Henry County Master Gardeners
Present the 14th Annual Spring Symposium
March 7, 2020 - 9:00 am-3:00 pm
First United Methodist Church
309 N Main Street, Mt. Pleasant, IA

Program Schedule

8:30-9:00 am- Registration

9:00-10:15 am- Keynote- Nathan Brockman
"Pollinators"

10:30-11:30 am
Breakout #1 (choose one)
A. Super Succulents- Rose Milden
B. Vegetable Grower Panel- Henry Co. MGs
C. Habitat Plots for Small Places- Dick Young
D. Mazer- Kurt Garretson
E. There is more than grass growing in my lawn! Why?- John Rubey

11:30 am-12:20 pm
Lunch- Included with registration fee

12:30-1:30 pm- Keynote- Adam Janke
"Bringing nature home: Native plants and their ecological, cultural and aesthetic value"

1:45-2:45 pm
Breakout #2 (choose one)
A. Make ‘n’ Take: - Blank Park Zoo’s program PlantGrowFly (limit 25 participants)
B. Woodworking for Wildlife- Adam Janke
C. Growing Cut Flowers- Morgan Hoenig
D. Why Blueberries?- Kim Andersen
E. Trends in Porch Pots for the Homeowner- Steve & Lynn Ritter

3:00 pm- Travel Home Safely

Save the Date for March 6, 2021!

** NO REFUNDS ON REGISTRATION FEE**

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Henry County Master Gardeners Spring Symposium
Registration Form
Questions? Call: 319-385-8126 or email: dwellman@iastate.edu
Name: __________________________________________
Address: _________________________________________
City, State, Zip: ___________________________________
Phone: _____________ Email : ___________________ (Email to confirm registration)

Registration fee: $40 – Includes Lunch
Total Due: $ _______ ** NO REFUNDS ON REGISTRATION FEE**

Return registration and fee to:
Henry County Extension
127 N Main
Mt. Pleasant IA 52641

Registration Deadline: February 27, 2020- 4:30pm
Mailed registrations must be postmarked by February 27, 2020!
NO EXCEPTIONS! Space is limited.
**Master Gardener Education Hours Apply for All Sessions**
CLASS DESCRIPTIONS
Questions? Call the Henry County Extension Office at 319-385-8126 or Email: dwellman@iastate.edu

Morning Keynote- Nathan Brockman
“Pollinators”
Insects often get a bum rap, but are actually playing an important role in our ecosystem. Learn about some of the fascinating insects that visit our gardens as well as a few tips and tricks to encourage more to stop by.

Breakout #1 Choices:
A. Super Succulents- Rose Milden
Come and learn about Baby Tears, Living Stones and Christmas Cheer which are just a few of the awesome array of plants called succulents. Succulents are mostly self-sufficient plants that include cacti and sedum. These plants come in a wide variety of shapes, colors, textures and sizes. Join Rose to find out about a succulent that’s just right for you and your space.

B. Vegetable Grower Panel- Henry County Master Gardener Trio
Henry County Master Gardeners, Chuck Albright, Carol Gard and Marty Schnicker, will share a few of their favorite vegetable growing methods. They will also take questions from the breakout audience concerning problems and growing methods in your own vegetable gardens, so come prepared!

C. Habitat Plots for Small Places- Dick Young
With today’s more extensive farming practices, natural habitats on farms are decreasing. Cities, towns and communities are encouraging homeowners to plant small habitat plots in their yards. In this session you will learn about this and more.

D. Mazer- Kurt Garretson
Kurt works mostly with native fruit trees and shrubs and turning fruit into Mead. His primary fruit are Elderberries. This session will cover propagation, pests and harvest for Elderberries, Aronia Berries and more.

E. There is more than grass growing in my lawn! Why? – John Rubey
John Rubey, of Rubey Lawn Care, will talk about the new varieties of weeds and southern grasses invading the lawn. He will also address the reasons why a lawn might not be growing.

Breakout #2 Choices:
A. Make ‘n’ Take: - Blank Park Zoo’s program PlantGrowFly (Limit 25 participants) Blank Park Zoo staff will lead a discussion on building small, backyard or sideyard spaces for butterflies, especially Monarchs. Participants will make clay balls with milkweed seed.

Afternoon Keynote- Adam Janke
“Bringing nature home: Native plants and their ecological, cultural, and aesthetic value”
Natural Midwestern forests, prairies and wetlands have hundreds of native plants uniquely adapted to Midwestern soils, climates and pests that are critical to natural wildlife from pollinating insects to migrating birds. This session will explore how we can bring small pieces of those ecosystems home to our own backyards by planting native plants and arranging them to mimic natural places while also yielding beautiful aesthetics, providing wildlife habitat and commemorating landscapes with deep roots in our Midwestern cultural and ecological history.

B. Woodworking for Wildlife- Adam Janke
New habitats for wildlife are best made outside by shaping the plants and abiotic features of the land into an attractive form. But acts of creating wildlife habitat aren't necessarily reserved only for the outdoors. This session will explore how a woodshop can create habitats for wildlife through the construction of wooden boxes for bats and birds as well as building benches for nature lovers to enjoy the outdoors along with the wildlife.

C. Growing Cut Flowers- Morgan Hoenig
This session will cover varieties of flowers that are best suited for cutting and how to manage common pests and diseases on these flowering plants. Hoenig will also cover the best practices for harvesting and caring for cut garden flowers.

D. Why Blueberries?- Kim Andersen
This question will be answered from a perspective of sustainability and keeping a small family farm viable. Kim will share her blueberry dream, her reason for going organic and her experiences from three years as a blueberry grower in Southeast Iowa. There will be time after the presentation to answer questions. Also there may or may not be a blueberry treat included in this session!

E. Trends in Porch Pots for the Homeowner- Steve & Lynn Ritter
Steve and Lynn will introduce how to make porch pots that are unique, colorful and successful for your location. They will also show how to use annual bedding plants, perennials, as well as tropicals.