



THE GARDENER'S DIRT

The Latest Scoop from the Scott County Master Gardeners

December 2011

Annual Meeting

Please mark your calendars for the ISU Scott County Extension Master Gardener Annual Meeting to be held Wednesday, January 18th at 6:30 p.m. at the ISU Scott County Extension Office.

This year we will be offering something new to help you cope with the winter doldrums. We have invited Dennis Schlicht to speak on butterfly gardening. Dennis Schlicht is an advanced placement biology instructor at George Washington High School in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He has been studying butterflies for more than forty years. Dennis has published a manual for identifying the butterflies of Iowa as well as 90 percent of the butterflies in the Plains states. Links to more information about our speaker and his book are provided below.

We will have our dinner prepared by A Guy and a Grill with the same menu as last year. Dinner will be free, as a token of appreciation for all that you do as Master Gardeners.

More information will be coming out about the meeting as well as a deadline for making your reservation.

<http://www.butterflybuzz.com/BK1161.html>

http://www.amazon.com/Butterflies-Iowa-Bur-Oak-Book/dp/1587295334/ref=sr-1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1320152709&sr=1-1

Save The Date

Submitted by Linda Kuffer

Saturday, June 2, 2012

Master Gardener Bus Trip to Hornbaker Gardens
Princeton, IL

More information in the January issue of Gardener's Dirt

Sign up available at the January Annual Meeting

(Check out their website at www.hornbakergardens.com)



Our Mission

To provide home horticulture information and education to the citizens of Scott County consistent with Iowa State University recommendations. We also strive to increase members' knowledge of horticulture through educational programs.

New Board Members Needed for 2012

The Scott County Master Gardeners Advisory Board needs three new members! Sadly, John Hale, Chuck Doss and Joanne Garlough are resigning their positions as board members effective January 2012. The time and energy that they have contributed over the past several years has been invaluable and will be greatly missed.

Being a board member generally entails the following duties:

- Participation at monthly meetings (usually one hour)--a simple and easy way of getting service hours spread out over the year.
- Acting as the liaison for two committees.
- Reviewing the budget each month.
- Providing information about the board and committees at the next to last new master gardener class.
- Other resolving issues as they come up.

Please consider becoming a board member for 2012. If you are interested, please contact Duane Gissel at the extension office gissel@iastate.edu. Duane will then put your name on the ballot that Master Gardener members will use to vote for new board members at our annual meeting.

The upcoming 2012 year should be very exciting! We are very fortunate to have very enthusiastic members participating on the board and their great ideas should be coming to fruition in 2012.

How Should the Scott County Master Gardeners Invest Funds Raised from the Sale of the Perpetual Calendars???

Submitted by Michele Dane

Traditionally, the Scott County Master Gardeners raise money for our programs primarily through our annual plant sale. We also have raised funds and continue to generate funds through the sale of our perpetual calendar. As of October 31, 2011, a profit of \$253 has been generated (\$3,078 revenue for calendars sold less \$2,825 in expenses.) As the remaining calendars are sold, we will generate additional profits.

The question now is, how should these funds be allocated?

- Should we use those funds to support our annual budget?
- Do we use these funds for scholarships for college bound students interested in horticulture?
- Should we set up a fund in the Community Foundation for the Great River Bend to which people interested in what we do could donate funds?
- Or should we use those funds to establish a greenhouse?

The Scott County Extension Master Gardener Advisory Board would like your input. Please submit your ideas to me (Michele Dane) at mhdane@hjdane.com. We would like to present the top five ideas (i.e. the ideas mentioned most frequently) to the members for a vote at the January annual meeting on the 18th. Thanks, we look forward to hearing from you.



Your invitation is in the mail for the

Master Gardeners Holiday Party

Iowa State Extension Office,
875 Tanglefoot Lane, Bettendorf

Tuesday, December 6, 2011

Open House from 5:30pm ~ 8:30pm

Master Gardeners may bring a guest to enjoy an evening
of fun, games and door prizes.

The Social Committee will be your hosts and hostesses for the evening.

Questions? Contact Sally Freeman 355-8534 or
Vicki Liebbe 340-5937



2011 ISU Scott County Extension Master Gardener class

Training classes are now over for another year.

Congratulations to this fall's Master Gardener class members, (2012 interns). If you have classes to make up don't forget to call the office and schedule a time to make them up.

Be sure to introduce yourself to the new interns as they work toward completing their service hours requirement and become Master Gardeners.



Francesca
Arulraja



Maria Bribiesco



Jane Broughton



Joan Dyne



John LaBella



Teresa LaBella



Linda Lueders



Mari Fournier



Kevin Marker



Celeste Miller



Al Reagan



Vicki Rossow



Danielle Schaffert



Kay
Sigardson-Poor



Darren Speth



Cori Tate



Terese Touvelle



Ruth VanTol



Dotty Weber



Sue Wildman

For all gardeners who grow pumpkins (and I hear pumpkin is in short supply again this year), here is a wonderful recipe for turning those pumpkins into some good eating.

So Good Pumpkin Pie

Submitted Linda Kuffer

You will need 1-10 inch, deep dish pie crust - use your favorite recipe, buy a crust, or try this recipe. If using a frozen crust or shallow pie plates you will need two 9 inch crusts.

Easy Pie Crust for Single Crust Pie

1 Cup plus 2 Tablespoons Flour

1/3 Cup Canola Oil

2 Tablespoons Cold Water

Mix together with a fork in a small bowl until it forms a ball. Roll dough out between 2 sheets of waxed paper (dampen your counter top first so the waxed paper doesn't move) to the proper size. Remove top sheet of waxed paper. Use the bottom sheet to lift the crust and invert it into your pie pan. Remove the paper. Fit the crust into your pie pan and trim edge.

Fixing the Pumpkin

Cut your fresh pumpkin in half and remove seeds. Put cut side down on foil lined baking sheet. Bake at 350 degrees until pumpkin is soft. When pumpkin is cool enough to handle scrape the pumpkin from the shell. When pumpkin is cool, put it in your food processor or blender and process until pureed.

Filling

4 Cups Fresh Cooked Pureed Pumpkin

1-14 ounce can Sweetened Condensed Milk

2 Eggs

2 Teaspoons Cinnamon

1 ½ Teaspoons Ginger

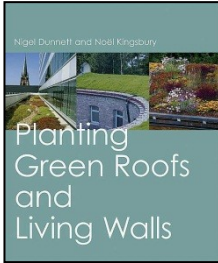
½ Teaspoon Cloves

In a large bowl whisk the eggs. Whisk in the sweetened condensed milk and then the pumpkin puree. Stir in the spices. Pour filling into the prepared pie crust. Bake at 425 degrees for 15 minutes. Reduce heat to 350 degrees and bake for 45-60 minutes or until knife inserted near center comes out clean.

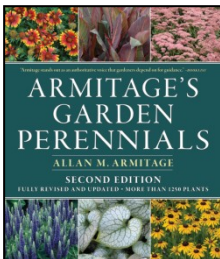
Cool and enjoy! This pie must be kept in the refrigerator.

New Books 2011

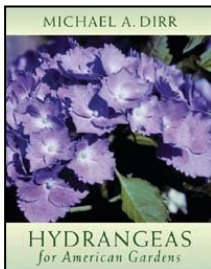
The following books were purchased for the MG library by the Advisory Board. Remember the library is open to all ISU Scott County Master Gardeners during regular office hours.



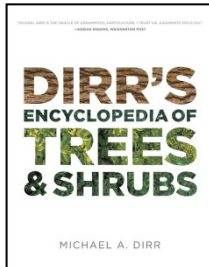
Planting Green Roofs and Living Walls
Nigel Dunnett, Noel Kingsbury
ISBN: 088192640X
Format: Hardcover, 264pp
Pub. Date: May 2004
Publisher: Timber Press, Incorporated



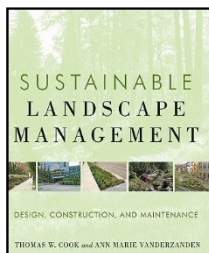
Armitage's Garden Perennials: Second Edition, Fully Revised and Updated
Hardcover: 348 pages
Publisher: Timber Press; 2 Rev Upd edition (July 5, 2011)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 1604690380
ISBN-13: 978-1604690385



Hydrangeas for American Gardens
Michael Dirr
ISBN: 0881926418
Format: Hardcover, 224pp
Pub. Date: June 2004
Publisher: Timber Press, Incorporated



Dirr's Encyclopedia of Trees & Shrubs
By Michael Dirr
Hardcover: 952 pages
Publisher: Timber Press (October 26, 2011)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 0881929018
ISBN-13: 978-0881929010



Sustainable Landscape Management: Design, Construction, and Maintenance
By Ann Marie VanDerZanden and Thomas W. Cook
Hardcover: 272 pages
Publisher: Wiley; 1 edition (December 21, 2010)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 0470480939
ISBN-13: 978-0470480939

2011 Tree Planting and Care Committee
Wayne Hannel – Chair, Tree Planting and Care Committee

Thanks to the dedicated volunteers who assisted the Bettendorf Trees Are Us Committee and the Bettendorf Tree Committee (through Bettendorf Parks and Recreation) planting and mulching trees in Bettendorf on October 29, 2011.

Wayne Hannel provided a brief educational session about tree planting and mulching prior to the hands-on educational activity. The activity included the planting of 24 crabapple trees (south side of Hopewell just east of Joshua Street to about California Drive) and mulching approximately 50 trees (the trees planted plus trees planted by the vendor on the north side of Hopewell.) The location was near Hopewell Elementary School, 3900 Hopewell Avenue, Bettendorf, Iowa.

Approximately 31 volunteers (12 Master Gardeners) assisted with the planting and mulching. In addition to the Master Gardeners, volunteers came with many backgrounds (some dual categories): ISU Community Tree Stewards, Bettendorf Tree Committee, Bettendorf Park Board, ALCOA, and the Connection Church.

Master Gardeners assisting with the effort included:

Wayne Hannel	Naomi Haertjens	Sue Horan	Marianne Lemon
Clayton Lloyd	Doug McDonald	Lona Moore	Ed Sharkness
Dean Stotz	Doug Truesdell	Ruth VanTol	Jane Broughton

NOTE: The hands-on activity provided the participants to experience first-hand that Mother Natures' trees do not always look like the classic pictures one sees in the classroom. This required some considerable discussion among the pruning teams about which branch should be pruned as well as how extensive one should prune. There was discussion about the poor pruning practices as well as diseased trees observed. This type of field exercise is a real benefit to enhancing education and perceptiveness of MG's (especially the newer MG's.)

It was a pleasant 30 degrees with a hint of a breeze at planting time. Nice day.

Thanks again!

→ **Remember to turn in your volunteer hours (new MG class = after January 1, 2012).**

Board Briefs

The Master Gardener's Advisory Board held a meeting on November 3rd at 6:30 p.m. at the extension office with 11 members present and 2 guests.

Items discussed included:

- The 'off-site' Hort Clinic held at the Farmer's Market. Those who participated felt it was a success and should be continued next year.
- Duane submitted a 'Wish List' of books to add to the library and the board voted to purchase them.
- Sale of the Perpetual Calendars were reviewed by Carol Wagner and Tana Odean.
- The Master Gardeners went without a Volunteer Coordinator last year and the board is looking for someone to fill the position next year. If anyone is interested, contact Duane.
- A possible bus trip next spring to Hornbaker's Nursery in Princeton, IL was agreed to if we have enough people sign up. Details will follow.
- The Annual Meeting will be January 18th and it was agreed to have a speaker on "Butterfly Gardening" attend as a change.
- Elections will be held at the annual meeting and candidates are needed. If anyone is interested, contact Duane.



The next meeting will be December 1st at 6:00 p.m. at the Extension Office.

2011 Tree Planting and Care Committee
Wayne Hannel – Chair, Tree Planting and Care Committee

Thanks to the dedicated volunteers who assisted the Bettendorf Trees Are Us Committee and the Bettendorf Tree Committee (through Bettendorf Parks and Recreation) pruning and mulching trees in Bettendorf on November 5, 2011.

Wayne Hannel provided a brief educational session about tree pruning and mulching prior to the hands-on educational activity. The group pruned approximately 27 trees, mulched approximately 73 trees, pruned and mulched approximately 19 trees, removed bagworms from approximately 20 trees, and removed 2 trees. The location was along 53rd Avenue (between Middle Road and 18th Street) and along 18th Street (south of 53rd Avenue to about Hawk Drive) in Bettendorf.

Approximately 17 volunteers (13 Master Gardeners) assisted with the pruning and mulching. In addition to the Master Gardeners, volunteers came with many backgrounds (some dual categories): ISU Community Tree Stewards, Bettendorf Tree Committee, Bettendorf Park Board, and the general public.

Master Gardeners assisting with the effort included:

Jane Broughton	Rich Craddick	Chuck Doss	Wayne Hannel
John LaBella	Clayton Lloyd	Doug McDonald	Lona Moore
Sandra Jurgens	Ron Philips	Kay Sigardson-Poor	Doug Truesdell
Ruth Van Tol			

NOTE: The hands-on activity provided the participants to experience first-hand that Mother Natures' trees do not always look like the classic pictures one sees in the classroom. This required some considerable discussion among the pruning teams about which branch should be pruned as well as how extensive one should prune. There was discussion about the poor pruning practices as well as diseased trees observed. This type of field exercise is a real benefit to enhancing education and perceptiveness of MG's (especially the newer MG's.)

It was a pleasant 37 degrees with a cooling breeze at planting time. Nice day.

Thanks again!

→ **Remember to turn in your volunteer hours (new MG class = after January 1, 2012).**



Winter

News articles are needed for the Gardener's Dirt
Please have articles to the Extension Office by December 15th



The Gardener's Dirt

Scott County Extension
875 Tanglefoot Lane
Bettendorf, IA 52722-1690
(563) 359-7577 Fax (563) 355-6569
www.extension.iastate.edu/scott

Upcoming Classes & Events:

CEU's	Course #	Topic	When	Where	Cost	Instructor	Registration Information
*	-	Bald Eagle Days	January 6-8, 2012	QCCA Expo Center 2621 4th Avenue Rock Island, IL	\$5.00	-	NA
2	-	Guided Winter Hikes at Nahant Marsh	January 18, 2012 8:30-10:30 a.m.	Nahant Marsh 4220 Wapello Avenue, Dav	\$5.00 non-members Free for members	Nahant staff	563-323-5196 or email nahantmarsh@eicc.edu
2	-	Guided Winter Hikes at Nahant Marsh	February 8, 2012 8:30-10:30 a.m.	Nahant Marsh 4220 Wapello Avenue, Dav	\$5.00 non-members Free for members	Nahant staff	563-323-5196 or email nahantmarsh@eicc.edu
*	-	Winter Gardening Fair	February 18, 2012	Kirkwood Community College Cedar Rapids, IA	TBA	Various	TBA
*	-	Henry County Master Gardeners Spring Symposium	March 3, 2012	Mount Pleasant, IA	TBA	Various	TBA
*		QCCA Flower & Garden Show	March 23-25, 2012	QCCA Expo Center 2621 4th Ave Rock Island, IL	\$7.00	-	NA
*	-	2012 Master Gardeners Upper Midwest Conference	July 19-20, 2012	Minnesota Landscape Arboretum	TBA	Various	TBA

* To be determined by sessions attended. Submit proof of sessions attended to the ISU Scott County Extension Horticulturist.

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