

MASTER GARDENER UPDATE. . . Friday, April 4, 2008
Announcements and news for ISU Extension Master Gardeners, staff, and faculty

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ISU SCOTT COUNTY EXTENSION GARDENING SERIES

Brought to you by the ISU Scott County Extension Master Gardeners.

April 7, Monday, 7:00PM

Butterflies and Hummingbird Gardens - Learn about these airborne visitors to your garden and how to attract them. Join ISU Scott County Extension Master Gardener Ray Wolf who will describe the plants that attract butterflies and hummingbirds, as well as discuss these winged visitors.

April 15, Tuesday. 5:30 -8:00PM

Emerald Ash Borer Pizza & the Pest - Join ISU Scott County Extension for an evening with two exotic introductions to North America. The first we are all familiar with, pizza! The extent of our dealings with that Neapolitan introduction to our shores will be to have it available for your dining pleasure.

The second exotic introduction and one many of us have questions about is the Emerald Ash Borer. Join Dr Mark Shour, Entomologist at Iowa State University, at a session that will provide an update on the national distribution of the emerald ash borer, ideas on what citizens can be doing to prepare for this insect, and demonstrate the bark peeling technique used to look for EAB in Iowa.

(Cost: \$5.00 Registration: Call ISU
Scott County Extension 359-7577 by April 11th)

April 21, Monday, 7:00PM

Shade Gardening - ISU Scott County Extension Master Gardener Jackie Arvidson will discuss plant options for those shady spots in your yard

beyond the traditional hostas.

April 28, Monday, 7:00PM

Container Gardening - Need a planting to fill a space on your deck or patio, have a niche just perfect for a hanging basket, or limited in how much room you have to garden? If so, join ISU Scott County Extension Master Gardener Laurie Elliott who will demonstrate how to create attractive containers to fill those spaces.

All classes will be held in the Cyclone Room at the Scott County Extension Office at 875 Tanglefoot Lane in Bettendorf.

A nominal of \$5 fee is charged and refreshments will be provided.

Please register for classes by calling the Extension Office at 563-359-7577 weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Classes are 1-2 hours in length.

For directions to the office and information on other Scott County Extension programs, visit <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/scott/>.

VOLUNTEER WORKDAYS AT IOWA ARBORETUM

Iowa Arboretum will host Volunteer Workdays on Thursday, April 24th and Friday, April 25th; beginning at 9:00 AM. Helping with preparations for the Green Tie Affair and Spring Plant Sale offers volunteers various jobs on the grounds, in the greenhouse and setting up for the auction in the Hughes Center. Come for one or both days and stay as long as your schedule allows. Refreshments will be provided for the morning break, bring a sack lunch if you plan to stay into the afternoon.

Thursday, April 24th and Friday, April 25th at 9:00 AM

Iowa Arboretum

Iowa Arboretum is located 2 miles west and 2 miles south of Luther in Boone County.

For more information, contact Kristin Burkey at (515) 795-3216 or visit the web site: info@iowaarboretum.org

SAC COUNTY APRIL LUNCH 'N LEARN

On Saturdays in April we will be hosting "Lunch and Learn" sessions at the Prairie Pedlar each Saturday from 11:00 2:00. These will be how-to sessions and participants will enjoy a variety of topics and hands-on activities and demonstrations. Reservations are required. There will be a fee of \$35 for each event, but in return, each participant will receive lunch, instructions on a variety of garden projects and topics, and a \$20 gift certificate that may be used at the greenhouse or gift shop on that day or anytime in 2008. Following is a list of topics covered at each session.

Saturday, April 5th

- *Spiral Pruning
- *Window Boxes
- *Perennials Divide and Conquer
- *Moveable Gardens Containers on the Go
- *Companion Planting
- *Glimpse in the Greenhouse
- *Four All Seasons All Natural Fertilizer Intro

Saturday, April 12th

- *Wacky Garden Containers
- *Trellising
- *Garden Ornaments Decorating Your Garden
- *Growing and Harvesting Herbs
- *Sewing Seeds Successfully
- *Glimpse in the Greenhouse
- *Four All Seasons All Natural Fertilizer intro

Saturday, April 19th

- *Propagation Explanation
- *Vines and Vertical Gardening
- *Perennial Perfection
- *Hanging Baskets How-To
- *Fantastic Foliages
- *Glimpse in the Greenhouse
- *Four All Seasons All Natural Fertilizer intro

Saturday, April 26th

- *Shade Gardening 101
- *Creative Weed Control in the Garden
- *Secrets about Clematis
- *Hot Summer Survivors
- *Pots on a Pole
- *Glimpse in the Greenhouse
- *Four All Seasons All Natural Fertilizer intro

\$35 for each event

For more information and directions to Prairie Pedlar contact:

Tom Duncan - County Extension Education Director

ISU Extension - Sac County

620 Park Ave

Sac City, IA 50583

Phone: 712-662-7131

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/sac/>

POLK COUNTY MASTER GARDENER BUS TOUR

We have a great one day trip planned June 7 to visit the Iowa City/Cedar Rapids area. Our day includes visits to two fabulous private gardens, two great garden centers and one beautiful public garden.

Our visits in Iowa City include stops at Iowa City Landscaping, one of the favorite garden centers in the Iowa City area.

A private garden in the Iowa City area.
This woodland garden should be beautiful in June.

A picnic lunch near the Coralville Lake. Lunch is included in the price of the tour.

Our visits in Cedar Rapids include stops at
An amazing private garden. The garden covers a few acres of land, so wear your walking shoes!

Cedar River Garden Center

The final stop of the day is a visit to the Newton Arboretum.
The arboretum is about 3 acres of gardens, native trees, shrub roses, ornamental grasses and annual and perennial beds.

We hope to be back in the parking lot by 9:00 p.m.

COST IS \$40 (checks payable to Polk Co. Master Gardeners)
Send to Jeri McGinnis - 3121 45th Street - Des Moines, Iowa 50310-3525

Please park in the Walnut Hills Methodist United Methodist Church – 12321 Hickman Road, Urbandale (Next to Stew Hansen Dodge) and board the chartered bus. We will depart from the parking lot at **6:30AM**.

Bus (tour) capacity is 55 people. Reservations will be taken in the order received. No refunds unless spot is filled from the waiting list.

Questions? Call Jeri McGinnis at 515-314-1326 (cell) or e-mail her at: jsmcginnis@netins.net.

MASTER GARDENER SUMMER SESSION NEW INFORMATION!

Join us July 11 and 12, 2008 on the campus of Iowa State University for two action-packed, fun-filled, educational days as the Iowa Master Gardener Program hosts the first Summer Session. This intensive 2-day event will feature a hands-on approach with plant examples to study and identify. Investigate plant diseases, take a tree scavenger hunt on campus and learn how to maximize your volunteer service as a Master Gardener. The program will close with intriguing insights from keynote speaker John Ball with his program entitled, Diagnostics for Master Gardeners, Its not All CSI. The program will be held rain or shine. Don't wait! Many registrations have already been received.

Discount coupon for lodging at AmericInn or County Inn and Suites
<http://www.college-coupons.com/-Coupons/ames/country.html>

Visit the Iowa Master Gardener website for registration information
<http://mastergardener.hort.iastate.edu/>

SUBMITTING YOUR NEWS

Master Gardener Update is warmly published Friday by the Iowa Master Gardener Coordinator. Please send your news via email to James Romer (jromer@iastate.edu). Press releases received by Wednesday will be included in the next Update.

When submitting information for the MG Update, be sure to include who, what, when, where, why, cost (if applicable), a brief paragraph discussing the event and a contact for more information. Please review all information before submitting. For questions, call (515) 294-2336.

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20250-9410 or call 202-720-5964.