

INSIDE GRUNDY COUNTY
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Five people recently completed the Master Gardener program. They are Cindy Hilsabeck, Cindy Hintz Rush, Darrel Shuey, Nancy Buskohl and Jane Geerdes. You can see a write up on them and their picture in the paper this week. As interns, they completed forty hours of training and will become certified Master Gardeners after they complete forty hours of community service. They are a local resource available to you to answer yard and garden questions.

Grundy County Extension's open house will be on Monday, November 20th from 3:00 to 6:00 pm in the extension office. Please take time to stop in and see the office and learn more about Grundy County Extension and the programs we have available. Extension field specialists from agriculture and natural resources, families, communities, 4-H and youth and business and industry program areas, and local staff, will be on hand to answer questions about programming opportunities through ISU Extension.

We will have four new extension council members and one returning member after Tuesday's election. The extension council is responsible for overseeing the management of the extension office and provides general direction for programming. The newly elected council members are Bonnie Shinn, Janelle Koenigsfeld, Glenn Johnson, Ryan Bakker and returning member Linda McMartin. Those going off the council include: Glen Draper, Jim Hawkins, Kim Heinrich and Karen Henely. The newly elected council members begin their duties in January.

Today's forecast includes snow, therefore, you may want to consider the following winter driving preparation tips. First, be sure your car is prepared for winter. Check the battery and ignition system to be sure it has proper starting capability. Next, check the wipers, defroster, windshield washer, lights and hazard lights to be sure all are working properly. Top off the windshield washer fluid and carry extra in the trunk. It is important to check the exhaust system, heater, and brakes to assure proper operation and change oil to a recommended winter grade. Tires should have adequate tread (no less than 2/32 inch). You may want to consider all season or snow tires. Be sure that you have a windshield scraper and small broom for ice and snow removal.

You may want to keep the following items in the car: high energy bars and bottles of water, flashlight with extra batteries, first aid kit with pocket knife, several blankets or sleeping bags, plastic bags for sanitation, matches, an extra set of mittens, socks, wool cap, small shovel, booster cables, set of tire chains, traction mats and a small sack of sand for generating traction under the wheels and a brightly colored cloth to use as a flag.

For more information, please contact the Grundy Office at ISU Extension at 319-824-6979.