

**Door County Master Gardeners
Community Projects**

Updated May 2021

ASTRONOMY CENTER, CROSSROADS AT BIG CREEK, Contact person: Barb Henkelmann

In September of 2014, Barb Henkelmann along with other volunteers began a planting project at the Ray and Ruthie Stonecipher Astronomy Center at the Crossroads at Big Creek in Sturgeon Bay. Perennial beds were established surrounding the building itself and at the beginning of the walk from the parking lot to the Center. Grasses, shrubs, trees and flowering perennials were planted. This area continues to be maintained by a group of volunteers including Master Gardeners and members of the Door Peninsula Astronomical Society. They meet monthly to weed, mulch and keep the plantings looking great.

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB YOUTH GARDEN PROJECT, *On hold due to COVID*

The Boys and Girls Club of Sturgeon Bay is fortunate to have four raised beds and additional gardening space behind their building. They also have a raised flower planter in front of the entrance on Third Avenue. Master Gardener Volunteers have assisted the staff and other volunteers with the planting, watering and care of these gardens. Lonnie has worked with the Healthy Life Styles coordinator and her class of children to teach them about various gardening and environmental topics on a weekly basis during the summer months.

BAY VIEW TERRACE, EGG HARBOR, Contact person: Shawn Mathys

Master Gardener Shawn Mathys was approached by the Village of Egg Harbor to draw up a planting plan for the terraced gardens along County Road G. Shawn designed the perennial gardens, and along with village employees and other volunteers, planted the area in June of 2018. Master Gardener volunteers along with others from the community and the village employees maintain the gardens.

CROSSROADS FAMILY GARDENING CLASSES, Contact person: Coggin Heeringa *On hold due to COVID*

Each spring, Family Gardening Classes are offered to Door County families at the Crossroads at Big Creek. Pat Thorp (from Pat's Patch organic farm), along with Coggin Heeringa, Patsy Stierna and other Master Gardener volunteers, assist families in seed starting and learning basic garden skills. This is a three-session class in which participants make seed starting blocks, plant seeds, and learn about how to raise the plants successfully in their own home gardens. The seedlings are raised in the greenhouse at Crossroads and nurtured by Master Gardener volunteers until the last class session when participants receive enough starter plants to bring home to begin their own gardens. Herbs, vegetables and flowers are grown and shared.

DOOR COUNTY SEED LIBRARY, Contact person, Penne Wilson

The Door County Seed Library (DCSL) is a collaborative partnership between the Door County Master Gardeners Association, Door County Library, The Community's Garden, Extension Door County, and Wild Ones of the Door Peninsula, as well as the dedicated efforts of dozens of member-volunteers. The Door County Seed Library offers FREE open-pollinated vegetable, herb, and flower seeds that people can

“check out” from Door County Library branches to plant and grow in their personal gardens. Best of all, there’s no due date and no late fees! In addition to providing free seeds, DCSL supports gardeners and seed savers from beginner to expert through the process of growing, harvesting, and seed saving. You can find information about the Door County Seed Library on our [Facebook](#) page and website: www.DoorCountySeedLibrary.org.

DOOR COUNTY SENIOR CENTER GARDEN, Contact person: Helen Bacon

The Senior Center Garden was established at the Aging and Disability Resource Center in Sturgeon Bay in the spring of 2019. A large, raised bed was constructed and planting occurs in spring. All food grown in this garden will be used for the meal program there.

ELLISON BAY FLOWER PROJECT, Contact person: Michelle Kemp

Twelve Master Gardener Volunteers and nine other Ellison Bay residents participate in the Ellison Bay Flower Project which includes planting, fertilizing, and watering forty barrels and seven planters throughout Ellison Bay from May through October. This project has been ongoing for 14 years. The project also includes the planting of Gus Klenke’s pick-up truck, which is one of the most photographed points of interest in Northern Door County. The bed of the truck is planted each spring and maintained by volunteers throughout the season. This project is fully funded through contributions from local businesses, Liberty Grove Township, and donations. The planters beautify our community, encourage community involvement and educate the public through presentations hosted by the Ellison Bay Service Club. Michelle Kemp orders the plants and coordinates the planting and watering schedules each year.

HERITAGE GARDEN AT CROSSROADS AT BIG CREEK, Contact person: Nancy Goldberg *On hold due to COVID*

A devoted group of Master Gardener Volunteers and Sturgeon Bay Garden Club members work together to plant and maintain the Heritage Garden at Crossroads each summer. This garden is planted as a turn of the century garden, using heirloom seeds and vintage gardening practices. Since 2018, the garden has been planted in the German tradition (planted in squares rather than rows of plants). The harvest is donated to local food pantries. Plants are researched and a document is available for reference that tells their origins. Local children’s groups visit the garden and help with planting and harvesting. Vegetables and herbs are grown inside the fence, flowers (both annual and perennial) are outside the fence.

PENINSULA PARK ENTRANCE AND MAIN BUILDING GARDENS, Contact persons: Marsha and Steve Krzyzanowski

The plantings surrounding the flagpole and entrance sign as well as the boxes at the ranger station are planted and maintained by Door County Master Gardeners each year. Using a mix of perennials and annuals including many Wisconsin natives, the plantings are a warm welcome to visitors.

RIDGES SANCTUARY, Contact person: Ann Marie Ott

Master Gardener Volunteers have been involved with the Ridges Sanctuary for many years. You may find them leading nature hikes for adults or children, participating in rare plant species identification, or assisting with ongoing projects such as the Orchid project at the Ridges. Beginning in 2021, Master

Gardener Volunteers will collaborate with Ridges Staff and other volunteers to enhance the entrance prairie and pollinator gardens for community education and outreach.

SOUTHERN DOOR SCHOOLYARD GARDEN, Contact person: Vicki Daoust *On hold due to COVID*

Master Gardener Volunteers have been intermittently involved with this project over the years. The garden is located on the grounds of Southern Door School. It is planted in the spring by the school children with the assistance of teachers and community volunteers. The maintenance over the summer is shared by families in the school district and also Master Gardener Volunteers. Each fall, the food is harvested and formal "tastings" take place for the children in the school.

STELLA MARIS PARISH PLANTINGS, SISTER BAY, Contact person: Lynn Polacek

Master Gardener Volunteers, along with parishioner volunteers, plant and care for the main entrance garden as well as pots at each of the five entrances to the church. There are also two large raised beds, one of which is planted in perennials, the other in annuals. Over the years, volunteers have replaced invasive plants and made improvements to the existing shrub plantings. Participants assist in spring and fall garden clean up as well as watering throughout the summer. MGVs provide planning, coordination and advice throughout the process. The location is visited by tourists also and provides opportunities for answering questions for the public.

STURGEON BAY HIGH SCHOOL GREENHOUSE PROJECT, Contact person: Deb Javurek *On hold due to COVID*

This project takes place in the greenhouse on the Sturgeon Bay High school property. Master Gardener Volunteers with knowledge of indoor/greenhouse growing assist key staff and students with development of a planting plan, classroom preparation of supplies for planting, and ongoing maintenance of plants through harvest. The food grown is used in the school nutrition program.