



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA EXTENSION

Driven to Discover®

Ramsey County Master Gardener Volunteer Program offers  
**Garden Advice for Summer 2023**  
June – July – August



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In This Newsletter

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Volunteers In Action

## Thank You for Shopping!

Thank you to everyone who shopped at our Spring Plant Sale! You help us continue our community service projects in Ramsey County. Special thank you to the nearly 200 people who donated a live plant to our [Gardens for Good](#) project, which aims to bring healthy food to people who need it.

## Home Garden Study

The [Home Garden Productivity Project](#) was a University of MN Extension research project that asks the questions; “How much food can be grown in a home garden?” and “What does it take (time and expense) to do so?” Find out what Master Gardener volunteers learned over this 5-year study.

## Book Review: The Lifelong Gardener

[The Master Gardener volunteers read and discussed The Lifelong Gardener by Toni Gattone during the May 2023 Book Club.](#) The book made some big assumptions about aging but also provided some great ideas for improving gardener accessibility.

## Planting in Shady Places

[Learn to love your shaded garden spaces.](#) Written by Nyle Zikmund, Anoka County Extension Master Gardener

# Upcoming Events & Opportunities

## Gardening Classes

[Join us for an online class](#) this summer to learn more about herb gardening, composting, managing garden pests and weedy plants, climate change in Minnesota, food preservation and more.

The [University of Minnesota](#), the [Minnesota Landscape Arboretum](#), and the [Minnesota Horticultural Society](#) also offer classes on a range of garden topics. Check their websites for details about upcoming events!

## Nominate a Garden for Blooming St Paul

The Blooming St Paul Awards highlights amazing gardens who are dedicated to enhancing the Saint Paul community through gardening. [Nominate a garden that inspires you before Friday, August 11!](#)

## Find a Master Gardener

Master Gardener volunteers are always happy to talk about plants with another gardener. [Find us at the Ramsey County Yard Waste Collection sites](#) this summer and again later this fall.

## Answers for your garden questions

[Get answers to your garden questions using this online form](#). A Master Gardener volunteer will reply by email within 48 hours. Please provide as much relevant detail as possible. If you attach photos, make sure the subject of your question (plant, insect, etc.) is clearly visible.

## Summer Garden Information

<b>June 1 - August 31</b>		
	<b>Average temperature</b>	<b>Daylight</b>
<b>Season Start</b>	59° F	15 Hours 24 Minutes
<b>Season End</b>	79° F	13 Hours 17 Minutes
<b>Change</b>	<i>20° F increase</i>	<i>2 hour 7 minute decrease</i>

## Upper Midwest Home Garden Care Calendar

[Use this gardening calendar](#) as a guide to maintaining flower and vegetable gardens in Minnesota.

## Information for Minnesota gardens

[Extension's Yard & Garden News](#) offers timely garden advice from University of Minnesota researchers and educators. The [Yard and Garden Resource website](#) provides in-depth information to identify insects, plants, and diseases, and to find tips on growing healthy vegetables.

## June is Great Outdoors month

Research is showing that being in nature not only makes you feel better emotionally, it contributes to your physical wellbeing. [The DNR is offering special programs and incentives to encourage Minnesotans to get outdoors](#) and [Ramsey County offers activities in local parks all summer long](#).

## Dealing with drought

After another snowy winter and wet spring, parts of Minnesota are back in drought. [Knowing the what, when, where and how of watering](#) in your garden or landscape is key to growing healthy plants and conserving our precious water supply.

## Help eradicate Japanese beetles

[If you live in the Twin Cities Metro Area, Extension entomologist Vera Krishik and her team need your help.](#) They are collecting Japanese beetle grubs in June, and again in August through October as part of a larger research effort to eradicate Japanese beetles from Minnesota.

## Plant more vegetables during the summer

If your vegetable garden has open spaces – maybe your lettuce has all been picked, a plant was chewed down by rabbits, or seeds never sprouted – [consider adding more vegetables to harvest a fall crop.](#)

## Updated noxious weed list

The MN Department of Agriculture [updates the state's Noxious Weed List](#) every three years. This year they added 9 new species and recategorized 4 species already on the list.

## Ramsey County Climate Change Action Plan

Climate change continues to impact the health and well-being of Ramsey County residents. Nobody is immune to these impacts. Ramsey County is developing a framework to guide the county's response to climate change. [Join the discussion and get involved!](#)

## Lawns to Legumes fall program

[Lawns to Legumes is a state-wide program](#) to help people create habitats for at-risk species like the rusty patched bumble bee and the monarch butterfly. They are currently taking applications for cost-share grants of up to \$350 to create pollinator habitat for the 2023 fall cohort.

More Resources to Help you Grow

[Ramsey County Master Gardener Volunteer Program Website](#)

[Ask a Master Gardener](#) Online & Phone Services

[Yard and Garden Information](#)

[Ramsey County Yard Waste](#) & [Food Scraps](#) Drop-off Locations

[Soil Testing Laboratory](#)