

Maquoketa River Botanist

Newsletter of the Delaware County Master Gardeners

Published each even numbered month

DELAWARE COUNTY

1417 N. Franklin Street
P.O. Box 336 Manchester, IA 52057

PH: 563-927-4201

FAX: 563-927-3744

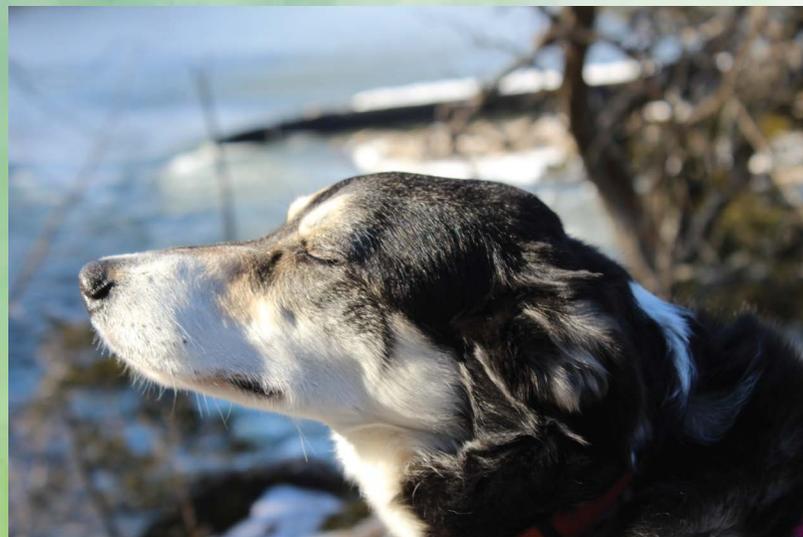
Just when you think winter is loosening its grip, the snow melted, you bask in the warmth of the sun on that first 35 degree day...then wham! Here comes a flurry of heavy snow, chilling winds, and temperatures you were sure are more suited for the north pole.

Alas, that is winter in Iowa. Spring...winter....winter...spring. For some this back and forth may be frustrating, but I aim to take it all in. I'll enjoy those mid thirty

degree days where it feels like t shirt weather. And I'll take all the snow I can get, send me you snow if you don't want it!

Our gardens maybe resting, but before we know it will be spring and we will be busy, busy, busy yet again. Just hand in there a bit longer.

-Hannah Childs



[facebook.com/DelawareCountyMasterGardeners](https://www.facebook.com/DelawareCountyMasterGardeners)

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





Join the Delaware County Master Gardeners...

**M
O
N
D
A
Y
S
I
N
M
A
R
C
H**

March 5

Crazy Plant Geek-Unleased

Keith Kovarik,
K & K Gardens

March 12

Heavenly Hydrangeas

Deb Walser
Linn County Master Gardener

March 19

Growing Strawberries and Raspberries using Modern Production Practices

Ray Kruse
ISU Extension and Outreach Dubuque County Food
Systems Coordinator

March 26

Native Plants for the Gardener: Sustainable Choices for Iowans

Judy Nauseef
Landscape designer and writer

Everyone is Welcome!

Mondays at 7:00 p.m.

Our Savior Lutheran Church

116 Guetzko Court
Manchester

\$2.00 donation

Door Prizes to be given away!

In case of inclement weather listen to KMCH Radio 94.7

Member Recommended Plant

One of my most dependable flowering perennials is veronica 'Evaline'. It grows in a clump-like manner and blooms a lovely magenta color. Height is two feet. I have clay soil which doesn't seem to phase it. It will reseed, but not invasively. Seedlings appear near the mother plant. I usually just move these to other locations in the garden. Evaline blends in beautifully with many other perennials.

Submitted by Susanne Reiter



Aralia Sun King

We planted three Aralias on the east side of our house two years ago. They were real sleepers the first year with a height of 18 inches, but last summer really leaped, reaching three feet. They are by the entrance and brought many enthusiastic comments from visitors.

The foliage is bright gold/green. In late fall with diminishing sun light hours, it was partially light green. This is a perennial, said to have spikes of tiny white flowers followed by inedible purple berries.

Ours had just a couple of flower spikes, but expect more this year as they mature. Aralia Sun King is easy to grow, rarely bothered by insects or disease and deer resistant.

The plant is said to have been brought from a Japanese nursery recently by Barry Yinger. The leaves are a nice texture. Some articles claim the plant will reach 5 ft. at maturity.

Kay Burke



Garden Humor



"The gardener in him sold out to the nature-conservationist."

