

WORKSHOP PRESENTERS

Meaghan Anderson Iowa State University Extension and Outreach

Meaghan is an extension field agronomist for Iowa State University serving 10 counties in east central Iowa. She grew up on her family row-crop farm in central Iowa, northwest of Des Moines. Prior to joining ISU Extension and Outreach three years ago, she graduated from ISU with a B.S. in agronomy and an M.S. in Crop Production and Physiology with a focus in weed science. Meaghan provides research-based educational programming and expertise to area row-crop farmers, agribusinesses, and others in the agricultural community; including weed management, weed ecology, and weed identification in crop and non-crop environments. She was involved in the first discovery of Palmer amaranth in the state of Iowa in 2013.

Mark Vitosh Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Mark has been the District Forester for the Iowa DNR Wildlife Bureau in Eastern Iowa since 2000. He has a Bachelor's Degree and Master's Degree in Forestry from Iowa State University. Mark assists private landowners and communities in managing their forest resources in Johnson, Linn, Muscatine, Benton, Poweshiek, and Iowa counties.

Elyssa Trejo Dow AgroSciences LLC

Elyssa graduated from Oregon State University with a degree in BioResource Research with a toxicology focus. She studied tansy ragwort toxicity in pastures, the physiological signs of the toxicity, and worked to counteract those effects for her thesis. She has worked for Dow in the row crop business in Virginia and Indiana and spent the last four years as the Turf and Ornamental sales rep out of Portland, Oregon, covering seven states in the Pacific Northwest, focusing on lawn care and nursery production. She now lives in Southern Minnesota with her fiancé and her pug Fiona, and covers the Pasture and Land Management businesses in Iowa, Wisconsin, and Minnesota.

Dr. Antonio Arenas Amado The University of Iowa

Antonio Arenas has a PhD in Civil & Environmental engineering and is currently an Assistant Research Engineer at IHR Hydroscience & Engineering at the University of Iowa. He has been working with computational models applied to water resources management for more than nine years. Arenas' research focuses on the development and application of fully-coupled surface-sub-surface watershed models, to assess mitigation projects directed toward flood damage reduction and to study the fate and transport of nutrients. He regularly speaks at Watershed Management Authority (WMA) and other conservation groups meetings, providing technical expertise and guidance to people working in creating more resilient watersheds in Iowa.

Dr. Kristine Nemeck University of Northern Iowa Tallgrass Prairie Center

Kristine manages the integrated roadside vegetation management program at the UNI Tallgrass Prairie Center, supporting Iowa's county roadside programs and conducting outreach to raise awareness of IRVM. Previously she worked as a restoration ecologist for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Nebraska and as a research entomologist with the U.S.D.A. Agricultural Research Service in South Dakota.

Daniel Gibbins City of Cedar Rapids

Serving Cedar Rapids as City Arborist and Parks Superintendent since January 2009, Daniel is a Missouri graduate in Forest Resource Management with experience in agro-forestry, horticulture, urban forestry, and parks and natural resource management. As Parks Superintendent and a Benton County Conservation Board member, he employs a life-long passion for conservation to advocate for the benefits of natural resource management and recreational interaction with nature, as keys to environmental and human health.

Michael Cimprich City of Marion

Michael is native to the Cedar Rapids/Marion area where he lives with his wife and two sons. He received his Bachelor's Degree in Conservation Management from Upper Iowa University in 2008. He currently oversees the newly developed Urban Forestry Division as City Arborist and serves as the Northeast Regional Representative on the Iowa Arborist Association Board. Michael has played a key role in Marion's development of green infrastructure and community natural areas. He has been an outdoor enthusiast since he was young; spending time climbing, hiking, camping, paddling, hunting, fishing and volunteering with environmental projects.

IOWA'S LIVING LANDSCAPES AWARENESS • OPPORTUNITY • REALITY

RIGHTS-OF-WAY AND BEYOND THE 2018 LINN COUNTY WORKSHOP



TUESDAY MARCH 20, 2018

LOWE PARK ARTS AND ENVIRONMENT CENTER
4500 NORTH 10TH STREET - MARION, IA

Thanks to our program Sponsors:



WELCOME!

This year's program is Workshop #9, over the past 9 years. Thank you for considering attending our program this year. If you are a repeat customer, we believe it is because you are finding answers to your questions, as evidenced in the evaluation forms we receive back each year. Thank you for your suggestions. This year's program does not have a resounding theme, but we think you'll hear the idea of partnerships in each of our presenters talks.

Last year you heard about 1000 Acres and the Linn County Water and Land Legacy. One of our presentations this year will be all about 1000 Acres. And you'll be glad to hear that the Linn County Conservation Board has spent the last year working with potential project partners and stakeholders, developing plans to launch water quality, park, and trail enhancements that leverage Linn County Water and Land Legacy Bond dollars. Linn County residents overwhelmingly passed a \$40 million bond issue in November of 2016 with 74% approval to address these local needs. The Conservation Board is soon expected to ask the Board of Supervisors to issue bonds for over 15 initial projects that leverage these dollars with other funding sources.

This year's workshop program made possible by the support of our sponsors and partners.

ITC Midwest LLC owns, operates and maintains high-voltage transmission infrastructure that transmits power to utilities across Iowa and southern Minnesota. As part of the company's commitment to the environment, ITC works with agencies and individuals to promote and protect natural areas. The company recognizes that trails, roadways and transmission line corridors have the potential to be great shared uses. Over the past several years, ITC has planted prairie plants, milkweed and other pollinator-friendly species on public-owned property near its facilities in both Linn and Benton Counties.

In 1988, the Iowa Legislature established the **Living Roadway Trust Fund (LRTF)** within Iowa Code 314.21. The Iowa Department of Transportation administers this fund, including an annual, competitive grant program that provides funding for integrated roadside vegetation management (IRVM) activities to eligible cities, counties, and applicants with statewide impact. In doing so, the Iowa DOT and its partners promote and educate the public about the need for an integrated approach to managing the vegetation along Iowa's roadsides. This approach ensures that roadside vegetation is preserved, planted, and maintained to be safe; visually interesting; ecologically integrated; and useful for many purposes. The LRTF's funding sources include the Resource Enhancement and Protection Fund (REAP), Road Use Tax Fund, and utility access fees. Since 1990, the LRTF has funded more than \$17 million for research and demonstration projects, vegetation inventories, education and training programs, gateway landscaping, snow and erosion control, and roadside enhancement and maintenance.

The Linn County Iowa Chapter of Pheasants Forever was organized in 1983. They are a non-profit conservation organization dedicated to the protection and enhancement of wildlife and habitat in Linn and surrounding counties. Their goals are to create, preserve and improve upland bird habitat for the benefit of all species, including pollinators. They foster youth outdoor activities and promote conservation education to protect and preserve our land and water.

The goals of the **Linn Soil and Water Conservation District** are to promote environmental stewardship, good land and water management, and conservation practices on both rural and urban landscapes. The District works with farmland owners, farmer tenants, homeowners, communities, and land managers on all kinds of land stewardship projects. The five commissioners elected at large from Linn County work closely with the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship-Division of Soil Conservation & Water Quality.

Lowe Park is Marion's largest park, spanning 180 acres and stretching from Alburnett Road to North 10th Street. The park is named after George and Alyce Lowe, who donated the land to the **City of Marion** in 1999. The Arts and Environment Center is a multi-use facility that is managed by the Marion Parks and Recreation Department. This LEED-certified facility opened in 2006, and features an art gallery, offices and meeting rooms to accommodate groups of many sizes. Arts, culture and nature intermingle within the park with trails, gardens and playgrounds. The natural space includes over 60 acres of planted prairie and a variety of native trees to provide diversity and habitat for a variety of wildlife species. The most recent 20 acre prairie installation is part of Marion's involvement with the 1000 Acre Initiative, and area management in the fall of 2017 included the city's first prescribed burn.

We hope you take some time again this year to visit with our exhibitors. We think you'll find their messages useful and worthy of sharing with others. Our last presentation of the day will be outdoors, looking at more of the public-private partnerships at Lowe Park.

There is no charge for this year's program. **To register, please call 319-447-3590 or contact the City of Marion at mbries@cityofmarion.org. Registration required by 4:00 PM on Wednesday March 14 to guarantee your lunch for the program on the 20th.**



IOWA'S LIVING LANDSCAPES AWARENESS • OPPORTUNITY • REALITY

RIGHTS-OF-WAY AND BEYOND THE 2018 LINN COUNTY WORKSHOP

TUESDAY MARCH 20, 2018 - LOWE PARK ARTS AND ENVIRONMENT CENTER

8:00 - 8:40am **REFRESHMENTS AND VIEW EXHIBITS**

8:40 - 8:45am **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**
Rob Roman - Linn County Engineering and Secondary Roads

8:45 - 9:30am
PALMER AMARANTH: WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?
Meaghan Anderson - Iowa State University Extension and Outreach

9:30 - 10:15am
**ID & MANAGEMENT OF NON-NATIVE INVASIVE
SHRUBS & THEIR NATIVE ALTERNATIVES**
Mark Vitosh - Iowa Department of Natural Resources

10:15 - 10:30am **BREAK, REFRESHMENTS, VIEW EXHIBITS**

10:30 - 11:15am
**LESS EFFORT, LESS PRODUCT, MORE EFFICIENCY:
SUSTAINABLE CONTROL OF YOUR INVASIVES**
Elyssa Trejo - Dow AgroSciences LLC

11:15am -12:00pm
THREE DECADES OF FLOODS IN IOWA
Dr. Antonio Arenas Amado - The University of Iowa

12:00 - 1:00pm **LUNCH AND VIEW EXHIBITS**

1:00 - 1:45pm
**CREATING THE CASE FOR HABITAT
IN RIGHTS OF WAY**
Dr. Kristine Nemecek - University of Northern Iowa Tallgrass Prairie Center

1:45 - 2:30pm
**PARTNERING FOR POLLINATORS -
1,000 ACRES POLLINATOR INITIATIVE**
Daniel Gibbins - City of Cedar Rapids

2:30 - 3:30pm
**PUBLIC HABITAT / A CLOSER LOOK
AT THE LOWE PARK LANDSCAPE**
Michael Cimprich - City of Marion

