# Horticulture 2024 Newsletter No. 13 April 1, 2024

1712 Claflin, 2021 Throckmorton Plant Science Center Manhattan, KS 66506 (785) 532-6173

**Video of the Week: Dividing Perennial Flowers** 

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**



#### Companion Plants in Your Garden

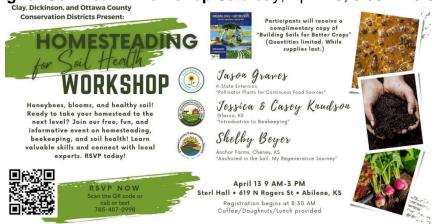
Wednesday, April 3rd 12:00PM -1:00PM CST

Many gardeners have heard that marigolds repel pests in vegetable gardens, or that beans dislike fennel. These sentiments are often attributed to a practice called "companion planting." But does companion planting really work? Join Horticulture Agents Pam Paulsen & Laura Phillips for a discussion on the research behind companion planting as we dispel common myths and talk about what benefits companion planting can offer your garden.





# Homesteading for Soil Health Workshop Saturday, April 13, 9:00AM-3:00PM



# Callery Pear Buy-Back – Kansas Forest Service

Follow the link for registration information. <a href="https://deeproots.org/callery-pear-events/">https://deeproots.org/callery-pear-events/</a>

#### 2024 Kansas Turf and Ornamentals Field Day

August 1, 2024, at Rocky Ford Turfgrass Research Center in Manhattan, KS. <a href="https://www.k-state.edu/turf/events/2024TurfFieldDayProgram.pdf">https://www.k-state.edu/turf/events/2024TurfFieldDayProgram.pdf</a>





Spring has arrived and there are plenty of tasks to do in the garden. From weeding and watering to fertilizing and even planting; check out the April garden calendar to plan for the growing season. *April Garden Calendar Fact Sheet* 

#### **FLOWERS**

#### **Caring for Spring-Flowering Bulbs**

At this point in the season minimal care is needed for spring-flowering bulbs. Enjoy those blooms and follow some simple care to ensure roots are taking in the nutrition to support future growth. <u>Spring-Flowering Bulbs Fact Sheet</u>

#### Roses



Before new leaf buds open (bud break), roses should be fertilized and pruned. April is a great time to plant new roses in the landscape as well.

Specific maintenance practices vary based on the classification, or type, of rose. Details can be found in this publication. <u>Growing</u>
Roses (KSRE Publication)

#### **Easter Lilies**

Containerized lilies are common in the spring as they are used to celebrate the Easter holiday. This perennial bulb can be grown year-round in the landscape to enjoy for years to come. <u>Easter Lily Fact Sheet</u>

# **TURF**

#### **Spring Weeds**

Henbit and Chickweed



Have you seen the purple splotches in lawns around your town? Henbit is in bloom creating waves of purple through the landscape. Weeds drive most gardeners crazy but many weeds provide food for pollinators. Henbit is one of the first sources of pollen and nectar for honey bees and bumble bees after the long winter.

Henbit and chickweed are winter annuals that germinate in the fall but become more apparent in the spring. Treatment of these weeds is best done by applying a preemergence in the fall. Controlling for these weeds this time of year is much less effective. Manual

removal is recommended if the plants can't be tolerated in the landscape. Learn more about henbit and chickweed here: Henbit and Chickweed (KSRE Publication)

#### Grassy Sandbur

Another annual, grassy sandbur is a grassy weed commonly found in lawns and spreads profusely as the stickers produced attach to clothing and pets. Maintaining a dense lawn is the best defense against this weed. Alternative solutions can be found here: <u>Grassy Sandbur</u> (KSRE Publication)



#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

#### **Transplanting Success**



Transplanting is done by relocating young or established plants from one growing space to another. In Spring this often refers to moving seedlings from small containers into the garden or landscape. Special care is necessary to protect the young plants from being injured as they transition from their protected environment to the elements. Transplanting Fact Sheet

#### **Spring Perennial Care**

Perennials are waking up and it's time to offer some support. With a few maintenance tasks, plants will begin their growing season healthy which is the best way to prevent diseases and pests from causing stress.

Spring Perennial Care Fact Sheet

# **MENTAL HEALTH MONDAY**

### **Gardening with Herbs**



Plants can perform many roles in the landscape including support for well-being. Herbs are great inclusions for a productive garden. Read the fact sheet below for information on selecting and caring for herbs in the ground or in containers.

Gardening with Herbs Fact Sheet

### QUESTION of the WEEK



Is there an app that would provide landscape design help for my personal landscape? I would also be interested in an app that would help remind me of the yard maintenance for specific plants in my landscape based on my zone. Does this exist?

iScape is a popular app that can be downloaded on Apple and Android devices. There is a free version as well as a paid version. You can begin by uploading a photo of your landscape and then select from a library of plants to design the area.

To keep track of the maintenance for your landscape one option is to create a spreadsheet with each plant species listed in the left column and the months of the year across the top. In the box next to the plant name include the care needed for that

specific month. Once this chart is created it will be easy to update as plants are added or removed from the landscape. (Alex Stanton)

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
			Pre-emergent		feed style					Apply a high N	Apply a high N	
			application, first		herbicide,	Continue mowing	Continue mowing	Continue mowing		fertilizer to	fertilizer to	
			mowing towards		continue mowing	regularly, irrigate	regularly, irrigate	regularly, irrigate		encourage root	encourage root	
Turfgrass			end of month	Mow regularly	regularly	as needed	as needed	as needed		growth	growth	
	Lightly water if											
	there has not								Fertilize to	Do any last		
	been much			Shear to the		Touch up with			encourage	pruning by Oct.		
Boxwoods	snowfall or rain			desired shape		hand pruners			healthy growth	15th if needed		
	Lightly water if											
	there has not								Fertilize to			
	been much		Remove winter		Remove dead	Remove dead	Remove dead	Remove dead	encourage			
Daylilys	snowfall or rain		debris		leaves	leaves	leaves	leaves	healthy growth			

# **COMING UP NEXT WEEK...**

Next week we will learn from long time gardener, Chuck Marr in the Community Garden Corner!

#### **Contributors:**

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