



2017 State Master Gardener Conference

Pre-Conference Tour – “Gardens Through the Centuries”

Thursday, September 7, 2017

Come hobnob with your fellow MGs as we discover remarkable gardens through the centuries. Join us Thursday September 7 for our pre-conference tour from 12:30-5:30 p.m. with optional ride to downtown Bloomington for dinner on your own from 6:15 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. Preconference tour price of only \$35 includes comfy air conditioned motor coach, snacks, garden tours and optional motor coach ride to and from downtown Bloomington for dinner (dinner and gratuity is not included in pre-conference tour price.)

Prices were determined as a tour; therefore, motor coach participants only, please no carpooling to sites. Some walking is required. If you need reasonable accommodation to attend this program, please contact Sandy Mason slmason@illinois.edu 217.333.7672.

Itinerary: Pre-conference Tour Thursday September 7

12:15 p.m. All aboard the motor coach at the Radisson Hotel (Conference hotel; FYI check in is at 2:00 p.m. unless you make special arrangements made with hotel)

12:30 p.m. Departure from hotel

Tour stop 1 - Ewing Manor Gardens

Tour stop 2 - David Davis Mansion and Gardens

Tour stop 3 - Epiphany Farms Farmstead

5:30 p.m. Arrival back to Radisson Hotel (check in to hotel if needed)

6:15 p.m. Depart for Epiphany Farms/Anju Above Restaurants

8:45 p.m. Arrival back to Radisson Hotel

Please “x” out of this document to return to pre-conference tour and conference registration.

Destinations

1) Ewing Manor Gardens

<http://ewingmanor.illinoisstate.edu/events/garden/>

Imagine a Midwestern Downton Abbey. Ewing Manor and Shakespeare Theatre includes a Japanese Garden, Woodland Garden, White Garden, Shakespeare Garden and much more. The Genevieve Green Gardens, designed by the distinguished landscape architect Jens Jensen in 1927, is an essential part of the Ewing Cultural Center. Ewing’s Head Gardener will share a garden overview as a prelude to our self-guided discovery of the numerous gardens.

2) David Davis Mansion and Sarah’s Garden

<https://www.daviddavismansion.org/>

Sarah’s Garden, located at the David Davis Mansion state historical site, is a 145-year old garden that preserves the original design in the same location with 18 of the original

plants. The Mansion was the residence of David Davis, Supreme Court justice and Senator from Illinois. As a state museum since 1960, the mansion includes all the grand architecture and furnishings appropriate for a public official of the Victorian Era. Sarah's Garden is cared for by the McLean County Master Gardeners who not only nurture the beautiful heirloom plants but also educate Bloomington youth through 3rd-grade field trips in the fall and the spring and also workshops for Girl Scouts. Adults also benefit from garden tours and propagation workshops where participants can learn to plant seeds and bulbs, transplant starts, and divide perennials and take home some heirloom plants! Tour includes mansion and gardens. McLean County Master Gardener volunteer efforts in the garden earned them the Master Gardener State Teamwork Award. It is a Central Illinois jewel that "Helps others learn to grow!"

3) Epiphany Farms at Kickapoo Creek

<http://www.epiphanyfarms.com/farm/#efe>

Experience Epiphany Farms, an organic, sustainable, and environmentally friendly farm that provides fresh, nutrient-dense local food to its three local restaurants, area farmers markets and consumer supported agriculture clients. As a 21st century operation Epiphany Farms' practices include permaculture and intensive pasture rotations. Their mission is to reconnect the community to the source of their food and to nurture a better understanding of food, health, and well-being. This stop will include a discussion of the farm's beginnings and philosophy and a walking tour through the farm.

Optional Evening Activity for Pre-conference Tour Participants

Epiphany Farms Restaurant and Anju Above Restaurant

These two celebrated restaurants in one location are sure to please any palate. As "Farm to Fork" concept restaurants, they are committed to supporting, growing, and showcasing a thriving, local food culture. Check out the seasonal menus by clicking the link below:

<http://www.epiphanyfarms.com/restaurants/#efr>

Bus transportation to and from the restaurant is provided at no additional fee. You are welcome to enjoy either restaurant. Dinner and gratuity is not included in pre-conference price. Individuals are responsible for their food and beverage bill plus gratuity at the conclusion of the evening's dinner.

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