

Vertical Gardening



Hosted by:



MILWAUKEE
PUBLIC LIBRARY



melindamyers.com

WHY GO VERTICAL?

- INCREASE GARDENING SPACE
- HELP REDUCE DISEASE PROBLEMS
 - Trellising vine crops can also help reduce disease problems by increasing air flow and light reaching all parts of the plant
 - Cucamelon on arbor
 - Annual; vigorous, but easily damaged vine with twining tendrils
 - Cucumber on decorative trellis
 - Annual vine with twining tendrils
 - Malabar (climbing spinach)
 - Annual, perennial in Zones 10 & 11
 - Vine with twining stems
 - Pole Beans
 - Annual vine with twining tendrils
 - Easier to harvest
 - One extra crop
 - Many varieties available
 - Winter Squash
 - Summer Squash
 - Melons
 - Annual vine with twining tendrils
 - Sling heavy fruit
 - Tomatoes
 - Caged tomatoes produce a bit later than staked tomatoes, but more fruit
 - Espalier tomatoes & string method
 - Grapes trained over arbor
 - Woody perennial
 - Vigorous vine with twining tendrils
 - Needs annual pruning
 - Be aware of shade cast and potential mess from fruit to the space below
 - Cardinal Climber
 - Annual vine with twining stems
- Red flowers are a hummingbird favorite
- Native Honeysuckle Vine (*Lonicera sempervirens*)
 - Woody perennial vine with twining stems
 - Hardy Zones 4 to 9
- Major Wheeler Honeysuckle
 - Disease resistant cultivar
 - Provides focal point and vertical interest
- DRESS UP A WALL OR FENCE
 - Mandevilla
 - Upright, shrubby or vine with twining stems
 - Suntory Giant Peach shown
 - Hardy Zones 10 & 11
 - Clematis
 - Perennial vine with twining leaf stems
 - Hardy Zones 3 to 9, depending on species
 - Wooden trellis softens and decorates wall and provides support for climbing rose
 - Assorted containers of herbs and vegetables mounted on a fence
 - Shelf mounted on fence, holding small plants
 - Shelves next to door with shade Coleus
 - Containers of Pink Polka Dot plant (*Hypoestes*), Impatiens and Neon Pothos on wall
 - 3 tiered planter with Madness Plum Crazy Petunias
 - Containers of Nasturtium and Pansies on brick pillar
 - Pots of Marigolds in pot supports on fence
 - Container not visible - all about the plants
 - Clematis on fence
 - Sunny Susy Thunbergia on fence
 - Vigorous annual vine with twining stems
 - Weeping Larch (*Larix decidua* 'Pendula') on fence
 - Pendulous cultivar of European larch tree
 - Hardy Zones 3 to 6
 - Various plants soften retaining wall

Utility-friendly Tree Planting Tips from We Energies

Trees growing too close to power lines can cause sparks, fires, power outages and shock hazards. To avoid these problems, plant trees that won't interfere with power lines when fully grown. Small ornamental trees or shrubs that will not exceed 15 feet in height such as serviceberry, dogwood and low-growing evergreens are best to plant around power lines. Trees such as maple, basswood, burr oak, white pine or spruce grow more than 40 feet high and should be planted more than 50 feet from any overhead power lines.

And don't forget to call 811 at least three days before planting to check the location of underground services.

Learn more utility-friendly planting tips at we-energies.com.



- Creeping Juniper (*Juniperus*) on rock wall
 - Heat and drought tolerant
 - Hardiness varies with species
- **Hakone Grass** (*Hakonechloa macra*) in rock wall
 - Shade tolerant grass
 - Hardy Zones 5 to 9
 - **Sedges** (*Carex*) would be another option
- **Rosemary** (*Salvia rosmarinus*) in interlocking wall
 - Could use other herbs hardy to your location
- Perennial Fountain Grass (*Cenchrus alopecuroides* formerly *Pennisetum*) in elevated garden bed
 - Invasive in some areas
 - Hardy in Zones 5 to 9
 - Substitute native Prairie Dropseed (*Sporobolus heterolepis*), hardy in Zones 3 to 9

• **DRESS UP AN ARBOR OR PERGOLA**

- **Solar Tower Black Sweet Potato Vine**
 - Green cultivar also available
 - Annual climbing vine with twining stems
- **Hyacinth Bean Vine** (*Lablab purpureus*)
 - Annual, perennial in Zones 10 & 11
 - Vigorous, may reseed
- Hanging baskets, vines and tall annuals in pots
- Hanging baskets with **Silver Falls Dichondra**
 - Annual, perennial Zones 10 to 12
 - Trailing habit
- Hanging baskets of mixed annuals, including Sweet Potato Vine
 - Annual, perennial Zones 9 to 11
 - Trailing habit
 - Various cultivars with many that are very vigorous
- **Black-eyed Susan Vine** (*Thunbergia alata*) climbing up and trailing down

• **VERTICAL INTEREST**

- Vine trained on obelisk
- Container with Elephant Ears, Hibiscus and Gaura set in annual garden bed
- Mandevilla trained onto support
- Pots elevated to different heights set in garden
 - Cordyline as thriller, Flowering Kale, Bidens trailing
- Decorative trellis on edge of garden bed - pots of Petunias
- Container in garden
 - Palm, Nicotiana, Diamond Frost Euphorbia
- Tiered garden with various herbs and vegetables
- Solar Tower Sweet Potato vine in pot next to bench
- Heavenly Blue Morning Glory as thriller (providing scale in front of this 2 story home)
 - Papyrus, Dahlia, Petunia
- Containers of Petunias and Geraniums on legs set at different heights
- Arbor creates vertical accent and focal point over artwork in corner of garden

• **ENTRYWAYS AND TRANSITIONS**

- Clematis by door
- Vine covered arbor provides transition from front to back yard
- Arctic Beauty Kiwi (*Actinidia kolomikta* 'Arctic Beauty')
 - Perennial, hardy in Zones 4 to 8
 - Separate male (Arctic Beauty is male) and female plants (except Issai is self-fertile)
 - Hardy Kiwi (*Actinidia arguta*) is invasive in some states
 - Twining stems
- Sweet Autumn Clematis (*Clematis terniflora*)
 - Perennial, hardy in Zones 5 to 9
 - Invasive in many states
 - Very vigorous vine with twining petioles
 - Fragrant fall blooms

Landscaping Around We Energies Utilities

Plants and other landscaping features can interfere with utility equipment and cause safety risks. Remember to:

Maintain equipment visibility: Use techniques that camouflage rather than hide utility equipment. Hearty grasses and/or flowers are preferred. They provide aesthetic improvements and grow back quickly should equipment access be necessary.

Ensure easy access: When fencing is used, choose a split-rail type, which can be easily dismantled when equipment access is needed. Be sure fences are located more than 3 feet from transformer sides and no permanent fence post is located in front of transformer door.

Keep proper clearance: When woody shrubs or bushes are used, place them more than 3 feet from transformer sides and more than 10 feet from its door. Keep future growth in mind for the size of shrubs or bushes.

Learn more utility-friendly planting tips at we-energies.com.

- Lights and Climbing Rose cover arbor
- Arbor tunnel covered walkway
- Arbor divides areas in landscape
- **Camperdown Elm** (*Ulmus glabra* 'Camperdownii') trained over arbor
 - Weeping tree
 - Hardy in Zones 4 to 6
- Vine covered supports
- **SELECT THE RIGHT SUPPORT**
 - Strong and large enough to support the plant
 - **Autumn Revolution American Bittersweet** (*Celastrus scandens* 'Bailumn')
 - Native Bittersweet
 - Vigorous, woody, twining vine
 - Self-fertile
 - Hardy in Zones 2 to 8
 - Wisteria - Japanese (*Wisteria floribunda*) and Chinese Wisteria (*Wisteria sinensis*)
 - Poor flowering in the North
 - Invasive in Eastern and Southeastern U.S.
 - Very vigorous
 - **American / Kentucky Wisteria** (*Wisteria macrostachya* or *W. frutescens*)
 - Native, hardy in Zones 5 to 9
 - Flowers after leaves emerge
 - Not as aggressive, but still a vigorous woody vine with twining stems
 - **Summer Cascade American Wisteria** (*Wisteria macrostachya* 'Betty Matthews')
 - Hardy in Zones 4 to 8
 - **Trumpet Vine** (*Campsis radicans*) trained over garage
 - High climbing, aggressively colonizing native woody vine that attaches by aerial rootlets
 - Suckers freely and vigorously, has naturalized
 - Hardy in Zones 4 to 9

- **Climbing Hydrangea** (*Hydrangea anomala*, formerly *H. anomala* ssp. *petiolaris*)
 - Woody vine that attaches by holdfast rootlets, so needs a rough surface to climb
 - Shade tolerant
 - Takes years to flower
 - Hardy in Zones 4 to 7
- Avoid damage to your home and fence
 - Air space between trellis and wood siding or wood fence to avoid rot
 - Ability to access siding and fence as needed for maintenance
- **SCREENING TO CREATE NOISE AND VISUAL BARRIER**
 - Climbing Rose on fence
 - **Dutchman's Pipe**
 - Woody vine with twining stems
 - Shade tolerant
 - Hardy in Zones 4 to 9
 - Lattice screen with Clematis separates driveway from backyard
 - Artwork and containers of Petunias and Golden Moneywort
 - Rebar pot holder
 - Lattice, planters and vines create screen
 - Containers at various heights to divide spaces and provide privacy
 - Hanging baskets of Begonia, Coleus and Petunias
 - Tropical plants surround deck, providing privacy and tropical flare
 - Strategically placed hanging baskets of Heuchera for screening
 - Wall planters and hanging baskets of Greens, Pansies and Kale
 - Tomatoes on lattice screen



About Melinda

Nationally known gardening expert, TV/radio host, author & columnist Melinda Myers has over 30 years of horticulture experience and has written over 20 gardening books, including *Can't Miss Small Space Gardening*, the recently revised *Midwest Gardener's Handbook*, and Jackson and Perkins' *Beautiful Roses Made Easy*. She hosts the nationally-syndicated "Melinda's Garden Moment" program airing on radio stations throughout the U.S. Melinda also hosts the internationally distributed *Great Courses* "How to Grow Anything" Instant Video series, including *Food Gardening for Everyone*. She is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine, and writes a nationally-distributed gardening column. She appears regularly as a guest expert on national and local television and radio shows.

Visit Melinda's website, melindamyers.com

- Neighbor's deck landscaped with pots of boxwood (NewGen boxwood is blight resistant) and Black Lace Elderberry
 - 10' tall and wide
 - Hardy in Zones 4 to 7
- Shenandoah Switchgrass
- Asparagus divider
 - Perennial, hardy in Zones 3 to 8

• NARROW, UPRIGHT PLANTS

- Avoid monocultures whenever possible
- Columnar Apples (Malus hybrids) like Urban® Apples, North Pole, Sentinel and Fruit Snacks®
 - Need 2 varieties for fruit
 - Hardiness and chill hours varies with variety
- Golden Glory Cornelian Cherry Dogwood (*Cornus mas* 'Golden Glory')
 - Upright at 15'+ tall and wide
 - Hardy in Zones 4 to 8
- Standing Ovation Serviceberry (*Amelanchier alnifolia* 'Obelisk')
 - 15' tall x 4' wide
 - Hardy in Zones 2 to 8
- Purple Pillar Rose of Sharon (*Hibiscus syriacus* 'Gandini Santiago')
 - 10 - 15' tall x 4 - 5' wide
 - Hardy in Zones 5 to 9
- Black Tower Elderberry (*Sambucus nigra* 'Eiffel 1')
 - 6 - 8' tall x 3 - 4' wide
 - Hardy in Zones 4 to 8
- Upright Red Chokeberry (*Aronia arbutifolia* 'Erecta')
 - 5 - 7' tall x 2 - 3' wide
 - Hardy in Zones 3 to 9

- Temple's Upright Maple (*Acer saccharin* 'Temple's Upright'), also known as *A. saccharin* 'Monumentale')
 - 50'+ tall x 6' wide
 - Hardy in Zones 3 to 8a
- Arborvitae (*Thuja occidentalis*)
 - 40'+ tall x 10 - 15' wide, depending on cultivar
 - Hardy in Zones 3 to 7
 - Full Speed a Hedge® 'Thin Man'
 - ♦ 12 - 15' tall x 3 - 5' wide
 - ♦ Hardy in Zones 3 to 8
 - Sting®
 - ♦ 20' tall x 12 - 18" wide
 - ♦ Hardy in Zones 3 to 8
- Trautman Juniper (*Juniperus chinensis* 'Trautman')
 - 15' tall x 4' wide
 - Hardy in Zones 4b to 10a
- Mountbatten Juniper (*Juniperus chinensis* 'Mountbatten')
 - 12 - 15' tall x 6 - 8' wide
 - Hardy in Zones 4 to 9
- Star Power™ Juniper (*Juniperus* x 'J.N. Select Blue')
 - 17' tall x 7 - 9' wide
 - Hardy in Zones 3 to 9
- Soft Serve False Cypress (*Chamaecyparis pisifera* 'Dow Whiting')
 - 10' tall x 6' wide
 - Hardy in Zones 4 to 8 (sheltered location)
- Evergreens in containers - overwintering in cold climates
- Ornamental Grasses for Cold Climates
- Switchgrass cultivars (*Panicum virgatum* cultivars)
 - 3 - 8' tall x 2 - 3' wide, depending on cultivar
 - Hardy in Zones 4 to 9

**MISS A
WEBINAR?**

Melinda's Webinars are
Available On Demand!

WATCH NOW

Sign up for my

Free

Newsletter!

Get the chance to win
a seasonal prize!

SIGN UP NOW

- 
- **Feather Reed Grass** (*Calamagrostis acutiflora* 'Karl Foerster' and other cultivars)
 - Up to 5' tall and 2' wide
 - Hardy in Zones 4 to 8
 - Fountain Grass and Switchgrass create nook for seating
 - **Espalier** and **How to Espalier**
 - Pear trained as Cordon Espalier bordering patio
 - Decorative fence and Cordon Espalier apple in front of Arborvitae
 - Cordon Espalier trained to brick wall
 - Cordon Espalier Trumpet Vine
 - **Fan Espalier Apple on brick wall**
 - Palmette Espalier on brick wall
 - Palmette Espalier with a twist
 - Belgian Fence Espalier
 - **ENERGY SAVINGS AND COMFORT**
 - Vine covered pergola shades sitting area
 - Wisteria shades outdoor dining space
 - Sweet Autumn Clematis shades swing (this plant is invasive in some areas)
 - Hardy Kiwi (*Actinidia kolomikta*) on support provides shade
 - Morning Glory (*Ipomoea*) shades chicken coop
 - Annual that reseeds readily
 - Often late to flower
 - Willow (*Salix*) **saplings growing in Smart Pots trained into dome**
 - Shading air conditioner reduces energy use by as much as 10%
 - Leave space around the unit for airflow
 - Plantings and vines shading walls
 - Deciduous vines covering South, East or West walls
 - Attached or adjacent vine covered arbor also helps reduce energy use
 - ♦ Shade in summer and allows warming sunshine in over winter
 - **ADD BEAUTY AND FUN**
 - Plant annual vine with perennial for quicker cover and floral display
 - Rose and Clematis bloom at same time for double the floral impact
 - Honeysuckle and Clematis extend bloom and double impact
 - Pole Beans trained onto bamboo stakes secured into a teepee for kids' hideout
 - Hyacinth Bean tunnel
 - Coleus, Impatiens and Poinsettia towers
 - **REPURPOSED ITEMS**
 - Fountain becomes herb planter
 - Fountain filled with Bromeliads and Spanish Moss
 - Metal Scooper with **Burro's Tail** (*Sedum morganianum*), succulent
 - Old lockers provide structure for various planters in lots of different repurposed items
 - Old window frames decorate wall and window boxes filled with Herbs, Morning Glories and more
 - Old mattress springs provides trellis for Morning Glory
 - Shoe caddy becomes Herb planter (small amount of soil means frequent watering needed)
 - Pallet planters - use heat treated (HT marking) when growing edibles
 - PVC planters
 - Gutters, positioned to maximize and reuse water
 - **GREEN WALLS**
 - Pallets painted and filled with Hostas
 - Wall of Impatiens and Licorice Vine
 - Bright green BG8 Living Wall and similar systems
 - Green wall at Chicago Botanic Garden
 - Felted fabric grow bags attached to fence filled with various plants
 - Leather pouches filled with plants and mounted on fence
 - Living Wall System - removable planters to replant as needed, built in irrigation system
 - Old picture frames made into green wall planters - filled with succulents
 - Keys to success:
 - Secure weather proof construction
 - Containers large enough to securely hold and support plants
 - Easy access for watering and maintenance (irrigation and timer)
 - Plants suited to the growing conditions
 - Drought tolerant, hardy plants (1 to 2 Zones hardier) for year round

• STRUCTURES AND GARDEN ART

- Obelisk at Rotary Gardens in Janesville, WI
- Tile artwork provided screening and vertical interest
- Chihuly glasswork at Atlanta Botanical Garden
- Low cost alternative

**CALL 811 AT LEAST 3 BUSINESS DAYS BEFORE YOU PUT
THE FIRST SHOVEL IN THE GROUND**

In Wisconsin you can also file an online request at diggershotline.com. Contact this free service at least three business days in advance of digging. Diggers in Wisconsin or your underground utility locating service will contact all the appropriate companies.

These companies will mark the location of their underground utilities in the designated work area.

This reduces the danger and inconvenience of accidentally knocking out power, cable or other utilities while creating a beautiful landscape and productive garden.

UPCOMING APPEARANCES & WEBINARS

Check often as more appearances and webinars continue to be added.

May 10th, 11th, 17th, 18th

Ebert's Greenhouse Village

Ask the Plant Doctor

Webinar May 15th

7 Steps to Managing Water on Your Property

Webinar June 4th

Attracting Hummingbirds

June 8th

Ebert's Greenhouse Village

Selecting the Right Hydrangea for Your Landscape

June 14th

Ebert's Greenhouse Village

Houseplants 101: Tips for Indoor Gardening Success

June 20th

Pollinator Celebration

Vino in the Valley

Maiden Rock, WI

***Upcoming Library
Program Activities***

**June Activity - Inviting Nature's Insect
Managers Into the Garden**

June 4th Webinar - Attracting Hummingbirds



*Thank You to We Energies for
Sponsoring this Webinar*

Visit we-energies.com



MILWAUKEE

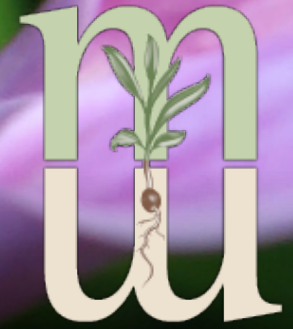
PUBLIC LIBRARY

Thank You to Milwaukee Public Library
for Hosting this Webinar

Visit mpl.org

And thanks to **Public Libraries** across the
state of Wisconsin and the **Upper Peninsula**
of **Michigan** for their participation.

Melinda's Garden Moment AUDIO TIPS
Melinda's Garden Moment VIDEO TIPS
 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
MONTHLY GARDENING CHECKLISTS & MORE
 BE SURE TO SIGN UP FOR MY E-NEWSLETTER TO GET TIMELY
 GARDENING TIPS AND A CHANCE TO WIN



melindamyers.com



THE GREAT COURSES "How to Grow Anything"

Food Gardening for Everyone
Make Your Trees and Shrubs Thrive
Your Best Garden and Landscape
Container Tips and Techniques

BOOKS

Midwest Gardener's Handbook

Small Space Gardening

Midwest Lawn Guides

Minnesota & Wisconsin Getting Started Garden Guide

Month-by-Month Gardening in Minnesota & Wisconsin

Michigan Getting Started Garden Guide

Month-by-Month Gardening in Michigan

Month-by-Month Gardening in Iowa



Birds & Blooms Magazine

CONNECT WITH ME

