



Imagine

Illinois Master Gardeners' Information,
News and Education

Vol. 7 No. 1
Jan.-Feb. 2006

Coordinators' Comments

Happy New Year to all! January is the time to make sure that all of your volunteer hours and educational hours for 2005 have been reported to your local Master Gardener coordinator. It is also important to report your client information—for example— number of calls answered on the hotline; number of walk-in clients served in your office; or number of attendees at your educational sessions or garden days. Your individual hours are then tallied in your local office and sent on to the state office. These reports are necessary to show the tremendous impacts of your programming efforts. Please provide these hours in a timely fashion and make life easier for both the local coordinator and the state office!

Winter is also a very good time to take the Pesticide Applicator exams. The Illinois Pesticide Act states that if you apply pesticides in the course of your employment or on property you do not own, you must be licensed. This also applies to volunteer work and this means all pesticides, even the ones you use at your home without a license. To obtain a license, you will need to take the General Standards exam to become an "operator". However, at least one person from your county will need to go one step further and become an "applicator". To learn more about study options, license categories and requirements, go to <http://www.pesticidesafety.uiuc.edu/> and click on "training schedule." For further information contact the Illinois Dept. of Agriculture or the University of Illinois Pesticide Applicator Training Office at 1-800-644-2123.

I recently received letters from both the Louisiana and the Mississippi State Coordinators regarding disaster help for their states. In Louisiana alone, 13 of 30 Master Gardener programs, representing 30 parishes (almost half of the state) were impacted by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Five parish offices were completely destroyed and others received wind and flood damage. Many Extension staff and Master Gardeners have been and still are displaced with many homes destroyed or damaged. The LSU AgCenter, in cooperation with Louisiana 4-H have developed a

Louisiana MG hurricane relief fund. This fund will help to rebuild the Louisiana Master Gardener program. While plant materials and other supplies will be needed, they would prefer monetary donations at this time. Selected short and long-term identified needs are: urban shade tree reforestation; educational materials addressing post-hurricane Horticulture; replacing teaching and demo gardens; community tree evaluation and remediation, city parks volunteer assistance and youth gardening projects. Checks should be made out to "Louisiana 4-H Foundation" with "Hurricane-Master Gardener" in the memo field and sent to— Robert Souvestre, State MG Coordinator, 137 Julian Miller Hall-Horticulture, Baton Rouge, LA 70803
bsouvestre@agcenter.lsu.edu

The Mississippi Master Gardeners are also asking for our help with a program called "Operation Rejuvenation". The goal of this program is to rebuild Master Gardener teaching/demonstration gardens damaged by the hurricanes. The Mississippi MG Association is trying to assist their green industry which suffered heavy losses due to the hurricanes. Therefore, purchases relating to the rebuilding of their gardens should be made at Mississippi owned and operated nurseries and garden centers. If you wish to help, a monetary contribution is the way to go. Send your checks (payable to Operation Rejuvenation) to Mrs. Pat Wheeler, Treasurer, Mississippi Master Gardener Association, 1811 Pine Knoll Dr., Columbus, MS 39705.

Like the venerable live oaks that populate these states, they have taken a beating and are tattered and worn, but with help from fellow volunteers they can regrow stronger than ever.

 Monica David, State MG Coordinator

MG Apparel Available Soon

Check the March-April issue of Imagine for information about ordering Master Gardener apparel. A color photo sheet and order blank will be included with the newsletter and will be sent to training sites for distribution to the trainees.

Important Dates

January 17-19: 2006 Illinois Specialty Crops Conference, Crowne Plaza, Springfield, IL. For a list of speakers & to register visit <http://www.specialtygrowers.org/>

January 18-20: Mid-Am Trade Show and Mid Winter Conference, McCormick Place, Chicago, IL. Speaker list highlighted by Tracy DiSabato-Aust and Greg Speichert. Class topics include Color Theory; Containers; Rooftop Gardens; Japanese Gardens; The Gardens at Ball; Container Water Gardening and Use of Stone in the Garden. For a complete schedule visit the website www.midam.org

January 28: "A Winter Day in the Garden", Zwermann Theatre, Lincoln Trail College, Robinson, IL. 9 am to 3 pm. Doors open at 8 am. Speakers include: Dyke Barkley "Ornamental Grasses:Queens of the Fall Garden"; Jason Delaney "A Garden's Buried Treasure"; Pat Lanza: "Lasagna Gardening-No Digging, No Tilling, No Weeding, No Kidding!" and Carol Reese "Charmingly Seductive Gardens". Registration fee \$35, includes snacks and lunch. Late registration fee \$40 after Jan. 10. Sponsored by the Crawford County Master Gardeners and LTC. 618-546-1549. Flyer and registration form at <http://web.extension.uiuc.edu/crawford>.

January 28: Think Spring Gardening, Geneseo Community Center, 541 E. North Street, Geneseo, Illinois, 9:30 – 12:00 noon. Speakers include, Martha Smith-Easy Care Natives and Sue Cubberly of the Rain Garden Network on Rain Gardening, what it is and how and why you should consider it. Cost for the workshop is \$10.00 for the public and \$7.00 for Master Gardeners and includes a continental breakfast. Co-sponsored by Rock Island County Master Gardeners (309-796-0512) and Henry/Stark Master Gardeners (309-853-1533). Call either office to register.

February 1-3: ILCA Design Seminar, NIU Education Center, Hoffman Estates, IL. Three days each of Public Area Design, Private Space Design, Comprehensive Project Design, Hardscape Design, Graphic Presentation, Planting Design and a Thursday evening Charrette- a gathering of those in all class levels to tackle a small, comprehensive project under the facilitation of one or more instructors. www.ilca.net or 847-645-3000.

February 2: Inspired Gardening with Regionally Adapted Plants, Ravinia Festival, Highland Park. *Horticulture* magazine has invited Nan Stinton, Rosemary Alexander, Page Dickey, Dan Hinckley, and Craig Bergmann who will offer their solutions to the puzzle

of transforming a barely promising site into a place for inspired gardening. \$119 for CBG members, \$129 for others. Sponsored by the Chicago Botanic Garden and *Horticulture* Magazine. Visit www.hortmag.com or call 877-436-7764.

February 2:Tropical Punch! Kane County Extension Office, 535 S Randall Rd., St. Charles, IL. Spice up annual & perennial borders with Tropical Plants 7-9 pm Learn how to care for them outdoors and overwinter them so you can bring them back out for another season. If you can't go to Key West, bring Key West to your backyard! The cost of \$7 includes a small tropical plant. Register by calling 630-584-6166.

February 7: Southern Illinois Tree Fruit School, Holiday Inn, Mt. Vernon, IL. 618-692-9434.

February 8: Southwestern Illinois Tree Fruit School, First Presbyterian Church, Hardin, IL. 618-692-9434.

February 10: 18th Annual Midwestern Herb and Garden Show, Times Square Mall, Mt. Vernon, IL. Many classes offered and some of the topics include: Small Gardening Features; Making an Herbal Ointment, Virtual Tour of Oaks; Pondless Water Features; Butterfly Gardening; Woodpeckers; Daylilies, Irises, Orchids and English Gardens. 35 vendors will be present to sell plants, pottery, art, gourds, dried flowers and bird houses. 618-242-0780.

February 16: Southern Illinois Vegetable Grower's School, Holiday Inn, Mt. Vernon, IL. 618-692-9434.

February 16: The Color-Rich Garden: Designing with Distinctive Plants, Indianapolis Museum of Art at the Christian Theological Seminary, Indianapolis, IN. This lecture series will feature some of gardening's most renowned color experts including Helen Dillon, Rob Proctor, Nan Sinton, Carol Reese and Vincent Simeone. \$119 for museum members, \$129 for others. www.hortmag.com or call 877-436-7764.

February 18: Spring into Gardening- Gardener's Day 2006. U of I Extension Bld. #30, IL. State Fairgrounds, Springfield, IL. Registration begins at 8:00 am, sessions are from 8:45 am to 12:05 pm. Nine one hour sessions include: Flowering Trees and Shrubs; Great Picks for the Cutting Garden; How to Install a Dry Laid Brick Patio; Uncommon, Unusual & Underrated Landscape Plants; Landscape 101; Container Gardening, Pruning and Annuals for Color. Fee is \$8 in advance or \$10 at the door. Sponsored by the Sangamon-Menard Master Gardeners. 217-782-4617.

Important Dates (cont.)

February 18: Nursery School-Lessons in Gardening, The Mark of the Quad Cities, Moline, IL. 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. There are 18 classes from which to choose. \$40 price includes a sit down luncheon. This event is open to the public and there is on-site free parking. A brochure and registration form is available by writing to University of Illinois Extension, Rock Island County, 4550 Kennedy Drive, Suite 3, East Moline, IL 61244-4248 or by calling the Extension at 309-796-0512. Deadline for registration is February 10, 2006. Sponsored by Rock Island County Master Gardeners.

February 21-22: Southern Illinois Grounds Maintenance School, Gateway Center, Collinsville, IL. 618-650-7050.

February 25: Macoupin & Montgomery Gardeners Day, Lincoln Land Community College Southern Region Center, Litchfield, IL. 8:15 to Noon. Nationally known keynote speaker will be Steven Still. Participants will also be able to attend 2 –60 minute classes. During the first session, participants can attend one of the following: Climbing to New Heights: Vines in the Landscape, Gardening in the Shade, or Growing Roses. Choices for the second session include: Butterfly Gardening, Not Your Grandmother's Annuals, or Don't Blame the Plant. Pre-registration is \$7 per person or \$10 at the door. Those interested in attending should contact the Macoupin County Extension office at (217) 854-9604 to register.

February 25: Joys of Gardening, Highland Community College, Freeport, IL. The day-long event will feature a keynote speaker and many concurrent sessions on a variety of topics. Master Gardeners will also have a large selection of seeds to give away, insect, leaf and dried flower displays and a silent auction. Sponsored by the Stephenson County Master Gardeners. 815-235-4125.

February 28-March 1: Pro-Hort Symposium, Ashland House, Morton, IL. Class topics include: Children's Gardens– Creating Magical Spaces; Trees, Trees, Trees; Stone Use in the Landscape; Containers; Soil Biology, Pest Control and Disease Problems. Contact Pro- Hort for more information 888-525-3900 or www.prohort.org

March 4: Gardening for Food and Fun, Stenstrom Center for Continuing Education, Rock Valley College, Rockford, IL. This event offers more than 25 workshops and seminars to choose from. Participants can learn about topics such as container gardening, bonsai, seed starting, unusual plants, shade gardening, and living wreaths. Participants in the hands-on workshops will make hand-painted pots, garden stepping stones or a willow project (a nominal fee for materials). The \$35 fee includes 4 sessions, continental breakfast, and lunch buffet. Register by Feb 22. Sponsored by the Winnebago County Master Gardeners. 815-986-4357.

March 4: Gardener's Palette, Paul Heath Fine Art Center, John Wood Community College, Quincy, IL. 9 am to 3 pm. This years sessions will include Foliage in the Landscape; Lawn Care; Organics; Berries & Brambles; Wildlife Control; Water Gardening; A Tale of Two Gardens; Herbs and more. Exhibits and vendors will be present. Advance registration (due by Feb 24) is \$25 and includes lunch, breaks and handouts. Sponsored by the Adams-Brown Master Gardeners and John Wood Community College. 217-223-8380 or check the website at www.extension.uiuc.edu/adams

March 7: Stepping Stones to Perennial Garden Design, Lessons will be mailed out or sent by email weekly and there is one meeting on perennial plant selection. Topics include: Garden Goals; Site Assessment; Color in the Garden; Plant Selection; Bed Layout; Bed Preparation; Maintenance and Care. Offered by Fulton County. 309-547-3711 or register online at www.extension.uiuc.edu/fulton (click on calendar).

March 7 & 8: Illinois Small Fruit & Strawberry School, Holiday Inn, Mt. Vernon, IL. 618-692-9434.

March 11: Home, Lawn and Garden Day, Normal Community West High School, 501 N. Parkside, Normal. 8 am to 3 pm. Peg Balbach will be the keynote speaker and will speak on "Trends In Gardening Across the Centuries." David Robson will deliver a closing session titled "Jazz Hot Blues." Attendees may choose three workshops from among thirty topics including thirteen hands-on workshops. Topics include: Cutting Board Salsa, Don't Shoot your Lawnmower and How to Help Your Hoe Hibernate, Bonsai, Go Native, Four Seasons of Window boxes, Garden Themes, Veggie Garden Tips with the BS Boys, the Puzzling Bush Maze and more. The fee is \$40 & includes breaks, educational materials, lunch & door prizes. Vendors will also be present. 309-663-8306.

Important Dates (cont.)

March 11: Gardener's Big Day, Spoon River College, Canton, IL. Hosted by the Fulton County Master Gardeners. 309-647-4645.

March 11: Weekend Gardener, Gateway Center, Collinsville, IL. 9:30 am to 4 pm. A full educational day of seminars including Cooking with Exotic Fruits and Vegetables; Fairy Gardens; What's New in Perennials; Creating an Outdoor Room, Water Gardening, Wildlife Nuisances and more. Master Gardeners are designing gardens to welcome you. Fee \$30. Registration deadline is March 3. Sponsored by the Madison-St. Clair Master Gardeners. 618-650-7050.

March 11-19: Chicago Flower Show, Navy Pier, Chicago www.chicagoflower.com

March 13-April 14: Spring Horticultural Series, Seven consecutive Monday's from 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm. Topics will provide teachings in: making your own fountains, landscaping with native plants, rain gardens, trends and gadgets in the garden, perennials, ornamental grasses, lavender growing and landscaping with herbs, the histories of plants, flowering vines and Japanese foliage. There is a nominal fee. For registration or more information, call the Extension at 309-796-0512. Sponsored by Rock Island County Master Gardeners.

March 14: Herb Program, Effingham County Office, 1209 Wenthe Dr., Effingham IL. Aroma Therapy will be the main topic of the evening. Participants will make a dream pillow with a soothing, restful herb mix. Also learn how to make infusions for a relaxing bath. Herb recipes and herb snacks will be served. Please pre-register by March 10th . Cost: \$10.00 Given by Effingham County Master Gardeners. 217-347-7773.

March 18: New Ideas, New Plants & New Ways with Old Favorites, Kane County Extension Office, 535 S Randall Rd., St. Charles, IL. 8 am - 1 pm. Joe Heiden of Shady Hill Gardens will present -Geraniums! Not Just the "Old Red Flower" Grandma Grew. Grace Koehler of Midwest Groundcovers will speak on-Groundcovers, Outside the Box. Sue Amatangelo of Ball Horticultural Company will talk about New and Exciting Annuals for 2006. The cost of \$25 includes all classes, handouts, and brunch. Register by calling 630-584-6166.

March 18: Gardeners' Day, Macomb, IL. Sponsored by the McDonough County Master Gardeners. 309-837-3939.

April 1: Garden Day, Sponsored by the Knox County Master Gardeners. 309-342-5108.

April 8: Attracting Hummingbirds "Make and Take" Workshop, Kane County Extension Office, 535 S Randall Rd., St. Charles, IL. 10 am - noon. Judi Ann Saunders of Plains Woman Plantings will share hummingbird facts and demonstrate how to make a "welcome pot" to attract hummingbirds as they return to our area.. The cost of \$25 includes the workshop, handouts, material and plants to create a welcome pot including a window box nectar feeder. Register by calling 630-584-6166.

April 12: Spring Garden Seminar, Celebrations 150 in Utica, IL. Speakers will be Jim Schuster, Greg Stack and Nancy Kuhajda. Registration 8:30-8:45 am. Classes run from 9 am to 4 pm. Sponsored by LaSalle County Master Gardeners. 815-433-0707.

June 15-17: Tri-State Master Gardener Conference (Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota), Cedar Rapids, Iowa
More information to follow.

July 27-29: National Children and Youth Gardening Symposium, St. Louis, Missouri.

September 7-9: Illinois Master Gardener Conference, The Mark of the Quad Cities, Moline IL.

For other classes visit these websites:

Morton Arboretum– www.mortonarb.org

Chicago Botanic Garden– www.chicago-botanic.org

Missouri Botanical Garden– www.mobot.org

**Deadline for submission of articles for the next issue is
February 15, 2006.**

Garden Design Subscription

All Master Gardeners who attended classes at the 2005 state conference will receive a one-year subscription to *Garden Design Magazine*. If you already receive a subscription then it will be extended for one more year. This was included in the conference registration costs that you paid. Unfortunately an error was made by the publisher and some of you may have received a bill for the magazine. You do not need to pay this (just toss the bill in the garbage) but if you have, the money will be refunded to you. World Publishing regrets the error & may be reached at 1-877-717-8925.

Chairperson's Chat

Sharing is best

When you think about it the Master Gardener program is all about sharing. We share information, gardening trials and tribulations, client successes and challenges, plants and of course, food. The more opportunities we have to share, the better it is for all of us. On October 26, 2005 the east central Extension region had a Master Gardener leadership workshop at 4-H Memorial Camp in Monticello. Our intention was to encourage interaction and collaboration by



linking counties and Master Gardeners. Horticulture educator Jennifer Schultz and Master Gardener program coordinator Karyn Traum from Macon County, horticulture educator Jennifer Fishburn from Sangamon/Menard Unit and Master Gardener program coordinator Christine Martinez and myself from Champaign County designed the program.

Whether a county has 2 master gardeners or 200, everyone has ideas that others might find useful. We quickly discovered large counties and small counties shared many of the same concerns.

This was not a "sit down and be talked at" kind of program. It was designed to be interactive and free flowing. It was marketed to Master Gardeners that had



served in some leadership capacity in the program or hoped to do so in the future such as garden walk chair or community garden chair.

Fifty-one Master Gardeners braved the cold temperatures. We had break out discussions about speakers' bureau, garden walks, community gardens, help desk and kids' programs. Everyone had their chance to put their two cents in. We used giant post it notes around the room and people could make comments, anonymously if they preferred, all day long. The post its made it easy to compile ideas later. People were encouraged to jump out of the box.

Afterward each participant was mailed the ideas generated and list of participants. Our east central regional director Ellen Burton generously agreed to fund the \$10 per person for each of two Master Gardeners from each county in the region. I would encourage you to share whenever you can and think beyond your county lines. We are all in this together.

 Sandy Mason, Chairperson State Advisory Committee

2006 State Conference to Feature Entertaining Keynote Speaker

Mark your calendars for Sept 7-9 and plan to join your colleagues at the 2006 Master Gardener conference at The Mark of the Quad Cities in Moline, IL. Your hosts will be the Master Gardeners from the NW region.

The featured keynote speaker will be **Carol Reese**. Carol works for the University of Tennessee as a specialist in ornamental horticulture. Carol has also served as hostess for the Memphis television station WREG's popular *Mid South Gardens*. She has frequently been a guest on radio for various gardening programs, and is a weekly gardening/nature columnist for regional newspapers.

Her degrees in horticulture are from Mississippi State University, where she taught courses on plant materials and landscape design. Her practical experiences include woody plant propagation and production, retail garden center, and orchard management.

Carol is a natural speaker whose great enthusiasm for her subject permeates every presentation. Besides possessing an impressive wealth of knowledge, Carol has the gift of making the most complicated aspects of horticulture comprehensible even for the beginner. One of the best things about Carol's presentations is her irresistible brand of humor. She has a knack for photographing the amusing and ridiculous (she calls her photos "drive-by shootings") and she can be wickedly funny, without being mean. Growing up in a family of nine on a farm in north Mississippi gives her a wealth of hilarious stories to interweave with her presentations.

Beyond that, she obviously believes deeply that one of life's greatest pleasures is learning to enjoy the beauty and intricacies of nature. The plant and animal kingdoms around us are teeming with stories and significance, and learning to see and listen to them is a joyous and moving experience. Her zest for this subject results in attention-riveting programs that listeners find compelling and memorable.

Watch the next Imagine for more conference updates!

Spotlight on Monroe County Master Gardeners

The Monroe County Master Gardener Program began in 1993 with 3 Master Gardeners. The program has involved over 75 individuals and the activity level of the group has greatly increased. The Master Gardeners meet on a regular basis to gain in-service updates and to plan programs and activities for community education. The group meets and works with the Unit Leader to identify the home horticulture program needs and helps plan programs accordingly.

They are responsible for the County Annex building landscape up-keep which has involved designing a new landscape area at the entrance to the building and maintaining other areas around the building. In addition, they designed and planted an ornamental grass plot in 2002 then added a native grass plot section in 2004.



A county Garden Tour is an exciting opportunity which they plan and conduct with the Waterloo Garden Club. They have enjoyed two successful tours! The relationship with the Waterloo Garden Club has developed into a wonderful network of friends and project support. The tour of 8 gardens throughout the county receives great media coverage, business support and participants are very complimentary of the tour. The 2006 tour date is, Saturday, June 10.

Master Gardeners also teach programs to local community groups, they assist with the horticulture entries at the county fair, they assist with home horticulture calls in the Extension office from April through October, they assist with the Four Seasons Gardening Tele-net series and they work U of I Extension information booths at community events. In addition one Master Gardener writes a wonderful garden article twice a month for a local newspaper. Her husband who is a talented photographer adds the visual interest to the articles.

Through the Master Gardener activity and promotion, the general public interest and participation in the home horticulture program continues to increase.

The Monroe County Master Gardeners are a dedicated and fun group of individuals! Their support to University of Illinois Extension in Monroe County is greatly appreciated!

 Pamela Jacobs, Unit Leader

Native Herbaceous Perennials as Alternative Crops for IL. Nurseries

A research project on native plants was conducted in 2003 by Janice Coons— Eastern Illinois University- with the assistance of Master Gardeners from eight Illinois counties. Here is a summary of that study.

The research goal was to determine production techniques including germination and/or vegetative propagation, plant establishment, and floral development for six native plant species as alternative herbaceous perennial flowers with market potential in Illinois for new and current nursery producers. The entire production cycle was studied since information was lacking regarding production of these native plants (*Blephilia ciliata*, *Dalea purpurea*, *Monarda bradburiana*, *Monarda fistulosa* L., *Monarda punctata*, and *Silene regia*). Relative to production techniques, all species with horticultural potential were propagated easily from seed. Seed germination was enhanced with scarification for *D. purpurea* and with stratification for *B. ciliata*, *M. bradburiana*, and *S. regia*. *B. ciliata* and *Monarda* species were propagated easily from cuttings. In greenhouse production, *D. purpurea* and *S. regia* were sensitive to overwatering. Except for *M. fistulosa*, all species bloomed in greenhouses. Specifics of production protocols are outlined at www.eiu.edu/~n_plants. In Illinois gardens, species overwintered and bloomed from May to August. Problems in gardens were powdery mildew on *M. bradburiana*, and slow establishment of *D. purpurea*.

Outcomes of this research will impact producers, consumers and the environment. Native plants fill a new niche because they are in demand by Illinois homeowners. These plants will save maintenance costs due to their reduced requirements for water, fertilizer and pesticides relative to non-native species. Use of these native plants also is environmentally sound as it reduces the release of fertilizer and pesticides into natural ecosystems, and also reduces the potential for escape of invasive non-native plants.

Research benefits were disseminated by outreach via demonstration gardens, workshops, articles, and presentations. Native plants with horticultural potential were planted with informational signs in demonstration gardens of Illinois counties (Boone, Cook, Madison-St. Clair, McHenry, Monroe, Peoria, Sangamon-Menard, Winnebago). Workshops on using natives in landscaping were presented for Allerton Park, MG Conference, Botany Club, and Champaign County Extension. An article was published entitled “Native Plants—A New Alternative for Nurseries” in Growing Trends (Illinois Nurserymen’s Association--2003).

Janice Coons, Biological Sciences, EIU, Charleston, IL.

Learning Really CAN Be Fun!

The days of black and white books and boring, monotone lectures are rapidly disappearing. Today's students have grown up with MTV and interactive video games that bombard the senses with color, audio, and hands-on participation. And, not too surprisingly, research shows that all of us learn better when multiple senses are engaged and we actively participate in the lessons.

The International Society of Arboriculture is bringing interactive learning technology to the rest of us through its *Introduction to Arboriculture* computer-based training series. Now we can learn the parts of a tree by dragging and dropping the labels into place on our own computer screens. We can test our pruning acumen by simulating pruning cuts and seeing what the tree will look like afterward. We can match insect and disease symptoms to their causes, and we can advance our diagnostic skills under the guidance of a cartoon character named Detective Dendro.

The objective of this project is to make learning accessible to adult "students" who cannot attend formal classes. It is specifically designed for non-traditional learners who respond best to individually paced; visual, auditory, and kinesthetic (hands-on); highly interactive teaching methods. The computer-based format provides immediate, constructive feedback on performance, and offers multiple opportunities to practice and succeed. An important feature is that it can be designed to engage learners in simulated real-life experiences, allowing them to exercise the same thought processes they will use *on the job or in this case volunteering*.

The educational value is not limited to professional arborists or horticulture students, either. A secondary audience includes allied green-industry professionals, master gardeners, and others interested in learning more about trees and their proper care. The indirect beneficiary is the public to whom these professionals and educators demonstrate and communicate their knowledge and expertise, spreading the word about proper tree care practices.

The educational value and potential benefits of this new generation of learning tools is far reaching. Through education, ISA seeks to foster a better appreciation for trees by creating a *network of expertise* among arboriculture and urban forestry professionals, educators, students, gardening groups, and others con-

cerned with the art, science, and technology of managing trees in and around urban areas. The more people understand tree biology and health, the more they will do to protect and preserve the urban forest.

For more information about ISA's interactive CD-ROM series, contact Lisa Butler at 888-ISA-TREE or visit the online bookstore at www.isa-arbor.com.



Interactive CD Courseware Features

Instructional strategies that simulate job tasks and promote learning transfer.

A high level of interactivity.

Self-paced instruction.

Emphasis on visuals, including video and other graphics.

Digital audio that enhances text.

Intuitive navigation with clear orientation titles.

Quiz questions that simulate certification tests and lead to mastery of learning objectives.

Glossary of key terms.



Another kinesthetic learning strategy employed is the "drag and drop," which allows the student to demonstrate learning by dragging and dropping an object into its correct position. This strategy is frequently used to demonstrate correct organization of material or labeling of object.

Multisensory engagement is provided and this strategy allows for demonstration of learning by "doing" – organizing or identifying correctly.

Sharon Lilly is Director of Educational Goods and Services for the International Society of Arboriculture.

NW Pacific Garden Trip

A couple of spots remain for Master Gardener garden trip to the Pacific Northwest– but hurry as the enrollment will be closed very soon. The 11 day trip (July 12-22) includes gardens such as the International Rose Test Garden in Portland; and Lakewold Gardens, Bloedel Reserve and Heronswood Nursery in Washington. A highlight of the trip will be “Bainbridge in Bloom”- the world-renowned tour of private gardens on Bainbridge Island. Other stops include Butchart Gardens, Van Dusen Botanical Gardens and the University of British Columbia Botanical Garden. Tour price is \$2699 per person (double occupancy) with an \$800 single supplement. For a brochure with more specific information visit the MG website at www.extension.uiuc.edu/mg/ To make a reservation contact Robyn Gulstrom at 269-629-9248 or robyn@travelhouseinc.com

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Edited by

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Visit the Illinois Master Gardener website: <http://www.extension.uiuc.edu/mg>



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