The Newsletter of the Minnesota Hosta Society

mn hosta SOCIETY

HOSTAPHILE

Volume 31 Issue 1 Winter 2021



Winter meeting - Via Zoom - Saturday, February 13th - 2PM

Presentation by: Rob Mortko - Hot New Hostas for Today and Tomorrow



Following the recent demise of both Shady Oaks and Q&Z TC labs, fewer and fewer new hostas are finding their way to market. Made in the Shade started up their own TC lab ten years ago and is attempting to fill this void. Working with both hybridizers and other growers, a number of exciting new introductions are making their way to market to become the hot hostas of tomorrow. Get ready to add some new entries to your hosta wish list.

Rob is a retired chemical engineer. He spent 25 years with Black & Veatch in Kansas City where he was Vice President of Process Engineering and Technology. His passion for shade gardening and hostas has grown over the past 35+ years since he and his wife Sheri moved into their shaded woodland home in Olathe, KS.

Their shade gardens have been featured on various public garden tours, on local TV, and in *Kansas City Homes and Gardens Magazine*. For 20 years Rob operated Made in the Shade Gardens – a retail and mail order hosta specialty nursery. Rob is now devoted full time to Made in the Shade Tissue Culture – a plant tissue culture laboratory specializing in hosta propagation.

In 2000 Rob registered and introduced his first hosta cultivar named 'Heart and Soul'. His hosta introductions include 'Stitch in Time', 'Mouse Capades', 'Rising Star' and 'Carry On'. In 2019 'Stitch is Time' was awarded Honorable Mention in its first year of competition towards the AHS Benedict Medal Award.

Rob is a frequent speaker at hosta clubs and gardening groups across the country. He is a Johnson County Kansas Extension Master Gardener where he has served on the Advisory Board. He has also served on the Executive Board of the American Hosta Society, on the board of the American Hosta Growers Association, and as a Contributing Editor for The Hosta Journal.

Rob co-chaired the 2017 Midwest Regional Hosta Convention in Lenexa, Kansas. In addition, along with his fellow Johnson County Master Gardeners, hosted "Hostas in the Land of Ahhhs".

Link to Zoom Meeting:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83258937815?pwd=UnRVQkRETlFlbWdzaEZtNVRiZ0p1UT09

Meeting ID: 832 5893 7815 Passcode: 138219

See Zoom instructions on page 15

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Letter from our President, Rod Hilstrom



LOOKING FORWARD!

No doubt, this past year has had its challenges, but MHS has also had some significant accomplishments. We had a successful meeting with Bob Solberg as our guest speaker in February. Steve Rutz ran a very good Member Plant Sale in March and April. Over the summer several improvements were made in the Display Garden at Smith Coffee and Café and over twenty members helped keep the hostas watered through the heat of the summer. At the October ZOOM meeting, we updated the MHS By-Laws, recognized Bob Olson and Kathy Haram as the AHS President's Wall of Honor recipients and we approved the 2021 budget.

For 2021 we are looking forward to having Rob Mortko at our February ZOOM General Meeting. Steve Rutz has about 400 plants for the Member Plant Sale in March and April and Marv Ten Clay has nearly 800 plants available for the June MHS Hosta Sale. Kathy Haram is working on getting a watering system installed in the Display Garden. Paul Lambert is looking at how the Leaf Show will be accomplished this year, plus we are hopeful that we will be able to do Garden Tours and host a Hosta Display at the State Fair!

I know that members have missed the fun and fellowship that takes place at so many of the MHS activities, so we are planning to have the Potting Party in May, the Hosta Sale in June, the Garden Tours, the Leaf Show and the State Fair Display where you can participate and enjoy your friends' company. We encourage everyone to come and join us at these events and bring a friend with you if you so desire. We need you at these events for our organization to thrive!

In addition to these events, we still have a few other opportunities for you to participate in and assist with to keep things going. We have been blessed with many members stepping up to fill in the leadership vacancies, but we are still looking for a few more dedicated people like you. We have vacancies in the areas of MHS historian, State Fair Display and serving on a nominating committee for Board of Directors positions. If you have any questions or want to assist with any of these activities, please give me a call at **612-655-6255** or email me at **hostarod@gmail.com**!

I'm looking forward to a wonderful hosta year and I'm sure you are too!

Presiding Officers and other Leadership Positions

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Minnesota Hosta Society
Board of Directors Meeting
Date: 12/12/2020, 10:00 am
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Members present – Rod Hillstrom (President), Tom Wright (Vice President), Paul Lambert (Recording Secretary), Jeannine Churchill (Treasurer) and Andy Marlow (Immediate Past President). **Not Present** – Betty Holz-Bergmann (Membership Secretary)

Approval of Board Meeting minutes – Andy Marlow made a motion to approve the minutes of the Aug. 8, 2020 MHS Board Meeting as distributed via email. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report – Jeannine Churchill reported the bank balance ending Nov. 30, 2020 was at $23,686.53. She also reported on Member Plant Sale expenses were paid in November which caused the 2020 yearly budget to be over by $1,454.88. The purchases in the fall of 2020 are for membership plant sales in 2021. A discussion was held regarding this practice. Andy Marlow made a motion to receive and file the Treasurer's report. The motion passed unanimously.

Membership Update – Rod Hillstrom reported that the MHS membership is at 220 members and there are 30 memberships due to expire at year's end. An email reminder has been sent to those members and a membership update article will be published in the next Hostaphile newsletter.

Vice President's Report – Tom Wright led a discussion on speakers for membership meetings next year and that the meetings may be virtual meetings via Zoom. (Post meeting) Rod Hillstrom reported that Rob Mortko will have a presentation about 'What's New in Hostas'.

American Hosta Society (AHS) Convention Update – Andy Marlow reported on the status of the 2021 AHS Convention. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic the committee is considering a virtual convention, with hopes of a decision by the year's end. 2022 AHS Convention planning is expected to start in January 2021.

President's Report – Rod Hillstrom reported the trailer sale transfer of registration is yet to be completed. The MHS membership meetings scheduled for February 13, 2021 and April 10, 2021 will probably be virtual meetings via Zoom. The Luncheon meeting (scheduled for March 20, 2021 @ Jax Café) will (probably) be cancelled. The Member Plant Sale scheduled for March-April and the MHS Annual Hosta Sale scheduled for June 12, 2021 at the MHS Display Garden in Eden Prairie (@ Smith Coffee and Café) are expected to occur as scheduled. The MHS Hosta Garden Tours (normally held as a bus tour) are TBD. The MHS Hosta Leaf Show is TBD.

General Discussions – The board had a discussion on possible Hostaphile articles. MHS Display Garden activities and planning for the proposed sprinkler system agreement to proceed without drip system and MHS Display Garden sign proposed horizontal layout to be revised. Also, the board had a discussion on the MHS budget, revenue and expenses and the possibility of additional plant sales to cover expenses for sprinkler system. The board also discussed ways to give notice and promote meeting participation for virtual MHS meetings using Zoom with direction in the Hostaphile needed.

A motion by Jeannine Churchill was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:02 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Lambert, Recording Secretary

October Annual Meeting Minutes

Minnesota Hosta Society
Annual Meeting
October 10, 2020
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

President Rod Hillstrom called the meeting to order at 2:03 pm. Vice President Tom Wright went over the directions and procedures for conducting the meeting. President Rod Hillstrom presented the agenda for the meeting.

Agenda Items

Approve Minutes of February 8, 2020 meeting – A motion to approve the minutes of the MHS general membership meeting held on February 8, 2020 as published in the MHS spring newsletter was made by Andy Marlow and seconded by Jeannine Churchill. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report – Jeannine Churchill gave a report of expenses and income and reported the MHS bank account balance was at $27,609.60 and checking account register balance of $27,424.36. She reported that the MHS budget is positive at this time due to less activity and expenses occurring this year. A motion to receive and file the Treasurer's report was made by Andy Marlow and seconded by Paul Lambert. The motion passed.

Membership Secretary's Report – Betty Holz-Bergmann reported that the MHS membership was at 219 members and 42 memberships will be expiring at the end of this year. Members can renew or join now for the remainder of this year and the following years. Expiring members will receive an email notification in early November.

President's Report – Rod Hillstrom gave a report on MHS activities this past year including the member plant sale, that display garden paths have been completed with the help on many volunteers, the National Display Garden plaque and sign activities are being pursued and a watering system for the display garden is being investigated.

Bylaw Changes – Paul Lambert reported on proposed MHS bylaws and reasons for changing them to reflect current activities of the Society. A motion to approve the new bylaws was made by Don Dean and seconded by Andy Marlow. The motion passed.

2021 Proposed Budget – Jeannine Churchill reported on the proposed budget as published in the MHS newsletter. A motion to approve the budget was made by Bob Olson and seconded by Betty Holz-Bergmann. The motion passed.

President's Wall of Honor – Andy Marlow gave an introduction and presented President's Wall of Honor certificates to Kathy Haram and Dr. Bob Olson for their outstanding service to the Minnesota Hosta Society. Rod Hillstrom displayed the certificates that will be delivered to them.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Andy Marlow and seconded by Jeannine Churchill. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 2:27 pm.

Vice President Tom Wright played the videos of Hosta Vision 2020 Virtual Tours. These videos can be accessed online on YouTube at: **https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=minnesota+hosta+society**

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Lambert, Recording Secretary

2020 Wall of Honor Recipients

Each year the American Hosta Society allows local societies to nominate up to two of its member who worked tirelessly over many years to ensure the smooth running of the local society. Last year I was pleased to be able to, as American Hosta Society President, personally present the award certificates to the two people chosen by the Minnesota Hosta Society Board of Directors for that honor in 2020. Both are richly deserving of a place on the Wall.

Andy Marlow, President - American Hosta Society

Kathy Haram



Kathy joined Minnesota Hosta Society about 2000. By 2008 she became a member of the Board of Directors and during the next eight years held five of the six Board positions. She has co-chaired the summer leaf show and has organized MHS garden tours since 2016. She spearheaded the redesign of the MHS website and currently serves as the webmaster. In addition, she is MHS' liaison with Smith Coffee and Café and the City of Eden Prairie regarding the nationally recognized display garden. When there is an MHS event, you will see her there. And if there's a job to be done, she's ready to pitch in.

Bob Olsen



Bob was a charter member and one of the organizers Minnesota Hosta Society back in 1991. He did not jump onto the MHS Board of Directors then because he had bigger fish to fry; he became President of American Hosta Society in 1992 and he set a modern day record by serving as AHS President for six years. After his tenure as AHS President he saw the need for a good person to take on the role of editor for the The Hosta Journal and he has continued to guide and improve that publication since. Bob has never forgotten his roots in Minnesota Hosta Society. A few years ago MHS needed a Treasurer, so he took it on for two years. Then MHS needed a Vice President. So he shared that position for another two years.



MHS December and Annual Treasurer's Report



CATEGORY	BUDGET		2020 Income & Expenses		2020 Yr End Budget Balance
			$32,406.83 Jan 1/2020	YTD	
	*2021 Budget	2020 Budget	December	TOTAL	
REVENUE					
Membership	$1,500.00	$1,500.00	$500.00	$2,173.00	$673.00
Plant Sale	$12,000.00	$0.00		$15.67	$15.67
Member Plant	$3,000.00	$3,000.00		$3,049.40	$49.40
Merchandise	$100.00	$100.00		$68.00	($32.00)
Programs	$1,000.00	$1,000.00		$0.00	($1,000.00)
Tours	$2,500.00	$0.00		$0.00	$0.00
Misc. Income	$100.00	$100.00		$0.00	($100.00)
Donations	$0.00	$0.00		$240.00	$240.00
TOTAL REVENUE	$20,200.00	$5,700.00	$500.00	$5,546.07	($153.93)
REGULAR EXPENSES					
Membership Expense	$250.00	$250.00		($143.68)	$106.32
Plant Sale Costs	$3,000.00	$3,000.00		($3,000.00)	$0.00
Purchase Member Plants	$3,000.00	$3,000.00		($4,393.86)	($1,393.86)
Newsletter	$300.00	$300.00		($147.90)	$152.10
Hospitality	$300.00	$300.00		($87.21)	$212.79
Programs	$2,500.00	$2,500.00		($1,029.12)	$1,470.88
Leaf Show	$700.00	$0.00		$0.00	$0.00
AHS Int. Reg. Donation	$500.00	$500.00		($500.00)	$0.00
Misc Expenses	$890.00	$1,100.00		$0.00	$1,100.00
Merchandise Expense	$100.00	$100.00		$0.00	$100.00
Display Garden: Maint	$2,000.00	$2,000.00	($144.35)	($305.24)	$1,694.76
Display Garden:Long Trm	$2,000.00	$2,000.00	($241.20)	($402.20)	$1,597.80
MN State Fair Booth	$300.00	$0.00		$0.00	$0.00
Bus Tour	$2,500.00	$0.00		$0.00	$0.00
SUBTOTAL 1	$18,340.00	$15,050.00	($385.55)	($10,009.21)	$5,040.79
OPERATIONAL EXPENSE					
Liability Ins. & Trailer	$660.00	$800.00		($758.21)	$41.79
Public Storage	$500.00	$0.00	($91.49)	($358.35)	($358.35)
Misc. Op. Expenses	$100.00	$100.00		($97.77)	$2.23
Website Maintenance	$600.00	$600.00	($359.76)	($879.63)	($279.63)
SUBTOTAL 2	$1,860.00	$1,500.00	($451.25)	($2,093.96)	($593.96)
SUMMARY					
TOTAL REVENUE	$20,200.00	$5,700.00	$500.00	$5,546.07	($153.93)
TOTAL Exp (1 & 2 above)	$20,200.00	$16,550.00	($836.80)	($11,266.37)	$4,446.83
2020 Convention	$0.00	$2,500.00		($2,500.00)	$0.00
TOTAL ALL EXPENSES	$20,200.00	$19,050.00		($13,766.37)	$4,446.83

* The MHS 2021 budget was approved at the Oct. 10, 2020 General Meeting held via Zoom.

2020 YR END BALANCE:	**$23,349.73**
Uncleared Transactions:	$0.00
Bank Yr End Balance:	**$23,349.73**

Membership Update

Currently there are 220 Minnesota Hosta Society members. However, 27 of our memberships are expiring December 31, 2020. If you have not sent in your membership renewal yet, there is still time to do it! Dues are as follows:

- $20 for 2 years
- $40 for 4 years
- $60 for 6 years

Renewals and new memberships can be sent to:

Minnesota Hosta Society
Betty Holz-Bergmann
5025 West 102nd Street
Bloomington, MN. 55437

As a member you will be able to purchase special and unique members-only hostas from the society each year and get advanced entry into the annual hosta sale in June. We look forward to hosting the annual American Hosta Society convention in 2022. Details will be published in the quarterly newsletter sent to members.

New members are always welcome, so tell your friends and family about the Minnesota Hosta Society!



Submitted by Betty Holz-Bergmann

Member Plant Update

We have a great selection of MEMBER PLANTS this year!

Watch for these in the SPRING HOSTAPHILE



Submitted by Steve Rutz

Display Garden Update



'Marion Bachman'



'Sun Mouse'



'School Mouse'



'Crystal Dixie'

September turned out to be a busy work month at the MHS Display Garden at Smith Coffee. We finished some major items on the MHS Display Garden 'To Do' list:

1) Installing Cyprus mulch and the plastic edging needed to keep mulch in the MHS brick lined garden paths
2) Digging up hosta struggling against Maple tree root invasion and replanting all in protective heavy plastic pots
3) Planting companion plants to add flowering color throughout the summer

In June, 2020, MHS purchased 11 new Hosta to replace losses at the Display Garden. They were potted in oversized, heavy weight plastic pots and they spent the summer at our home being well watered and protected from critters.

When we brought them to the MHS garden on Sept. 13 to put in the garden, we decided to try a new (to us anyway) planting method. In an attempt to halt the insidious invasion of Maple tree roots from which the MHS Display Garden hosta continue to suffer, we used the Bob Solberg method of hosta planting that he presented at our February, 2020, MHS meeting. The new hostas that we put in that day were planted in the ground while still in their oversized pots with at least an inch of pot lip showing above ground. In the future, we should be able to lift them out of the ground to check if tree roots have found their way up the drain holes in the bottom of the pots. This may not be a problem since most of the previous MHS Maple tree root incursion all seemed to occur in the top 6 to 9 inches of the soil. But if any appear they can easily be detached and discarded.

Also that day, nine of the most desperately struggling, previously large and vibrant Hosta were dug up, potted and brought to Marv Tenclay's home to try to nurse them back to health in his garden. In all cases, their growth problems were caused by tree root strangulation.

Our first big Sept. work day was on Saturday, the 19th. MHS volunteers arrived in their masks to 1) work on the paths, 2) replant a large number of tree root infested hostas with the Solberg plastic pot technique, and 3) plant companion plants purchased at fall sales.

Our crew that day included Gary Mosiman, Julie Carley, Rod Hilstrom, Tom Wright, Kathy Haram, Pat Schott, Mark Glenn, Pat Kessler and Bob McClure. In preparation for our crew work day, plastic edging, 25 bags of Cypress mulch and a rented kick sod cutter were picked up from Home Depot. Volunteers brought multiple wheel-barrows and tools and a miter saw to cut the plastic edging. It was initially expected it to be a one-day project. We were very wrong!



Display Garden Update continued



'Sum It Up'



'Snow Mouse'



'Alvatine Taylor'



'Wu La La'

What we thought would be the fairly easy first step of installing plastic edging at the ends of all the brick lined paths (to contain the mulch inside the pathways) was actually not so easy. This part of the project turned out to be much more time consuming than expected due to a lot of dirt excavation and chopping out tree roots to be able to get the edging embedded deep enough in the soil to stay in place. We had underestimated how pervasive and thick the roots would be that stood in our way. We ended up needing an axe to cut through the bigger roots so Tom went home for his.

Then the dirt and grass (and tree roots) in the Display Garden's many pathways by the South gardens were dug out. Shovels and a kick sod cutter and the axe were used. Again, it was much harder to excavate than we anticipated. Bags of Cyprus mulch were hauled by hand or in wheelbarrows and emptied into the paths. Tom had to make another Home Depot run for more Cyprus mulch and plastic edging. Meanwhile, many other volunteers were replanting the most unhappy of the tree infested hostas, their roots now shielded by the plastic barrier of a pot.

By the end of the Sept. 19 workday, we had completed the South Display Garden path up to and around the large Maple in the center of the South path. The amount of work expended to get to this point would definitely surprise most people, though maybe not gardeners!

On the following Saturday, Sept. 26, Rod, Kathy, Gary, Julie and both Pats returned to finish our projects. The last of the South path was completed with edging and mulch and looked much more professionally landscaped. We then started the edging on the North garden paths whose soil, luckily, was not crammed with tree roots. So, though still hard work, not as much ax chopping was needed. The edging was completed, the dirt in the paths was excavated and leveled and finally the mulch spread over the last areas. With the finished paths and many hosta now happily ensconced in their new homes with roots protected by plastic pots, our work was done.

After two Saturdays in a row, with generous volunteers expending many hours of heavy labor, the paths were finished. We were fortunate to have no rain or clouds, only sunny skies on both days. The excavation of the paths turned out to be a bigger endeavor than we anticipated but we prevailed and the results are beautiful and well worth the effort.

Hope you all will visit the Display Garden in 2021.
We are happy when people come to enjoy it.



'Alex Summers'

'Yellow Polka Dot Bikini'



Display Garden Update continued



Now that the Display Garden looks so beautiful, we want people to know who created and maintains the garden by installing the American Hosta Society National Display Garden sign that MHS was awarded by the American Hosta Society.

Since it needs a base, we decided to look at Hedberg's for the perfect stone for mounting the sign. Rod, Gary and Julie toured the lot and found several promising possibilities and pictures were taken of the three best candidates. Others in MHS were consulted on their preference and ultimately, on Nov. 19, Rod, Gary, Julie and Steve Rutz returned to buy what was considered the best of the stones. It was a fairly weighty enterprise to load the stone and bring it to the garden for storage. Luckily, Hedberg's used their front loader to get the stone into Rod's car and, also luckily, no fingers or toes were lost when we later rolled it out of Rod's trunk to drop behind the shed at Smith Coffee. Placing the stone in the garden, then mounting the brass plaque to it will be a project for this coming Spring. It should be gorgeous.

Thanks again to all the volunteers who watered over the past summer and the work crews who helped with planting, edging, mulching and generally beautifying the MHS Display Garden. The difference your efforts made can really be seen.

Submitted by Julie Carley











As gardeners we should all take an interest in this article put out by Minnesota DNR!

Jumping worm (*Amynthas* species)



Photo by Josef Gorres, University of Vermont.

Description

Appearance

Jumping worms are a type of earthworm. They are called “jumping worms” because of their unusual behavior when disturbed – they move like a snake and sometimes appear to be jumping. A light-colored ring extends around the body and may be more prominent than in other earthworms.



Biology

Jumping worms refers to multiple species, all in the genus Amynthas. Jumping worms live and feed in the leaf litter layer on the soil surface and in the top few inches of the soil, but do not create burrows. They produce cocoons in late summer and early autumn. Then the adults die and the cocoon stage survives through the winter. Cocoons hatch in early spring and adults mature in summer. *Amynthas* are able to survive a variety of conditions including cold winter temperatures.

Origin and Spread

No earthworms are native to Minnesota and other northern states. Jumping worms are native to Asia. People spread jumping worms throughout North America by moving potted plants, soil, compost, mulch and fishing bait.

article continues on the next 3 pages

Researchers at the University of Minnesota have confirmed jumping worms in Minnesota. Dr. Lee Frelich first observed *Amynthas agrestis* in Loring Park in Minneapolis in 2006. Dr. Frelich has also observed jumping worms on the University of Minnesota St. Paul campus since 2007.

Means of spread include:

- Moving soil, potted landscape plants, sod, mulch (including bark mulch or woodchips), or compost can move earthworms and their cocoons from one place to another.
- Earthworms, such as red wigglers (*Eisenis fetida*) purchased for composting may be contaminated with jumping worms.
- Earthworms purchased for fishing bait, such as European nightcrawlers (*Lumbricus terrestris*) may be contaminated with jumping worms.

Don't be fooled by these look-alikes

Keys to jumping worm identification include:

- Look for soil with a similar appearance to coffee grounds. As jumping worms eat and excrete waste, the soil gets a unique texture like coffee grounds.
- Jumping worms are very active, move like snakes and secrete yellow mucus when agitated (see video from Wisconsin DNR (link is external) showing their movement).
- When a jumping worm is disturbed, its tail can break off and continue to flail.
- The ring (clitellum) on adults is closer to the end than on nightcrawlers, milky pink to milky gray in color, encircles the whole body evenly, and is barely raised above the skin.
- Setae (tiny hairs the worm uses to move) are evenly spaced around the entirety of each segment, not in pairs or concentrated on the bottom or sides of the body.

Jumping worms can look similar to European nightcrawlers (*Lumbricus terrestris*).

Regulatory Classification

Jumping worms (*Amynthas* species) are classified as unlisted nonnative species in Minnesota. They cannot be legally Introduced into the environment in Minnesota.

To prevent future introductions of jumping worms (*Amynthas* species), the DNR is considering listing *Amynthas* species as prohibited invasive species in Minnesota. This would make it a misdemeanor to possess, import, purchase, transport or introduce jumping worms without a permit.

Threat to Minnesota

Invasive species populations may cause recreational, economic and ecological damage and can change how residents and visitors use and enjoy Minnesota lands and waters.

Jumping worm impacts:

- Jumping worms can dramatically change soils, giving it a unique texture similar to coffee grounds. Jumping worms feast on mulch and strip vital nutrients from topsoil. This kills plants and increases erosion. Homeowners may see garden plants killed and may have difficulty growing plants.
- Jumping worms can cause environmental harm where they are established. Studies have found nonnative earthworms dramatically change forest soils by eating the leaf litter layer and impacting soil chemistry, soil organisms and plant communities. Jumping

worms have been shown to have similar effects. When the soil changes, the forest can't support the same plant and animal species it did before earthworms.

What you should do

You can help prevent the spread of jumping worms.

- Everyone:
  - Don't buy worms advertised as jumping worms, "snake worms", "Alabama jumpers" or "crazy worms" for any purpose.
  - View the video Invasive jumping worms: Impacts and prevention (link is external)
- Anglers:
  - Dispose of unwanted bait worms in the trash. Never release any worm into the environment – all earthworms are non-native to Minnesota.
  - The common bait worms in Minnesota are different species than jumping worms, but are still harmful to forests. Continue to dispose of unused bait worms in the trash.
  - View the video Jumping worms: What anglers should know (link is external).
- Gardeners:
  - Be on the lookout for jumping worms in soil, potted landscape plants, mulch or compost. You might see soil that looks like coffee grounds or notice unusually jumpy worms in your mulch. Don't move any material that might be harboring jumping worms, and report any suspected jumping worms to the DNR.
  - Clean soil off of your gardening gear (tools, gloves, shoes, carts, etc.) before taking it to another yard.
- Vermicomposters:
  - If you purchase worms for composting, know how to identify the species you are buying.
  - Check your order to ensure it doesn't have jumping worms in it.
  - Follow Great Lakes Worm Watch's "ABC's of composting with earthworms safely PDF (link is external)".
- Recreationists:
  - Follow the recommendations of PlayCleanGo: Stop Invasive Species in Your Tracks (link is external)
    - REMOVE plants, animals, and mud from boots, gear, pets and vehicle.
    - CLEAN your gear before entering and leaving a recreation site.
    - STAY on designated roads and trails.

Report new occurrences of jumping worms to the DNR by contacting laura.vanriper@state.mn.us (link sends email) or log in and submit a report through EDDMapS Midwest (link is external).

- Take photos of the live worm. Researchers need high resolution, clear photos to identify jumping worms. Rinse off the worm so that it is free of soil. Place the worm on a plain surface such as a piece of paper. Make sure the photos are in focus and have a clear view of the ring around the body (clitellum) in relation to the head as researchers will count the body segments between the head and clitellum.
- Take a short video of the movement of the worm when touched.
- If possible, keep the specimen, in case an expert needs to see the sample. Add alcohol to a small bottle, jar, re-sealable plastic bag, or plastic storage container. Place the worm inside and store in the refrigerator.

Control Methods

Preventing the introduction and spread of jumping worms in Minnesota is more effective than controlling established populations. Do not not purchase or import jumping worms, and remember to inspect mulch, plants, soil and bait for jumping worms.

There are no known methods for controlling invasive earthworms on a large scale in natural settings. Chemical treatments that would kill earthworms would kill beneficial soil organisms as well. Jumping worms live near the top of the soil surface and in the leaf and mulch layer. You can hand collect worms, seal them in a bag, and dispose of them in the trash. This may help reduce the amount of jumping worms at your site.

Gardeners have many questions about how the timing of gardening activities or how various soil amendments or mulches affect jumping worms. There may be garden management techniques that reduce the impacts of jumping worms, but we have little information on this. If you are a gardener and have a site with jumping worms, University of Minnesota Extension invites you to share the results of your management so that researchers can learn from your experiences. Visit Extension's Report Jumping Worm Management webpage (link is external) to contribute.

Resources https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/terrestrialanimals/jumping-worm/index.html



Thanks to our Leadership - 2020 and 2021

I am one that is very thankful that we have a large pool of talent to step up and take leadership positions with the Minnesota Hosta Society. The people listed below have been in these leadership positions for 2020 or will be taking these positions in 2021, or both, and we have a few more positions to fill in the near future. If I have missed anyone, I apologize, you are appreciated also!

- Vice President – Tom Wright
- Recording Secretary (and Leaf Show Chair) – Paul Lambert
- Membership Secretary – Betty Holz Bergmann
- Treasurer – Jeannine Churchill
- Past President (and AHS President) – Andy Marlow
- AHS National Convention – Amy Peterson, Mary Schwartzbauer
- Hostaphile Editor (plus other design projects) – Lea Kirihara
- Display Garden – Julie Carley, Gary Mosiman, & Kathy Haram
- Hosta Sale Chair - Marvin Ten Clay
- Member Plant Chair – Steve Rutz
- Garden Tours Chair (and Webmaster) – Kathy Haram
- Meeting Hospitality Chair – Gayle McGriff
- Publicity Chair – Karen Wright
- Parliamentarian (and AHS Photographer) – Andy Marlow

Thank you very much from your 2020-21 president, Rod Hillstrom



Instructions for using Zoom

You can use either a smartphone, tablet, laptop computer, or desktop computer to join the meeting.

If you do not already have Zoom, you may be prompted to download the app and create a free account. This process should take less than 5 minutes.

If you happen to have multiple device options, here are some considerations when choosing your device:

- If you join the meeting using a laptop or desktop and don't have a camera, you will not be visible to others (optional!)
- The larger the device, the larger the viewing area and the more people you'll be able to see at once.
- A laptop or desktop will make utilizing the chat feature easier (also optional!)

A couple of additional notes before joining:

- To minimize background noise, you will be muted when you join and for the duration of the meeting. Only the speaker will be audible.
- When you log on, you can choose to be visible or not.



2021 MHS Calendar

2/13	ZOOM Meeting with Speaker Rob Mortko on 'HOT HOSTA' 2:PM
2/28	Articles Due for Spring Hostaphile 2021 to Editor
4/10	Spring General Meeting / Bachman's Heritage Room (??)
4/30	Articles Due for Summer Hostaphile to Editor
5/15	Hosta Potting Party: Members only; See newsletter for details
6/12	MHS Annual Hosta Sale / Smith Coffee and Cafe, Eden Prairie MN
6/17-19	AHS National Convention / Kalamazoo, Michigan
6/25-27	MHS Hosta Leaf Show / Bachman's Heritage Room
7/8-10	Midwest Regional Hosta Convention / Lisle, IL
7/17	MHS Hosta Garden Bus Tour / Gardens TBD
8/26-27	MHS Hosta Display / Minnesota State Fair Booth
8/31	Articles Due for Fall Hostaphile to Editor
10/9	Fall General Meeting / Bachman's Heritage Room
12/31	Articles Due for Winter Hostaphile to Editor





