



# The “Show-Me” Gardener

## Webster Groves Garden Club

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## August Meeting

**Monday, August 8, 2022 - 7:15 p.m.**  
**Webster Groves Rec Complex -**  
**33 E. Glendale**

**Speaker: Mr. Gary Leabman**

**Topic:**  
**Global Warming and Climate Change**  
**in Missouri**



### **Meeting Notice**

if for any reason the meeting is cancelled or rescheduled we will post the information on our Facebook page or you may call the Webster Groves Recreational Center - 314 963 5600, several hours before the meeting to confirm.

**The topic of the August meeting will be –**  
**Global Warming and Climate Change in Missouri**

Mr. Gary Leabman, is a resident and business leader in Hermann, Missouri. In 2018, he decided to do something about climate change and spent three days in Mexico City with Nobel Prize Laureates and others with the Climate Reality Project. The Climate Reality Project consists of two environmental organizations, the Alliance for Climate Protection and the Climate Project, which were both founded in 2006 by former U.S. Vice President Al Gore. Currently Mr. Gore is the chairman of the board of directors.

Mr. Leabman learned that global warming on planet Earth is mainly due to the reliance on fossil fuels. He is now an educator with the Climate Reality Project

and travels across Missouri to lecture about climate change and what we can do about it. Mr. Leabman doesn't just talk the talk, he actually has made some significant personal changes in his life regarding global warming. In 2000, Mr. Leabman and his wife, Marsha Nyberg, opened the Spirit Hill Guest House and Gardens in Hermann. In 2010, they had a geothermal system installed to heat and cool their 3500 square foot home and business and in 2022, solar panels were installed. He has ordered a Tesla Cyber truck which is expected to be delivered in 2023. Mr. Leabman is also a Master Gardener and is very active in community gardening in Hermann and was the founder of Hermann in Bloom. He also is a member of the Sierra Club, Missouri River Relief and the MoBot.

Please come and learn how you can join the sustainability revolution and lower your carbon footprint.

## **President's Corner – August 2022**

We are officially in the dog days (July 3<sup>rd</sup> to August 11<sup>th</sup>)—the hottest days of summer. So how do we keep our gardens in good shape?

Many Tips and Tasks for this month from the **Missouri Botanical Garden** are designed to help you keep your flowers blooming and also to anticipate next year's garden. If your annuals are looking droopy and worn out, give them a hard cut back and some fertilizer to coax new blooms. Don't forget to keep deadheading those perennials to encourage another bloom or two. August is the last time to prune and shape your hedges.

You can divide oriental poppies and bearded iris now. When replanting the iris, make certain the tops of the rhizomes are just above ground level. Don't forget to order spring bulbs so they will be ready to plant this fall.

This is the time of year we are all concerned when plants develop that powdery mildew especially on roses and phlox. While it is not usually harmful, it is unattractive and there are some methods to help prevent it. You can check out these powdery mildew management hints from the **Missouri Botanical Garden** here: <https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/gardens-gardening/your-garden/help-for-the-home-gardener/advice-tips-resources/pests-and-problems/diseases/powdery-mildew/powdery-mildew-outdoors.aspx>

Another problem which may be specific to your tomatoes is blossom rot. Two sources of information to help combat this can be found here:

<https://www.hgtv.com/outdoors/flowers-and-plants/vegetables/tomato-blossom-end-rot> and <https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/gardens-gardening/your-garden/help-for-the-home-gardener/advice-tips-resources/pests-and-problems/environmental/blossom-end-rot/blossom-end-rot-of-tomato-and-pepper.aspx>

For you readers, there is a new book by Laura J. Martin, an environmental historian, that may be of interest. Published in mid-May, **Wild by Design: The Rise of Ecological Restoration Hardcover**, traces the early interest in wildflower conservation to modern ecology. If you are interested, here is a review of this new book: <https://www.ecolandscaping.org/06/resources/book-reviews/wild-by-design/>

On those days when it is too hot to garden, some virtual programs that may be of interest to you are:

**August 11, 11 a.m. – noon.** The University of Illinois Extension is presenting **Cover Crops and Gardens/Everyday Environment**. You can register here:

<https://web.extension.illinois.edu/registration/?RegistrationID=26006>

**August 16, 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.** The University of Illinois Extension is presenting **Late Summer and Fall Blooming Plants**. Register at:

<https://web.extension.illinois.edu/registration/?RegistrationID=25787>

**August 24, 12 p. m. – 1 p.m.** **Yard and Garden Cleanup with Diseases and Insects in Mind** will be presented by the **University of Wisconsin-Madison Extension**. Not only will you learn about garden and yard clean up, but also get a better understanding of how plant diseases and insects overwinter. Register here at: [https://uwmadison.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_6ZDtExNZSLiG-3eMZSKyAA](https://uwmadison.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_6ZDtExNZSLiG-3eMZSKyAA)