2023- February 23, 2024
(847) 368-5800

Arlington Heights Health Department
33 S Arlington Heights Road
Monday - Friday: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm
November 13, 2023- February 23, 2024
(847) 368-5760

Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County
swancc.org

Special thanks to Elgin Recycling

Elgin Recycling

145 South Weiler Road, AH
Monday-Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm
Saturday 8:00 am to 1:00 pm
847-741-4100 | [Website](#)

Note: This location also recycles appliances, electronics, bikes, grills, and anything made of metal. You may even get paid for the weight of the metal!

Recycling Tips from SWANCC for the New Year



Consider making a list of small eco-friendly ideas you can implement each month. Soon they will become a green habit!

- Bring reusable bags on errands as plastic bags cannot be recycled. If possible, drop these plastic bags off at stores that take used bags back.
- Bring your own reusable water bottle. According to the [EPA](#), each week, Americans buy enough plastic water bottles to circle the earth five times!
- Eliminate phantom energy. This is energy used by electronic devices that continue to draw power even though they are off. This phantom energy can add up **to 10% of your monthly electric bill**. Consider using smart power strips or charges that stop drawing energy when a device's battery is full.
- Reduce paper towel usage. Start by using small sheets of towels to get the job done or use old washcloths/rags for cleaning, or cloth napkins for meals.

2024 Extension Master Gardener Seed Expo

Don't miss this mega seed and resource sharing [event](#) of the year on February 10, 2024! Join your hosts, Extension Master Gardeners, the Round Lake Area Public Library, and the Lake County Extension Foundation, and over 20 exhibitors and vendors.

This is a very popular event so plan to attend early!



Conservation Corner

June Miller | Conservation

Winter Trees

Only 0.15% of Illinois' old-growth forests exist today. These are relatively old trees (such as white oaks) in undisturbed areas. They are significant for storing incredible amounts of carbon and cleaning and filtering our water. Unfortunately, they are struggling due to development and competition from other trees. Restoration workers and volunteers protect these oaks by removing non-native invasive honey suckle and common buckthorn from our local forests. These invasive large shrubs and trees grow in dense thickets, can change soil composition, and block sunlight and water from reaching native plants. Note: Seeds from the Buckthorn berries can actually remain viable in the soil for 2 to 6 years! Winter is a good time for this removal task in our forests and in your own backyard.



Common Buckthorn tree branches in summer



Brush fire of invasive Buckthorn trees at the Grove

Winter is a great time to learn how to identify native trees. Without leaves, you can better see the shape, size, bark, branch structure, and twigs with buds on various tree species. There is a class available to help you identify tree species in the winter.

Winter Tree Identification

Saturday, **January 20th**, 10:00-11:30 am

Edward L. Ryerson Conservation Education Center in Riverwoods
Adults, Price \$7 for Lake County residents and \$9 for non-residents

[Register](#) or call 847-968-3321

Nature Speaks with Katherine Garness

Kathleen Garness will be presenting "*Inspiring Young Artists Through Nature and Conservation*". She will highlight many of the outreach efforts she has been involved with for the past fifteen years. She will also talk about new opportunities for young people to develop their capacity to see and understand the natural world around them through art and close observation.

Thursday, **February 22**, 7:00-8:30 pm.

In person at the Prospect Heights Public Library and by Zoom
12 Elm Street, Prospect Hts.

[Register](#) or call 847-259-3500

Very Informative Zoom Classes for Free!



Yellow Lady Slippers
by Garness



2023 Ivy Hill Elementary Youth Grant: *Final Report*

The goal of the Ivy Hill garden program is to introduce and provide hands-on experience of gardening to the students at Ivy Hill Elementary, from planting to actually seeing the plants and flowers grow in the garden. Students are also exposed to the different types of pollinators and are able to see where some of the seeds for next year's garden come from with each different kind of plant!

The students were given an opportunity to participate in the planting of the garden by choosing the type of flower seeds they wanted to plant and then planting them in their grade's garden box. Each student was also given a small cup to fill with soil and a green bean seed to plant in the soil. They were then able to bring them home and given directions on how to care for their plant! We were also able to expand our parent volunteer base with a large group of parents who were new to Ivy Hill this year! Over the summer, families were encouraged to volunteer to help take care of the garden by signing up to water and tend to the garden boxes, a different family each week. This was great for families that wanted to try out gardening for the first time, and also with families who are already established gardeners.

We've re-worked some ideas of what we wanted to plant in the garden. Having a gourd and pollinator garden was a fantastic use of our space and timing of plant to harvest situation, since school is on a break over the summer. The kids were able to each plant a few flower seeds of their choice in the garden bed for their grade. They also planted a green bean seed in a little cup to take home and grow there. Gardening is a life skill that all people can enjoy. In many cases, some of our students have never planted a seed and seen the end product after watching it grow. We've had several reports of student bean plants making it all the way to producing a few beans. The pollinator garden was amazing! We had huge sunflowers that towered over everyone, some zinnias, bachelor's buttons, and cosmos that popped color all over the place, marigolds that grew taller than most of the kindergarteners, and some morning glories that had amazing vines with pretty blue and purple flowers. Our gourds didn't do as well this year. We had them in the beds along the school wall. We will hopefully be able to amend that soil for next year and make it more productive. We had two huge, volunteer cherry tomato plants along the wall that did amazingly well. Families that came to water were able to grab handfuls of ripe tomatoes all summer! Teachers have been bringing their classes out to observe the different flowers and gourd vines. The art teacher has been having the students draw different parts of the garden. The teachers have reported that they really loved how we did planting day with the seeds and the cups to bring home. We've also liked that there was less waste and messy tomato clean up this year. We've seen so many pollinators and insects that we can't help but think it was a successful pollinator garden. We are hoping to do the same next spring, with a few added plants and flowers. We were able to save seeds from the cosmos, sunflowers, marigolds, zinnias and then some from our own personal gardens like pansies and impatiens. We've had several donations of bulbs that we've planted along the school wall, in hopes that they pop up next spring. We're hoping to get a few more planted before the first big frost. We still need to finish cleaning up and preparing the beds for winter, but everything is still looking so nice that we are letting it go a little bit longer!

Our approximate budget for this past year was based on planting day in the spring, so we spent the grant money, as part of that budget. We bought seeds for the pollinator beds and gourds (approx. \$60), soil (\$30), cups with lids and bean seeds (\$82), plant markers (\$12), and trellises (\$110). We were able to have the garden beds replaced by the school's maintenance crew, and they look amazing!

All in all, I think we met most of our garden goals for this garden season! We are hoping to continue bringing the garden into the lives of our Ivy Hill community next spring! Let the planning begin!

Thank you for all of your help!

Kim Eckert
Ivy Hill Garden Club Committee

Homegrown National Park

Juli Cicarelli | Horticulture



Resources You Can Use

The best resources are often the ones closest to home—it's especially true when talking about native plants. Connect with resources in your area to make it easy to create your Homegrown National Park[®]



[Buy Native Plants & Seeds](#)

If there are none near you, look to the National & Regional listings for mail order options.



[Hire a Landscape Professional](#)

See the growing directory of professionals for native plant design, installation & maintenance



[Find Local Non-Profits](#)

Connect with groups near you for the best local advice.



[Native Plant Finder](#)

Discover options for what is native to your area



Scholarship

SPOTLIGHT ON THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

The Arlington Heights Garden Club offers scholarships to students studying in the field of environmental science, sustainability, horticulture, or other gardening related studies. Currently, the club offers the following three scholarships:

- Arlington Heights Garden Club
- Gilbert Krohn Memorial Scholarship
- Wendy Landwehr Memorial Scholarship

The Arlington Heights Garden Club \$2000 Scholarship and the Gilbert Krohn \$2000 Memorial Scholarship are made possible through club fundraising and Marty Landwehr generously funds the Wendy Landwehr \$2000 Memorial Scholarship.

The Scholarship Committee consists of a Committee Chair and a group of volunteers who meet periodically from February to early April each year to review applications and select candidates to be presented to the AHGC Board. The committee uses a well-defined rubric to score all applications and rank the candidates as part of the evaluation and award process. In January 2024, the AHGC launched an on-line application process to simplify the paperwork for applicants and reviewers.

A significant portion of the club funds go to funding scholarships. If you have an opportunity to serve on the Scholarship Review committee, you will experience first-hand the stories and dreams of applicants. Each story is very inspiring. In the off-gardening season the committee meets and reviews applications. The applicant review process will be starting soon. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please reach out and send an email to [Emma Visee](mailto:emma@ahgardenclub.com).

Donate Christmas Decorations

Do you have any "gently" used Christmas Decorations you would like to donate?

Drop off your donations at:

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1903 E Euclid Ave., AH

Donations accepted during the month of **January** only and can be dropped off at the following Day/Times:

Wednesdays 9:00am -1:00pm and 5:00-7:00pm
Sunday mornings 9:00-11:00am

The items will be stored and recycled at the First United Methodist Church's annual Christmas Recycling Event that will be held in November 2024. This event helps support the church's Mission Work.



Go Outside and Play!

Look up at the sky	Look for mushrooms & fungi	Discover what is at the base of a tree	Illuminate a January night	Experience golden hours	Observe evergreen trees
Build a playful outdoor shelter	Look for colorful things	Find animal tracks	Scan leafless branches for sights	FREE DAY	Find trees with leaves
Discover snow covered plants	Make marks in the snow	EVERY DAY OUTDOORS 2024		Find what is sloshy today	Look for rays and shadows
Listen to outdoor sounds	Find signs of animal friends			Create snow art	Have a wintery picnic
Find short and long icicles	Count how many birds you find	Find some ice	Look for berries on trees & shrubs	Feed some birds	Take a nature walk
Look and enjoy the moon	Find blooming plants	Play with snow	FREE DAY	Observe tree elements	M



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Officers

President	Beth Ligenza
Vice President	(open position)
Secretary	Halina Zbilski
Treasurer	Sharon Rudy

Committee Chairs

Artistic	(open position)
Civics	Mike Relaz Dee Schurman
Club Awards	Kathy Hendricksen
Conservation	June Miller
Garden Walk	Jean Kengott (co-chair open position)
Horticulture	Juli Cicarelli
Hospitality	Cathy Kostal
Membership	Sheila Coffin Lew Coffin
Newsletter	Mona Frisbie
Plant Sale	Bob Bruett
Programs	Nancy Asquini-Dean (co-chair open position)
Publicity	Connie Landwehr
Scholarship	Emma Visee
Website	Rose Marie Lesniak-Mendez

Project Coordinators

Lew & Sheila Coffin	Northwest Compass Garden
Claudette Norwell-Philipp	Student Partnership
Brenda Catardi	Parade

Monkey Face Orchid

Juli Cicarelli | Horticulture

The monkey face orchid is a flower that actually looks like a monkey. The scientific name is [Dracula simia](#), which translates “little dragon monkey”. Native to the tropical highland forests of Southwestern Ecuador and Peru. These charming monkey orchids have a pleasant fragrance, giving off a scent of ripe oranges. These rare and unusual orchids blooms at any season and can grow up to 2 feet tall. Growing these plants isn’t for amateurs, they require care and patience. But if you’re up for a challenge buy some tiny seeds from Amazon or Walmart, or a small potted one from Etsy.



Gardening Knowledge

Bev Krams

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS MEMORIAL LIBRARY

MUSEUM AND GARDEN PASSES

Your library provides you with passes to Museums and Gardens in our area

[Check it Out](#)



ARLINGTON HEIGHTS MEMORIAL LIBRARY in partnership with the AHGC

LITERARY GARDENS by Cindy Crosby

January 22 @ 7-8:30 pm (virtual presentation)

Click [here](#) to register



CHICAGO BOTANIC GARDEN

ADULT EDUCATION

Visit [website](#) for details



CITIZENS FOR CONSERVATION

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

- HILL 'N DALE PRESERVE RESTORATION PLANS

Saturday, January 3 @ 10-11:30am

- THE DARK SIDE OF NATURE: THE MEANING OF NIGHT TO YOU AND THE WORLD

Saturday, February 10 @ 10-11:30am

- CARING FOR OUR NATIVE OAK

Saturday, March 9 @ 10-11:30am

- BUMBLEBEES OF BARRINGTON

Saturday, April 13 @ 10-11:30am

Click here to [register](#) for any one of these programs



THE MORTON ARBORETUM

ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Visit [website](#) for details



FOREST PRESERVES OF COOK COUNTY

RIVER TRAILS NATURE CENTER WINTER WALK

Learn about our wildlife in winter while on a guided walk at the Nature Center.

Sunday, **January 21st**, 1:30 pm

3120 Milwaukee Ave., Northbrook, IL

Call River Trail at 847-824-8360 or visit website to [register](#). No cost.



Gardening Knowledge

Bev Krams

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

CHALET

EVENTS & CLASSES

Click [here](#) for more information



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

Webinars for Gardeners

Visit [website](#) for more information



FOREST PRESERVES OF COOK COUNTY

[River Trails Nature Center](#) | Northbrook

[Busse Woods](#) | Take a Hike in Ned Brown Preserve

[Crabtree Nature Center](#) | Barrington



PORTER COUNTY 18TH ANNUAL GARDEN SHOW

January 20 @ 8-4

Porter County Expo Center

215 E. Division Rd,

Valparaiso, Indiana

Click [here](#) for more information



WPPC NATURAL LANDSCAPING SEMINAR

Join us for our 2024 program on Saturday, February 17, 2024 @ 8am-3:45pm

McHenry County College Luecht Conference Center in Crystal Lake, IL

Online [registration](#) is now open

Pre-registration fee is \$45, at door is \$50



PEONY'S ENVY ONLINE CLASSES

- Designing a Peony Garden (January 24 @ noon) \$22
- Growing and Caring for Peonies (January 25 @ noon) \$22
- Growing and Caring for Tree Peonies (January 26 @ noon) \$22
- Peony Q&A Forum (February 8 @ 10am) Free

[Register](#) for classes





Illinois Extension
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Gardeners Corner Winter 2023-24 [view here](#)

Some of the topics in the Illinois Extension winter issue include:

- Cutting back branches for healthier tree outlook
- Introducing low maintenance succulents
- Use weed clues to dig up environmental issues



University of Illinois, SWALCO and Lake County Forest Preserves presents the 2024 Garden Learning Series. This includes 11 informative gardening sessions presented on Zoom. All sessions are free. For more information visit their [website](#).



University of Illinois Extension, SWALCO, and Lake County Forest Preserves present the **2024 Garden Learning Series**

- ◆ Programs held second Wednesday of the month
- ◆ 6:00 - 7:30 pm via Zoom

2024 PROGRAMS

February 14	Seed Starting
March 13	Vegetable Gardening
April 10	Landscaping with Native Plants
May 8	Adding Colors with Annuals
June 12	Edible Landscaping
July 10	Northern Illinois Trees
August 14	Composting
September 11	Soil Health
October 9	Healthy Hedges
November 13	Native Plants from Seeds
December 11	Houseplant Propagation

To register and details:
<https://go.illinois.edu/2024GardenLearningSeries>



For information contact the Master Gardener program at the University of Illinois Extension Lake County:

uiemg-lake@illinois.edu
847-223-8627



Lake County Forest Preserves



University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in an Extension program, please contact our office at 547-223-8627

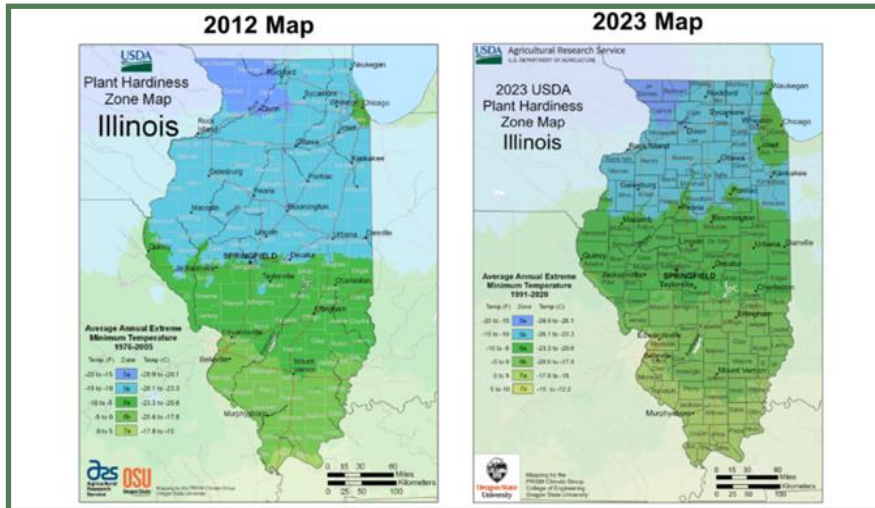


USDA PLANT HARDINESS ZONE MAP

Bev Krams

New HARDINESS PLANT ZONE for our area

As of November 2023 the USDA released their updated map, which shows significant changes in Illinois' zones.



Climate change is impacting our planting strategies. Take a close look at the changes in these maps (displayed above).

The new map is based on weather data from 1991-2020. As you can see there is a northward progression of zones 6a-6b and 7a. For the first time, we are seeing a sliver of 7b in the far southern tip of Illinois. Note the expansion of 6a around the Chicagoland area from Lake County to Kankakee County. The expansion is likely due to; (1) long-term winter warming and, (2) development in the region.

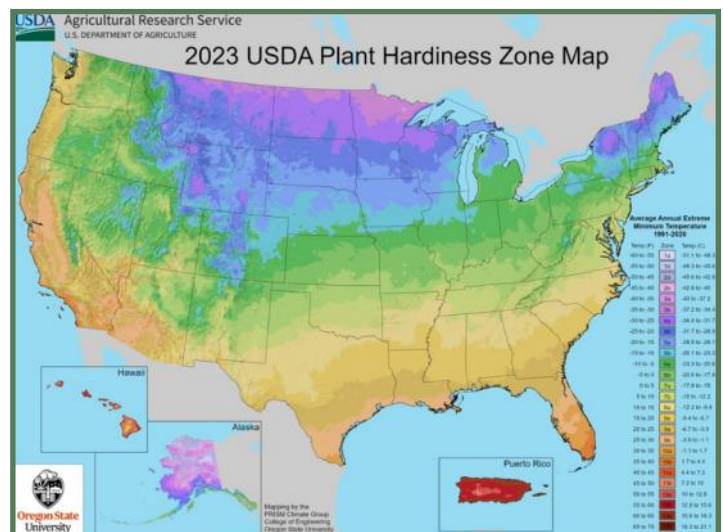
What specifically does this mean for us?

- There will be significant shifts in plant and animal habitat suitability.
- A warmer and wetter Illinois.
- These conditions will create an environment for unwanted species of non-natives, different variety of pests, and invasive plants and animal diseases.

We are going to be challenged to grow plants in our prairie state. Are you up for the challenge? The most important thing you can do is to PLANT NATIVE.

For more information:

- Illinois State Climatologist [website](#) to see the full report
- [Watch](#) a 13-minute video that explains this new map
- View the USDA [interactive map](#)



Black Raspberry

(*Robus occidentalis*)

June Miller / Conservation

Black raspberries (also known as black caps) are native to North America and can be seen along wooded trails, roadways, creeks and in meadows. These plants are unique in that their root systems are perennial though their canes (stems) are biennial. This means that the canes produce only foliage the first year then they flower and produce fruit the second year. Once the fruit is harvested, the second-year canes die. The arched canes are typically light bluish green and become reddish to purplish with age. They have a whitish coating (bloom) which helps protect the stem from harmful UV rays and helps to retain moisture. What makes them different from blackberries is the undersides of the leaves are almost white and the canes are round instead of angular with ridges. Also, the black raspberry is hollow on the inside because it separates from the stem when plucked. A blackberry is larger and has a soft white or green center and keeps its stem attached.

Black raspberries are aromatic with a slightly tart taste and have a more robust flavor than red raspberries. They are one of the healthiest berries as they are packed full of compounds called anthocyanins and antioxidants. They are full of vitamins and fiber and are low in calories. The berries are ripe when they turn dark purple and can be easily removed. The fruit is harvested the end of June until mid-July. Consider growing a black raspberry plant in a sunny area of your garden!



Black raspberries at different stages of maturity



In winter, the canes become more purplish

Growth	3-6' tall and 4-8' wide
Sun Exposure	Full sun though tolerates partial shade
Hardiness	Zones 4-8
Soil	Well-drained soil
Invasive	A self seeder so it should be used with caution in very small landscapes. However, it spreads slowly and can be controlled with heavy mulch.
Wildlife Benefit	Attracts hummingbirds, butterflies, and bees and is a good food source for birds.

Treasurer's Report

Sharon Rudy | Treasurer

Arlington Heights Garden Club Treasurer's Report December 2023

			Checking	Savings	
Account Balance 11/30/23		Stmt Date	\$ 1,739.55	\$ 9,608.36	
Receipts:					
Deposit :	Holiday party guest	12/15/23	90.00		
	Winter container workshop fees	12/15/2023	80.00		
	Single membership -(Barrett)	12/15/2023	25.00		
Transfer of funds		12/1/2023	5,000.00	(5,000.00)	
WIX transfers:					
	Winter container workshop fees	12/28/2023	630.00		
	2 single memberships (Callahan & Schroeder)	12/28/2023	50.00		
Interest Income				15.36	
less: Credit Card Fees			(27.88)		
Total receipts			5,847.12	(4,984.64)	
Disbursements (cleared):					
		Check #	Ck Date		
Ken Benson		1004	10/23/2023	200.00	Speaker fee
Archeological Conservancy		1007	11/1/2023	100.00	Discretionary Donation
AH Historical Society		1017	11/1/2023	900.00	Discretionary Donation
Beth Ligenza reimbursement		1023	11/27/2023	204.31	GW
CAPS show choir		1025	12/11/2023	275.00	Holiday party
Beth Ligenza reimbursement		1026	12/11/2023	106.71	53.94 general, 52.77 Hospitality
Sheila Coffin reimbursement		1027	12/14/2023	38.87	membership cards
Connie Landwehr reimbursement		1028	12/18/2023	129.61	GW / General signs
Total Disbursements			1,954.50	-	
Account Balance 12/31/23	Per Bank		\$ 5,632.17	\$ 4,623.72	
Receipts to be deposited					
Total undeposited receipts			\$ -	\$ -	
cleared					
		Check #	Ck Date		
Illinois Charity Bureau Fund		1024	11/27/2023	15.00	Annual report
Cathy Kostal party reimbursement		1029	12/29/2023	745.01	Christmas party
Total outstanding checks			\$ 760.01	\$ -	
ADJUSTED CASH POSITION NFP	12/31/2023		\$ 4,872.16	\$ 4,623.72	
Total Adjusted Cash at	12/31/2023			\$ 9,495.88	