Iowa Master Gardener Volunteers
Recognized for over 400 hours in 2018

Two of the OUTSTANDING Iowa Master Gardeners are from Muscatine County

Congratulations to our own:
Charles (Rick) Rickey and William (Bill) Koellner

Be sure to check out the upcoming events on page 2 and especially note our own Art of Gardening program on page 10. Register yourself and spread the word!
Upcoming Meeting & Event Highlights  
Coordinated by Jane Hodge, Master Gardener

General Meeting - **February 12** at 6:30 at ISU Extension office.  
“Culture & Gardens of Normandy, France”  
Our new MG president, Mary Danner, will share some hi-lights from a trip that was offered on the ISU Master Gardener Newsletter. She traveled to France’s Normandy region last September, visited apple orchards, cheese factory, and many splendid gardens, including the infamous Monet’s Garden in Giverny, France. Bring a friend to enjoy a winter mental get-away!

**MG Spotlights** —  
1. Farmer’s Market  
2. ISU Extension Q and A

**Winter Gardening Fair** — Saturday, February 16 - 9:00am. Save the Date for the Linn County Winter Gardening Fair in Cedar Rapids: [https://www.extension.iastate.edu/linn/](https://www.extension.iastate.edu/linn/)

**Shade Tree Short Course** — February 20 - 8:00am to February 21 - 5:00pm at ISU Ames. Join gardeners and arborists from around Iowa for 60th anniversary Shade Tree Short Course. Find out more at: [https://www.hort.iastate.edu/event/2019-shade-tree-short-course/](https://www.hort.iastate.edu/event/2019-shade-tree-short-course/)

**Dig Deeper: Soil Health & Nutrient Management** — February 21 - 10am – 2pm at Muscatine Extension Office. Beyond the basics; dig deeper into soil health and nutrient management.  
Soil health improvements link to better corn, soybean and cattle production.

**Nursery School — Lesson in Gardening** — February 23—8am-3pm at Augustana College, Rock Island, IL

**Cover Crop Conference** — March 1 – 9am – 3pm at Durant Community Center, Durant, IA. This day will be part conference part field day (weather permitting). The day will focus on the benefits and challenges of cover crops, especially focused on soil health impacts and fiscal sustainability.

**Art of Gardening — Muscatine** — Plan to attend the March 9 **ART OF GARDENING** at Muscatine Community College. Check with Susan Cradick or other Muscatine Master Gardeners on her AOG planning team to see if you can help — Plan to attend and earn 5 educational hours for 2019!

**Bug University** — April 9 – 1pm – 4pm at Muscatine Environmental Learning Center, Muscatine, IA  
Tired of trying to figure out insects with your phone apps? Donald Lewis, professor and extension entomologist with Iowa State University will provide insight into insect identification, beneficial insect diversity, and how to deal with the bad bugs.

**International Master Gardener Conference** — June 17-21 — Valley Forge, PA
Hello Master Gardeners,

First off, I want to congratulate you all for your dedicated work in 2018! Collectively you served 2,972.06 volunteer hours and 679.75 of continuing education hours in 2018! Twenty-nine Master Gardeners met the benchmark of at least 20 volunteer hours and 10 continuing education hours, with ten more recording some hours. We were sixth in the state for average hours served, at 74.48 as the average! You all do amazing work – and I honestly am positive that you do MORE than you all report! Why do we report our hours? Is it just for Iowa Master Gardeners to keep track? No – Muscatine County Extension and Outreach is publicly funded through property tax dollars, and keeping track of hours can show the impact of those public dollars. Based on the average amount a volunteer hours is worth in Iowa you all donated **$67,554.92** worth of volunteer time to our community!! This is a big deal and helps us show why Muscatine County Extension and Outreach, and our programs such as Master Gardeners and 4-H are impactful to our county. Thank you for getting your hands dirty!

Second, I want to give a huge shout out to the Master Gardener Board who decided to donate $2,000 to the building renovation of the new Muscatine County Extension Office!! THANK YOU for your support of this project. I am very excited about our new office and the opportunities that will come with this move. I am also excited to announce that we received a $150,000 grant from the Roy J. Carver Charitable Foundation for the project. We are still trying to raise about $30,000 more to meet our final goal, but we are almost there!!! If anyone has any questions about the move please let me know! You can also learn more at our website.

We have announced the dates and topics for the 2019 Winter Webcast series. I have a host for the first two, but anyone interested in hosting the March 5 webcast is encouraged to contact me (kristar@iastate.edu, 563-263-5701). Hosts are asked to pick up a key ahead of time, open up for the class, make sure people sign in and get their handouts, play the recording and shut down/lock up. As a host you can double count your time as both volunteer and education hours. Winter webcast topics:

- **February 19, 6-7 pm** – Limited Space Gardening, presented by Ed Lyon, director of Reiman Gardens. This webcast will explore a dozen ways to create container gardens.
- **February 26, 6-7 pm** – Engaging New Audiences, presented by Elin Filbey, director of programs and community engagement at the University of Wisconsin’s Allen Centennial Garden. This

(continued next page, DIRECTOR)
presentation will share examples of activities that can be used to attract new people to a garden.

- March 5, 6-7 pm – Managing Vegetable Pests, presented by Dan Fillius, produce safety specialist with ISU Extension and Outreach. His presentation will provide organic, weed-free vegetable growing tips to reduce pests and attract beneficial insects.

I sent an email recently that the Master Gardener board has decided to offer a group t-shirt order, and they will cover the shipping and handling costs. T-shirts are $15, and available in small through double extra-large. Orders must be pre-paid (either come into the Extension Office or at the February meeting) by February 13. Our goals is to have the t-shirts ready for Art of Gardening so everyone can show their Master Gardener pride! These will also be great to wear at the Plant Sale, Farmers Market or any other Master Gardener event.

I have recently joined the planning committee for the Cedar, Muscatine and Scott County Chapter of Women, Land and Legacy (WLL). WLL is an organization sponsored by the USDA with the mission of connecting women in agriculture through conversation and education. You can learn more about the group and upcoming events by following them on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/groups/cmswll/.

Look forward to seeing you all at the February general meeting and at Art of Gardening, which by the way has ONLINE registration this year!!

Krista

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**Master Gardener group t-shirt order**

Hello! The Master Gardener board would like to offer an opportunity for Master Gardeners to order t-shirts, and they will cover the shipping and handling! We encourage you to wear your t-shirts at any Master Gardener event, such as Art of Gardening.

- Sizes available are Small - 2XL
- T-shirts are $15 each
- Orders must be pre-paid
- Order deadline: February 13

An order form will be available at the February 12 meeting (please bring check or exact change), or you can place your order before at the Extension Office.
Greetings fellow Master Gardeners.

Our Board or Directors graciously elected me as Chair for the coming year and I could not be more thrilled to serve this great organization. I want to re-introduce myself to you or those that I have not had the pleasure of working with yet.

I began my Master Gardening journey with the fall Class of 1998. Twenty years ago; wow! Now I feel old, but not really as I always feel this is an opportunity to learn and learning is how we keep alive. My husband, John, and I live on an acreage north of Letts; we raise Gelbvieh Beef cattle & make hay to keep them happy. Just enough chores to keep John busy now that he is retired. I am in Human Resources for a KFC Franchise that owns 16 restaurants; it keeps me Very busy. We have two grown daughters that we enjoy spending time with when we can get away, as they both live out of state.

This coming growing year will be here before we know it. It is time to plan ahead and check for winter damage & such. I enjoy walking around my flower garden beds even when it’s cold and think about how it will look this summer or what changes I need to make. It is like a still painting waiting to come alive.

We have some good speakers & events schedule for this coming year, so you won’t want to miss out. I look forward to see you all at the February 12th general meeting where I will be sharing a few of the Garden & Culture highlights from my trip to France last fall.

Happy Gardening!

Mary Danner

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Garden Center and Greenhouse Tours for 2019

Members of the Board of Directors are in contact with area garden centers and greenhouses to make arrangements for Muscatine Master Gardeners to tour their facilities, receive a horticulture briefings, and perhaps purchase plants at 10% discount. Ed says, “The dates we are proposing are April 18th & 25th, and May 9th.” So please stay tuned and take advantage of these “early bird” opportunities!
Board Meeting Notes
Muscatine Master Gardeners—January 8, 2019
Muscatine County Extension Office, 6:30 PM
By Rachel Horner Brackett

Board Members in attendance: Mary Danner, Kathy Haltmeyer, Heather Harroun, Jane Hodge, Ron Jensen, Ed Moreno, Rachel Horner Brackett

Extension Liaison present: Krista Regennitter

Board Members absent: Maryrose Peterschmidt, Gretchen Nollman (Intern member)

1. Welcome and call meeting to order

2. Election of Officers
   - Mary Danner is nominated for Chair by Moreno. No other nominations were received. There being no other nominations Danner is elected chair.
   - Heather Harroun is nominated as Vice Chair by Danner. No other nominations were received. There being no other nominations Harroun is elected vice chair.
   - Rachel Horner Brackett is nominated as Secretary/Treasurer by Hodge. No other nominations were received. There being no other nominations Horner Brackett is elected Secretary/Treasurer.

3. Treasurer’s Report and Payment of Bills
   - We currently hold a $7,700.02 balance.
   - Two scholarships totaling $1000 are still outstanding and will be processed
   - We have a $56.20 invoice for newsletter copy/mailing expenses
   - Moreno moves to approve the report and payment of bills; Haltmeyer seconds; motion carries

4. Review and Approve Minutes of Last Meeting (Nov. 9, 2018);
   - Moreno moves to approve the minutes; Haltmeyer seconds; motion carries

5. Confirm and Update Meetings for 2019
   - 2019 General meetings – 2/12, 4/9, 6/11, 9/10, 11/12
   - 2019 Board meetings – 1/8, 3/12, 5/14, 8/13, 10/8, 12/10
   - In order to best meet the needs of our members and accurately acknowledge hours served during the year, Krista Reginnitter has proposed that we move our annual meeting/holiday celebration to early January moving forward. This way our meeting will not compete with other holiday gatherings, and will allow all volunteer and education hours to be fully counted and rewarded. The party we have would not change, it would just be held in January instead of December.
   - At the next general meeting we will discuss this potential change. We will also survey our membership as to whether our regular Tuesday night time is best for the annual meeting/celebration, or if a Sunday afternoon time would be better.

6. MMG Membership Survey Results Discussion
   (Continued next page, MINUTES)
Several main points came from the online survey the Board sent out last fall.

- Be more welcoming
- Encourage mentoring relationships
- Make education and service hours more available to members
- Define our service projects more clearly
- Stay on time
- Grow our membership

The Board is in the beginning stages of addressing some of these topics.

- It was suggested that we all wear nametags at general meetings so that newcomers or guests know who we are. We will develop short ice-breaker activities to get to know one another better at meetings.
- Open up general meetings to the public in order to recruit potential new membership
- The Board is also looking at our list of service opportunities - rather than having a “sign up” sheet as we’ve done in the past, we are hoping to create a “master calendar” of service projects that our members work on with times and dates.
- During our general meetings the Board will schedule short project spotlights where our members can take 3-5 minutes to introduce their volunteer activities (such as the Zoo Garden, farmer’s market, Fair, etc.) to the group.
- The goals is to better connect current project needs with those looking for volunteer time. More info will be forthcoming and suggestions are welcome!

7. General Meeting Programs for 2019

- February 12: Touring Gardens of France, speaker Jane Hodge
- April 9: Plants That Changed History, speaker Rachel Horner Brackett
- June 11: LOCATION Jane Hodge’s home and garden; topic and speaker TBA
- August 10: Water Features, speaker TBA
- November 12: Hanging Baskets, speaker Melissa Baker

8. Garden tours for 2019

- July 13: Heather Harroun
- Date TBA: Laura McGinnis
- Any other members are welcome to host a garden tour

9. Events for 2019

- Winter webcasts – February 9, February 26, March 5 (more info below)
- Art of Gardening – March 9
- Plant Sale – May 11
- Bucket Brigade Judging – July 16
- Muscatine County Fair – July 17-21
- Additional activities are being planned by the Education Committee - locations/times will be announced when confirmed

10. Master Gardener t-shirts

- T-shirts will be available for preorder at the February 12 meeting (please bring $15 check or exact change), or you can place your order before at

(Continued next page, MINUTES)
the Extension Office. Orders must be placed (with payment) by February 13.
- Board members moved to approve paying the cost of shipping and handling from our current budget. Haltmeyer motions; Moreno seconds; motion carries.

11. FY2019 Budget Review
- Based off the 2017/2018 budgets; there are no current outstanding bills
- The Art of Gardening budget line is not needed, as this is funded by MCC
- It was suggested that we increase our honorarium or provide some sort of gift for visiting speakers
- Advertising: currently we spend very little, as the Voice of Muscatine will promote events and much of our outreach is now digital. For bigger events Krista will sometimes pay for Facebook “promotion boosts” that bump up the views.
- Winter Webcast programs cost $75 for all three, to be paid out of the general fund.
- Haltmeyer moves to approve budget changes; Hodge seconds; motion carries

12. Winter Webcast series
- Three webcasts will be released in February. Each will last one hour and viewers earn one education hour.
  - February 19, 6-7 pm – Limited Space Gardening, presented by Ed Lyon, director of Reiman Gardens. This webcast will explore a dozen ways to create container gardens.
  - February 26, 6-7 pm – Engaging New Audiences, presented by Elin Filbey, director of programs and community engagement at the University of Wisconsin’s Allen Centennial Garden. This presentation will share examples of activities that can be used to attract new people to a garden.
  - March 5, 6-7 pm – Managing Vegetable Pests, presented by Dan Fillius, produce safety specialist with ISU Extension and Outreach. His presentation will provide organic, weed-free vegetable growing tips to reduce pests and attract beneficial insects.

13. Request of the Muscatine County Master Gardener Association for financial contribution to the new ISU Extension Building
- Funding for the new ISU Extension Building in Muscatine is based in part on matching grants. Krista Reginnitter explained the funding process and requested that the MG Board consider making a financial contribution. Reginnitter then left the room for the Board to discuss the funding.
- The Board unanimously approved a $2000 lump sum payment toward new building construction. Harroun moved to approve the budget item; Hodge seconds; motion carries

14. Master Gardener co-sponsorship with Community Garden’s “Growing Season Kick Off” event
- This event talks about how to start a garden; we would help with education modules. Tentative date 3/30
- Haltmeyer moves to co-sponsor this project; Moreno seconds; motion carries

Meeting is adjourned at 8:30 PM
FREE Plant Health Virtual Conference

Have you made a New Year’s resolution to improve your pest and disease-fighting superpowers in 2019? Do you have burning pest and disease questions that you’d like to get answered?

If you said yes to either of these questions, then you need to attend Greenhouse Management magazine’s 2nd annual Plant Health Virtual Conference<http://isirc.gie.net/newsletter/click?pubId=1&hyperlinkId=136294&productSendId=MTUzMTY4ODM0>, taking place Wednesday, Feb. 13 from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. EST.

Register now<http://isirc.gie.net/newsletter/click?pubId=1&hyperlinkId=136295&productSendId=MTUzMTY4ODM0> FOR FREE to attend the following sessions from the comfort of your own home or office:

* Downy Mildews Aren’t Powdery Mildews
  Speaker: Margery Daughtrey, Senior Extension Associate, Cornell University

* Fusarium Wilts of Flower Crops
  Speaker: Margery Daughtrey, Senior Extension Associate, Cornell University

* How to Implement a Successful Biological Control Program
  Speaker: Raymond Cloyd, Professor and Extension Specialist, Kansas State University

* The Basics of Scouting Horticultural Crops
  Speaker: Raymond Cloyd, Professor and Extension Specialist, Kansas State University

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2019 Art of Gardening

Information about Art of Gardening is now online at: https://www.eicc.edu/future-students/events/art-of-gardening.aspx.

Paper brochures for Art of Gardening have been mailed. Additional copies of the brochures are available for our members to distribute and promote the event. You can also share the above link with your social networks.

Planning for the March 9, 2019 Art of Gardening is complete and the final details will be attended to in the next few weeks. Susan Cradick and her team have put together a cadre of talented speakers for an interesting and educational Art of Gardening program.

Mark your calendar now for Saturday, March 9, 2019 at Muscatine Community College and sign up now as space is limited. Collect 5 educational hours and also gain valuable insight from our exhibitors who offer gardening supplies and ideas for the home garden.

(see next page for more AOG details)
2019 Art of Gardening Offerings

**Session 1  9:00-9:50**
New Annuals/Perennials for 2019-Maria McCalley
Xeriscaping-Peggy Burrows
Landowner Conservation Options and Strategies-Ron Knopik
Blueberries, Strawberries, Raspberries, Oh My!-Deb Walser
Donation Gardening-Improving Food Security-Krista Reginnetter
Fur, Scales and Animal Tales-Hannah Howard
Proven Cultivars for the Home Vegetable Garden-Paul Rost

**Session 2  10:10-11:00**
Dealing with Bad Soil: Making Planting Beds Thrive-Todd Wiebenga
Vines, Verticles and Variants-Debbie Main
Extending the Season: Winter Gardening/Cold Frames-Rachel Horner Brackett
Pruning: How, Why, When-Charles Rickey
Gardening with Conifers-Gary Wittenbaugh
Peonies-Zora Ronan
Planting for Bio Swailes-Peggy Burrows

**Please select Lunch Group 1 or Group 2 and the corresponding Stump the Experts:**

**Group 1**
Lunch from 11:20-12:10 with Stump the Experts following at 12:20-1:10

**Group 2**
Stump the Experts 11:20-12:10 with lunch following at 12:20-1:10

**Session 3  1:30-2:20**
Sq. Ft. Gardens/Raised Bed Gardening-Deb Walser
Plants that have Changed History-Rachel Horner Brackett
Care for Fruit and Nuts Trees (Heartnuts,Pawpaw, etc.)-Tom Wahl/Kathy Dice
Climate Change and Your Garden-Ray Wolf
Gardens of Israel & India-Paul Rost
Gourd Jewelry-Rhonda LeMar-James
Know-Maintenance Gardening-Pruning Shrubs and Young Trees-Chuck Porto

**Session 4  2:40-3:30**
Let Me Entertain You-Debbie Main
Gardening with Native Flowers and Trees-Hannah Howard
Planting Landscape Trees: Promoting Diversity-Mark Vitosh
Trough Gardening-Gary Wittenbaugh
Tomato Tech-Patrick O’Malley
Nourishing Gardens & Plant Based Cooking Demo-Nancy Dew
Favorite Gardens-Zora Ronan
The Saturday of the Eagle Watch was frigid and snowy. I wondered what made me volunteer to do this, staying home and having coffee sounded better to me. My car was loaded up with display materials for both Master Gardeners and the Zoo Garden. I headed down to the old brick building on the river front and hopefully Dave Baake had the heat on. I was pleasantly surprised to see how quickly both displays went together. Must have been due to the excellent help from Lynn, Bonnie Reeb and Twyla Woodward. We were ready for the doors to open at 9 am. The Raptor Advocacy Rehabilitation Education (RARE) group from Iowa City gave two presentations during the morning session. They had with them three raptor birds. The kestrel was the smallest bird and two owl were part of their program. They had an interesting program and we learned about what had happened to these birds. They answered questions from the eager audience. I brought a small globe of the world and a magnify glass to point out where some of the plants came from that we use at the Zoo Garden. The animal masks were brightly colored as a good craft for the children to take home. Lynn did a fantastic job showing how to make an eagle finger puppet out of pipe cleaners. By the end of the day we had visited with many people and answered lots of questions. So the day turned out much better than I had anticipated.
More Eagle Watch Fun and Games

The children has fun making “eagle” finger puppets — and so did we!
## 2019 Native Prairie Plant Sale

### Muscatine County Soil & Water Conservation District

3500 Oakview Dr., Muscatine, IA 52761 (563) 263-7944 ext. 3

### 6 PACK – 6 PLUGS, 2” X 2”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Common Name</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>QTY</th>
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<tr>
<td>Aromatic Aster</td>
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<td>Bee Balm</td>
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<td>Butterfly Weed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Columbine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grey Headed Coneflower</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hairy Beardtongue</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health Aster</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heart Leaved Aster</td>
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<td>Jack in the Pulpit</td>
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<td>Obedient Plant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pale Purple Coneflower</td>
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<td>Prairie Blazingstar</td>
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<td>Side Oats Grama</td>
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<td>Smooth Beardtongue</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sneezeweed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southern Blue Flag Iris</td>
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<td>Spiderwort</td>
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<td>Swamp Milkweed</td>
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<td>Wild Petunia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Switchgrass</td>
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**Subtotal**

### POT – 2.25” SQ X 3.25” DEEP

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<td>*Mountain Mint</td>
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<td>*Pale Indian Plantain</td>
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<td>*Purple Love Grass</td>
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<tr>
<td>*Savannah Blazingstar</td>
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<td>*Spotted St.John’s Wort</td>
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<td>Swamp Milkweed</td>
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<td>Tall Green Milkweed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Willow Leaf Bluestar</td>
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*limited quantity

**Subtotal**

### Name:

### Address:

### City:

### State: Zip:

### Email:

### Cell number:

### Home number:

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**Remember to order:**

- "Plantskydd"
- The Deer/rabbit repellent that helps protect your plants!

**Subtotals**

- +7% Tax
- **Total**

Mail orders to: Muscatine SWCD, 3500 Oakview Dr., Muscatine, IA 52761

Final date to order is **March 25, 2019**. All orders must be pre-paid. Please send payment with order, make checks payable to: Muscatine SWCD.

Plants will arrive in late May. The tentative pick up day is **Thursday May 30, 2019**. A postcard will be emailed/mailed with the exact pick up date.

"Muscataine County Soil & Water Conservation District is an equal opportunity provider employer"
# 2019 TREE ORDER FORM

MUSCATINE COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
3500 OAKVIEW DR., MUSCATINE, IA 52761 (563) 263-7944 x 3

**BARE ROOT STOCK - SOLD IN BUNDLES OF 5 AND 25**

The scheduled pick up day is Friday, April 26, 2019 at Muscatine SWCD office.
A postcard will be mailed/mailed with the exact pick up date. Pick up is ONE DAY ONLY.

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<th>Tree Species</th>
<th>Size of Bare Root Trees</th>
<th>Cost per 5 Trees</th>
<th>The # of Bundles of 5</th>
<th>Cost per 25 Trees</th>
<th>The # of Bundles of 25</th>
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<td><strong>DECIDUOUS SHRUBS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Winterberry</td>
<td>1-2 foot</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>60.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Highbush Cranberry</td>
<td>1-2 foot</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>60.00</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lilac</td>
<td>1-2 foot</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>60.00</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>White Flowering Dogwood</td>
<td>2-3 foot</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>60.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Red Osier Dogwood</td>
<td>2-3 foot</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>60.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DECIDUOUS TREES</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Black Walnut</td>
<td>2-3 foot</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>65.00</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>American Hazelnut</td>
<td>2-3 foot</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>65.00</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Red Maple</td>
<td>2-3 foot</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>65.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sugar Maple</td>
<td>2-3 foot</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>65.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Red Oak</td>
<td>2-3 foot</td>
<td>35.00</td>
<td>75.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pin oak</td>
<td>2-3 foot</td>
<td>35.00</td>
<td>75.00</td>
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<td><strong>CONIFERS:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>White Spruce</td>
<td>18-24 inch</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>65.00</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue Spruce</td>
<td>18-24 inch</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>65.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Norway Spruce</td>
<td>18-24 inch</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>65.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>White Pine</td>
<td>18-24 inch</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>65.00</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Cedar (Arborvitae)</td>
<td>12-18 inch</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>65.00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**REMEMBER TO ORDER "PLANTSKUDD" DEER/RABBIT REPELLENT TO PROTECT YOUR TREE SEEDLINGS!!!!**
See order form or call for Details.

**SUBTOTAL**

7% sales tax __________

**TOTAL DUE** __________

**FINAL DATE TO ORDER IS MARCH 28, 2019** ALL ORDERS MUST BE PRE-PAID.
MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: MUSCATINE COUNTY SWCD AND SEND PAYMENT WITH ORDER.

NAME ____________________________ ADDRESS ____________________________

CITY ____________________________ STATE ____________ ZIP ____________

PHONE # ____________________________ CELL PHONE # ____________________________

EMAIL ____________________________

If you have any questions, please contact Holly at (563) 263-7944 ext. 3 or holly.howard@ia.nacdnet.net

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

MONEY RAISED FROM TREE SALES HELPS THE DISTRICT SUPPORT LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS, EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS, AND OTHER COMMUNITY PROJECTS.

Muscogee SWCD is an equal opportunity provider and employer.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 pound Granular Sprinkle around garden beds. Covers approximately 600 sq. ft.</td>
<td>$13.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 quart/liter Ready to Use Spray Bottle treats approx. 100 1 ft high plants</td>
<td>$22.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.5 pound Granular Sprinkle around garden beds Covers approximately 1800 sq ft</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 pound Soluble Powder Concentrate Makes +/- 1 gallon Treats approx. 200-300 1ft high plants</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2 pounds Soluble Powder Concentrate Makes +/- 2.2 gallons Treats approx. 440-660 1ft high plants</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3 gallon/5 liters Ready to Use Jug Treats approx. 400-600 1 ft high plants</td>
<td>$60.00</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO MUSCATINE SWCD AND SEND PAYMENT WITH ORDER OR YOU MAY PURCHASE AND PICK UP PRODUCT AT OUR OFFICE. SUPPLIES MAY BE LIMITED. CHECKS OR CASH ONLY.

SUBTOTAL $________  
+ 7% TAX $________  
TOTAL $________

Muscatine County  
Soil & Water Conservation District  
3500 Oakview Drive  
Muscatine, IA 52761  
563-263-7944 x3

Muscatine SWCD is an equal opportunity provider and employer.
SOIL HEALTH WORKSHOP

JASON STEELE

3 Hour workshop
2 CEUs for agronomists
1 free meal and training

February 21, 2019
10.00am - 1.00pm
ISU Extension & Outreach
1514 Isett Avenue
Muscatine, IA 52761

You’ve heard the basics, now it’s time to dig deeper into soil health and nutrient management. Jason Steele, Area Soil Scientist with Natural Resources Conservation Service, provides a mix of hands on and presentation-based learning. Meal and training offered at no cost thanks to Soil & Water Conservation District supporters.

What are some topics we will cover?
- Organic matter
- Nutrient Cycling
- Crop nutrient uptake
- C:N Ratio
- Soil structure
- Earthworms

“The United States Department of Agriculture - Natural Resources Conservation Service, Soil and Water Conservation District are equal opportunity providers, employers and lenders.”

FOR REGISTRATION AND REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS CALL 563.886.6214 X3 OR EMAIL LYDIA.WHITMAN@IA.NACDNET.NET
Women, Land & Legacy Chapter News

Note: The Cinnamon Ridge Farm tour have been delayed to February 26

upcoming events >>>

January 4: WLL Share & Grow at Gramma’s Kitchen, Walcott, IA, 1-4pm (Topic: Next Gen Ag/Farm Transition)

January 8: First of 4 sessions of Women Marketing Grain at Jones ISU Extension & Outreach Office, Monticello, IA, 9am-Noon $

January 9: First of 6 sessions of Annie’s Project: Farm Business Management at Washington ISU Extension & Outreach Office, Washington, IA, 6pm-8pm $

January 10: NRCS Conservation Planting and Planning at Cedar ISU Extension & Outreach Office, Tipton, IA, 10am-2pm

January 18: ISU Extension: Crop Advantage Series at Rhythm City Casino Resort, Davenport, IA, 8:30am-4pm (Virgil Schmitt 563-263-5701) $

January 29: WLL Tour with Joan Maxwell at Cinnamon Ridge Farms, Donahue, IA, 6-8pm (RSVP)

February 1: WLL Share & Grow at Gramma’s Kitchen, Walcott, IA, 1-4pm (Topic: Taxes)

February 19: First of 4 sessions of Women Marketing Grain at Washington ISU Extension & Outreach Office, Washington, IA, 6pm-9pm $

February 21: ISU Extension: Gardening with Children at Clinton ISU Extension & Outreach Office, DeWitt, IA, 6:30-8:30pm

March 1: NRCS Cover Crop Conference, Durant Community Center, Durant, IA, 9am-3pm Table reserved for WLL

March 14: Women in Agriculture Conference, Jumer’s Hotel and Casino, Rock Island, IL $

stay in touch >>>

If you have a pressing need and it has not been answered, please reach out to myself or one of the other ladies on your Local Team. We are here to help!

For more information or to RSVP for an event contact Holly Howard, 563-263-7944 ext. 3 or holly.howard@ia.nacdnnet.net. Let us know if you need reasonable accommodations.

Find us on Facebook: Cedar/ Muscatine/ Scott Women, Land and Legacy: https://www.facebook.com/groups/cmswll/

USDA

Answer Line: AnswerLine provides information and resources for Iowa consumers with home and family questions. Professional consumer and family scientists and questions about: child development, cleaning, consumer management, food preparation, food preservation, food safety, home environment, household equipment, nutrition, textiles, laundry and more. Call toll-free Monday through Friday, 8am-noon and 1-4pm, 1-800-262-3804.

Worthwhile Dirt
Pollination is a process that has evolved to benefit both flowering plants and pollinators. Pollinators visit flowers for many reasons, including feeding and pollen collection. When pollinators visit flowers, pollen rubs or drops onto their bodies. The pollen is then transferred to another flower or a different part of the same flower as the pollinator moves from one location to the next.

This process is vital in the life cycle of all flowering plants and is necessary to start seed and fruit production in flowers and trees. Not only do pollinators provide essential services in nature, they are also necessary for healthy, productive agricultural systems. They ensure the production of full-bodied fruit and fertile seed sets in many crops. Some plant species rely on wind or water to transfer pollen from one flower to the next, such as corn; however, the vast majority, almost 90%, of all plant species need the help of animals for this task.

There many different species of animals around the world that act as pollinators. About 1,000 animals are vertebrates, such as birds, bats, and small mammals, and the rest are invertebrates, including flies, beetles, butterflies, moths, and bees. Native pollinators are adapted to local climate conditions, soils, and plant. We all need to gain a better understanding of native pollinators and that many species we see today face a serious risk of decline.

Animals pollinate approximately 75 percent of the crop plants grown for food, fiber, beverages, condiments, spices, and medicines. It has been stated that of food we eat and beverages we drink is delivered to us by pollinators. Agricultural products that are produced with the help of pollinators make a significant contribution to the economy.

Insect-pollinated crops directly contributed to the economy. Not only do native pollinators provide us with a significant amount of the food we eat and contribute to the economy, they also perform key roles in natural environment. By helping to keep plant communities healthy and able to reproduce naturally, native pollinators assist plants in providing food and cover for wildlife, preventing erosion, and keeping waterways clean.

Pollinated plants produce fruit, nuts and seeds which are a major part of the diet of bird species, as well as many mammals. The apple industry relies on insect pollinators. Plants also provide egg laying and nesting sites for many insects, including butterflies. Pollinators support biodiversity, and there is a positive correlation
between plant and pollinator diversity.

Human activities have destroyed and fragmented many native pollinator habitats. Many remaining habitat areas are isolated and degraded by invasive plant species, making them less suitable for native pollinators and other wildlife. These changes in habitat can lead to a reduction of native pollinator food sources and sites for mating, nesting, roosting, and migration.

Excessive use and improper application of many pesticides impact pollinators and their habitats. Some insecticides directly kill pollinators, particularly pollinating insects, and herbicides reduce forage plant diversity by killing wildflowers. Non-native pollinators, such as honeybees, can out-compete native pollinators for local nectar resources, placing them at greater risk of decline.

Bees provide an important pollination service for most terrestrial ecosystems. In the United States, honeybees and thousands of species of native bees are responsible for pollinating crops, as well as garden, meadow, fruit and nut trees, and forest plants. There are about many species of bees native to the United States, the great majority of which are solitary nesting bees. Bumblebees are the exception, as they live in social colonies. Most bees visit flowers to get pollen and/or nectar, which they use to feed themselves and their offspring.

Honeybees are relied upon heavily for crop pollination and honey production. However, honeybees are not native to North America. Many species of native bees do exist in North America, and horticulturists, conservationists, and home gardeners are becoming more aware that they are important for pollination. Not only do native bees pollinate agricultural crops. Among the most common native pollinators are solitary bees, aptly named because most do not assemble in hives or colonies, and those that do aggregate live solitary lives among the others.

Solitary bees pollinate valuable commercial crops such as apples, alfalfa, watermelon, sunflowers, strawberries, and blueberries. Solitary bees nest in a variety of interesting places including sticks, dirt mounds, and other holes. Other locations include mud, plant resins, saps, or gums on the surface of rocks or trees. Most species of solitary bees, however, nest in the ground, digging a tunnel in bare or partially vegetated, well-drained soil.

Bumblebees are social bees, meaning they live in colonies, share work, and have multiple, overlapping generations throughout the spring, summer, and fall. Bumblebees need a suitably sized cavity in which to nest. Sometimes this cavity is above ground, such as in hollow trees or walls, or under a clump of grass, but more often bumblebees nest underground.

There are more than 700 species of native butterflies that exist in North America. Butterflies, like all pollinators, are

(Con’d next page, POLLINATORS)
The vast majority of moths are nocturnal, and some are very important pollinators of night-blooming flowers, particularly in desert regions of the southwestern United States and Mexico.

(Con’d next page, POLLINATORS)
lichens. Nests are constructed about 5 feet above the ground, usually on branches of oak, birch, maple, beech, hornbeam, hemlock, poplar, hackberry, pine, or spruce trees. Hummingbirds feed on nectar from wildflower blossoms and flowers of many species of shrubs and vines.

The migration of pollinators, including monarch butterflies and hummingbird species, is a significant phenomenon. Certain species migrate over paths that stretch thousands of miles while pursuing blooming plants — north to south in fall, south to north in spring. To ensure the survival of migratory pollinators, three types of habitat needs must be considered. These are summer breeding and foraging areas, secure overwintering sites, and between the two, nectar corridors and rest stops. Nectar corridors are patches of nectar-rich plant habitat, which act as stepping-stones for the pollinators on their long migratory journeys. Due to development and land use changes, many nectar corridors are no longer intact. Migrating pollinators must attempt to survive their journey through scattered habitats that contain little food.

To attract native pollinators, an area must have adequate sources of food, shelter, water, and nesting sites. Habitat management activities can be undertaken to ensure that habitat needs are met. Landowners can purchase, build, or plant additional nest sites or shelter for bats, bees, and butterflies.

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Friendly Practices, which consider six different areas of land use management: foraging habitat, reproduction, shelter, invasive/exotic species control, chemical use, and monitoring. Habitat management practices vary depending on the type of native pollinator targeted. However, there are a number of habitat management practices that will benefit most, if not all, groups of native pollinators.

These include planting appropriate vegetation, providing water, and using pesticides carefully. The easiest way to attract native pollinators is to plant gardens or meadows that contain a diversity of native wildflowers, trees, and shrubs. A variety of wildflowers and native grasses will provide native pollinators with food which include nectar, pollen, and/or larval host plants. Trees and dense shrubbery provide important shelter, nesting, and overwintering areas for pollinators.

Due to differing preferences among pollinator species, planted areas should contain varying levels of vegetation and areas of sun, partial shade, and full shade. Plantings should be done in locations that are sheltered from the wind. Plants native to the region should be selected. Native plants are adapted to the local climate, soils, and the native pollinators with which they co-evolved.

Native plants should comprise at least 75 percent of a habitat area. Mowed lawn area should be minimized in favor of patches of native wildflowers, shrubs, and grasses. Lawn areas that do exist should be mowed less frequently to allow the vegetation to provide habitat for pollinators. Perennials should be chosen over annuals. Perennials are generally richer in nectar and, because they bloom year after year, provide a more dependable food source than annuals.

Each species of flower should be grown in a clump, as this will attract more pollinators than individual plants. Both nectar and pollen flowers should be available throughout the growing season. A variety of flower shapes and colors will provide nectar and pollen for a variety of pollinators. Birds and butterflies favor bell, tube, or trumpet shaped flowers or those with clusters of tubular florets, especially when rimmed with a flat surface for perching. They prefer brightly colored flowers, including reds, oranges, and yellows.

Providing a source of pesticide-free water and mud will attract bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds. A birdbath, fountain, dripping faucet, small pond, or mud puddle will attract bees, butterflies, and other beneficial insects. Although not required for drinking, providing a source of running water for bathing can make a wildflower garden more attractive to hummingbirds.

Poisoning of pollinators may result from contaminated food (pollen and nectar), or directly from florets, leaves, soil, or other materials that may have come into contact with pesticides. Insecticide use should be reduced and herbicide use should be kept to a minimum to support the full range of

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native pollinators. Landowners should choose non-chemical or organic solutions to combat insect problems. If an insecticide is absolutely necessary, use the least toxic material possible, use it according to package directions, and treat plants at the time of day or period in the season when their flowers are not in bloom.

Heritage Park recently decided to convert some of the Park into a pollinator habitat. Recent memorials, from Don Wilson, Conrad Gregg and Betty Petersen families, have specified that a pollinator area be established in the names of their loved ones. Therefore, West Liberty Heritage Foundation is working with Trees Forever, and other local pollinator groups to set aside 120,000 square feet to plant pollinator habitat. This will take a few years to establish, but in the near future, a beautiful pollinator garden will begin to blossom and the emergence of multiple pollinators can be seen.

Potential Pollinator Garden Beauty
Muscatine County Extension Office
1514 Isett Avenue
Muscatine, IA 52761-4629
563-263-5701 or 800-992-0894
Krista Regennitter
Muscatine County Extension Director
Master Gardener Liaison
. . and justice for all
Iowa State University Extension programs are available to all
without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age,
or disability.
Iowa State University and U.S. Department of Agriculture coop-
erating.

Current Emails and Addresses
As a reminder – keep both the Extension Office
and Lynn Pruitt current on any changes of e-mail
addresses, phone numbers, or mailing ad-
dresses. These need to be current to keep you
— our members — informed.

Winter Beauty

2019 Muscatine County
Master Gardener Board
Board Members
Mary Danner (2019)
Kathy Halmeyer (2020)
Rachel Horner Brackett (2020)*
Heather Haroun (2020)
Jane Hodge (2019)
Ron Jensen (2019)*
Ed Moreno (2020)
Maryrose Peterschmidt (2020)

Gretchen Nollman (Intern)

( )Year term expires as of Dec. 31
* Going off Board Dec 31, 2019/2020
but eligible for re-election

Editorial Comments:
Please remember, this is YOUR newsletter.
Your articles, photographs and other tidbits are
welcome. Send them by the end of each
month to pruitt.lynn@gmail.com or call
563.260.0234

— Lynn Pruitt, Editor —