

MASTER GARDENER UPDATE. . . Friday, May 1, 2009
Announcements and news for ISU Extension Master Gardeners, staff, and faculty

IN THIS ISSUE

MASTER GARDENER SUMMER SESSIONS
POLK COUNTY MASTER GARDENER PLANT SALE
BLOOMFEST 2009
SCOTT COUNTY BLOSSOMS, BASKETS, AND DREAMS SALE
NEED PLANTS? MAHASKA MASTER GARDENERS HAVE SOME FOR YOU
LINN COUNTY MASTER GARDENER PLANT SALE
CLEAR LAKE FRIENDLY GARDEN CLUB PLANT SALE
POLK COUNTY MASTER GARDENER'S GARDEN TOUR
NO UPDATE NEXT TWO WEEKS
SUBMITTING YOUR NEWS

MASTER GARDENER SUMMER SESSIONS

Join us on the campus of Iowa State University for two action-packed, fun-filled, educational days as the Iowa Master Gardener Program hosts two different Summer Sessions. The programs will be held rain or shine.

Track I 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. This track was first offered last year.

Track II will also have a hands-on approach with a focus on the components of great home landscape designs. Examine different landscapes first-hand, discover new and underused plants and learn more about the Emerald Ash Borer and ways you can help. This is a new track. The brochure and registration form will be on-line soon.

When: June 19 and 20, 2009

Where: Iowa State University Campus

For More Information:

Visit the Iowa Master Gardener website
(<http://mastergardener.hort.iastate.edu/>) or contact James Romer
at (515) 294-2336 email jromer@iastate.edu.

POLK COUNTY MASTER GARDENER PLANT SALE

There will be a wide variety of annuals and vegetables several varieties of hybrid and heirloom tomatoes, herbs, ground covers and lisianthus. Buck roses will also be available!

When: Saturday, May 2nd from 8:00 AM 4:30 PM and Sunday, May 3rd from 12:30 PM 4:30 PM

Where: Des Moines Botanical Center (FREE admission to the plant sale)

For More Information contact:

Polk County Extension Office (515) 957-5760 or Mary Beth Day by email marybethday@gmail.com

BLOOMFEST 2009

The largest iris nursery in Iowa will celebrate their spring bloom season. The annual celebration of irises in bloom, Bloomfest! features a number of new events this year, with something happening every weekend.

The Norris family invites you to spend Mothers Day weekend with them on May 9. Starting at 10:00AM, coffee and fresh, home-baked goodies will be served. Come peruse the iris fields and bring your mother, grandmother, or special lady along to receive 10% off your order.

The nursery is open daily, Monday through Saturday 9:00AM to 6:00PM and Sunday 1:30PM to 5:30PM and by appointment for group tours.

When: May 9 through 31

Where: Rainbow Iris Farm is located seven miles south of Bedford.
Directions to the farm are available at www.rainbowfarms.net.

For More Information Contact:

Kelly D. Norris by email at kellydn@frontiernet.net

SCOTT COUNTY BLOSSOMS, BASKETS, AND DREAMS SALE

Purchase perennial plants shared by the Master Gardeners from their gardens as well as uncommon zone friendly perennials purchased from a greenhouse in Iowa. Sign up for a raffle of planted baskets.

Booths showcasing horticulture education will be scattered around the area. Join us for a tour of the ISU Extension grounds new work in progress garden showcasing two types of rain gardens and the plans for future work.

When: Saturday, May 9th, 9:00AM until the plants are gone!

Where: Scott County Extension Office, 875 Tanglefoot Lane, Bettendorf, IA

For More Information Contact:

Duane Gissel, ISU Scott County Extension Horticulturist at (563)-359-7577 or email gissel@iastate.edu

NEED PLANTS? MAHASKA MASTER GARDENERS HAVE SOME FOR YOU

A nice selection of perennials, annuals, including heirloom tomatoes, EON Garden Markers, as well as second time around gardening items, books & periodicals will be sold. Proceeds from the sale support Master Gardener activities in Mahaska County including future speaker fees.

When: Saturday May 9, 2009 from 8:00AM to Noon

Where: Mahaska County Extension Office, 212 North I Street
Oskaloosa, IA 52577

For More Information contact:

Suzette Striegel, Mahaska County Extension Horticulturist at (641) 673-5841 or visit www.extension.iastate.edu/mahaska

LINN COUNTY MASTER GARDENER PLANT SALE

As always, pick plants for your garden from many kinds of perennials (both for sun and or shade), and many varieties of hosta and daylilies, also wildflowers, groundcovers, ornamental grasses, annuals and more. These plants come from our Master Gardener's gardens, where they were carefully dug and potted, and tenderly cared for until the sale day. Best of all, they are priced for anyone who likes a bargain. Take Master Gardener plants home, grow them and enjoy them for years to come. Master Gardeners will help you choosing the plants just right for you and Plant Doctors will answer your gardening questions.

New this year will be a container potting / design service--bring your own container and the experts will create a beautiful combination of plants for sun or shade. We will have plants available for

containers, or bring any of your own to incorporate in the arrangement. The price will cover the cost of materials and we'll have samples available--let your imagination do the rest.

When: Saturday, May 16, 2009 8 AM to Noon (Note: No Early Sales)

Where: ISU Linn County Extension Office, 3279 7th Avenue, Marion, Iowa

For more information call:

(319) 447-0647 or visit www.extension.iastate.edu/linn

CLEAR LAKE FRIENDLY GARDEN CLUB PLANT SALE

This sale is an offering of specimens (well-suited to local growing conditions) dug from the gardens of club members.

The event offers a fun-filled evening that begins with convenient parking, handicap accessibility, free admission, a refreshment table of homemade cookies, bars and beverages (also free) and the excitement of a professional auctioneer directing the sale of an expansive, exquisite variety of plants and a small collection of books, pots and miscellaneous items relating to gardening.

When: Wednesday, May 20, 2009 6:30 PM

Where: In the Community Room of the Clear Lake Municipal Building (City Hall) 15 North Sixth Street, Clear Lake, Iowa

For More Information, Contact:

Melissa Norris, Clear Lake Friendly Garden Club by phone (641) 357-7046 or by email wfnorris@netins.net

POLK COUNTY MASTER GARDENER'S GARDEN TOUR

Let some of Polk County's most beautiful gardens inspire you and discover ideas that you can use at home. Explore large and small gardens, butterfly gardens, shady retreats and explosions of sun drenched color.

When: June 20 from 9:00 AM 4:00 PM.

Where: The Ankeny and Saylorville area

Cost: Tickets go on sale May 15th at all Polk County Earl Mays,

Goodes Greenhouse, Herndons DM Seed & Nursery, the Woodsmith Store and the Polk Co. Extension Office for \$10.00 each.

For More Information contact:

Polk County Extension Office (515) 957-5760 or Mary Beth Day by email marybethday@gmail.com

NO UPDATE NEXT TWO WEEKS

The Master Gardener Update will not be published for the next two weeks. Look for the next exciting edition May 22.

SUBMITTING YOUR NEWS

Master Gardener Update is 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.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Many materials can be made available in alternative formats for ADA clients. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call 202-720-5964.