Upcoming horticulture happenings

Magnolia Field Day

The UF/IFAS Magnolia Field Day will be March 23 at the North Florida Research and Education Center (NFREC) in Quincy. There will be two sessions: the first, from 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., will be for professionals and the second, from 1:30 p.m. - 3 p.m., will be for homeowners.

Have you noticed the Japanese magnolias with their purple and white flowers? Did you know there are yellow flowering cultivars? “This year we’re going to highlight the yellow flowered magnolias. Yellow flowered ones are some of the hottest new plants in the market,” said Dr. Gary Knox, a UF/IFAS Professor of Environmental Horticulture, who is coordinating the Field Day. “In addition we will look at some of the other magnolias that might be in bloom, as well as some of the evergreen magnolias.”

Registration is $5 per person and the deadline is March 9. You can register at http://nfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/magnolia.htm or by calling (850) 875-7100, extension 0.

The NFREC in Quincy is located at Exit 181 on Interstate 10 about twenty miles west of Tallahassee. After exiting, go about 1/8 mile north on State Road 267. The NFREC address is 155 Research Road.

Home Show

Lawn and landscape seminars will be offered at this year’s Home Show.

When is the best time of year to fertilize? When is the best time to apply chemicals to control lawn weeds? When is the best time to battle mole crickets and actually beat them at their own game? This seminar will answer all of these questions. Larry Williams, University of Florida Extension Agent in Okaloosa County, will present a seminar titled “Lawn Care Timeline: How to Attain a Better Lawn.” This seminar will begin at 2:30 p.m., Saturday, March 25.

A second seminar offered on Sunday will provide solutions to common landscape mistakes. Sheila Dunning, University of Florida Extension Agent in Okaloosa County, will present a seminar titled “The Top Ten Common Mistakes in Landscaping.” This seminar will begin at 2:30 p.m., Sunday, March 26.

Also, Okaloosa County Master Gardeners will staff a booth to help answer your gardening questions.

The Home Show is sponsored by the Building Industry Association (BIA) of Okaloosa & Walton Counties. The Home Show will be held March 25 and 26 at Okaloosa Walton College in Niceville. Seminar locations will be listed at the Home Show.
Advance tickets for only $4 will be available at Eglin Federal Credit Union offices. Tickets at the door will be priced at $5 each.

For additional information on the Home Show visit the BIA Website at http://www.biaow.org.

Larry Williams
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