

May 2024



## President's Patch

By President Kevin Johnson

May is coming in a few weeks and the snow is finally departing. Now the clean-up begins. The city plows have put lots of gravel and other garbage in the yard, so now the rakes. The lending library survived winter, which I am glad. The four bags of concrete kept it upright. Just some minor fixes. As I walked around the yard, the rhubarb has started, and the Johnny Jump Ups are already in bloom in record numbers this year. I have been cleaning up the iris and see that they are already about two inches tall. Then I looked in the back yard and saw the mess that I did not get cleaned up last year. Driving around the Valley, many of the local greenhouses are open and working hard on providing the best products.

Plans are already being made for work dates at the MMGA plot at the Rebarchek Agricultural Park near the Alaska State Fair grounds. Our last meeting was April 1, and Isaac Vaughan got everyone with a good prank. If you happen to see Isaac, ask him about the redesign plan for MMGA plot. Then remind him he has volunteered for ALL MMGA projects for the next five years.

The Annual MMGA Plant Sale is coming up on Saturday, June 1, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. This is a great opportunity to sell some of your plants and purchase new ones. The event is held at the Pavilion in downtown Palmer, across from the Visitors Center. The old saying of arrive early or miss out is so true with the plant sale. If you want to sell at the event, contact us quickly, as sign-up closes soon. Volunteers are also needed to help with the event. Everyone, please collect boxes for customers to hold their plants. Many are needed, each year we run out of them.

A date is being set for the planting at the Palmer Alaska Veterans and Pioneers Home. The date will be announced soon as it's posted on the website. Volunteers will be needed to help with the planting and weeding throughout the summer.

The dates for the Alaska State Fair are August 16 to September 2. See [alaskastatefair.org](http://alaskastatefair.org) for the dates of flower and vegetable entries. There are MANY categories - who knows, you could walk away with a blue ribbon. At the last meeting, the Superintendent for Crops gave us a great presentation on the history of the fair, and great tips on winning a blue ribbon.

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### REGULAR MEETINGS

FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH

**NEXT MEETING**

**MAY 6, 7:00 P.M.**

**LOCATION:**

**MATANUSKA EXPERIMENT FARM AND EXTENSION CENTER,**

**KERTTULA HALL, ROOM 208, SECOND FLOOR**

**1509 S GEORGESON DR, PALMER**

**AGENDA**

**7:00 TO 7:30 PM BUSINESS MEETING**

**7:30 SPEAKER:**

**ZOE FULLER. SINGING NETTLE FARMS**

Monday May 6 at 7:00 pm is the next MMGA meeting. The speakers are great, we have learned about a different growing medium here in the Valley, growing blue ribbon vegetables and flowers, ergonomic tools for gardening, and much more. The meetings are held in Kerttula Hall at the Matanuska Experiment Farm on the 2nd floor, Room 208 - an elevator is available. Bring a friend. There always seems to be some sort of baked goods available!!

## PEASANT'S PERSPECTIVE:

BY CURT MUELLER, MASTER GARDENER – PHOTOS BY THE AUTHOR

We all await the first flowers of spring, and the early ones to bloom are so very precious. Pasque flowers and other pulsatilla and some primroses are so welcome as first blooms in our area. One must also mention dandelions, perhaps not loved by all but well appreciated by beekeepers as an early supply of pollen when package bees are increasing their numbers. The peasant's photos will speak for the beauty and hardiness of some early spring flowers. Thanks, folks.



Pasque flower [*Pulsatilla patens*] is a native Alaska wildflower. It is attractive to pollinators, especially honeybees. It doesn't like competition, so keep encroaching plants weeded out.



Pasque flower after blooming. The attractive seed heads remain through summer.



White pulsatilla. Other colors are red and various combinations of red and purple.



English primrose, also common primrose [*Primula vulgaris*]. Some winter protection such as leaf or snow mulch helps make a sturdy plant.



Cowslip [*Primula veris*] is a native of England as is the common primrose. Winter protection helps this one too.



Auricula primrose. This one is very hardy and spreads, making it easy to propagate. The auricula varieties are numerous and have many colors. They are perhaps the hardiest of the primroses.

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Mat-Su Master Gardeners**  
**Association**  
**April 1, 2024**

**Submitted by Jenny Weaver, VP**

Meeting was called to order by President Kevin Johnson at 7:10 pm

In attendance were Kevin Johnson, Deb and Ken Blaylock, Craig Lisonbee, Cathy Crew, David Thompson, Eva Brown, Dawn Wolski, Curt Mueller, Tim Zalinger, Tony Leoni, Greg Kalal, Jenny, Pearl, and Todd Weaver, Michael Bridges, and Isaac Vaughn. Jana Gooch and Dorte Mobley arrived later in the evening.

Motion was made to accept the minutes from the March meeting by Ken Blaylock. Seconded by Craig Lisenbee; the motion passed.

Kevin reported on the statewide Presidents' zoom that meets every 2 months. Casey Matney, of the Kenai District, plans to establish an online Master Gardener course called Home Horticulture that will not include a volunteer requirement. Casey hopes this will be implemented in the fall and will provide a formal and easy pathway for Master Gardeners to track their volunteer hours.

Jenny Weaver made note of a handout that included several bits of information: the location and hours for Mat-Su Valley Rebuild, upcoming courses on composting at the Mat-Su Central Landfill and online courses presented by Casey Matney. She then introduced Tim Zalinger of Mat-Su Valley Rebuild (MVR).

Tim explained how MVR has the main goal to keep useful supplies out of the landfill. Along with other projects, MVR plans to establish a community garden at the Rebuild, located at 12151 E. Palmer Wasilla Highway. He submitted funding requests to construct individual plots in a south-facing 30X40' area. The grant request includes a garden shed complete with tools. He hopes to mound soil vs using wood or metal enclosures. He asked the group for advice and assistance with possible classes and construction. MVR will provide water for irrigation. A short discussion followed that included fencing against moose, size of plots, and the location near Palmer neighborhoods.

Cathy Crew provided a Treasurer's report. Not much change from the March report, except membership dues. She noted that Greg Kalal returned his speaker stipend. Cathy spoke to the request to invest a portion of the savings into a CD. That money has been sitting in savings gaining scant interest. No progress has been made towards that goal. She said we made quite a bit of money from the 2017 Master Gardener Conference. The conference was packed, held at the Depot with minimum cost, and was a good money-maker.

Kevin continued with committee reports. He noted that the newsletter deadline is the 20th of each month.

Isaac Vaughn informed us that Rebarchek Farm is kicking us out of the farm and that we have until April 1 of 2025 to remove everything from our garden plot. April Fools! He got quite a laugh from all of us - and subsequently was voted in unanimously for additional MMGA tasks. Also, April Fools. He continued with real business and reported on a possible donation of soaker hoses, perennials, and shrubs.

Kevin, Chair of the Plant Sale on June 1st, reported that we can use the gazebo across from the Visitor's Center and the entire parking lot. Upon recommendations from last year, he would like to run an information booth. He asked our local Extension Service if he might include their handouts and Theresa Isaac proposed that perhaps one of their staff could attend as well. Kevin asked members to begin collecting boxes for plant buyers. The Plant Sale sign up sheet was passed around.

The Garden Faire and the Fair Parade Float Committees still lack chairpersons.

Jenny announced that Zoe Fuller, of Singing Nettle Farm, will be our next speaker at the May 6th meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 pm, followed by our presenter, Kathy Liska.

### Alaska State Fair Crops Department Presentation by Horticulture Manager Kathy Liska

A summary of our April Meeting Presentation by Jenny Weaver

Kathy Liska worked for 9 years at the Alaska State Fair before she became Superintendent of Crops in 2003. As the Horticulture Manager she oversees flowers, crops, honey, and bonsai. In her 23 years as “Super,” Kathy coordinated the move of Flowers from the Hodgkins Exhibit to Crops in the Fair barn, added a much-needed sink, along with other improvements and esthetics to the barn area. Kathy noted that two members of our group, Deb and Ken Blaylock, perform as “Assistant Superintendents” (co-conspirators) and that she couldn’t continue without their help.

The Alaska State Fair is a local and state showcase of our summer bounty. Crops and flowers include all manner of items from A-Z - from asparagus to zucchinis, and astilbes to zinnias. The Crop Department enlists 75+ volunteers each year to help with crop entry, to clerk, and judge. Volunteers set up and take down nearly everything twice during the Fair. They oversee all the displays for the duration of the Fair and strive to present a positive, fun experience to all who visit.

First established in March 1936, the Matanuska Valley Fair eventually morphed into the Matanuska Agriculture and Industry Fair coordinated by the Northland Pioneer Grange No. 1. Held in the location of the current Borough building, the first fair coincided with the opening of the Knik River Bridge and included such events as boxing matches, sack races, a rodeo, and a rumored manure spreading contest. There were hundreds of agricultural entries, including grains, cabbages, and fodder. Hotdogs, root beer, and popcorn were sold.



1936 Alaska State Fair

In 1938, judges made visits to local farms to award ribbons for farming methods, homes, painted buildings with good fencing, and gates that stayed upright! The giant cabbage weigh-off began in 1941. During World War II, between 1942-1946, the Fair experienced a brief hiatus. In 1950, the first carnival rides were introduced.

In 1959, Palmer Fair went to battle with Fairbanks over rights to the title of Alaska State Fair. The Alaska Legislature decided to allow Fairbanks the State Fair title in even years, with Mat-Su claiming the title in odd numbered years. Clever organizers of the Palmer Fair filed the corporate name, and the rest is history!

This year’s Fair, “Enjoy the Ride,” begins on August 16th and runs through September 2nd. As established during Covid-19, the Fair opens its gates Thursdays through Mondays, closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. This break allows for a coordinated effort for crop, flower, and baked goods entries, judging, take down, a thorough cleaning of the grounds, and time for vendors to restock their goods.

To enter items in the Fair you must receive a lifetime number. Once issued, numbers identify the entrant and assist in providing ribbons and monetary rewards. You can apply for a number by calling 907-746-7167 before July 1, or look up your number on entry days in the Crops Department if forgotten.

The Crops Department receives between 1600-1800 entries annually. Crop entries are separated into 21 Divisions such as Herbs, Greenhouse Grown Vegetables, and Potatoes. Divisions are broken down into Classes that include specific crops i.e., varieties of beans, lettuce, squash, etc. Divisions also include two Junior classes, classrooms, and clubs. The Fair and the Crop Department makes changes and adaptations every year. New Classes are added, and Divisions amended as gardeners try new methods and experiment with new varieties. Mat-Su Master Gardeners award prizes for all four classes in Division 16 “Veg Heads.”

Everything you need to know to enter your particular crop or flower is in the Competitive Exhibit Guide for each department. READ THE GUIDE carefully!

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**May Speakers Feature the Owners/Operators of Singing Nettle Farm**



Zoe Fuller and Nick Treinen, along with Lynn Fuller are partners at Singing Nettle Farm. From their website: "Singing Nettle is a small-scale, sustainable vegetable farm and creative project. We grow vegetables, fruit, flowers, and medicinal herbs to sustain, nourish and heal our communities and create art, writings and creative buildings that draw inspiration and materials from the world surrounding us. We strive to be in good relationship with the human and more than human world."

Zoe Fuller is the main farmer at Singing Nettle and is an activist, writer, and local food system advocate driven by her connection to the land.

Nick is a multi-talented fixer, builder, and sanity-keeper at Singing Nettle.

Landowner and Zoe's mom, Lynn Fuller, generously allows these ragamuffins to do weird projects in her garage, woods, and fields."

Singing Nettle officially began in the middle of Covid in 2020. Projects include experimenting with garden design, mulches, crop covers, and a walk-in root cellar. Zoe and Nick just returned from Mexico where they learned about seed collection and storage.

Singing Nettle Farm is also a founding member of Matanuska Community Farmers Market which opens each Wednesday 4-7 pm, mid-June through the end of September, in the United Protestant Church parking lot at 713 S. Denali St. in Palmer.

Join us on Monday evening, May 6, at 7 p.m. for our business meeting, followed by a presentation by the innovators of Singing Nettle Farm.



**DRIVE YOUR TRACTOR TO WORK DAY**

The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Drive Your Tractor to Work Day is Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup>. We will leave the fairground's purple lot at 9am. Please join the drive. Tractors can begin assembling at the purple lot any time before 9 am.

**2024 Committee Volunteers**

Newsletter	Deb Blaylock
Website Manager	Eva Cohnen-Brown
Guest Speakers	Jenny Weaver
Membership Directory	Dorte Mobley
Rebarchek Farm Project	Isaac Vaughan
Annual Plant Sale	Kevin Johnson
Palmer Veterans & Pioneers Home Planting	Kevin Johnson
Midsummer Garden & Art Faire	
Summer Garden Tours	Dorte Mobley
Alaska State Fair Awards	Deb Blaylock
State Fair Parade	
Nomination Committee	Kevin Johnson
2024 Christmas Party	Jana Gooch
Meeting Space/Equipment Coordinator	Jenny Weaver

**SEED POTATOES!!!**

Did you order seed potatoes from Greg Kalal? If you did and would like to pick them up at our May meeting, drop him an email and let him know so he can bring them. His email is: gkalal@gci.net



# MATSU MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR 2024 PLANT SALE

Each plant or item offered for sale is to be marked with two tags - a white tag and a color tag. Tags will be available only for members who have signed up for the 2024 plant sale and will be available at the April and May 2024 Mat-Su Master Gardener Association meetings.

Choose an ID to mark your tags with. Most use their initials (two or three). Indicate your tag ID on the Plant Sale Sign-In sheet when you arrive at the morning of the plant sale. Please ensure your tag ID is unique. Remember, your ID tells who gets paid for the sale of the item.

Use permanent marker or #2 pencil to label the tags:

White tag has common or botanical name of plant and any optional information.

Yellow tag - the item price (**in \$1 increments ONLY** - please **no 25¢, 50¢, 99¢, etc.**) and your unique tag ID

Yellow Tag - Front  
Price



Yellow Tag - Back  
Unique ID



White Tag      Plant Name



The MMGA receives 20% of the sale from each plant or item and you receive 80%. If there is no yellow tag or the unique tag ID is unreadable, it is assumed that all proceeds go to the MMGA. (Thanks for the donation!)

Members often ask how to price plants, but you may want to price yours other than the suggestions below. Price them to sell. Plants that have not sold by noon may be reduced in price.

**SUGGESTED PLANT PRICING** (These are just suggestions - you may use any price for plants as long as it seems reasonable, and **prices are in \$1 increments - this is non-negotiable**)

Perennials, including herbs:	3" pot	\$3 - \$4
	4" pot	\$4 - \$5
	6" pot	\$5 - \$6
	gallon pot	\$6 - \$8
Annuals, including herbs	4/6 cell pot	
	3" pot	\$3 - \$4
Vegetables	4/6 cell pot	
	3" pot	\$3 - \$4
Tomatoes (plant size, variety, and pot size determine price)		\$3 - \$10
Strawberries (depending on pot size)		\$1 - \$2
Raspberries, Currants, Rhubarb	gallon pot	\$5 - \$10
Shrubs, trees	2-gallon pot	\$10 - \$15

## 2024 PLANT SALE PARTICIPANT GUIDELINES

The Plant Sale will be held on **Jun 1st, 2024**, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Palmer Pavilion (across from the Palmer Visitor's Center). This is our major fundraising event for the year and members are encouraged to participate either by bringing plants to sell or helping out with the sale. It is an immensely popular event with members of our community and draws a large crowd.

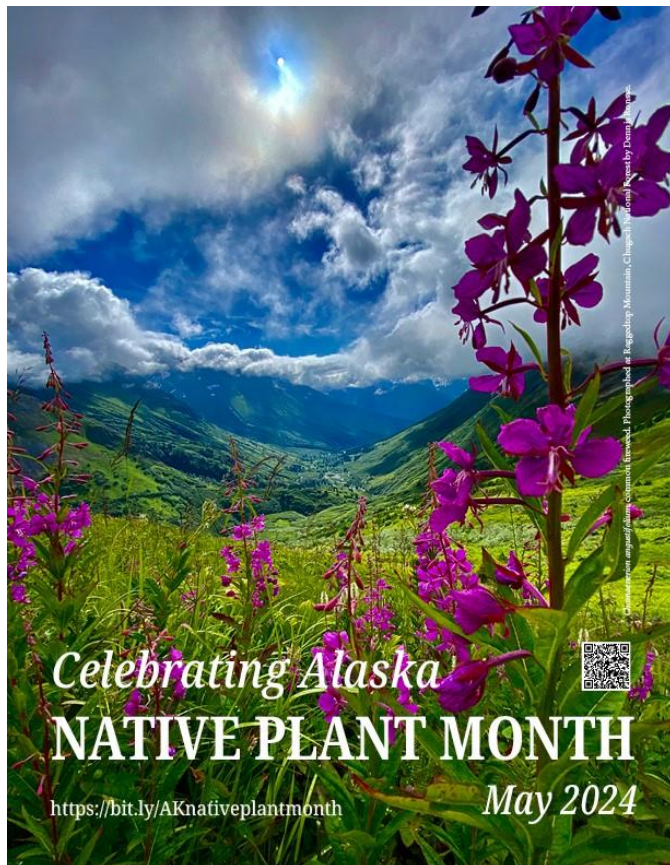
1. All Mat-Su Master Gardener Association (MMGA) members who have joined or renewed their **membership AND signed up to participate in the plant sale by May 6th, 2024**, can participate in the plant sale. Helpers are needed to help with checkout, help the cashier, sort tags, answer buyer questions, and direct buyers to the appropriate tables.
2. Plants should be brought to the Pavilion between 7:30 and 8:30 am on the morning of the plant sale. Please check in, sign your name, and verify your unique tag ID. **No one may sign up on the day of the plant sale to participate as a vendor.**
3. All plants for sale must be tagged with a white tag showing the common name and/or botanical name of the plant. All items will have a yellow tag showing the item's price and the seller's unique ID. If there is no ID on the yellow tag, the item is assumed to be a donation to the Association. For all sales, the MMGA retains 20% from the sale of each item. The MMGA member will receive 80% from the sale of each item.
4. Native plants should be garden grown (PLEASE, no digging in the wild!). Please avoid bringing invasive plants like orange hawkweed, spotted knapweed, butter and eggs, etc. The Cooperative Extension Service offers a lengthy list and description of suspected invasive species.
5. Inspect all plants carefully to ensure no plants have evidence of insects or disease.
6. MMGA members may also sell crafts, arts, or garden-related items by providing and staffing their own tables. These items will also have the appropriate yellow price tag attached.
7. **All sales** will be made through the central check-out stand. Volunteers are needed to staff this.
8. There are some tables available at the Pavilion; however, it is recommended that you bring your own table. It is highly recommended that you bring items for your own comfort such as chairs, warm clothing, beverages, snacks, and lunch.
9. **All unsold plants need to be picked up after the sale.** If you can't be there at 3 pm, please arrange for someone to take your plants. **Do not just drop off plants and leave them.** Plants or items left behind will be discarded.
10. You may also donate your excess plants to the MMGA for the various Association planting projects. **Donations must be coordinated prior to the closing of the plant sale.**
11. Proceeds from the sale will be calculated after the plant sale has ended. Normally, our Treasurer will either mail each individual's 80% to their address on file with the Association or hand out checks at the following June 10th MMGA meeting. Please indicate on the sign-in sheet how you would like to receive your check.

## 2024 PLANT SALE SIGN-UP SHEET

June 1st, 2024, 9 am - 3 pm

Deadline to sign up - May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Labels will be available for pick-up at the meeting.

NAME	TAG ID	CHECK DELIVERY
Debra Blaylock	DB/DJB	Pick-up
Dorte Mobley	BDLM	
Theresa Phillips	TAP	Mail
Kristina Tornqvist	KT	
Isaac Vaughan	IV	Pick-Up
Bonnie Hagar	BJH	
David Thompson	DRT	Pick-Up
Sue Glenn	SG	
Ann Eagerton	ARE	
Leslie Scott	LS	
J, Fred & Marlun Maestas	JFM	Pick-Up



May is Alaska Native  
Plant Month

Links to more info:

<https://sites.google.com/aknps.org/alaska-native-plant-month/event-calendar/webinars>

<https://sites.google.com/aknps.org/alaska-native-plant-month/home>

<https://sites.google.com/aknps.org/alaska-native-plant-month/event-calendar>





## Matanuska Experiment Farm & Extension Center Community Garden Expert Volunteers Needed

**We are looking for some volunteers to join us at our  
Community Garden Planting Days  
to offer advice and guidance to new and experienced gardeners.  
(you do not have to attend for the entire time)**

Please contact Theresa Isaac at 907-746-9481 or [tmisaac@alaska.edu](mailto:tmisaac@alaska.edu)

**Thank you in advance for your support of our Community Gardens!!!!!!**

May	<b>Community Garden Planting Day</b> May 29, 2- 6pm June 1, 2 – 6 pm Experts to answer questions: TBD	Community Garden Plots In-Person Only
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**Watch our Facebook, Instagram and website  
for up-to-date info & registration links!**

<https://www.facebook.com/matanuskaexperimentfarm/>

UAF is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity employer, educational institution and provider and prohibits illegal discrimination against any individual. Learn more about UA's [notice of nondiscrimination](#). UA is committed to providing accessible websites. Learn more about UA's [notice of web accessibility](#).

Accommodation requests related to a disability should be made five business days in advance to Theresa Isaac at 907-745-3360 or [tmisaac@alaska.edu](mailto:tmisaac@alaska.edu). Language access services, such as interpretation or translation of vital information, will be provided free of charge to limited English proficient individuals upon request to [tmisaac@alaska.edu](mailto:tmisaac@alaska.edu). UAF is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity employer, educational institution and provider and prohibits illegal discrimination against any individual. [www.alaska.edu/nondiscrimination](http://www.alaska.edu/nondiscrimination).

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Note the rules, judging criteria, and definitions for each Division/Class you enter. Volunteers on-site can help with your questions, but they CANNOT fill out your entry form; neither can they clean, trim, or arrange your entries. Use the rulers provided at each entry station. Bring extra veggies/flowers with you to allow for damage or irregularities. Clean but don't scrub your entries.

Kathy went through each crop division and shared great pictures and humorous comments. She noted that the giant vegetable division is watched by the entire state, our nation, and the world!

She paid homage to the 18th Great Pumpkin Weigh-off on August 26th at 2pm and the 28th Giant Cabbage Weigh-off scheduled for September 1st at 6:00pm. These weigh-offs are highly regulated events with strict rules and certified judges.

After the fair, all giant vegetables go to the Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center. The Mat-Su Food Bank receives all other veggies suitable for consumption. Over 300 lbs. of fruits/veggies were donated last year.

Kathy's presentation was informative and fun. Her insight and photos gave us a better understanding of just how much the Fair has developed through the years. She provided inspiration and motivation to consider our participation in the 2024 State Fair.

Thank you Kathy for a great presentation!

## Garden Links (updated March 2024)

### Alaska AgrAbility Program **\*\*New Mar 2024\*\***

<https://www.uaf.edu/ces/agriculture/agrability/index.php>

### Alaska Botanical Garden

<http://www.alaskabg.org/>

### Alaska Center for Conservation Science

<http://aknhp.uaa.alaska.edu/botany/>

### Alaska Community Forestry **\*\*New Dec 2023\*\***

<https://forestry.alaska.gov/community/index>

### Arbor Day Foundation

[www.arborday.org](http://www.arborday.org)

### Alaska Division of Agriculture

<http://dnr.alaska.gov/ag/>

### Alaska Garden Clubs

<http://www.alaskagardenclubs.org>

### Alaska Grown

<http://www.buyalaskagrown.com/>

### Alaska Master Gardeners Association, Anchorage

<http://alaskamastergardeners.org/>

### Alaska Native Plant Society

<http://www.aknps.org/>

### Alaska Non-Native Species List

<https://accs.uaa.alaska.edu/invasive-species/non-native-plant-species-list/>

### Alaska Orchid Society

<http://www.akorchid.org/>

### Alaska Peony Society

<https://www.alaskapeonysociety.com/>

### Alaska Pioneer Fruit Growers Association

<http://www.apfga.org/>

### Alaska Plant Materials Center

<http://plants.alaska.gov/>

### Alaska Rhodiola

<https://www.akroseroot.com/>

### Alaska Rock Garden Society

<http://www.akrockgardensociety.org/>

### Flora of North America

<http://floranorthamerica.org/>

### Good Earth Garden School

<https://www.goodearthgardenschool.com/>

### Georgeson Botanical Garden

<https://georgesonbotanicalgarden.org/>

### iNaturalist **\*\*\*New May 2024\*\*\***

<https://www.inaturalist.org/>

### Integrated Pest Management Program

<http://www.uaf.edu/ces/ipm/>

### IPM Alaska Pest Reporter

<https://plw.man.mybluehost.me/>

### Junior Master Gardener

<http://www.jmgkids.us/>

### Landscape Plants for Alaska

<https://visionplusapps.com/alaska-plants/>

### Mat-Su Borough Rain Garden Program

<http://www.matsugov.us/environment/raingardens>

### Mat-Su Master Gardener Website

[www.matsumastergardeners.com](http://www.matsumastergardeners.com)

### Master Gardener Research Link (Extension)

<https://extension.org/search/>

### Master Gardeners of the Tanana Valley

<https://fairbanksmastergardeners.wordpress.com/>

### Mat-Su/Copper River Cooperative Extension Service

<https://www.uaf.edu/ces/districts/matsu/>

### Matanuska Experiment Farm and Extension Services

<https://www.uaf.edu/afes/places/palmer/>

### National AgrAbility Program **\*\*New Mar 2024\*\***

<http://www.agrability.org/>

### Palmer Soil & Water Conservation District

<http://palmersoilandwater.org/>

### Society of American Foresters, Cook Inlet Chapter

<https://forestry.org/cook-inlet-seedling-sale/>

### South-Central Alaska Beekeepers Assoc.

<http://www.sababeekeepers.com/>

### Southeast Alaska Master Gardeners Association

<http://seak-mastergardeners.org/index.html>

### Sustainable Agriculture – UAF

<https://www.uaf.edu/ces/agriculture/sare/>

### UAF Cooperative Extension Service

<https://www.uaf.edu/ces/>

### UAF Cooperative Extension Service Publications

<http://www.uaf.edu/ces/pubs/catalog/>

### UAF CES Citizen Pest Monitoring Portal

<https://pestreporter.alaska.edu/>

### UAF Herbarium

<http://www.uaf.edu/museum/collections/herb/>

### UAF Alaska Master Gardener Program

<https://www.uaf.edu/ces/garden/mastergardeners/>

### University of Saskatchewan Fruit Program

[www.fruit.usask.ca](http://www.fruit.usask.ca)

### USDA/NRCS Plant Database

<https://plants.usda.gov/home>

### Wildflower Garden Club of Alaska

<https://wildflowergardenclub.org/>



## CLUB CONTACT INFO

<b>President:</b>	<b>Kevin Johnson</b>	<b>907 775 2808</b>
<b>Vice President:</b>	<b>Jenny Weaver</b>	<b>907-982-5446</b>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Jana Gooch</b>	<b>907 746-2891</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Cathy Crew</b>	<b>907-632-4401</b>
<b>Member at Large:</b>	<b>Deb Blaylock</b>	<b>907-746-6045</b>

If you have gardening news, photos, or information you would like to share in the newsletter, please send to the MMGA email.

Website: [www.matsumastergardeners.com/](http://www.matsumastergardeners.com/)  
Email: [matsumastergardeners@gmail.com](mailto:matsumastergardeners@gmail.com)

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### MAY 2024 AND BEYOND

**May 6**, Palmer, Regular Meeting, Zoe Fuller, Singing Nettle Farms  
**May 6**, Palmer, Drive Your Tractor to Work Day  
**May 7**, Alaska AG Day  
**Jun 1**, Palmer, Annual Plant Sale, 9am-3pm  
**Jun 10**, Palmer, Regular Meeting, MMGA Plot at the Rebarchek Farm Project  
**Jul 13**, Palmer, Midsummer Garden & Art Faire  
**July-August** – **Summer Garden Tours TBD**  
**Aug 1**, Palmer, Field Days, MEF&EC  
**Sep 9**, Palmer, Regular Meeting  
**Oct 7**, Palmer, Regular Meeting  
**Nov 4**, Palmer, Annual Meeting/Elections  
**Dec TBD**, Palmer, Christmas Party

**Don't forget to check out the photos tab on our webpage! Eva updates it periodically from activities our Association participates in.**

<https://www.matsumastergardeners.com/photos.html>

### *Club Membership*

The membership year runs from January to December each year. Annual individual memberships are \$15 and family memberships are \$20. Family memberships are only for family members living in the same household. The deadline to join was **February 5, 2024**, to be listed in the annual membership directory. Join or renew online.

*Thank you!*

## How and What to Submit for the Monthly Newsletter

Your submissions are appreciated and make our newsletter what it is - so do not be shy about submitting items for publication.

However, there are a few rules which we all must pay attention to:

Articles, stories, poetry, upcoming events, and pictures (garden-related) are needed for inclusion in the newsletter. Please submit pictures in JPEG format and other items in Word format with no special formatting other than paragraphs. When submitting pictures, please provide a brief caption or explanation as to who or what is in the picture.

If you are not the author or photographer, please ensure you have permission of the author or photographer to use their material in the newsletter. The newsletter publisher is not responsible for obtaining this for you.

Please do not provide magazine articles or pictures from the internet unless they are public domain items.

**Deadline for submission of articles and info: 20<sup>th</sup> day of each month -- Thank you--**



May 2024



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