



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

University Extension

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Hello everyone!!!

The Spring Seminar has come and gone again. 105 people attended this year's seminar. We had many interesting speakers on varied topics and spent a very enjoyable day. I know I left with lots of food for thought and a great appreciation for what our speakers bring to us.

If the weather ever straightens out it would be wonderful to get out in the yard and start working. I am seeing all the daffodils popping through the ground but nothing else yet. My yard is so muddy it might take until May to be able to get out and pick up the winter debris. At least the snow piles along the edges of my driveway are gone. I couldn't believe that we had snow yet this afternoon but that can still come into April and even May.

Hope all of you have a Happy Easter!

-- Mary Ann Emery

Mission Statement

The mission of the Master Gardener Program is to provide current, research-based, home horticulture information and education to the citizens of Iowa through ISU Extension programs and projects. Through their participation in educational activities, Master Gardeners also increase their own personal knowledge in horticulture. Master Gardeners extend Iowa State University Extension's consumer horticulture education programs through volunteer activity.



Items of Interest!

- 1) Message from Marv
- 2) Certificates and Badges
- 3) Turning in Hours On-line
- 4) Lost and Found
- 5) Ask The Experts
- 6) New MG Logo Vote
- 7) Brown Marmorated Stink Bug
- 8) Pruning Blackberries
- 9) Transplanting Deciduous Shrubs
- 10) Black Vine Weevil
- 11) Build a Bond with Birds
- 12) Pictures from Spring Seminar



Master Gardener News Items

Please mark your calendars with these important dates.
Thanks Everyone!

- a) **Master Gardener Advisory Committee Meeting; 2nd Monday of each month, 6:00 pm at the Extension Office.** These meetings are open to all Master Gardener's, Trainees (interns) and invited guests. **Please come and support your Extension programs.** M.G. Advisory Committee Meeting: Monday, April 11, 2011 at **6:00 pm** at the **Dubuque County Extension Office.**
- b) **Spring Plant Sale Saturday, May 7, 2011, starting at 7:00 a.m. and going until noon at the Dubuque Farmer's Market in the PetMed parking lot.**
- c) **Master Gardener Picnic, Sunday, August 27, starting at 5 p.m. at the Dubuque Arboretum.**

NOTE: These events have been approved for volunteer hours toward gaining or maintaining your Master

Gardener certification. Please contact Marv Stoffel at (563)582-4764 or by email at stoffel19@mchsi.com if you want to be a volunteer at any of these events. Watch this area for more exciting events to come.

From Marv Stoffel, President Master Gardener Advisory Committee

Spring is officially here!! Many things in my yard and garden are showing this. Spring flowers are popping up all over. What a refreshing time of year this is.

Our Spring Seminar was a huge success. It was very well attended and we had a lot of positive feedback. A great time was had by everyone!! Thanks Cathy for chairing this event. Great job!! We are already making plans for next year. So, if anyone has any ideas on speakers or topics please let Cathy know.

The next event will be the Spring Plant Sale. Mark your calendars for Sat. May 7th. This is a great time to start seeds and divide perennials to have them ready for our Master Gardener Plant Sale at Farmers Market in the PetMed parking lot.

I know this can be a very busy time of year for everyone so, the best advice I can give you is, "Enjoy each day and have a Happy Spring".

Certificates and Name Badges that Need to be Picked up

The following people need to stop in at the office and pick up their certificates and name badges from 2010 at their earliest convenience –

Certificate and Name Badges for new Master Gardeners

Judy Nauman
Laura Hoffman

5 Year Service Certificate

Alan Ernzen
Chris Gibson
Frances Hedeman

15 Year Certificate

Terri Stanton

Lifetime Certificate

Bernie Curran

Reinstated Members – Name Badges

Donna Martin
Richard Hendersen
Jean Bledsoe
Dave Roth
Mary Rueland

Hours Must Be Turned in to ISU On-line

We are changing the way that hours are reported this year.

ISU is requiring that all hours will have to be reported on-line. In order to do this you will have to register on the Master Gardener website, www.mastergardener.iastate.edu. It's easy to do. If you have any questions or need help with this there will be people available to help you.

There will be more information at our next MG Advisory Committee Meeting April 11th. We will have a discussion and demonstration on what is the best way to implement the new change. We will also be discussing what guidelines we will use to approve volunteer and education hours, and implementing deadlines for submitting hours.

We should have more information to report after this meeting.

“Lost and Found”

A yellow cloth napkin was left at Master Gardener Spring Seminar on a dessert plate. Please stop by the Master Gardener Call Center to pick it up at your earliest convenience.

Ask the ISU Extension Gardening Experts



What are snow peas?

Snow peas are an edible podded pea. Snow peas are harvested when the pods are long and thin, just as the seeds begin to develop. Young pods are tender, stringless and may be stir-fried in Chinese dishes, steamed or cooked like snap beans. If the seeds are allowed to develop fully, they may be shelled and used like garden peas. Snow peas are sometimes referred to as sugar peas.

What are snap peas?

Snap peas are an edible podded pea. Snap peas are best picked when the seeds are nearly full size and the pod walls are thick, fleshy and crunchy. Snap peas may be eaten raw in salads, snapped and cooked like snap beans, or shelled for garden peas. They also freeze very well.

When should peas be planted in the garden?

Peas are a cool season crop. They should be planted as soon as the ground can be worked in spring (late March or early April in central Iowa). Sow seeds 1 inch deep and 2 inches apart. Peas can be planted in single or double rows. Space double rows 6 inches apart. Double rows allow short varieties to cling and hold up one another. Place wire netting or a trellis between double rows of tall vining varieties to provide support. Single and double rows of short varieties

should be spaced 2 feet apart. Space single and double rows of tall growing varieties 2 to 3 feet apart.

What are some good pea varieties for the home garden?

Suggested garden pea cultivars for home gardens in Iowa include 'Little Marvel' (early season, short vines), 'Spring' (early season, short vines), 'Knight' (early season, short vines), 'Lincoln' (mid to late season, very sweet), 'Green Arrow' (mid to late season, 24 to 28 inch vines) and 'Wando' (mid to late season, heat tolerant). 'Oregon Giant' (mid to late season, large pods), 'Snowflake' (late season, flat pods) and 'Super Sugar Pod' (late season, long vines) are excellent snow pea varieties, while 'Sugar Ann' (early season, short vines), 'Sugar Bon' (early season, short vines), 'Sugar Sprint' (early to mid-season, short vines), 'Cascadia' (mid-season, short vines) and 'Super Snappy' (mid-season, large pods) are good snap peas.



Do I need to treat my peas with an inoculant before planting?

Peas are members of the legume (Fabaceae) family. Through a symbiotic relationship with a soil bacterium (*Rhizobium*), peas are able to "fix" atmospheric nitrogen in nodules on their roots.

Peas will grow and produce a crop without inoculation. However, inoculation with a nitrogen-fixing bacterium may be beneficial if peas have not been grown in the garden in the past. Pea inoculants can be purchased at garden centers and from mail-order catalogs. Inoculate pea seeds immediately before sowing. Place a small amount of the pea inoculant into the seed packet and shake.

Removing strawberry bed mulch When should I remove the mulch on my strawberry bed?



fields.

To reduce the chances of crop damage from a late frost or freeze, leave the mulch on as long as possible. Removing the mulch in March may encourage the plants to bloom before the danger of frost is past. Temperatures of 32 F or lower may severely damage or destroy open flowers. Since the first flowers produce the largest berries, a late spring frost or freeze can drastically reduce

To determine when to remove the mulch, periodically examine the strawberry plants in spring. Remove the mulch from the strawberry planting when approximately 25 percent of the plants are producing new growth. New growth will be white or yellow in color. (If possible, the winter mulch on strawberries should remain until mid-April in central Iowa.) When removing the mulch, rake the material to the aisles between rows. If there is a threat of a frost or freeze later in spring during bloom, lightly rake the mulch over the strawberry plants.

Uncovering hybrid tea roses

I placed soil around the base of my hybrid tea roses in fall. When should I remove the soil?

Remove the soil in late March or early April in southern Iowa, mid-April in northern portions of the state. A frost or freeze in early spring shouldn't harm the roses.

After removing the soil, prune out any dead wood. Live wood is green and possesses plump, healthy buds. Dead wood is light to dark brown in color. When pruning, make the cuts about one inch below the dead, brown-colored sections. Remove the entire cane if there is no sign of life.

Ornamental grasses

When should I cut back my ornamental grasses?

Many ornamental grasses provide color, sound and movement to the winter landscape. Because of these winter features, cut back ornamental grasses in April in Iowa. Cut back the grasses to within 2 to 4 inches of the ground with hand shears, lopping shears or hedge trimmers.

Dormant oil spray

When should I apply a dormant oil spray to my fruit trees?

Dormant oil sprays are highly refined petroleum products that are mixed with water and applied to trees and shrubs to control aphids, spider mites and scale. Dormant oils destroy pests by suffocating them. When applied properly, the thin film of oil plugs the spiracles or pores through which the mite or insect breathes.

Proper timing is critical when using dormant oil sprays. Dormant oils should be applied in late March or early April in Iowa before the trees show signs of breaking dormancy (before "bud break"). Dormant oils applied in February or early March are not effective, as insects are not actively respiring at this time and, therefore, not vulnerable to the oil's suffocating effects. Dormant oil sprays should be applied as close to bud break as possible.

When should I prune my shrubs?

The proper time to prune deciduous and evergreen shrubs is determined by the plant's growth habit, bloom time and health or condition.

Spring-flowering shrubs, such as lilac and forsythia, bloom in spring on the growth of the previous season. The health or condition of the plants determines the best time to prune spring-flowering shrubs.

Neglected, overgrown spring-flowering shrubs often require extensive pruning to rejuvenate or renew the plants.

The best time to rejuvenate large, overgrown shrubs is late winter or early spring (March or early April). Heavy pruning in late winter or early spring will reduce or eliminate the flower display for two or three years. However, rejuvenation pruning will restore the health of the shrub.

The best time to prune healthy, well-maintained spring-flowering shrubs is immediately after flowering. (Healthy, well-maintained shrubs should require only light to moderate pruning.) Pruning immediately after flowering allows gardeners to enjoy the spring flower display and provides adequate time for the shrubs to initiate new flower buds for next season.

Summer-flowering shrubs, such as potentilla and Japanese spirea, bloom in summer on the current year's growth. Prune summer-flowering shrubs in late winter or early spring. Plants will still bloom in summer.

Some deciduous shrubs don't produce attractive flowers. These shrubs may possess colorful bark, fruit or foliage. Prune these shrubs in late winter or early spring before growth begins.

Prune evergreen shrubs, such as juniper and yew, in early to mid-April before new growth begins. Light pruning also may be done in mid-summer.

What is the best way to prune large, overgrown shrubs?

Proper pruning can renew or rejuvenate overgrown, deciduous shrubs. One option is to prune the shrubs back over a three-year period. Begin by removing one-third of the largest, oldest stems at ground level in late winter/early spring (March or early April). The following year (again in March or early April), prune out one-half of the remaining old stems. Also, thin out some of the new growth. Retain several well-spaced, vigorous, new shoots and remove all of the others. Finally, remove all of the remaining old wood in late winter/early spring of the third year. Additional thinning of new shoots should be done.

A second way to prune overgrown, deciduous shrubs is to cut them back to within 4 to 6 inches of the ground in March or early April. This severe pruning will induce a large number of shoots to develop during the growing season. In late winter of the following year, select and retain several strong, healthy shoots and remove all others at ground level. Head (cut) back the retained shoots to encourage branching. Overgrown lilacs, dogwoods, privets and forsythias may be pruned in this manner. (Most lilacs rejuvenated by this method will not bloom for two to three years.) This method is also an excellent way to renew scraggly potentillas and summer-flowering spireas. For best performance, potentillas should be cut back to within 3 to 4 inches of the ground about every three years.

Pruning shade trees

When is the best time to prune shade trees?

February through March is generally regarded as the best time to prune most deciduous trees. The absence of foliage at this time of year gives the individual a clear view of the tree and allows the selection and removal of appropriate branches. Also, the walling-off or compartmentalization of wounds occurs most rapidly just prior to the onset of growth in spring. Oaks are an exception. The winter months –

December, January and February – are the best time to prune oak trees.

Large amounts of sap often flow from pruning cuts on maple, birch and elm when pruned in late winter. However, the loss of sap doesn't harm the trees. The trees won't "bleed" to death. Eventually the flow of sap will slow and stop.

Raspberries and Trees and Protecting Serviceberries



Pruning red raspberries

What is the proper way to prune 'Latham' red raspberries in late winter?

'Latham' is a summer-bearing variety of red raspberry. Other popular summer-bearing red raspberry varieties include 'Boyne,' 'Killarney,' and 'Newburgh.' All summer-bearing red raspberries should be pruned in the same manner.

In March or early April, remove all weak, diseased and damaged canes at ground level. Leave the most vigorous canes, those approximately one-fourth inch in diameter when measured 30 inches from the ground. After thinning, remaining canes should be spaced about six inches apart.

Also, prune out the tips of the canes that have died due to winter injury. Cut back to live tissue. If the canes have suffered little winter dieback, remove the top one-fourth of the canes. Cane-tip removal or "heading-back" prevents the canes from becoming top heavy and bending under the weight of the crop.

To obtain maximum yields, red raspberries should be confined to a one- to two-foot-wide hedgerow. Shoots growing beyond the one- to two-foot-wide hedgerow should be dug up and destroyed using a rototiller or spade.

Protect serviceberries from rabbits

I intend to plant several serviceberries this spring. Will I need to protect them against rabbits next winter?

Rabbits are quite fond of serviceberries (*Amelanchier* species). If not protected, plants are likely to be damaged or destroyed by rabbits during the winter months. Fencing (hardware cloth or chicken wire) is the best way to protect serviceberries and other woody plants from rabbits. The fencing material should stand three feet above the ground. (Rabbits eventually may be able to reach or climb over the tops of two-foot-tall fences in winters with frequent snows.)

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NEW! Mg Logo Vote

By Dr. **Cynthia Haynes**, Professor-in-Charge of the MG Program

They say good things come to those who wait! I am happy to report that the waiting is almost over for those requesting a new logo for the MG program in Iowa! Over the past couple of years many MGs and administrators at ISU have expressed concerns about our logo. It hasn't met University guidelines and it is difficult to reproduce. While it is never easy to find a "new look" for a vibrant program such as this one - we hope that we have come up with a few options that capture our dynamic nature. Now we need your input - [please select the logo you think best represents](#) the spirit and dedication of Iowa MGs. Your votes will determine which logo is chosen to represent our program. While 2011 will be our transition year to update banners, signs, even apparel with the new logo that is chosen, both Jen and I are stressing that all old logos are still accepted. We want Iowa MGs to wear their "[basket](#)" (1980-1998), "[window pane](#)" (1998-2011), or "[new](#)" logos with pride.



The three options for the new Iowa MG logo are above. Please go to the website to cast your vote by **April 15** at: <http://www.mastergardener.iastate.edu/voteforlogo.html>

Brown Marmorated Stink Bug Detected in Iowa

By **Laura Jesse and Donald Lewis**, Plant & Insect Diagnostic Clinic

This article was published originally on 3/9/2011

Adapted from an [ISU Extension news release](#), February 24, 2011.

The Iowa State University Extension Plant and Insect Diagnostic Clinic (ISU-PIDC) and the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship confirmed that a single dead specimen of the brown marmorated stink bug (BMSB), *Halyomorpha halys*, was recently collected in Cedar Rapids, Iowa and submitted to ISU-PIDC for diagnosis. This is the first confirmation of this pest in Iowa. It is not known if this find indicates an established population or an isolated individual as BMSB travels readily in shipping containers and with people.

Brown marmorated stink bug was discussed and described in the ISU [Horticulture & Home Pest News](#), November 11, 2009.

The brown marmorated stink bug is an introduced, invasive insect new to North America. It was first identified in fall 2001 in Allentown, Pa.; though unconfirmed reports go back as far as 1996. The accidental introduction was possibly via shipping containers from Asia. BMSB is reported to have established populations in California, Connecticut, Delaware, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York,

North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia. Detections have been made in a handful of other states that now includes Iowa.

BMSB feeds on sap from a long list of host plants including many fruits, vegetables, field crops, shade trees and other woody ornamentals. In addition to the considerable damage done to crops, gardens and landscapes, the adults have the disturbing habit of migrating to houses and other buildings in the fall to overwinter. Homeowners on the East Coast describe the stink bug invasion as worse than boxelder bugs and lady beetles, combined. It is this habit of spending the winter in buildings that has aided its dispersal by movement in containers and vehicles.

The brown marmorated stink bug is approximately 5/8 inch long with a mottled brownish grey color and a "shield" shaped body. The antennae and top of the abdominal segments protruding from beneath the wings have alternating dark and light bands.

Iowans are encouraged to help look for this pest and to contact ISU Extension with sample specimens, digital photos or detailed descriptions and sightings. Please report your observations and samples to the [ISU Plant & Insect Diagnostic Clinic](#).



Brown Marmorated Stink Bug. Note white bands on antennae and alternating bands on upper edge of abdomen.



Brown Marmorated Stink Bug. Underside is light colored.

Pruning Blackberries

By Richard Jauron, Department of Horticulture

The growth and fruiting characteristics of blackberries are similar to raspberries. The blackberry plant's roots and crown are perennial, while its stems or canes are biennial. Blackberry canes are strictly vegetative during the first growing season. These first year canes are referred to as primocanes. The following year, these same canes (now called floricanes) flower, produce fruit, and then die.

In Iowa, the canes of most blackberry varieties suffer extensive winter injury. As a result of this damage, plants produce little or no fruit. However, there are two hardy varieties that can be successfully grown in the southern half of the state. 'Darrow' produces large fruit on vigorous, erect, thorny canes. 'Illini Hardy' bears medium-sized fruit. The fruit are produced on vigorous, erect, thorny canes.

Primocane-bearing blackberry varieties (Prime-Jim™ and Prime-Jan™) are a new option for gardeners in Iowa. Prime-Jim™ and Prime-Jan™ produce fruit in late summer/early fall on the current year's growth. Fruit are medium-sized, conical, soft, good flavored, and glossy black in color.

To obtain maximum yields, blackberries must be pruned properly. Pruning procedures for summer-bearing and primocane-bearing blackberries are provided below.

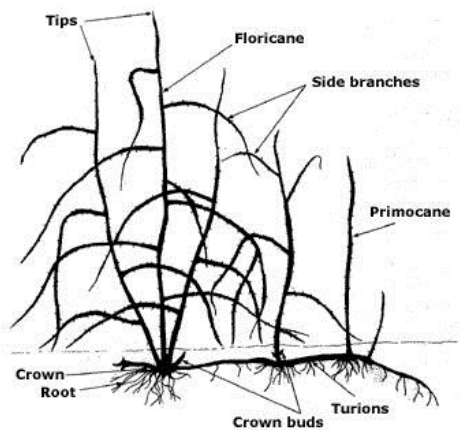
Summer-Bearing Blackberries ('Darrow' and 'Illini Hardy')

In late winter or early spring, prune out canes that are diseased, damaged or crowded, leaving four to six healthy canes per plant. Also, prune back the lateral or side branches to a length of 12 to 15 inches to encourage larger fruit.

In summer, pinch out or cut off the tips of the new canes when they reach a height of 36 inches. Pinching encourages side branch growth and increases the fruiting surface area, resulting in higher yields. After the last harvest, cut off the old fruiting canes at the soil surface. Remove the pruned material from the garden and destroy it.

Primocane-Bearing Blackberries (Prime-Jim™ and Prime-Jan™)

Prune all canes back to ground level in late winter or early spring. No additional pruning is necessary during the remainder of the year.



Blackberry plant showing primocanes (first year growth) and floricanes (second year, fruit-producing canes). Drawing from University of Illinois.

Transplanting Deciduous Shrubs

By Richard Jauron, Department of Horticulture

Occasionally the need arises to move shrubs within the landscape. Early spring (before growth begins) and fall (after leaf drop) are the best times to transplant deciduous shrubs.

Shrubs are best moved with a ball of soil adhering to the roots. With a portion of the root system intact, transplanting shock should be minimized with faster reestablishment.

The soil should be moist when the shrub is dug. If the soil is dry, thoroughly water the area 3 to 4 days before digging the plant.

To make the transplanting process easier, wrap twine around the shrub. Attach twine to the base of one of the stems, and then gently lift the stems upward and inward as the twine is wrapped around the shrub. With the stems compressed to a smaller area, it will be much easier to dig and move the shrub.

The radius of the root ball for deciduous shrubs should be approximately one-half the distance from the dripline to the center of the shrub. Dig a trench with a spade around the plant to a depth of 12 to 15 inches. Then cut beneath the roots, rounding the bottom of the soil mass into a ball. Tip the soil ball to one side, place a piece of burlap in the trench on the opposite side, and then carefully lower the soil ball onto the burlap. Tightly wrap the burlap around the soil ball. Lift and carry the plant by the root ball rather than grasping the stems.

If possible, replant immediately. Dig a hole that is approximately twice the width of the shrub's root ball. The depth of the hole should be equal to the height of the soil ball. Carefully lower the shrub into the hole, position it correctly, and begin to place soil back into the hole. When the hole is about two-thirds full, cut away the top (exposed) portion of the burlap. Then complete the backfilling of the hole and water thoroughly.

Home gardeners should limit themselves to transplanting deciduous shrubs that are 5 feet or less in height. Root balls greater than 2 feet in diameter are extremely heavy and usually require mechanical equipment to move the plants. Shrubs greater than 5 feet in height can be moved by professionals with a tree spade.

Black Vine Weevil: Unusual Accidental Invader in Iowa

By Donald Lewis, Department of Entomology

The recent arrival (March 3, 2011) of a digital image of the black vine weevil (BVW) collected from a kitchen floor in Delaware County was a reminder of just how uncommon this insect pest in Iowa. The previous sample appears to have been diagnosed back in 2006.

Only a small handful of black vine weevils have been identified from only 9 Iowa counties in the ISU Plant and Insect Diagnostic Clinic. Almost all reports have come from homeowners who were bothered by the adult weevils appearing as accidental invaders inside the home between October and March.

Adult black vine weevils will feed on over 100 different kinds of plants but prefer yews (*Taxus*) and rhododendrons. *Taxus capitata* seems to be particularly susceptible to attack. Adult feeding causes small crescent

shaped notches along the leaf margins. Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship nursery inspectors report observing occasional BVW leaf feeding damage on containerized rhododendron, yew, and sometimes azalea coming from out-of-state, but there are no apparent indications of a large or ongoing problem in the state.

Black vine weevils are oblong oval in shape, about 1/2-inch long and have a short, broad snout with elbowed antennae. The body is slate gray to blackish brown and the wing covers have numerous small pits and patches of short yellow hairs. See the photo below.

Black vine weevil adults develop from white legless larvae that live in the soil under infested plants. The larvae feed on young, tender roots. Leaf feeding by the adults seems to have little effect on plant health. Heavy infestations of larvae may cause stunting or death of infested plants. Only females are known in North America, and one generation occurs outdoors annually. They are easily transported in potted plants or transplants using a soil root ball.

As mentioned, the black vine weevil has been troubling in Iowa as a harmless annoyance indoors after wandering in from infested plants in the landscape. The black vine weevil can not bite, sting or carry diseases. It does not feed on or damage the house structure, its contents or occupants. It is only a pest because of its presence. These weevils can not fly but they are very active walkers. They are most active at night.

Black vine weevils found indoors need only be swept or picked up and discarded. Spraying is unnecessary and generally ineffective. Susceptible plants in the landscape should be watched for signs of weevil feeding in early summer. Treatment of infested plants in Iowa has not been necessary to this date.



Black vine weevil adult. Photo by Cheri Hildebrand.

Build a Bond with Birds

By Jason Martin, NestWatch

Whether in a shrub, a tree, or a nest box, bird nests are all around us. By monitoring a nearby nest you can help scientists study the biology of North America's birds and how it might be changing over time. Every spring and summer, volunteers



Eastern Bluebird nest. Photo by J. Brindo

from across the country visit nests and report their findings to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's NestWatch program. As a NestWatcher, you keep tabs on bird family life, following the progression from incubated eggs, to fuzzy chicks, to gawky youngsters ready to take their first fluttering flight. All the information you gather is submitted online to the NestWatch database.

"NestWatch helps people of all ages and backgrounds connect with nature," says project leader Jason Martin. "The information that our dedicated citizen scientists collect allows us to understand the impact that various threats, such as environmental change and habitat destruction, have on breeding birds. Armed with this knowledge, we can take the necessary steps to help birds survive in this changing world."



Eastern Bluebird chick hatching. Photo by Mary Thomson

Instructions and all the materials you need to participate are available on the NestWatch website at www.nestwatch.org. You'll also get directions on how to find and monitor nests without disturbing the birds. It's fun, it's easy, and it's free.

The Cornell Lab's immensely popular NestCams are back too. Cameras broadcast live video over the web from the nests of Barn Owls, bluebirds, wrens, Wood Ducks, and many other species. Our newest camera is focused on a Great Horned Owl family in Houston, Minnesota. Check it out at www.nestcams.org.

And please join us for NestWatch this season—you'll build a bond with birds and with nature in your own backyard.

Photos from the Spring Seminar

Submitted by Doug Cheever



Gardeners listen as Sara Carpenter gives her presentation.



Lunch is served.



Sara Carpenter and her mother Sue Selchert gave a presentation on designing landscaping for homeowners and what we can expect in new garden items this season.



Ticket numbers being drawn for some of the many door prizes.



Clyde Holverson from Platteville, Wisconsin gave lots of great tips on gardening and composting.



Steve Pregler, City Forester for the City of Dubuque, did a presentation of diagnosing tree problems and providing tree care advice.

Iowa State University and U.S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating Extension programs are available to all without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, or disability.