### **ST. CROIX VALLEY MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION**



**scvmga.weebly.com**

**MEETINGS--** are held on the fourth Thursday, January through October, and the third Thursday in November. No December meeting. **TIME-** 6:45 P.M. Check website for updates**.**

**LOCATION --** First Covenant Church, 1374 N. Main St., River Falls or at other locations as indicated on the program schedule or SCVMGA website. Turn east on Quarry Rd at Kwik Trip stoplight on North Main Street.

**GUESTS** are welcome to join you at monthly association meetings. A $2.00 donation is requested.

**REFRESHMENTS** are served by the hospitality committee at monthly meetings. To donate treats, sign up on the hospitality schedule at Nov. or Jan. meetings or contact Hospitality Coordinator.

**ANNUAL MEETING** in November includes election of officers, budget approval, horticulture educator report, seed sharing, and sometimes small groups to share gardening experiences.

**MEMBERSHIP ANNUAL DUES** –are $15 per individual/$20 per family. Send check payable to "SCVMGA" to the Membership Director **before December 31st.** A **$10 renewal fee** is assessed if postmarked after December 31st. SCVMGA will pay your annual state dues before the January 15th deadline.

**EDUCATION & VOLUNTEER SERVICE HOURS TIME SHEET —Due October 1st** to Diana Alfuth, Horticulture Educator. Form is available on SCVMGA website or on WIMGA website: <http://wimastergardener.org/about-hours/>

**NOTE: Membership List Requests / Withhold Information Option---**To withhold your name, address, phone, and email from lists that may be released from UW-Extension upon request, sign and date statement on reverse side of WIMGA Time Sheet **annually** **before** submitting to Diana Alfuth.

**MANDATORY CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT REPORTER ONLINE TRAINING** is **required** by all UWEX staff & Master Gardener Volunteers. Complete a 30-45-minute video which counts as one hour of education. Print a certificate of completion and mail or email pdf copy to Diana Alfuth for her records. Access video at  [http://mandated-reporter-training.s3-website-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/](http://mandated-reporter-training.s3-website-us-west-2.amazonaws.com)

**EXEMPTION REQUEST FORM** must be submitted if unable to get sufficient hours for recertification and want to still receive the MG Program Office communications. Form <http://wimastergardener.org/about-hours/>

**WEBSITES**

**St. Croix Valley Master Gardeners Association (SCVMGA)** [scvmga.weebly.com](http://scvmga.weebly.com/#_blank)

**Wisconsin Master Gardener Association (WIMGA)** <http://wimastergardener.org/>

St. Croix Valley MGA is in the Western District of WIMGA

### **NEWSLETTERS**

**SCVMGA*--Sprinklings*** - Eight issues per year—Jan/Feb, Mar/Apr, May, June, July, August, September/October, November/December. Sprinklings are emailed, unless you request it be mailed by USPS. To submit information to *Sprinklings*, follow instructions on last page of each issue or contact *Sprinklings* Editor.

**Not getting *Sprinklings,* contact Membership Director or Diana Alfuth -** <mailto:diana.alfuth@ces.uwex.edu>

### **WIMGA Newsletter—**Six issues per year in January, March, May, July, September, and November. Only Certified MGVs and Interns receive a monthly email copy of **The Volunteer Vibe**, plus New horticulture articles sent by Dr. Susan Mahr, WIMGA Program Coordinator, and Mike Maddox, WIMGA Program Director.

**To receive WIMGA newsletter by email or report you are not getting the newsletter, contact Dr. Susan Mahr at** [semahr@wisc.edu](mailto:semahr@wisc.edu)**.**

### **BUSINESS CARDS & BROCHURES** are available from the Treasurer or at the monthly meeting sign in table. Promote our association at county fairs, Farmers markets, Garden U, MG Plant Sale and other events.

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**FUNDS FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS** are available for projects in Pierce and St. Croix Counties. To help beautify, educate, or serve your community, check guidelines, forms, and due dates on the SCVMGA website--- [scvmga.weebly.com](http://scvmga.weebly.com/#_blank)

**Grant Applications** are due**March 13, 2017**

**Final Reports** are due**—October 1st**

**VOLUNTEER SERVICE HOURS –24 hours required for both initial and annual certification.** Check for Volunteer Opportunities on the SCVMGA website- [scvmga.weebly.com](http://scvmga.weebly.com/) and in the ***Sprinklings*** newsletter. Examples of volunteer projects are listed on reverse side of the WIMGA time sheet and in SCVMGA brochure.

**SUGGESTIONS for Volunteer Opportunities--** help with Garden U Spring Seminar or SCVMGA Fall Workshop, Farmers markets, Master Gardener booths at county fairs, SCVMGA Community Garden in New Richmond, MG plant sale, write articles for *Sprinklings* on your favorite gardening subject, book reviews, or recipes, or be a program speaker at SCVMGA meeting, garden clubs, or community education programs.

**County Fairs**--St. Croix County Fair is Thurs.-Sun. third week in July in Glenwood City, WI

Pierce County Fair is Thurs.-Sun. second week in August in Ellsworth, WI

**EDUCATION**–**10 hours for annual certification --**SCVMGAmonthly meetings, SCVMGA Garden U spring seminar and Fall Workshop, WIMGA State Convention, district workshops, and other local MGV's seminars. More suggestions are listed on page 3 of WIMGA time sheet.

**HOW TO ORDER YOUR OFFICIAL WIMGA NAME BADGE**

**QUALIFICATIONS—Only Certified MGVs are eligible to order a Wisconsin MGV name badge.**

**GROUP ORDER—**order a badge from WIMGA representative preferably in Jan. or Feb. Print your name clearly on the order sheet exactly as you want it on your badge. First name only, first name w/initial, or nickname can be used. Badges w/magnetic fastener are $9.00; must be prepaid when ordered; check payable to “**Wisconsin Master Gardener Program."** Dr. Susan Mahr prefers group orders; $3.00 shipping/handling fee is not required. **WIMGA badges are not printed until WIMGA has a minimum order of 100 badges**. To see number of orders still needed to meet minimum order, check[http://wimastergardener.org/ordering-mgv-name-badges/](http://wimastergardener.org/ordering-mgv-name-badges/%20)

**INDIVIDUAL ORDER--** send check, payable to **"Wisconsin Master Gardener Program"**, for $9.00 magnetic badge plus **$3.00 s/h fee for orders of 3 or less** **Must be** **certified MGV to order WI MGV name badge.** To order, click on <http://wimastergardener.org/ordering-mgv-name-badges/>

**USE OF THE TITLE MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER** (MGV) can only be used when a **member is in good standing**. This means a MGV has completed the training course, volunteered a minimum number of hours, and passed a background check and the final exam. Each year following the initial training, a person must attend a minimum of 10 hours of approved horticulture education sessions and volunteer 24 hours of Extension approved service to their community or county Extension office.

The Master Gardener Volunteer title **can only officially be used when working on UW Cooperative Extension approved volunteer projects**. You cannot receive remuneration for these projects. It is permissible at any time or place to say that you have completed the Wisconsin Master Gardener Training Program. However, you can only answer questions and perform tasks representing yourself as a Master Gardener Volunteer when you are actually volunteering for Extension. Master Gardener training and experience may be given as qualifications when seeking employment. However, once employed, Master Gardener credentials should not be displayed. Master Gardener Volunteers are advised not to advertise as Master Gardener Volunteers in their names or places of business, nor be listed as such in business advertising. The name or MG logo cannot be used for personal gain, including to influence anyone to do business with you.

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