



November 2022

## Project Coordinators

Click on a name to email the listed coordinator:

### Gardening Info Table

Jackie Wellborn

### Butterfly House at Fairgrounds

Carolyn Murphy

### Historic 1876 Coralville Schoolhouse

(Open)

### Ecumenical Towers

Michael Hesseltine

### Demonstration Garden

Chris Sedrel

### Downtown City Gardens

Linda Schreiber

### Fairgrounds Flower Beds and Rain Garden

Chris Sedrel

### Firefighters' Memorial

Barb Schintler

### Plant Sale/Flea Market

Emil Rinderspacher

### Hortline

Esther Retish

### Hospice Gardens

Melanie Haupt

### Buckets of Flowers & Scarecrow Contest

Lavon Yeggy

### Oaknoll Garden Project

Vicki Siefers

### Plum Grove

Carolyn Murphy

### Speakers Bureau

Jackie Wellborn

### Thymes Newsletter

Melissa Serenda

## Continuing Education Schedule for 2023 Announced

JCMG is pleased to announce Green State Foundation is the presenting sponsor of our 2023 continuing education hybrid program and we have a great lineup of speakers who will present on **Sunday, March 5.**

The three tracks will cover prairies, gardening and trees:

- 1 P.M. *Native Plants* by Kristine Nemec, Iowa Tallgrass Prairie Center
- 2:15 P.M. *Community Gardening* with Aaron Steils, ISU, Consumer Horticulture Extension Specialist;
- 3:30 P.M. *Planting Trees for Tomorrow* by Nick McGrath, Trees Forever.

City Channel 4 will broadcast the program live and rebroadcast on its YouTube channel and website. Participants may bring their own refreshments.

Register at <https://go.iastate.edu/3RY76D>.



## 2023 Garden Calendars Available

The theme for the 2023 ISU Extension and Outreach garden calendar is *Garden Lore*. Each month of the calendar features common gardening misconceptions and research-based facts to replace fiction.

Other features include a large calendar grid to be used as a gardening journal, as well as monthly tips providing seasonal information for fruits, vegetables, lawn care, trees, shrubs, and more.

Calendars (\$8) are available for [ordering online](#) and a limited number are available for purchase at the extension office.

## Wanted: Your Feedback about the Thymes Newsletter

We want to make sure we're providing content that is interesting and useful to JCMGs! Please complete [this short survey](#) to let us know what you'd like to see in future editions.

## Thymes Deadline

Information/articles for the Thymes should be sent to Melissa Serenda at [jcmg.thymes@gmail.com](mailto:jcmg.thymes@gmail.com). Please send news, volunteer opportunities, stories, pictures, gardening book reviews, etc., for the December/January issue by **Friday, November 25.**

## MG Steering Committee Meeting

Next meeting **Wednesday, November 16, 6:30 P.M.**; hybrid meeting at Extension Office and by Zoom. All MGs are invited to attend; [contact Shannon](#) for more details!

## Book Review: *Locust*

BY MELISSA SERENDA

You've probably heard of biblical plagues of locusts, and recurring devastation wrought by the supercharged grasshoppers that comprise the arthropod mob, devastating crops in swathes covering huge areas of land. Maybe you've even heard about the locusts in our own country that periodically tormented pioneers west of the Mississippi in the 19th century. Ah, but lately? There have been outbreaks of locusts on other continents, but North America has been quiet in

that regard for more than a century.

Jeffrey Lockwood, at the time an entomologist at the University of Wyoming, explores our country's one native locust, the Rocky Mountain Locust, including theories about its demise, in the aptly-named *Locust* (subtitled "the devastating rise and

mysterious disappearance of the insect that shaped the American frontier"). How could an insect with swarms estimated to include trillions, covering an area larger than several states, be declared extinct in 2014 (after having effectively disappeared since 1902)?

It's a complex tale deftly woven from the strands of science, history, philosophy, and religion that flowed through the United States in the decades immediately following our Civil War. As the prairies and plains were settled and farmed, the pioneers clashed with a population of insects whose periodic, expansive flights had dominated the area for millennia longer than humans had even thought to put seeds in the soil to grow food.

Lockwood includes larger-than-life American characters like Charles Valentine Riley, a charismatic and opinionated entomologist who documented much of the Rocky Mountain Locust's lifestyle as chairman of the US Entomological Commission's "Grasshopper Commission," as well

as recounting the many ingenious (if ultimately futile) contraptions invented to help control the locusts via diverse methods of squishing, burning, or drowning.

As it turns to examining the theories surrounding the Rocky Mountain Locust's ultimate demise, Lockwood's tale becomes cautionary, drawing parallels with our beloved Monarch butterflies and the challenges they are facing as another insect struggling to survive in a world being quickly and dramatically changed by human activities.

*Locust* is a history, a mystery, a scientific essay, and an adventure story that ranges from the halls of Congress to the melting glaciers of the Rockies in a quest to understand the rise and fall of a once-fearsome agricultural pest.

## Iowa Organic Conference

JCMGs are invited to attend the Iowa Organic Conference, *Building Resiliency Through Biodiversity and Conservation in Organic Farming*, being held on Nov. 21–22, in the Iowa Memorial Union on the University of Iowa campus.

The 22nd annual event will include:

- Keynote presenter [Rattan Lal](#), World Food Prize Laureate and Distinguished University Professor of Soil Science, The Ohio State University: "*Why Soil Quality in Organic Systems Matters*"
- Organic crop, livestock, policy and environmental workshops
- Networking with organic business professionals, organizations, and producers
- Award-winning organic luncheon featuring local foods

Additional details about the program can be found at [www.regcytes.extension.iastate.edu/iowaorganic/](http://www.regcytes.extension.iastate.edu/iowaorganic/)



## Project Material Share

**D**id your project end up with a surplus of supplies? Is there something specific your project needs that others may have in abundance?

Introducing the [JCMG Project Material Share](#)! List your “wants” or “haves” in the Thymes, or visit the JCMG-Thymes page linked above for the most up-to-the-minute listings. You can also submit your items via the form on the JCMG-Thymes page.

Current Listings:

- **FREE Landscaping Stone:** Limestone rocks/boulders taken from the Demonstration Garden (rock raised bed) that was recently removed. MG volunteers have sorted the stones from small to very large to make it easy to find what you want. Take all you like from the area outside the garden—not from the remaining standing structure. All the disassembled stones, located at the back of the garden, are free for taking—first-come, first-served. Questions: Chris Sedrel, [oscarstagram@aol.com](mailto:oscarstagram@aol.com), 319-330-8416.

## Houseplant Swap Success

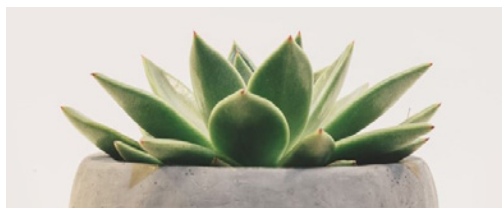
BY LINDA SCHREIBER

**M**aster Gardeners who attended the Houseplant Swap last month came ready to trade.

Several dozen plants, from tiny propagations to aged specimens, were brought to the breezeway on a chilly Saturday morning by JCMG houseplant enthusiasts.

Negotiations were serious, making for some good exchanges that sent everyone home with new treasures and some pretty cool plant containers.

Thanks to all who participated!



## Canna Storage

BY LINDA SCHREIBER

**A**s the self-appointed queen of cannas, here are some of my storage tips to ensure you have these tropical-looking plants year-after-year for your garden.

It's actually pretty easy to winter canna rhizomes but it does take some time and planning.

Before you can begin processing cannas for storage, the rhizomes must be lifted out of the

ground. I wait as long as possible for the first frost – usually about mid-October.

The first step is to remove the stalks about 4 inches above the ground. The 4-inch stalk will provide a handle if needed to pull rhizomes out of the ground. But wait a few days before you begin to dig. This will allow the cut stalk to dry. When you dig, remember that cannas can multiply over the summer, so you will want to start digging 8 to 10-inches away from the stalk to avoid cutting or slicing rhizomes.

As you remove the canna rhizomes from the ground, detach the remaining stalk, remove any decaying rhizomes and knock or brush off the soil. I bury the decayed rhizomes and stalks in the ground to feed the soil and earthworms over winter.

Next, prepare the cannas for storage by “curing” them. Curing involves drying the rhizomes for several days. This step allows the skin on the rhizomes to toughen and helps keep rot at bay. I put a tarp on the garage floor and spread the rhizomes out to air dry.

After the cannas have cured, they can be stored. I individually wrap them in newspaper and place them in containers or boxes. The best place to store cannas is in a cool – about 40 degrees is great – dry place, such as a garage, the basement, or a closet. Check on the cannas once in a while. If you find that more than a few are rotting, you may want to find a drier place to store the cannas.



## Hügelkultur: We did it!

BY JOHN WEEG

Master Gardeners are a breed apart. What other group could you ask volunteers to dig five tons of compacted soil out of a hole and then put it back—and get all the hands you need?

Dig is what we did Oct. 15 in the demonstration garden. As you remember from last month's article in the *Thymes*, a "normal" hügelkultur bed rises 1–2 feet above buried wood, so you need to dig 1–2 feet down and then build the bed up with the original soil mixed with organic material. Unfortunately, our site is not "normal." We have over two feet of compacted topsoil and clay above what looks to be the original land. To avoid our wood sitting in a "bathtub" of clay, we had to dig all the way to that original, farmable layer—a full 2 1/2 feet, through the compacted clay. Hard going when you're doing all the labor by hand with nothing but shovels and *esprit de corps*!



*Hügelkultur completion*



*In the trenches*

After digging through this compacted zone, we placed a layer of green wood on the original soil. This was covered by a mix of manure and soil. We continued to layer old wood, manure/soil mix, bark and twigs, manure/soil mix, etc., and finally added canna stalks/tomato vines pulled from last season's plantings. This filled our trench, but we were only up to ground level. Building up, we then mixed in the remaining soil, manure, and compost. All it needed after that was a straw blanket, and it was ready to rest till spring. The final bed is 3 feet high, 4 feet wide, and 24 feet long.

To complete our hügelkultur experiment, we added two more beds 24 feet long; one tilled with a cubic yard each of manure and compost mixed in and one (our "control" bed) just tilled. After planting next spring, we will compare the plants in each bed. Hopefully, the results will be well worth the effort!

Thanks to Linda Schreiber for photography.

## #Gratitude

BY JOHN WEEG

Many hands make light work, and that was certainly case for the hügelkultur project installed at the demonstration garden at the Johnson County Fairgrounds last month. JCMGs provided both time and materials, and thanks go out to all who participated. Special thanks to:

- **Larry Weber** for the wonderful wood slices that will be the base of the hügelkultur berm
- **Sharon Jeter** for the old wood that will balance out the new wood and be our sponge at the base
- **Dan Flynn** for the primo manure that will balance out all of the wood so there are no nitrogen 'low spots'

## November - It's Thyme To

BY MELISSA SERENDA AND LINDA SCHREIBER

Fall is a great time to clean the garden and dream of spring. If you are lucky enough to have strawberry plants, mulch them with 3 to 5 inches of weed-free straw or chopped plant materials to prevent winter injury.

Remember trees and shrubs need protection from critter damage. Encircle them with chicken wire fencing or hardware cloth about 24 to 36 inches high. The protection should be tall enough that rabbits can't climb in or reach over after a heavy snow.

Houseplants need added humidity in winter months. Place pots on trays or saucers filled with pea gravel or pebbles. Add water to the trays but keep the pot bottoms above the water line. The evaporation of water helps increase the humidity for the plants.

Fall is the time to clean, sharpen and oil all your garden tools. Cleaning tools in the fall prevents rust and clean tools are easier to sharpen. Remember sharp tools perform better.

After the first frost, remove annuals and plant debris from the garden.

Here in the Midwest, when the temperature drops, the appearance of our perennials suffers. Remove diseased, infested or otherwise compromised perennial plants but leave healthy seed heads standing. Leaving the seed heads of your perennials provides natural foraging habitat for wildlife. When food is scarce, gardens full of withered fruit and dried seed heads provide birds with a reliable food source during winter months. Seed-eating songbirds will love that you thought of them.

Fall garden cleaning may save time in the spring, but letting some plants stand will benefit the environment. Dried stalks, seedpods and leaves add interest in the garden as the snow falls. Ornamental



grasses add color, movement and texture to the winter landscape. Leave switchgrass, Chinese silver grass (*Miscanthus sinensis*), feather reed grass (*Calamagrostis x acutiflora*) and prairie dropseed (*Sporobolus heterolepis*) standing until spring when the grasses can be cut back as new growth appears.

Some perennials are more likely to survive if old stalks and leaves are not removed before new growth begins in the spring. Dead stems trap leaves and snow around the crown of the plant to provide insulation and protection from the cold. Garden mums (*Chrysanthemum*), anise hyssop (*Agastache foeniculum*) and Nippon daisy (*Nipponanthemum nipponicum*) do better if trimmed in the spring versus fall cutting. If the stems are left standing, it makes it easier to remember where those perennials are located in the garden and you won't accidentally dig in that location.

Plants that do not provide many benefits to wildlife or winter interest can be cut back in the fall to reduce labor in the spring. Examples include iris (*Iris*), daylilies (*Heemerocallis*), hosta (*Hosta*), astilbe (*Astilbe*), peony (*Paeonia*), yarrow (*Achillea*), lungwort (*Pulmonaria*), Shasta daisy (*Leucanthemum x superbum*) and garden phlox (*Phlox paniculata*).

Although letting perennials stand throughout the winter may create more work in the spring, it may increase wildlife value, beauty and plant survival — all things gardeners appreciate.

### Important Reminder: Record Your Hours!

You've worked hard this year! Make sure your volunteer and continuing education hours are recorded: click [here](#) to access the Volunteer Recognition System and log your time.

The projects you work on each year not only offer community assistance but also raise awareness of our program and projects.

Hours must be reported by **December 31** to remain on the MG active roster.





# Project Updates

## Downtown City Gardens

**LINDA SCHREIBER, COORDINATOR**

### Downtown City Gardens focused on change, transition in 2022

Daylilies, originally planted in 2011, were removed from the south side of Capitol Street Parking Garage to transition this garden to native perennials to create a sustainable environment matching other downtown garden spaces. The new design incorporated Blackhawks Big Bluestem *Andropogon gerardii*, *Panicum virgatum* Northwind, Arkansas blue star *Amsonia hubrichtii*, and *Heliopsis helianthoides*. The new design will continue in phases until the entire area is replanted. The transformation was supported by a partnership with the Iowa City Parks Department. Daylilies that were removed were donated to the JCMG annual Plant Sale & Flea Market.

Re-blooming annual zinnias and garden balsam *Impatiens balsamina* decorated the Northside corner space at Market and N. Linn streets.

This fall, canna stalks were removed and incorporated into the Demonstration Garden hügelkultur berm. As canna rhizomes were dug, immature and deteriorating rhizomes were buried to replenish the soil in downtown gardens. The Secret Garden purple hyacinth beans were removed. MG volunteers planted daffodils to greet downtown visitors in the spring.

The Dottie Ray Garden along Melrose Avenue between Emerald and Westgate streets is also undergoing a transition to add native perennials and grasses in the west-end garden.

We were fortunate to complete gardening tasks a little earlier this year. Downtown City Gardens enjoys assistance from a great group of dedicated MG volunteers who help throughout the growing season.

## Oaknoll Garden Project

**VICKI SIEFERS AND DEB CASSELL, COORDINATORS**

### Getting back to normal

The Oaknoll project had a good year getting more back to normal. There were 14 Master Gardeners participating helping 12 residents and three Master Gardeners took care of the courtyard in the care center. Each gardener had a personal relationship with their resident and assisted with planting and maintaining their flower beds.

The care center really took off under the care of Ann Ruppenkamp, Pam Buethe and Nancy Weber. The residents there were so appreciative of the flowers and the butterfly tent where a release was done in late summer with Carolyn Murphy helping.

The group was able to enjoy a thank you lunch on a beautiful day in October sitting on the porch on the 5th floor of the Spring Street building with a tailgate menu. The group will take a break in the winter and start up again in the spring.





## Hortline

**ESTHER RETISH, MARY HENSLEY, AND CARL HENSLEY, COORDINATORS**

### JCMG Hortline “Thymes” in 2022

Hortline is a long-standing JCMG primary project that encompasses the overarching Master Gardener mission of education and community service. The JCMG Hortline activities have continued to function on site at the Iowa State University’s Johnson County Extension and Outreach Office.

From January through September 2022, the JCMG Hortline Team responded to more than 100 questions. Contacts reach the Hortline Team via telephone, email, or in-person visits.

Across our most recent three years of data, the types of questions most frequently asked relate to the categories of: “Trees & Shrubs”; “Weeds & Pests”; “Vegetables & Small Fruits”; plus “Flowers.” Specific examples of recent questions were highlighted by Mary Starry in past *Thymes* articles, each written as an educational quiz.

Esther Retish, along with Hortline Team members and ISU staff, reviewed resource materials in the JCMG library and donated over 50 books to the 2022 Annual JCMG Plant Sale & Flea Market.

During the Fall JCMG “Online Resources Class” (held October 5, 2022), Carl and Mary Hensley presented information about the JCMG Hortline to the new cohort of MG trainees, and encouraged the soon-to-be interns to consider volunteering for the Hortline. Also during this program, Carl Hensley and Shannon Bielicke used the internet to demonstrate how to conduct searches that deliver results from trusted educational sources such as arboretums and universities.

Esther Retish continues to encourage recruitment efforts with existing MGs and new interns. All are welcome!

## Fairgrounds Beautification

**CHRIS SEDREL, LAVON YEGGY, AND MEGAN GARRELS, COORDINATORS**

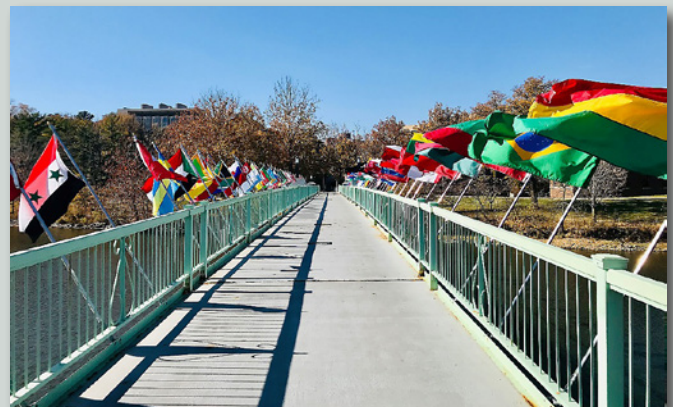
### A Busy Season

The Fairgrounds Beautification project seems to expand each year. This year we worked the usual garden beds including “Horse Hill” tackling the ever-present Canadian thistle. Volunteers also worked around the shop area, removing volunteer trees along the foundation.

The fair board purchased mulch and MG volunteers mulched all the fairgrounds garden beds. MG volunteers also picked Aronia berries on the Extension grounds and donated 53 lbs. to the Coralville Food Pantry. We finished off the beds by weeding and mulching the berries as well as the fruit trees. It was a busy season!

Speaking of beautification....this photo of flags fluttering along the IMU bridge over the Iowa River was taken by **JCMG Doug Geraets**.

Enjoy the blue skies of fall!



## Demonstration Garden

**CHRIS SEDREL AND LAURIE ROEHL, COORDINATORS**

### Experimental Beds and Cucumber Attacks

The Demonstration Garden was a busy place this season. We were able to build the new Master Gardeners shed with the help of Larry Roehl, Joe Murphy and many Master Gardeners who dug, shoveled, nailed, screwed and painted. We already wonder how we got along without it.

We had a great garden this year and managed to donate over 840 lbs. of produce to Table to Table and area food pantries—that's 300 lbs. more than last year. We have an exciting year ahead too. John Weeg assembled a group of volunteers to build a hügelkultur berm as an experimental garden for the 2023 garden. (See John's article in this newsletter.) We had a great gathering to build the berm.

We grew some interesting crops too. One in particular surprised Ann Ruppencamp one morning when she arrived to see something that looked like a striped snake on a vine. It was a cucumber! She wasn't the only one surprised! John Weeg almost met his match when one of our favorite cucumbers attacked him in the garden. We plan to plant more next year!







## MG Upcoming Events/Volunteer Opportunities

**\*\*\*Check organization website for cancellations prior to event date.\*\*\***

**November 2022**



### 100 Grannies

<http://www.100grannies.org>

No events this month



### Backyard Abundance

<http://backyardabundance.org/events>

**Nov. 7, Monday, 3– 4:30 P.M.**

COMMUNITY POWERED EDIBLE FOREST GARDENING. Join your fellow community members anytime between 3 and 4:30 P.M. to help prepare the Wetherby Edible Food Forest for winter, so that spring time can bring more free edibles.



### Bur Oak Land Trust

<https://buroaklandtrust.org/events-3/>

**Nov. 12 and Nov. 13, Saturday and Sunday, 9 A.M. – 2 P.M.**

CHAINSAW ACADEMY is an educational series to teach safety and competency skills for personal chainsaw use and it's returning to Johnson County. Spaces are limited and filling up quickly so register today!

The level 1, two-day course is a mix of in-class instruction and field skill-building including the following topics: chainsaw safety, maintenance, starting a saw, basic limbing, bucking, and swamping.



### Eastern Iowa Bird Watchers/IC Birds

<http://www.iowacitybirdclub.org/events>

**Nov. 12, Saturday, 8 A.M.**

AMANA LILY POND AND NATURE TRAIL: Beginning birder trip for waterfowl ID and early winter birds. Extra scopes will be on hand as we stop at several viewing spots around the lake, followed by an optional short hike at the Amana Nature Trail to look for woodland birds. Dress warm and wear boots, as trails may be wet or muddy. Meet leaders Linda Quinn and Karen Disbrow at 8 A.M. at Kohl's parking lot in Coralville. We'll return by noon.



### Iowa State Extension

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/calendar/>

**Nov. 9, Wednesday, 7 - 8:30 P.M.**

NATIVE SEED SAVING. Bill Johnson, DNR Prairie Resource Center Biologist, will address harvesting, preparing, and storing 100 species of native grasses, sedges and wildflowers annually. Participants must register to attend: [https://iastate.zoom.us/webinar/register/7716625876901/WN\\_eZ2nrPRwRW2HCxSwaQ1IyA](https://iastate.zoom.us/webinar/register/7716625876901/WN_eZ2nrPRwRW2HCxSwaQ1IyA)



## Johnson County Conservation

<https://www.mycountyparks.com/County/Johnson/Events.aspx>

**Nov 4, Friday, 9 A.M.–12:30 P.M.**

ADVENTURE PRAIRIE SEED HARVEST. Head out on a 2- to 3-mile prairie/wetland hike and help JCC harvest native prairie seeds for future restoration projects! Volunteers are able to take small amounts of native seed home after each event.

**Nov. 5, Saturday, 9:30 A.M.–12 P.M.**

PRAIRIE SEED HARVEST. Help JCC harvest native prairie seeds for future restoration projects! Volunteers are able to take some small amounts of native seed home after each harvest.

**Nov. 9, Wednesday, 4:30–6 P.M.**

SUNSET PRAIRIE SEED HARVEST. Help JCC harvest native prairie seeds for future restoration projects! Volunteers are able to take small amounts of native seed home after each event.

**Nov. 16, Wednesday, 10–11:30 A.M.**

NATURE BUDS—SEEDS. Nature Buds is a program for kids ages 2-5 years. It involves hands-on STEM and arts stations around a nature topic. This month, we'll learn all about seeds.

**Nov. 16, Wednesday, 1–3 P.M.**

ADVENTURE PRAIRIE SEED HARVEST. Head out on a 2-mile prairie/wetland hike and help JCC harvest native prairie seeds for future restoration projects! Volunteers are able to take small amounts of native seed home after each event.

**Nov. 17, Thursday, 2:30–4 P.M.**

JUNIOR EXPLORERS—SEED. Nature Buds is a program for kids ages K-2nd grade. It involves hands-on STEM and arts stations around a nature topic. This month, we'll learn all about seeds.

**Nov. 19, Saturday, 10 A.M.–12 P.M.**

TWO HORSE FARM HIKE. Explore this new Johnson County Conservation property with a 1.5 to 2 mile guided hike and brief introduction to the grounds.



## Johnson County-ISU Extension

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/johnson/>

**Nov. 2, Wednesday. 6:30–7 P.M.**

BONSAI PLANT CARE presented by Bill Englert, Eastern Iowa Bonsai Association. Participants are encouraged to come with questions and feel free to bring your bonsai from home to show and discuss. Register at <http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=gbsvfo5ab&oeidk=a07ejffc30k1365dff9>



## Linn County-ISU Extension

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/linn/>

No events this month.



## Project GREEN

<http://www.projectgreen.org/> and <https://www.facebook.com/www.projectgreen.org>

No events this month.



## Seed Savers Exchange

<https://www.seedsavers.org/events>

No events this month.



## Trees Forever

<https://treesforever.org/events>

### Nov. 4, Friday, 3–6 P.M.

CLINTON, IOWA TREE GIVEAWAY. Thanks to the Wright Foundation for Sustainability and Innovation, an anonymous donor and countless individual donations, Trees Forever is hosting a free tree distribution to help grow and strengthen the local tree canopy!

Trees are free to anyone living in a derecho-affected county. The giveaway will take place at Clinton Park parking lot in Clinton, Iowa. Located on the 300 block of South 3rd Street. Six species (Red Oak, Swamp White Oak, Hackberry, Sweetgum, Kentucky Coffeetree, and Shingle Oak) are available on a **first-come, first-served** basis. These trees are in 3-gallon containers and will be roughly 2-5 feet in size. There is a limit of **two** trees per vehicle.

### Nov. 7, Monday, 7–9 P.M.

MT. VERNON TREE-MENDOUS GROWTH WORKSHOP. Thomas Commons (Hall-Perrine Room), Cornell College Campus, Mt. Vernon, Iowa. Join Trees Forever Field Coordinator Gina Buelow to learn about the tree canopy in Mt. Vernon, Iowa, and the importance of having a biodiverse and robust community of trees in urban areas. The purpose of this program is to advocate for increasing tree canopy in Iowa through improved community forestry management practices. We will examine the new 2022 Iowa DNR tree inventory, explore local tree ordinances, and discuss current and emerging threats to trees—including the notorious Emerald Ash Borer. We will end the session by discussing 10 ways to grow our urban tree canopy and cover grant opportunities available to plant trees in town to improve biodiversity and canopy cover.

### Nov. 17, Thursday, 12–1 P.M.

MUSHROOMS THROUGH THE YEAR WEBINAR. Join us with Trees Forever's Central Iowa Field Coordinator, Gina Buelow, as we explore what mushrooms you can expect to find throughout the year here in the Midwest. We will cover important identification tools, common edible mushrooms, and resources you can use to make sure you are foraging safely! Must register to participate.





## MG Birthdays

### November 2022

2 .....	Linda Schreiber
6 .....	Nancy Kennedy
9 .....	Janis Bultman
19 .....	Jayne Ryder
19 .....	Anita Jung
21 .....	Amanda Baker
29 .....	Barb Krug

## Gardening Video Resources

Did you know?

You can stream recordings of presentations from the Iowa City Public Library at your convenience. Catch up on Project GREEN's Second Sunday Garden Forums, or revisit presentations from previous years.

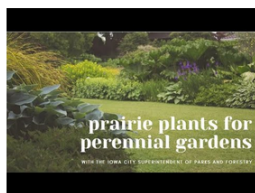
Recent videos include:

- Prairie Plants for Perennial Gardens with Iowa City Superintendent of Parks & Forestry
- Introduction to Sustainable Farming | Latham Science Engagement Initiative and GROW Johnson County
- The University of Iowa's Trees | Project GREEN and ICPL (A Second Sunday Garden Forum program)

Browse the gardening-themed presentations at <https://www.icpl.org/video/categories/gardening-nature-and-home>



### Gardening, Nature, and Home



#### Prairie Plants for Perennial Gardens with Iowa City Superintendent of Parks & Forestry

Guest Tyler Baird, IC Superintendent of Parks & Forestry, will highlight the role native prairie plants can play in a perennial garden. Benefits of prairie natives will be discussed along with...

Gardening, Nature, and Home



***The Johnson County Master Gardener Thymes is published monthly, except January and August. It is distributed under the auspices of Iowa State University.***

#### Mail can be sent to:

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach  
 Johnson County  
 Attn: Master Gardener Newsletter  
 3109 Old Highway 218 S.  
 Iowa City, IA 52246

**IOWA STATE  
 UNIVERSITY**  
**Extension and Outreach**  
 Johnson County Extension

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Send email to: [bielicke@iastate.edu](mailto:bielicke@iastate.edu)