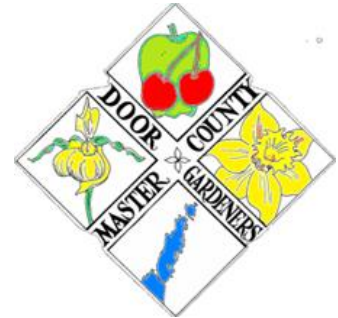# Door County Master Gardeners Association, Inc.

A Volunteer Organization of the UW-Cooperative Extension Service

THE GARDEN DOOR
Grass Garden

The spectacular wense along the north of The Garden Door embraces a collection of about 60 species of ornamental grasses. The collection is diverse and includes specimens that change considerably as the seasons pass.

Some of the grasses are essentially **evergreen**. As soon as the snow is gone they contribute color to the spring garden. **Cool season grasses** are also a delight to discover each spring. They rush to show off their uniqueness while the weather is still cool and often take a rest in midsummer. When fall arrives they perk up and resume growing. **Warm season grasses** don't really like to wake up very early in spring. In fact, they refuse to get up and get growing until their feet are warm. When the soil temperature is in the 50s the warm season grasses literally leap into action. They bask in the summer sun and grow at an amazing rate. Many shoot up magnificent plumage that stays on the plants all winter.

Ornamental grass comes in many shapes, sizes and colors. As you stroll through the garden, look at some of their unique features. Notice the diversity of color, shape and size. Some of the characteristics to watch for are:

Foliage Color	Size	Shape	Plumage Color
Green Blue-green Yellow-green Yellow Tan Red, pinkish Variegated	Very small To Gigantic	Globe Upright & divergent Upright & erect Floppy (fountain like)	White, cream, buff Tan, beige, brown Pink, red, black

Some ornamental grasses make excellent specimens in pots. Others like moisture and do better if they are not in full sun. Thus there are some grasses near the pond and others tucked away in shady areas of The Garden Door. Can you find them?

The Garden Door is a free public garden open daily from dawn to dusk. The Garden was created and is maintained by the Door County Master Gardeners Association in cooperation with the UW Peninsular Research Station.