



Johnson County Master Gardener

THYMES

Feb. 2020

MG Steering Committee Meeting

Wednesday, Feb. 12, 7 P.M., Johnson County Extension Office. All JCMGs are invited to attend!

Thymes Deadline

Information/articles for the Thymes should be sent to Chris Sedrel at oscargram@aol.com or Doug Geraets at dougrph@aol.com.

Please send news, volunteer opportunities, stories, pictures, gardening book reviews, etc., for the March issue by **Friday, Feb. 21.**

Project GREEN Winter Garden Forums



Sunday, Feb. 9, at 2 P.M. at the ICPL Garden Forum patrons will be treated to a film by award-winning

filmmaker and director Thomas Piper.

The 1-hour, 15-minute documentary filmed garden designer Piet Oudolf over five seasons as he designed gardens from New York's High Line and Hauser and Wirth's prairie garden in Somerset, England, as well as his own private garden at Hummelo in Holland. "Five Seasons: The Gardens of Piet Oudolf" by Argot Pictures was released in 2018.

The Dutch landscape designer's work is recognizable for its dreamy romanticism and is often copied for an emphasis of sustainable, sensible plantings.

He is a leading figure of the "New Perennial" movement using designs and plant configurations of

bold assemblages of herbaceous perennials and grasses that are chosen for their structure as for their flower color.

Plum Grove Seed Selection Meeting

FROM CAROLYN MURPHY

There will be a Plum Grove Gardens Seed Selection meeting at the JC Extension Office on Thursday, Feb 27 at 6:00 P.M. Bring catalogs and help select heirloom seeds and plants for the three Plum Grove gardens. Contact Lavon Yeggy, Carolyn Murphy, or Darlene Clausen with any questions.

JCMG Needed to Start Transplants!!

It Takes A Village To Put On A Plant Sale

BY DARLENE CLAUSEN



Do you have a greenhouse or a way to start seedlings indoors? Seed starters are needed for

two projects: 1) Plant Sale & Flea Market in May and 2) Plum Grove Taste of Heirloom Tomatoes in August. Please consider growing for us. We don't limit the varieties you can start but we do want to know in advance what you are growing.

The Plant Sale, May 9, depends upon donations from Master Gardeners. We need starts of vegetables, herbs, and other annuals. We'd like to have basic vegetables such as kale, cabbage, broccoli and any other Brassicas, tomatoes, peppers, melons, cucumbers, squash, and eggplant. Herbs needed include parsley, basil, rosemary, sage, thyme, hyssop, lavender, oregano, marjoram, savory, and cilantro. Annual flowers include marigolds, petunias, nicotiana, nasturtium, zinnias, sunflowers, snapdragons, and gomphrena. Singles or 4-packs are best. All need to be ready to plant in the ground at the time of sale. Include a label listing plant name and variety that is listed on the seed packet. For example, label it Cabbage: Ruby Ball Improved or Cabbage: Copenhagen Market. State whether a pepper variety is hot or sweet in addition to its name. Indicate if a tomato is heirloom, paste, slicer, or cherry and its color. All information you provide helps us answer questions on the day of the sale.

Plum Grove Taste of Heirloom Tomatoes (August 30) needs tomatoes for tasting. We have some seeds for starts but any heirloom tomatoes you have are good. Be sure to include the name on the label and indicate that it is for Plum Grove. We ask that you save some ripened tomatoes for the Taste. You can donate or eat the surplus.

If you can start and donate plants, contact Darlene Clausen at clausendarlene7@gmail.com.



Winter Gardening Fair Feb. 15, 2020

BY LINDA SCHREIBER



Linn County Master Gardeners and Kirkwood Community College have announced the dates and class offerings for the Winter Gardening Fair 2020. The annual day of horticultural workshops and hands-on classes will be held Saturday, Feb. 15, in a new location—Kirkwood Linn County Regional Center, 1770 Boyson Road, Hiawatha.

The Winter Gardening Fair 2020 allows Master Gardeners to earn five continuing education hours for attending the annual offering.

The tuition cost for five sessions including a baked potato buffet lunch is \$49 for adults and \$25 for high school and college students.

Kirkwood's Continuing Education Winter 2020 catalog has a complete listing of class offerings or visit: <https://tiny.cc/1t9ihz>

Register online with a credit card at: <http://bit.ly/gardening2020>

SAVE THE DATE: Sunday, Mar. 22, Annual Winter Meeting & Potluck/2020 Seed Share

Johnson County Master Gardeners will host our Annual Winter Meeting & Potluck Sunday, Mar. 22 at the JC Extension Office and award Master Gardener certificates to interns who have completed their hours.



- ✓ 4–4:30 P.M. **Set-up**
- ✓ 4:30–5:30 P.M. **Social, Seed Share**
- ✓ 5:30 P.M. **Meal followed by JCMG awards**

Master Gardener interns and volunteers will also be able to select 2020 Seed Share garden seeds for the coming growing season. Proprietary seed companies donated their 2019 seeds for this program. MGs are encouraged to “plant a row” in your personal garden with your free seeds to help those in need. Think about it. Your efforts will help others who need support at a critical time.

2020 Seed Share: Risk-Free Gardening & Education Opportunities

BY LINDA SCHREIBER

Here’s a fun little activity and you don’t have to get your hands dirty!

In 2020, JCMG activities will shift the focus to the mission—“educate people and coordinate projects that promote healthy communities.” We’re also hosting at “home”—marketing

to create awareness of the programming and our location. Our annual Seed Share will do just that and offer a risk-free gardening opportunity.

MG can select seeds for your approved core projects and your own garden at two activities. You will be asked to **Plant-A-Row** and share a portion of the produce with area food banks to increase the number of healthy foods available to those who are food insecure. Last year, JCMG donated 1,330 pounds of fresh produce to area food pantries.



MG can select seeds at: 1) **Education Day**, Sunday, March 15, from 12:30 to 1 P.M. (speakers run from 1–5 P.M.) and 2) the **JCMG Annual Meeting** on Sunday, March 22 from 4:30–5:30 P.M. during social hour before the Potluck. Dinner will begin at 5:30 P.M. and the annual meeting follows.

Any gardener who wants to share their seeds with the public are asked to place seeds in a small bag or envelope and clearly label the package identifying the seeds and planting instructions.

2020 Seed Share will be offered to the public on Sunday, March 29. An early date was selected to allow gardeners to start seedlings indoors before temperatures warm sufficiently to plant outside in mid-May.

MGs have made some changes to the annual Seed Share program that launched in 2016. This year, the activity moves to Johnson County Extension, 3109 Old Highway 218 S, Iowa City. And area food pantries—CommUnity Crisis Services and Food Bank, Coralville Community Food Pantry, North Liberty Community Pantry—have joined Johnson County Conservation and JCMG as project partners.



At the public Seed Share, JCMG two brief educational programs will be offered to the public. Jeff Koepp will present **Starting Seeds for Transplant** at 1:15 P.M. and at 1:30 P.M. Jackie Wellborn and Linda Schreiber will discuss **Saving Seeds**. Participants who attend the mini-education sessions will be able to select seeds before the activity opens to the public from 2–3:30 P.M.

Co-sponsors for the event include national proprietary seed companies including Burpee, Earl May Iowa City, Seed Savers Exchange, Renee’s Garden, Territorial Seeds and Victory Seed Company.

The Seed Share project is a component of the JCMG efforts to reduce food insecurity among

individuals and families in Johnson County communities. Many varieties of vegetable, herb and flower seeds are available. Johnson County Conservation will again offer gardeners seeds from their prairie plants and grasses grown in Johnson County.

MGs can serve as seed ambassadors at the public offering on March 29. To help with the program contact Linda Schreiber at lschreiber@gmail.com.

My Favorite Garden Tool

BY SHARON RUDE

Ames® Planter's Pal Hand Tool

Approximately eight years ago, I saw this tool at Reiman Gardens at Iowa State University. My husband found it at Lowe's and bought it for me for



Christmas that year. As you can see, it's been well used and is my go-to tool for just about any gardening job. I use it for planting, transplanting, weeding, moving and leveling soil.

The tool is 12 inches long with 1 inch marks the entire length of the tool on both the handle and the blade, to aid in seed or plant spacing. The handle has a tapered hammer-end to aid with pounding stakes in the ground. The stainless steel blade has a serrated edge on one side which helps with slicing through roots and cutting open bags and a straight edge on the other side which can be used to cut sod.

The blade has a notched weeding tip which also aids in digging plants from the ground and prying under and lifting plant runners when weeding, and a twine cutter which also works for tearing open bags of mulch or soil.

As for tool care I really don't do anything special. I always wipe off any soil from any of my tools before I put them away after each use, and I

have a basket I keep my garden tools in. I've never had to sharpen the straight edge either. It's a pretty awesome garden tool!

You can find the Ames® Planter's Pal Hand Tool at www.ames.com/products/handtools which lists retailers who carry the Ames® brand of tools. Local retailers include Lowe's, True Value, ACE Hardware, and Home Depot. It can, of course, be ordered off Amazon.

Dealing With **WINTER**

Start Preparing Now for Plant Sale

BY SHARON JETER

Well, let me tell you how I am managing winter doldrums...

Okay, let's see, how many days until spring? All I have to do is check Facebook—at least every other day someone has it posted!

As I sit here writing this, in front of me there are at least 10 Amaryllis in bloom, and several almost there. Yes, I will admit I do have a few, but it makes a person feel good to see flowers when we have ice outside.

Actually I have been spending a lot of time tending to the many houseplants I have propagated for the Plant Sale and Flea Market scheduled for May 9th.

I took many cuttings of a Crown of Thorns donated to the Master Gardeners just for that purpose, and they are doing great. I also have a Starfish Cactus that has produced at least ten new specimens of that plant. Also growing are many Jade plants for



the sale. *If anyone has a plant they would like propagated, let me know.*

Now is a good time to make a list and start to get together items you would like to donate to the sale. I am making a list now rather than waiting until April when time is in such high demand for other projects. I am thinking about selling some of the Amaryllis that bloomed beautifully but just are not my favorites...what do you think? I am taking pictures that I will attach, a good way to get an \$18.00 bulb for much less.

The Plant Sale is our source of funds for Kirkwood Scholarships, 4-H Awards, our numerous projects, JCMG operating budget and so many, many more things.

So remember, supporting the Plant Sale is supporting JCMG. Step up and donate!

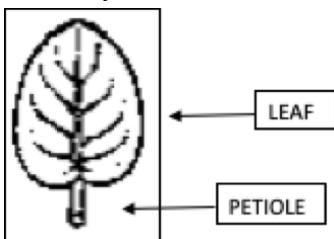
Propagating African Violets

Winter Months A Time to Expand Collection

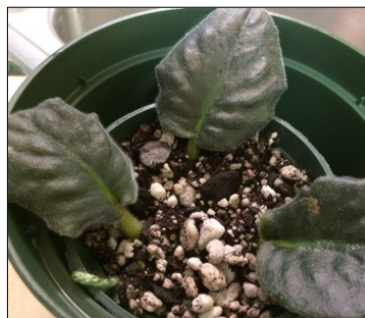
BY BEN BATZER

During winter months, when the weather outside is most dreary, many of us dedicate more attention to our indoor gardens. Because we have more time to spare now, the winter months are profitable times to expand our collection of indoor plants through propagation. African violets lend themselves easily to propagation. They are most frequently propagated through crown division or petiole cuttings. While we often describe violet propagation in terms of leaf cuttings, this is not quite accurate, since roots and new plants develop from the exposed tissue of the petiole rather than the leaf itself.

I have a particular appreciation for African violets, which bloom consistently all winter, whether they grow under lights or on the windowsill. To propagate violets through petiole/leaf cuttings, use a sharp



knife to cut a young leaf from the center of a mature plant. Do not break or tear the petiole, since damaged tissue is more likely to rot. Using the same sharp blade, cut the petiole so its length is around two inches. Fill a small pot with moist, sandy soil and tamp down lightly. I prefer to use a potting mix



of equal parts sand, perlite, and peat-based soilless medium. Push the petiole into the soil until it is deep enough to hold the leaf upright in the pot. If propagating

the same variety, I often place several leaves together to save space.

Moisten the soil lightly and slip the pot into a Ziploc bag. The bag will create a humid environment so the leaves won't wilt while forming roots. If you have working grow-lights, place the bagged pot along the edge of the shelves. A bright windowsill will also work well. In two to three months, young plants will emerge alongside the petioles. When the young plants have dime-sized leaves, shake the plants out of the pot. Using your fingers, gently pull the young plants away from the mother



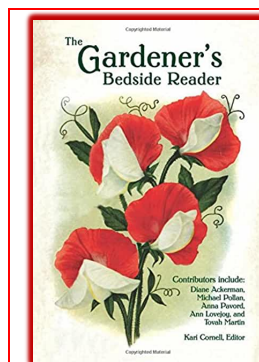
leaves. Some plants will come away with roots while others will come away with no roots. I usually plant both kinds of plantlets; even rootless sprouts will soon form sturdy roots of their own. Three-inch pots are the most suitable size for these young plants. I again use the propagating mix as my soil medium.

At this point, the young plants can be grown like their mature counterparts. Water when the top of the potting mix begins to feel dry and provide bright light. I do not use special fertilizer for violets. Rather, I use the same fertilizing regime for all houseplants: one week a diluted balance (14-12-14) and the next week a diluted fish/seaweed emulsion. As the young plants grow larger, pot them up one size at a time. I use shallow pans, bonsai bowls, or azalea pots because violets develop wide and shallow root systems. I often have blooming plants six to nine months from taking petiole cuttings!



From A Gardener's Bookshelf

BY MARY LYNNE HENSLEY



The Gardener's Bedside Reader
Kari Cornell, Editor

January, 2020

During this exciting time of year in Iowa, you might enjoy an occasional change of pace from the usual pastimes—such as watching winter weather indications, storing holiday decorations from the recent celebrations, starting those earnest New Year's resolutions, or connecting over coffee debating our caucus season's political contemplations!

A relaxing and entertaining respite could be to reserve some time now and then to refresh with thoughts of spring and the upcoming gardening season by reading a story from *The Gardener's Bedside Reader*. This delightful collection of short stories, articles, and essays, edited by Kari Cornell, includes contributions from many different authors and renowned garden writers on a wide variety of topics. The charm of this book is enhanced with many colorful illustrations, sketches, photographs, and reproductions from pages of old seed catalogs, etc. It is not available at Coralville or Iowa City Public Libraries but can be ordered online (e.g., Barnes and Noble, Amazon and others).

I won't spoil the fun by telling you too much more, except to add that whenever you start reading this book, you might still want to save at least a few chapters or stories for later—as this beautiful volume will provide amusement, laughter, and certainly gardening inspiration at any time of year!

Sowing Seeds in Winter

Self-Seeding Annuals Can Be A Surprise!

BY MARY LOU MAYFIELD

Every spring, I get "little surprises" in my garden of plants that self-seeded from last year's annuals. In New Jersey, the Columbine were downright invasive! Since we moved to Iowa, we have been pleasantly surprised by delicately blue "Love-in-a-Mist," which I had never seen before. The "Sweet Alyssum" hanging planter left behind a cluster of seeds that came up and bloomed in the shelter of our house. The children's learning garden at Home Ties has a whole bed of French marigolds—both those planted by the children and seedlings from last year's plants.



I started to research which annuals can be planted in the fall because they have "winter-hardy" seeds. One article even suggested scattering seed on top of the snow—which I tried with no success—probably because the birds and chipmunks found them before the snow could melt, or the wind blew them away. I had much better luck with planting seeds in late fall before the first snow, or early spring, during the first thaw. Garden plants that tend to re-seed and can be planted at those time include, besides the Love-in-a-Mist, Sweet Alyssum, and French (mini) Marigolds: Bachelor Buttons, Cosmos, Hollyhocks, Larkspur, Morning Glory, Pansy, Portulaca, Snapdragons, Sweet Pea, Sweet William (actually a perennial), and Violas (both perennial and annual). Some of these, like the Morning Glory, might need heavy thinning in the spring, so they don't take over!

Native annuals and biennials have winter-hardy seeds, too. In N.J., I had Purple Coneflower (Echinacea) and Black-eyed Susans (Rudbeckia) volunteering in my Daylily bed. I have had less luck with them self-seeding here in Iowa City. It took me a while to find the bed location for Bee Balm (Monarda), but now I have an established patch that

comes up every year. Also both blue Lobelia and Cardinal Flowers. I have an established patch of Butterfly Milkweed, and some Common Milkweed (Asclepias) that come back every year.

Plants recommended for fall planting by the "Empress of Dirt" <https://empressofdirt.net/>, for zones 4-5, include: Blanket Flower (Gaillardia), Blue Flax (Linum), native and cultivated Columbine (Aquilegia), Tickseed (Coreopsis), Cupid's Dart (Catananche), Painted Daisy (Chrysanthemum), Lavender (a perennial) Lady's Mantle (Alchemilla), Nasturtium, Penstemon, Pincushion flowers (Scabiosa), Thrift (Armeria), Poppy (Papaveraceae), Prairie Coneflower (Ratibida), and Rose Campion (Silene).

According to "High Country Gardens" <https://www.highcountrygardens.com/> (located in Utah), many perennial wildflower seeds can be sown in winter (before February and just before a snowstorm). This provides the benefit of "cold stratification" necessary for certain species to sprout with the first thaw.

For best results, prepare the flower beds in the fall. Mix the seeds with sand to help them distribute evenly. For tiny seeds, I use a spice shaker with large holes.

The annuals will bloom the following season. Perennials and biennials usually need a season to grow before they bloom the next year. Some will bloom the following summer if planted in fall.

"Worried about the planet? Change starts in your backyard."

—Douglas Tallamy

MAKE SURE YOU'VE MARKED YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES...

Date	Event
Feb. 15	Linn County Winter Fair
March 15	JCMG Education Day



MG Birthdays



Feb. 2020

13..... Carolyn Murphy
14..... Li-Hsein Lin
16..... Jeffrey Smith
20..... Nicole Pearson
22..... Julie Thompson
28..... Jeff Koepp

MG Upcoming Events/Volunteer Opportunities

February 2020

Backyard Abundance

<http://backyardabundance.org/>

Saturday, Feb. 8

1 to 3 P.M. Historic Poor Farm Wellness Trail Visioning. Venue: 136 S Dubuque St. (near the Public Library), Iowa City. Backyard Abundance is leading an effort to design an enchanting wellness trail within and around the heart of the Johnson County Historic Poor Farm. Join the community to brainstorm engaging activities and interactive features along a trail that will draw you and others to the site. Free and open to the public.

Bur Oak Land Trust

info@BurOakLandTrust.org

Tuesday, Feb. 11

5 to 8 P.M. Community Night at the Vue Rooftop, 328 S Clinton St, Suite A, Iowa City. Join Bur Oak Land Trust for a Community Night. 10 per cent of dinner proceeds will be donated to support our local environmental conservation mission. Reservations accepted at 319-519-4650.

Eastern Iowa Bird Watchers/IC Birds

www.iowacitybirdclub.org/events

Saturday, Feb. 1

11:30 A.M. to 2 P.M. Bald Eagle Watch at Iowa River Power Restaurant and Dam, 501 1st Ave., Coralville. Iowa City Bird Club will assist with this Coralville Parks and Recreation event. Watch eagles from the dam or come inside the restaurant for eagle viewing and activities.

Sunday, Feb. 9

8 A.M. to 2 P.M. Field Trip: Quad Cities for gulls, waterfowl, and other birds on the Mississippi River. There will be stops at locks and dams, riverside parks, and other hotspots like Fairmount Cemetery for winter finches. There will be a lunch stop at a nearby restaurant. Meet leader Chris Caster at the Hy-Vee parking lot, 1125 N Dodge St., Iowa City.

Sunday, Feb. 16

1 to 3 P.M. Freeze Fest at the Terry Trueblood Recreation Area Lodge, 579 McCollister Blvd., Iowa City. The Iowa City Bird Club will have a viewing area with scopes and information about feeders for winter birdwatching.

Thursday, Feb. 20

7 to 9 P.M. Bird Club Meeting, Environmental Education Center, 2401 Scott Blvd., Iowa City.

Saturday, Feb. 22

8 to 9 P.M. Field Trip: Cure Your Cabin Fever, Macbride Nature Recreation Area, 2095 Mehaffey Bridge Rd NE, Solon. Start with feeder birds at the bird blind, then hike surrounding trails. Target species are Purple Finch, Red-Breasted Nuthatch, Pine Siskin, Brown Creeper, woodpeckers, and more. Meet leaders Deb and Mark Rolfes at the Macbride Nature Recreation Area parking lot.

Johnson County Conservation

<http://www.johnson-county.com/conservation>

salgreen@co.johnson.ia.us

Saturday, Feb. 1

11:30 A.M. to 2 P.M. Iowa Raptor Project Family Day Eagle Watch, Iowa River Power Restaurant and Dam, Coralville. Hosted by University of Iowa Recreational Services and other organizations.

Sunday, Feb. 9

1 to 3:30 P.M. Say YES to Foraging in Winter! F.W. Kent Park, 2048 Hwy 6 NW, Oxford. Take a walk with a Johnson County Conservation naturalist and learn about some of the foods and medicines that can be foraged in winter. Registration is required. Register by email at fowen@co.johnson.ia.us or call 319-645-1011.

Friday, Feb. 14

7 to 9 P.M. Owl Prowl at the Conservation Education Center, F.W. Kent Park, 2048 Hwy 6 NW, Oxford. Join certified raptor educator Joan Schnabel from Raptology for a program about owl adaptations with real live owls. Night hike follows. Please register at 319-645-1011 or fowen@co.johnson.ia.us.

Saturday, Feb. 29

Class is full. Woodworking for Wildlife: Solitary Bee Hotels

Johnson County-ISU Extension

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

Wednesday, Feb. 12

7 to 9 P.M. JCMG Steering Committee Meeting. Johnson County Extension, 3109 Old Highway 218 S, Iowa City. Master Gardeners welcome. Contact Shannon Bielicke at bielicke@iastate.edu or 319-337-2145.

Linn County-ISU Extension

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

Tuesday, Feb. 4

6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Spring Garden Maintenance, Marion Library, 1095 6th Ave., Marion. Time to get your yard, landscape and gardens ready for another growing season. Join Master Gardener Wil Carew as he covers what to do, when to do it, and why. Contact Jean Wilson, 319-377-9839, jlwilson@iastate.edu.

Thursday, Feb. 6

6:30 to 7:30 P.M. Seed Starting at Home, Fairfax Public Library, 313 Vanderbilt St, Fairfax. Starting flowers and vegetables from seed is not only fun and satisfying, but it can also be a cost-effective way of expanding your garden varieties. Linn County MG Phil Pfister provides tips and techniques on seeding, transplanting, and setting plants out in the garden. Contact Jean Wilson at jlwilson@iastate.edu or 319-377-9839.

Tuesday, Feb. 11

6:30 to 7:30 P.M. Connect, Grow, Share a Row, Marion Library, 1095 6th Ave., Marion. Food insecurity is real. Learn what MGs are doing across the state of Iowa to make an impact. Contact Jean Wilson at jlwilson@iastate.edu or 319-377-9839.

Thursday, Feb. 13

6:30 to 7:30 P.M. Viva Viburnums, Fairfax Public Library, 313 Vanderbilt St, Fairfax. Learn why you should celebrate Viva Viburnums in your landscape. Contact Jean Wilson at jlwilson@iastate.edu or 319-377-9839.

Saturday, Feb. 15

8 A.M. to 4 P.M. WINTER GARDENING FAIR, Kirkwood Regional Center, 1770 Boyson Road, Hiawatha. Join the Linn County Master Gardeners for a day of Garden talks! \$49 fee. Registration at <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/linn/news/winter-gardening-fair-2020>. Contact Jean Wilson at jlwilson@iastate.edu or 319-377-9839.

Tuesday, Feb. 18

6:30 to 7:30 P.M. Meditation, Healing and Stress Relieving Gardens, Marion Library, 1095 6th Ave., Marion. This class is designed to share various techniques and plans that can be incorporated into a garden allowing you to meditate, heal and lower your stress level. Contact Jean Wilson at jlwilson@iastate.edu or 319-377-9839.

Thursday, Feb. 20

6:30 to 7:30 P.M. Perennials in 2020, Fairfax Public Library, 313 Vanderbilt St., Fairfax. Add the spice of life to your gardens. We talk about mixing it up by adding annuals for constant color in the same bed. Linn County MG Deb Walser will introduce you to some of the newest and coolest perennials. Contact Jean Wilson at jlwilson@iastate.edu or 319-377-9839.

Tuesday, Feb. 25

6:30 to 7:30 P.M. Plant Superfoods and Food Synergies, Marion Library, 1095 6th Ave., Marion. Certain plants play well together. Join Sandy Holterhaus, RDN, LD and Master Gardener, to discover the synergies between vegetables and fruits in your garden and how you can pair certain foods together on your plate to enhance the absorption of nutrients. Contact Jean Wilson at jlwilson@iastate.edu or 319-377-9839.

Thursday, Feb. 27

6:30 to 7:30 P.M. Why Gardens Change, Fairfax Public Library, 313 Vanderbilt St., Fairfax. All gardens change over time due to added new plants, varying light conditions or space requirements. Learn how to choose which plants to save and how to rearrange your beautiful new garden areas. Contact Jean Wilson at jlwilson@iastate.edu or 319-377-9839.

Project GREEN

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

Wanted: Your Garden. Open Gardens weekend will be June 27-28, 2020. Sharing your garden can make a difference and inspire other gardeners. Consider sharing your garden

<http://www.projectgreen.org>.

Sunday, Feb. 9

2 to 4 P.M. Second Sunday 2020 Winter Garden Forums: Gardens of Piet Oudolf, ICPL Meeting Room A, Iowa City. Patrons will be treated to a film by award-winning filmmaker and director Thomas Piper. The 1-hour, 15-minute documentary captured garden designer Piet Oudolf as he designed gardens for New York's High Line, Hauser and Wirth's prairie garden in Somerset, England, and his own private garden at Hummelo in Holland. Past Garden Forum presentations can be viewed online at the Iowa City Public Library's Library Channel.

Wednesday, Feb. 5

10:30 to 11:30 A.M. Creating a Buzz Pollinator Webinar: online or at Trees Forever's Training Center, 80 W 8th Ave., Marion. Trees Forever and partners are Creating a Buzz through our pollinator trainings that provide a comprehensive look at the importance of pollinators, the decline of pollinators, what pollinators need and how you can attract pollinators. Contact <http://www.treesforever.org/Events> to register.

Tuesday, Feb. 18

8:30 to 10:30 A.M. Day Out with Birds, Izaak Walton League, 8440 N Harrison St., Davenport. Bi-State Conservation Action Network (BI-CAN) networking meeting includes a generous breakfast. Register at <https://go.illinois.edu/BICANbirds>.

Trees Forever

<http://www.treesforever.org/Events>

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100 Grannies

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

Saturday, Feb. 1

12:00 to 2:30 P.M. Climate Crisis Parade in Des Moines, Cowles Commons, 221 Walnut Street, Des Moines. There are two buses going to Des Moines from this area at \$15 each passenger. Civil and non-violent, urgent and imperative, also creative and fun. Our mission is to urge the media to give this global emergency the consistent coverage it deserves, even as we challenge the presidential candidates—and the general public—to prioritize climate action, since our lives and our future literally depend on it.

Sunday, Feb. 2

1:00 to 2:30 P.M. 2020 Live from Prairie Lights: Ronnie Cummins, 15 South Dubuque St., Iowa City. Ronnie Cummins will read from and talk about *Grassroots Rising: A Call to Action on Climate, Farming, Food, and a Green New Deal*.

Monday, Feb. 17

4 to 5 P.M. Good Neighbor Committee Meeting, ICPL, Room E, Iowa City. We welcome new members or just come once to check us out. Contact Linda Quinn at 319-330-3328 for information.

Saturday, Feb. 22

9:30 to 11:30 A.M. League of Women Voters Legislative Forum, Coralville Public Library. Attend and ask your state senators and representatives questions about what they are doing to improve the environment in Iowa. Iowa City Area Group of the Sierra Club is a cosponsor.

Tuesday, Feb. 25

5:30 to 7 P.M. 100 Grannies Monthly Meeting at Trinity Episcopal Church, 320 E College St, Iowa City.

Additional Resources/Event Opportunities

Blue Zones

www.bluezones.com

<https://iowa.bluezonesproject.com/activities>

ECO_Iowa City

<http://www.icgov.org/?id=2256>

Check website for events.

Iowa State Extension

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

Nothing scheduled at press time

Iowa Water

<https://www.facebook.com/iowa.city.stormwater.volunteers?sk=wall>

Nothing at press time

New Pioneer Coop

<http://www.newpi.coop/new-pi-classes-and-community/2015-02/>

Check the website for information.

Seed Savers

<http://www.seedsavers.org/Education/>

Nothing at press time



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