



Anchorage Chapter



Volume 10, Issue 5

ALASKA MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER May 2008



Creating the Prairie Xeriscape, a book by Sara Williams Julie Riley, Extension Horticulture Agent

Sara Williams will be one of the featured authors speaking at the 2008 Alaska Master Gardener Conference May 9 & 10. She joins us in Anchorage from her home in Saskatchewan. Sara retired from the U of S Extension Division where she worked as horticulture specialist.

The word xeriscape is not exactly on the tip of most Alaska gardeners' tongue. Unless you draw your water from a well with limited supply or garden without access to running water, water conservation doesn't usually come to mind. Most Anchorage gardeners have little incentive to conserve because the city levies residences a flat rate for water each month regardless of usage. So while the title **Creating the Prairie Xeriscape** probably didn't catch your attention, the subtitle of the book should. 'Low-maintenance, water-efficient gardening' is something that appeals to all gardeners.

Williams' description of xeriscaping is not limited to one style of landscaping, but rather as landscaping which differs in the way water is used. The principles of xeriscaping as she outlines them are to 1) design for water conservation, 2) improve the soil, 3) reduce lawn areas, 4) select appropriate plants, 5) irrigate efficiently and 6) mulch. Each chapter in Part 1 of the book covers a xeriscaping principle.

It's the low maintenance aspect of xeriscaping that should appeal to all gardeners—less watering, less weeding, less fertilizing, less pruning, less mowing and less pesticide use. Less work, means more time to spend on the creative side of gardening. Less work means more time to enjoy your garden. If this book was written today I'm sure sustainability would enter into xeriscape's definition.

Part 2 of **Creating a Prairie Xeriscape** contains drought tolerant trees, shrubs, vines, perennials, annuals, bulbs and native plants. A great many of the 200 species included are commonly grown in Southcentral Alaska (amur maple, blue spruce, potentilla) or should be grown more often (golden currant, Ussurian pear, limber pine). Plants are designated with a symbol if they are extremely drought tolerant and will seldom, if ever, need supplemental watering once established. Williams makes the point that 'established' means the second or third growing season. Most of the plants described in the text fall into this category. The others are considered moderately drought tolerant which means that during dry, windy or hot periods they'll need watering. Primroses, hybrid tea roses and birch are not considered appropriate selections for xeriscaping.

The beginning of each chapter includes a quote or idiom of truth. My favorite is "Some areas of your lawn are there simply by default. They are seldom walked on unless you are behind a mower." The book also contains nuggets of information you wouldn't expect to find such as "Trials in Saskatoon and elsewhere have indicated that 2,4-D will break down within 30 days when properly composted."

With so many good books to choose from at the Garden Market, which is part of the upcoming Alaska Master Gardener Conference, it's going to be hard to decide which ones to purchase. Jane Baldwin has been heard saying that she intends to buy them all (or maybe she was talking about the t-shirts, sweatshirts, and hats embroidered with the conference logo). Anyways, it will be great to have Sara Williams with us to share her knowledge of vines, groundcovers and plants for the shade. Her book, **Creating a Prairie Xeriscape** comes as an extra bonus.



In the Garden 2008

By Jane Baldwin

Lorri Abel of In the Garden Nursery presented April's program. Lorri's practical and experienced outlook on gardening was perfect timing for impatient gardeners who are getting very tired of waiting for the snow to melt.... again. Most of us would agree with Lorri's perspective that we should: (1) Focus on **PLANTS THAT COOPERATE NOT CONTROL**. (2) Keep in mind that maintaining our perennials should be fun - not a dreaded activity. (3) and, we should know our plants' performance characteristics or at the very least get good, practical advice about them. Is it invasive, aggressive or just assertive? The notoriously invasive, yet beautiful, Bishop's Weed (*Aegopodium*) surfaced for discussion with both pro and con viewpoints expressed -- those that couldn't believe someone would actually plant it on purpose, and those that enjoy the way it brightens up a darker area in the garden, provides a good groundcover and believe it can be kept under control. The end point being: know a plant's growth characteristics before you plant.

We should think about the garden style we want and take stock of our yard's growing conditions like sun, shade, micro-climates, drainage, soil condition, etc. For new beds, haul out the garden hose (flexible) and lay out some possibilities before you dig. You can plant under trees, but know the effort this will require since those feisty tree roots will be top contenders for the added nutrients and water. Their roots will work themselves up into your enriched garden soil. Flat yard? You can build up your beds and create some interesting contours.

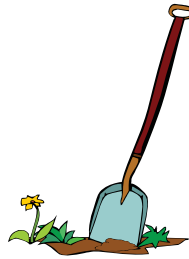
Lorri responded to a lot of audience questions, but we couldn't seem to pin her down on what her top ten (or even top five) favorite plants were! Pretty tough question that not very many gardeners with a love of plants could answer! One of Lorri's handouts was a plant list for 2008 at In the Garden Nursery <inthegardennursery.com>. It's a great list of plants, many not easily found locally. Lorri also provided a list of new and trial plants for 2008. She is exploring the possibility of having some kind of trial planting effort this summer. Not in place yet, it might involve gardeners participating in growing trial plants and providing detailed growing feedback to Lorri. Gardeners who might be interested in participating should follow up with Lorri.

Lorri also stressed the importance of supporting local nurseries in order to keep a variety of hardy and unusual plants available to consumers who love diversity.

In the Garden Nursery will open for the season Saturday May 17th. The new location is at 7307 O'Brien Street, a block off Lake Otis at 72nd.

May 19th AMGA Meeting: Getting in Touch With Your Inner Soil

Jeff Smeenck, Commercial Horticulture Specialist, CES and Julie Riley CES Horticulture Agent will present a program, "Getting a Feel for Your Soil" which will be a hands-on-soils evening to include looking at your soil texture, an opportunity to see and feel the differences between sand, silt and clay, the pros/cons of home soil test kits, and possibly pH tests.



To participate please bring in a sample of your soil. On **SUNDAY** (before the meeting) collect soil from 5 locations in a garden that you feel has a consistent soil type. Mix soil together thoroughly in a bag. Measure out 1 cup of soil and place in a mason type jar with 1 cup of water. (If pH testing is to be done, you will need to use distilled water.)

Label jar with 1) your name, 2) if the soil has been purchased or is indigenous (or a mix of both) and 3) the area where you live.

Put on jar lid and shake well. Let particles settle out overnight. (Try not to slosh the jar around too much when you transport it to Monday's meeting!)



VOLUNTEER CALL TO ACTION

We need your help to make this conference happen - and we need you now! Volunteer opportunities include:

1. prepping materials to distribute to conference attendees (before the conference)
2. shuttling supplies from the CES office to the Sheraton on May 8
3. staffing the registration table (beginning @ 7:30 a.m. May 9 & 10, 2-3 hr shifts)
4. selling goods and memberships @the AMGA table (shifts available both days)
5. assisting the authors with their signings
6. greeting attendees at the Sheraton
7. being a runner for those in need (at the AMGA table)
8. creating a map for the field trips
9. supplying tech support for LCD presentation
10. coordinating presentation of door prizes (we have them already)

Give an hour, give a dozen, but please sign up today. Contact Martha Jokela (345-9569) or email <jokela@acsalaska.net> and add your energy as we head into the final days before the fun begins. I'm looking forward to hearing from you!

Volunteer Opportunities at ABG for MGs

Jean Gilson joins ABG Staff

There is always something to do at the Alaska Botanical Garden! Without dedicated volunteers we would not be able to provide a fraction of the programs that we do. Volunteers do a wide variety of tasks including: garden and nursery maintenance, daily docent tours, garden field-trips for schools, event planning and execution, signage and brochure development, office work, and so much more! We seek the expertise of the Master Gardener volunteer especially for the duties described below. Julie Riley has consented to give you credit towards your 40 hours for the following activities.

***New in 2008*:** ABG has passed a resolution to become a "sustainable" organization in all of our operations, building, horticultural and business practices. So in 2008, ABG is making a complete transition to "organic" horticultural practices. We will be updating all of our educational materials and orientation processes to reflect this change.

Docent Tours: Our docent volunteers lead daily tours at the garden. Tours are at 1 pm every day of the week with a second tour happening on Wednesdays at 6:30pm. These tours are open to the public as well as booked by tour groups. Docents are trained at the beginning of the summer on the specifics of the Alaska Botanical Garden and are encouraged to use their own knowledge to make the tour their own.

Schools in the Garden: "Schools in the Garden" is a field-trip program for local schools. This volunteer opportunity is best for teachers or those with extensive experience working with children. Volunteers assist instructors with state-standard science curriculum tailored to grades 1-6. Students get to tour the garden, participate in nature-oriented activities, and enjoy the outdoor classroom!

Storytime in the Garden: This kid-oriented volunteer opportunity is for those who like the younger kids. Every Wednesday evening at 6pm we offer a storytime in the lower perennial garden. Volunteers are encouraged to choose their own favorite books or pick from our library. Children in attendance are required to have a caregiver present and this activity is cancelled if it rains.

Junior Master Gardener: Pat Ryan will once again be teaching JMG and is in need of MG assistance. Classes will meet Mondays, Tuesdays or Wednesdays for 8 weeks starting June 9. There will be two sessions each day, 9 am-12 pm and 1 pm-4. The program is for kids ages 7 to 11. Pick one session to work with, morning or afternoon, or come more than once a week. The kids are a lot of fun! You'll get to meet Pat as Master of Ceremonies at the MG Conference May 9 & 10.

Signage and Brochure Development: Alaska Botanical Garden is in need of improving and developing new interpretive signage for the garden. We also need assistance in developing and improving our brochures. This volunteer opportunity is great for the Master Gardener with experience in design.

*As an added "special project" this season, we need help updating our educational materials and volunteer manuals to include state-of-the-art information about "best practices" for organic / sustainable horticulture. This would be a perfect opportunity for a Master Gardener with organic growing experience.

Interested? Go to www.alaskabg.org for a volunteer application. Please contact ABG Volunteer and Education Coordinator Jean Gilson, (907)562-7020, education@alaskabg.org and let Julie Riley know what you're up to.

Jean Gilson is thrilled to be the new Volunteer and Education Coordinator at the Alaska Botanical Garden. She is originally from the suburbs of Chicago but that wasn't for her so she relocated west as quickly as possible. She has a Bachelor of Science degree in Natural Resources Management and Conservation Biology from Colorado State University. Jean has worked for several non-profits in Colorado spending as much time outdoors as possible. She was drawn to Alaska last summer to work for the Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies in Homer. In September 2007, Jean, her boyfriend and three cats migrated north to Anchorage.

Jean is thrilled to have a garden to play in. She loves anything to do with the outdoors and spending time in nature. Her favorite activities include hiking, backpacking, camping, running, biking, snowshoeing, snowboarding... or just sitting under a tree and simply breathing! The outdoors is where she is most at home. Jean is very excited about working to help maintain and improve a place as unique and beautiful as the Alaska Botanical Garden. Anchorage is lucky to have such a beautiful place to call its own.

Heirloom Plants

For an upcoming issue of the Hallmark Magazine, we're looking to profile people, whether professionals or amateurs, who are growing heirloom plants. Specifically, people who are growing a flower/tree/bush/shrub that was passed down to them, whether as a cutting or as a seed, from a family member or friend. If you have any friends, coworkers or peers who are doing this and feel comfortable putting me in touch with them, I'd really appreciate it. Here's the general information I'm looking for:

Plant variety; Time frame when it blooms or is most lush; Who gave it to you and a bit about the circumstances under which you received it; How long you've been growing it; Whether you've shared it with anyone else.

FIRST AND LAST NAME:

AGE:

CITY, STATE:

PHONE NUMBER:

Thanks!

Amy Palanjian, Associate Editor
Hallmark Magazine
1412 Broadway, Suite 2010
New York, NY 10018
917.438.6073

Ikenobo Ikebana Demonstration by 45th Headmaster Sen'ei Ikenobo

5th Anniversary Symposium, Ikenobo Ikebana Society
Anchorage Alaska Chapter

Saturday, July 12, 2008, Anchorage Hilton Hotel
1:00-2:30 p.m. Demonstration, 12:00 noon - 4 p.m.
Exhibition

\$25 per person

Tickets available at the door or in advance by
contacting: Kay Gatlin (907) 333-6701

MG Volunteer Projects: Accomplished & Yet to Do

Julie Riley, Extension Horticulture Agent

4-H Talking Plant

The 4-H Talking Plant MGs have done an incredible job. Vicki Radonich, Julie Ginder, Donna Swenson, Micheal Carey, and Kathy Honeysett have, to date, given 52 presentations and Vicki says there are another ten to go. Second graders in 23 schools from Fire Lake to Bear Valley and two charter schools have enjoyed learning about plant structure and function. Teachers are giving MG presenters rave reviews. In March MG Kathy Honeysett, who coordinated Talking Plant presentations



in 2005 and has been giving presentations ever since, showed new MGs her T.P. felt board and Sharon Hoffbeck (MG '01/02) created two for this year's team to use. The team may hit an all-time record with sixty plus presentations before the school year is out!

Other Notable Work

I'm not sure if anyone in the '07/08 MG class has reached the 40 hour mark yet, but I'm wagering Barbara Baker might be one of the first. Barbara has helped to revise the Extension publication on "Landscape Plants". She has looked up just about every cultivar listed in the 100 page publication to see if it is still available in the nursery trade. Her insights on the project have proved invaluable.

MGs who staffed the Extension booth at the Alaska Women's Show helped 356 gardeners during the 3-day weekend. Master Gardeners who have done quite a few booth staffing stints include Judy Jett and Elaine Hammes. Both have reported to be over the half-way mark with their hours. Fran Durner is probably there too. She worked Fur Rondy, Sears Mall and the Women's Show.

Lynden Groethe compiled the huge calendar of special plant sales and gardening events which will be published in the Anchorage Daily News Home & Garden supplement on May 4th. This very time-consuming endeavor is appreciated by everyone who is interested in knowing what's going on horticulturally. The information is also passed on to Gina Docherty for AMGA's newsletter and web site calendars. Fran Durner will likely make use of it for the ADN gardening blog calendar.

Katt Doulass scanned all the flower slides you saw during the Master Gardener class these past few years and put them into a presentation she gave for Southcentral Foundation employees. Dani Haviland gave a presentation on roses at Alaska Mill Feed & Garden Center and Brenda Bissell (MG '99/00) gave two. Sign up for Herb Spencer's (MG '05/06) presentation on "Making Do:

Garden Design on a Budget" scheduled for Wednesday, May 21, 7 - 8:30 p.m. at CES.

On the invasive plants front--Lori and Troy Zaumseil have been to Washington D.C. to make a presentation; they also did a bang-up job addressing gardeners on the topic at the Alaska Botanical Garden's Spring Conference. Charles Baker helped to develop a web site for CANWIN, the non-profit Lori has started for Citizen's Against Noxious Weed Invading the North.

This is not a complete list of everything Master Gardeners are involved with but it sure provides an inspirational view of the wonderful things that Master Gardeners can accomplish.

MG Help Needed

A Master Gardener is needed to update the **list of garden centers and retail greenhouses** that is distributed by the Anchorage CES office. It involves contacting all the businesses on the list to make sure the information provided for each is current.

At the Alaska Master Gardener Conference, I will be presenting a way for MGs to participate in eXtension's (yes, that's small e, capital X) "Ask an Expert". This national Extension effort can funnel on-line questions from Alaska gardeners to you if you're interested in participating. Currently AMGA provides on-line answers to gardening questions which can be funneled through the national system (to end up back here at home). Interested MGs from throughout the state will receive training on how to participate after the May conference.



Open Gardens

Have you ever gone on a vacation and longed to visit someone's private garden and or talk to local gardeners about gardening and local plants?

Every year the AMGA receives many inquiries from out of state gardeners looking for gardens to visit on their trip to our great state. So many people have no idea how we garden up here, what we grow or how we grow it.

If you are interested in opening your garden to visitors, please contact: Gina Docherty, 345-4099 or email: <AMGA@gci.net>. A web page will be developed on the MG web site (alaskamastergardeners.org) with a description of your garden, photos and contact information. (No addresses will be provided on the web site.)



Central Peninsula Master Gardener News by Rosemary Kimball

It's the merry month of May, all right. The flies are out and it's time to get out the Dustbuster--no fly "residue" on the windows when the flies are dispatched. Cottonwood branches for forcing are in their vase.

May suffers from excess. The Central Peninsula Garden Club is having Weekend Workshops: Greenhouse management, Landscape Planning and Design, Large Container Planting in front of a business in town, and Raised Bed Planting. Towards the end of the month we have Charles Crampton from Anchor Point, a vendor at the Homer Farmers' Market, who will speak on Organic, Sustainable, Vegetable Gardening and sustainability in agriculture this far north is a challenge. Then end of the month is capped off with Jeff Lowenfels and his gardener's guide to the soil food web.

Taxes were paid and the broccoli started. I aim for five true leaves at transplant time as the most efficient sized plant but it was hard to begin the seeding with five inches of snow on the ground April 15th. The broccoli was followed by the cabbages and what did I do with the cauliflower seed? A crudité's plate with white, orange, purple and green cauliflower is really a show stopper.

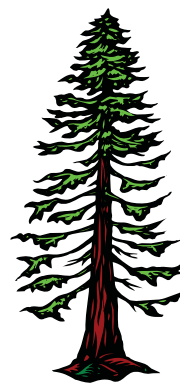
I've been able to garden in our new sun room and it's really been a warm and bright place. The Goumi trees I brought back from Outside bloomed. The fragrance (they are first cousins once removed from our fragrant, native Silverberry) was wonderful. They were followed by the clove black currant with gorgeous yellow flowers and called the clove currant for its distinctive fragrance. However, the new stud muffin I brought back for my new sea buckthorns bloomed and his girls didn't. I'm hoping that, should they bloom, it will be when my original garden S.M. blooms and I can group the girls in their pots down wind. If not, they will go in the ground sometime in June. The sea buckthorns are also first cousin once removed from the silverberry.

MG Barb Jewell gets an early jump on gardening by visiting her daughter and family just north of Seattle and working in the yard down there. She has yet to make the Alaska gardener's pilgrimage to Molbacks in Woodinville, but that will happen before she comes back. She promised me a picture of a red rhody that's blooming in the neighborhood.

And May is the neighborhood valley garden stomp where we leave my house at 6 AM, eat breakfast somewhere nice and head for the valley's nurseries, lunch somewhere nice and are back in Sterling, broke, by 9 PM.

April brought us the opened path to the clothes line for sweet-smelling sheets, too many roosters in my neighbor's chicken pen fighting (rooster and dumplings are on the menu soon), fresh eggs--turkey size down to banty eggs--honey bee colonies, and all that sunny weather at the end of the month. Surely life is good.

See you guys at the Master Gardener Conference.



TREErific Stuff of Note

By Nickel LeFleur

Anchorage TREErific welcomes the public to the 2nd TREE City USA Celebration at Municipal Greenhouse on Tuesday, May 6th, starting at 11 AM. FREE. Come and help Anchorage TREErific recognize three selected business notables for their fine landscaping. Selected this year are: UAA, BP & Arctic Office Supply. All three deserve due recognition, so please join us at Russian Jack Springs Park Municipal Greenhouse for the event! Monday, May 19 Alaska Arbor Day Rabbit Creek Elementary School at 2p, FREE. ConocoPhillips, Anchorage Garden Club, and Municipal Parks and Recreation will be celebrating a tree planting ceremony at Rabbit Creek Elementary School @ 13650 Lake Otis Parkway. Ceremony will be in front of the school, weather permitting or in the gym. Two evergreen trees will be planted.



Nickel's Clog Project

WANTED: used, abused and no longer used rubber garden clogs. Any size and most any condition. Call Nickel LaFleur at 337-5651 to set up arrangements to retrieve them.



Bird Chatter

-- For a Jimi Hendrix garden this summer plant 'Purple Haze' carrots and 'Flashback' calendula.

-- Footer at the end of MG Linda Butler's e-mails: "Good Gardening is very simple, really. You just have to learn to think like a plant." ~Barbara Damrosch

-- The City of Fairbanks has entered the 2008 America in Bloom competition, <http://www.americainbloom.org>. The judges will be arriving the end of July.

-- Anchorage TREErific is partnering with Habitat for Humanity on a housing project on 32nd and Spenard. They are looking for donations of yellow and blue iris, lady ferns, ostrich ferns and hosta. MGs with plants to share should contact Stephen Nickel, at the Division of Forestry's Community Forestry Program, stephen.nickel@alaska.gov 269.8466.

-- At the ABG Conference, a gardener was talking to Lee Reich about his Weedless Gardening technique, and mentioned the Equisetum growing in her garden; he remarked, "Oh! Does that grow up here?"

-- The Used Garden Book Sale brought in \$240! Thanks to everyone who donated books and to Martha Jokela for conceiving the idea and organizing the event and to Marilyn Klawunder for helping staff the sales table at the Sears Mall.

-- As of April 27, there are 114 people registered for the Alaska Master Gardener Conference, including folks from Fairbanks, Palmer, Eagle River, Girdwood, North Pole, Big Lake, Willow, Trapper Creek, Wasilla, Anchorage and Soldotna.

-- In addition to a specially designed piece of stained glass of the 2008 MG conference dragonfly logo by Denise Saigh, conference attendees will be able to vie for a framed dragonfly/iris print by local illustrator Debra Dubac and a free copy of **Dragonflies of Alaska** by John Hudson and Robert Armstrong.

-- Multi-talented MG Nickel LaFleur has created three beautiful mosaic pieces that will be given away at the conference as door prizes. They include a dragonfly pot, a beautiful mosaic vase and a glass slipper.

-- Thanks to MG Judy Thomas who has donated a gardener's basket for the conference which contains among other goodies, a kneeling pad and seeds. Anyone else with items to donate is welcome to do so. They can be dropped off at the Extension office along with your contact information.

-- Jeannine Lyerly commandeered a pair of tie-dyed bib-overalls from Michael Carey who was returning from a Talking Plant presentation. Seems she needed them for a ball where the Carhartt Brothers were playing. It's a good thing Michael was wearing shorts underneath the bibs.

-- Watch for a photo of Ms. Lyerly and Pat Ryan d.b.a. the Carhartt Brothers at the Alaska Master Gardener Conference.

-- Rumor has it that Amelia and John Walsh were shoveling snow off their garden in preparation of the May 11 post-conference field trip to their house...and this was before the record snowfall on April 25!

-- The last version of Bird Chatter reporting on March flowers in bloom neglected to include Carmel Tysver's "Bulbocodium vernum". Judy Christianson reported daffodils in bloom the week before the April 21 AMGA meeting across A Street from the Anchorage Pioneer's Home. Hyacinths were also blooming at 6th & A Street.

-- Words of wisdom from Lorri Abel at the April AMGA meeting, "Don't plant under trees".

-- Thanks to MG Suanne Sikkema, Arctic Sun Gardening, for donating a forced hyacinth as a door prize at the last AMGA meeting. Annie Nevaldine brought many beautiful maiden hair ferns and Herb Spencer donated an unusual, potted lily-family bulb in addition to the door prize provided by AMGA door prize chairman Len Grau.

-- The Master Gardeners will be selling varieties of honeyberry (haskap, blue honeysuckle) not currently available in the U.S. thanks to the Alaska Pioneer Fruit Growers. Their president Pat Mulligan claims the taste of these newer cultivars is superior to others on the market.

-- According to the March 2008 issue of Alaska Business Monthly, in an article written by CES Forestry Specialist Bob Wheeler on "Alaska Amber", pine, redwood, spruce, poplar, ash, ginko and fig were part of Alaska's ancient forests which covered the state 130-100 million years ago.

-- Pictures of MG Judy Wedemeyer's quilts have been posted on the AMGA web site; the show opens with May's First Friday at Terra Bella on May 2.

My favorite weather is bird-chirping weather.

~Loire Hartwould



Gardeners Alert: Iris Yellow Spot Virus

Since 2004 Iris Yellow Spot Virus has spread through a number of western states that we Alaskan gardeners rely on for our onion starts. IYSV tospovirus affects onions, garlic, leeks, iris, lisianthus and several weeds. This devastating disease is vectored by the onion thrip ("Thrips tabaci") which are known to occur in Alaska. Plants infected with Iris Yellow Spot Virus will have yellow to straw colored lesions and may appear stippled. Lesions may be more or less round with or without a necrotic center or may be diamond shaped. Lesions will appear on both the seed stalk and the leaves. Late in the season, infected plants will fall over.

The virus is transmitted only by the onion thrip, and is transmitted by both larvae and adults, but only larvae can acquire the virus from infected plants. Once a thrip has acquired the virus, it can transmit the virus for the remainder of its life. The disease has the potential to spread rapidly and could cause crop failure if not maintained. The virus is NOT seed-borne and does not appear to be found in the bulbs (or sets) and does not survive in the soil, but for those gardeners who purchase onion starts, close inspection is necessary to stop the spread of this disease by the thrips. Once the plants are infected there is no cure, they should be removed and destroyed.

While Iris Yellow Spot Virus has never been found in Alaska to date, it has tremendous potential to establish here. Most of us that purchase onion starts have suppliers in the southwest, the source for the recent spread of IYSV throughout the United States.

Make sure you keep your garden area perimeter weed free, water your plants regularly as thrips prefer warm and dry, and inspect them often. When in doubt you can always bring a specimen into you local Cooperative Extension Office for identification and more information.

Good pictures and web related information can be found from Colorado State University, Extension Tri River area. www.coopext.colostate.edu/TRI/PLANTS

Cornell University
<http://vegetablemndonline.ppath.cornell.edu/NewsArticles/Onion>

SEE CALENDAR ITEMS IN THE PULL OUT SECTION. SAVE IT FOR THE SEASON!

In The Zone

Alaska Master Gardener 2008 Conference
and Garden Market Vendor List:

Mark Couch, Alaska Forge: forged metal hooks, hangers, handles, gates, hinges, trellises;
Andrew LaForest, Harmony Garden Art & Décor: concrete garden art
Cynthia Pendleton, Pendleton Fine Arts: note cards, small original watercolors (botanical)
Verna Pratt, Alaskakrafts: wildflower products; cards, plants, seeds
Lorri Abel, In The Garden: speciality perennials and selected annual plants
Susan Miller, The Garden Gate: leaf-leather goods, vases, amber jewelry, nitrile gloves, Holly Yashi earrings
Marriane/Mike Post, Tall Trees Alaska: residential tree care and service, wood samples
Jean Shadrach, Shadrach Arts: Alaskan artist
Susan Lang, Seven Sisters Soap Co.: handmade botanical soaps and lotions
Sylva Timinskis, Albino Hare Gallery/Alana's Lotion: Alaskan lotion bars, handmade art, gallery artist
Ron Richard/Kathy Johnson, Silvertip Design: botanical-theme garments, laser etched wooden and glassware, jewelry
Renee Kimmel, Hotrocks: therapeutic organic heat wraps for arthritis and sore muscles
Colleen Coulter, Art With A Past Life: recycled tidbits, vases, dragonfly jewelry, botanical themed gifts
Jaime Rodriguez, Alpine Garden Nursery: alpine plants
Brooke Heppinstall, Woolwood Studio & Gardens: perennial and speciality annuals
Gary True, Evergreen Nursery: landscape plants, landscape materials
Paige Manning-McEwen, Green Acres: show on water features/installation, brick & block work
Howdi Rambur, Enviro Tech Soil Solutions: diatomatous earth product-clay/soil amendments
Michael Jespersen, Lowe's Home & Garden: garden tools, landscape materials, plants
Brenda Milan, One Woman Design: metal and wood garden art
Sally Karabelnikoff, SallyK Orchids: orchids, orchid repot display, carnivorous pinquicula
UAA Staff, UAA Bookstore: speaker's book sales
Master Gardener's Assoc., AMGA: raffle tickets, t-shirts, hats, MG materials
Donna Basinger, Alaska Botanical Gardens: promotional material/ABG gifts, books



The Anchorage Chapter of the Alaska Master Gardeners Association welcomes letters, opinions, articles, ideas and inquiries. Contact the editor, Gina Docherty, at:
Mail: 14051 Fejes Road [new mailing address]
Anchorage, AK 99516
Phone: 345-4099
Email: amga@gci.net
AMGA Web Site: www.alaskamastergardeners.org
(The Newsletter will be on-line in living color!)

For information about membership or upcoming programs, contact:
Cooperative Extension Office
2221 E. Northern Lights Blvd.
Anchorage, AK 99508
Phone: 786-6300
Fax: 786-6312



SAMPLE OF VENDORS FOR
AMGA'S CONFERENCE and
GARDEN MARKET,,
"IN THE ZONE" MAY 9-10

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2008 Garden Event Calendar Pull out Section



Susan Lang, Seven Sisters Soap Co.
Special Conference Soap



Renee Kimmel "Hot Rocks", The Next Generation in Heat Therapy



Paige Mannin-McEwen, Green Acres, water features, brick & block work display

Alaska Master Gardeners Association, Inc.
Anchorage Chapter
University of Alaska Cooperative Extension
P.O. Box 221403
Anchorage, Alaska 99522-1403

Non Profit Organization
US Postage Paid
Permit #107
Anchorage, Alaska