

MASTER GARDENER UPDATE. . . Friday, May 16, 2008

Announcements and news for ISU Extension Master Gardeners, staff, and faculty

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MASTER GARDENER SUMMER SESSION EARLY BIRD DEADLINE TODAY

Time and space are quickly running out for you to join us July 11 and 12, 2008 on the campus of Iowa State University for the first Master Gardener Summer Session. Registrations must be postmarked today to receive the early bird discount!

This intensive 2-day event will feature a hands-on approach with plant examples to study and identify. Investigate plant diseases, take a tree scavenger hunt on campus and learn how to maximize your volunteer service as a Master Gardener. The program will close with intriguing insights from keynote speaker John Ball with his program entitled, Diagnostics for Master Gardeners, It's not All CSI. The program will be held rain or shine. Don't wait! Many registrations have already been received. Send yours in today!

Discount coupon for lodging at AmericInn or County Inn and Suites

<http://www.college-coupons.com/-Coupons/ames/country.html>

Visit the Iowa Master Gardener website for registration information

<http://mastergardener.hort.iastate.edu/>

ISU SCOTT COUNTY EXTENSION MASTER GARDENER PLANT SALE

The ISU Scott County Extension Master Gardeners will hold a Welcome Home to Our Garden 2008 plant sale and education fair with several demonstration booths providing youth and adult education.

The proceeds will help support the ISU Scott County Extension Master Gardeners educational programs, as well as purchasing plants and hardscape items for the extensive educational gardens planned for the

grounds at the ISU Scott County Extension office.

The plant sale will feature perennial divisions from local gardens, native plants, houseplants, as well as perennials purchased from greenhouses in Iowa. There will also be the opportunity to purchase gently used pots.

Saturday, May 31, 2008

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

ISU Scott County Extension Office, 875 Tanglefoot Lane,
Bettendorf, IA 52722

For more information, please contact the Scott County Extension Office at
(563) 359-7577

FIRST ANNUAL MASTER GARDENER WALK

The first annual Master Gardener Garden Walk will be held on Saturday, June 14, 2008. Visit 5 diverse gardens with beds highlighting creative landscaping, ornamental grasses, conifers, vegetables, perennials, containers, and ponds. Also, Master Gardeners will be available at all sites to answer questions.

Saturday, June 14, 2008

10:00 a.m. 3:00 p.m.

\$5.00 per Adult - \$10.00 per Family

For maps and more information visit www.extension.iastate.edu/linn and click on Garden Walk, or call (319) 447-0647.

Sponsored by Iowa State University Extension Linn County Master Gardeners

INVASIVE SPECIES FIELD DAY

The newly formed Hawkeye Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) is hosting an Invasive Species Field Day on June 26th. This free event is targeted toward individuals and homeowners who would like to learn how to identify and manage non-native invasive plants and animals that threaten habitats in Iowa. There are a variety of non-native plants and animals that have been introduced into the United States and Iowa that are significant threats to the quality of many different

ecosystems (i.e. prairies, forests, wetlands, rivers, and lakes).

Non-native invasives are a major concern in the U.S. and Iowa because:

They often have survival strategies that enable them to out-compete and replace native species.

They can alter entire ecosystems by changing soil chemistry and hydrological processes.

They can cause a significant economic toll. On a national level, non-native species are costing residents of the U.S. billions in tax dollars on an annual basis for control, lost recreation, health hazards, and decreased land values.

Come learn more from local experts on topics such as Garlic Mustard management, woodland invasive plants, selecting native plants for your yard, aquatic invasive species, and prairie invasive species management. The event is being held at F.W. Kent Park in Johnson County on June 26th. There is no charge for this program, however, space is limited and lunch is provided so please make reservations by 4PM on Wednesday, June 18th, 2008 by calling the Johnson County Conservation Education Center at 319-645-1011.

SUBMITTING YOUR NEWS

Master Gardener Update is flexibly published Friday by the Iowa Master Gardener Coordinator. Please send your news via email to James Romer (jromer@iastate.edu). Press releases received by Wednesday will be included in the next Update.

When submitting information for the MG Update, be sure to include who, what, when, where, why, cost (if applicable), a brief paragraph discussing the event and a contact for more information. Please review all information before submitting. For questions, call (515) 294-2336.

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