

PPNH July – Aug letter

Hello Everyone,

I hope that you all have been able to navigate the Covid problems and restrictions that are in place. It's not fun being stuck at home. Equally not fun being out at work and wondering if you'll get sick. We had to close down all of our events but now we are beginning to reimmerge into

This summer has been a bit crazy when it comes to weather. June was so dry that you could dig down 2 feet and still have dust. Then some rain came in but not much. It was mixed with some memorable thunderstorms. And of course the temperatures made it normal to get up at 5am if you wanted to get any gardening done. Wow. I hope that you all have managed to roll with these crazy punches.

I have made discoveries that I didn't expect. I worked hard to make a vegetable garden this year. I added some flowers because I had a tiny bit of space left over and can't resist flowers. The flowers were last. The veggies bloomed first. They are beautiful. And the pollinators! Wow...they are a hard working bunch. But my biggest surprise was the corn. I grew up in farm country. Running through a corn field was something we used to do as kids. It was fun. I never really LOOKED at the corn. It was just big tall stalks to run through. Those crazy tassels on the tops of the stalks? Those are the flowers and the pollinators love them. No butterflies but almost every description of bees and flies. So interesting. The winner in the beauty contest is easily the squash plants though. Gorgeous big orange blossoms hidden down in the deep green of the plant's leaves. The pea and bean blossoms? Just like Sweet Peas only small and not quite so colorful.

Other discoveries were that you can plant a large Bowl/ Planter and with the right plants you will get pollinators. You really can have a butterfly (mini)garden on your deck/porch. PPNH has Recipe cards for this project.