Karen Johlas-Szalkowski
Naturalist II
Warren County Conservation Board

Karen graduated from Iowa State University with a degree in Forestry and Enviornmental Studies. She has been working as a naturalist for 14 years and just recently joined Warren County Conservation Board. She has presented various programs to the general public and school groups about the importance of pollinators and wildlife in your backyard.

Melissa Peterson
Garden Center Manager
Ted Lare Design Build & Garden Center

Growing up in a family that loves the outdoors, Melissa is carrying on the gardening tradition with her family outside of Indianola. Whether at work or at home, Melissa is constantly looking for new decorating ideas and garden products to inspire her customers. Melissa enjoys mixing craft with gardening to create new methods of displaying beautiful plants with an artistic flare.

Andy Schmitz
Director of Horticulture, BrentonArboretum

Andy Schmitz has been the Director of Horticulture/General Manager of the Brenton Arboretum for 18 years. He received his Associate of Applied Science in Horticulture at Hawkeye Community College (1996) and then went on to receive his Bachelors of Science in Horticulture from Iowa State University (1998). He oversees all horticultural aspects of the 143 acre arboretum which was established in 1996, including planting and curating over 2,500 woody accessioned plants, establishing and maintaining over 30 acres of restored prairie and caring for a 1000 sq. ft. green roof. He enjoys observing trees in their native habitats while collecting seed to grow trees and shrubs to enhance the arboretums collections. Though he has collected around the Midwest, his particular focus is on collecting the native Iowa woody plants for the arboretums Iowa collection.

Aaron Steil
Assistant Director, Reiman Gardens

Aaron Steil is the assistant director at Iowa State University's Reiman Gardens. He also teaches classes in ISU's horticulture department and is the co-host of "Gardening Today" on WHO Radio (1040 AM) in Des Moines. Steil has worked at Reiman Gardens for eight years. In his current position, he oversees all revenue-generating areas at the Gardens, manages the Garden's extensive internship program, serves as a liaison with ISU faculty and staff, determines the nature and scope of displays and programs, and conducts short- and long-range planning. He also oversees the interpretation, mapping, and management of all plant records at the Gardens, including the nationally recognized Griffith Buck rose collection.

Indianola Parks & Recreation
2204 W. 2nd Avenue
Indianola, IA 50125

Driving Directions:

The Kent Student Center is located at 701 North C Street.

From Hwy 65/69 in Indianola, travel west on Girard Avenue to the parking lot between C and D Streets, immediately northwest of the building.

2016 Think Spring! Garden Seminar

Saturday, February 27
9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.

Kent Campus Center
Simpson College
Indianola, Iowa 50125

Join the Warren County Master Gardeners and Indianola Parks & Recreation for a day filled with great programs, door prizes, garden merchandise and a delicious catered lunch!

Success with Houseplants

Aaron Steil

Indoor plants have their own special requirements for success. Learn all about the unique environmental factors that influence the culture and care of all indoor plants and the tips and tricks that will help you have healthy, beautiful houseplants.

Inspirational Garden Art & Pinterest Gardening

Melissa Peterson

Melissa will share tons of inspirational photos of garden art and pinterest garden projects in this talk. Discussion will include styles of garden art, how to add garden art to your garden, making your own art and a look at inspirational pinterest garden projects and trends. You will leave this class *motivated* and ready for the spring season!

Birds, Butterflies, and Pollinators

Karen Johlas-Szalkowski

Learn how to attract birds, butterflies and pollinators to your backyard. Discover the importance of native plant species and what type of plants to choose for your garden.

Gymnocladus dioicus, the Kentucky Coffeetree

Andy Schmitz

The Kentucky coffeetree has many exciting attributes which make it an outstanding tree to plant. It has no serious insect or disease problems and is quite adaptable to urban conditions and drought. These qualities make it a likely candidate to replace ash trees affected by the emerald ash borer as well as oaks being affected by oak wilt within our cities. Over the past seven years, the USDA Regional Plant Introduction Station in Ames, Iowa and the Brenton Arboretum have made over 100 wild seed collections of this species in 14 different states from across the species native range.

During this presentation, you will learn all about the Kentucky coffeetree, find out what Andy has learned from the collecting trips to surrounding states, and why he just loves this species; all with the intent of encouraging you to plant one in your own yard.

Aaron Steil

Melissa Peterson

Karen Johlas-Szalkowski

Andy Schmitz

Think Spring! Garden Seminar

$45 Tuition includes lunch.
Master Gardeners earn 4 CU credits.
Register for Program #9187
by Wednesday, February 17.

- **Already have an account with us? If so, you can register online at www.indianolaiowa.gov.**
  From the Parks & Recreation home page, click the link for Online Registration.
- **By phone** 515-961-9420 with debit or credit card
- **By Mail or Drop In:**
  Return this completed registration form with your $45 payment to:
  Indianola Parks & Recreation
  2204 W. 2nd Avenue
  Indianola, IA 50125
  Make checks payable to Indianola Parks and Recreation.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____
Home Work Cell

E-mail _____

Charge: (circle) MasterCard Visa Discover

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Exp: Month _____ **Year** _____

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Please make sure to circle type of card used.