



## Meet Me in the Garden - Good Looking and Tasty Plants

Spoooner Agriculture Research Station Teaching & Display Garden

Hosted by UW-Extension and its Master Gardener Volunteers

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

Thursday, July 13, 2017

*Reminder: The Twilight Garden Tour is on August 15 starting at 4:00 pm at the Spooner Research Station. This event features speakers from the University of Wisconsin and includes UW-Extension Master Gardener Volunteers who are all available to answer your gardening questions. The Teaching and Display Gardens are at their peak for this event and highlight native perennials as well as vegetables and All American Selection annuals.*

### 1. Introductions –

- UW-Extension-Master Gardener Volunteers:  
Donna Amidon, Katie Childs, Carla TePaske, Sue Reinardy, Carol Taylor
- UW Summer Interns: Mitch Shellito, Brent Arnoldussen

### 2. History of Ornamental Edibles, Companion Planting

3. Design Ideas: Herbs in Pots, Cherry tomatoes in a window box, Grape arbor, Fruit trees, Peppers among sun-loving flowers, Tuck lettuce/radish and other greens in shady flower beds, Rainbow chard in a border, train raspberries along a fence

4. Guidelines for mixed beds: Keep border less than 3 feet or provide a path, Combine plants with similar requirements, Use basic foliage color and plant shape as unifying elements, Limit flower colors- too many colors confuse the eye, Keep taller plants at the back and low creepers at the front, Avoid flowering plants that reseed themselves heavily – they will need continual thinning, Avoid flowering plants among edibles that demand pesticides to look good

5. More Tips on Mixing it Up: Don't try to make it all edible, Mix annuals & perennials but group them for ease of maintenance, Keep diversity in mind so beneficial insects can help keep your garden healthy,

#### Light Rule of Thumb:

- i. If the part you eat is the fruit – needs 8 or more hours per day sunshine
- ii. If the part is a root – can tolerate a little less
- iii. If the part is the stem or leaf can handle slightly shady conditions

### 6. Examples from Containers & Arrangements

## Plants for Edible Landscapes

7. *Malus* spp (Apples): UW Extension bulletin – “Growing Apples in Wisconsin” A3565; Need a second apple cultivar close by for pollination; Pay attention to location especially if next to drives and walkways
8. Small Fruits: Blackberries, Blueberries, Currants, Chokeberry, Chokecherry, Gooseberries, Elderberry, Strawberry, Juneberry, Grapes, Lingonberries, Raspberry
9. Edible Flowers: Use flowers that are grown without pesticides, Use at their peak for best flavor, Introduce slowly into diet to pinpoint allergic reactions, May be preserved in oils and vinegars. Common Edible Flowers: Apple Blossoms, Bee Balm, Tuberous Begonias, Calendula, Chamomile, Chrysanthemums, Daylilies, Lilacs, Nasturtiums, Dianthus, Roses, Squash Blossoms, Strawberries, Thyme, Tulips, Violas, Pansies, Johnny-Jump-Ups, Violets
10. Perennial Vegetables: Rhubarb, Chives, Asparagus, Walking onion
11. Shade-tolerant Annual Edibles: Beans, Beets, Broccoli, Brussel sprouts, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Chard, Cucumbers, Kale, Kohlrabi, Leaf lettuce, Leeks, Nasturtiums, Parsnips,
12. Edibles for Containers: Blueberries, Tomatoes, Kale, lettuces, Swiss Chard, Oregano, Parsley, Peppers, Strawberries, Rosemary, Thyme,
13. Insectary: Intersperse with islands of insectary annuals designed to attract beneficial insects and repel pests; Allow some of your salad and cabbage crops to bloom; Plant: fennel, angelica, coriander, dills, borage, sage, thyme
14. Edible Weeds: Be sure to correctly ID the plant and know exactly what parts are edible; Avoid eating plants where herbicide or road salts have been used or where pet waste is present; Young leaves are best. Some other Edible Weeds: Purslane, Clover, Lamb's Quarters, Mallow, Wild Amaranth, Curly Dock, Milkweed

CAUTION: Be sure to know that you have properly identified these and try very small amounts before using. Also be sure to use the correct part of the plant.

## Resources

- ***The Complete Book of Edible Landscaping***, Rosalind Creasy
- ***Kitchen Gardens***, Cathy Wilkinson Barash
- ***Edible Gardening for the Midwest***, Colleen Vanderlinden & Alison Beck
- ***Eat Your Yard, Edible trees, shrubs, vines, herbs and flowers for your Landscape***, Nan K. Chase
- UW Extension bulletin A2488 **Home Fruit Cultivars for Northern Wisconsin** – go to [www.learningstore.uwex.edu/Assets/pdfs/A2488.pdf](http://www.learningstore.uwex.edu/Assets/pdfs/A2488.pdf)
- ***The Edible Landscape***, Emily Tepe
- ***The Edible Front Yard***, Ivette Soler
- ***Foodscaping***, Charlie Nardoizzi
- ***The Beautiful Edible Garden***, Leslie Bennett and Stefani Bittner
- ***Front Yard Gardens***, Liz Primeau
- Wisconsin University Extension Weed Articles: <http://wimastergardener.org/article-categories/weeds/>