

# Johnson County Master Gardener

# THYMES

# **MG Steering Committee Meeting**

**Wednesday, April 13, 6:30 P.M.,** hybrid meeting both *in person at ISU Extension* and *Zoom*. Interested MGs are invited to participate—contact Shannon for instructions!

# **Thymes Deadline**

Information/articles for the Thymes should be sent to Melissa Serenda at <a href="masserenda@gmail.com">msserenda@gmail.com</a> or Doug Geraets at <a href="masserenda@gmail.com">dougrph@aol.com</a>.

Please send news, volunteer opportunities, stories, pictures, gardening book reviews, etc., for the **May** issue by **Friday**, **April 29**.



After a two-year hiatus, Master Gardeners are only days out from our really big fundraiser – *Plant Sale & Flea Market* on Saturday, May 7.

#### WE NEED YOU TO VOLUNTEER

On March 24, you received a Signup Genius to work presale activities and the Sale. We still haven't heard from many of you. The Sale is by far the biggest MG project. Please lend your time, your talents and your plants and sign up. We need lots of helping hands!

#### WE NEED YOUR PLANT DONATIONS

As a reminder, we are repotting all perennial donations this year in sterile potting mix to guard against jumping worm. Time your digs so you can bring your plants to one or more of our four April potting events where Master Gardener volunteer potters will help you pot up your plants.

Bring your nearly bare-root (knock most of the soil off) plants to the Heritage Barn (near the Demonstration Garden) to one or more of these events:

- Wednesday, April 20, 5:30–7:30 P.M.
- Thursday, April 21, 5:30–7:30 P.M.
- Saturday, April 16, 10 A.M. 7:30 P.M.
- Saturday, April 23, 10 A.M. 7:30 P.M.

If these potting times will not work for your schedule, please contact me at <a href="mailto:emil-rinderspacher@uiowa.edu">emil-rinderspacher@uiowa.edu</a> and/or Linda Schreiber at

<u>Inschreiber@gmail.com</u> and we will recruit potters to help pot your donations. We'd like to finish potting the plants by the end of April to give donations a little bit of time to recover from transplant shock.

#### WE NEED FLEA MARKET DONATIONS

A popular part of the Sale is the Flea Market. We sell previously owned garden tools, plant containers, equipment, yard art, books, and other garden items. So do some spring cleaning and donate your items to the Sale. We will accept Flea Market donations from Master Gardeners as well as the general public. All items must be clean and in working order. No chemicals please.

Flea Market donations can be dropped off on Thursday, May 5, 9 A.M. to 7:30 P.M., and Friday May 6, 9 A.M. to 4 P.M., at the Fairgrounds, Building B.

Remember your volunteer service hours will count toward your MG service. Thank you!

# **Correction to Article on Sedges**

The March *Thymes* article about the use of sedges in the landscape incorrectly identified the height. *Pennsylvania Sedge* grows to *8-inches* and *Ivory Sedge* to *6-inches* in height. We regret the error. -- The Editor

# To feed or not to feed ... that is the question?

#### BY LINDA SCHREIBER

**Do birds need food assistance?** Or is there enough available food to keep the birds satisfied throughout the winter?

In 2018, U.S. purchases made up \$4 billion of the global \$5-billion to \$6-billion bird food market.



That's a whole lot of seed. As the pandemic surged the past two years so did bird seed sales. As we were confined to our homes, according to

the National Audubon Society the demand for their backyard feeders rose substantially.

Scientific American examined published studies to determine the impact of this increased demand for bird food. What they discovered was troubling: "... bird feeding could be reshaping some local environments—squeezing out some of the bird species such feeding is supposed to help."

Providing supplemental food to aid wildlife fosters a connection with nature and is thought to help wildlife. However, providing additional food resources may have unforeseen consequences. One is disease transmission. In England, birds visiting shared feeders may develop a parasitic infection—trichomoniasis. In the U.S., trichomoniasis and salmonella outbreaks are associated with dirty feeders that can result in bird deaths.

Densely populated England is one of the most dedicated bird-feeding cultures in the world. Studies have found adaptive bird generalists tend to expand their populations and bird populations found in the wild are diminished when competition for nesting areas increases.

Birds are not the only ones eating the provided seeds. Bird feeders may offer opportunities to other species like rodents and deer, which can cause other unknown effects.

The question of how bird feeding impacts ecosystems needs more research. Until that is done, homeowners can take action to connect with and aid native birds. Bird feeding does have some benefits. It

encourages people in developed areas to engage with nature. Supplemental feeding aids threatened species.

To reduce risk, bird feeders should be cleaned regularly (every two weeks suggested) with a diluted bleach solution. Leave the leaves unraked or parts of the lawn unmowed and create a brush pile for native birds and insects. Wildlife gardening—native wildflowers and bushes that produce nectar, fruits and seeds will attract birds. Native grasses and flowers in container gardens also provide

nutrition. Available water will also attract birds to your landscape.

Natural food sources may not attract as many birds to your property but it is good for birds' diets and also good for the environment. Native plants provide a source of food that is very different from a supplemental feeding sold to consumers to help birds.

The supplemental feeding industry is a multibillion-dollar industry and that merits examination in terms of its impact on the environment.



#### Sources:

- 1. <a href="https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/bird-feeders-are-good-for-some-species-but-possibly-bad-for-others/">https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/bird-feeders-are-good-for-some-species-but-possibly-bad-for-others/</a>
- 2. <a href="https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0006320721003475#!">https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0006320721003475#!</a>

# **Garden Chores**





A ccording to my calendar guide, spring started March 20 at 11:33 A.M. EDT. Season dates may vary and sometimes have different lengths, according to an astronomical start date and a meteorological start date. Sounds complicated, but it's actually not!

- The **astronomical start date** is based on the position of the sun in relation to the earth.
- The **meteorological start date** is based on a 12-month calendar as well as an annual temperature cycle.

In the Northern Hemisphere winter ends and spring starts at the moment of the March equinox, which occurs every year between March 19 and March 21.

Meteorologists, however, define seasons based on climatic conditions and the annual temperature cycle. They compare the same period of time in different years. The length of the astronomical seasons varies between 89 and 93 days, while the length of the meteorological seasons is less variable and is fixed at 90 days for winter in a non-leap year (91 days in a leap year).

Most of North America and Europe use astronomical spring, while Australia and New Zealand use meteorological spring (note these countries are in the Southern Hemisphere where the seasons are opposite and spring there lasts from September to November). In other cultures, i.e. traditional Chinese calendar and Celtic traditions, the March equinox is considered to be roughly the middle of spring.

Here in Iowa, February and March are considered late winter, and early spring typically convenes in late March and April. Late winter means it's time to **prune woody plants** like grapevines and remove weak, diseased or damaged canes of summer and fall-bearing raspberries at ground level. It's also time to **prune deciduous trees and shrubs**.

Late winter is also a great time to **start flower seeds indoors** – petunia, snapdragon, impatiens and salvia; and vegetable crops – broccoli, cabbage and cauliflower five to six weeks before the April planting date; and start seeds of eggplant, peppers and tomatoes eight weeks before planting in mid-May. Check the back of seed packets for indoor starting times. Continue watering holiday plants – amaryllis, poinsettia and Christmas cactus – after the flowers have faded away.

When April arrives, depending on temperatures and moisture levels, the **lawn can be raked** to remove twigs and leaves and mow at a height of 2 ½- to 3-inches remembering to never remove more than 1/3 of the leaf blade at one time. April is also a time to **check fruit trees to control scale and apply a dormant oil spray** when temperatures are above 40°F. **Remove mulch from strawberry beds** in April as new growth begins.

**Start seeds for basil** to transplant outdoors after the danger of frost has lifted. It's also a good

time to **repot houseplants** into larger containers if needed and **begin lightly fertilizing houseplants**.

Some vegetables like broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, kohlrabi, onions and potato pieces can be planted outdoors in April. Seedlings grown indoors can also be "hardened off" or acclimated outdoors prior to planting outdoors. Acclimating plants by placing them out of the wind and sun for a short period of time and gradually increasing the amount of outdoors will help your plants avoid transplant shock.

An important reminder for especially eager gardeners: do not work the soil when it is saturated.

#### Sources:

- 1. <a href="https://www.calendarpedia.com/">https://www.calendarpedia.com/</a>
- 2. <a href="https://store.extension.iastate.edu/product/Garden-Tips-Guidelines-to-Seasonal-Chores-Reiman-Gardens">https://store.extension.iastate.edu/product/Garden-Tips-Guidelines-to-Seasonal-Chores-Reiman-Gardens</a>

# **2021 YEAR END Awards Recognitions**

#### FROM SHANNON BIELICKIE

Johnson County Master Gardeners—we would like to express our gratitude for all that you do and recognize those MGs who hit milestones in 2021. Congratulations!!

**1st Year 40 Hours Requirement.** Individuals listed below are now an official JCMG and will be receiving their certificate, pin, & name badge.

- Sadia Embree
- Karen Fosse
- Elizabeth Loeb
- Steve Lyons
- Mary Ann Murray
- Melissa Serenda
- Mary Starry
- Pamela Buethe
- Michelle Frauenholtz
- Elayne Sexsmith
- Nancy Wehrheim

**Volunteer Hours Milestones**—individuals below will be receiving their recognition pins.

• **500 Hours:** Ramona McGurk

• 1,000 Hours: Chris Sedrel

**Volunteer Anniversary Milestones** were reached by those listed below and they will be receiving their recognition Certificates & gift.

- 15 Years of Service: Michael Hesseltine, Cindy Parson
- **20 Years of Service:** Joan Dinnel, Janice Hining, Jeffery Smith
- **25 Years of Service:** Lavon Yeggy, Nancy Kennedy
- 30 Years of Service: Mardi Rasmussen

**Lifetime Master Gardeners** requirements, 10 years of service and 1,500 service hours, were completed by the following MGs who will receive recognition certificates:

- Lavon Yeggy
- Janice Hining
- Bonnie Penno

YOU ALL made an AMAZING impact during the year 2021! You should be very proud of yourselves.

Johnson County Master Gardeners (JCMG) 2021 yearend notes: (as of 12/31/2022):

- 5,116.84 volunteer hours reported
- 941.53 education hours reported
- For a total of 6,058.37 hours committed including ~19 Core project areas.
- 11 interns completed their first year of hours
- 2 JCMGs reached milestones of 500/1,000/2,000/3,000 hours
- 8 JCMGs reached Anniversary milestones of 15, 20, 25, or 30 years

 3 JCMGS reached Lifetime Master Gardener status

Recognition awards will be put in the mail soon and we will find a way to celebrate in person in the future. In the meantime, stay safe and healthy. And enjoy your time on your home horticulture projects.

With great admiration, Shannon Bielicke

# The Plants We Eat: Stems





Stems are the part of a plant that provide support and a channel for fluids and nutrients. Many also store food. The defining part of a stem is the node which produces branches, flowers, or leaves.

When we think of stems, we usually think of the bark and woody part of a tree. Cinnamon is made of bark, but woody stems are not very tasty. Stems that we eat include potatoes and ginger, which are underground stems called tubers; asparagus, bamboo shoots, broccoli stems, kohlrabi, and sugar cane. We also eat leaf stems, such as celery, rhubarb, and Swiss chard. Onion and garlic bulbs are also modified stems.

- https://extension.psu.edu/edible-roots-stemsand-bulbs
- https://aggiehorticulture.tamu.edu/syllabi/201h/ediblebota ny/index.html

The only resource I could find that focused on edible stems was not from an Extension website:

https://foodsguy.com/vegetable-stems-we-eat/

#### RECIPES

#### Pasta Primavera

 https://www.myplate.gov/recipes/supplement al-nutrition-assistance-program-snap/pastaprimavera



# Kohlrabi Saute

• <a href="https://extension.purdue.edu/foodlink/recipe.">https://extension.purdue.edu/foodlink/recipe.</a> php?recipe=Kohlrabi%20Saute

#### **Asparagus with Gremolata Sauce**

 https://snaped.fns.usda.gov/nutritioneducation/snap-ed-recipes/springrecipes#recipe-2486



Note: We use an asparagus steamer; alternatively, put the stems in boiling water, then add the tips after the stems come to a boil. When water boils again, put on lid and let steam until ready to serve.

# **Rhubarb Strawberry Crisp**

• https://www.myplate.gov/recipes/supplement al-nutrition-assistance-programsnap/rhubarb-blueberry-crisp

# **Cheesy Broccoli Chips**

This a way to reduce food waste, even if it's not an Extension recipe.

 https://www.cheaprecipeblog.com/2020/08/c heesy-broccoli-chips/

I haven't tried these. Please contact me at urthmothr@aol.com if you have a favorite stem recipe not on this list. Or if you try one and like it, or have tweaked it to make it taste better.

# **Swisher Library Establishes Seed Library**

#### BY ALICE LINHART

the Swisher
Community Library
announces their new Seed
Library!

To kick off the new addition, a class about starting seeds to transplant into the garden will be



offered by JCMGs on Thursday, April 7, 6 P.M. in the library meeting room. All are welcome and seed packets will be available.

The Seed Library offers access to seeds and gardening resources to anyone who visits the Swisher Community Library. A library card is not required and there is no cost for seeds.

# JCMG Video Available for Continuing Education Credit Hours

If you missed our Continuing Education program in March featuring Perennial Movement Design by Tyler Baird, Iowa City Superintendent of Parks and Forestry; What's Wrong with My Tree by Mike Anderson, Linn County MG; Grow: Johnson County with Jason Grimm, Executive Director, and Claire Zabel, Food and Farm Specialist, Iowa Valley Resource Conservation and Development, you can watch the videos or rebroadcast of the program for continuing education credit hours.

The programs are available on our Facebook page: <a href="www.facebook.com/JCMG.Iowa/">www.facebook.com/JCMG.Iowa/</a> and <a href="City">City</a> Channel 4 YouTube channel and our MG members' only page and our MG YouTube channel.

thoog Clubby	G Birthdays
April 2022	
4	Anne Kale
5	Carole Hanna
7	Colin Lewis-Beck
10	Jean Holzhammer
10	Shelby Zukin
12	Betty Alfaro
13	Joni Jones
19	Paul Brohan
24	Michael Hesseltine
24	Kathy Erenberger
28	Jackie Wellborn
28	Kay Mohling
30	Gail Johnson

# **MG Upcoming Events/Volunteer Opportunities**

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

# **April 2022**

# **Backyard Abundance**

http://backyardabundance.org/events

Wednesday, April 13, 6 to 7:30 P.M.

**PLAN A MEMORABLE FAMILY GARDEN.** Edible Classroom, 400-450 E Burlington St., Iowa City. During this class, we will explore your gardening memories and brainstorm ways to integrate them into your existing garden or embed them into a new garden. We will cover the basics of placing and designing gardens to ensure plants thrive with less maintenance. Sliding scale fee: \$25 - \$0, based upon your access to resources. Learn more and register at <a href="https://www.backyardabundance.org/event-details/plangarden">https://www.backyardabundance.org/event-details/plangarden</a>.

# Friday, April 22, 4 to 6 P.M.

**BRING YOUR WORRIES TO THE GARDEN.** 120 Boyson Rd., Hiawatha. With hands-on experiences, you will learn all the ways your body's nervous system and immune system self-regulate in the garden. We will practice gardening techniques to nurture mind, body and spirit while developing practical bed preparation, seeding and transplanting skills. Fee: \$20. More details and link to register can be found at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/events/639863397226642">https://www.facebook.com/events/639863397226642</a>.

# Sunday, April 24, 10 A.M. to 12 P.M.

**TEAM UP TO CLEAN UP.** Wetherby Park, 2400 Taylor Dr., Iowa City. Come join our 6th Annual South District Neighborhood Team Up to Clean Up this spring as we beautify and clean up different sites within the South District. Details at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/events/1102400950544670">https://www.facebook.com/events/1102400950544670</a>.

# Wednesday, April 27, 5:30 to 6:30 P.M.

**YOGA OUTSIDE.** Harvest Preserve, 1645 N Scott Blvd., Iowa City. Tap into your wild peace and deep presence. All-level yoga to help you come back to the body, calm the mind, and expand your comfort zone. We will ask the tall, old stones and trees to support a sense of place while we breathe with the green. Classes will be customized based on the needs of attendees. Tell us if any accommodations are needed for inclusion. Sliding scale fee: \$20 - \$0, based upon your access to resources. More details and register at <a href="https://www.backyardabundance.org/event-details/yoga-april">https://www.backyardabundance.org/event-details/yoga-april</a>.

#### Saturday, April 30, 1 to 3 P.M.

**NATURE AND FOREST THERAPY FOR WOMEN.** Kent Park, 2048 US-6 NW, Oxford, IA (meet in the dam parking lot). Join Backyard Abundance and Good Medicine for an immersive experience with the land. Together we will celebrate women, the land and this time of year. Sometimes as women we have fear about being outdoors alone. This event creates a safe space for you to be with other women and explore finding ways to feel safe on your own. This event is inclusive of all folks who identify on the spectrum of womanhood.

Bring your whole self on this gentle, reflective walk with the land and let's see what we encounter. Sliding scale fee: \$30 - \$0, based upon your access to resources. Details and register at <a href="https://www.backyardabundance.org/event-details/Nature-therapy-women">https://www.backyardabundance.org/event-details/Nature-therapy-women</a>.

#### **Bur Oak Land Trust**

www.facebook.com/BurOakLandTrust/events

Saturday, April 23, 12 to 4 P.M.

**IRL EARTH DAY PICK UP.** Backpocket Brewing, 903 Quarry Road, Coralville. Help us do our part by signing up for our Earth Day event! All volunteers who sign up will be given a group coupon to Backpocket, Tribute, Marquee, 30 Hop, and Vesta!

From 12–1 P.M. volunteers will go around the IRL and pick up trash, followed by Earth Day kids activities and live music. Please arrive 15-20 minutes early to sign in and receive instructions. We HIGHLY encourage all volunteers to bring their own supplies (gloves, trash pickers, boots, etc). Latex gloves and trash bags will be provided. Register at https://buroaklandtrust.org/events-3/.

# Saturday, April 9, 9 A.M. to 2 P.M. and Sunday, April 10, 9 A.M. to 4 P.M.

**CHAINSAW ACADEMY.** Indian Creek Nature Center, 5300 Otis Road SE, Cedar Rapids. The level one, two-day course is a mix of in-class instruction and field skills including the following topics: chainsaw safety, maintenance, starting a saw, basic limbing, bucking, and swamping. Bur Oak Land Trust AmeriCorps members and staff will serve as course instructors. Registration: \$15. More details and register at <a href="https://buroaklandtrust.org/events-3/">https://buroaklandtrust.org/events-3/</a>.

# Eastern Iowa Bird Watchers/IC Birds

http://www.iowacitybirdclub.org/events

Thursday, April 21, 6:45 to 8:45 P.M.

**BIRD CLUB MEETING.** Zoom. Topic and Presentation TBD. Check https://iowacitybirdclub.org/event/bird-club-meeting-22/ for details.

# **Johnson County Conservation**

https://www.facebook.com/pg/johnsoncountyconservation/events/ https://www.mycountyparks.com/County/Johnson/Events.aspx

Friday, April 15, 6 to 9 P.M.

**WOODWORKING FOR WILDLIFE: SOLITARY BEE HOTELS.** Cangleska Wakan, 4045 245th St NE, Solon. Did you know there are around 400 different species of solitary bees in Iowa? Come learn about how you can protect our native pollinators and build an observation bee hotel to take home. Along with the bee hotel, participants can take home some native seed to enhance their backyard habitat. A fee of \$20 to cover the cost of materials, is due at the beginning of class. Register at <a href="https://www.mycountyparks.com/County/Johnson/Events.aspx">https://www.mycountyparks.com/County/Johnson/Events.aspx</a>.

# Friday, April 22, 4 to 6:30 P.M.

**SPRING EPHEMERAL HIKE.** Cangleska Wakan, 4045 245th St NE, Solon. Join a naturalist to hike through a forest filled with wildflowers. Along the way, hikers will learn about the species in bloom. Hikers can choose between a one mile loop or a three mile hike through Cangleska Wakan and Big Grove Preserve. The terrain is uneven and in places steep, rocky, or muddy. Register at <a href="https://www.mycountyparks.com/County/Johnson/Events.aspx">https://www.mycountyparks.com/County/Johnson/Events.aspx</a>.

#### Saturday, April 30, 10 to 11:30 A.M.

REPTILE PROGRAM AND BOOK DRIVE LAUNCH. Sidekick Coffee & Books, 1310 1/2 Melrose Ave, Iowa City. Celebrate Independent Bookstore Day and Earth Month, while helping to support a local bookstore and the Johnson County Conservation education program! This program kicks off a book drive to help JCC grow our stock of children's nature books, which are used during free educational programs and for browsing during free visitor hours at the Conservation Education Center. During the program, a naturalist will share live reptiles and read a story. The event will take place outside, in the natural playground nearby. After the program, head into Sidekick Coffee & Books for a treat and a book, and consider buying one for JCC too! We'll have a wish-list available with the books we'd love to add to our collection. You can also support us by ordering online at: <a href="https://sidekickonline.shopsettings.com/Bookshop-c55056773">https://sidekickonline.shopsettings.com/Bookshop-c55056773</a>. Select the Johnson County Conservation wish-list when shopping online. Thank you for supporting nature education!

## Saturday, April 30, 1 to 3 P.M.

**DEDICATION OF PHEBE TIMBER.** Phebe Timber, 4492 Kansas Avenue SW, Iowa City. Come to explore and celebrate one of the newest JCC properties! This family-friendly event includes a dedication and guided hike. Parking is limited so carpooling is highly encouraged. Register at <a href="https://www.mycountyparks.com/County/Johnson/Events.aspx">https://www.mycountyparks.com/County/Johnson/Events.aspx</a>.

# **Linn County-ISU Extension**

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

Tuesdays, 6:30 to 7:30 P.M.

FREE LINN COUNTY MASTER GARDENER LIBRARY TALKS 2022. Ely Public Library, 1595 Dows St.

- April 5: Plant a Salsa Garden Deb Walser LCMG
- April 12: Tree Care 101 Wil Carew LCMG
- April 19: Micro Prairies Karie Pohl LCMG
- April 26: Cheap Tricks Gardening Lisa Hinzman Howard LCMG

# Tuesdays, 6:30 to 7:30 P.M.

FREE LINN COUNTY MASTER GARDENER LIBRARY TALKS 2022. Lisbon Public Library, 101 E. Main St.

- April 5: For the Love of Monarchs Carol Elliott LCMG
- April 12: Public Gardens of Iowa Cindy Fagan LCMG
- April 19: Successful Hanging Baskets and Containers Deb Walser LCMG
- April 26: Common Insects & Diseases Phil Pfister LCMG

#### Thursdays, 6:30 to 7:30 P.M.

FREE LINN COUNTY MASTER GARDENER LIBRARY TALKS 2022. Central City Public Library, 137 N. 4th St.

- April 7: Discover Butterflies! Devon Dietz LCMG
- April 14: Container Gardens Deb Walser LCMG
- April 28: Seed Starting at Home Phil Pfister LCMG

Thursdays, 6:30 to 7:30 P.M.

FREE LINN COUNTY MASTER GARDENER LIBRARY TALKS 2022. Springville Memorial Library, 264 Broadway St.

- April 7: Weaving Plant Collections into Your Garden! Wanda Lunn LCMG
- April 14: For the Love of Monarchs Carol Elliott LCMG
- April 21: New and Interesting Perennials Deb Walser LCMG
- April 28: Vertical Gardening! Sylvia Street LCMG

Find more details about the Tuesday and Thurday Library Talks at https://www.extension.iastate.edu/linn/free-linn-county-master-gardener-library-talks-2022.

### **Seed Savers**

https://www.seedsavers.org/events

Friday, April 15 and Saturday, April 16, 9 to 10:30 A.M. and various additional sessions. VIRTUAL APPLE GRAFTING WORKSHOP. Zoom. In this workshop, you will learn the techniques and processes required to successfully bench graft new apple trees. We'll walk you through the process of splicing dormant scion wood and root stocks. Once the splice is made, the new trees will need to rest and heal under cool and damp conditions, then be planted outdoors. There are few things a gardener can do more gratifying than to graft and grow their own apple trees, and we look forward to walking you through the process. Cost: \$35 to \$115. More details and register at <a href="https://www.seedsavers.org/apple-grafting-workshop">https://www.seedsavers.org/apple-grafting-workshop</a>.

# **Trees Forever**

https://treesforever.org/Events

Friday, April 8, 12 to 1:30 P.M.

**ROADSIDE PLANS FOR COMMUNITIES.** Zoom. Iowa's roadsides are the perfect place to plant trees and native plants for living snow fences, water control, and more! Join Trees Forever Program Manager Jeff Jensen to learn more about what a roadside plan is, why they are important, steps to completing a plan, grants your community may be eligible for, and how Trees Forever can help through the whole process. This is a great opportunity for city administrators, mayors, public works directors, street superintendents, and concerned citizens to learn about improving their communities and natural areas. Details and Zoom link at <a href="https://treesforever.org/event/roadside-plan-apr8/">https://treesforever.org/event/roadside-plan-apr8/</a>.

## Tuesday, April 12, 10 A.M. to 2:30 P.M.

**IOWA URBAN TREE COUNCIL AWARDS LUNCHEON.** Hybrid in-person/virtual. Celebrate with Tree City USA communities, Tree Campus projects, Tree Line successes and more at the annual Iowa Urban Tree Council luncheon. Get inspired with stories of volunteers from across the state during the presentation of awards. Details, agenda, and registration at <a href="https://treesforever.org/event/iowa-urban-tree-council-awards-luncheon/">https://treesforever.org/event/iowa-urban-tree-council-awards-luncheon/</a>.

# Tuesday, April 12, 12 to 1 P.M.

**NOURISHMENT FROM NATURE WEBINAR.** Trees Forever's newest Field Coordinator Nick McGrath will be sharing his expertise with edible landscapes and gathering nourishment through nature. Learn about hibiscus leaves for salads or tea, how to grow blueberry bushes, composting, weird foods to eat, all this and more. Nature provides all that we need, learn the tips and tricks of how to go out and gather nature's bounty! Register at <a href="https://treesforever.org/event/nourishment-from-nature-webinar/">https://treesforever.org/event/nourishment-from-nature-webinar/</a>.

# Friday, April 22, 8 A.M. to 5 P.M.

**EARTH DAY 2022.** Various events and locations throughout the day. Check https://treesforever.org/event/earth-day-2022/ for more details.

# Friday, April 29, 8 A.M. to 5 P.M.

**ARBOR DAY 2022.** Various events and locations throughout the day. Check <a href="https://treesforever.org/event/arbor-day-2022/">https://treesforever.org/event/arbor-day-2022/</a> for more details.

# **Additional Resources/Event Opportunities**

#### 100 Grannies

http://www.100grannies.org

#### **Iowa State Extension**

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

# **Johnson County-ISU Extension**

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

# **New Pioneer Coop**

https://www.newpi.coop/community

# **Project GREEN**

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



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#### Mail can be sent to:

Johnson County Extension Service Attn: Master Gardener Newsletter 3109 Old Highway 218 S. Iowa City, IA 52246

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Send email to: bielicke@iastate.edu