

Nicest thing to do for garden is to mulch

By Kay Melia

Master Gardener
vkmelia@yahoo.com



kay melia
the gardener

I'm sitting here trying to reach a decision of utmost gardening importance, and after a show of hands, I finally have an answer. I have determined that the absolutely without question nicest thing you can do for your backyard vegetable garden right now, is to mulch it! No other decision you make concerning the summer-long care of your garden is as important as mulching it. Nothing. Not watering, not weeding, not fertilizing...nothing! The thing of it is that if you mulch your garden crops now, you will not have to water it, weed it or fertilize it as often as you normally would. That is a proven fact! Think about it. A substantial layer of mulch alongside your growing

plants will suppress the growth of weeds and very few will show up the rest of the summer. It will also shade the sun from completely drying out the soil, and you will save untold dollars on your water bill. And finally, the heavy layer of mulch will also slowly release a few nutrients to your garden soil. The big payoff comes next fall when you plow the mulch deeply into the soil where it will biodegrade as it provides a winter supply of food for the earthworms

that will surely be attracted to your garden due to your generosity in providing it for them. Do I have your attention yet? If I do, you may be asking questions like "Alright smart guy...where do I find this mulch stuff, what is it made out of and how much does it cost?" Actually, most of us have it available right there in the yard, and it doesn't cost a dime. In many cases, I may be preaching to the choir here. Many of you, particularly the veteran gardeners among you, know all about the good things that can happen when you add great gobs of biodegradable material (read mulch) to your growing garden. If you don't mulch, it doesn't mean your garden is doomed. It's just that mulching makes your job so much easier, and the

garden is going to be so much more productive, this year and next. Choosing the right mulch is a snap! The best one is the one that is most available to you, and that would be dry grass clippings. Don't use them when they are freshly cut as they will form an airless barrier at the soil surface and will tend to rot, causing an unacceptable odor. Dry them out completely before using them. My favorite mulch, by far, is leaves. Like those that fall from trees. I store dozens of big trash bags full every fall, and use them the following summer. Most of the ones I use have been run through a lawnmower and as such are mixed with a few grass clippings which makes them even more useful. (Thanks Ron!) In the summer, as soon as soil temperatures approach 65 to 70 degrees, I force many, many handfuls of

these delicious leaves alongside just about everything I have growing, and then sit back and watch the plants thrive. Other materials that make great mulch include straw, rotted hay, dry horse, cow or chicken manure, shredded newspaper and shredded wood chips. Just about anything that is biodegradable after being plowed under next fall is fair game. Indeed, mulch is a protective cover placed over the soil near your vegetable plants and help retain soil moisture, reduce erosion, provide nutrients and suppress weed growth and seed germination. Mulching the garden mimics the leaf cover that is formed on forest floors. Now, today or tomorrow, is the time to apply it!

Spurge can be a difficult broadleaf weed to control



dana belshe
ag notebook

Prostrate spurge is one of the more difficult broadleaf weeds to control. It is a summer annual that must come up from seed every year. If caught when young, it is easier, though still difficult, to control. Correct herbicide selection is important. Mature plants are almost impossible to control, even with selected herbicides. Several years ago Kansas State Research and Extension conducted a study on the phytotoxic effects of certain herbicides on buffalo grass. During the application, we noted the presence of a large num-

ber of small prostrate spurge plants. As the study progressed, plots were rated for percent control of spurge. The results were interesting. We found that Drive (quinclorac) provided more than 90 percent control. Until recently, Drive was only available to commercial applicators. Now homeowners have additional products that contain Drive. Those products are listed below: Ortho Weed-B-Gon Max + Crabgrass Control Bayer All-in-One Lawn Weed and Crabgrass Killer Drive in Monterey Lawn and Garden Fertilome Weed Out with Q Trimec Crabgrass Plus Lawn Weed Killer

Bonide Weed Beater Plus Crabgrass & Broadleaf Weed Killer Spectracide Weed Stop for Lawns Plus Crabgrass Killer If you choose to use any of the above products, do not compost

clippings or use them as mulch. The Drive (quinclorac) can harm certain broadleaf plants. Clippings should be returned to the lawn or discarded. Dimension and Turflon Ester of-

fered more than 80 percent control, and Trimec 78 percent. Dimension results were surprising because it is a preemergence herbicide with some postemergence activity that is commonly used for crabgrass

control. Turflon Ester should only be used on cool-season grass such as tall fescue and Kentucky bluegrass; not on warm-season grasses such as bermuda, zoysia or buffalo.

sunflower 4-h

The regular monthly meeting of the Sunflower 4-H club was held at Edwards Hall on Monday, May 21. President Kinsey Volk called the meeting to order and acting Vice President Makayla Fitzgibbons led the club in the flag salute and 4-H Pledge. Roll call of "Who is your hero?" was answered by 13 members, six parents and one leader. Duncan Kroskey led the club in singing "Happy Birthday."

a current event about the School District iPad use. Christopher Berls played a song entitled "On Top Of Old Smoky" on his trombone for music appreciation. Makayla Fitzgibbons gave a project talk on beef cattle terms and Ryan Berls gave a demonstration on training your dog. After the program, president Kinsey Volk declared a short recess for recreation. Ryan Berls led the club in playing Dragon Tag. Dalton Arntt served refreshments after the meeting. The next club meeting will be held on Friday, June 18.

Ryan Berls, reporter

matters of record

Sherman County Bastille
The following people were booked into the Sherman County Bastille:
May 23 - Mark Ricks, 53, Goodland, was arrested by city police for battery.
Terry Carpenter, 51, Goodland, was arrested by city police for disorderly conduct.

May 24 - James Scott, 33, Goodland, journal entry - 5 days by sheriff deputy.
Braden Lucas, 21, Goodland, arrested by city officer for possession of hallucinogenic drugs.
Virgil Baumfalk, 51, Goodland, arrested by sheriff deputy for failure to appear.

public notice

RESOLUTION NO. 1365
A RESOLUTION FIXING A TIME AND PLACE AND PROVIDING FOR NOTICE OF A HEARING BEFORE THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF GOODLAND, KANSAS, AT WHICH THE OWNER, HIS OR HER AGENT, LIENHOLDERS OF RECORD, OCCUPANTS AND OTHER PARTIES IN INTEREST OF STRUCTURES LOCATED WITHIN SAID CITY AND DESCRIBED HEREIN MAY APPEAR AND SHOW CAUSE WHY SUCH STRUCTURE SHOULD NOT BE CONDEMNED AND ORDERED REPAIRED OR DEMOLISHED AS AN UNSAFE OR DANGEROUS STRUCTURE.
WHEREAS, the enforcing officer of the City of Goodland, Kansas, did on the 21st day of May 2012, file with the governing body of said city, a statement in writing that the structure, hereinafter described, is unsafe and dangerous.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF GOODLAND, KANSAS:

bers, 204 W 11th, 2nd Floor; Goodland, Kansas, at which the owner, his or her agent, any lien holders of record, any occupant and any other parties in interest, as that term is defined by law, of the structure located at:
Lots Six (6), and Seven (7), Block Twenty-four (24), Second Addition to the City of Goodland, Kansas according to the recorded plat thereof. Also known as 412 Center
may appear and show cause why such structure should not be condemned as an unsafe or dangerous structure and ordered repaired or demolished.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk shall cause this resolution to be published two consecutive weeks in the official city paper and shall give notice of the aforesaid hearing in the manner provided by law.
Adopted this 21st day of May, 2012.
John Garcia, Mayor
ATTEST:
Mary P. Volk, City Clerk
Published in The Goodland, Star-News, Friday, May 25 and June 1, 2012.

Worship warms the heart

<p>Calvary Gospel Church Pastor: Randy and Mary Payne Fourth & College • 890-3605 Sunday: Kid's Church: 10 am Morning Service: 8:30 and 10:30 am Prayer and Praise: 5:00 p.m. except last Sunday of the month Wednesday: Royal Rangers, Missionettes 6:30 p.m. during school year Youth @ the Rock House, Sixth & Caldwell: 6:30 p.m. Life Groups - Call for information Join us on Facebook www.calvarygospel.net</p>	<p>Our Lady of Perpetual Help Celebrant: Father Norbert Dlabal 307 W. 13th • 890-7205 Sacrament of Reconciliation: 5-5:45 p.m. Saturday or by appointment Mass Schedule: Saturday: 6 pm, Sunday: 10:30 am Spanish Mass: Sunday: 12:30 pm</p>	<p>Goodland United Methodist Church 1116 Sherman 899-3631 Pastors: Dustin and Shelly Petz Saturday: Worship: 5:30 p.m. Sunday: Adult Classes: 9:15 a.m. Worship: 10:30 a.m. Wednesday: Wednesday Nite Live 5:45 - 6:45 p.m. Simple Supper "Free will Offering 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Classes for all ages</p>			
<p>Bible Baptist Church Pastor: Clifford Middlebrooks Fifth & Broadway 890-7368 Sunday: Sunday School: 9 a.m. Morning Service: 10 a.m. Evening Service: 6:30 p.m. Wednesday: Evening Bible Study: 7 p.m.</p>	<p>Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints 1200 15th Street • Burlington, CO (719) 346-7984 Sacrament Meeting: 10 a.m. Sunday School: 11:15 a.m. Priesthood/Relief Society: 12 a.m.</p>	<p>Promiseland Baptist Church Pastor: Rick Holmes • 890-7082 225 W. 16th (785) 890-7944 Sunday: Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. Morning Service: 11:30 a.m. Evening Service: 6:30 p.m. Wednesday: Bible Study Service 6:30 p.m. Thursdays: Adult Bible Study 7-8 p.m.</p>			
<p>United Methodist Church Brewster: Pastor: Dorine Chambers Worship Service: 10:45 a.m. CST Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. CST Winona: Minister: Sheryl Johnson Worship Service: 9 a.m. CST Sunday School: 10:15 am CST</p>	<p>First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Pastor: Rev. Carol Edling Jolly Eighth & Arcade • 890-5233 Sunday: Church School - All ages 9:15 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Youth Group: 1st and 3rd Sundays 5-7 p.m. Thursday: Prayer Class - Noon Pastor Carol's Class 5:30 p.m. www.goodlandfccdoc.org</p>	<p>Kanorado United Methodist Church Pastor: Leonard Cox 399-2468 Sunday: Sunday School: 9 a.m. Worship Service: 10:15 a.m.</p>			
<p>Church of the Nazarene Pastor: Bob Willis Third & Caldwell 899-2080 or 899-3797 Sunday: Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Worship Service: 10:50 a.m. Evening Service: 6 p.m. Wednesday: Evening Service: 7 p.m.</p>	<p>St. Paul's Episcopal Church Celebrant: Father Don Martin 13th & Center Church 890-2115 or 890-7245 Services: 5 p.m. Saturday evening</p>	<p>Goodland Bible Church 109 Willow Road • 899-6400 Pastor: Chad DeJong Sunday: Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship: 10:45 a.m. 6 p.m. AWANA during school Evening Worship: 7:30 p.m. Wednesday: 6:30 youth group Growth groups call for information www.goodlandbible.org</p>			
<p>First Baptist Church Pastor: Travis Blake 1121 Main 890-3450 Sunday: Coffee fellowship: 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship: 10 a.m. Sunday School: 11:15 a.m. Thursday: Bible study 9:30 a.m. Wheatridge Center</p>	<p>H2O Church.TV Pastor: Craig Groeschel 1022 Main (785) 728-0123 Experience Time Sunday: 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p>Harvest Evangelical Free Church 521 E. Hwy. 24 • 890-6423 Pastor: Brian Fugleberg Sunday: Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sunday school: 9:30 a.m. Wednesday: Senior High: 6:30 p.m. at the church Junior High: 6:30 p.m. at the church www.goodlandefree.com</p>			
<p>Seventh Day Adventist Church 1160 Cattletrail Pastor: Jerry Nowack Saturday: Sabbath School: 9:30 a.m. Worship Service: 11 a.m.</p>	<p>Emmanuel Lutheran Church 13th & Sherman • 890-6161 Pastor: Darian Hybl Sunday: Christian education/fellowship: 10:15 a.m. Worship Service: 9 a.m.</p>	<p>Church of Christ 401 Caldwell 890-6185 Sunday: Bible Study: 9:45 a.m. Worship Service: 10:45 a.m. Wednesday: Bible Study: 7 p.m.</p>			
<p>The following sponsors urge YOU to attend your chosen House of Worship this Sabbath:</p>			<p>Short & Son Trucking Hwy. 24</p>	<p>Koons Funeral Chapel North Main</p>	<p>Good Samaritan Center 208 W. 2nd</p>
<p>Goodland Star-News 1205 Main St.</p>			<p>KLOE/KKCE/JKWGB 3023 W. 31</p>		