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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA EXTENSION
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Ramsey County Master Gardeners

Garden advice through the seasons: Summer 2021



In this newsletter

- Garden tools and resources
- Blooming Saint Paul nominations
- Red lily beetle watch
- Tips to solarize your lawn

Minnesota Summer

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

Upcoming events and opportunities: June/July/August

Ramsey County garden classes

Learn what you need to know about planting for pollinators, managing garden pests and problem plants, herb gardening and more. Due to the risk related to COVID-19, the Master Gardeners will teach all classes online this summer. [Find a class.](#)



Garden Q&A Live

Get advice for your garden problems, identify plants or insects and learn research-based, environmentally-sound gardening best practices from Ramsey County Master Gardener volunteers online every Wednesday and Saturday from noon-1 p.m. through the end of September. These [online Zoom events](#) are free and open to the public.



Yard and garden resources

The University of Minnesota Extension [yard and garden page](#) provides gardening practices for Minnesota gardeners, homeowners and hobbyists to grow healthy lawns, landscapes and gardens. Be sure to check out their pages to identify insects, plants and diseases, and to read tips on growing healthy vegetables!

Ask Extension: Online garden question form

Bring us your garden questions [using this online form](#). An Extension 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.

Resources for community gardens

Community gardens promote healthy eating and active living, increase access to safe, nutritious and culturally appropriate foods and enhance community and environmental relationships. Ramsey County has collected a [list of tools and references](#) for community garden success.

Join us!

Ramsey County Master Gardener volunteers are life-long learners with a love of gardening, a passion for the environment and a desire to be an accessible community resource for horticulture knowledge. From [demonstration gardens to school gardens, from classrooms to farmer's markets](#), Master Gardeners are bringing about positive change in their communities. [Apply to join the Master Gardener program.](#)



Summer garden information



Nominate your neighbors (Blooming Saint Paul)

[Blooming Saint Paul](#) is accepting nominations until Monday, July 5. The Blooming Saint Paul Showcase highlights amazing gardeners who are dedicated to enhancing the Saint Paul community through gardening. [Nominate a garden](#) that inspires you!

Update your summer lawn care

Summer lawn care season is in full swing! Learn more about [how to help the environment](#) with a few changes to your lawn care routine.

Learn to spot and stop creeping bellflower

Creeping bellflower is a very pretty, very hardy and very tough perennial and it can take over an entire garden if left unchecked. [Learn how to identify and control this noxious weed](#).

Watch for red lily beetle

Lily leaf beetles chew holes in the leaves and feed on stems, flower buds and flowers of true lilies (*Lilium* spp.), fritillaries (*Fritillaria* spp.), lilies of the valley and Solomon's seal. The adults are bright red with a black head, antennae and legs. [Watch for this new insect pest](#) and report suspected lily leaf beetles to Arrest the Pest at arrest.the.pest@state.mn.us or 1-888-545-6684.



Stop the spread: Jumping worms

[Jumping worms](#) (*Amyntas* spp.) are a new invasive species that destroys soil structure and damages plant roots, causing trouble for homeowners and gardeners. There are no pesticides to control this insect so everyone needs to help prevent the spread.

- Don't share any plants that might be harboring jumping worms.
- Be cautious of buying or swapping local landscape plants to avoid bringing it to your garden.
- Ask mulch and compost sellers how they are controlling the spread of jumping worms.
- Report any suspected jumping worms to the [Minnesota Department of Natural Resources](#).

Kill weeds using sunlight

If you are planning to start a new garden or bee lawn, summer is a great time to prepare your new space. Two tools, in particular, [solarization and](#)

occultation, are simple methods to remove existing vegetation and get ahead of weeds.

Weed of the Month

The Weed of the Month is a series of articles about Minnesota noxious weeds produced by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. Stay informed about invasive plants this summer, starting with vining milkweeds and rough potato.

Garden resources and services

- [Ramsey County Master Gardeners website](#)
- [Ramsey County Master Gardeners on Facebook](#)
- [Ramsey County yard waste](#) and [food scraps drop-off locations](#) (check for summer hours)
- [Ask Extension online and phone services](#)
- [Sign up for University of Minnesota yard and garden news](#)
- [University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum garden tours and classes](#)
- [Minnesota Water Stewards](#)
- [University of Minnesota Tree Care Advocates](#)
- [Ramsey County Green Ramsey](#)

This email was sent to all Ramsey County Master Gardener subscribers by Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, 3 Coffey Hall, 1420 Eckles Avenue, St. Paul, MN, 55108, USA. The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer.

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