

## **Meet Me in the Garden Seminar Becoming a Natural Gardener**

Spooner – This year the Spooner Agriculture Research Station Teaching and Display Garden is focusing on pollinators. The second free seminar of the season is on "***Becoming a Natural Gardener***" and will be held on Tuesday, July 12 at 6:00 pm. The University of Wisconsin Extension and North Country Master Gardener Volunteers invite you to come for the evening. This topic will focus on vegetable and herb gardens and highlight the best time for planting, blooming and harvest cycles and using phenology (the study of the interaction of plants, animals, insects and climate). Also included will be information on: how to improve your soil with the use of mulches and organic material, the differences between seed types, seed saving, integrated pest management, plant nutrition, and creating an insectary to attract beneficial pollinators.

Mark your calendars for two other events at the Teaching and Display Gardens. The Twilight Tour on Tuesday, August 16 is the highlight of the garden year. It will feature University of Wisconsin experts, Master Gardener Volunteers, garden seminars, displays, farm tours, tastings, and music. On Saturday, September 10 at 10:00am the final Meet Me in the Garden Seminar will focus on contributing to the health of pollinators and the Year in Review. Master Gardener Volunteers will relate their experience creating a Monarch Way Station at the garden and how others can create habitats and contribute to observations of monarchs and other pollinators. Also included in this program will be a review of the 2016 growing season and things learned in the Garden.

Remember to bring your own lawn chair. All sessions are free and open to the public and will be held rain or shine – please dress accordingly. In the case of inclement weather, these programs will be held at the Station Building at W6646 Highway 70, Spooner.

The Teaching and Display Garden is a joint effort between the University of Wisconsin Madison, Spooner Agriculture Research Station, UW-Extension and North Country Master Gardener Volunteers. The garden is located ~1/2 mile north of Hwy 70 on Orchard Lane; across from the Sheep Research Facilities. Orchard Lane is located 1.5 miles east of Spooner on Highway 70 or 1/2 mile west of the Hwy 70/53 interchange. Watch for garden meeting signs.

For more information and a map visit the station's web site at: <http://spooner.ars.wisc.edu/> or contact Kevin Schoessow or Lorraine Toman at the Spooner Area UW-Extension Office at 715-635-3506 or 1-800-528-1914.