



GARDEN ALMANAC

**IHM Community
Garden Newsletter**

October 2019

End of the season

October has arrived and brings with it the end of our abbreviated growing season. We lost almost a month of growing time early in the spring. Warm weather and timely rains provided optimum growing conditions throughout most of the summer. Many vegetables continue to be harvested late but the yields look pretty good all things considered.

Our beekeeper reports the bees are doing well and are busy preparing for the winter. Fall flowers such as asters and goldenrod are producing plenty of nectar for them to gather.

New paintings have been added to the outside of the wooden barn. You are invited to visit the garden area and check out the barn art.

If you are interested in gardening with us next year, email me at rdluzen@ihmsisters.org and I'll make sure you are placed on the waiting list. Each year, one or two gardeners leave for one reason or another, which creates an opening for those on our waiting list. We would be happy to have you join us in the garden.

Best gardening wishes to you,

Bob

Bob Dluzen
Community Garden Coordinator



The zinnias in our Monarch Waystation garden are providing valuable nectar for migrating monarch butterflies.



New artwork has been added to the existing paintings on our barn. Paintings were created by friends of SMOF and people associated with the IHM congregation.

*The bee is little among such as fly; but
her fruit is the chief of sweet things.*

Sirach 11:3

Preparing the garden for winter

There are a number of steps involved in closing the garden for the season. First, the gardeners are given a deadline for harvesting their remaining produce and clearing major debris from their plots. Gardening things such as stakes, plant supports, mulches, decorative objects, etc. must be removed by a certain date. This year it is Oct. 21. All organic plant material is hauled to our compost area where it is piled, mixed and allowed to compost for several months. The finished compost is used in the garden to fertilize the soil and fill planter boxes.



After the gardeners have finished removing their debris, volunteers pick up the irrigation lines and wind them up on spools for safe storage in the pole barn.

Next, we use our large brush hog to mow down and chop anything left standing. Mowing chops longer pieces into smaller bits making it easier to till into the soil. Smaller pieces also break down quicker in the soil. Mowing is followed by rototilling. Our four-foot rototiller does a nice job incorporating the plant material. One pass with the tiller is good enough for the fall tilling. Some material left on the surface helps prevent erosion.

The final step is sowing a rye winter cover crop. Rye seed is broadcast over the tilled garden then shallowly mixed into the soil. This gives the seed good soil contact and helps deter marauding geese from eating the seed. This all depends on the weather. Too much rain in the fall will prevent us from using the tillage equipment. Not only is there a chance the tractor could get stuck in the mud, but tilling wet ground will destroy soil structure that can take years to rebuild.

Ask Governor Whitmer to ban “neonics”

From the IHM Sisters Justice, Peace and Sustainability Office



Bees are dying off by the millions. While climate change and habitat loss are contributing factors, study after study show that neonicotinoids, or neonics – bee-killing pesticides that are heavily used throughout the United States – alter bees' behavior as they try to feed and mate and even damages their neurological systems. Neonics are applied everywhere in the U.S., from crop fields to store seeds to wildlife refuges. And they're easily spread by wind and insects, so they don't stay put – they've even been found in the Great Lakes. They can take anywhere from months to years to wear off.

Statewide efforts can make a big difference in saving the bees and it's where we're seeing the most progress. Maryland, Connecticut and Vermont have passed laws to ban the sale of neonics to consumers. Minnesota, New Jersey and Oregon have taken some steps to protect bees from these bee-killing pesticides and California has called for planting bee-friendly vegetation on state lands.

Click [here](#) to ask Gov. Whitmer to make Michigan the next state to take action on neonics.

October normal temperatures 1980-present

Date	Normal high temp.	Normal Low temp.	Normal daily average temp.
Oct. 1	68°F	48°F	58°F
2	67°F	48°F	58°F
3	67°F	48°F	57°F
4	66°F	47°F	57°F
5	66°F	47°F	56°F
6	65°F	46°F	56°F
7	65°F	46°F	56°F
8	65°F	46°F	55°F
9	64°F	45°F	55°F
10	64°F	45°F	54°F
11	63°F	45°F	54°F
12	63°F	44°F	54°F
13	63°F	44°F	53°F
14	62°F	44°F	53°F
15	62°F	43°F	53°F
16	62°F	43°F	52°F
17	61°F	43°F	52°F
18	61°F	43°F	52°F
19	60°F	42°F	51°F
20	60°F	42°F	51°F
21	60°F	42°F	51°F
22	59°F	41°F	50°F
23	59°F	41°F	50°F
24	59°F	41°F	50°F
25	58°F	41°F	49°F
26	58°F	40°F	49°F
27	57°F	40°F	49°F
28	57°F	40°F	48°F
29	57°F	40°F	48°F
30	56°F	39°F	48°F
31	56°F	39°F	48°F

October record temperatures 1874-present

Date	Record high	Year	Record low	Year
Oct. 1	88°F	1897	31°F	1947
2	86°F	1971	29°F	1974
3	89°F	1953	24°F	1974
4	89°F	1951	32°F	1989
5	88°F	1951	31°F	1965
6	91°F	1963	30°F	1935
7	92°F	1963	29°F	1935
8	90°F	2007	25°F	1889
9	86°F	1949	28°F	1989
10	84°F	1949	29°F	1972
11	86°F	1928	25°F	1906
12	84°F	1995	26°F	1875
13	83°F	1975	26°F	1977
14	83°F	1989	27°F	1937
15	86°F	1897	24°F	1876
16	85°F	1938	26°F	1977
17	85°F	1938	23°F	1977
18	84°F	1963	24°F	1976
19	85°F	1953	22°F	1972
20	80°F	1920	19°F	1972
21	81°F	2007	17°F	1974
22	81°F	1920	25°F	1967
23	83°F	1963	22°F	1969
24	81°F	1963	22°F	1981
25	82°F	1963	24°F	1981
26	83°F	1963	22°F	1887
27	78°F	1927	22°F	1976
28	78°F	1927	21°F	1976
29	77°F	1999	22°F	1980
30	76°F	1999	20°F	1980
31	79°F	1950	21°F	1988

October 2019 twilight

Date	Morning twilight begins EDT	Evening twilight ends EDT
Oct. 1	7:02	7:43
2	7:04	7:42
3	7:05	7:40
4	7:06	7:38
5	7:07	7:37
6	7:08	7:35
7	7:09	7:33
8	7:10	7:32
9	7:11	7:30
10	7:12	7:28
11	7:13	7:27
12	7:14	7:25
13	7:15	7:24
14	7:17	7:22
15	7:18	7:20
16	7:19	7:19
17	7:20	7:17
18	7:21	7:16
19	7:22	7:14
20	7:23	7:13
21	7:24	7:11
22	7:25	7:10
23	7:27	7:09
24	7:28	7:07
25	7:29	7:06
26	7:30	7:05
27	7:31	7:03
28	7:32	7:02
29	7:33	7:01
30	7:35	6:59
31	7:36	6:58

October 2019 sunrise and sunset

Date	Sunrise EDT	Sunset EDT
Oct. 1	7:30	7:16
2	7:31	7:14
3	7:32	7:12
4	7:34	7:10
5	7:35	7:09
6	7:36	7:07
7	7:37	7:05
8	7:38	7:04
9	7:39	7:02
10	7:40	7:00
11	7:41	6:59
12	7:42	6:57
13	7:43	6:56
14	7:45	6:54
15	7:46	6:52
16	7:47	6:51
17	7:48	6:49
18	7:49	6:48
19	7:50	6:46
20	7:52	6:45
21	7:53	6:43
22	7:54	6:42
23	7:55	6:40
24	7:56	6:39
25	7:57	6:37
26	7:59	6:36
27	8:00	6:35
28	8:01	6:33
29	8:02	6:32
30	8:03	6:31
31	8:05	6:29

October precipitation records

Date	Greatest amount of rain	Year
Oct. 1	1.55 in.	1945
2	2.00 in.	1925
3	3.29 in.	1954
4	1.06 in.	2000
5	2.10 in.	1919
6	2.20 in.	1959
7	1.50 in.	1951
8	1.02 in.	1967
9	1.43 in.	1950
10	1.03 in.	1932
11	3.27 in.	1949
12	1.25 in.	1901
13	1.57 in.	1983
14	1.78 in.	2003
15	1.03 in.	1967
16	1.92 in.	2001
17	1.70 in.	1967
18	1.54 in.	1937
19	2.02 in.	1985
20	1.09 in.	1918
21	0.96 in.	1965
22	1.98 in.	1929
23	2.08 in.	1957
24	1.07 in.	2000
25	1.09 in.	1991
26	1.29 in.	1920
27	1.48 in.	1981
28	1.13 in.	2015
29	0.74 in.	1875
30	1.29 in.	1900
31	1.59 in.	2013

Gazebo available for your event

The gardens make a wonderful setting for our Gazebo. The primary purpose of our Gazebo is to provide gathering space for St. Mary Organic Farm activities and events that advance the educational and spiritual goals of the IHM Sisters. Other activities may be scheduled for the Gazebo if they fall within the guidelines described in the Gazebo Usage Policy.

There is no charge if your event or activity advances the educational and spiritual goals of the IHM Sisters. Free-will donations for the use of the Gazebo are welcome. To reserve the Gazebo, contact Events at 734-240-9871 or events@ihmsisters.org; They will be happy to assist you with your reservation.



October precipitation records

Normal monthly precipitation: 2.52 inches

Wettest October: 7.8 inches in 1954

Driest October: .30 inches in 1892

Greatest snowfall for October: 2.9 inches in 1980



Nature Explorers

Ferns



Ferns are a different kind of plant. They have stems and roots like other plants and use photosynthesis for energy to live and grow, but they don't generate flowers or produce seeds

for reproduction. Instead, they form spores. Spores have only one cell and don't have a food storage system. Seeds are made up of many cells and have food stored inside to help the baby plant get started. Spores are so tiny that they look like dust. Ferns are easy to spot with their specially shaped leaves called fronds. While growing, fronds form a "fiddlehead." Later when they're ready, the fiddlehead unrolls to reveal the frond.

OBSERVE: In the spring, find newly growing ferns with their fiddleheads. Check later in the season for brown dots under the leaves. That means they are producing spores.

KEEP IN MIND: Some fiddleheads can be eaten as a cooked vegetable while others are poisonous. Do not consume fiddleheads from unidentified ferns.

Considering a gift to St. Mary Organic Farm?

Donations are always appreciated and are tax-deductible. Your contribution will go toward local educational programs on gardening, healthy eating and lifestyle, environment protection, conservation and other programs that are part of our mission to do God's work by making our community a better place to live. They may also be used to purchase equipment and tools and to maintain garden facilities.

Please make your check payable to IHM Sisters and include St. Mary Organic Farm or SMOF in the memo line.

Safe, secure online giving is available for your convenience.

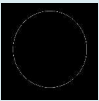


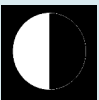


From Pope Francis' Encyclical, *Laudato Si': On Care for our Common Home*

In calling to mind the figure of Saint Francis of Assisi, we come to realize that a healthy relationship with creation is one dimension of overall personal conversion, which entails the recognition of our errors, sins, faults and failures, and leads to heartfelt repentance and desire to change. The Australian bishops spoke of the importance of such conversion for achieving reconciliation with creation: "To achieve such reconciliation, we must examine our lives and acknowledge the ways in which we have harmed God's creation through our actions and our failure to act. We need to experience a conversion, or change of heart."¹⁵³ (218)



Phases of the moon October 2019

	New Moon - Oct. 28
	First Quarter - Oct. 5
	Full Moon - Oct. 13
	Last Quarter - Oct. 21

IHM Garden Bee Journal: Sept. 29

By Judy Durfy

Fall is in the air today! Even though it was too cool and damp outside to work in the hives, I drove out just to do a quick check on them. Both beehives were alive and well. Although the honeybees couldn't forage today because of the weather, they weren't idle.

They were busy preparing for winter by cleaning house and sealing up any cracks and even some of their extra entrances with propolis. Soon, the population will reduce to a small amount of female "winter" bees and the fertile queen.

The winter bees are those born in October and November that have genetics that allow them to live for the entire winter instead of the normal 5-6 weeks. Fewer bees means fewer mouths to feed, which should allow the precious honey store to last until spring when nectar and pollen will become available again.

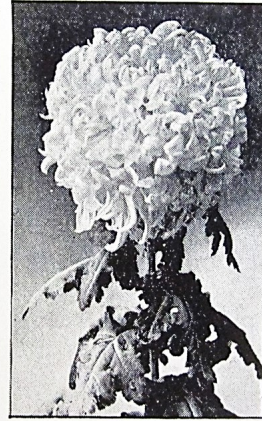


The bees are working to seal up an unneeded hive entrance.

Gardening in the 1900s

This is the only month

of the year you can select Chrysanthemums intelligently. Go to a flower show, note the varieties you want and order them from us now. We will grow



them especially to your order for Spring delivery. We can supply any existing variety if you order now and mention THE GARDEN MAGAZINE. We are

Chrysanthemum Specialists

Importers, Originators and Disseminators of the Best Novelties and Standard Varieties

Spring Catalogue in January

NATHAN SMITH & SON

112 W. Maumee St., Adrian, Mich.

This ad was published in the November 1905 issue of *The Garden Magazine*, a nationally distributed publication. Located in Adrian, Nathan Smith & Son' was a major chrysanthemum supplier. Copies of their catalogs can be found archived on the internet.

"Nature soon takes over if the gardener is absent.

— Penelope Hobhouse