Our itinerary in the Rockford, Illinois area includes stops at four public gardens and five private home gardens, as well as three well-known plant shops. A short summary of our itinerary follows.

We will leave Friday, July 20 from the Polk County Extension Office, 1625 Adventureland Drive in Altoona. We will begin loading the bus at 6:00 a.m. Departure time is 6:30 a.m. We plan to return to the Extension office by 6:30 p.m. Sunday. Final trip instructions will be emailed two weeks prior to departure.

• **Klehm Arboretum & Botanic Garden** is described as Rockford’s living museum. The 155-acre site begins with landscape architect William Lincoln Taylor, who established the land as Rockford Nursery in 1910. Many of the rare trees on the site are a result of experimental plantings by Mr. Taylor.

  The Klehm family bought the nursery in 1968 and maintained the land until 1985. Realizing its value, the Klehm family generously donated the land to the Winnebago County Forest Preserve District with the stipulation it be maintained as an arboretum.

  Consulting arborists completed a professional inventory of the site in 1991. They concluded that Klehm Arboretum has an assortment of plant life unlike any other natural area in the United States. The combination of native plants and those from around the world provides a unique botanical resource for study. The site includes many unique species from throughout the United States that normally do not thrive in this region, plus the Midwest’s most vigorous evergreen collection.

• **Anderson Japanese Garden**: Construction of the gardens began in 1978, when Rockford businessman John Anderson was inspired by a visit to the Portland Japanese Garden in Oregon. With the ongoing assistance of renowned Master Craftsman and designer Hoichi Kurisu, the Andersons’ swampy backyard along Rockford’s Spring Creek was transformed into a Japanese-style landscape. From groundbreaking to today, the placement of every rock, alignment of every tree, and layout of all paths has been made with careful consideration by Mr. Kurisu. In 1998, John and Linda Anderson donated the Gardens as a supported organization to the Rockford Rotary Charitable Association. It now exists as a not-for-profit entity and continues to grow and change to this day.

• **Rotary Botanical Gardens** is an award winning 20-acre, non-profit botanic showcase with over 24 different garden styles and 4,000 varieties of plants.

• **Private gardens**: The 5 private garden tours include an ultimate shade garden, a gardener who has more than 200 Japanese maple trees, and at one stop, we will be treated to a tea tasting by our garden host.

• **Garden and Plant Shopping**: We will stop at three premier garden shops (Flower Factory, Gensler’s Gardens, K&W Greenery) in addition to the gift shops at the public gardens.

• **Hotel**: Two nights at the Hampton Inn located at 2700 Cranston Road in Beloit, Wisconsin. Visit their website (www.beloit.hamptoninn.com) to see the amenities offered by the hotel.

Your hosts are members of the Polk County Master Gardener tour committee: Laurie and Neil Barrick, Charlene Butz, Jennifer Darling, Susan Ging, Melissa Holst, and Carolyn Magnani

*For more information about Polk County Master Gardeners, visit the ISU Extension website.*
JULY 2018 MASTER GARDENER BUS TOUR REGISTRATION FORM

Registration price includes: bus travel, hotel for 2 nights, admission to all tour stops, snacks, and meals except dinner on Saturday evening.

Name ________________________________________________ Phone #______________________
Address __________________________________________________________________________
Email ____________________________________________________________________________
Cell phone where you can be reached on the trip: ________________________________
Emergency contact & phone: ________________________________________________________

**Step 1: Select your room choice to determine your total trip expense.**
Each room has 2 queen beds. **Room rates do not include rollaway beds.**

4 people per room ______  Trip Cost = $299 per person
3 people per room ______  Trip Cost = $325 per person
2 people per room ______  Trip Cost = $375 per person
1 person per room ______  Trip Cost = $550 per person

List your roommate(s) below:
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

Planning on attending the tour by yourself but don’t want to pay the price of a single room? Let us know how many roommates you would like, and we will do our best to meet your request.

Please assign me to a room based on my preferred number of people per room ________

**Step 2: Select one sandwich choice for lunch on Sunday.**

_____ Roast beef  _____ Ham
_____ Turkey _______ Vegetarian

**Step 3: Mail this registration form to the address below with a check made out to Polk County Master Gardeners in the amount that corresponds to the number of people in your room per step 1.**

Charlene Butz • 7114 Washington Avenue • Windsor Heights, IA 50324

Questions? Call Charlene at 515-202-5178 (mobile) or email her at: cnb819@aol.com

**Please Note:** The tour capacity is 47 people. Reservations will be taken in the order payment is received. We must have your check to hold your spot on the bus; the check will not be cashed until the Thursday before the trip.

No refunds will be issued unless your spot is filled from the waiting list.