September 10, 2012

IN THIS EDITION
News Releases specific to NE Iowa:
- Yellow River Forest Field Day Set for October 18
- Boehm’s to Host Iowa’s Tree Farmer of the Year Field Day
- Thompson to Address Family Life, Finance Issues
- Pasture Walk to focus on Beginning Farmers Partnership Model

Previous Editions:
Download here: http://www.extension.iastate.edu/winneshiek/news/news-ne-iowa-isu-extension

News Release
Contact: Jesse Randall, ISU Forestry Extension, 515-294-1168

Yellow River Forest Field Day Set for October 18
HARPERS FERRY -- Iowa's 2.1 million acres of forests are among the most productive and valuable hardwoods in the United States. Iowa soils, especially those in Northeast Iowa are capable of producing some of the best oak, walnut and ash in the world; yet much of Iowa's forest is not managed for optimum production of fine hardwoods.

Control of unwanted woody vegetation will be the focus at the annual Forestry Field Day at Yellow River State Forest on October 18. The field day is hosted by Iowa DNR foresters and Iowa State University Forestry Extension and Outreach.

In the morning, participants will learn about chemical control of unwanted woody vegetation and the use of fire in woodland management.

In concurrent sessions after lunch, participants will learn about the tools used in prescribed burning, the components of a burn plan, and observe a burning demonstration, weather permitting.

The program will run from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm at the Yellow River State Forest Headquarters complex, 729 State Forest Road (County Hwy B25). Five miles SE of Rossville on Hwy 76 to B25; 4 miles NE on B25 to the Headquarters. Look for forestry field day signs at the entrance to the headquarters.

A $10 fee will be collected the day of the event. You must RSVP to Jesse Randall at 515-294-1168 or email randallj@iastate.edu by October 11 to guarantee a meal. Participants should dress for outdoor conditions.

-30-

News Release
Contact: Jesse Randall, ISU Forestry Extension, 515-294-1168

Boehm’s to Host Iowa’s Tree Farmer of the Year Field Day
WADENA—Each year many landowners receive substantial earnings by properly marketing mature trees from their woodland. However, many other woodland owners receive only a fraction of the real value for their timber because they do not follow recommended marketing guidelines.

Woodland owners are invited to see a tree farm that has done an exceptional job at utilizing many technical resources to market their timber at a field day on September 28. Hosts Eric and Cindy Boehm will be recognized as Iowa Tree Farmers of the Year for their woodland management during the noon lunch.
Participants will gain knowledge on restoring stream habitat, native prairie reconstruction along with lessons learned regarding direct seeding. They can view sensitive sites for rare plants called algific slopes. Participants will also learn how to regenerate a timbers stand as well as marketing tips for log quality.

The field day will run from 9 am to 4 pm with registration starting at 8:30 am. The Boehm tree farm is located at 12663 D Ave., Wadena, IA. From Wadena take County Rd W-51 (D Ave.) south 2 miles to the farm. Look for the ISU Forestry Extension Banners.

Lunch will be provided by the Edgewood Locker for $11. The program will conclude at 4:00 pm. Participants are encouraged to dress for outdoor conditions. Contact Jesse Randall, ISU Forestry Extension at 515-294-1168 for more information.

-30-

Thompson to Address Family Life, Finance Issues

Cindy Thompson recently joined the ranks of Iowa State University Extension and Outreach as a family life/family finance program specialist in northeast Iowa.

Thompson will work from the Chickasaw County Extension and Outreach office in New Hampton and serve Allamakee, Chickasaw, Clayton, Fayette, Howard and Winneshiek counties.

According to Jeanne Warning, assistant director, ISU Extension to Families, families extension staff typically specialize in one of three subjects: nutrition and health, family life or finance.

“We are experimenting with a new approach to this extension position, which combines two of the three subject matters, because of the local needs identified,” said Warning. “We know that the issues and concerns families face are not easily segmented by subject area, so this is a unique position that reflects the interdisciplinary nature of family issues.”

More and more county programs are looking for a multi-disciplinary approach, and Thompson will provide them with that through the combined position. There is one other position of its kind, also in eastern Iowa. Susan Taylor has been serving Delaware, Dubuque and Jackson counties in a similar position since last fall.

Thompson received her bachelor’s degree in psychology and a minor in administrating child care programs and family life and resource management from Northwest Missouri State University. In 2011, she received her master’s degree in human development and family studies from Iowa State University. She has experience with curriculum development, program planning and implementation, teaching and grant administration, all experience that will be helpful in her new position.

“I am looking forward to being on the front end of things related to children and families in the state,” said Thompson. “Through this position, I will train and work with the university to provide the communities I work for with the family life and finance expertise they need. I really enjoy networking with both the university and community. To learn more about Iowa State University Extension and Outreach family life programs and finance programs, visit http://www.extension.iastate.edu/topic/parenting-and-families.

-30-

Pasture Walk to focus on Beginning Farmers Partnership Model

Waukon-A pasture walk will be held at the Merlin Gesing and Joel Winnes dairy farm on Tuesday, September 18, starting at 10:30 am. The focus will be on exploring this dairy farm’s beginning farmer partnership model. In addition, a discussion will be held on the feeding of corn silage.

The Gesing farm is located at 835 McCabe Drive, Waukon, IA. Directions from the Jct. of Hwy 9 & Hwy 76 south of Waukon, go east 1.2 miles on Hwy 76 to County Rd X16 (Forest Mills Rd.), then south 0.8 miles to McCabe Rd., then west 0.1 mile to the farm.

Pasture walks are informal educational programs designed to demonstrate one or two key areas of pasture management, as well as answer any questions you might have. Each has a slightly different focus and producers are invited to attend any that are of interest to improving their own pasture management.
All producers who are dependent on forage production are invited to attend. If you have questions, or need detailed directions to the farm location, contact Jenn Bentley at 563-382-2949. This event is co-sponsored by the Northeast Iowa Graziers and the Great River Graziers.

-30-