



University of Wisconsin-Extension

Chippewa County  
Courthouse, Room 13  
711 N. Bridge Street  
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729



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## President's Message

I would like to extend a huge Thank You to the speakers, vendors, presenters, volunteers, and all who worked at making this year's Think Spring Garden Seminar a success. We were down a little in attendance, but the responses I've heard have been mostly positive. This event does not happen without the efforts of many; so to each of you, Thank You. A special thanks to Laura Kasdorf for chairing this event and keeping us all on task.

With warmer weather and the official "First Day of Spring" quickly approaching, start finding your seeds, gloves, pruning tools, etc. and prepare to enjoy working the soil again.



Dora Wood  
CVMGA President

## Calendar of Events 2018

### March

**30**      **Conservation Tree Order Due**

### April

\*      **National Garden Month**

**9**      **CVMGA Meeting**, Chippewa Falls Public Library, Special Speaker, Jerry Clark on the Emerald Ash Borer, 6:00 p.m.

**19**      **Tree Sorting**

**20**      **Tentative Pick Up of Conservation Tree Order**

### May

**14**      **CVMGA Meeting**, Northern Wisconsin State Fairground, time TBD, Pollinator Garden cleanup



Visit us on Facebook. Search for:

Chippewa Valley Master Gardeners Association

## CHIPPEWA COUNTY MASTER GARDENER INFORMATION

### 2018 BOARD of DIRECTORS

President:	Dora Wood
President Elect:	Sue Crisp
Past President:	Laura Kasdorf
Secretary:	Gail Fox (2018)
Treasurer:	Cathy Lombard
Membership Director:	Mary Jo Fleming
Directors at Large:	Shirley Blizek Elaine Olsen Stacey Mazur (2017) Mary Jo Fleming (2017) Sandy Kenner (2017) Rosie Weber

*Elections are held each November.*

### CVMGA Committees

Pollinator Garden:	Mary Jo Fleming <a href="mailto:bingjo@charter.net">bingjo@charter.net</a>
Think Spring Seminar:	Laura Kasdorf <a href="mailto:wolterkasdorf@sbcglobal.net">wolterkasdorf@sbcglobal.net</a> (715-726-1963)
Exhibits/Activities:	Mary Jo Fleming Linda Stockinger <a href="mailto:ldstocking@aol.com">ldstocking@aol.com</a>
Programming:	Laura Kasdorf
Bluebird Trail:	Mary Jo Fleming

### Newsletter Deadline

Information for the Master Gardener Newsletter is due by the 15th of the month, for the next month's newsletter.

### UW-Extension Office Contacts, 715-726-7950

Jerry Clark, Crops & Soils Agent, [jerome.clark@ces.uwex.edu](mailto:jerome.clark@ces.uwex.edu)  
Heather Lubs, Administrative Assistant III, [hlubs@co.chippewa.wi.us](mailto:hlubs@co.chippewa.wi.us)

## Meeting Minutes

**Chippewa Valley Master Gardener  
Association Meeting Minutes  
Chippewa County Courthouse  
March 12, 2018 - 6:30 p.m.  
Bridgewater Restaurant**

In attendance: Dora Wood; Sue Crisp; Cathy Lombard; Sandra Kenner; Laura Kasdorf; Jerry Clark and Peggy Sprague.

The meeting was called to order by Dora Wood at 6:30 p.m.

Laura Kasdorf moved to approve the minutes of the January meeting. The motion was seconded by Sandy Kenner and unanimously approved without corrections.

Treasurer's Report: Cathy Lombard reported the current balance of accounts at \$16,174.61. The following revenue was collected from Think Spring Registrations:

Registrations	\$1,900
Workshop Fees	\$ 75
Vendor Lunch Fees	\$ 120
Total	\$ 2,095

The following expenditures were made for Think Spring:

Speakers	\$1,095
Avalon (Food, Lodging & Room Rental)	\$1,482.65
Supplies (Printing & Postage)	\$ 133.90
Total	\$2,712.13

The following is a summary of the cost of Think Spring:

Revenue	\$2,095
Expenditures	\$2,712.13
Difference	\$ 617.13

President comments: Dora thanked association members for the work done on Think Spring.

WIMGA: Cathy reported that work on the 2018 WIMGA conference was proceeding and during a

phone conference the WIMGA Board of Directors approved a new WIMGA website developed by Ellen Terwillger. Cathy also reported that there were the following features on the new website that might interest our local association:

- PowerPoint describing WIMGA
- Mentoring new Master Gardeners
- Speaker's Bureau

Cathy also described a presentation she heard from Mike Maddox on recruiting and retaining volunteers that the local association might be interested in hearing.

Newsletter: The newsletter is currently published every two months. It will continue to be published at the same rate.

### Old Business

Think Spring: The evaluations received from Think Spring were positive, but attendance was significantly lower than previous conferences. Suggestions were received from participants on future topics to be considered. The following was discussed:

- What caused the reduced attendance?
- Do we need to vary the menu for lunch?
- Was Keynote topic too specific to attract a range of interests?
- How can we interest younger participants?
- Do we need to develop a "theme" for Think Spring for one track and then alternatives for another set of sessions so participants have more choice?
- Possible topics for next year: Adapted Gardening for older gardeners or those with physical limitations, Beginner Gardening, Cover Crops, Etc.
- Should we eliminate the keynote speaker and just have sessions?
- Do we need to have as many sessions?
- Could some topics be handled with an informational booth rather than a presentation?
- Do we need to reduce the cost of attending the conference?
- Do we need to reduce/increase the number of vendors?
- Should we use more local speakers to reduce the cost?
- Flyers should be provided at Eau Claire and other local association conferences.
- Assistance will be needed for handling the catalogs next year.

(continued on next page)

If there are other thoughts about Think Spring, please e-mail Laura Kasdorf.

**Chippewa County Tree Sorting:** Several people have volunteered to help with sorting the trees after the orders are completed. Sue Crisp is organizing the volunteers and has several people interested in participating.

**Rod & Gun Club/LWGC Tree Sale:** There does not appear to be a conflict between the two sales. The Chippewa County Tree Sale offers a different variety of trees and trees are purchased in groups. The Rod & Gun Club/LWGC Tree Sale offers single trees of a different variety and also sells bird houses.

### New Business

**WIMGA 2018 conference scholarship fund:** After discussion the following motion was made by Laura Kasdorf and seconded by Sue Crisp; The association will allocate \$600 for scholarships to offset the cost of conference registration with the following requirements:

- The amount of the scholarship will depend upon the number of individuals requesting a scholarship with a maximum scholarship of \$50.00. The total amount of scholarships will not exceed \$600.00.
- To be eligible for the scholarships a participant must be a current certified member of the Chippewa Valley Master Gardeners Association (dues paid, volunteer hours and continuing education requirements met).
- The scholarship recipient must volunteer either in planning the conference or during the conference.
- The recipient must register and pay for the entire conference (not including tours). Registration for a tour alone is not sufficient for receiving a scholarship.
- The scholarship recipient must present a short summary of a session attended at the conference at a CVMGA meeting after the conference.
- Scholarship recipient will be reimbursed after all the requirements have been met.

The motion was approved unanimously. Dora W. will develop a form to use to request the scholarship.

**WIMGA donation:** Laura Kasdorf moved that the association create a "Chippewa Valley" themed basket using a combination of donations and purchases by the association not to exceed a total of \$50.00 in expenditures with our association funds to supplement donations. The motion was seconded by Sandy Kenner. It was approved unanimously.

**Laptop for use at WIMBA Conference:** Jerry Clark will bring his own laptop and projector on Saturday to use for his presentation. The jointly owned laptop (CVMGA and LWGC) and projector will be available for use during the conference.

### Programs/Meetings:

March 17 - Garden "U" 2018-Hudson House Grand Hotel, 1616 Crest View Drive, Hudson, WI St. Croix Valley MGA

April 7 - Barron County MGA

April 9 - Emerald Ash Borer – 6:30 PM CF Public Library

April 12 - LWGC 6:30 PM at Lafayette Town Hall - Perennials for You-Amanda Danke, Down to Earth

April 19 - Chippewa County Tree Sale sorting

April 20 - Responding to Horticulture Inquiries, Dunn County Community Services Building, Room 54 – Menomonie

### Committee Chairs/Programs:

**Programming** – Is another member willing to coordinate scheduling programs for the association?

**Think Spring** – Is another member willing to coordinate Think Spring for next year?

**Bluebird Trail** – Is another member or organization willing to coordinate the bluebird trail?

**Next Meeting:** April 9, 2018 – 6:00 PM at Chippewa Falls Public Library. Jerry Clark will be presenting on the Emerald Ash Borer at 6:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Cathy Lombard



Master Gardeners Association has a variety of committees our volunteers can participate in. Please see the descriptions below and contact the committee lead if you are interested in helping.

**Pollinator Garden Committee:** Help plant, label, and manage the native plant pollinator garden at Northern Wisconsin State Fairgrounds.

**Think Spring Committee 2019:** Help organize venue, speakers, and vendors for 2019.

**Exhibits/Activities Committees:** Keep our master gardener exhibits up to date and work on activities that we can use at venues such as fairs and other events where we are invited to display what we do.

**Program Committee:** Work with the board to set up programs and activities for CVMGA members.

**Bluebird Committee:** Organize a schedule for the nesting season and plan work parties to clean and repair boxes on the Old Abe Bluebird Trail.

## Upcoming Events/Education Opportunities

Hands on Pruning workshop on **Saturday, March 24th** at Albrecht's Nursery. Call 715-723-8001 for details, and to register. \$40

Barron County Master Gardener Association Spring Expo at the WITC Conference Center in Rice Lake on **Saturday, April 7, 2018** beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Lake Wissota Garden Club guest speaker, Amanda Danke from Down To Earth Garden Center, speaking on Perennials for You. Event will be **April 20, 2018** beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Lafayette Town Hall.



## Community Garden Plots

Chippewa Falls Parks, Recreation and Forestry along with Chippewa County University of Wisconsin - Extension are offering community gardening plots for the 2018 growing season. 12' x 24' garden plots at Marshall Park, on Bridgewater, are available for lease by individuals, households or organizations.

Fees for leasing plots are \$20.00 for Chippewa Falls residents or \$30.00 for non-residents. To lease a plot visit the Chippewa County UW-Extension website at <http://chippewa.uwex.edu> to print out the application.

Applications are due to the Extension Office by April 15, 2018. Gardens will be assigned on a first-come first-serve basis.

WIMGA Autumn at the River Conference at the Lisomore Hotel in Eau Claire, **September 21-22, 2018**.

Friday you will have tour options of area horticultural attractions and an event dinner and keynote talk. Saturday morning we will start our conference by visiting the Eau Claire farmers market. We'll learn about its history and how it works. From there we will have a delightful array of speakers to choose from.

Registration and event information can be found online at

<https://www.wimgaconferences.com>

Event hosted by the Barron, Chippewa, Eau Claire & St. Croix County Master Gardener Volunteer Associations.

## Volunteer Opportunity

Volunteers are needed to sort trees at the fairgrounds on April 19, 2018, weather permitting. If you are interested in helping, please contact Sue Crisp at [account1234@charter.net](mailto:account1234@charter.net) or call 715-861-3253 if you have not already signed up.

## Pressure Canner Testing

The Chippewa County Extension Office will be testing pressure canner gauges on the following dates:

April 24, 2018 from 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

May 22, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

June 5, 2018 from 100 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

For testing, all that needs to be brought into the Extension Office is the lid with dial gauges.

## Is My Ash Tree Worth Treating for Emerald Ash Borer?

PJ Liesch, UW Entomology, Patti Nagai, UW-Extension Racine County  
and R. Chris Williamson, UW Entomology

This factsheet addresses some of the most frequently asked questions regarding the treatment of ash trees for emerald ash borer (EAB), and the removal and disposal of infested trees.

**When should I consider treating my ash tree for EAB?** Based on current research, EAB treatments are suggested only for ash trees located within 15 miles of a confirmed EAB site, or for trees located within a quarantined area. Insecticide treatments are **not** necessary for ash trees located outside of these areas. Even within the 15-mile radius, not all trees should be treated. Due to the expense of insecticide treatments for EAB, consider the value of a particular ash tree in relation to insecticide treatment costs before making any treatments. Proper use of EAB insecticides can help maintain the health of high value ash trees over time. Lower value ash trees are not ideal candidates for EAB insecticide treatments.



High value ash trees are candidates for treatment for emerald ash borer.

**How do I know if my ash tree has value?** Ash trees can be a valuable part of the landscape. A properly cared for ash tree can increase property value, provide environmental benefits such as runoff and erosion mitigation, and reduce electricity costs by shading a home. Determining tree value can be subjective. Qualities to consider when assessing value include (but are not limited to) a tree's overall health, shape, location with respect to landscape design, and appearance through the seasons, as well as whether or not a tree provides shade. A healthy ash that is properly located in the landscape, has a nice shape and good fall color, and provides shade has value. An ash tree that is not healthy due to disease or insects, has poor shape or structural damage, is otherwise unattractive, or is in a bad location (e.g., near a power line) is of lower value.

**How do I know if there are ash trees in my area that are infested with EAB?** The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) keeps track of EAB infestations in the state. Visit the Wisconsin DATCP Emerald Ash Borer Resource Guide website (<http://datcp.wisconsin.gov/eab/>) and follow the "Where has EAB been found?" link to access an up-to-date list and map of EAB infested counties and municipalities. You can also contact your local county UW-Extension office to see if EAB has been found in your area.

**How do I know if my ash tree has EAB?** Symptoms of an EAB infestation can include **canopy thinning** starting in the upper portion of the tree, **epicormic sprouting** (i.e., formation of sprouts) along the trunk, **bark splitting**, and **woodpecker damage**. These symptoms indicate general tree stress, and can be due to EAB. However, they also can be caused by diseases or insects other than EAB. Specific signs of EAB include **D-shaped exit holes** ( $\sim\frac{3}{16}$  inch wide) in the bark of the tree, **S-shaped larval tunnels** and/or **larvae** (cream colored, up to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches long) beneath the bark, and **adults** (metallic green,  $\sim\frac{3}{8}$  inch long). Visit the UW-Madison Emerald Ash Borer in Wisconsin website (<http://www.entomology.wisc.edu/emeraldashborer>) for additional information on the symptoms and signs of EAB. If you suspect an EAB infestation, call the Wisconsin EAB Hotline at 1-800-462-2803.

**If I decide to treat my ash tree, will I have to treat every year?** In most cases, yes. Most insecticides registered for EAB management require yearly applications to effectively protect a tree. The one exception is **TREE-äge** (active ingredient = emamectin benzoate), which can protect a tree for at least two years. **TREE-äge** is a trunk-injected insecticide available only to professional insecticide applicators (e.g., certified arborists). **TREE-äge** can effectively protect an ash tree if the tree is treated every two years.

# University of Wisconsin Pest Alert



**Can I treat an ash myself or do I have to call an arborist?** If your ash is smaller than 47 inches around the trunk at chest height [i.e., 15" diameter at breast height (DBH)], you may be able to treat your ash tree yourself. University of Wisconsin Pest Alert XHT1181 ("Homeowner Guide to Emerald Ash Borer Insecticide Treatments") provides a list of products currently available for homeowner use. If you decide to treat your own trees, be sure to read and follow all label instructions of the insecticide that you select to ensure that you use the product in the safest and most effective manner possible.

In some situations, hiring a certified arborist to treat your ash tree may be more desirable. Professionals have access to specialized application equipment and additional insecticides not available to homeowners. They are also trained to measure trees accurately, and assess the overall health of trees. The Wisconsin Arborists Association website (<http://www.waa-isa.org>) has a list of certified arborists in the state.

Note that the University of Wisconsin does not endorse any insecticide products, and does not recommend any professional products over those available directly to homeowners.

**Am I allowed to treat an ash tree in my yard between the sidewalk and street?** The answer to this question varies from municipality to municipality. In many cases, municipalities have treatment or removal and replacement plans already in place. Contact your local town, village or city to determine an appropriate strategy for protecting your sidewalk trees.

**How much does it cost to treat an ash tree for EAB?** A single tree that is 32 inches around at chest height (approximately 10" DBH) can be treated with a granular or soil drench homeowner product for about \$20-35/year. Arborist treatment costs vary depending on tree size and location, the insecticide selected, and the application method. Other arborist-specific site visit charges may apply as well. Consult at least two arborists in your area to discuss treatment options and costs. To make an accurate comparison among service providers, make sure you know what insecticide will be used, the method of application, and how often treatments will be made. An arborist will not be able to determine the exact cost of treatment for your specific ash tree without a site visit, but an arborist should be able to provide you with a cost estimate for a typical ash tree.

**Do I have to remove my ash tree if it is infested with EAB?** Applying protective insecticide treatments to a healthy ash tree to prevent an EAB infestation is the best strategy for managing EAB. However, if a tree becomes infested and the infestation is detected early, you may be able to treat your ash tree to prevent further damage, and help the tree recover. Research suggests that insecticide treatments are significantly more effective on EAB-infested ash trees with less than 50% canopy thinning. Insecticide treatments are **not** recommended for trees with greater than 50% canopy thinning; these trees should be removed. Trees that become infested with EAB and are not treated will ultimately die and will need to be removed.

**How much does it cost to remove an ash tree?** Typically, a small (less than 25 feet in height) ash tree may cost a few hundred dollars to be removed by an arborist. Larger trees may cost \$1,000 or more to be removed. Individual factors (e.g., the proximity of the tree to structures, power lines, or other hazards) can significantly increase the cost of removal. Tree removal costs also may vary from location to location in Wisconsin. Ultimately, removing recently killed trees while they are structurally sound, rather than allowing them to deteriorate, may be safer and more cost effective.

**How do I dispose of wood from an infested ash tree?** If you choose to remove an infested ash tree, check with your municipality to see if a wood disposal or utilization program is in place. If you have a tree removed by a tree care service, the service may be able to handle the disposal of wood from the infested tree. If you decide to use wood from an ash tree for firewood or other purposes, **use it locally**. Transporting infested wood risks spreading EAB elsewhere in the state, and may be in violation of Wisconsin's EAB quarantine laws. Information about Wisconsin's EAB quarantines can be found on the Wisconsin DATCP Emerald Ash Borer Resource Guide website (<http://datcpservices.wisconsin.gov/eab/>).

**For more information on controlling emerald ash borer:** Visit <http://www.entomology.wisc.edu/emeraldashborer>, <http://datcpservices.wisconsin.gov/eab/index.jsp>, or <http://www.emeraldashborer.info>, see University of Wisconsin Pest Alert XHT1181, or contact your county Extension office. For a video demonstration of treating your ash trees using a systemic drench, visit <http://www.entomology.wisc.edu/new-video-protecting-your-tree-emerald-ash-borer>.