



Rocky Mountain Rambler

Rocky Mountain Region
Newsletter

GREETINGS FROM YOUR DIRECTOR

May 2024



Gardens are a unique place where gardeners can get up and close to nature. Gardens are also great for your wallet and your health. Home vegetable gardens are often promoted to cut household costs by providing low-cost access to fruits and vegetables. How much can gardeners

expect to spend and recoup their efforts? An analysis of published data suggests that home vegetable gardens are profitable if the fair market value of garden labor is excluded from calculated costs. On average, home vegetable gardens produce \$677 worth of fruits and vegetables.



Tomatoes ranked among the top five most profitable garden crops for most gardens. Leafy green vegetables made the top five in many gardens. Other profitable crops in the top five lists include peas, strawberries, squash, and eggplant. Professionals can recommend vegetable gardening to save money on fresh fruit and vegetable purchases. Since most people do not hire help to tend their gardens there really is no labor costs involved.

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(flip short side to print)	

Special Edition:
RMR Rambler Printable Forms



Next Deadline to submit to
Rambler: July 15th
rmrrambler@yahoo.com



Director's Message cont.

In addition, the benefits of gardening extend well beyond the potential financial benefits. It also promotes healthy eating, stress relief, and physical activity. Gardening has also been linked to a decreased risk of dementia and may be more effective at treating childhood obesity than other interventions.

I hope everyone in the Rocky Mountain Region has a vegetable or flower garden for the summer of 2024. I have, in the last couple of weeks, started mine. I have planted all of my cool-weather crops after taking the soil temperature, so I have potatoes, onions, lettuce, and radishes. I also noticed this morning that my asparagus is coming up. Spring and Summer are so exciting.

Also, I want to remind everyone about the two meetings that are coming up in June and August. The NGC convention is June 3-5. I really hope to see many of you there. The Rocky Mountain Regional meeting will be on August 30 and 31st. Again, I hope to see many or all of you there. This will be in Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Have a great summer and remember to plant at least one herb.

Robbie Kupper
Rocky Mountain Region Director
315 East 6th Street
Ogallala, NE 69153
(308)289-6051
fgcninc@gmail.com

RMR Annual Meeting
Date change:
August 30-31, 2024

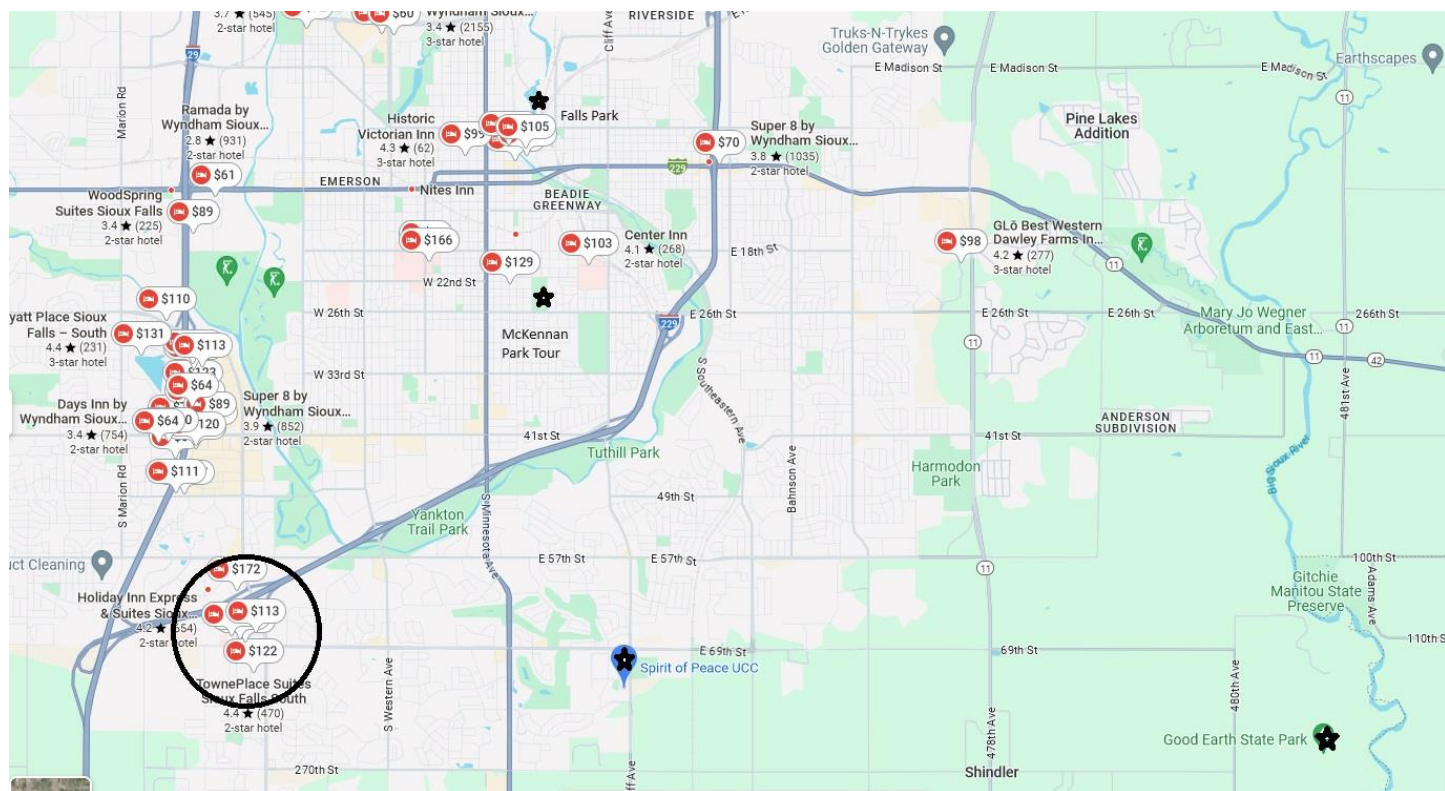
Dates to Remember:

June 2-5, 2024	NGC National Convention	Denver, CO
	May 24, 2024 Registration Deadline!! See NGC website: gardenclub.org	
July 15, 2024	RMR Awards Submission Deadline	(see page 14-25)
August 1, 2024	RMR Registration Date see	page 3 Registration Form
August 30-31,2024	RMR 88 th Annual Meeting	Sioux Falls, SD
September 19, 2024	NGC Fall Board	St. Louis, MO at Headquarters.

Rocky Mountain Rambler

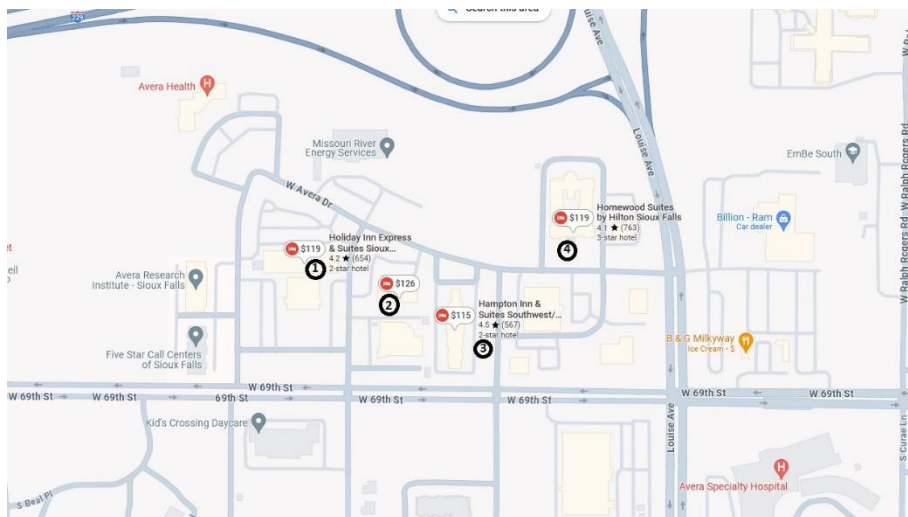
May 2024

Sioux Falls Maps of RMR 2024



This is a map of the area of Sioux Falls we will be having our **2024 RMR Annual Meeting**. The **Spirit of Peace Church** marked in the lower center of the map is where the Saturday morning meeting and evening banquet will be held. **Falls Park** toward the top center and **Good Earth State Park** on the lower right are Friday afternoon tours. **McKenna Park** in the middle toward the top is the Saturday afternoon tour. The lower map is a blowup of the circle with hotels to try. The availability is unknown and there are many other possible hotels that are lower priced or in downtown, these are just fairly close to the church that have over 4.0 rating, WIFI, and free Breakfast.

1. Holiday Inn Express & Suites
605-275-4155 or 1-888-465-4329
2. Comfort Inn & Suites
605-593-0768
3. Hampton Inn & Suites
605-271-0992
4. Homewood Suites by Hilton
605-338-8585 or 833-617-1943
for reservations



5. Rocky Mountain Rambler

May 2024

Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. (CFGC)

Hello fellow gardeners!

CFGC garden clubs participated in the 2024 Colorado Garden and Home Show in late Feb. and early March. We had a large section (the size of several typical booths) for free where we had speakers presenting on various topics from creating both fresh and dried floral arrangements, pollinator and vertical gardening, and speakers from the Iris Society and from several of the Rose Societies in Colorado. We also had displays of floral arrangements, table designs, NGC School displays as well as lots of information about NGC and CFGC and how to join one of our garden clubs. We had a lot of people sign up to get more information so we anticipate this will help us increase our membership!



The Colorado Garden and Home Show is run by a non-profit foundation that provides a LOT of money each year in grants to organizations and communities such as food banks, schools, shelters, etc. to build gardens, greenhouses, and other related things throughout all of Colorado. They also provide a grant to CFGC each year to help us provide educational speakers at our state, district, club, and public meetings and events throughout the state. Our member clubs have taken advantage of this and have had some great speakers paid for through this program in the last year and it is something that provides a lot of value to our members at the club level.

We are also preparing to host the 2024 NGC Convention in Westminster, CO the first week of June. We have some great speakers and workshops planned as well as some tours that you don't want to miss. If you have not registered yet, I encourage you to do so quickly as the workshops are filling up fast. But don't worry there will be plenty to do at the convention even if your favorite workshop is already full. And if you are wondering which speakers are talking during which meal so you can decide which meals to purchase to eat at the convention (there are plenty of restaurants nearby if you are looking to save \$), let me know and I'll send you a flyer that I created that tells you those kinds of details. Our members asked for that and I am happy to share it. There are still rooms available at the Westin in Westminster but if it should fill up before you register, there are several other hotels very close to the Westin. I look forward to seeing you all at the 2024 National Garden Club Conference in Colorado!

Sincerely,

Victoria

Victoria Schmidt, President
Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

"Growing our knowledge through education, experience, experimentation, and sharing."

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Kansas Associated Garden Clubs, Inc. (KAGC)

Hello fellow Guardians:

The weather is warmer and some flowers and trees are starting to bloom. The warmer weather always makes us feel better and eager to get moving outdoors.

Please mark your calendars as we have several opportunities to meet coming up. I hope to see everyone at the KAGC Spring Meeting in Topeka on Saturday, June 8. The speaker's topic is beekeeping and pollinators.

We have several volunteer positions open including president, vice president, treasurer, and secretary. We also have many opening for committee chairs. If you have any time to dedicate to KAGC, please let me know. We really need members to step up and help manage what we do. ECD is looking for a new Treasurer. Many clubs have open positions.

Most volunteer positions do not take much time and there are others who can answer questions and help you. Please consider volunteering!

Penny Morgan

President

KS Associated Garden Clubs



**** This article from the "Kansas Gardener" Newsletter****

Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

Diane Ward, President

Spring is here in the sense of the word, but in Montana, we are still having signs of winter! My birthday was towards the end of March and we had a blizzard!!!! With that said, I saw 67° just the other day. With the temperatures fluctuating like this come the spring cold. Nothing serious, just runny noses.

Because of these crazy temperatures, many gardeners in Montana start their gardens indoors. Planting seeds inside results in wonderful transplants. It also brings “happiness” on the occasional snowy days.



We have 2 fundraising projects that will carry over to 2025. A new State Membership pin has been designed in the shape of Montana. It is made of copper metal with MFGC MEMBER in black lettering and a bold pink bitterroot flower, the state flower of Montana, underneath. Club members can proudly wear this pin at club meetings, flower shows, state/county fairs and at special events. The other project is a new Montana Garden Club umbrella design featuring clouds on the underside. When it is raining outside you will always have blue sky! Each umbrella comes with a storage sleeve that will be personalized with the owner’s name.



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Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc., con

Our State Convention is in Malta this year from June 27 – 30. A tour of the Native Prairie Pollinator Garden at Bowdoin National Wildlife Refuge will be a highlight of the convention. The Malta Garden Club will be dedicating their Gold Star, honoring those families who have lost a member serving in the United States Armed Forces. Attending the convention brings together gardeners throughout the state. It's a time to see each other again and share experiences, information and catch up on what everyone has been doing and what plans they have for the summer.

Over the summer months, clubs hold exciting events and outdoor activities like plant sales, flower shows, garden tours, club progressive luncheons and visits to local nurseries. Summer is a wonderful time in Montana.

As Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "The Earth Laughs in Flowers". Enjoy the Summer!

Diane Ward, President



Federated Garden Clubs of Nebraska, Inc.

Hello from Nebraska,

As I look around, I love seeing the first signs of spring. My peonies are coming up, the tulips are blooming, and the grass is growing. (I've mowed twice). We haven't had much moisture, but we've had wind. I spent most of the weekend picking up branches. I was so excited that my yard looked neat and tidy. That feeling lasted less than 24 hours. With the wind blowing at 30+ mph, I can have the same experience next weekend. (I'm grateful that it's not snowing). A gardener's work is never done.

Our clubs have resumed their meetings, taking advantage of the improved weather. Plant sales, a significant source of funds for many clubs, are being planned. The Elkhorn Garden Club has made excellent use of the Espoma grant they received. Our state has submitted several poems and Smokey Bear posters to NGC. The Friendly Federated Garden Club has participated in Arbor Day Celebrations for over 40 years. A tree honoring the Historical Society will be planted on April 15. Many districts are actively involved in planning their district meetings. We are also planning our annual state meeting, which will be held in May. This year, we will be celebrating our 90th anniversary. We have some fun activities planned. Several of us are also looking forward to traveling to Colorado for the NGC Convention. We are excited that it's close to home. In May 2025, Nebraska will be hosting the NGC Convention. We've already started planning and can't wait for everyone to see our amazing state.

I hope everyone is enjoying the spring and having many opportunities to work in your gardens.

Chris Martin

FGCN President

Plant Nebraska Native Plants: Preserve our Wildlife's Habitats

North Dakota State Garden Clubs



North Dakota the Peace Garden State

The Fargo Garden Society started meetings again in January with an educational presentation by Joe Zeleznik, NDSU Extension Forester about Flowering Trees. He also discussed the budding of trees. Membership booklets were distributed to the members present but quite a few members attended the meeting via zoom because they were still down south.

Our February meeting was cancelled because of a snowstorm.

During the March meeting Don Kinzler, NDSU Extension Agent gave us tips on How to Save Money at the Garden Center and Other Shopping Tips. Don is also a member of the Fargo Garden Society and once owned a garden center, so his tips were so helpful.

A business meeting ran by our new President Marilyn Isaacson was held after both the January and March meetings with reports on all our projects and planning for the year.

We gave a scholarship of \$1,500 to Hunter Gallagher and submitted her information to the National Garden Clubs for a National Scholarship.

We lost our meeting location as of March but have now arranged to go back to our original meeting place at the Elim Nursing Home Chapel. They were very pleased that we came back after they had experienced a fire and now have reopened after three years.

We welcome a new treasurer Mark Blonigen because our previous treasurer resigned.

“Conserve Nature and Grow Friendships in North Dakota”

Linda Anderson
President
North Dakota State Garden Clubs



South Dakota Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

Spring sprang and then winter returned! We have been on a real cycle of who knows what for weather. I am sure our plants are as confused as we are. My tulips were up and now are covered with snow. We are getting a bit of moisture which is greatly appreciated!

As far as garden clubs are concerned, we have been busy planning for your visit to our state for the 2024 RMR Convention on August 30 and 31, 2024 (the registration brochure can be found in this newsletter). We have located sites, tours and speakers. It is coming together nicely. Although we are not in a hotel, sites will be very easy to find and not full of traffic! Margaret will be tagging butterflies with your help! We know you will enjoy the tours and many parks we have to share.

As you know, many of our states do not have many NGC school consultants due to classes being unavailable. I am happy to say that with the help of several folks from other regions (Pat Rupiper) as well as our own (Jim Rouch), I have been able to take three of the Environmental Schools classes by Zoom. I have one more class to go to become certified. It is a great opportunity and very reasonable for expense (\$55/two days of class and no travel or housing costs). I encourage you to check out the NGC website for Zoom or other classes near you that you may interest you. I was the only one from RMR to participate but hope to see more of you in my final class.

In addition to planning the RMR Convention, our clubs have been busy decorating public areas for the holidays, attending garden education events, sharing garden information with others, etc. We have winter soup suppers, speakers at our meetings and meet monthly! Currently, clubs are planning the spring plant sales, tours, flowers and fresh tomatoes!

We continue to hold onto our four clubs and members. One club consists of 5 aging members but they are a wealth of knowledge and meet when they can. The other three clubs try to maintain or increase their membership. Our members enjoy the social and learning aspects of the clubs. We hope to continue our commitment to gardening.

See you in South Dakota in the fall!

Mary Lerssen, SDFGC, Inc. President

The Utah Associated Garden Clubs, Inc.



Just getting back from the last eclipse I will see in this lifetime. It was inspiring. Also inspiring was being in the beautiful state of Arkansas, seeing spring before it is welcomed into my yard. Which by the way lost a lot of snow while I was gone. Only to reveal vole and gopher damage, but also the small starts of bulbs and perennials and weeds.

The UAGC had a well-attended Vernal equinox garden cleanup. We had 6 clubs participate, The Rose Society, Alternative GC, Neighborhood GC, Iris Society, Orchid Society., and especially the Park City Garden Club. Many hands made for quick work as we filled every dumpster. The Iris which hadn't been touched in years were split and many rhizomes given away. They will be spectacular this year. Thanks to Sue McJames and Shirley Wright for the pizza. This is the recipe for my killer brownies with a kick (passed down from Diane Harrell PCGC).

Kick-Killer Mexican Brownies

1 Box brownie mix
 ½ cup oil
 ¼ cup milk
 2 eggs
 1 Tbl instant espresso
 1 tsp chili powder
 1 tsp ground cinnamon

Stir until just moistened. (50 strokes)
 Pour into greased 9x13 pan.
 Bake 350° F for 30 minutes.



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The Utah Associated Garden Clubs, Inc., cont.

Smokey and his 80th Birthday: We got our winners! Seven of the eight states sent in posters. We had 7 judges this year with 2 rangers from the Kamas Forest Service. A fun luncheon was held after at the Park City Library. We always need more volunteers in the schools to get the kids going on this fun project.



UAGC had a booth at the Garden Party along with the Rose Society and Dahlia Club on the Saturday before Easter. The Gallivan center where it was held had a great line up of speakers every 1/2 hour. The rose society gave a pruning demonstration and raffled off a rose. A raffle was held every 1/2 hour also and lots of people were smiling, looking forward to spring. All the booths had swag and easter treats. The time went quickly. We had a lot of interest in the Blue and Gold Star memorial markers and the fact that kids are still learning about smokey.

All the clubs are active doing community projects having speakers learning how to show roses. Leaning into spring is so rewarding.

UAGC will have their spring meeting April 27th with a new speaker. Moriah Jackson from the Pollinator Habitat Program, Wildlife Resources @ Utah State

I have to brag a little about the Park City Garden Club's new roster of officers. Diane Johnson President, Heather Mogel Vice and yearbook, Shana Walker secretary along with Gaye Stoner Special projects and Monica Swindel Treasurer. They have brought our old club to the 21st century! We had a PCGC logo contest. We now have an Instagram page, with archival photos and current meetings. We were all so young! Heather took all 34 yearbooks and digitized them. Hurrah for the youth, every club needs to invite them in and join them up.

Mary Holley

UAGC President

Wyoming Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

Our Garden Clubs in the state are all looking forward to spring. Although spring is officially here, we are experiencing snow this week. All our garden clubs have been enjoying indoor meetings this past quarter. We have had programs on growing roses, preparing for spring and growing plants indoors during the winter/spring months.

Linda English and I, as Co-Presidents, look forward to visiting our state clubs this summer. The Dirt Diggers Club in Encampment is having a luncheon in May which Linda will be attending. We will also attend meetings in Cheyenne, Riverton and Chugwater.

Looking forward to spring!

“Garden for Hope”

Connie Wallace

WFGC, Co-President



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May 2024

RMR Awards Chairman Report

Hello Everyone,

I have attached the awards that are available this year. Please encourage your clubs to participate except for the Youth Awards (sculpture, poetry, Woodsy Owl, and Smokey the Bear) and the Director's Award (which were awarded earlier this year).

The photography contest is also attached to these awards, separate from the RMR Awards in the handbook. Please note the following:

Please submit all awards to your state award chairman according to his/her deadline.

State Chairs: If clubs send multiple entries for the same award, please send only one (1) entry per club. For example, for the Colorado Award #1, there are four sub-categories. If a club submits more than one (1) entry for each sub-category, the state awards chair would only send one (1) entry from that club for each subcategory. If you have questions, please contact me.

All Awards are due to me by July 15, 2024 to be eligible for RMR awards.

No late entries will be considered.

I ask that all awards be sent digitally unless they are a scrapbook or yearbook.

Those can be sent by mail. (If you do these digitally, please send them electronically.)

RMR AWARD APPLICATIONS

A certificate will recognize all submissions if it places first through honorable mention.

There is no monetary award.

All submissions must fill out the award form to be considered.

All awards should be sent to RMRAWARDS1@gmail.com.

Photography awards should be submitted to RMRPHOTOS2023@gmail.com

All photos will receive a certificate if it places first through honorable mention.

There is no monetary award.

If submissions are mailed, please mail them to Chris Martin, PO Box 86, Friend, NE 68359

*****I will acknowledge receipt of your entries. If you have not heard from me within seven (7) days, please either text me at 402-540-2241 or email me at my personal email address, dzrcc8@yahoo.com, so I can check. *****

Highlighted Awards are available for submission by July 15, 2024

Please tell us your club's story by submitting award applications.

Thanks so much

Chris

402-540-2241

Dzrcc8@yahoo.com

Awards

Director's Award

Award of Excellence Project for Regions

NGC Award #25

Margie Soileau, Project Chairman

RMR Awards

Award 1 Colorado Award -- Garden Therapy

This may be a single garden club or group of garden clubs that have sponsored a project such as any of the following:

- a. Includes gardeners with different abilities or senior citizens
- b. Teaches gardeners with different abilities or senior citizens,
- c. Provides a service to a group of people, or
- d. Programs and activities for barrier-free gardening.

Award 2 Kansas Award — Conservation

This may be a single garden club or group of garden clubs that have sponsored a project such as any of the following

- a. Educational activity or program,
- b. Legislative activity,
- c. Conservation project (wildlife refuge, watershed protection, etc.)
- d. Work by an individual (may or may not be a garden club member),
- e. Comprehensive program in environmental education
- f. Bird (such as establishing sanctuaries, promoting law enforcement, etc.)

Award 3 Montana Award — Writing

This award is open to a garden club member, garden club, group of garden clubs, or a member state for publications such as:

- a. Garden Club Yearbook
- b. Garden Club Scrapbook
- c. Garden Club Newsletter
- d. State publication
- e. Articles for publication by a magazine or newspaper (full article must be submitted)
- f. Books relating to horticulture or gardening
- g. A non-garden club member who has published a book on horticulture or gardening
- h. Any design publication, (NGC calendar or other) by garden club member (e.g., Vision of Beauty calendar).

Note: Yearbooks are due August 15 for the yearbook award. Yearbooks will not be returned but retained for the NGC Yearbook Award. Other yearbooks will be considered if received by January 1 to the RMR Awards Chair for the NGC Yearbook Award.

Award 4 Nebraska Award — Horticulture Excellence

This award is open to a garden club member, garden club, group of garden clubs, or other individuals for projects such as:

- a. Contributions to horticulture through research
- b. Contributions to horticulture through education
- c. Contributed to horticulture through a project.

Award 5 North Dakota Award — Video/CD/DVD/Flash Drive/Slide Shows

This award may be given for the best video/CD/DVD/Flash Drive production on any State, RMR or NGC objective as listed below:

- a. History/Archives
- b. Garden Tours (private)
- c. Garden Tours (public)
- d. Flower Shows
- e. Projects
- f. Programs
- g. Other

Award 6 South Dakota Award — Birds

This may be awarded to a garden club member, garden club, group of garden clubs, or other deserving individuals or groups for projects such as:

- a. Comprehensive and effective program of protection,
- b. Educational programs
- c. Design, installation, and maintenance of public or private gardens.

Award 7 Wyoming Award -- Trees

This award may be given to a garden club member, garden club, group of garden clubs, or other deserving individual or groups for projects such as:

- a. Planting the greatest number of trees
- b. Educational program regarding the importance of trees
- c. Design, installation of a public arboretum
- d. Volunteering in a public arboretum

Award 8 Utah Award — Garden Tours

This award may be given to a garden club member, garden club, group of garden clubs, or other deserving individuals or groups for project such as

- a. Open to the public
- b. Partnered with another group
- c. Open to garden club members only
- d. Garden that has been on public display
- e. Tour of garden club members' gardens

Award 9 Junne Johnsrud Membership Award

Application is not required. State Membership Chairman will submit information to the RMR Awards Chairman.

- a. To the State Garden Club showing the greatest increase in paid memberships during the past fiscal year, or
- b. To the State Garden Clubs showing the greatest per capita increase in paid memberships

Award 10 Civic Development

This award may be given to a garden club member, garden club, group of garden clubs, or other deserving individuals or groups for project.

- a. Project must make permanent improvement to a community
- c. Project which makes permanent improvement to a historical site
- d. Project that makes permanent improvement to a public building such as a church, courthouse, or school
- e. Project that has been ongoing for several years
- f. Outstanding community outreach program

Award 11 Conservation and Environmental Concerns

This award may be given to a garden club member, garden club, group of garden clubs, or other deserving individuals or groups for projects such as:

- a. Educational or legislative activity program by a club or group of clubs
- c. Outstanding work by an individual member of a garden club
- d. Most recycling efforts,
- e. Garden club project that promotes conservation
- f. Garden club project that promotes an environmental concern
- g. Project that incorporates wildflowers or native plant materials.

Award 12 Butterfly Gardening

This award may be given to an individual, club, or group of clubs for a butterfly garden for projects such as:

- a. Small area — less than 1,000 square feet
- b. Open to the public
- c. A private garden
- d. A garden funded by a non-garden club entity
- e. A garden funded by a garden club or group of garden clubs
- f. Designed by a garden club or group of garden clubs

Award 13 Flower Show Awards

This award may be given to a garden club member, garden club, group of garden clubs, or other deserving individuals or groups for sponsoring a Flower Show. A Book of Evidence up to 6 pages indicating all the show divisions and sections.

- a. NGC Standard Flower Show
- b. Non-NGC Flower Show

Award 14 Landscape Design

This award may be given to a garden club member, garden club, group of garden clubs, or a RMR State Garden Club for projects such as:

- a. Projects that make a significant contribution providing planning and/or planting in a facility such as church, park, library, hospital
- b. Outstanding program of continuing landscape design education

Award 15 Garden Study

This award may be given to a garden club member, garden club, and group of garden clubs, or RMR State Garden Club for projects such as:

- a. An educational program that is open to the public
- b. A single program that promotes the objectives of the Garden Study Council

Award 16 Youth Awards

This award may be given for outstanding achievement in the following areas:

- a. A junior, intermediate, or high school club that a service to their school
- b. A leader who has given outstanding service to a youth club
- c. Youth club project that promotes planting and growing in outside area
- d. Youth garden club for the most comprehensive program in the field of environmental concern, landscaping, antilitter, etc.

Award 17 Fund-raising

This award may be given to the club, group of clubs, or a RMR State Garden Club for creative and unique fund-raising ideas.

Note: The RMR Chair will collect fund-raising ideas, print and distribute at the RMR Convention for possible use by our members.

Award 18 Blue Star/Gold Star Highway Memorials

A Certificate of Merit will be presented to those clubs or groups on clubs that have installed a byway marker or highway marker.

Award 19 Rocky Mountain Region Projects

This award may be given to a garden club that does an exceptional project to promote and participate in RMR goals with special activities.

Award 19 Rocky Mountain Region Projects

This award may be given to a garden club that does an exceptional project to promote and participate in RMR goals with special activities.

Award 20 Special Achievement Awards

This award is for outstanding garden club work by:

- a. Individual
- b. Garden club
- c. Group of garden clubs
- d. Non-garden club individual group

Award 21 Award of Excellence for Regions

A certificate shall be awarded to each member State Garden Club for the National Award of Excellence. Each member State Garden Club shall be recognized at the Awards Banquet at the RMR Annual Meeting in the odd numbered years. Recognition is by the RMR Award of Excellence Chair for Regions. In addition to a certificate, a monetary award may be awarded to the two largest and two smallest member states which have submitted outstanding Books of Evidence for their work, as well. No application is necessary for this award.

Award 22 Citation of Distinguished Service

The Rocky Mountain Region Director shall present a Citation of Distinguished Service to any member who has provided notable achievement and guidance. Write an article and send to Award Chairman in lieu of application.

Award 23 Club Programs

This award may be presented for a garden club program(s) on growing, studying and the culture of plants or a plant family. Program(s) must show descriptive detail so the program may be used by other clubs.

Award 24 Youth Gardening

This award may be given to a club for a project that involves either horticulture or design activities for Youth. The award application should clearly state the ages involved.

Award 25 National Garden Clubs Project

This award may be given to a garden club that does an exceptional project to promote and participate in NGC goals with special activities.

Award 26 Photography - Camera

This award may be given to a garden club member whose photo or group of photos (no more than 5 photos) depict the following themes:

- a. Conservation of Flora and Fauna
- b. Wildflowers
- c. Creating Butterfly Habitats
- d. Promoting the Social Bees
- e. Birds

National Award for Regions

Member Award of Honor

Awarded to one member in each region whose volunteer efforts during a period of five or more years, has made outstanding contributions to club and community, in one or more of the following areas: civic development, horticulture therapy, youth activities, conservation, landscape design, horticulture, floral design, or all-around excellence. Eligibility: any member of a State Garden Club, who has never been a member of the NGC Board of Directors. Eligibility and Rules listed on NGC Website, www.gardenclub.org, "Awards" – Member Award of Honor. A book of evidence should be submitted not to exceed 3 pages. Obtain state's deadline date. State Awards Chairman forwards one entry to Regional Awards Chairman by February 1. The eight Regional Winners will receive an NGC Certificate and a pin at the NGC convention. They will be recognized in The National Gardener.

HIGH SCHOOL DISTINGUISHED SERVICE PROJECT

Youth Award #76

Bringing gardening and our youth together is an exciting process and can be fun for parents, grandparents, or other adult friends.

The High School Distinguished Service Project Award along with \$100 for first place and \$50 for second place may be awarded to a high school student, grade 9-12, for an outstanding civic project making a significant improvement for public benefit, e.g., environment, conservation, landscape, horticulture, recycling, horticulture therapy, etc. Single member club, group of member clubs, districts or a state garden club must sponsor the contest. Reach out to youth groups already formed or classes at school. Our youth have been exposed to many different types of gardens. Those that prove to be the most successful are those that relate to their experiences. If you know of someone who has done an outstanding civic project consider applying for Award #76, High School Distinguished Service Project under Youth Awards.

Youth Sculpture Contest

Encouraging Youth to Keep Our Planet Green

Purpose To encourage youth to keep our planet green and to get involved with saving the environment.

For more information, contact: [Terry Critchlow](#), Chairman: Youth Sculpture Contest

Chris Martin

RMR Awards Chair
PO Box 86
Friend, NE 68359
402-540-2241

Website administrator: [Carla Scheer](#)

Questions or concerns about our website? Please contact us at rockymtnregiongardenclubs@gmail.com.



Rocky Mountain Region Award Application

2023-2025

National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Send awards to the RMR Awards Chairman to arrive no later than **July 15, 2024**,

RMR Awards Chairman: Chris Martin 402-540-2241
PO Box 86 rmrawards1@gmail.com
Friend NE 68359

Award# _____ **Award Name** _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone#: _____

Email Address _____

Club Name: _____

State Organization: _____

Please type or print exactly as the name should appear on any award received:

(name of club, group of clubs, individual, etc.)

Number of members of Garden Club _____

Please complete each topic, if applicable. Use numbering as below when completing the form.

1. New project: Yes__ No__ Beginning date: _____ Completion date: _____
2. summary and objectives of the project:
3. Involvement of club members, other organizations:
4. Project expenses and means of funding:
5. Continuing involvement, follow-up, and maintenance:
6. Attach or insert photos, digital photos, and/or landscape plan (does not need to be professionally drawn):

Rocky Mountain Region Photo Contest Theme:

“All About My State”

Rules & Guidelines: Submit up to 2 images per category by **July 15, 2024**, uploaded along with the completed entry form and the signed release form. This year, we are going to celebrate our states. All categories should depict what you love or something unique to your state. There are three categories.

Nature (flowers, gardens, plants, wildlife, birds, pollinators)

Landscapes (waterfalls, lakes, mountains, etc.)

One photograph that symbolizes your state. (Your interpretation)

You decide what makes your state unique and beautiful.

Your images should be high resolution (300 dpi) with a file size of at least 2 megapixels and a minimum dimension of 1600x1200 pixels. Smartphone photos generally are large enough files. The image should be labeled with your last name, first name, and photo title: for example, Martin-Chris-Raindrops.

MANIPULATION of the image by the exhibitor, in camera, and post-processing is allowed. The digital images will be juried, and the finalists will receive certificates. The committee will develop a slide show of the finalists, which will be displayed at the Rocky Mountain Region Annual Meeting. The Top winners will be published in the RMR Rambler

Image Release Agreement By entering this contest, you agree to the terms of this agreement: You grant the Rocky Mountain Region the use of any images you upload for educational and promotional purposes only on a royalty-free basis and without compensation, including any reproductions of those images, which are deemed necessary. You will be given full credit for any images used for these purposes. You retain your copyright to any images that you upload. You also agree that you captured the images you upload, which are your possessions.

TO REGISTER AND UPLOAD YOUR PHOTOS use the email below:

RMRphotos2023@gmail.com

(If you haven't received a confirmation from me within 72 hours that I've received your entry, please contact me at dzrcc8@yahoo.com or text me at 402-540-2241

Scale Of Points

Conformation/ Interpretation: 20 points (Does the photo comply with the class title and does the image interpret the theme?)

Composition: 25 points (Elements and principles of design are used to define the components of the composition of the photograph)

Creativity: 25 points (Expression of the imagination of the photographer)

Technical Merit 20 points (Successful use of mechanics of the camera)

Distinction/Wow Factor: 10 points (The wow factor; marked superiority in all aspects)

Total Points: 100 Points

Rocky Mountain Region Photo Contest Entry Form

Theme: All About My State

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone#: _____

Email Address _____

Club Name: _____

State Organization: _____

Nature:

Picture #1 Name _____

Picture #2 Name _____

Landscape:

Picture #1 Name _____

Picture #2 Name _____

Symbol of My State

Picture #1 Name _____

Image Release Agreement

By entering this contest, you agree to the terms of this agreement: You grant the Rocky Mountain Region the use of any images you upload for educational and promotional purposes only on a royalty-free basis and without compensation, including any reproductions of those images deemed necessary. You will be given full credit for any images used for these purposes. You retain your copyright to any images that you upload. You also agree that you captured the images you upload, which are your possessions.

Name: _____

Date: _____

RMR Facebook Chairman Report

FACEBOOK ENGAGEMENT THAT MATTERS

Phyllis White gardens@bresnan.net

The ideal Rocky Mountain Region Facebook user is a person we want to join a club in the RMR. We need to think like this person so they look at our Facebook posts. We might be looking at people between the ages of 40 and 80 who enjoy nature and gardening. Of course, we want to give important information and stories to our current 250+ followers, too.

How can we engage these gardeners?

Each state's Facebook committee should choose content that caters to the ideal follower and post regularly. Have consistent messages and themes with the posts. Post something of value to the follower – gardening information, floral design, inspiration, public and private gardens, how to win a grant, how we promote scholarship and schools/education, conservation, networking, community improvement, school gardens, stories, etc. Check out Canva.com for creating graphics.

Create Sharable Content -- Live and Regular Videos -- Original Posts:

Let's talk about the Facebook algorithm. Through the algorithm, the creators of Facebook have found that users prefer live videos, followed by regular videos, **pictures and texts**, and links. You instantly become the highest priority when you post a live video. People will almost always view a video rather than look at a picture, click a link, or read text. Live video creation needn't be a scary chore. Go out in your garden or public garden and walk/talk for a *minute or less* recording on your cell phone video while you show the horticulture. Practice! Post.

Ask our audience to engage. Invite them to share the post if they found it valuable—something as easy as “If this speaks to you, share it with your friends and family.” Think of topics that naturally require action. If you share valuable content, you don't need to overthink your call-to-action. But make sure to include at least one! Pose a question; ask followers to make a choice, comment, share a picture or experience, or share the post.

If YOU have something to share on the RMR Facebook page, contact one of these volunteers to post it for you: Annie Mollock, dragonflydragonfli@yahoo.com (Colorado), Maxine Wells, bwells21@cox.net (Kansas), Sherry Corneliusen, sher@midrivers.com (Montana), Lorraine Patrick, Lorraine_patrick0809@yahoo.com (Nebraska), Nancy McKinnon, mcknan@ideaone.net (North Dakota), South Dakota, Thelma Busk, dakfayepriims@santel.net (South Dakota), Wyoming, and Shirley Pursel, shirleypursel@yahoo.com (Wyoming).

RMR Invasive Plant Species Chairman Report

Test Soil Temperatures Before Planting Vegetable Crops!

March 10, 2023

It is easy to get excited about planting vegetable seeds and transplants in the vegetable and flower gardens, even when it is too early to plant. This frustration is one of the most common comments that I receive from gardeners that call into the Extension Office. Slowly but surely, the weather is warming up. Along with warming air temperatures, our soil temperature is warming up too. This is key to the timing of planting vegetable crops for success.

While retail stores have had vegetable seeds available for a while and soon vegetable transplants will be available, soil temperatures are still too cool to plant vegetable, herb, and flower crops in the ground. Planting in soil temperatures that are too cool will lead to poor seed germination and stunted plants that will not produce to their full potential during the growing season. This is going to be especially true for tomato, pepper, and vine crops that do not tolerate cool soil temperatures or even a light freeze.

One of the most valuable gardening tools in my opinion is the soil temperature thermometer. They are easily purchased at garden centers or online from supply catalogs at a reasonable price. They can be used for years if they are kept clean and in good repair. For that reasonable price, these handy tools can track when the soil temperature is ready for growing vegetable crops, or other applications such as when to apply pre-emergent herbicides on the home lawn.

How do soil thermometers work, and how does a person use it correctly to track soil temperatures? First, decide when to record soil temperatures. It is crucial to use the same time each day to test the soil temperature in the garden area. To gain a more informed idea of soil temperature, it is important to test the soil for four consecutive days at the same time to note if the soil temperatures are fluctuating or staying consistent.

The next crucial step is to follow the instructions on the soil thermometer completely to gather a valid reading. A number of soil thermometers will require the instrument to be shoved into the ground in the same place at a depth of four inches and waiting 15 minutes to calibrate before taking the reading. After repeating this process at the same time of day, over a series of days according to the thermometer directions, a valid soil temperature reading can be obtained. After writing down the soil temperature reading for four or more days, some decisions can be made on when to wait or plant a crop based off that series of soil temperatures. Did the soil temperature vastly fluctuate during that four-day span of data? Are the soil temperatures consistent? If these temperature readings are consistent and meet the

RMR Invasive Plant Species Chairman Report, cont.

Test Soil Temperatures Before Planting Vegetable Crops! cont.

minimum soil temperature for the intended vegetable crop, it is time to plant based off of soil temperatures. If the soil temperatures are fluctuating, repeat this soil temperature testing process for at least another four days until a consistent soil temperature is reached for planting.

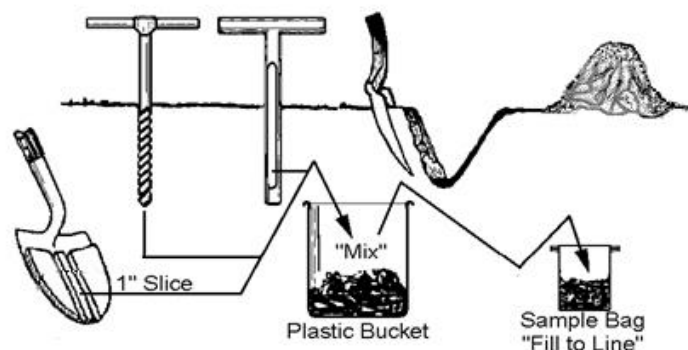
For the sake of simplicity, there are a few vegetable crop groupings that use similar soil temperatures. According to Oregon State University Extension, here are those groupings:

- 40 Degree Fahrenheit Plant Grouping – These vegetable crops include arugula, fava beans, kale, lettuce, pak choi, parsnips, peas, radicchio, radishes and spinach seed.
- 50 Degree Fahrenheit Plant Grouping – These vegetable crops include Chinese cabbage, leeks, onions, Swiss chard, and turnips.
- 60 Degree Fahrenheit Plant Grouping – These vegetable crops include beans, beets, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, carrots and cauliflower. Do be careful with planting beans since they are prone to be damaged by a freeze.
- 70 Degree Fahrenheit Plant Grouping – These vegetable crops include tomatoes, eggplants, peppers, cucumbers, squash, corn and melons. These crops are very prone to damage from a light freeze as transplants, and may take a while to germinate even when the soil is at this temperature threshold.

For more information on vegetable crops and soil temperatures, please refer to the full article from Oregon State University at: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening/2018/03/stick-thermometer-soil-planting-vegetables> for specific information.

For those gardeners who do not have access to a garden soil thermometer, the Nebraska Extension Crop Watch website does track soil temperatures across Nebraska. Simply click on the website at <https://cropwatch.unl.edu/cropwatchsoiltemperature> and scroll down the page to find a soil temperature testing station close to your location. Choose the seven-day temperature average reading on bare soil.

If anyone has any questions about testing soil temperatures before planting vegetables, please send an email to dlott2@unl.edu, call the Extension Office in North Platte at (308) 532-2683 or call your local Nebraska Extension Office. I will be happy to help any questions that gardeners may have.



Taking a Soil Sample

RMR Invasive Plant Species Chairman Report, cont.

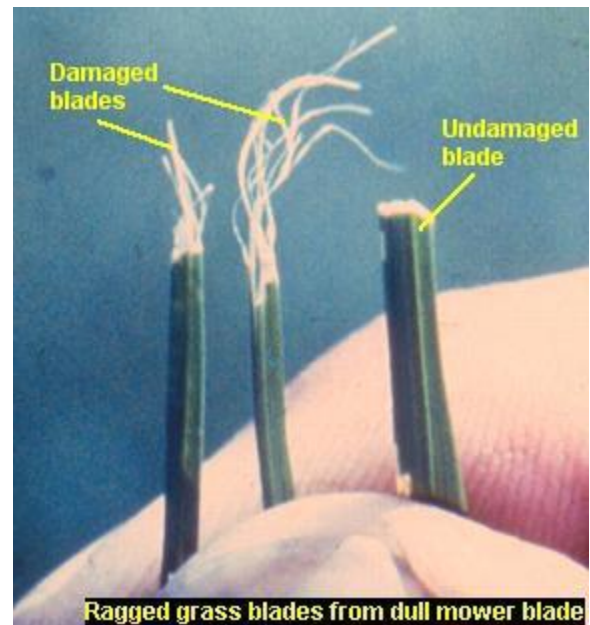
Servicing Lawnmowers for Winter

October 31, 2011

The killing frost finally arrived to remind us that Fall is coming to a close. Previous news columns have addressed tasks around the garden and landscape to complete before the cold winter arrives for good. Now is the time to think about servicing the lawnmower before it is stored for the winter.

Here are some simple tips to consider and follow so the lawnmower is ready to go next spring when it is time to mow the lawn again.

- Drain the gas out of the tank or add a gasoline stabilizer to keep the gas from becoming thick and gummy.
- After the spark plug is removed, squirt a couple drops of oil in the spark plug hole to help lubricate the cylinder. Replace the sparkplug with a new one after the oil has added.
- Clean battery terminals if the mower is equipped with a battery to help avoid corrosion. Remove the battery, and connect it to a battery monitor that will keep it charged during the winter.
- If the battery is removed and not connected to a battery monitor, store it in a protected location. Cool basements and crawlspaces are good locations to use.
- Sharpen the blades so the mower is ready to make clean cuts on the grass the next spring. Otherwise, a newly cut lawn will have a ragged appearance due to dull blades.
- Many small engine shops and people specializing in small engine repair can sharpen the blades for a reasonable fee if a homeowner does not have the time, tools or expertise to correctly remove and sharpen the blades on their own.
- If other parts or functions of the mower are not working correctly, this is a good time to send the mower in to have it checked by someone who works with small engines, and can correctly repair it.



RMR Invasive Plant Species Chairman Report, cont.**Servicing Lawnmowers for Winter, cont.**

By completing some of these small steps, the lawnmower can be serviced and ready to go for Spring with minimal extra work.

If you have any questions about servicing lawnmowers for the winter, please contact me at dlott2@unl.edu, by calling (308) 532-2683, or by contacting your local University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension Office. Have a great week!

###

David Lott is the Horticulture Extension Educator with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension in North Platte, Nebraska.

Extension is a Division of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln cooperating with the Counties and the United States Department of Agriculture. University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension educational programs abide with the nondiscrimination policies of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the United States Department of Agriculture.

David Lott**Invasive Plant Species Chairman**

Here is the correct angle to prune roses back this spring! #NebExt #unlwcrc



RMR Life Membership

RMR LIFE MEMBER NUMBER: _____

Rocky Mountain Region Garden Clubs

Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota,
South Dakota, Utah & Wyoming

Application for Life Membership in Rocky Mountain Region Garden Clubs

Date _____

State Garden Club _____

Name of Applicant _____

Address (mailing) _____

City, State, Zip _____

e-mail: _____

Member of: _____ Garden Club

This Membership is for: myself
 A gift from: _____

Address: _____
If this is to be a surprise, please send a note with your instructions.

Rocky Mountain Garden Clubs Life Membership fee is **\$75.⁰⁰**

Please make check payable to Rocky Mountain Region and send with this application to the Rocky Mountain Region Life Membership Chairman:

Lynette Jeffres
915 E Roosevelt
Riverton, WY 82501
307-851-1972

RMR Native Plant Report

Cattail

Typaceae family

Also known as rushes, Cossack asparagus, bulrushes, cat-o'-nine-tails, or flags, four species of cattails are native to America and Colorado. The differences between the species lie in the brown spikes and the width of the leaves. One would think that the leaves would break easily in the wind, but cattail leaves are twisted, always presenting an edge to whatever wind blows.

Cattails are perennials that grow up to 8' tall. They are always found in wet, marshy areas; in fact, they are a good indicator of fresh water. The marshes are important homes to blackbirds and marsh wrens and form miniature wetland sanctuaries. Muskrats, geese, and even moose will feed on cattail roots. Although they have fallen out of contemporary use, the long, slender basal leaves were used as rush seating for chairs and mats. The fluffy seeds filled pillows and made warm down for comforters. Baskets from the Basketmaker period in the American Southwest (which dates around 100 BC to 600 AD) are often intricately woven from cattails. In Antelope House at Canyon de Chelly, cattail remains were found bundled with other raw materials. It is thought that they were used for craft purposes.



Cattails also edible. Cattails can be eaten raw or cooked; after the tops turn brown in the fall, the starchy roots, which are an excellent emergency food. Many American Indian tribes routinely harvested cattail roots and pollen and stored them for use through the winter and ate the stems and young shoots raw. The spikes, which some people believe resemble corn, can be eaten like corn, too, boiled with butter and salt on the cob or scraped off and boiled. The pollen is also edible. It can be cleaned by passing it through a sieve, then mixed half and half with flour and used in making breadstuffs. The roots can also be dried and ground into flour. The tender, white insides of the stems are also edible. The first foot or so are said to resemble asparagus in taste and consistency.

Pamela Graves

RMR Native Plant Chairman Report, cont.**Cattail, cont.****References**

Angier, Bradford

1969 *Feasting Free on Wild Edibles*. Mechanicsburg, PA: Stackpole Books.

Dunmire, William W., and Tail D. Tiernay

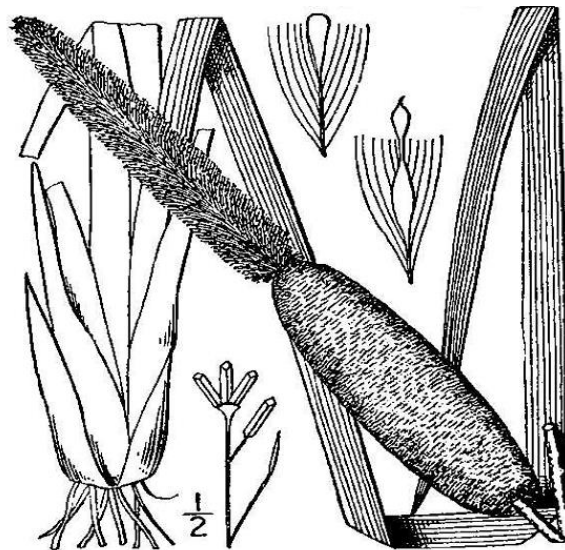
1977 *Wild Plants and Native Peoples of the Four Corners*. Santa Fe: Museum of New Mexico Press.

Harrington, H.D.

1967 *Edible Native Plants of the Rocky Mountains*. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press.

Weber, William A. and Ronald C. Wittman

2001 *Colorado Flora: Eastern Slope*. Boulder: University Press of Colorado.



Thank you to Pamela Graves for sending this article even though she has moved out of the Region!

RMR Parliamentarian Chairman Report

This time I thought I would do some “**did you knows**” from our RMR Handbook in an effort to get us all familiar with what is in it and a few facts of my own! Being familiar with organization information makes meetings and activities flow better. See how many you know.

Did you know that the 8 RMR state presidents and the RMR director are on the NGC Board of Directors which means they are expected to attend national conventions where the NGC business is conducted and voted upon?

Did you know that RMR Life membership guidelines require three things:

1. Qualification-An applicant must be a paid member of a state garden club in the Rocky Mountain Region.
2. Amount-\$75.00 payable to the Rocky Mountain Treasurer.
3. Application form- Available on-line at the state website and the Rocky Mountain Region website. These applications forms would also be available from the RMR Life Membership Chairman.

Did you know that RMR Life Membership fees are to be used for education and communications within the Rocky Mountain Region. These funds will be accountable by the RMR Treasurer in separate format, to be reported in addition to the RMR Treasurer’s report at each meeting.

Did you know that the Rocky Mountain Region Pin will be given at the application acceptance to each Life member? The RMR pin is also available for \$10.00 by any member of RMR, through the Life Membership Chairman. Postage will be charged for those ordered by mail. Money taken in from the sale of pins will go into the general RMR treasury.

Did you know that RMR Life Membership makes a great “thank you” gift to state officers and garden club stars?

Did you know that the Rambler shall be sent by the editor of the Rambler to the following individuals:

1. Rocky Mountain Region Officers and Chairmen (including RMR Webmaster);
2. Rocky Mountain Region State Presidents (State Presidents are responsible for disseminating the Rambler to the membership of their respective states.)
3. NGC’s Executive Committee members (including regional directors);
4. RMR Life Members (via email if available or hard copy).

Mary Lerssen, RMR Parliamentarian

RMR Penny Pines Chairman Report

What a difference a year makes. As of this year to date there are no forest fires reported in the Rocky Mountain Region. Things could change quickly as the weather warms but so far things look good. There were many donations made in 2023 to help replant the burned areas in our region. Forms for donations can be found at www.gardenclub.org. Donations are in units of \$68 and the forest the money goes to can be specified or be left for any area. Trees are the life-bone of forests and they are disappearing around the world.

Del Hemsath, Penny Pines Chair

RMR Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Chairman Report

There was a good response to the Smokey Bear Poster Contest this year. 7 of the 8 states in our region participated. Thank you to the chairman of these states for getting the word out.

The Regional winners were:

Adalynn Wallace	1st grade UT
Isla Christensen	2nd grade Wyoming
Ellie Barua	3rd grade UT
Cree Webb	4th grade UT
Andrew Ford	5th grade UT

Only one school participated in Utah, but it is a school that has done well in the past and many of their students worked on their posters over the summer.

Working on the posters over the summer is in my opinion a good idea. Perhaps we should introduce the subject of fire safety in May right before school lets out. It would prepare the children for their summer vacations which may include camping. It would also give them time to work on any ideas they have.

I have discussed this idea with some of our local rangers and they say that that would be a more convenient time for them to come to the schools. This is not a major Fire time.

Making posters in October - December is almost impossible since schools have a lot of their own poster and essay contests going on. ex. reflections

Our children have a lot of artistic savvy They would definitely do better if they did not have to rush so to complete their poster over Christmas break.

There have been questions about the kind of paper that we hand out to the children when discussing the poster contest. It is simply the ditto paper used at the schools cut to the required 11 1/2 by 17 inches. Basically, the forest service has doubled the size of the 8 1/2 x 11 sheet of paper. This paper is not expensive!!!

Thank you for your participation in this contest.

Hopefully this activity is increasing awareness of Wildfire and Wildfire Safety!

Connie MacKay, RMR Smokey Bear Poster Contest Chairman

Rocky Mountain Rambler

May 2024

Editor's Note

Hello from Omaha. Well, we went from extremes in the winter to extremes in the spring. Our area was in severe drought and now we are ahead on rain for the year? We were very fortunate at our house to not get hit by severe storms and tornados, but many people a few miles away were not so lucky, with hundreds of families losing their homes. My heart goes out to them!

Our garden is getting started. We planted potatoes, onions, garlic, and peas in the garden. We also started tomatoes, peppers, sweet potatoes, lettuce, cabbage, and other vegetables inside. Louis started cuttings from some flowers like coleus, impatiens, and begonias. So it begins!

Keep sending photos and information from your clubs for the "Our Club is up to..." section of the Rambler along with your State and Local meetings and activities throughout the year. Make sure to explain photos. Send everything to the Rambler email: rmrrambler@yahoo.com

The next deadline to submit reports to the Rambler is **July 15th**. I have made a **Special Edition Rambler** with forms and items you may need to fill out and send or print without page numbers and borders. I hope it is helpful. Get those plants in the ground or enjoy a beautiful garden tour. Hope to see you in Sioux City!

Happy planting,

Julie Lester

Editor, Rocky Mountain Rambler
6108 Surrey Hills Dr.
Omaha NE 68122-5059
402-637-7003
rmrrambler@yahoo.com

Website: Rocky Mtn Region Garden Clubs

<https://sites.google.com/site/rockymtngardenclubs/>

Questions or concerns about our website?

Please contact us at rockymtnregiongardenclubs@gmail.com

Facebook: Rocky Mountain Region Garden Clubs

<https://tr-tr.facebook.com/people/Rocky-Mountain->

NGC Conservation Pledge

I pledge to protect and conserve the natural resources of the planet earth and promise to promote education so we may become caretakers of our air, water, forests, land and wildlife.

**Next Deadline
to submit to
Rambler:
July 15th**

rmrrambler@yahoo.com

Our beautiful Rocky Mountain Region includes the following states:
Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming
The Rocky Mountain Region Garden Clubs is an affiliate of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

National Garden Clubs, Inc.:
www.gardenclub.org

President: Brenda Moore,
bmoore@gardenclub.org

Theme: “Go Green - Plant America”

Rocky Mountain Region

RMR Director: Robbie Kupper,
fgcinc@gmail.com

Theme: “Growing and Using Herbs in the Rocky Mountain Region”

Website:

<https://sites.google.com/site/rockymtngardencubs/home>

Facebook: gardens@bresnan.net

Rambler: rmrrambler@gmail.com

Rocky Mountain Region State Presidents:

Victoria Schmidt, President

Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs

Penny Morgan, President

Kansas Associated Garden Clubs

Diane Ward, President

Montana Federation of Garden Clubs

Chris Martin, President

Federated Garden Clubs of Nebraska, Inc.

Linda Anderson, President

North Dakota State Garden Clubs

Mary Lerssen, President

South Dakota Federation of Garden Clubs

Mary Holley, President

Utah Associated Garden Clubs, Inc.

Linda English and Connie Wallace, Co-Presidents
Wyoming Federation of Garden Clubs
To: RMR Members and Guests

You are encouraged to bring any extra plants, bulbs or garden related items you would like to donate to the “Ways and Means Table”. Each state is invited to bring one or more items for the silent auction.

If you need a table for an education or committee display, please explain on your registration form as indicated near the *. You are invited to bring up to three nature or recycling photos (4x6 or 8x12) for display as we think there will be more participation if they are not judged. We will provide a ballot for the “people’s choice”.

***Locations:**

Friday afternoon (3 PM): Falls Park, 131 E. Falls Park Drive, Sioux Falls, SD (605-367-8222).
You may walk/drive as much or little as you choose. Dogs allowed.

Friday afternoon (5:30 PM): Good Earth State Park, 26924 480th Ave., Sioux Falls, SD, (605-213-1036);

Saturday (8:30 AM and Banquet): Spirit of Peace Church, 6509 S. Cliff Ave., Sioux Falls, SD
Saturday (4:00 pm): Mckennan Park Tour, 400 E. 26th St., Sioux Falls, SD

Lodging: Your choice of many local hotels or stay with a friend/relative. A location in the southeastern part of the city will put you close to the event locations.

Questions: Contact Mary Lerssen
lrsenm@sio.midco.net, 605.759.7837

ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION

2024

CONVENTION!!

Sioux Falls, SD

AUGUST 30-31, Friday & Saturday



Theme: “Gardening to Benefit our Earth”

Bring your own coffee cup to help save the earth!

August 30, Friday

3:00 PM *Tour of Falls Park
Meet Pam Catalano at the Gift Shop

5:30 *Good Earth State Park Picnic Dinner
Tagging of butterflies with Margaret Straley
Overview/video of park
Short Board Meeting

Business Meeting
Robbie Kupper
RMR Director

12:00 Lunch

Blessing (Tune - "Edelweiss")
Bless our friends, bless our food, Come O God, and sit with us. May our talk glow with peace, may your love surround us, Friendship and love, may it bloom and grow, Bloom and grow forever, Bless our friends, bless our food, Come, O God, and sit with us. Amen.

August 31, Saturday

*Spirit of Peace Church

8:30 AM Reg, treats & visiting!

9:00 Welcome to Sioux Falls/SD
Glenda Heckenlaible
SFAGC President

Mary Lerssen
SDFGC President

Presentation of the Colors
LHS Junior ROTC
Margaret Straley

9:15 "Sustainability"
Dr. David O'Hara, Prof. of Phil.
Director of Environmental Studies & Sustainability
Augustana University, SF, SD

10:15 Break

10:45 Invocation: Linda Anderson
RMR Chaplain

1:00 "Native Plant & Seed Initiative"
Dr. Lora Perkins, Lead Faculty,
Native Plant & Seed Initiative,
SDSU, Brookings, SD
Robin Buterbaugh, Horticulture
Field Specialist, SDSU Extension

2:00 Break/last chance!

2:15 Resume business meeting

3:15 Door Prizes/silent auction

4:00 *Tour Mckennan Park
Meet at the tennis courts

5:30 Banquet - *Spirit of Peace
Blessing: Ann Larsen, SFAGC

Meeting/Awards/Invocation/Adjourn

Conservation Pledge: I pledge to protect and conserve the natural resources of the planet earth and promise to promote education so we may become caretakers of our air, water, forests, land and wildlife.

Please send registration to: Mary Lerssen
2615 E. Woodland Hills Rd
Sioux Falls, SD 57103

Registration:

Name: _____

Club: _____

Email address: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Registration: \$25.00 _____

Friday Picnic/Tour: 20.00 _____

Saturday Breaks/lunch: 25.00 _____

Banquet: 30.00 _____

Amount enclosed: _____

If postmarked after August 1, cost is \$20.00 extra. Please make checks out to "SFAGC".

I am: _____ RMR Officer _____ RMR Past Dir

_____ NGC Com Chair _____ NGC Com Member

_____ NGC Life Member _____ RMR Life Member

_____ State President _____ Club President

_____ Flower Show Judge or School Consultant

_____ Garden Club Member _____ First timer _____ Guest

*Please explain here if a table is needed for an education/committee display and/or if you are requesting a special diet.

Table: _____

Special Diet: _____