

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Emily Becker

Ah, the glory of early June. These are the days Alaska gardeners live for! Birds are singing, the air is warm, and flowers are already blooming.

So much promise, so much potential, so much hard work! We need more time!

Past president Harry Deuber has been on my mind this month. When I was a new Master Gardener, he and Nickel LaFleur turned me on to amaranth, and Harry gave me the seeds for five different varieties. I've been transplanting them today, along with climbing nasturtiums. I remember a very impressive wall of them at his place on a summer garden tour. I knew then I would grow my own!

A few weeks ago I was at the AMGA storage place, struggling to heft a single garden sale sign into my car, and I suddenly pictured Harry, strong as an ox, easily carrying a sign in each arm. Or carrying the mulching mower to the Centennial Rose garden, the summer Debbie Hinchey was away.

Harry was such a generous, humble and kind man. The Lifetime Achievement committee is working on some type of project in his memory. We know many of you want to help, and we hope to let you know how very soon.

I'm looking forward to our weekly garden tours. They are fun, inspiring, and a great way to slow down and enjoy the summer and the company of friends. Thanks to Courtney Ruckel at Forget-Me-Not for allowing our semi-traditional, after-hours tour. Madge Oswald's early

blooming rock garden is up next on June 1.

Les Brake is allowing us to return for an early-summer look at his Willow "Coyote Garden" on June 4. If you have not been, and even if you have, this is a must-see and see-again garden.

On our last tour, Les gave away some door-prizes of divided plants, and I was one lucky recipient! I am ecstatic to report that his gift survived the winter in my garden and looks to be thriving. Lucky me!

Our tour schedule for the summer is quite fantastic, thanks to Vice President Troy Weiss. Details for each tour will be emailed a few days before the event.

While tours are a benefit of membership, feel free to bring a friend who might be interested in gardening or joining AMGA.

We still have a few tour slots to fill, so send us an email if you have a good idea, please.

Early June is quite busy with preparations, but I am trying to soak in the sun and the beauty of it all and enjoy every possible precious minute. 🌱

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MAY AMGA MEMBER MEETING HIGHLIGHTS by Troy Weiss

Barbara Henjum is a retired criminal justice system employee who co-owns and operates Brown Hen Farm with her husband in Chugiak, Alaska. The farm has fruit trees, peonies and amazing flower gardens.

With wit and style, Barbara gave a fascinating presentation during our May member meeting on how to grow peonies.

Peonies can live 50 years and need to establish a root system before they can provide the huge flowers we love to admire. Barbara shared one of her guiding principles is to “grow the root.” Choose a location with good sun, including at least six hours of direct sunlight and prepare



Photo courtesy Troy Weiss

the soil to host such a long-term plant. Barbara suggested testing your soils and adding amendments based upon the specific needs of the location.

Planting the peony correctly is also important. Provide at least three-foot spacing for a healthy root system. The soil should have good drainage and a good mixture of organic material.

When planting, the top of the crown and eyes on the root should be within two inches of the soil surface. Soil should also be packed under the root to avoid water pooling and rot. Planting can be done in early spring or late fall just before freeze up.

To “grow the root,” gardeners need to think about directing energy to the root system. This means providing the right amount of fertilizer and water, but not too much. Also, it is hard to do, but flower buds should be removed for the first couple years so that energy goes to the root and not reproduction. Barbara gave rules like never harvesting more than two-thirds of the flowers from a single plant.

Peonies do have annual maintenance needs:

- In the spring, clean crown area from old stems of insulation materials such as leaves; fertilize in the

spring and then again after the plants blossom.

- In the summer, remove any unhealthy leaves and stems. Deadhead flowers after the bloom if not harvested. Keep the area clean and weeds away for good air circulation.
- After the first hard frost, cut the herbaceous plants

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APRIL 2022 TREASURER'S REPORT

Balances on 3/31/2022

Checking S-88	\$	22,269.07
Savings S-2	\$	5.25
Savings S-29	\$	16,942.13
CD General 2 year 1.95%; 1/23	\$	10,799.15

Total Assets \$50,015.60

Interest/Dividends \$ 2.79

This month's revenue

Membership	\$	311.75
Donations	\$	753.43
Fundraising/Plant sale	\$	1,487.72
Advanced M.G. course fees	\$	-
Total revenue	\$	2,552.90

This month's expenses

Grants (scholarships)		
Hospitality		
Operations	\$	102.00
Website	\$	60.32
Plant sale	\$	289.72
Public Relations (State Fair)		
Newsletter	\$	19.99
AMG speaker fee	\$	1,250.00
Roster		
Total Expenses this month		\$ 1,722.03

Balances on 4/30/2022

Checking S-88	\$	23,099.94
Savings S-2	\$	5.25
Savings S-29	\$	16,944.92
CD General 2 Year 1.95%, (1/23)	\$	10,799.15

Total Assets on 4/30/2022 \$50,849.26

Prepared by Jan van den Top on 5/7/2022

May Meeting Highlights, from previous page

to within 1" of the ground and remove the foliage out of the garden to avoid diseases.

Harvesting peonies is the fun part! Barbara advises to cut the peony stems by taking three leaf nodes. Stems are ready to harvest after the true color can be seen in the blossom and 1 petal has started to lift. Professionals try to get the blossoms into a chiller at 34 F and 80-90 percent humidity within 30 minutes. Home gardeners can simplify refrigeration by wrapping the stems in plastic and putting them into the refrigerator. Any botrytis (gray mold) on the stems should be washed

off with a mild detergent solution before wrapping in plastic. Amazingly, peony blossoms can stay fresh for weeks to months if stored properly after harvesting.

Finally, Barbara gave some resources to the group, including www.alaskapeonycooperative.com and "How to Not Kill a Peony, An Owner's Manual" by Stephanie J. Webber

Thank you to Barbara Henjum for an outstanding presentation on growing peonies, and to Barbara's husband, and Carol, for helping us work through issues on Zoom sharing. Good luck with your peonies everyone! 🌸

PHOTOS: MASTER GARDENERS OUT AND ABOUT



AMGA members Christy Smith (r) and Sharon Schlicht plant starts for clients of the St. Francis House food pantry. St. Francis House is a past recipient of an AMGA grant for distribution of plants to food pantry clients.



AMGA VP Troy Weiss with tulips and his purchases during the May 23 Forget-Me-Not Nursery garden tour.



Airport Heights Elem. teacher Moana Rolfzen (r) delivers flowers planted by students for the Pioneer Home to AMGA member Lynne Opstad (l).



Paul Marmora, Lili Naves, Marilyn Barker, and Madge Oswald weeding at the Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center's wildflower garden.

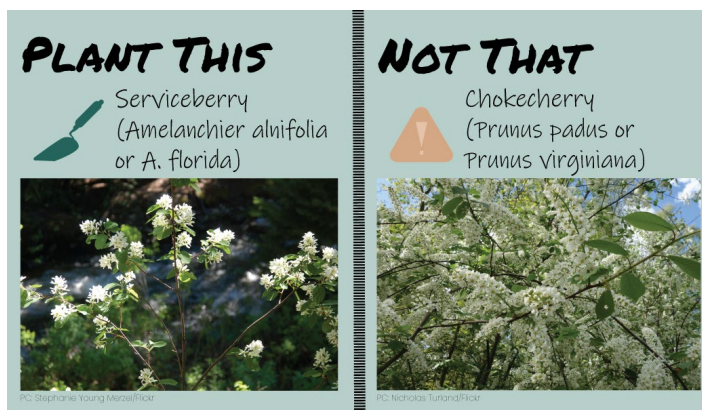
PLANT THIS, NOT THAT by Deborah Kornblut and Sabrina Farmer

It's never too early to start thinking about what to plant in your garden, yard, or apartment balcony. You might have a specific plant in mind, whether it's something to harvest later in the season or a vibrant flower to bring a splash of color into your outdoor space. Maybe you're willing to buy a seed mix and just see what happens.

But have you considered if what you're planting helps or hurts your neighborhood wildlife? Is it an invasive species? An invasive plant is one that is likely to out-compete the plants growing around it, escape beyond its designated space, and may cause damage in terms of the environment, economy, or even human health. Once an invasive plant is introduced, it's increasingly difficult to remove. Gardening is a common path for invasive plants to be introduced to Alaska.

On the other hand, you can choose a plant that has evolved with Alaska's other flora and fauna. Choosing to grow a native plant benefits the insects that have lived with these flowers for generations, feeding on their pollen and nectar. Native plants also feed animals and provide shelter and nesting for birds and insects.

Here are five plants to avoid and the beautiful alternatives that you can plant instead:



1) You say chokecherry, I say serviceberry Chokecherry trees are also commonly referred to as European bird cherry and Mayday trees. These trees are currently found in Anchorage, Homer, Hope, and Talkeetna. In fact, we are talking about two related, but different, species: *Prunus padus* and *Prunus virginiana*. Both trees grow quickly, shade out surrounding vegetation and reduce the quality of food available for moose. In bloom, chokecherries have aromatic white flowers that eventually turn into small black fruit. These berries may

be edible to humans but can be toxic to moose and have even led to moose deaths.

You say chokecherry, I say serviceberry (*Amelanchier alnifolia* or *A. florida*). Although not technically a tree like chokecherry, this shrub can grow up to 12 feet tall with delicate white flowers. In the fall it grows abundant sweet berries, and the leaves turn vibrant colors. Plant this in your garden and you provide the service of feeding the neighborhood birds. Enjoy watching yellow warblers, bohemian waxwings, and other songbirds flock to your garden for food. You can also eat these berries, which can be dried, jammed, or turned into pies.



2) Out with orange hawkweed, in with arnicas Like other plants on this list, orange hawkweed (*Hieracium aurantiacum*) was brought to Alaska as an ornamental plant.

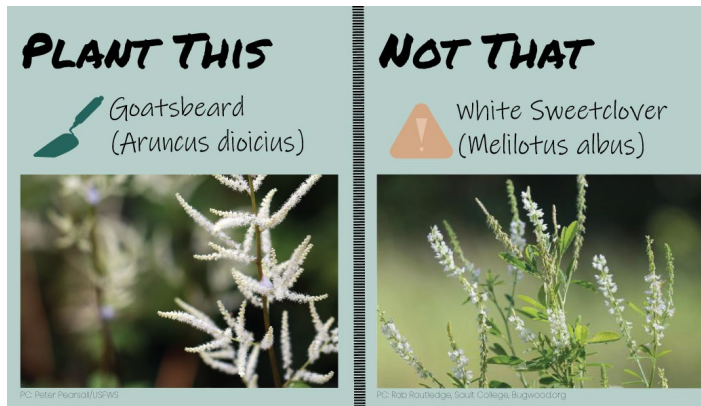
The stems of orange hawkweed are mostly leafless, but its bright orange flowers grow in clusters of 5–30 which may make you think that this plant will bring a welcome splash of color to your garden. Unfortunately, orange hawkweed creates very dense mats that release a chemical, preventing other plants from growing and decreasing food availability for other animals like pollinators or grazing animals. Mowing orange hawkweed only promotes its growth.

Orange hawkweed has a much more Alaska-friendly cousin. Arnica! Arnica is a flowering plant in the daisy family (Asteraceae), just like orange hawkweed. This means they share the same distinct sunflower-shaped bloom. In Alaska there are many types of arnicas (*Arnica spp.*). They vary based on the region they grow, from meadows to the alpine. Yet they all produce rich yellow

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Plant This, Not That, from previous page

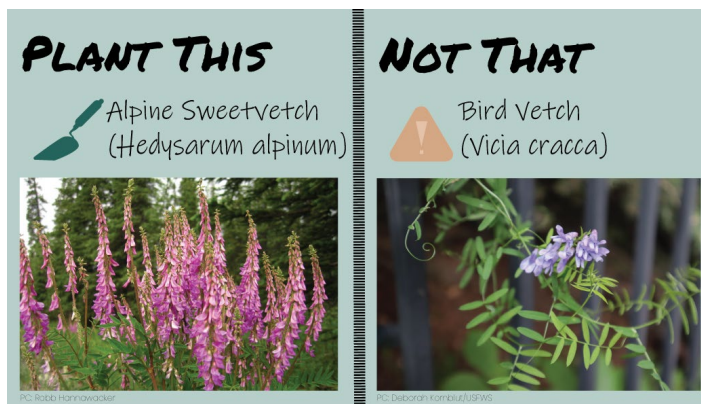
blooms which may light up your garden from June to August.



3) Trade white sweetclover for goatsbeard You've probably seen white sweetclover (*Melilotus albus*) growing along roadsides and other places with human activity. At first glance, this may seem like a useful plant to keep around because it adds nutrients to the soil, and its aromatic white flowers are attractive to pollinators.

However, a single white sweetclover can produce up to 350,000 seeds which can remain viable for up to 81 years. Its abundant seed production allows white sweetclover to spread rapidly and persist despite removal efforts. White sweetclover changes soil chemistry which affects what else can grow in the area. This invasive plant also grows up to 6 feet tall, shading out surrounding plants. These traits make white sweetclover a powerful competitor for the resources native plants depend on.

Thus, we suggest the dashing goatsbeard (*Aruncus dioicus*), a tall plant with floofy, cream-colored flowers that bloom in July. These blooms attract many pollinators such as butterflies, bees, and flower flies. Goatsbeard transplants well into moist, rich soils and will come back year after year without the side effects of white sweetclover.

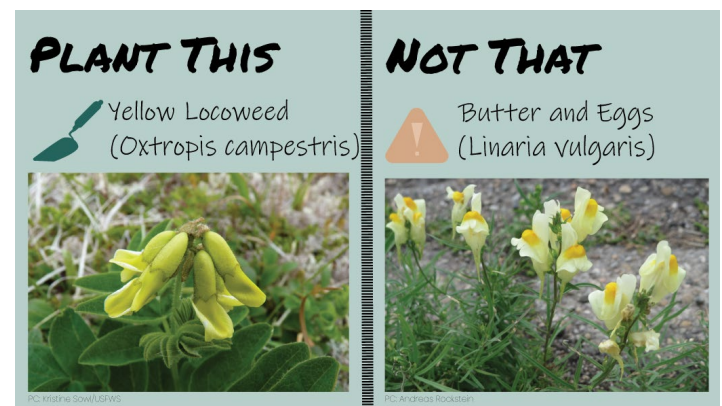


4) Goodbye bird vetch, hello alpine sweetvetch

Next on our “don’t plant” list is bird vetch (*Vicia cracca*). Known for its bluish-purple flowers, we often find bird vetch growing in grassy areas alongside trails, roadways, and sometimes intentionally propagated in somebody’s yard. But watch out, bird vetch has a history of escaping into the wild, spreading quickly, and taking over! Unlike other climbing plants in Alaska, bird vetch has distinct stems and tendrils that enable it to climb any upright object, whether that be a fence, a tree such as an alder or willow, or your house. Like white sweetclover, bird vetch flowers will compete with native plants for pollinators and change soil conditions.

There is an equally attractive native alternative to bird vetch that comes without the consequences. Goodbye bird vetch, hello alpine sweetvetch (*Hedysarum alpinum*). Alpine sweetvetch and bird vetch are both in the pea family, so they share the same beautifully shaped flowers.

Alpine sweetvetch supports many Alaskan animals: from the birds that nest in its greenery to the bears and sheep dig up and eat its starchy roots. Alpine sweetvetch is also collected and eaten by Yup’ik, Iñupiaq and Dena’ina Athabascan peoples. The many names of alpine sweetvetch include Marralaq or Masru (Yup’ik), Masu (Iñupiaq), and K’tl’ila (Dena’ina).



5) Swap butter and eggs for yellow locoweed While the name might sound tasty, butter and eggs (*Linaria vulgaris*) is a very harmful plant to keep around. Sometimes known as toadflax or wild snapdragons, butter and eggs is uniquely identifiable in Alaska because it has a yellow flower with an orange throat. This aggressive plant finds a spot for itself wherever the land is disturbed, but then easily moves over into neighboring undisturbed areas. Once introduced, butter and eggs

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Plant This, Not That, from previous page

will compete for moisture in the soil and spread to create very dense colonies.

Swap butter and eggs for yellow locoweed (*Oxypetalum campylocheilum*) in this year's garden recipe. Yellow locoweed, or yellow oxytropis, grows low to the ground with grayish green, hairy leaves. When it blooms in late May and June, it produces small yellow pea-shaped flowers which attract many different types of bees.

Though we're running with this food metaphor, neither of these species should be eaten. Yellow locoweed is named for the known toxin it contains and can cause grazing cattle to walk with an uneven gait.

Conclusion

When selecting plants for your garden be aware that many plants that look beautiful can cause a lot of damage. Check your "wildflower seed mixes" and make sure they are wild to Alaska. Choose native plants that are

local to your area and your garden and yard will benefit the living things around you. You can be a steward for the lands we all depend on by keeping in mind the phrase "Don't plant a problem." Get to know what you are planting and learn more with these additional resources:

- Garden with pollinators in mind! Use these pollinator garden recipe cards.
- Don't plant a problem! Look for it here first.
- If you find an invasive species, please report it to 1-877-INVASIV

This article, edited slightly for length from the [original article published on Medium](#), was compiled by Deborah Kornblut, Regional Invasive Species Outreach Coordinator, and Sabrina Farmer, Ecological Services Biologist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

CELEBRATING POLLINATOR WEEK IN ALASKA

National Pollinator Week is June 20-26, 2022. Here is some Alaska native pollinator trivia gathered via the [Alaska Pollinator Coordination Group](#) and other resources.

- Native bee species: 105
- Native bumblebee species: 22
- Hover fly species: 200+
- Butterfly species: 80
- Moth species: 70

Did you know?

- You can be a bee citizen scientist through the [Alaska Bee Atlas](#).
- Flies are important pollinators in alpine and arctic settings, as they can fly in lower temperatures than many bees. Bumble bees are also more capable of flying in lower temperatures than other bees.
- European honey bees are important for agriculture and make honey, but they do compete with native bees for pollen and nectar.



- One bumblebee in Alaska—the western bumblebee—has been proposed for listing under the Endangered Species Act due to declining populations in the Lower 48 and Canada. However, there are two subspecies and the extent of their ranges in Alaska is not totally clear yet. 🌱

HERB STUDY: BORAGE by Elaine Hammes

Beginning in May, many perennials are taking off in ABG's Herb Garden, but not borage...at least not yet. By early to mid-June, the blue-flowered borage should be sprouting in the southeast bed; likely, the white-flowered borage in the northwest bed will take a bit more time to break the surface. Both varieties have self-seeded in the herb garden for a number of years.



Borago officinalis growing in the Alaska Botanical Garden's Herb Garden, courtesy Mary Contrary

Borage (*Borago officinalis*), also known as a starflower, is an annual herb in the flowering plant family Boraginaceae. It is native to the Mediterranean region, and has naturalized in many other locales. It grows in gardens in most of Europe, such as Denmark, France, Germany, and the United Kingdom.

Borage was cultivated for culinary and medicinal uses traditionally, although today, commercial cultivation is mainly as an oilseed. Even though the leaves are edible and in some parts of Europe the plant is grown in gardens for that purpose, the plant contains pyrrolizidine alkaloids (PAs), some of which are hepatotoxic (toxic to the liver), mutagenic (capable of causing mutation), and carcinogenic. PAs are also present in borage seed oil, but may be removed by processing. Traditional medicinal uses for *Borago officinalis* include hyperactive gastrointestinal, respiratory and cardiovascular disorders.

B. officinalis is an easy, fast-growing, annual herb with the flavor and scent of cucumbers. It is often grown as a flowering plant to entice pollinators into vegetable gardens. Borage is used in companion planting for legumes, spinach, brassicas, tomatoes and strawberries. It grows to a height of two to three feet, and is bristly or hairy all over the stems and leaves; the leaves are alternate, simple,

and two-six inches long. The flowers are complete, perfect with five narrow, triangular-pointed petals. Flowers are most often blue, although pink flowers are sometimes observed. White-flowered types are also cultivated.

The flowers form large floral displays with multiple flowers on the same plant blooming simultaneously, suggesting that borage has a high degree of intra-plant pollination. It has an indeterminate growth habit, which may lead to prolific spreading. In temperate climates, its flowering season is relatively long, from June to September. In milder climates, borage blooms continuously for most of the year.

Most gardeners plant the pure (blue-flowered) species plant, *Borago officinalis*. However, there are two common cultivars, as well as a closely related species:

- *Borago officinalis* '**Variegata**' has white mottling on the green leaves. Its flowers are less intense than common borage.
- *Borago officinalis* '**Alba**', also called white borage, blooms later in the season than the blue varieties with lovely white flowers.
- *Borago pygmaea* (**Creeping borage**) is a sprawling species with pale blue flowers that bloom from late spring to late fall. It is a short-lived perennial species.

Historically, Pliny the Elder and Dioscorides said that borage was the nepenthe that caused forgetfulness when mixed with wine. Francis Bacon thought that borage had "an excellent spirit to repress the fuliginous vapour of dusky melancholie." 🌿

The Herb Study Group is already volunteering in ABG's Herb Garden for this summer!

Anyone interested in volunteering in the Herb Garden should contact Alaska Botanical Garden directly for volunteer orientation.

Herb Study Group meetings are expected to resume in September; anyone interested in attending (likely by Zoom, possibly in-person) is welcome to send an email to the Herb Study Group at anchorageherbstudygroup@gmail.com to receive our notifications.

JUNE 2022 EVENT CALENDAR

CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

Tuesday, June 7, noon

Matanuska Experiment Farm & Extension Center: Controlling Orange Hawkweed. [Zoom registration.](#)

Monday, June 13, 6-9 pm

The Alaska Botanical Garden: What's in Bloom Walking Tour. [Register here.](#)

Wednesday, June 15, 7-9 pm

Alaska Native Plant Society: Learn to Use iNaturalist! Learn to use iNaturalist to record your plant observations! Aaron Wells will lead webinar describing how to use iNaturalist to share your plant observations, provide identifications, and participate in projects like the [Alaska Botany Bioblitz](#).

Wednesday, June 22, 4-6 pm

The Alaska Native Plant Society and BLM Campbell Creek Science Center are hosting a Pollinator Week wildflower work party. Help with upkeep of the center's native pollinator garden and learn how you can support pollinator conservation in Alaska. Simple gardening tools will be provided. [Contact organizer.](#)

MEETINGS & EVENTS

Wednesday, June 1, 7 pm

AMGA Garden Tours begin! See current schedule on Page 9.

Wednesday, June 1, 5:30-7:30

Wasilla Night at the Museum: Alaska Gardeners, Don't Plant a Problem. U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service presenters will cover best practices to prevent the spread of invasive plants, invasive plant identification, and some of the beautiful local alternatives you can plant instead. [Get info.](#)

Saturday, June 4, 9 am-5 pm

Anchorage Garden Club Plant Sale. Hardy perennials and some annuals. 3734 W. 35th Avenue. [Contact.](#)

Saturday, June 4, 9 am-3 pm

Wildflower Garden Club of Alaska Members Annual Plant Sale. Native plants, perennials, annuals, vegetables, berries, alpine plants for rock gardens and even some house plants. 1300 W. Benson Blvd (old DMV building).

Saturday, June 4, 9am-3 pm

Mat-Su Master Gardener Plant Sale located at the Downtown Pavilion 723 S. Valley Way, Palmer

Saturday, June 4, 3-8 pm

Friends of Boyer's Orchard is hosting an Orchard Blossom Festival in celebration of the season, its non-profit status and future possibilities. Apple trees for sale, self-guided tour, blossom bath experience, food & drink, live music, etc. [Web link.](#)

Saturday, June 25, 9-9 pm

Alaska Garden Club's State Convention, "Play, Plant, Propagate," hosted by the Greater Eagle River Garden Club at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Chugiak. Along with necessary business, there will be education, garden tours, and many other fun things. Cost \$78. [Registration form.](#)

JOBS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, ETC.

The **Alaska Botanical Garden** has created a [Signup Genius](#) for its summer volunteer sessions. You can now [sign up here](#) to volunteer, after you've had the volunteer orientation.

The **Alaska Botanical Garden** is hiring a Guest Services Associate for the summer season. You can find the job advertisement on the [ABG website](#)

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VOLUNTEERS 4 GARDENS

Alaska Master Gardeners Anchorage and the Alaska School Garden Network maintain a list of volunteer opportunities at public gardening projects in Anchorage.

[View the list/join a project.](#)

AMGA 2022 Garden Tours

Version date: 5/26/22

Date	Time	Name	Host
Wednesday, June 1	7 pm or earlier	Rock Garden	Madge Oswald
Saturday, June 4	11 am	Coyote Garden	Les Brake
Monday, June 6	6 pm	Alaska Seeds of Change	Rebecca Knapp
Monday, June 13	7 pm	LaFleur New Garden	Nickel LaFleur
Monday, June 20	6 pm	Mann Leiser Memorial Greenhouse	Kat Karabelnikoff
Monday, June 27		TBD	TBD
Monday, July 11		TBD	TBD
Monday, July 18	7 pm	Lutheran Church of Hope	Don Bladow
Monday, July 25	7 pm	Kaplan Garden	Diane Kaplan
Monday, August 1	7 pm	Jane's Garden	Jane McClure
Monday, August 8		TBD	TBD
Thursday, August 11	6 pm	Grow North Farms	Keenan Plate
Monday, August 15	7 pm	Mardane's Garden	Rosa Meehan

Notes:

- Detailed addresses will be sent to members the week before the tour.
- Pop-up tours will be added as opportunities arise

BIRD CHATTER

Gardening riposte at the candidate forum Did you catch this exchange during a recent Congressional candidate forum, reported by Anchorage Daily News reporter Nat Herz. Apparently Sarah Palin responded to a question about her role model by naming her dad, and then said, "I'm going to go help him rake his yard when I get home."

The response from Lowenfels: "You don't need to rake."

A new gardening show "GardenFit" is a new public television show that is getting some hype. The show follows gardener Madeline Hooper and personal fitness trainer Jeff Hughes to gardens across America, and learn tips and techniques to avoid stress and injury.

It sounds like very useful information, but at least two Mgers who saw the [New York Times article](#) tittered over the photos of Hooper and Hughes practicing good posture together.

Start potting for the late season sale The AMGA Late Season Plant Sale will be Saturday, August 13. Perennials, houseplants, three classes, maybe garden art, and a table for gently used tools and pots. There will be plenty of volunteer opportunities and a Signup Genius will go live in July. For more information contact Susan Negus at 907-227-6288 or senegus@gci.net.

What's new, interesting, confounding and delightful? Send your bits of interesting garden news to birdchatter@alaskamastergardeners.org.



June Event Calendar, from previous page

The UAF Integrated Pest Management Team is conducting a **fruit tree pollinator survey** for 2022. This survey is anonymous and will help with development of outreach/educational resources and guide potential research to improve pest management in Alaska. [Fill in survey online.](#)

The **Alaska Native Plant Society** has volunteer opportunities for [invasive weed removal along Turnagain Arm](#) and [maintaining the wildflower gardens at the Campbell Creek Science Center](#).

Next AMGA Meeting via Zoom! September 19, 2022

“Plant Division Techniques” presented by Will Criner

Check your email, our website or Facebook page for connection instructions.

Member Meetings: 7 pm every 3rd Monday of the month, September through May (except December). AMGA meetings are currently being **held online via Zoom**. These monthly educational programs are free and open to the public. **Visitors and guests are welcomed and encouraged.**

Board Meetings: 2nd Monday of the month, 6-7 pm, anyone is welcome to observe. Send an email to president@alaskamastergardeners.org for the meeting link.

AMGA Board of Directors

Emily Becker	President
Troy Weiss	Vice President
Jan van den Top	Treasurer
Nick Riordan	Secretary
Kathleen Kaiser	At Large
Keenan Plate	At Large
Kat Karabelnikoff	At Large
Meg O'Mullane	At Large

Committee Chairs, Program Coordinators & Volunteers

Emily Becker	CES Liaison
Steve Brown, Gina Dionne	CES Master Gardener Program Liaison
Keenan Plate	Broadcast Email
Nick Riordan	Calendar of Events
Don Bladow, Troy Weiss, Emily Becker, Fran Pekar, Gina Dionne	Advanced MG Course
Janice Berry	Directory Editor
Kathy Liska, Cindy Walker	Facebook
Troy Weiss	Meetings & Educational Programs
Troy Weiss	Garden Tours
Mary Rydesky, Gina Docherty, Jane Baldwin	Google Group Managers
Jan van den Top, Sheila Toomey	Grants Program
TBD	Hospitality
Alexis St. Juliana	Membership Database
Elizabeth Bluemink	Newsletter Editor
Gina Docherty	Website
Lynne Opstad	Lifetime Achievement
Lynne Opstad, Julie Ginder	Pioneer Home Garden
Emily Becker, Keenan Plate	Volunteer Coordinators

Become an AMGA Member

[Use our online form to join/renew and pay online or by mail.](#) Your membership supports AMGA and its mission of gardening education in partnership with the University of Alaska Cooperative Extension Service. We provide continuing education, grants for garden projects, garden tours, and more, all in service to the community.

Newsletter Submissions

We welcome letters, opinions, public event announcements, articles, ideas and inquiries. The deadline for submitting an item for publication is the 20th of every month. Educational articles (400-600 words ideal), Bird Chatter, calendar items and announcements are always welcome. Contact/send items to the editor at newsletteramga@gmail.com and send Bird Chatter items to birdchatter@alaskamastergardeners.org.

Connect with AMGA

Website: www.alaskamastergardeners.org
Facebook: facebook.com/Alaska-Master-Gardeners-Anchorage
YouTube: www.youtube.com/channel/UCvZehJprKkQzQivQvNDKopQ
Google Group: <https://groups.google.com/forum/?fromgroups#!forum/AkMGA>
Membership issues/address corrections: Alexis St. Juliana at astjuliana@hotmail.com.
Mail: AMGA, P.O. Box 221403, Anchorage, AK 99522-1403

