



BACKYARD CONSERVATION

It'll grow on you.

Backyard Conservation~ A Sustainable Living Seminar

February 28, 2009
9:30 am - 2:30 pm

Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC)
Building 7- Conference Center
2006 S. Ankeny Boulevard
Ankeny, Iowa 50023

Sponsored by:



Polk Soil & Water
CONSERVATION DISTRICT
1513 North Ankeny Blvd Ste 3
Ankeny, Iowa 50023
515-964-1883 x3
www.polk-swcd.org



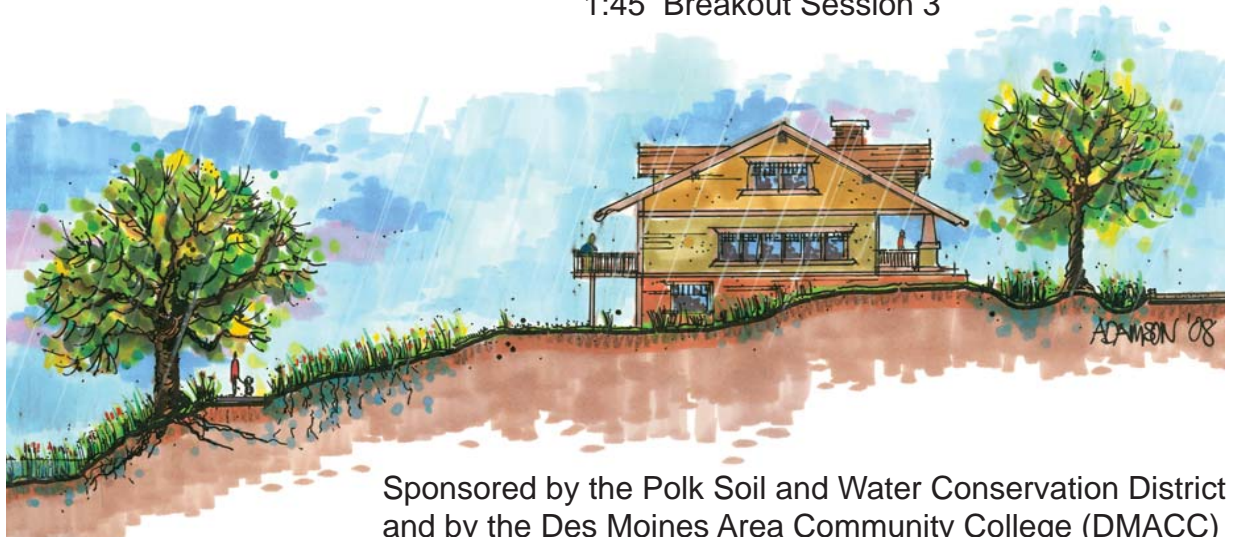
DMACC
DES MOINES AREA
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Department of Arts & Sciences

A seminar for everyone
interested in gardening,
landscaping, conservation,
and the environment.

AGENDA

- 9:00 Registration, Exhibits,
& Refreshments
- 9:30 Welcome & Introduction to
Sustainable Living
- 10:00 Featured Speaker
*"Conserve Your Piece of the
World and Your Peace of Mind"*
by Eileen Robb
- 11:00 Breakout Session 1
- 11:45 Lunch & Exhibits
- 12:45 Breakout Session 2
- 1:45 Breakout Session 3



Sponsored by the Polk Soil and Water Conservation District
and by the Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC)

Backyard Conservation~ A Sustainable Living Seminar

FEATURED SPEAKER

Conserve Your Piece of the World and Your Peace of Mind

Eileen Robb is the co-host of *Gardening Today* on 1040 WHO Radio on Sundays from 10 to noon. She has degrees in Agricultural Science and Plant Pathology and a PhD in medicine and is a retired Internist. In addition to working in her own gardens, Eileen volunteers as a Polk County Master Gardener. She strives to practice conservation and sustainability in her gardens and likes to encourage others to do the same.

1:00 AM SESSIONS

1. Backyard Stewardship thru Landscaping

Doug Adamson, Landscape Architect, RDG
How does your property affect our ecology? Learn how to investigate your yard for clues on where to implement landscaping practices that create beauty and sustainability. Transform your own backyard into a more sustainable, eco-sensitive landscape.

2. Snakes on a Plain

Curtis Eckerman, DMACC
Have you ever seen a snake in your yard? Did you know what kind it was, where it came from, or if it was poisonous? Learn the answers to these questions about snakes, their reptilian relatives, and their distant cousins, the amphibians, found in Iowa and in your very own backyard.

3. Turning your Backyard to Habitat

Danielle Wirth, Drake Univ. ENSP, DMACC
Your backyard can be Iowa's field of dreams: If you build it, they will come. Who are you planting for? Using native plants to turn your yard into habitat. Learn about restoration ecology and methods being used to manage and improve habitat for a variety of native plants, animals, insects and more!

12:45 PM SESSIONS

4. Pondless Water Features

Chris Thompson, Just Add Water
Relax at home by a babbling brook or a bubbling rock birdbath. Find out about water features to fit your lifestyle. Learn about a variety of low maintenance water features that provide ambience and fun for your yard and garden. These features can also manage rainfall and can be used to harvest water for reuse in your landscape.

5. Hardscaping

Weston Wunder, Landscapes by Design
Adding elements like paths, walkways, decks, patios and walls can add interest and appreciation to a landscape. Learn about site preparation, material selection, and design considerations for various hardscape components.



6. Attracting Backyard Birds

David Loney, DMACC
Whether you'd like a family to set up a household for the summer or simply want birds to stop by from time to time, there are a number of simple things you can do to make birds welcome in your backyard. Learn some ideas to provide food, water, and/or shelter for our feathered friends.



1:45 PM SESSIONS

7. Rain gardens and better lawns made easy

Paul Miller and Jennifer Welch, Polk SWCD
Managing water on your property can be fun and easy to do. Plus, it provides many benefits for your yard! Learn more about rain gardens- where to put them in your yard, what to look for, how to build one, what to plant. Also learn about how to improve your soil quality, making your lawn more beautiful and sustainable.



8. Get Edible Landscapes Growing for You

Craig Dilley, DMACC
Thinking about how to have healthy fresh fruits and vegetables this summer? Not ever had a garden? Get started into fruit and vegetable gardening or improve upon your skills. Come learn how to design the right garden for your yard. Make the most of your yard and garden space and have the convenience of fresh, healthy, local food at your table.

9. Whats bugging you?

Curtis Eckerman, DMACC
Did you know that roughly 73% of all animal species are insects? Insects are so numerous yet are often the most overlooked organism. You will learn how to tell the difference between beetles, bugs, bees and other insects. Learn the proper methods for catching and preserving insects for your own collection. Learn why insects are so important to us and to our future. Come start a hobby and a journey of discovery in your own backyard.



Backyard Conservation~ A Sustainable Living Seminar

February 28, 2009

9:30am-2:30pm

Des Moines Area Community College
Building 7 - Conference Center
2006 S Ankeny Boulevard
Ankeny, Iowa 50023

Pre-Registration Fee:

\$20/participant

\$10/student

or \$30/couple from same household

Pre-registration due by February 23

Late registrations and walk-ins welcome
for additional fee of \$5/person.

Lunch and refreshments included!

Send registration and payment to:

Pam Schwartz

Polk SWCD

1513 North Ankeny Blvd Ste 3

Ankeny, IA 50023

515-964-1883 ext 3

Please make checks payable to:

Polk Soil & Water Conservation District



REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Breakout Session Choices

Indicate by session number

	1st Choice	2nd Choice
11:00 am	_____	_____
12:45 pm	_____	_____
1:45 pm	_____	_____

Sponsored by:



Polk Soil & Water
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

1513 North Ankeny Blvd Ste 3

Ankeny, Iowa 50023

515-964-1883 x3

www.polk-swcd.org



Department of Arts & Sciences