



Spring drew on...and a greenness grew over those brown beds, which, freshening daily, suggested the thought that Hope traversed them at night, and left each morning brighter traces of her steps. – Charlotte Brontë

Feed Your Fever!

Spring is here at last! The days are lengthening and trees and grasses stretch back to life. The birds are back, the air is fresh, and all around us new growth is emerging. It's not unusual to get a little fever going this time of year and you're invited to Central Gardens to feed yours! Central Gardens gates are open every day, dawn to dusk. Come bask in its beauty and be inspired. There is never an admission charge but donations are always appreciated. We cannot wait to see you soon!



PLANT SALE & GARDENING FAIR

After a long Iowa winter, gardeners are ready to get their hands in the dirt! Central Gardens kicks off the gardening season with the Plant Sale & Gardening Fair Sat. May 20th, 8:00-12:00.

Hundreds of perennials will be for sale that are coming from gardeners who are thinning their own gardens. Many plants are dug from Central Gardens. Not only are there plants for sale there will also be local vendors selling their garden related art and décor. Your garden will get a great start to a beautiful showing for the rest of the season.

There are many other fun highlights of the morning. Gardening experts will be available to answer your questions. Presenters will share their knowledge on different gardening related topics. Kids are entertained with a make and take planting project. And there will be a maypole dance at 10:00.

If you have plants to donate; dig them, pot them, label them, and bring them to the Gardens on Thursday May 18th or Friday May 19th. Please leave them under the School Bell Gazebo at the main entrance.

Make this an annual event to attend. Plan to come, have a cup of coffee from Scooters, shop, learn, and spend the morning in beautiful Central Gardens. The Fair is sponsored by Don's Body Shop and Sail Inn.



GET READY TO GARDEN

Ask anyone around Central Gardens and they'll tell you that gardening is a great way to enjoy the outdoors and create a beautiful landscape. With the arrival of spring, now is the perfect time to get started on your gardening projects! Whether you have a large or small garden, there are plenty of plants and flowers that will thrive in Iowa's climate. From perennials to annuals, you can find a wide variety of plants that will add beauty and color to your garden. In this article, we'll explore some of the best flowers and plants to plant in Iowa during springtime.

ALLIUM. These balls of purple blooms are a great addition to the landscape where they add something geometric and different in classic shades of purple and indigo. The Millennium variety blooms in such dense clumps you'll be welcomed with a patch of vibrant purple in the garden in the middle of the summer.

BEARDTONGUE (OR PENSTEMON). This is a gorgeous flower that is not only pretty to look at, but will also enhance your landscape experience even more when they attract a host of pollinators and birds to your property, too.

BLACK EYED SUSAN. There's nothing quite like a classic and the Black Eyed Susan has that summer feeling that we just can't get enough of this time of year, and performs well under the hot sun of mid-summer.

CONEFLOWERS. Another garden classic, Coneflowers are a perfect choice for elegant and simple color and attracting all of the local pollinators to your landscape.

COREOPSIS. Blooming in gorgeous shades of gold and yellow for the ultimate summer look, this flower is ideal for gardeners that want more bang for their buck, offering long lasting blooms that are drought-resistant and easy to care for.

DAYLILIES. These short-lived flowers offer lots of subsequent flowers all summer long, so that you have something pretty to enjoy all the time. Garden Phlox. Blooming from July through September, planting Phlox in your garden is a great way to ensure that your whole summer is filled with gorgeous color. With heads full of billowy blooms these flowers are a statement piece to decorate your landscape.

RUSSIAN SAGE. Planting Russian Sage is a great way to ensure that your landscape is an experience for more than one sense – not only is the plant a gorgeous shade of silver and lavender-purple, but it has an intoxicating scent that is calming and relaxing, the perfect addition to a landscape you intend to be outside to enjoy a lot. The more sun, the better with this plant that thrives without very much intervention from the gardener.

SALVIA. This fragrant bloom is a great choice to add to a part of the garden that you spend a lot of time relaxing in. Not only attractive to us, these blooms are incredibly popular with local hummingbirds, which you can attract to your home.

YARROW. For the gardener that loves pollinators coming to visit their home, there isn't much of a better choice of perennial than Yarrow. Not only is it practically a care-free addition to your home, but the heads of dense blooms are irresistible to your local pollinators that will love a native bloom that they recognize.





THRIVENT MEMBERS SUPPORT FOR CENTRAL GARDENS

Our warmest thanks to Thrivent members who have designated Central Gardens to receive Thrivent Action Grants! Your support has made it possible for us to purchase serving trays for events, 6-foot tables for the Pavilion, supplies for membership campaigns, shelves for storage shed, and more. For more information about the Thrivent giving program and how you can put Thrivent dollars to work for Central Gardens, please visit www.thrivent.com.

GRANT SUPPORT FOR CENTRAL GARDENS

Donna Dull has once again made it possible for Central Gardens to host the ISU Insect Zoo for the day on August 4, 2023.

Fleet Farm awarded Central Gardens a gift card for supplies that were needed to prepare the grounds to open May 1.

Worth County Development Authority awarded Central Gardens a grant to purchase garden tools and supplies.



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Central Gardens of North Iowa
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Clear Lake, IA 50428

Address Service Requested

UPCOMING EVENTS AT CENTRAL GARDENS

Follow us on Facebook or visit our website at www.centralgardensnorthiowa.com for details on these and other activities, events, and programs coming up at the Gardens.

MAY 1 – OCTOBER 31 *Gates are open daily from dawn to dusk. Free admission. Donations are appreciated.*

THURSDAY MAY 11, 8 AM AND 6:30 PM *Bird Walks. Free.*

SATURDAY, MAY 20, 8 AM – 12 PM *Plant Sale and Gardening Fair*

SATURDAY, MAY 20, 10 AM *Maypole Dance. Free.*

TUESDAYS, MAY 23 – SEPT. 26, 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM *Line Dancing. Free.*

TUES., MAY 23 & WED., MAY 24, 6:30 PM – 7 PM *Gardeners of Tomorrow informational sessions. Free.*

THURSDAY, MAY 25, 5:30 PM *Strolling Stories. Free.*

FRIDAYS, JUNE 2 – SEPT. 1, 9 AM – 11 AM *Fresh on Friday Bouquet Sales & Refreshments*

FRIDAYS, JUNE 2 – SEPT. 1, 9 AM – 11 AM *Fresh on Friday Garden Explorers. Free.*

SUNDAYS, JULY 16 – SEPT. 3, 5 PM – 6 PM *Picnics and Performances*

