1:45  “Busting Buckthorn with Browsers”
– Jake Langeslag

Jake, a trained Ecologist (Minnesota State University-Mankato) and a UM Master Gardener and Master Naturalist is passionate about finding ways to manage our lands in ways that are Eco-friendly. Jake and his family run Goat Dispatch LLC where they specialize in managing lands in all seasons. What started as an ecological experiment of 5 goats in his home woods has now grown into a herd of around 400 goats working all over the State of Minnesota. He believes getting back to using animals to manage our lands will be a total game changer for the better for our environment. In this talk Jake will talk about the trials and tribulations of being an urban cow(goat)boy and will talk about some of the recent discoveries he has made with goats while he wraps up a three year study with the MN Department of Agriculture - Sustainability Grant.

2:45  Q & A / door prizes

For more information or with questions, call (507) 835-3620 email nelso191@umn.edu.

*Weather-related announcements will be sent by email notification to registered participants & posted on the SROC website at sroc.cfans.umn.edu.

The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer. To request disability accommodations, please contact Deanne Nelson, (507) 835-3620 or nelso191@umn.edu.
“All Things Spring”
Saturday, March 2, 2019
Pre-Registration required by
Monday, February 18

8:30 Registration and light refreshments

9:00 Welcome

9:10 “Waking the Garden Up & Putting it to Bed”–Diane Dunham
Diane is a retired horticulture instructor from the Federal Prison in Waseca and author of a weekly garden column for the Mankato Free Press. She will provide tips and suggestions for correctly prep- ping your garden for spring and putting the garden to bed in the fall. A variety of topics will be covered including: pruning perennials/prioritizing cutting back, protecting bulbs from critters, tilling, and applying fertilizers.

10:10 “Growing Heirloom Pumpkins, Squashes, and Gourds”–John & Jenny Thull
Jenny and John have enjoyed sharing their growing experience while working over the past 10 years at the Horticultural Research Center (HRC). They began growing pumpkins and squash around the property on small plots of land. The plantings were small in the early years, but now have expanded into a couple of acres worth of plots. To date, the Thulls have grown well over 300 different varieties of pumpkins, squash, and gourds, which get dis- played every year at the Minnesota Landscape Ar- boretum and are sold through the Apple House at the HRC. They have also dabbled in ornamental corn, tomatoes, peppers, and sunflowers.

11:10 Break

11:30 “Growing Season – Year in Review”–Jurgen Peters
Peters, a retired UM Extension Educator and ag education teacher will provide an update to events that had an effect on the growing season last year. Peters will also provide some potential things to watch for in the coming season.

12:00 Lunch

12:45 “Best Performing Perennials for Cold Climates”–Mike Heger
Mike has over forty years of horticultural experience in both public and private horticulture. Heger now spends time lecturing, writing, and consulting on is- sues related to gardening in northern regions. With the constant influx of new perennials and the attention focused on them, we often neglect some of the “tried and true” plants. This session will include a bit of both, but the focus will be on perennials that have had a chance to prove their reliability in our northern landscapes. Culture, care, and varietal se- lection will all be discussed.