

Schedule Of Activities

8:00 a.m.....Registration
walk-in registration for any remaining class spaces

***Coffee and fresh rolls available for purchase!
Garden Marketplace Opens***

9:00-10:15.....Session I

10:15-10:45.....Break

Time to visit the Garden Marketplace!

10:45-12:00.....Keynote Speaker

***12:00-1:00.....Lunch Break—Lunch and snacks will be available for
purchase throughout the day (Church Fundraiser)***

1:00-2:00.....Session II

2:00-2:30.....Break

***Stop at the Master Gardener table to order your spring plants—And
get your gardening questions answered!***

2:30-3:30.....Session III

***Please remember to fill out your class evaluations of the classes you
attended and drop them off at the Master Gardener Table.***

If the weather is questionable, call 651-277-0151 A cancellation message will be posted by 7am



Directions:

(14885 315th Street N. Center City, MN 55012)

From Minneapolis/St. Paul: Take I35 north to exit #132 for Highway 8/Taylor Falls. Continue east about 15 miles to Center City. Turn north (left) onto Andrews Ave. (by Central Bank). Church is on the right at the top of the hill.

Parking available in upper and lower church lots.

From Taylor Falls: Take Hwy 8 West to Center City. Turn north (right) onto Andrews Ave. (by Central Bank). Church is on the right at the top of the hill.

Parking available in upper and lower church lots.

If you require further directions or would like a map printed out for you, please call 651/277-0151 and leave a message.

Pruning Apple Tree Class

**This class will be the first in a series of
educational opportunities in 2012!**

Tuesday, January 17, 6:00 pm
Senior Center in North Branch
(at 6th & Maple Street)



Come join us as Jim Birkholz
kicks off the spring season with his popular session
on pruning apple trees.

Jim owns and operates the
Pleasant Valley Orchard south of Shafer.

He will show us how to prune young fruit trees,
how to renovate older trees, and how to use pruning
to get the most production from established trees.
Most of these pruning techniques can be applied to
other deciduous tree species.

Call the Extension office 651-277-0151 to
pre-register for this class, cost is \$5.00 (see
enclosed brochure). You may show up and pay the
night of the class, however, pre-registration is
encouraged so enough hand outs are available.



***For more information call the Chisago County
Extension Office: 651/277-0151
38814 Third Ave., North Branch, MN 55056***

Planting for Water Quality: *Casey Thiel, Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District Water Resource Specialist* Take a tour of the urban water quality improvement projects that have been done throughout Chisago County. We will touch on many different types of projects (lakeshore restoration, rain gardens, vegetated swale, gully stabilization) and how they function in our landscape. This class will be informative whether you live on a lake or not or your landscape is urban or rural. We will also provide you with a map of locations for you to take a look at throughout the summer—when many of these projects will be in full bloom.

Name that Invasive: *Mary Jo Youngbauer, Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District Water Resource Technician.* Invasive species cost billions of dollars in damage and control every year in the United States. Minnesota is facing invasive species threats on multiple fronts, including in our woods, on our open land, and in our waters. Join Water Resource Technician Mary Jo Youngbauer to learn about the top 20 invasive species of concern in Minnesota, how to identify them, and how to treat them.

Favorite Tips and Famous Flops: Panel of *Chisago County Master Gardeners.* This session will be interactive, so bring with you all your gardening questions, and a panel of Chisago County Master Gardeners will answer them. They will also share with you their own gardening successes, secrets, and those trials that maybe didn't work out so well. We all have helpful hints to share ~ come and find out some tricks that may save you some much valued time for your upcoming gardening season.



Check out our web site at:

www.extension.umn.edu/county/chisago/mg

Information can also be found at www.chisagoswcd.org

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Gardener's Marketplace

Information and Products for sale from local vendors and garden centers for the Home and Garden ~Get ready for 2012!

- ⊗ Honey, candles, beekeeping supplies and tips
- ⊗ Bare root trees ~ Chisago SWCD
- ⊗ Bird feeders & Lawn ornaments
- ⊗ Wool Mulch ~ Grazeland Farm, Lindstrom, MN
- ⊗ Native plants and seeds ~ Sunrise Native Plants
- ⊗ Gardening supplies ~ Petersons Farm Home and Garden Store
- ⊗ Specialty Plants ~ Sunrise River Apple Farm
- ⊗ Spring flowering plants
- ⊗ Order strawberry, raspberry, blueberry, grape, onion and asparagus plants for late spring planting ~ Chisago County Master Gardeners
- ⊗ Water Quality
- ⊗ Organic Gardening
- ⊗ Beekeeping
- ⊗ Family Nutrition
- ⊗ Used Gardening books for sale!
- ⊗ Garden Questions answered at the CCMG Info table all day long!
- ⊗ And Much More...
- ⊗ Including fresh homemade rolls, hot coffee and great lunch items at low prices!



Class Descriptions

Session I ~ 9:00am-10:15am

Landscaping for Septics: *Kelly Strobel, Chisago County Sanitarian.* Ever wonder ~ What can I do with my septic area? Can I put plants, rocks, retaining wall etc. around or on top of the septic system? This class will give you ideas of what can and cannot be done in your septic area. List of plant and other landscaping materials that could be used and not cause any problems with your septic system.

Growing Blueberries: *Dianne Patras, Chisago County Master Gardener.* Dianne will discuss blueberry varieties developed specially for our climate. She will also cover soil preparation, specifics of soil improvement, pruning, and care of new and established plants.

Vermiculture *Jim Reifenberg, Chisago County Master Gardener.* Mary Appelhof defines vermiculture in *Worms Eat My Garbage*, as a “culture of earthworms” and a composting system that uses worms such as vermicomposting system, Appelhof notes that vermicomposting is “using earthworms and microorganisms to convert organic waste into black, earthy-smelling, nutrient-rich humus.” People choose to practice vermicomposting for several reasons. Worm composting provides for



year-round compost for indoor plants. Castings can be mixed into the soil of a potted plant, providing rich, organic fertilizer and soil improvement. Come and learn for yourself the art of vermiculture.

Native Plants for Butterflies and Bees: *Tom Dickhudt, Chisago County Master Gardener* Join Tom as he talks about the beauty of native plants. How beneficial they are to attracting butterflies, pollinators (bees) and many other beneficial insects to your backyard.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER 10:45am-12:00 noon

Advancements in Vegetable and Small Fruit Production

Terry Nennich, U of MN Extension Professor

From varieties to methods, join Terry Nennich as he covers new and successful vegetable and small fruit varieties, using plastics, high tunnels and other forms of season extension for the backyard gardener. High Tunnels are a relatively new form of season extension in Minnesota, helping to extend our growing season by several. This keynote address will assist you in choosing how and what will work best in your situation to get the most out of your 2012 gardening season and for many seasons to come!

Lunch Break 12:00-1:00—Lunch and snacks will be available for purchase throughout the day.

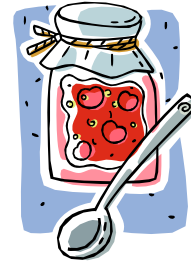
Also, be sure to stop by the Chisago County Master Gardener information table, where you can find a lot of information including placing your order for spring plants!

Session II ~ 1:00pm-2:00pm

Adding Color and Texture to Your Shade Garden: *Donna Tatting, Chisago County Master Gardener.* There are lots of plants, both flowering and with just foliage, that can brighten up and add color and texture to any shade garden. The plants you choose and how they are

placed can help you create a beautiful and diverse garden, even in a low light environment.

Preservation of Fruits & Vegetables: *Dianne Patras, Chisago County Master Gardener and U of MN Preservation Specialist Volunteer.* This session will cover the basics of hot water bath, pressure cooking, freezing, and dehydrating your fruits and vegetables. Dianne will share with you the best methods for several varieties of commonly grown fruits and vegetables grown in this area. Time will be allowed for your canning questions.



Edible Landscapes: *Tom Dickhudt, Chisago County Master Gardener.* Edible landscaping is the use of food-producing plants in the landscape in addition to purely ornamental plants.. Edible landscapes combine fruit and nut trees, berry bushes, vegetables, herbs, edible flowers and ornamental plants into aesthetically pleasing designs. Edible weeds are also discussed.

Container Vegetable Gardening: *Julie Bjorklund, Chisago County Master Gardener.* Have limited space for a vegetable garden? Have a physical limitation that prevents you from gardening on a large scale? Want to start a small garden with a child? Want easy access for watering and harvesting a garden? Then this class is for you. Learn how to grow, on a small scale, some of the more common vegetables within easy access to your kitchen and back door. Learn to select proper containers, growing medium, and seeds. You will be delighted with your mini-garden!



Session III ~ 2:30pm-3:30pm

Backyard Orchard Basics: *Edward Stec, Sunrise River Apple Farm.* This presentation will include basic information on the following: Cultivar selection, Site Selection, Purchasing your tree, Planting your tree, Pruning, Bug/fungus control, Harvest, and Storage. This information will give you a head start for starting your very own backyard orchard.

