

Breakout Sessions

10:15 Sessions

1. *Iris in the Landscape* by Jim Hedgecock, Comanche Acres Iris and Water Gardens, Gower, Missouri

-- Jim has been a popular presenter for us the past few years. This year, he'll tell us how to brighten our landscapes with spring irises.

2. *Square Foot Gardening* by Mike Haigwood, USDA Earth Team Volunteer (repeated in #15)

--Mike will discuss the square foot gardening concept made popular by gardener/author Mel Bartholomew. You can grow more in less space! Learn how to build the box or set up the garden; how to plant; maximize harvest capacity with a second cropping, and adapting for disabled individuals.

3. *Organic Gardening* by Adam Boswell, young entrepreneur, Corning

--You want organic food, but where can you find affordable organic produce? Adams says look in your own garden. He'll touch on marketing through Community Supported Agriculture (CSA).

4. *All About Trees* by Chris Nelson, Adams County Extension Service, Stanton

--How do I select the best tree for my location? How do I prune and not butcher? How do I keep my investment healthy? Chris will answer these questions, as well as, share experiences.

5. *Make and Take Squirrel Feeder* by The Adams County Conservation Board (limit of 15)

--Those spunky squirrels can be quite entertaining. Build a simple feeder and invite them to dinner. Material provided by the Adams County Conservation Board.

6. *Conservation on the Farm Auto Tour* by Rick Sprague, USDA Earth Team Volunteer, Bedford

--We've learned from our neighbors, farmers, how to protect our environment with conservation practices. Rick will take you on a country road tour to see some of these conservation practices our farmers are using.

11:10 Sessions

7. *Containers for Everyone* by Donna West, Adams County Backyard Conservation Team Volunteer, Corning

--The Backyard Conservation campaign says everyone can improve the environment whether your gardens are measured in acres, feet, or containers. Donna's garden is measured in containers—lots of containers. Learn how you can create beautiful containers for your environment.

8. *Integrated Pest Management: A Wholistic View on Plant Health* by Mike Haigwood, USDA Earth Team Volunteer

--Wouldn't you rather be on the offensive than defensive in caring for your plants? Mike will tell us how to monitor our plants for signs of poor health then give ideas on how to treat problems without overusing dangerous chemicals.

9. *No-Till Gardening* by Sheila O'Riley, *The Ugly Gardener*, Adams County Backyard Conservation Team Coordinator, Lenox

--Who wants gardens with less weeds, less watering, and that actively build their own soil structure? Raise your hand—or better yet, come learn how to build your own no-till garden by layering mulches right on your lawn.

10. *All About Hostas* by Lisa Hobbs, USDA Earth Team Volunteer, Milo

--Lisa has a greenhouse business. She says hostas are her favorite plants because they are so versatile and there are so many great varieties. Hostas aren't just for the shade anymore.

11. *Rain Gardens* by John Klein, USDA Earth Team Volunteer, Treynor

-- Rain gardens allow rain and snowmelt to seep naturally into the ground. This improves local water quality while creating a beautiful natural area that will attract [birds](#) and [butterflies](#). John will tell how to design a rain garden and how to select the proper plants.

12. *Johnny Carson Birthplace Tour* by The Johnny Carson Birthplace Society, Corning

--*Heeere's Johnny!!!*. Take a bus to Corning's newest attraction. See the house Johnny Carson was born in and lived in until he was two. The home is being decorated in period 1920's furnishings.

13. *Make and Take Gourd Birdhouse* by Rex and Janice Eberly, Adams County Backyard Conservation Team Volunteers (repeated in #19)
--Use your creativity to make a gourd that's *for the birds*. Rex and Janice will walk you through the process.

2:00 Sessions

14. *BLTs* by Sindra Jensen, USDA Earth Team Volunteer, Fontanelle
--Sindra will discuss tomatoes; **B**ugs, **L**eaves, and **T**reatments (the BLTs). Just in case you were thinking BLT sandwiches, she'll touch on growing the lettuce you'll need for your BLTs.

15. *Square Foot Gardening* by Mike Haigwood, USDA Earth Team Volunteer (repeat of session #2)

16. *Native Plants* by Fred and Sandie Nelson, Volunteers at the Neil Smith National Wildlife Refuge, Des Moines
--These natives are friendly; for the environment and for the eyes. Fred and Sandy have established many native plant gardens and will share their experiences.

17. *Grapes, a Growing Industry in Iowa* by Mike White, ISU Extension Service, Indianola
--Mike is considered the grape industry expert in Iowa. Learn from the man who knows his grapes about their culture and marketing.

18. *Build a Backyard Butterfly Habitat* by Kathleen Ziemer, *The Butterfly Lady*, Des Moines.
--What do butterflies need to be attracted to your garden? How do you keep them? Kathleen has the answers. Includes butterfly habitat design, tips and some *secrets* to a successful butterfly habitat.

19. *Make and Take Gourd Birdhouse* by Rex and Janice Eberly, Corning (repeat of session #13)



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