

Maquoketa River Botanist

Newsletter of the Delaware County Master Gardeners

Published each even numbered month

DELAWARE COUNTY

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So..winter is still hanging in there. But those brief spurts of warmth are happening more and more frequently. This has to mean any day it will finally be spring!

I think my daffodils are still confused. They have emerged from the soil but haven't grown much over an inch or so. The poor things keep getting covered by snow!

As slow as spring seems to be this year, I'm still enjoying each of our snowstorms and

loving the fact that I still have time to plan the garden and trim trees I just haven't gotten to yet.

I know we are all chomping-at-bit for spring, just hold on a bit longer and those sunny warm days will be here soon!

-Hannah Childs

**Next
Delaware County
Master Gardener
Meeting
April 17th**



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Extension programs are available to all without regard of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, or disability.



Mondays in March

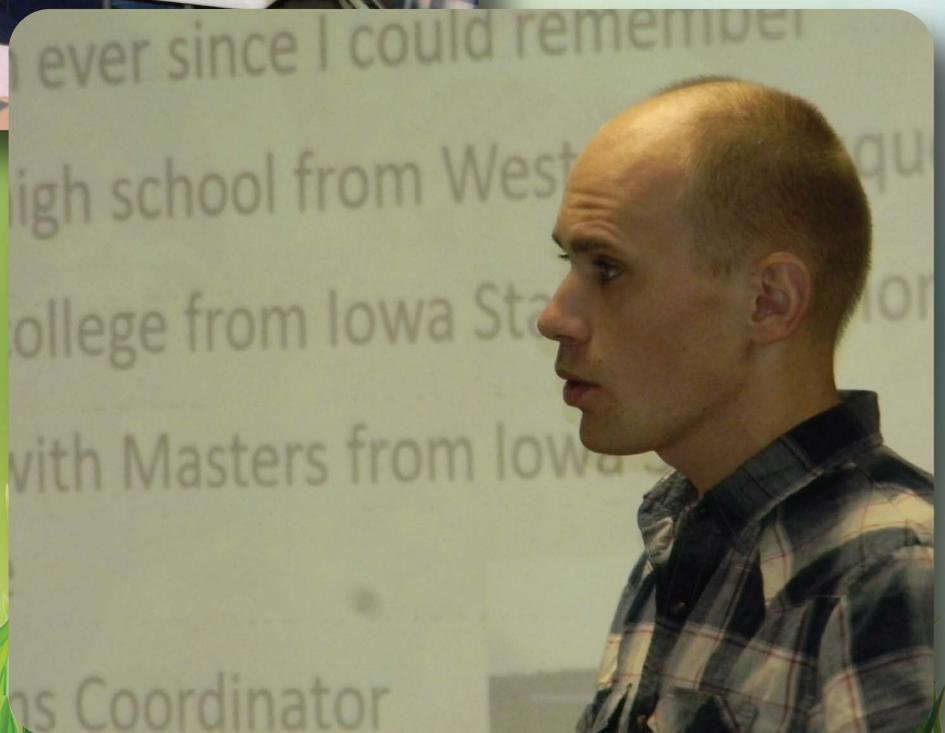
3-12-18 Deb Walser, Linn County Master Gardeners.
Topic: Heavenly Hydrangeas



Mondays in March

**3-19-18 Ray Kruse, Dubuque County
Food Systems Coordinator.**

**Topic: Growing Strawberries and
Raspberries using Modern Production Practices**



Mondays in March

**3-26-18 Ray Keith Kovarik of K&K Gardens
Topic: Crazy Plant Geek-Unleashed**



Mondays in March

As a show of appreciation, members of the Mondays in March door prize committee delivered donuts to merchants in Manchester and Dyersville.

Door prize committee members are Pete Wood, Marlene Andersen, and Susanne Reiter



**Sue Broghammer, owner of
Sue's Flowers and Garden Center**



**Pam Meyer, owner of
Ace Homeworks in Dyersville.**

Member Recommended Plant

If you love day lilies and want something that will stop you in your tracks, I highly recommend Ruby Spider. The bright red 9 inch blooms are breathtaking. Despite it's name, it is not a true spider.

It was awarded the American Hemerocallis Society Award of Merit in 2002. The plant pictured in the photo is at the Mini Mart project in Hopkinton. It was planted three years prior to the photo. Passers by have inquired about it as it is such a showy plant. You need this daylily in your garden.

Submitted by Susanne Reiter



Changes in 2018 Manchester's Farmers Market

by MG Lori Scovel

There are big changes on the horizon for the Manchester Farmers' Market this year and the MG Farmers Market Committee is preparing for them and the upcoming market season!

What's new?

- A New Location in Manchester: River Street behind Bushel & A Peck along the sidewalk/bike trail. The change for this year is due to planned construction of the new bank across from the Delaware County Courthouse which will make the street there inaccessible this season.
- New Times: 8am - 11am. The start and end times of the market were pushed back an hour due to feedback from the community.
- New Look & Media: Watch for new signage, the market's new logo and increased media this season. You can now follow the market's new Facebook page here: <https://www.facebook.com/manchesteriowafarmersmarket/> Check it for updates, vendor spotlights, special events and more throughout the summer.
- New Vendors & Promotions: There has been a concerted effort to generate more interest in the local market and to encourage new vendors to participate this year. There will also be special events and promotions happening this season.

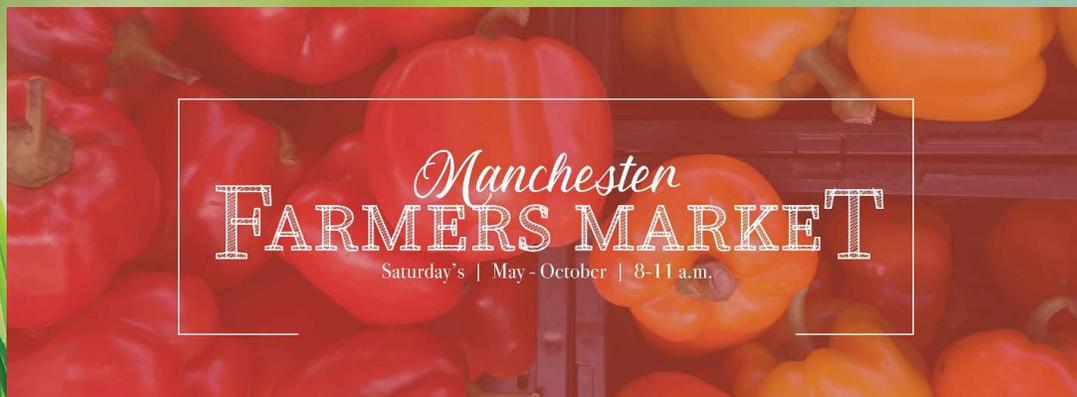
*** If you know of a local foods/craft producer (or you are one yourself) please encourage them to be (or consider being) a part of the Manchester Farmers Market! Vendor information can be obtained online or by contacting the Manchester Area Chamber of Commerce.**

Members of the MG Farmers' Market Committee are already looking forward to the new market season. Susanne Reiter says, "I really do like the changes in the FM. I really like the later start time. Much more civilized, especially for those of us who drive a distance to Manchester." Please mark your calendars now and plan to attend the special Kick-Off Event on the first day of the market, May 26th.

This year marks the 8th consecutive year the Delaware County Master Gardeners have hosted an educational booth at the market. Typically you can find us there the first Saturday of each month during the growing season. The MG Farmers' Market Committee includes Marlene Anderson, Mary Knipper, Barb Recker, Susanne Reiter, Lori Scovel and Bob Wendt but everyone is welcome to join in on the fun! Contact Lori Scovel at jandlori@iowatelecom.net if you're interested in joining the committee this year!

"I have a feeling that the FM will really take off with the change of location and more community support. Exciting!" Reiter says. Be sure to check out the market every Saturday morning this growing season.

Continued...



New 2018 Manchester Farmers Market logo

Changes in 2018 Manchester's Farmers Market

The Manchester Farmers Market will be open every Saturday 8am – 11am May 26 – Oct. 6, on River Street on the Walk/Bike Trail, just north of the Main Street Bridge, in Manchester.

2018 MG Farmers' Market Dates

Saturday, May 26 - First FM of the Season

possible plant/seed giveaway

Saturday, June 2 - Regular educational booth

Saturday, June 16 - Rhubarb on the River, Theme: Rhubarb (surprise!)

Saturday, July 7 - Regular educational booth

Saturday, August 4 - Regular educational booth

Saturday, September 1 - Regular educational booth

*Saturday, October 6 – Last day of market - MGs typically don't have a booth at the market in October but we may consider one this year based on activity, theme and attendance.



New 2018 location of the Manchester Farmers Market (Bushel & A Peck to the left, the Watershed to the right on River Street). Hopefully it will be warmer and the snow piles will all be gone by the time of the first market!



**thank
you!**

I would like to thank everyone for all the cards, memorials, and kind words said to me in my Dad's passing. These acts of kindness helped provide me with strength and also reminded me of the wonderful Master Gardner Family I have.

Pete Wood

These little crocuses have survived two snow storms and still offer us the hope that Spring will eventually arrive not only on the calendar, but with warm weather, too.

Carol Burke

