



BUCHANAN COUNTY MASTER GARDENER

# OFF SHOOTS

November 2017  
Issue 11

E-V-E-N-T-S

## Buchanan County Master Gardener Project Meeting

November 21, 2017  
7:00 p.m.

Great Spaces @  
Heartland Acres  
2600 Swan Lake Blvd.  
Independence

Open to all Master Gardeners  
and general public

Submit articles to  
rbrandt@wildblue.net by the  
1st Wednesday of the month.

Buchanan County ISU  
Extension and Outreach  
2600 Swan Lake Boulevard,  
Suite A

Independence IA 50644

Phone: (319) 334-7161

Fax: (319) 334-6641

E-mail:

[xbuchanan@iastate.edu](mailto:xbuchanan@iastate.edu)

Office Hours

Monday - Friday

8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

## Notes from Ashley

by Ashley Sherrets, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Agriculture/ Horticulture Program  
Coordinator, Master Gardener Coordinator

Thank you Lynda Fiester for the beautiful decoration of the Master Gardener sponsored tree for the Depot this year!

There will be an informal Christmas party for our Master Gardeners at the home of JoAnne Van Cleave on Tuesday, December 19 at 2:00 p.m. This is more of a holiday social gathering, and those who attend are encouraged to bring a treat to share; with JoAnne providing coffee for the afternoon. Come and mingle, get to know your fellow Master Gardeners, and enjoy some excellent company. We do ask that this event is limited to Master Gardeners only due to space, and all planning to attend must RSVP to Ashley.

Make sure to enter your hours online for 2017. Ashley will be in touch over the next few weeks if you have not entered the required 10 hours of continuing education and 20 hours of volunteer service required to maintain an "active" Master Gardener status.

Thank you to all who have volunteered to help with the holiday décor workshops which will take place in the next few weeks. Please promote the events by sharing the flyer and information with any friends and family who may be interested! We must fill all three classes in order to make the money from the program based on our budget for this year. The class includes two holiday crafts, and no crafting experience is required!

(Flyer attached at end of newsletter)



## Buchanan County Master Gardener Project Meeting, November 21, 2017

On Tuesday, November 21, 2017 at 7 PM the Master Gardeners will hold their project meeting at St. James Episcopal Church at 202 2nd Ave NE in Independence.

Meetings are open to all Master Gardeners and the general public.

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### Available NOW! 2018 Garden Calendar Celebrating with Plants

Throughout the year we celebrate holidays and special events with family gatherings and traditional foods. Plants are another important feature in many celebrations. From poinsettias at Christmas, to roses on Valentine's Day, to Jack o'lanterns on Halloween, horticulture is an integral part of many celebrations. This monthly calendar features a striking holiday-inspired horticulture image and the story behind the tradition.

The large calendar grid offers space to create a gardening journal to record the progress of your own garden. Refer to the monthly tips that provide timely cultural information for fruits and vegetables, lawn care recommendations, tree and shrub guidance, and other information.

Whether it be flowers, fruits, vegetables, trees, or turfgrass, this annual calendar provides tips on a variety of topics so that you can easily know what task should be completed next in your own garden.

Calendars are available now for \$8.00 at the Buchanan County Extension Office.



### Horticultural Programs

These horticulture programs and others are listed at:  
<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/mastergardener/events>

#### All Bugs Good and Bad: 2017 Webinar Series (Free)

First Friday each month

2:00 p.m. (Eastern)/1:00 p.m. (Central)

December 1 Don't Let Bed Bugs Hamper Your Vacation Plans - Alan Brown

For more information on the series and how to connect to the webinars, visit: <http://articles.extension.org/pages/73368>. This website also has links to tapes of webinars presented over the past four years, 2013-2016.

#### Terrariums

Presented by the Botanical Garden Staff on December 4 from 10:30 a.m. to noon at the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden. To learn more: <http://www.dmbotanicalgarden.com/events-programs/calendar-events/357-terrariums/>

Cost: Members, \$30., Nonmembers, \$35. Register at: <https://49857.blackbaudhosting.com/49857/Terrariums-02Dec2017>

Join the Botanical Garden staff as we merge plants, science and design to create miniature worlds. Learn how to design and care for terrariums and then build your own in this hands-on workshop. We will provide the ingredients (gravel, rocks, soil, plants, moss and lichen) to put in your terrarium. Please note glassware vessels are not provided. The Garden Shop has terrarium glassware for sale ranging from \$10-20. Participants are also welcome to bring their own glass vessel.

#### Heart Beet

Do you carrot at all for me?

My heart beets for you,

With your turnip nose

And your radish face.

You are a peach.

If we cantaloupe,

Lettuce marry.

Weed make a swell pear.

from [A Rocket in My Pocket: Rhymes and Chants of Young Americans](#)

@ <http://www.gardendigest.com/humor.htm>

Additional Educational Events Can Be Found at:

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/mastergardener/events>

Currently events are listed through December 1, 2017

All links in this newsletter were verified and working November 13, 2017.

**January 17th****Great Spaces @ Heartland Acres  
Business Meeting**

Review plans for Symposium  
Sign up for committees

Open to all Master Gardeners and general public

**February 21st**

No meeting

**BCMG Symposium  
February 25, 2016**

8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Open to all Master Gardeners and general public

**March 21st**

Heartland Acres Theater  
Project Meeting 7:00

**Ashley will be reviewing volunteer  
services guidelines and the  
Volunteer Reporting System**

Open to all Master Gardeners and general public

**April 18th**

St. James Episcopal Church  
202 2nd Ave NE, Independence  
Project Meeting 7:00

**To Be Announced**

Open to all Master Gardeners and general public

**May 16th****Great Spaces @ Heartland Acres  
Plant Exchange 6:00  
Business Meeting**

Open to all Master Gardeners and general public

**June 20th**

St. James Episcopal Church  
202 2nd Ave NE, Independence  
Project Meeting 7:00

**The Fair, Planting a Butterfly  
Garden**

Open to all Master Gardeners and general public

# Master Gardener Calendar 2017

**Holiday Décor Workshops**  
Make TWO rustic crafts! No  
craft experience necessary! \$35  
workshop fee covers most  
supplies needed. Crafts are  
Holiday String Art and Conifer  
Cone Door Hanger. Pre-  
registration is required.

Choose one of these classes:  
Fairbank Public Library, Nov. 28,  
5:30 - 8:00 (10 spots available)  
Jesup Public Library, Nov. 30,  
5:30 - 8:00 (15 spots available)  
Heartland Acres, Nov. 30, 5:30 -  
8:00 (25 spots available)

(See flyer at end of newsletter)

Site addresses verified August 11, 2017

Many articles are now indexed in the Yard & Garden  
FAQs Database

<<https://expert-hort.sws.iastate.edu/>>

Current Yard & Garden and Horticulture & Home Pest  
News articles

<<https://hortnews.extension.iastate.edu>>

Reiman's Pick (No archives - now published as one of  
four blogs. Others are Nathan's Notes, Plant  
Particulars, and Intern's Perspective)

<[http://www.reimangardens.com/education-ideas/  
blogs/](http://www.reimangardens.com/education-ideas/blogs/)>

**Gardening Publications from ISU Extension**

Available from the ISU Extension Online Store:

<[https://store.extension.iastate.edu/ProductArea?  
TopicID=10](https://store.extension.iastate.edu/ProductArea?TopicID=10)>

Many of these publications are free to download.

**July 5-9**

**Buchanan County Fair**  
Join us in the  
Master Gardener booth in  
the Garden Gate Building

**August 15th****Great Spaces @ Heartland Acres  
Business Meeting**

Open to all Master Gardeners and general public

**September 19th**

St. James Episcopal Church  
202 2nd Ave NE, Independence  
Project Meeting 7:00  
**Review of Master Gardener Projects**

Open to all Master Gardeners and general public

**October 17th****Great Spaces @ Heartland Acres  
Business Meeting**

Open to all Master Gardeners and general public

**November 21st**

St. James Episcopal Church  
202 2nd Ave NE, Independence  
Project Meeting 7:00  
**To Be Announced**

Open to all Master Gardeners and general public

**December****No Regular Meeting—Happy Holidays**

Be sure to log your volunteer and  
education hours on the online Volunteer  
Reporting System by 11:59 p.m.,  
December 31st. See you in 2018

## Home Vegetable Storage Requirements

by Richard Jauron, Department of Horticulture - complete article may be found at <https://hortnews.extension.iastate.edu/2017/10/home-vegetable-storage-requirements>

Several vegetables can be successfully stored for several months when the crop is properly harvested, cured/dried, and stored. The temperature and humidity requirements for the storage of several commonly grown vegetables are provided below.

### Onions

Place onions in a mesh bag, old nylon stocking, wire basket, or crate. Hang braided onions from a rafter or ceiling. Store onions in a cool, moderately dry location. Storage temperatures should be 32 to 40 degrees Fahrenheit. The relative humidity should be 65 to 70 percent.

The storage life of onions is determined by the cultivar and storage conditions. When properly stored, good keepers, such as 'Copra,' 'Redwing,' and 'Stuttgarter,' can be successfully stored for several months.



### Potatoes

Potatoes should be stored at a temperature of 40 degrees Fahrenheit and relative humidity of 90 to 95 percent. Store the tubers in a dark location as potatoes turn green when exposed to light. If storage temperatures are above 50 degrees Fahrenheit, the potatoes will start to sprout after two or three months. Potatoes stored below 40 degrees Fahrenheit develop a sugary, sweet taste. Sugary potatoes may be restored to their natural flavor by placing them at room temperature for a few days prior to use.

### Sweet Potatoes

Store sweet potatoes at a temperature of 55 to 60 degrees Fahrenheit and relative humidity of 85 to 90 percent. Storage temperatures above 60 degrees Fahrenheit may stimulate sprouting. Sweet potatoes may develop an off-flavor and the flesh may become discolored when stored at temperatures below 55 degrees Fahrenheit.

When properly cured and stored, sweet potatoes can be stored for four to six months.

### Winter Squash

Store winter squash in a cool, dry, well-ventilated location. Storage temperatures should be 50 to 55 degrees Fahrenheit. Do not store squash near apples, pears, or other ripening fruit. Ripening fruit release ethylene gas which shortens the storage life of squash.

The storage lives of acorn, butternut, and hubbard squash are approximately five to eight weeks, two to three months, and five to six months, respectively.

### Carrots and Beets

After harvest, trim the foliage back to within 1/2 to 1 inch of the roots. Store carrots and beets at a temperature of 32 degrees Fahrenheit and relative humidity of 98 to 100 percent.

Carrots and beets can be stored for several months when properly stored.

**Horticulture & Home Pest News** <http://www.ipm.iastate.edu/ipm/hortnews/> is published 19 times a year (monthly, October through February and biweekly during gardening season, March through September).

Articles in the October 20, 2017, issue include Home Vegetable Storage Requirements / Minute Pirate Bugs Are Biting - ARGH! / Are Crabapples OK to Eat? / High Tunnel Production and Management Short Course - November 6, 2017 / Plan Ahead for Fall Foliage Colors / Forcing Hyacinth Bulbs Indoors During Winter

Articles in the November 13, 2017, issue include Plant and Insect Diagnostic Clinic Update - November 13, 2017 / 2018 Garden Calendar - Celebrating with Plants / Protecting Trees and Shrubs in Winter / Plant Pathology Sessions During Master Gardener Training Fall 2017 / Emerald Ash Borer Confirmed in Decatur County / Harvesting and Storing Root Crops / Forcing Amaryllis Bulbs Indoors for Holiday Display

## Yard and Garden News

Articles are published one to four times a month on an irregular schedule. They may be found at

<https://hortnews.extension.iastate.edu/aggregator/sources/1>

These are the articles listed since August 18, 2017:

- 11/9/17 Emerald Ash Borer Confirmed in Decatur County
- 11/8/17 Harvesting and Storing Root Crops
- 11/2/17 Forcing Amaryllis Bulbs Indoors for Holiday Use
- 10/26/17 New Aquaponics Publications Help Hobbyists, Commercial Growers
- 10/25/17 Prepare Outdoor Flowers for Winter
- 10/19/17 Identify and Enjoy Crabapples
- 10/12/17 Enjoy Fall Colors of These Iowa Trees, Shrubs, Perennials
- 10/6/17 Learning Session for Value Added Producer Grant Preparation
- 10/4/17 Forcing Hyacinth Bulbs Indoors during Winter
- 10/3/17 Manual Provides Instruction for Growing Produce in a High Tunnel
- 9/28/17 Properly Harvesting and Storing Fall Garden Produce
- 9/28/17 Garden Calendar Celebrates Plants Associated with Holidays and Special Events
- 9/20/17 Caring for Newly Planted Trees through Winter
- 9/13/17 Proper, Timing, Planting and Care for Daffodil Cultivars
- 9/7/17 Timing and Applying Broadleaf Lawn Herbicides
- 9/5/17 ISU Extension and Outreach Annual Turfgrass Field Day Is Sept. 12



**Enter Volunteer and Education Hours at: <https://mastergardenerhours.hort.iastate.edu>**

### 2017 Master Gardener Officers and Project & Committee Membership

#### Steering Committee Officers, 2017

Gean Cummings, Chair  
Shelley Schafer, Vice Chair  
Jean Gillpatrick, Secretary  
Nancy Weber, Treasurer

#### Master Gardener Nominating Committee

Need some volunteers!!!

#### 2018 Symposium Committee

\*Nancy Weber  
Denise Hawker  
Mary Davis  
Char Swarts  
JoAnn Crain  
JoAnne Van Cleave  
Hazel Kout  
Jean Gillpatrick  
Becky Sweeney  
Sue Schneider  
Shelly Ohrt  
Ashley Sherrets  
Kim Hansen  
Cedar Rock-'Agnes Mathilda' gardens  
\* Anita Miller  
\* Jean Gillpatrick  
JoAnn Crain  
Mary Lou Weepie  
Mary Steuben

\* Committee Chair

#### Wapsipiconic Mill gardens (prairie and south/front garden)

Shirley Rozendaal  
Leanne Harrison  
Becky Sweeney

#### Off Shoots (articles/ interviews)

\* Ruth Brandt  
Jean Gillpatrick  
Ashley Sherrets

#### Farmers market booth and educational programs

Gean Cummings  
Ruth Hamilton  
Ruth Schneider  
Becky Sweeney

#### ABCM West Village

\* Anita Miller  
Jean Gillpatrick  
Becky Sweeney (East Campus)

#### Educational gardening programs/ public speaking opportunities

Nancy Weber  
Jean Gillpatrick  
Ashley Sherrets  
Anita Miller

#### Project meetings

Jean Gillpatrick- programs

#### Design a Scarecrow contest

Anita Miller  
Jean Gillpatrick  
Ashley Sherrets

#### Master Gardener Booth - Fair

Jean Gillpatrick  
JoAnn Crain  
Shirley Rozendaal  
Ruth Hamilton  
Mary Lou Weepie

#### April 1 - 'Spring in the Heartland' with Dan Wardell

Gean Cummings  
Sue Schneider  
Nancy Weber

Jean Gillpatrick  
Ashley Sherrets

#### Darrell E. Davis Adult Day Center

\* Jean Gillpatrick  
Rosalind Gibbs  
Anita Miller

#### Independence Library Butterfly Garden

\* Jean Gillpatrick  
JoAnn Crain  
Denise Hawker

#### Hazleton City Park, Veteran's Park, Community Gardens

\* Mary Davis  
JoAnne Van Cleave  
Hazel Kout (support)

#### Flower & Garden Show - fair

JoAnn Crain  
Char Swarts  
Jean Gillpatrick  
Ruth Schneider  
Ruth Hamilton  
Lynda Fiester  
Becky Sweeney

#### Lee Mansion Gardens

\* Denise Hawker  
\* Shelley Schafer  
Kim Hansen  
JoAnn Crain  
Char Swarts  
Jean Gillpatrick  
Leanne Harrison

#### Independence Library (planters & statue)

\* Ashley Sherrets

#### Jakway Heirloom Gardens

\* Mary Davis  
Jean Gillpatrick  
Anita Miller  
Ashley Sherrets (as available)

#### Hospice Garden

\* Jean Gillpatrick (Help! looking for co-chair)  
Denise Hawker  
Anita Miller  
Kim Hansen  
Mary Lou Weepie

#### Rowley Community Center/

Welcome Sign & City Park  
JoAnn Crain  
Rita Knutson  
Shelly Ohrt

#### First Presbyterian Sharing Gardens

Shirley Rozendaal  
Denise Hawker  
Ruth Hamilton

#### Hortline/horticulture research/ horticulture programs help

Gean Cummings  
Sue Schneider  
Jean Gillpatrick  
Ruth Hamilton (phone)  
Shelly Ohrt

#### Prairie Pioneer Schoolhouse Garden

\* Mary Steuben  
Ruth Schneider  
Ruth Hamilton  
Nancy Weber

#### Centennial Garden Committee

Nancy Weber  
Mary Davis  
Jean Gillpatrick  
Anita Miller  
Ashley Sherrets

**These are committee lists as of May 12, 2017. Please let Ashley know if you want to be added to any of these lists. If you were on a lists in the past and don't find your name there now, please call to have it added.**

**Ashley Sherrets, Master Gardener Coordinator, 319.334.7161, or sherrets@iastate.edu.**

## Mission Statement



The mission of the Iowa State University Extension Master Gardener Program is to provide current, research-based, home horticulture information and education to the citizens of Iowa through 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.

### Buchanan County ISU Extension & Outreach

2600 Swan Lake Boulevard, Suite A  
Independence, IA 50644

"Wanted: Man to take care of cow that does not smoke or drink."  
from <<http://www.gardendigest.com/humor.htm>>

# Holiday Décor Workshops

Make **TWO** rustic crafts! No craft experience necessary!

**\$35.00** workshop **fee covers** most supplies needed for crafts.

Décor projects will be **similar** to those pictured below.

*Participants are asked to bring their own hammers and needle nose pliers; hot glue guns welcome as well!*

## Holiday String Art



Space is limited!

**Pre-registration  
required!**

Participants **must pay  
fee in advance.**

Registration and  
payment should be  
made out to:

Buchanan County ISU  
Extension & Outreach  
(319) 334-7161.

Please indicate which  
of the three workshop  
locations you wish to  
attend!



## Conifer Cone Door Hanger

**Tues, Nov. 28, 2017**

**5:30 - 8:00 p.m.**

**Fairbank Public Library**

(212 Main St. E - Fairbank)

**10 spots available**

**Thursday, Nov. 30, 2017**

**5:30 - 8:00 p.m.**

**Jesup Public Library**

(Community Room)

(721 6th St. - Jesup)

**15 spots available**

**Tues, Dec. 5, 2017**

**5:30 - 8:00 p.m.**

**Heartland Acres**

(Great Spaces Museum area)

(2600 Swan Lake Blvd. - Independence)

**25 spots available**

**IOWA STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

Extension and Outreach

**Buchanan County**

2600 Swan Lake Blvd, Ste. A · Independence, IA 50644  
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[www.extension.iastate.edu/buchanan](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/buchanan)