

*Yard and Garden – 01-20-2018 - Ted Griess / Extension Horticulture Assistant*

If it's free, it's for me. I have a tendency to subscribe to that saying especially if what is being offered free is of direct value to me. If you are an enthusiastic gardener and would like to attend horticulture classes to broaden your knowledge, all at no cost to you, then perhaps what I have to share might be of interest.

Once again, the UNL Horticulture Department and Buffalo County Extension are offering on-line horticulture training classes. Although offered specifically for those interested in the Nebraska Master Gardener program, the public is also invited. The 2.5-hour long programs will take place at the Buffalo County Extension Building, Room B, 1400 East 34<sup>th</sup> Street, Kearney, Nebraska, beginning February 06, 2018, starting at 6:30 p.m.

By attending these classes, you are not required to enroll in the Nebraska Master Gardener program. However, the classes presented do fulfill a portion of the education requirements for Nebraska Master Gardeners. The choice is yours.

This year's training includes:

**February 6 – CHOW: SNAP-ED & EMG Programs:** – Does your program help with a community garden? Does your program garden help support local food banks? Join Morgan to see if your EMG program can be a CHOW garden.

*- Presented by Morgan Hartline, Extension Educator SNAP-Ed*

**February 13 – Rots and Spots** – What are these black spots on my apple tree leaves? What is this weird mushy thing growing in my mulch? Kyle talks about biotic and abiotic issues in landscape systems using good IPM practices - ***Presented by Kyle Broderick, Extension Plant and Pest Diagnostic Clinic***

**February 20 – Vegetable Gardening** – Nothing is better than a freshly picked tomato from the garden! John will explain site selection, soil prep and more to achieve a successful vegetable garden. ***-Presented by John Porter – Extension Educator Urban Agriculture Program Coordinator***

**February 27 – Wildlife Management** – What has been chewing on my peach tree? How do I get rid of the rabbits in my garden? Dennis will illustrate wildlife damage, explain common wildlife biology in Nebraska and explain proper IPM practices for wildlife control in your landscape. ***-Presented by Dennis Ferraro, Professor of Practice UNL Herpetologist***

**March 6 – Extending Your Garden Season** – Would you like to serve fresh salad greens on your Thanksgiving dinner table? Do you want to have the first tomato on the block? Tim will provide information on various forms of garden season extenders.

***- Presented by Tim Dungan, Dept. of Agronomy and Horticulture Graduate Student***

**March 13– Landscape Management** – The landscape is a complex system with multiple components. Kim and Terri will talk about the art and science of managing all aspects of your landscape including: environment, climate, soil, critters, plants, turf and much more. ***Presented by Kim Todd Extension Landscape Specialist, Terri James Extension Educator State EMG Program Coordinator***

Because seating is limited, I encourage pre-registration by contacting the Extension office at 308-236-1235.

Somewhere I read that consumer research indicates most people find greater intrinsic value for products and or services for which they pay. However, by attending these ascribed horticulture classes at no cost to you, I am confident you, too, will endorse the saying, “If it’s free, it’s for me.”