

MASTER GARDENER UPDATE. . . Friday, February 27, 2009
Announcements and news for ISU Extension Master Gardeners, staff, and faculty

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BUENA VISTA COUNTY PLANTS TO ATTRACT BIRDS AND BALD EAGLE VIEWING

Activities will begin at 8:30AM. Those interested can meet in Linn Grove or at Highways 3 & 71 to be taken to an active Bald Eagles Nest in Buena Vista County. Programs will be Birds and Birding, Kay Neumann from SOAR who will have a Bald Eagle along with another Raptor. In addition, a program will be presented on what to plant to attract birds to your yard along with what to feed them.

When: Saturday, March 7, with a snow date of Saturday, March 14

Where: Initially at the intersection of Hwy. 3 and 71 between 8:30 AM and 9:30 AM and then in Linn Grove at 10:00AM

For further information contact Marian McNabb at 712-296-4920 or by email Nature@Iowatelecom.net

MAHASKA MASTER GARDENER SPEAKER SERIES TO BE HELD

A Speaker Series will be hosted by the Mahaska County Master Gardeners Thursday evenings in March. These meetings will be held at the Mahaska County Extension Office Auditorium at 7PM.

The Master Gardeners will have a food drive for the Ecumenical

Cupboard at each session. The Speaker Series is free and the public is encouraged to attend. Speakers and topics for the Speaker Series are:

March 5 Tree Pruning and Care with Duane Bedford, Iowa DNR District Forester

March 12 Growing Rare & Unusual Fruit with Ernie Hinkle, Mr. Fruit

March 19 Crazy for Color-All Season Long with Lee Zieke and Lindsay Lee, Willowglen Nursery

March 26 Collectors Garden with Lois Girton

Attendees are encouraged to come early and Ask a Master Gardener their gardening questions 6-6:30PM prior to each speaker session.

More information can be found at the Mahaska County Extension Office; 212 North I Street; Oskaloosa Phone 641-673-5841; and www.extension.iastate.edu/mahaska/yardgarden.htm.

JACKSON COUNTY MASTER GARDENER SPRING SEMINAR

Two Keynote addresses by Master Gardeners will highlight a spring seminar entitled "Adventures in Gardening IV". This will be the fourth educational event sponsored by the Jackson County Master Gardeners. All individuals interested in any aspect of gardening are invited to attend.

Those attending the seminar are asked to use the parking lot off Judson Street and use the southeast entrance of the Maquoketa Middle School for best access to the seminar.

Seminar participants will be able to attend both keynotes and choose three out of the six other mini-sessions. Topics for the mini-sessions include: Miniature Gardening, Hostas and their Shady Companions, "Gourd"opedia, Herb Gardens, Vegetables A-Z, and Apple Cultivars for the Home Orchard.

When: Saturday March 14th, 2009 from 9:00AM to 3:30PM with doors opening at 8:30AM

Where: Maquoketa Middle School

Cost: Pre-register by calling the Jackson County Extension Office at 563-652-4923 and paying a \$12 fee. Registration at the door will be

\$15. Lunch and a beverage will be included in the registration fee.

For more information contact Pam Hamilton, 309 S. Prospect St.,
Maquoketa, IA 52060 (563-652-6305) or Diana Strait, P. O. Box 642,
Maquoketa, IA 52060 (563-652-6978).

ADAMS/TAYLOR COUNTY BACKYARD CONSERVATION CONFERENCE

The Conference features keynote speaker, breakout sessions, exhibits,
door prizes, lunch. For anyone interested in gardening, conservation,
and the environment.

When: Saturday March 28, 2009 from 9:30AM to 3:30PM

Where: Elementary School in Lenox

Cost: \$20.00

For more information call Sheila at 641-322-3116 or
sheila.oriley@ia.nacdnet.net

FRANKLIN COUNTY WORKSHOP "ENJOYING THE FRUITS OF OUR LABOR"

The Franklin County Extension is holding an educational workshop on
selecting cultivars of fruit trees, small fruits, and grapes for
northern Iowa. General care, such as: planting, pruning, pest
control, and harvesting will be presented by graduate students and staff
from the Department of Horticulture, Iowa State University. Barb
Ristau, Franklin County Extension Families Program Assistant will
demonstrate how to preserve harvested fruits.

When: Saturday, March 28 from 8:30AM -11:30AM

Where: Franklin County Farm Bureau Office in Hampton

Cost: \$10.00 per person, \$15.00 per couple.

For more information and to pre-register, call the Franklin County
Extension Office at 641-456-4811 or go on-line at
www.extension.iastate.edu/franklin The workshop is appropriate for
Master Gardener education hours. Participants are asked to come
dressed for an outdoor demonstration of pruning.

POCAHONTAS COUNTY GARDENING EXTRAVAGANZA

There will be displays as well as educational programming. Programs will be held hourly beginning at 9:30. Topics include: Garden Quilts - Pocahontas County Conservation, Rose Care - Nick Howell Superintendent ISU Horticulture Research Station, Container Gardening - Gilmore Garden Center and Tree Disease & Caring for Trees - Pocahontas County Conservation.

When: April 4, 9:00AM – 2:00PM

Where: Expo Center on the Pocahontas County Fairgrounds

For more information, contact Nancy Jenson by phone 712-335-3103 or email njenson@iastate.edu

NEW TURFGRASS PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Spring will be here at least date wise in just over a month. Soon the lawn will need attention once again. Below are 4 new publications focused on turfgrass. Take a closer look.

RG 403 Choosing a Grass Species for Iowa Lawns

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/store/ItemDetail.aspx?ProductID=12929&SeriesCode=&CategoryID=54&Keyword=>

RG 404 Grasses for Special Uses

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/store/ItemDetail.aspx?ProductID=12930&SeriesCode=&CategoryID=54&Keyword=>

RG 405 Turfgrass Management Calendar: Cool-season lawns

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/store/ItemDetail.aspx?ProductID=12931&SeriesCode=&CategoryID=54&Keyword=>

RG 406 Questions and Answers about Lawn Mowing

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/store/ItemDetail.aspx?ProductID=12932&SeriesCode=&CategoryID=54&Keyword=>

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.

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