

## **Gardener's Corner August 2023** (formerly President's Corner)

Despite the recent rain, the **Missouri Department of Natural Resources** notes that the State still has drought conditions. To help our gardens and lawns, the **University of Minnesota Extension** has a good article. Entitled *Watering the Yard and Garden in Extreme Drought*, the article can be found at: <https://extension.umn.edu/yard-and-garden-news/gardening-extreme-drought>.

There are several tips and tasks from the **Missouri Botanical Garden (MBG)** for August. Some of these include cutting back leggy annuals hard and fertilizing them to produce new blooms. As for perennials, remember to deadhead them throughout the season. Also, now is the last time to feed fall-booming perennials like mums and asters. In preparation for next year, you can divide oriental poppies, bearded iris, bleeding heart and bloodroot now. It is also time to order bulbs for fall planting.

If you are growing vegetables, beans, beets, spinach and turnip seeds can be planted now. **MGB** notes spinach may germinate better if seeds are refrigerated for one week before planting. It is also time to transplant broccoli, cabbage and cauliflower.

Thinking about planting shrubs this fall in your shade garden? **Garden Design** has an article entitled *24 Garden Shrubs for Shade*. It may help you determine what will work best. You can find the article at: <https://www.gardendesign.com/shrubs/shade.html>

**Iowa State University** has a *Home Gardening Webinar Series* on YouTube. There are many different topics of interest here. Find what topics interest you and watch at your leisure here: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLBsBPVfxix-p8NAzrCVrFfS3Z6cXC3UHK>

There are a couple of online programs of interest this month. They include the following.

**Wednesday, August 2**, noon to 1:00 p.m. **Kansas State Garden Hour** will present *Integrating Native Plants into Your Home Landscape*, offered by the Horticulture and Natural Resources, Department of / KSRE Sedgwick Co Horticulture / KSRE Sedgwick County. The webinar will give information on the ecological benefits of native plants and how to successfully integrate them into your landscape. You can register at: [https://ksu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_IxIjvtedRu-pvfFA6Kzvxw#/registration](https://ksu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_IxIjvtedRu-pvfFA6Kzvxw#/registration)

**Wednesday, August 16** - 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 pm. **Grow Native!** *Learning to Grow Native: Four Seasons of Transformation in a Residential Landscape*. Emily Gustafson will share the transformation of her Columbia yard from a landscape of turf grass, boxwoods, and day lilies — and a whole lot of invasive bush honeysuckle, burning bush, wintercreeper, and privet — to a space dominated by native plants. Register here: [https://secure.lglforms.com/form\\_engine/s/POU3US8UO4yLTb85vaj1A](https://secure.lglforms.com/form_engine/s/POU3US8UO4yLTb85vaj1A)

**Tuesday, August 22** - 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. **The University of Illinois Extension** will present: *Before the Build: Considerations for Backyard Greenhouses*. Explore a variety of budget-friendly backyard greenhouses, what can be grown in them, and how to extend a growing season. Register at: <https://registration.extension.illinois.edu/start/four-seasons-gardening-webinar-backyard-greenhouses-8-22-23>