

Friday, July 24th

Optional post-conference concurrent tours or workshops. 8:00 to noon

(inclusive of transportation time)

❖ **Vegetable Diseases and Other Maladies** *(you will walk outside; dress appropriately)*

Tom Zitter

Develop your skill in recognizing vegetable diseases and other maladies at different stages of development. Visit the Plant Pathology research plots at Cornell Homer C. Thompson Vegetable Research Farm where you will have the opportunity to sharpen your skills in the field by examining numerous species of cucurbits, as well as plantings of potato and tomato. Best disease management tactics for the vegetable garden setting and key resources for your reference library will also be discussed.

❖ **Canning, Freezing and Drying Garden Produce**

Katherine Humphrey and Judy Price

Through lecture and demonstration CCE home food preservation experts will teach safe and up-to-date methods of home food preservation. The science of home food preservation, methods for canning fruits, vegetables, pickles, and jams, and methods for high quality frozen and dehydrated foods will be included. This information will be beneficial for volunteers personally, and for the benefit of the people they reach through their Master Gardener Volunteer educational efforts.

❖ **Building your Toolbox for Soil Health Success**

Jonathan Russell-Anelli

Soils are a foundation of landscapes. Participants will literally get their hands dirty gaining experience identifying characteristics of soil, gathering a representative soil samples for testing, understanding the meaning of soil test values for macro and micronutrients and relating appropriate information to nutrient (fertilizer) management approaches that achieve successful plantings while protecting the environment.

❖ **Woody Plant Identification** *(you will walk outside; dress appropriately)*

Nina Bassuk

You begin this session indoors reviewing plant ID vocabulary and some great resources but be prepared to walk outside around the Ag quad. In the field you'll work to connect your plant vocabulary with plant material in the landscape. By the end of this session you will have mastered identification characteristics of 20 woody plants and built skills critical to learning many more on your own.

❖ **Bluegrass Lane Herbaceous Perennials and Home Lawn Demonstration**

(you will walk outside; dress appropriately)

Mary Thurn and Melissa Kitchen

Observe a live demonstration from the experts on how to use simple tools to keep a lawn mower blade sharp, how to set the mower blade at an optimal height and how, when and with what to fertilize a lawn. This short demo will be followed by a chance to explore the annual and perennial beds to learn about current research efforts and plant material. You will cast votes for your favorite annuals and perennials and have a chance to observe/photograph some spectacular flowering plants.

❖ **Citizen Pruners: Sharpen Your Pruning Skills While Doing Community Service!**

(you will walk outside; dress appropriately)

Monika Roth

Hit the streets for a hands-on experience of what Citizen Pruners at CCE of Tompkins County do. Learn basic pruning concepts, meet the City Forestry staff and Citizen Pruner volunteers. Wear clothing suitable for outdoor work. You will be inspired to consider starting a Citizen Pruner program in your community!

Cornell Cooperative Extension provides equal program and employment opportunities.

Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by calling Lori Bushway at 607.255.5918 by June 19, 2009 to ensure sufficient time to make arrangements. Requests received after this date will be met when possible.