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News Release

Contact: Teresa Wiemerslage, Communications Coordinator, wiemer@iastate.edu. 563-794-0599
Bob Hauer, Consumer Hort Specialist, bhauer@iastate.edu.

Annual Horticulture Chautauqua Scheduled for March 5

CALMAR -- March is the month that most gardeners come out of hibernation. Pruning, raking, tilling and clean-up will start in earnest. Iowa State University Extension can help you ease into the bustle and have some fun by coming to the 8th Annual Horticulture Chautauqua in Calmar.

One hundred years ago, chautauquas were popular for people to attend lectures on politics, religion or culture. Today, everything is on the internet, but it is still hard to beat a real person who can answer your questions!

The Northeast Iowa Horticulture Chautauqua will be held on Saturday, March 5 from 9 am to 3 pm at the Northeast Iowa Dairy Foundation Center in Calmar. Eleven presentations will be offered covering a wide variety of topics. Participants will choose four sessions to attend that day.

The topics are diverse. Learn about plant care by attending a session on ornamental grasses, plant propagation, pruning and new tree, shrub and perennial varieties. Learn about garden projects featuring natural materials and garlic baskets. Enjoy your bounty by learning about seed saving, organics and drying foods.

Advanced registration is $25 and includes lunch. The fee is $30 at the door. The program is coordinated by the Iowa State University Extension Consumer Horticulture Program in northeast Iowa.

More information about the Chautauqua is available from your local ISU Extension office or online at www.extension.iastate.edu/chickasaw.

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News Release
Contact: Jesse Randall, ISU Extension Forestry, 515-294-1168, randallj@iastate.edu

Annual Forest Stewardship Conference Is March 12

S.W. WISCONSIN — The 2011 Tri-State Forest Stewardship Conference is Saturday, March 12 at Sinsinawa Mound Center, Sinsinawa, Wis. This is the seventeenth year for the conference, which annually draws 550 woodland landowners from Wisconsin, Illinois and Iowa.

According to Jesse Randall, Iowa State University Extension forester, “It has become one of the largest private woodland owner conferences in the nation. The conference regularly fills to capacity, so those interested in participating are encouraged to register early to secure their place and receive the ‘Early Bird’ registration discount.”

More than 25 presentations will cover a wide range of topics focusing on private woodland owners, including growing and maintaining backyard fruit trees, timber marketing in today’s economy, the how to’s of woodland burning, surveying the land for wildlife, introductory beekeeping, emerald ash borer and gypsy moth updates in the tri-state region, design and layout of forest roads and trails to stop erosion, raising/collection forest edibles, and crop tree release techniques to maximize tree growth. A full list of topics with each presenter’s biographical sketch can be found online at www.forestry.iastate.edu. Participants also will have the opportunity to interact with state and federal forest managers, as well as to see the most recent advances in forestry technology at the vendors fair.

“This year, there will be a two-hour chainsaw safety discussion taught by STIHL Safety Instructors and a two-hour estate planning workshop,” Randall said. “Enrollment for both the chainsaw safety and the estate planning workshop will be limited to the first 50 individuals.”

Additional conference information is available online at http://www.forestry.iastate.edu, including the conference brochure and registration materials.

Randall encouraged woodland owners to take advantage of the Early Bird Registration Discount. The adult registration fee is $40 per person on or before Feb. 19 and $50 per person after that date. The fee includes a continental breakfast, buffet luncheon, refreshments, resource packet and handouts.

The deadline to mail registrations is March 2. Advance registration is required; no walk-in registrations on the day of the conference will be allowed. Participation is limited to 550; so early registration is encouraged and will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration materials can be found at http://www.forestry.iastate.edu.

The conference is presented in partnership with the Cooperative Extension Services at Iowa State University and University of Illinois; the Department of Natural Resources from each of the three states; the Department of Natural Resource Ecology and Management at Iowa State University; and the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
The Sinsinawa Mound Center is located in Wisconsin, a few miles east of Dubuque, Iowa. For more information, contact Jesse Randall at 515-294-1168 or send email to randallj@iastate.edu.

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News Release

Contact: Teresa Wiemerslage, ISU Extension Region 4 Communications Coordinator, 563-794-0599

Dan Lane Accepts New Position with ISU Extension

ELKADER -- Dan Lane has accepted a new position with Iowa State University Extension as the Regional Youth Program Specialist for nine counties in northeast Iowa. He started his new duties on January 3.

Lane will serve the counties in Region 4 (Allamakee, Chickasaw, Clayton, Fayette, Howard and Winneshiek) and Region 11 (Delaware, Dubuque and Jackson).

Lane previously served as a regional ag and youth program coordinator and Clayton County Extension Education Director. Prior to his employment with ISU Extension, Lane was the department chair for Agriculture and Natural Resources at Hawkeye Community College and worked as a high school agriculture instructor.

Lane will be responsible for creating positive youth development programs and opportunities as well as providing support to the county youth coordinators and volunteers for the local 4-H programs.

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This information has been sent to you by Teresa Wiemerslage, Regional Communications Coordinator for Region 4 ISU Extension, wiemer@iastate.edu, 563-794-0599.

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