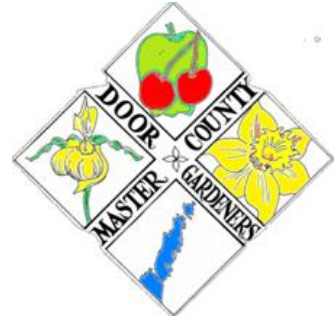




Door County Master Gardeners Association, Inc.



A Volunteer Organization of the UW-Cooperative Extension Service

THE GARDEN DOOR Raised Beds

The Raised Bed areas of The Garden Door have recently been re-designed and have a new look. In the fall of 2015 four raised beds and an arbor were demolished due to rotting and poor condition of the structures. In its place two sections, divided by the paved brick walkway, were created each having its own interpretation of “raised beds”. The area east of the brick walkway has a three-tiered series of traditional wooden raised beds. They were built by one of our own Master Gardeners using cedar planks with slot and peg construction and provide five separate growing areas at three different heights. These beds have been used to grow vegetables of interest to the committee that maintains them...purple vegetables one year (beans, carrots, eggplant, potatoes); orange and yellow vegetables the next (tomatoes, summer squash, wax beans, sunflowers). Wait and see what interesting or unusual vegetables will be chosen for the next growing season!

The west area is dominated by a 7' tall copper sculpture also built by Master Gardeners. Three planter boxes hang vertically from two of its sides. These six boxes are filled with *Sempervivums* (hen and chicks) and sedum plants of many varieties in a series of patterns. It is topped off with a rectangular copper planter filled with flowers. The sculpture brings interest to this back corner of the Garden.

Surrounding the copper sculpture are six large barrel planters and an antique wooden wheelbarrow, each filled to the brim with colorful flowers and foliage. Most of the planters follow the recipe of plants for containers...using thriller, filler and spiller type plants in your composition. Some of the unusual thrillers of the past have been amaranth, millet, lemon grass and a young cedar tree! A garden-wide color scheme chosen at the beginning of the gardening season helps the committee with choosing the plants. We also try to use as many of the annuals grown and procured from our own Plant Sale held the end of May each year. Every year is different so make sure you stop in this area for some great ideas to take home for your own containers.