

North Country Gardeners

Burnett, Sawyer, & Washburn Co.

UW-Extension Cooperative Extension

Issue 17, March 2007

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**University of Wisconsin-Extension
Area Agricultural Agents Office
Spooner Ag Research Station
W6646 Highway 70
Spooner, Wisconsin 54801
(715) 635-3506 or
Toll Free 800-528-1914**

Greetings!

We hope you find this newsletter informative and welcoming. It has been some time since we sent out the last newsletter. It's not that we haven't been communicating, it's just that we have been doing it in a different format. For those who have email, you can relate to how convenient that method can be in get the word out. Unfortunately, not everyone relies on email, so we thought it important to get a hard copy back in circulation.

The focus of this North Country Gardeners Newsletter and future printings will be on the efforts and needs of local Master Gardener Volunteer Groups that are volunteering in communities across Burnett, Washburn and Sawyer Counties.

Many of you on our mailing list have taken the MGV training. In fact our records indicate that over 175 individuals have gone through the training since fall of 1999. Our hope is that those who are not currently involved with a MG volunteering project will take a look at what is happening and consider helping out.

Anyone who is interested, whether you have taken the MG training or not, is welcome. Get involved you'll be glad you did. As always thank you for your continued interest and support of the UW-Extension and the Master Gardener Program.

Kevin Schoessow
UW-Extension Ag Development Agent

Russ Parker
President
North Country Master Gardeners Association

In Memory

Master Gardener Volunteer and Spooner native son Rodger Erickson passed away March 8, 2007. Rodger was part of a small group of dedicated MGV from Washburn Co. who help lay the foundation for the North Country Master Gardeners Association.

Rodger, like many volunteers, was very dedicated in his volunteering and very humble. He donated his time and talents to helping others enjoy his passion of gardening. Rodger was fundamental in helping establish and maintain the Display Gardens at the Spooner Ag Research Station. He donated materials, seed and transplants along with his time in those early days. Thanks to Rodger many of us have had the opportunity to enjoy long day onions through his order of bulk onion transplants. Rodger operated a market garden and hosted several UW-Extension garden walks, he supplied dozens of individuals and families with quality produce and was a dependable source of produce for educational events. Rodger was also a long time clerk at the Washburn County Fair.

Memorial services were held Friday, March 16 at the Spooner Wesleyan Church. Rodger exemplified what it meant to be a Master Gardener Volunteer. He will be greatly missed.

June is Invasive Species Awareness Month

*Rachel Orwan
ISAM Coordinator
Master Gardener*

Governor Doyle has declared June as the third annual Invasive Species Awareness Month (ISAM) and has recognized this as an opportunity for all of us to join forces and “take action against the introduction and spread of invasive species”.

Now is the time of year to start thinking about how you and your organization can encourage positive change in Wisconsin’s natural and managed landscapes. A meaningful way to do this is by passing on your knowledge and motivation for invasive species management to the citizens of Wisconsin. Imagine if you could reach 20 people and those 20 people actually did something to slow the spread of invasives on their land or public land. Or better yet - what if they did something to prevent infestations in the first place?

I’d like to invite each of you to hold some sort of event during June aimed not only at educating and raising awareness of invasive species, but also aimed at giving people the knowledge they need to prevent and manage invasive species incursions throughout the state.

Anything goes, just as long as you are teaching people about invasive species. You could plan something as simple as a presentation to your local garden club or as complex as a field day targeting landowners and legislators. You can combine talks about invasive species with more “fun” activities such as hikes, bike rides, canoe floats and garden tours. Think about holding a work day to get some on-the-ground work accomplished, while showing folks how labor intensive management can be and how much easier it is to tackle invasives as a group. The sky’s the limit!

When you have decided on your event’s details you can register it for the ISAM on-line calendar by going to http://invasivespecies.wi.gov/awareness/event_request.asp There are additional resources on this site that can help you in promoting your event. It will be updated on a regular basis starting January 2007. Please check it often to see what’s new!

Thanks for all you do to slow the spread of invasive species in Wisconsin!

invasivespecies.wi.gov
isam_wi@yahoo.com
715-462-9614

Master Gardener Volunteer Group Updates

*Kevin Schoessow
Area Ag Development Agent
Burnett, Sawyer, & Washburn Counties*

Grantsburg: Kris Henning, 715-689-2333 henning@grantsburgtel.com
Burnett Garden Club

As MGV we meet through the Burnett Garden Club. We meet the second Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Grantsburg High School from September-May. Meetings are open to the public with speaker/program and refreshments. June-August are no formal meetings, but tours and activities instead.

Webster: Helen Steffen, 715-866-4430
lhsteffen@centurytel.net Forts Folle Avoine

There are several MGs who volunteer at Forts Folle Avoine. For those who don’t know or haven’t heard of the “Forts,” it is a historical park located on 80 wooded acres along the Yellow River between Danbury and Webster, at 8500 County Road U. The park is a living history site where reconstructed fur trade posts occupy the actual sites where they once operated from 1802 to 1805, alongside an authentic Woodland Indian Village.

The date of the Volunteer Recognition/Dinner/Orientation is May 14. Anyone who may be interested in becoming a volunteer but feels uncertain about what it involves is invited to the volunteer event on May 14. Additional information will be available in April by calling the Fort at 715-866-8890.

The annual Forts Folle Avoine plant sale will be held from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, May 26 and Sunday, May 27. Wanted: perennial and annual flowers, ferns, hostas, and flower pots. Volunteers are needed for set-up and potting on Thursday and Friday. Volunteers also needed on Saturday and Sunday. Call the Fort at 715-866-8890 to let the garden group know what you are growing or when/how you can help.

Plans for the opening weekend include the plant sale, a wild rice pancake breakfast, historic site tours, and a lawn sale. Forts Folle Avoine is located at 8500 County Road U, Danbury, Wisconsin.

Siren: Carla Phillips, 715-349-8386
lakecott@sirentel.net Syren Garden Club

The Syren Area Garden Club has installed a big garden on the west end of Syren’s main street in the business district. Last fall we put up a split rail fence on it. This summer walking paths and benches will be put added. We meet on the third Thurs of the month.

Washburn Co.: Russ Parker, 715-635-9582 jackpineflats@centurytel.net North Country Master Gardeners Association

The North Country Master Gardeners Association is the primary organization for Washburn Co. MGV, although we have members from all three counties. The NCMGs meet the fourth Thursday of the month, at the Spooner Ag Research Station. Our meetings are generally scheduled from 6-8 pm, and we welcome all MGV to participate.

Our annual plant sale is scheduled for May 19 at the Spooner Ag Station. As in year’s past we help support the Display Gardens at the Station, and help with education

events. We also assist with the After School 4-H program at the Spooner Elementary School and are working on starting a school garden. If you haven't had a chance to come out and visit the Demonstration Garden at the Spooner Research Station, please do.

Hayward: Carol Alcoe, 715-462-3213
clalcoe@yahoo.com Hayward Garden Club

Several MGV meet through the Hayward Garden Club. We meet the third Tuesday of the month. Our annual plant sale is scheduled for Monday, May 28. Funds from this sale will be used to help the new Hayward Library with their landscaping. MGV from the spring 2006 class will continue to work on the memorial gardens at the Methodist church, and we are looking for volunteers to help with the Ready-Set-Grow program.

LCO: Star Quarderer, 715-634-4790 x 130
starq@lco.edu LCO Community Garden

The LCO College Youth Development program has been working with youth through their community garden project. Volunteers are needed to help mentor and work with youth on gardening activities.

Winter: Michelle LaBarbera, 715-266-9228
gla000@centurytel.net
WinterGreen Community Garden

Our group consists of MGV from Winter, Lorretta/Draper and surrounding areas. We have been meeting the first Tuesday of the month. Our main project is the WinterGreen Community Garden. This is the third year working with both the Winter school and the community. See separate article for more information.



NCMG education grants are available

Russ Parker
NCMG President

The North Country Master Gardeners (NCMG) are accepting grant applications from schools, nonprofit youth and adult organizations for horticultural projects that need monetary assistance. The grant applications must include the following:

- Description of the project
- Overview of how the project will educate or serve, with an estimate of the number of individuals that will benefit.
- Provide a level of monetary assistance that the project will require to allow it to succeed. Please include a timetable and projected costs if the project is extensive.
- Include: name, address, phone number, E-mail.

The grants are subject to the following conditions:

- 1) Potential funded projects must be located within the counties of Burnett, Washburn or Sawyer Counties.
- 2) The project should have an educational element to it, although service projects with merit will also be considered.
- 3) Recipients of the NCMG grants will be responsible for submitting a report on how the grant money was used and provide a written overview of the state of the project by October 15th of the year the grant was received.

Grant applications will be accepted through May 1, 2007 (postmarked) and will go through a review process by a panel NCMG's. Award recipients will be notified by May 30, 2007.

In the event that a large number of high quality applications are submitted, it is possible that some awards would not be made in April. These applications will be kept on

file for consideration in the future and could be awarded as funding becomes available.

Be a volunteer and locate Wisconsin's champion trees

Laura Franta
CVMGA President
WIMGA Western District Director

The Wisconsin DNR maintains records on the largest trees in the state. We call them *champion trees*. The champion tree records are a result of the work of many people such as yourself.

Many of the records, however, are quite old and out of date. Some records are incomplete. Some trees listed may now be gone or have lost branches and leaders, so they may no longer be champions. Help is needed to update old records or nominate new ones.

The DNR keeps big tree records to encourage the appreciation of Wisconsin's forest and trees. Hunting for the big ones can put you in touch with our natural resources heritage. Remember, there are still many trees out there, waiting to be discovered. Why not be the one to find them?

We need approximately 15-20 people so that we may hold this session. The program would be on a Saturday to allow enough time for daylight for the hands-on portion of the workshop. The program would begin with background information on the Champion Big Tree Program and some examples of these trees and move on to hands-on where you would actually get to practice measuring trees.

If you are interested in joining a forum to learn about champion trees and how to measure for them, please contact me at talloaks@charter.net or call 715-723-6711. Non-Master Gardener Volunteers are welcome to attend as well, so spread the word. Please tell your members and other organizations or individuals who may be interested.

Tri County Master Gardener happenings

Kevin Schoessow

Area Ag Development Agent

Burnett, Sawyer, & Washburn Counties

Over the years the UW-Extension Spooner Area Office has conducted the Master Gardener Volunteer Training in communities in Burnett, Washburn and Sawyer Counties. One of the primary emphases of these trainings has been to encourage and support volunteering. Each year we ask MGV to submit volunteer record sheets. This information is then collected and shared with local and state decision makers, to help communicate the value and impact the Master Gardener Volunteer program is having.

Each year the local North Country Master Gardeners Association summarizes these volunteer reports into a yearly accomplishment report. With MGs volunteering in communities across all three counties, their activities are listed by groups. While it is difficult to capture the significance of these volunteer activities this report is an indication of the energy and dedication MGV have in supporting their communities. Below is a brief summary of these activities.

North Country Master Gardener Volunteers:

Statistical information

We currently have 53 active MGVs in our Tri County group. Forty-four recertified and 9 members were newly certified.

In 2006 we volunteered	304	hours in youth education
	289	hours in community education
	2045	hours in support services
and participated in	986	hours of continuing education

Although our charter membership and local association is in the Spooner/Shell Lake area, we have very active satellite groups in Hayward, Winter, Siren, Grantsburg and Webster. We continue to serve the tri-county area of Burnett, Sawyer and Washburn Counties.

Major Accomplishments or projects by groups

1. Winter Group. The Winter Green Community Garden continues to be major focus for our group. Community beautification projects at Ojibwa Park, Draper/Loretta Park, Memory Garden at Winter School, Galaxy Apartments, and Winter welcome sign. We continue to work with youth through 4-H and Winter Schools. We donate excess product to the local food pantry and nutrition education program.
 2. Hayward Group. We continue to work with youth through 4-H projects, gardens at the Valley Health Center, Lac Courte Oreilles youth garden, and the "Ready Set Grow" project sponsored by the UWEX Nutrition Education Program. We planted and maintained memorial gardens at the Hayward Methodist Church and city of Hayward, native plants gardens at the Hayward Middle School and the US Forest Service Center, and landscaping projects at the Sawyer Co. Fairgrounds. Other projects include invasive plant education and control, and consultation with area businesses on landscaping.
 3. Grantsburg/Siren/Webster Group. We continue to plant and maintain various community gardens and beautification projects at Fort Folle Avoine Historical Park in Webster, Grantsburg Middle School, Grantsburg Fairgrounds, Cape Side Nursing Home in Siren, the Community Care Center Nursing Home and Burnett Medical Center gardens in Grantsburg. In partnership with the Hunt Hill Audubon Society we gave several presentations on Rain Gardens. We serve as educational resources and have given presentations to local garden clubs, 4-H, and church groups. Many hours were also spent volunteering at the Grantsburg and Webster Fairs, Siren Farmers Market and the Wild Ones organization.
 4. Spooner/Shell Lake Group. The demonstration and teaching garden at the Spooner Ag Research Station continue to be a major focus. Our annual plant sale helps raise funds to support this as well as many hours of labor in the garden. The perennial display garden continues to get lots of compliments and we have used it on several occasions for hands-on teaching. This fall we organized our 1st annual Garden Expo, over 75 folks attended. We continue to work with youth through the after school 4-H program, the Washburn Co Fair, and Team Nutrition with Spooner schools. Several of us help facilitate and teach MG training and we also give presentations and garden tours to local garden clubs, local schools and other civic groups. We assisted with educational displays at the Spooner Farmers Market, Co. Fair and several garden workshops. Other community projects including plant and maintenance of the memorial and flower gardens at the Washburn Co Fairgrounds, the LaFollete town hall, and Birchwood Cemetery.
-

Highlighted Project: Vegetable of the month presentation at Spooner Elementary

This past fall Spooner area MGV gave a presentation on winter squash as part of the Spooner schools vegetable of the month program. The purpose of the presentation was to encourage kids to eat healthy foods such as squash, and explains to them how they are grown. The presentation included a short story titled *The Magic Seeds*, written by MGV Mary Burnham. Various hands-on props were available including cut squash, seeds, vines, leaves, a wide array of squash varieties and two squash hats, one made from a hubbard and the other from a buttercup. The presentation was fun and inter-active and included squash bowling (butternut-pins and acom-ball), squash juggling, squash songs, and the “we are the squash” cheer.

Wisconsin Public Radio’s “Vicars of Vegetables” in Spooner May 17th

*Kevin Schoessow
Area Ag Development Agent
Burnett, Sawyer, & Washburn Counties*

UW-Extension and Spooner School’s Team Nutrition are proud to announce that UW-Madison Horticulture Professors Jim Nienhuis and Irwin Goldman will be special guests at this year’s Spooner School’s Spring Fling on Thursday May 17th. Jim and Irwin, known as the “Vicars of Vegetables,” are regular guests “On Garden Talk” hosted by Larry Meiller of Wisconsin Public Radio.

Team Nutrition is a community coalition that works with Spooner Area School District on promoting wellness through healthy eating and exercise. Part of their efforts includes the Fruit and Vegetable of the month presentations at Spooner Elementary. A student group has also been started at Spooner Middle School called SPIN (Students Participating In Nutrition).

The “Vicars” will give a short presentation at the Spooner Elementary School at 2 p.m. as part of the Fruit and Vegetable of the Month recognition program. Later that evening they will entertain the public with vegetable trivia and facts at the Spooner

Middle School Spring Fling. Their talk will be in the cafeteria starting at 7 p.m. and is free and open to the public.

The North Country Master Gardeners Association is planning on hosting Jim and Irwin at the Spooner Ag Research Station from 4-6 p.m. with a possible visit to the display gardens and a pot-luck dinner.

If you have not had the chance to listen to the “Vicars of Vegetables” on public radio (88.3 FM or 90.3 FM) you can download their shows On Garden Talk from WPR website at <http://www.wpr.org/search/index.cfm>, just search vicars of vegetables.

Webster Master Gardener class continues

The Spooner Area UW-Extension Office is currently offering the General Master Gardener Volunteer Training at the Webster High School from 5:30 -8:30 p.m. As in the past we welcome past MGV participants to audit these training sessions. The class started Jan 30 and will continue through April 24. If you would like to sit in on any of the remaining classes you may do so. All I ask is that you contact my office and let me know that you plan to attend. The remaining classes are as follows. March 20 Native Plants (P.Troxell Northland College) March 29 Vegetables (B. Smith UWRF), April 3 Plant Pathology (ITV), April 12 Fruits (B. Smith UWRF), April 17 Landscaping (ITV), April 24 Pruning and Rain Gardens (J. Wallis).

Ongoing Volunteer Opportunities

Location:	Project	Contact	Phone
Hayward	Ready-Set-Grow	Gerry Berg-Sutton	634-4839
Hayward	Library Landscaping	Carol Alcoe	462-3213
Burnett Med. Center/Continuing Care	Patient Gardens	Linnea Seume	463-5452
Spooner Ag Research Station	Demo Garden	Kevin Schoessow	635-3506
Webster	Fort Folle Avoine Garden	Helen Steffen	866-4430
Spooner	Farmers Market	Connie VanSluys	766-2105
Siren	Capeside Cove Beautification	Diane Medaglia	866-4665
Winter	Community Garden	Michelle LaBarbera	266-9228
Hayward	Farmers Market	Laura Berlage	462-3453
Siren	Farmers Market	Chuck Awe	612-226-1220
LCO	Community Garden	Star Quaderer	634-4790
Spooner	Elementary School Garden	Jody Peck	635-2174

WinterGreen Gardens supply nutritious food to the community

Michelle LaBarbera
Master Gardener

Our goal is to give individuals/families or groups in our community the opportunity to have their own garden. Our purpose is to grow fresh, organic vegetables & herbs with the support of area Master Gardener Volunteers, teachers & local citizens.

The WinterGreen Community Garden is broken down into three separate areas; educational, personal/family & donational. The garden has raised beds & east access on a cement slab for those who have difficulty bending, walking or in wheelchairs.

The educational section is in conjunction with the after school program Kids Club. New this year is our Junior Master Gardener Program. Eight children are enrolled in this two year program. The program will be taking kids from plant development through life skills & career exploration. Kids Club is also involved in starting a business called Green Thumb Growers. The kids have taken plant cuttings & divisions, repotted them for selling. All proceeds go back into the Kids Club Program.

Young adults are also involved at the garden through YACC & Stephen Covey Leadership Team. Summer school groups as well as 4-H will be spending time throughout the summer months in the garden planting along with maintenance & general garden upkeep.

The focus of the personal/family section is to encourage quality family time (for those who do not have right conditions in their yard). We can teach our future generations so many different skills through gardening such as, English, Science, Math, & working together as teams. Gardening instills a love for the environment & healthy eating habits.

Our Garden has gained several items through donations from our community such as, gardening tools, hoses, benches, picnic tables, a port-a-potty as well as a compost bin. The local area Master Gardener Volunteers are also there to assist everyone to help make an enjoyable successful experience.

The produce grown in the donational section is delivered to the Senior Center, the Winter School & the local food shelf along with low income families. Area Master Gardener Volunteers work in this sectioned area, but there is plenty of room for more volunteers!

Together we can make a healthier community through the WinterGreen Community Garden. Won't you join us?

Michelle LaBarbera
266-9228
gla000@centurytel.net

Peg Flaws
715-266-6031

Tina Scolerio
715-266-7002

Congratulations to the new Master Gardeners!

This past year, nine people received their MG certificates. To become certified, Master Gardeners must complete the 36 hours of training, pass a written exam and volunteer a minimum of 24 hours in community service.

Those certified from the Hayward Class include Scott Bagley, Tom Blumenberg, Lania Grimm, Tommye Heinemann, Lisa Laronge, Carol Mahoney, Gwen Mickelson, Nancy Myer, and Rachel Orwan.

Congratulations to these newly certified MGs as well as to those who recertified in 2006. In total over 2600 hours of volunteer service was provided in Burnett, Washburn, and Sawyer Counties.

Calendar of Events

April 4, 2007 Growing Organic Vegetables and Fruits, 1 - 3 p.m., Barron County Courthouse auditorium. Tim Jergenson 715-537-6250.

April 4, 2007 Landscaper's Workshop: Using native landscaping for runoff control. Luck. For more information: contact Anne Lane, Burnett Conservation Department, 715-349-2186.

April 14, 2007 Spring Fling Garden Seminar, Cameron Middle School, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., sponsored by the Barron County Master Gardeners.

April 29, 2007 Wisconsin Gardener, WI Public Television, 2:30 p.m., "Secret Gardens and Living Fences."

May 17, 2007 Wisconsin Public Radio's "Vicars of Vegetables" Spring Fling Debut, 7 p.m., Spooner Middle School.

May 19, 2007 North Country Master Gardeners Annual Spring Plant Sale, 8:30 a.m., Spooner Ag Research Station.

May 26-27, 2007 Forts Folle Avoine Plant Sale, 8 a.m - 4 p.m.

May 27, 2007 Wisconsin Gardener, WI Public Television, 2:30 p.m., "Lettuce Grow."

May 28, 2007 Hayward Garden Club plant sale. For more information, contact: Carol Alcoe 715-462-3213.

June 9, 2007 Federated Garden Club Flower Show, Spooner Ag Research Station. Contact: Merle Klug 715-635-6239.

Brown Bag Gardening Wislines are the last Friday of each month from Noon - 1 p.m. at your local County Extension Office.

Now is an ideal time to prune apple trees

Kevin Schoessow

Area Ag Development Agent

Burnett, Sawyer, & Washburn Counties

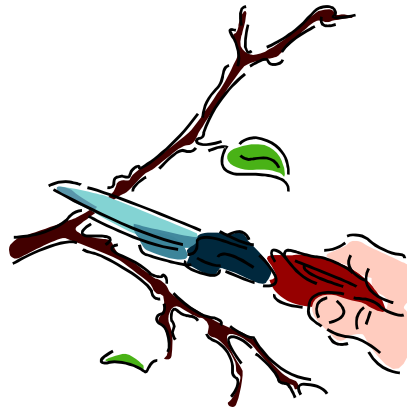
Perhaps one of the most common questions I get this time of year is when and how to prune apple trees. The when to prune question is fairly easy to answer, however the how to prune is much more complex.

The best time to prune apple trees, or for that matter other trees and shrubs is right now. Most pruning is recommended in late winter to early spring. Pruning while the tree is dormant is preferred for two reasons. First the tree's stored root reserves are highest after leaf drop and before bud break. Pruning after bud break wastes stored energy since the tree has expended energy on buds or newly formed leaves that are removed. By pruning before bud break and early leaf development, stored root reserves can be used on those buds and branches that are left. Second, pruning during the dormant period also corresponds to dormant insect activity. Insect are prime vectors in spreading disease. Pruning prior to insects coming to life allows the tree wound to dry and heal before insect activity increases.

The "How to prune" question is much more abstract in trying to describe. There are books written on the subject and volumes of fact sheets explaining the process. An internet search will yield dozens of excellent resources. UW-Extension's Training and pruning apple trees (A1959) is a good example.

Pruning older overgrown trees

Remove dead and broken branches whenever you see them. Do not leave stubs when you prune. Stubs lead to decay in the remaining branch. Always prune a branch off flush with the branch bark collar. This is the natural swelling that occurs where one branch joins another. Removing the



collar makes a larger wound and inhibits the tree's ability to heal.

Look at the area where the two branches join, find the collar and prune flush to the collar.

You do not need to paint pruning wounds with tree wound dressing paint. Pruning wounds heal better when left open. When you finish pruning, remove the branches from beneath the tree. Piles of branches attract rabbits and mice.

Pruning helps to rejuvenate overgrown, neglected apple trees. In fact, you cannot improve your tree's appearance and productivity unless you prune the tree.

Over-pruning stimulates too much growth and lowers fruit production in the present season and possibly next season's as well. Spread out extensive pruning over two or three years.

If the tree is fairly short but neglected, the first year you should prune out dead wood, watersprouts, suckers and broken or conflicting branches.

Also long and straight, watersprouts grow from the trunk and main branches. Like suckers, watersprouts eventually conflict with other branches. Remove suckers and watersprouts several times a year to reduce potential problems.

Training and pruning younger trees

Begin training a young apple tree the day you plant it so it develops strong branches and good form for heavy fruit production. Proper training while the tree is young, along with regular pruning later, produces a strong, spreading open-centered crown that lets light into the tree.

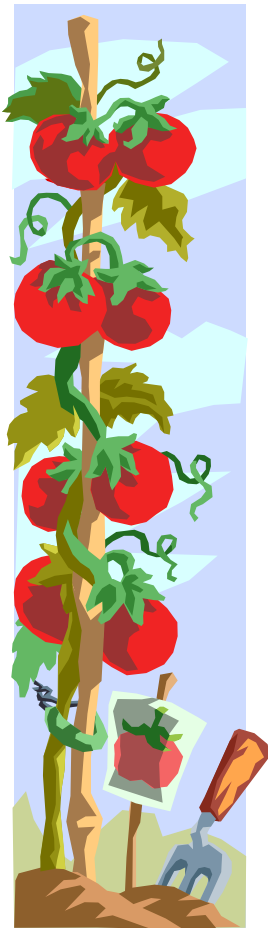
To start training apple trees, remove all side branches for two or three feet up the trunk. Leave the first branch at this level that forms a 45 to 90 degree angle with the trunk. For greatest crotch strength, all the major side or scaffold branches should make about 90 degree angles with the trunk. Limbs that make 45 degree angles or less develop weak crotches because the limbs and trunk become pressed together as they grow.

After you choose the lowest scaffold branch, select four to six other wide crotch angle branches spaced 8 to 12 inches apart in a spiral up the trunk. Keep these and remove all the others. Don't select a branch that is directly over another because it will shade the lower branch. Cut the branches off flush with the tree trunk. Do not leave stubs. They heal slowly and invite disease. Make sure the leader, or top extension of the trunk, is taller than any side branches.

In early spring, you can also prune young trees planted several years ago. This will help keep them strong, healthy and productive.

If a double leader has developed at the top of the tree, remove one of the leaders. Prune out any water sprouts - vigorous, upward-growing shoots rising from the trunk or scaffold limbs. Also remove suckers - shoots rising from the base of the trunk. Bend upwards growing branches to about 30 degrees above horizontal and either tie or spread them in that position. This will encourage fruiting.

Finally, remove any branch rubbing on another, any dead branches, all weak crotch angle branches and any branches that grow toward and shade the tree's center.



North Country Gardeners Newsletter

A publication for gardening enthusiasts from the
Tri-County area of Burnett, Sawyer, & Washburn

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