Join us at the 2016 Winter Gardening Fair

A day of gardening-related workshops and hands-on classes

March 5, 2016 at Coe College

Brought to you by the Linn County Master Gardeners (LCMG)

$ denotes an extra fee for class materials

Session 1.................................9:45-10:45 a.m.

Agriculture in Afghanistan—BG Craig Bargfreded (Ret.)
This presentation will focus on the efforts of the 734th Agribusiness Development Team during their year-long deployment in 2010-2011 to Kunar Province in Afghanistan. The mission of the 734th ADT was to help the Afghan people with rebuilding their agriculture infrastructure and to help increase their agricultural capacity. Hickok Hall (no elevator)

Food Security—Sonja Kendrack
Feed Iowa First's mission is to confront food insecurity today and tomorrow by growing food and farmers. Learn about Iowa's food system, what food insecurity looks like, and how it pertains to you. Find out how everyone can contribute to efforts to thwart hunger and malnourishment in our community.

Exploring Community Gardens—LCMG Carol Elliot
There are so many models for community gardens but all share one very important aspect: they all make a difference for our neighbors. The session will focus on how community gardens are planned, built, maintained, and serve our neighbors. Several examples from local gardens will be provided. Please bring your ideas as we discuss ways to grow in our communities.

Growing a CSA: From Seeds to Shareholders—Donna Warhover
Fourth year CSA farmer Donna Warhover will share the ups and downs of growing a CSA from 10 members to 50 members as well as other valuable things she has learned in the garden. Hickok Hall (no elevator)
**Eating Healthy the New Old Fashioned Way--- LCMG Sandy Holterhaus**
Take your gardening to the next level! Join Master Gardener Sandy Holterhaus in this class and learn healthy eating tips by incorporating garden fruits, vegetables and herbs in your diet.

**Leave That Willow Bee---Dustin Hinrichs**
Native trees and forest ecosystems are often overlooked when it comes to their importance in pollination. Dustin Hinrichs from Trees Forever will talk about this connection and share some research on the relationship between native trees and woodland wildflowers and how they provide important habitat and food sources for a variety of pollinators.

**Common Tree Problems in Iowa---Mark Vitosh**
What's that spot on my maple leaves? Why are there webs in my crabapple? What is chewing the leaves on my linden? Does my ash have Emerald Ash Borer? Some insects and diseases can threaten the health of our shade trees while others are not generally harmful. Participants will be introduced to some of these common tree health issues present in the Iowa landscape.

**Tree and Shrub Defense 101---LCMG Susan Manson**
Learn about protecting your plants and trees from seasonal weather, bugs, animals -- more!

**Iowa Butterflies---Dr. Nathan Brockman**
Iowa is home to about 120 species of butterflies. Come learn about some of the amazing butterflies found around the state as well as some tricks to identify them. We will also cover the conservation status of the butterflies in the State of Iowa.

**Creating a Butterfly Garden---Lucy Hershberger, Forever Green**
Come to this class and learn how to select and plant to create the perfect butterfly garden.

**Honey in the Kitchen-Demo and Tasting---Judy Fitzgibbons**
Dietician Judy Fitzgibbons will share some innovative and healthy ways to incorporate honey in your cooking and baking. Yummy samples!

**Care and Maintenance of your Garden Tools--- LCMG Doug Smith**
Master Gardener Doug Smith reviews essential gardening tools and how to properly care for your tools.

**Containers: Beyond Thrillers, Spillers, Fillers---LCMG Cindy Fagan**
Come to this class to learn how to elevate your container arrangements in dramatic ways!

**Your Backyard is for the Birds--- LCMG Devon Dietz**
The presentation will concentrate on the needs of birds and what will attract them to your yard. The focus will be on the most popular birds for Iowans. The year-round enjoyment of birds is the objective.
**The Art and Science of Bonsai---John Clemens**  
This session will focus on what is Bonsai, the tools used in Bonsai, growing Bonsai, where to purchase Bonsai, and the different types of Bonsai.

**Navigating the Online World of Daylilies---Lawrence L. Rettig**  
Larry has been researching daylilies online almost every day for the past two years. Of the 70,000+ cultivars listed by the American Hemerocallis Society, he estimates he’s acquainted with about 40,000. Larry will discuss the pitfalls and advantages of purchasing daylilies from websites, how daylilies are shipped, evergreen daylilies in northern gardens, and other issues relevant to viewing and purchasing daylilies online. Lots of photos. Hickok Hall (no elevator)

**New Perennials---LCMG Deb Walser**  
Garden catalogs are full of amazing perennials. How do we select the right perennials for our garden? Which Perennials are the best for Iowa gardens? Even if you have been growing Perennials for years, Deb Walser will show some of the newest and coolest perennials available in Nurseries near you. Deb will also talk about her favorite plants that grow in her gardens.

**Growing and Arranging Your Own Bouquets---LCMG Judy Stevens**  
Join Master Gardener Judy Stevens to learn about selecting plants to grow for flower arrangements. She'll also give great tips for arranging spectacular cut flower bouquets.

**Quilt Gardens---LCMG Beula Dvorak**  
Do you love quilts? Do you love flowers? Join Master Gardener Beula Dvorak on a visual tour of the quilt gardens of Northern Indiana, along the Heritage Trail between Elkhart and Shipshewana. You'll get tips for developing your own quilt garden.

**Lavender in Bloom in Iowa---Mary Hamer**  
Come and learn all about lavender from "The Lavender Lady" of the Loess Hills!
Session 2.......................................................11:00 a.m. to Noon

**Lessons Learned: Hints for Starting a School Garden---**LCMG Victoria Fernandez
This class is about the role of today's school garden and describes how to set up a school garden, the benefits of a garden, and a sample curriculum. The workshop discusses the site, challenges, and resources for those who want to start a school garden.

**Fruitful Pollination in Vegetables---**Dr. Patrick O'Malley
This class will look at how fruiting vegetables get pollinated and what conditions favor this pollination. This will include perfect flowered vegetables like pepper and monocious (separate male and female flowers on same plant) vegetables like pumpkin and squash.

**Select, Plant, Tend, Harvest, and Enjoy Small Fruits---**LCMG Phil Pfister
Iowa soils and climate support many varieties of small fruits. This session will look at some of the more popular fruits that do well in Iowa, how to care for them and maximize their yield, dealing with pests and the weather, and preserving the "fruits" of your labor. Master Gardener Phil Pfister will also look at some of the many ways that small fruits can be incorporated into the landscape and container gardens. Hickok Hall (no elevator)

**Planting, Maintenance, and Pruning of Shade Trees---**Mark Vitosh
Shade trees can be an integral part of your landscape. Come learn some of the tree management practices such as proper site selection, planting, watering, mulching, and pruning that you can use to promote healthy trees in your yard.

**Lowe Park Conifers---**LCMG Devon Dietz
Join Master Gardener Devon Dietz as he introduces you to the wonderful variety of conifers at Lowe Park.

**Attracting Dragonflies & More to your Water Garden---**Dr. Nathan Brockman
Lots of time and effort is put into building water gardens, selecting plants and possibly managing fish. On the other hand, little consideration is put in to aquatic insects (unless there is a pest problem). Come learn how you can utilize and maintain aquatic insects to enhance your pond or water garden ecosystems.

**Demonstration: Wiring techniques for shaping your Bonsai---**John Clemens
This class will teach why we wire and demonstrate how to wire, the types and size of wire to use and how to shape your tree after it is wired.

**Miniature Gardens for Fairies and other Tiny Things---**LCMG Sylvia Kelley
Learn a little history of fairies and how to create miniature gardens with tiny plants and little things. Lots of pictures and ideas for indoors and outside.
Hypertufa Trough—Gary Whittenbaugh
Come and learn all about making your own hypertufa troughs.

Straw Bale Gardening—LCMG Barbara Wing
Want to pull fewer weeds? Bend over less? Garden on cement? Try straw bale gardening. Learn how to set up, plant and grow vegetables and flowers on straw bales.

Raised Bed Gardening—LCMG Deb Walser
No space for a garden? You can plant enough vegetables in a 4’ X 4’ garden to feed two people for the season or a family of four, using only 4’ X 8’ in space. Hate the weeding and bug control? Having trouble getting up from the ground? Raised bed gardening is for you. Pass on the fun of gardening to your children and grandchildren. Deb Walser has been gardening in raised beds for more than twenty years. Come see her gardens and learn.

Gardening Safety—LCMG Kate Kendall
Do you like to avoid aches, pains, and injuries? Join Master Gardener and retired safety manager Kate Kendall to learn more about reducing risks in everyday gardening activities and how tools and practices influence body mechanics. Decode ANSI Z87, NRR, and N95 markings on eye and hearing protectors or a face mask to understand what protection the device offers.

Everything Coleus—LCMG Lori Bailey
Coleus is not just your grandmother’s plant anymore. Come hear Lori Bailey share why coleus has become the hot plant for landscapers and gardens everywhere. She will share ideas about design, containers, cultivars, propagation, care and why every garden shouldn’t be without coleus. Hickok Hall (no elevator)

Basic Rose Care—John and Peg Slusher
Learn about watering, fertilizing and spraying roses. Learn how a little care of your roses will reward you with beautiful blooms. Hickok Hall (no elevator)

Succulent Savvy: Easy-Care Plants for the Garden—Dr. Denny Schrock
Gardening doesn’t get much easier than growing succulents. If ever there were a plant-it-and-forget-it class of plants, succulents are it. As long as you give them plenty of sunshine and a little bit of water, they’ll thrive and make a bold statement in your yard and around your home. Learn about hardy succulents for the Midwest as well as less hardy, low-water-use treasures.

Daylilies: The Perfect Perennial—LCMG Zora Ronan
This class covers the basic information needed to grow perfect daylilies. Master Gardener and American Hemerocallis Garden Judge Zora Ronan will talk about selection, planting, and maintenance. This class is for those who are just beginning to take an interest in daylilies and want to move beyond ‘just dig and hole and plant it’.
The Birthplace of Hostaholics—LCMG Jay McWherter
The hosta garden! Jay will talk about history, size, colors, sun/shade requirements, soils, division & seed reproduction, moisture & fertilizer needs, compost & mulch, pests & diseases, viruses. There will be many home garden photos with before & after garden shots.

I didn't know that was a flower! ---LCMG Judy Stevens
Join Master Gardener Judy Stevens to learn about flowers with interesting names and shapes.
Session 3.........................................................2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Calling All Soilmates: Feeding Soil, Plants and Souls---Scott Koepke**
New Pi Soilmates founder and director Scott Koepke will share the fun themes and activities of his work with children in the school & community gardens. From seed to harvest, building biodiversity and organic matter is the foundation of growing healthy life skills. Policy makers are rediscovering that all core curricula can be connected to the edible landscape. Food waste management will also be highlighted. Hickok Hall (no elevator)

**Edible Fruiting Shrubs for Your Urban Garden---LCMG Brenda Garbe**
Join Master Gardener Brenda Garbe who will teach you about a wide variety of edible fruiting shrubs that are perfect for your urban garden.

**Grow Your Own? Yes, You Can! ---LCMG Diane Wiesenfeld**
Master Gardener Diane Wiesenfeld will present information and ideas for the beginning gardener who wants to grow produce and isn’t quite sure how to start. Included will be a discussion about site selection, soil amendment, containers and raised beds, planting schedules and proper care for plants as they grow and produce.

**Trees for Bees and Other Pollinators---LCMG Deb Walser**
When thinking about replacing the Ash trees choose for the bees and butterflies. Master Gardener Deb Walser will provide information on trees and shrubs that will help our pollinators.

**Milkweed Gardening and Butterflies---Justin Myers**
Come learn about the milkweed and butterfly connection and how one helps the other.

**Designing a Pollinator Habitat with Top 20 Plants---LCMG Becki Lynch**
Want to get a fast start in helping our native pollinators? This course will give you solid information on their preferred habitats, what plants are sure to attract and sustain them, and how to design a bed so it is attractive not only to the pollinators, but to humans as well.

**Pleasing the Bees and Butterflies: Planting for Pollinators---LCMG Jean Murray**
Our lives on Planet Earth are intertwined with those of many creatures, including pollinators like bees and butterflies. But pollinators and their habitats are disappearing. Learn about the bees and butterflies and other pollinators, what’s happening to them, what’s being done to save them, and how you can help by planting beautiful plants in your garden.

**Fairy Garden Workshop---Josh Spece $**
Additional fee of $30 includes basic starter kit: container, 1 fairy item, 2 succulent plants, succulent soil mix, and an assortment of gravel, stones, and decorative moss. Plants and fairy garden accessories can be purchased, if desired. Please note: in order to ensure adequate supplies for the workshop, REGISTRATION FOR THIS CLASS CLOSES 14 FEBRUARY 2016
Bee Houses (hands-on) — LCMG Karla McGrail $  
Part of a pollinator-friendly garden includes nesting sites for native bees. In this hands-on class, you will make a unique, decorative, and functional bee house. Also learn other things you can do in your yard to help support our diverse insect pollinator population. All materials and tools provided. Additional fee: $10

Aquaponics - Hydroponics Meets Aquaculture—Matt Kispert  
A brief overview of this synergistic style of food production and its place in society.

Cover Crops—LCMG Phil Pfister  
Cover crops provide many benefits to the soil and serve as an important tool for sustainable vegetable production. In this discussion, Master Gardener Phil Pfister will look at the benefits cover crops provide, various plants used for cover crops, and how they can be a valuable tool for the home gardener. Hickok Hall (no elevator)

Growing Future Gardeners through Good Books—LCMG Chris James  
Is your little sprout blossoming into a garden expert? Join Master Gardener Chris James as she shares a peek at many beautifully written and illustrated books for children to enhance their gardening experiences.

Where would we be? Plants that Changed History—LCMG Judy Stevens  
Join Master Gardener Judy Stevens as she unlocks secrets of plants that changed history.

Plant Combinations That Work: Great Go-Togethers—Dr. Denny Schrock  
Take your landscape from a collection of pretty plants to a design that wows by cleverly combining plants with cohesive color and bloom times. This presentation will show you numerous plant combos that team well in the garden to provide season-long beauty.

Let Your Light Shine! — LCMG Matt Pieper  
Master Gardener Matt Pieper will help you better understand the ins and outs of landscape lighting.

Gardening with Color—LCMG Mike Anderson  
Learn how the use of color can enhance and add pizazz to your overall landscape design. Mike will cover some basic color theory and describe the principles of using color in creating an inviting and interesting garden design.

Brucemore Gardens: Historical Perspective from the Annual Arts Festival—LCMG Jay McWherter  
Have you wanted to go to Brucemore but just haven’t made it? Or have you just wondered what you missed? Come see many of the sights from the last five years!
Where in the World? ---LCMG Zora Ronan
Travel is the next best thing to gardening. Take a photo journey to Europe and other places along the 40th parallel north. We will look at how different gardens at similar latitudes can be based on climate and location.
Session 4.................................................................3:15 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.

Grapes in Iowa—Mike Decapria
Mike Decapria will share insightful information about growing grapes in Iowa. He'll also provide an overview of making wine.

A Taste of Herbs—LCMG Judy Bemer
Learn how and where to grow herbs, as well as how to use and preserve them. Judy will introduce some new herbs and discuss those that may be familiar as well. A "cuppa tea" and a plate of herbal goodies will be served to enjoy with the class.

Vegetable Container Gardening—LCMG Judy Stevens
Join Master Gardener Judy Stevens to learn about growing bountiful vegetable gardens -- in containers.

Seed Starting at Home—LCMG Zora Ronan
This class will give you all the information you need to successfully start and grow vegetable and flower transplants at home with a minimum amount of equipment.

Landscaping with Shrubs—LCMG Mike Anderson
Discover the many uses of shrubs in the home landscape. Mike will cover some basic landscape concepts using shrubs and review several species of shrubs that do well in Iowa gardens, including some that may be unfamiliar as well as many recognizable, long-time favorites.

The All America Selections Winners: Butterfly and Vegetable Display Beds from Noelridge Park Gardens—LCMG Becki Lynch
Learn how a dedicated group of volunteers (supported by the Noelridge horticulture crew) designed, planted, and maintained the AAS Winners Display Gardens at Noelridge Park. The AAS Winners in the beds, both ornamentals and vegetables, will be reviewed with growing and planting tips.

Nature and Nurture: the surprising rewards of living close to native plants—Dr. Laura Jackson
Landscaping with wild plants poses many challenges, but the rewards can be even greater. Laura will talk about her professional and personal relationship with native plants of the plains and prairies, and why they are so important for our communities, our kids, and our society. Whether or not you decide to get "up close and personal" with wild plant materials or simply enjoy them in parks and natural areas, natives can bring joy and a deeper appreciation for our natural world.
Broken Pot Succulent Garden Workshop---Josh Spece $
Additional fee of $40 covers the basic starter kit: includes broken terra cotta pot, 3 succulent plants, succulent soil mix, and an assortment of gravel, stones, and decorative moss. Additional plants and fairy garden accessories can be purchased, if desired. Please note: in order to ensure adequate supplies for the workshop, REGISTRATION FOR THIS CLASS CLOSES 14 FEBRUARY 2016.

Add Some Whimsy! It’s for the Birds! Birdhouse Workshop (hands-on) ---LCMG Louise Harn $
Back by popular demand! Come and learn how to create your own adorable fabric birdhouse that can be used both indoors and outdoors. An additional fee ($20) for the class includes the materials kit, instructions and assembly demonstrations. Due to time constraints, participants may need to complete their projects at home.

Food for the Food: Intro to Composting---Scott Koepke
Plants need to eat before people and animals can eat food. This workshop is a fun, interactive introduction to composting and soil science principles. Roots need to absorb chemically-available nutrients from the decomposition process of organic matter, and we build organic matter when we make compost. More than half of the resources we discard in landfills are the food and paper waste ingredients (green and brown) for potential plant food. We'll learn about affordable methods and designs easily used at home, school or work. Worms not included 😊 Hickok Hall (no elevator)

Introduction to Hydroponics: Gardening Without Soil---Matt Kispert
A brief overview of the history of hydroponic growing systems and an explanation of their purpose and design.

Journal into Summer---LCMG Linda Hofmeister
How do you document and organize your ideas, lists, photos, plans, and results each year for planning the next season? Do you use paper, on-line apps, electronic software or a combination? This presentation will provide an overview of possibilities as you journal your garden this year to help you plan future gardens.

Home Greenhouses---LCMG Phil Pfister
Are you considering a greenhouse? In this session, Linn County Master Gardener Phil Pfister will discuss the various considerations necessary for setting up and operating a home greenhouse. Topics include selecting the site, greenhouse material options, calculating heating and cooling requirements, growing, and integrated pest management.

Growing Your Green Thumb with Indoor Plants---LCMG Becky Ray
Our indoor plant partners are very worthwhile. Besides their beauty, they give off oxygen, and some even purify the air. Come and learn about growing healthy indoor plants.

Wow! That Looks Amazing! ---LCMG Matt Pieper
Let Master Gardener Matt Pieper introduce you to those special signature plants that make your landscape really pop!
Iowa's Gardens—*LCMG Jean Murray*
They're more than just pretty places! Join Master Gardener Jean Murray on a tour of some lovely Iowa public gardens, and discover more than you thought possible. We'll discuss how to take a garden walk, and what to look for along the way to make your garden walk experience even more enriching.

Garden Walk 2015—*LCMG Rose Milden*
Join Master Gardener Rose Milden on this wonderful photographic journey of the 2015 Garden Walk.